

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023

Sentinel-Times



Expect to see more of this sort of action by Flynn Wright, member of the Newhaven College Mountain Bike team, after the college announced plans to establish an MTB Academy at the school in 2024.

College goes all-in on bikes

- Newhaven to launch new Mountain Biking Academy

NEWHAVEN College on Philip Island is set to launch one of the first mountain biking (MTB) academies of its kind anywhere in Australia next year.

Already with an enviable reputation as a leader in outdoor education, the college's new MTB academy will come complete with purpose-built facilities integrated into its 33-hectare grounds.

As well as its obvious benefits to students, the added emphasis on this burgeoning sport is expected to have a developing impact on the sport and the

economy locally as well.

Leading the charge is sports teacher Adrian Wale who has been appointed Coordinator of Mountain Biking from the start of next year.

A notable figure in the world of MTB, Wale founded the highly regarded academy at Dromana Secondary College which has produced a number of world class athletes and most recently, Harry Doye, who competed in Switzerland and the Nove Mesto World Cup in the Czech Republic earlier this year.

Principal Tony Corr sees the academy as a real game-changer.

"As educators, we are excited to unveil a new chapter in our commitment to sporting excellence with the introduction of the Newhaven College Mountain Biking Academy," Mr Corr said this week.

"Building on the triumphant legacies of our surfing and equestrian academies, this expansion marks a significant stride toward providing our students with a diverse range of athletic opportunities.

"We look forward to creating an equally thriving community within the MTB Academy, where students can push boundaries, develop their skills and forge lasting connections with the great outdoors. This approach exemplifies Newhaven College's unwavering commitment to empowering our students through a comprehensive and enriching educational experience."

The Newhaven College MTB Academy will include specifically designed programs to target each level of riding ability.

Continued page 3



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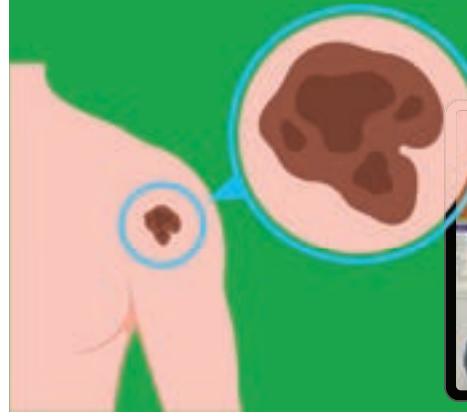
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Kerfuffle over Bear Gully gets results

HOORAY, the State Government is finally going to reopen the Bear Gully Campground in time for Christmas.

In fact, bookings for the ultimate in cost-of-living holidays, at \$16.50-a-night, open on the Parks Vic website this Thursday, December 7.

They'll say it has nothing to do with the pressure applied by our local MPs Danny O'Brien and Melina Bath last week, but the government left its run pretty late to announce that the campsite will reopen on Friday, December 22.

Here's what Parks Vic has just posted on its website:

"Bear Gully Campground, including beach access through the site, is currently closed to campers and day visitors.

"Parks Victoria has been granted a permit to reopen the Bear Gully Campground on Friday, December 22. Bookings will open on our website from Thursday, December 7.

"We've completed some work at the site to make sure the facilities are clean, safe and ready to reopen and we're looking forward to welcoming campers back in the next few weeks. Please check the Parks Victoria website for more information over the coming weeks for more information."

After waiting 10 months for



Turns out, this is a scene we are likely to see this Christmas with Parks Vic set to reopen the popular Bear Gully Campground on Friday, January 22.

an update, and several representations to Minister, Melina Bath put Bear Gully back on the agenda in Parliament last Tuesday, November 28.

"My question is to the Minister for Environment. The Bear Gully Campground has been used for decades by nature-loving tourists and locals as a place to enjoy walkable coastline on the beautiful Waratah Bay. The campground, including pedestrian access to the beach, is closed for campers and day visitors. Noting that Parks Victoria is working with First Peoples to assess the area for cultural heritage sites, my South Gippsland constituents are justifiably frustrated... will

you inform my constituents when the Bear Gully Campground in Cape Liptrap Coastal Park will be open to public access and campers?"

The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien, followed up on Thursday last week seeking answers "as frustration mounts among would-be campers over the continued closure of Bear Gully campground".

The popular campground, located at Walkerville near Cape Liptrap and overlooking Wilsons Prom, has been closed since February 2023, he said.

Mr O'Brien said he had written to the Minister for

Environment in June and again in October asking for more information on why the campground is closed and when it can be expected to reopen.

Mr O'Brien said he had been contacted by a number of frustrated constituents who are keen to get back to their beloved campsite.

"These people are understandably frustrated that they are being locked out of their favorite camping spot without proper explanation.

"Nobody wants to damage or harm Aboriginal artefacts or anything of cultural significance, but we do want answers."

We contacted the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) and Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, neither of whom have responsibility for Bear Gully under their Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAP) area.

So, if it's not GLaWAC land or Bunurong country, Parks Vic appears to be in a position to provide its own update, we said, which they have now done.

All's well that ends well, although many former visitors to Bear Gully may have long since made their Christmas-New Year holiday plans.

Tobacco hit - VIPER squad raids supply nest in Korumburra

SPECIAL police crime squads, cracking down on organised crime and the sale of illicit tobacco products, shifted their operation from Melbourne and the state's west last week to Korumburra.

As part of a raid which netted police more than 528,000 cigarettes, where more than \$1/2 million in excise duty had not been paid, they hit two supply storages and a local tobacco store in the town last Wednesday morning.

Police say that between 500 and 600 of the 800-plus specialised tobacco sellers in the state are involved in the sale of illicit tobacco products, via organised crime networks and Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs, so it's hardly surprising to see them expand their operation to Gippsland.

But the sight of VIPER squad police in Korumburra last week certainly raised local concerns.

Police fear that not only is this trade financing other criminal activity, including the importation of drugs, but also raises the prospect of shops and other locations being fire-bombed as part of an ongoing turf war.

As a result of raids in Hoppers Crossing, Highett and Korumburra last Wednesday, members from the VIPER Taskforce have charged a man after seizing a significant quantity of illicit tobacco products as part of the ongoing Taskforce Lunar investigation.

"This particular investigation commenced after police received intelligence to suggest large amounts of illicit tobacco were being stored in sheds to be supplied to tobaccoists on a daily basis," said Detective Inspector Craig Darlow of the VIPER Taskforce.

Police executed search warrants at five locations on the day which are believed to be connected in the supply of tobacco, including two storage facilities and a shop in Korumburra.

As a result, the following was seized:

- Over 528,000 cigarettes with duty excise totalling over \$656,000
- 25kg of loose-leaf tobacco with duty excise evaded totalling over \$46,000, and
- Over 1600 e-cigarettes (vapes) with a street value of over \$48,000.

A 48-year-old Hoppers Crossing man, who police will allege was the supplier, was arrested and charged with the Commonwealth offence of possess/convey tobacco with intent to defraud the revenue. He was bailed to appear at Werribee Magistrates' Court on July 1.

The investigation remains ongoing.

Anyone with information about these incidents or with further information about illicit tobacco is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential crime report at crimestoppersvic.com.au

"We continue to urge the community or those involved in the tobacco retail industry and who have any information to come forward and speak to police. Any piece of information could be key in bringing this dispute to an end," said Det Insp Darlow.

"It is critical that anyone purchasing illicit tobacco understands the ramifications of doing so – you are directly funding organised crime groups."

Newhaven College goes all-in on bikes

From page 1

As well as participating in the sport on campus, students will be given the opportunity to attend MTB excursions, including an annual Mountain Biking camp.

The program will focus on skills development and progression but also include subjects such as bike maintenance and repairs, health and nutrition, trail design and construction, trail stewardship and sustainability, and working with local communities.

Over the past 18 months, the Newhaven College Mountain Biking team has brought home silverware from countless events across Victoria.

The team is currently preparing to compete for the second time at the Australian MTB Inter-school event at Thredbo in March next year.

Underpinning the ambitious plan is the College's new strategic direction Hearts & Minds which aims to provide the best possible environment for learning and growth. The plan is built around five key priorities: Learning, Care, Community, Sustainability and Innovation.

As well as positioning itself as a leader in sports education, the College is also aiming to contribute to the broader community by

addressing a gap in the region's recreational facilities.

It is envisaged that by collaborating with other schools locally, the academy will help to foster an 'MTB positive' culture, providing opportunities for students right across the region.

The establishment of a MTB Academy at Newhaven College will dovetail nicely into the development of a mountain bike strategy by the Bass Coast Shire Council's BMX Pump Tracks Mountain Bike Reference Group, with the potential for Bass Coast to diversify its present offering by becoming a go-to location for the sport in Australia.



Principal of Newhaven College Tony Corr joins members of the college's mountain bike team in celebrating the launching of a new MTB Academy at the school this week.

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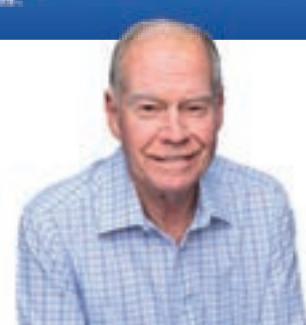
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Authorised by Russell Broadbent MP, Independent Federal Member for Monash, Warragul

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'Rave reviews' turn to gold for Island holiday park

THE 2023 Victorian Tourism Awards have been run and won and Bass Coast business and tourism organisations were among the most decorated at the presentation night last week.

Coming home with the biggest gong of all, from a packed Crown Palladium in Melbourne was NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park which took out the Best Victorian 'Caravan and Holiday Parks' award.

It continued the holiday park's success in 2023 after they took out a major award at the Bass Coast Business Awards in October.

But this one, in front of all the industry heavyweights, was the big one.

Here's what the judges said about the winner:

"NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park is an award-winning holiday park located on absolute beachfront at Cowes, on the Victorian holiday hot spot of Phillip Island. The team prides themselves on hosting memorable holidays for all guests young and old. A range of clean and modern facilities combine with a year-round guest experience program to ensure guests are comfortable and entertained. With the beach on your doorstep and a huge range of things to see and do around the island, it's easy to see why NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park gets rave reviews from all who stay."

They won the award from the likes of the BIG4 Castlemaine Gardens Holiday Park (silver), the BIG4 Bendigo Marong Holiday Park (bronze) and finalists including BIG4 Aireys Inlet (Highly Commended), BIG4 Ingenia Holidays Inverloch (Highly Commended), BIG4 Riverside Swan Hill (Highly Commended) and Tasman Holiday Parks Bright.

The team at NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park were ecstatic with the industry-wide recognition.

"It was pretty emotional, actually. You put in so much work never thinking something like this will come your way. Pretty



The team from NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park, including managers Daniel and Kelly Rutter, took out the Best Victorian 'Caravan and Holiday Parks' award at the tourism awards gala last week and are now headed for Darwin in March for the national awards.

amazing," said Daniel Rutter, who with his wife Kelly took over management of the park at the height of COVID in December 2020.

"We had a lot of work to do, the place was pretty rundown, and at that stage, no one knew how it was going to turnout with the pandemic and all. We were concerned about job security for our staff, and how it was going to go.

"But it bounced back strongly. People couldn't go overseas, and they had to holiday locally, so it turned out really well.

"How did we win it? We haven't got all of the things that some of the big parks have, the jumping pillows and the like, but our philosophy has been 'what would we like to see in a park we visited' and that's guided us.

"We have live music on a Saturday, we bring in inflatable games, food trucks, things like the Combie Keg, pizza nights in winter, barbecue nights in summer, entertainment in the park. We try to make it that our guests have the complete package right here."

As well as that, they've completely renovated their amenities blocks, the camp kitchen, recreation hall and other facilities.

"The feedback has been phenomenal but the other great thing is that we get to go to Darwin in March next year for the Australian Tourism Awards, and to throw our hat into the

ring with the best parks from the other states. Maybe we can have a holiday while we're up there," said Daniel this week.

"We're beyond thrilled, and incredibly humbled to have been recognised for our commitment to providing exceptional experiences for our guests. This award is a true reflection of our passion for creating a welcoming and memorable environment for everyone who visits our park."

The annual black-tie Victorian Tourism Awards event not only recognises the industry's finalists and winners, but it also celebrates the achievement of the sector as a whole.

The night was MC'd by Hamish McLachlan and featured a special performance by the cast of 'Moulin Rouge! The Musical'.

Other awards:

- The 'Major Tourist Attractions' award was taken out by Zoos Victoria for the Melbourne Zoo, with Phillip Island Nature Parks taking the silver.

- In the Best Visitor Information Services category Bendigo Visitor Centre won the gold and was admitted into the Hall of Fame, silver went to Sorrento Beachside Visitor Information Centre and the bronze to Phillip Island and Bass Coast Visitor Information Centre Network.

- In the Tourism Marketing and Campaigns' category, the winner was City of Melbourne, Destination Marketing, 'Only in the City', with the silver going to

the 'Phillip Island 101 square kilometres of amazing' campaign by Destination Phillip Island.

- In the highly competitive 'Tourism Wineries, Distilleries & Breweries' section, the gold went to Billson's Brewery of Beechworth, silver to Starward Distillery and bronze Harman Wines of Inverloch/Wattlebank.

- The 'Local Government Award for Tourism' went to the City of Greater Bendigo with a commendable silver taken out by the Bass Coast Shire Council.

- Genesta House on Phillip Island won silver in Hosted Accommodation following Kangaroo Ridge Retreat's gold win and Tallawarra Homestead's bronze.

Destination Phillip Island General Manager Kim Storey rated their silver award in the marketing category highly.

"This is wonderful recognition for the largest campaign in the history of the organisation and the contribution and hard work of the DPI team, especially Arnika Martin, Marketing Co-ordinator and our working group members," said Kim Storey.

"This project was an incredible opportunity to work with a number of leading agencies including Hardhat, Instant Crush, The Gaibo Agency and Shell Media to develop and deliver immediate recovery activity and an ongoing campaign for this region," said Arnika Martin.

Phillip Island Nature Parks Chief Executive Officer Catherine Basterfield was equally delighted.

"This award is validation of the incredible experiences Phillip Island Nature Parks work hard to deliver, and it showcases that our staff, volunteers and visitors really are the cornerstone of our success," Ms Basterfield said.

"We are very grateful for the support of the Victorian community, who returned to the Nature Parks experiences in large numbers following the pandemic. Visitation from interstate and international visitors and group bookings in more recent months has ensured that we return to a strong position very quickly."

Mary is focused on South Gippsland challenges

MARY Aldred won Liberal Party preselection for the federal seat of Monash from Russell Broadbent earlier this month and has part of her focus on the issues faced by communities of South Gippsland.

Three weeks into the candidacy Mary has been meeting with and listening to local community and business groups, tourism operators, families and individuals in the region about the issues that are important to them.

"I think South Gippsland has got so many opportunities in front of it but we've got some big challenges as well," said Mary.

Mary grew up in a small family run business with cattle, horses and riding lessons, and left school at 15 to work in the business; later going back to school to complete a Masters in Agri Business.

This previous personal experience and her professional work on a variety of Gippsland

based boards, and most recently as government relations executive at Fujitsu, has given Mary an understanding and insight into sectors such as business, education, sport and aged care.

Investment and support to upgrade roads and local infrastructure, such as the South Gippsland Highway, creating town bypasses and good freight routes is on top of Mary's agenda.

This is to better support Gippsland's Agri businesses and food producers and to create more efficient routes to market to create a more competitive industry stemming from the region.

Mobile black spots and reliable connectivity is also a big issue across the community and is something that Mary is planning to put a spotlight on as it impacts individuals and businesses in work, study and leisure.

Having good sporting

facilities and resources for young people to participate and gain personal life skills and having the opportunity to develop to an Olympic level if desired, is also important to Mary.

Additionally, aged care and aged care workers need to gain better support and investment and securing funding across the region is going to be a priority as well as targeted funding for health care.

Working to increase exemptions on everyday living expenses to help ease the cost of living, maintaining nature trails and supporting Landcare groups, increasing cybersecurity for small businesses, and adding innovative practice to Agri businesses are also on Mary's list during this preselection period.

"It is a big challenge and I think that's where you need to be a really vocal local advocate," said Mary and with her laser like focus said that she is up for the challenge.



In the preselection period for the seat of Monash Mary Aldred is focusing on roads, business, mobile black spots, sport, aged care and health across South Gippsland. ob07_4923



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Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Le Serve



HELLO Bass Coast
I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits. It is with my great pleasure that I bring you some exciting updates and initiatives from our vibrant community in the Bass Coast region.

On Thursday last week, Bass Coast Shire Council won two prestigious Victorian Tourism Awards, for tourism in local government and its visitor information services.

The awards, organised by the Victorian Tourism Industry Council, recognise tourism excellence and outstanding innovation within the sector.

Council was a finalist in two categories, the Local Government Award for Tourism and Visitor Information Services, taking out silver and bronze, respectively.

Bass Coast is synonymous with tourism, hosting more than 3.4 million visitors every year. This is a testament to the entire community who work together to support tourism in this beautiful region.

As you may know we recently held the Bass Coast Business Awards in which many of our local businesses garnered well-deserved recognition. To further support and uplift our local businesses, I encourage all eligible enterprises to take advantage of the storefront improvement rebates that we have available. This initiative aims to enhance the aesthetic appeal of our town and create a more welcoming atmosphere for residents and visitors alike. I urge businesses to apply for these rebates and contribute to the ongoing beautification of our community.

In the spirit of community support, last week we celebrated the Community Strengthening awards ceremony at Berninnett, during which we distributed nearly \$300,000 to a diverse array of community organisations. These funds are a testament to our commitment to fostering a strong and resilient community.

The initiatives supported by these awards span a wide range, from education, environment, and health to arts and culture. It is heartening to witness the positive impact these organisations have on our community, and I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all those involved in their commendable efforts.

As we approach the upcoming tourism season, our beautiful region is set to welcome visitors from far and wide. To ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for both residents and tourists, we are actively planning for events and addressing potential challenges such as road-trips and traffic congestion. I kindly ask for your patience and understanding during this busy period.

Our team is working diligently to manage these aspects, and we are confident that with the cooperation of our community, we will make this tourism season a resounding success.

As a start to the festive season, please keep an eye out for upcoming Carols and Fireworks which Council are supporting. The first of which kicks off this Sunday at Grantville from 5-9pm. Check out our website for more events near you!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Builders' rubbish creating mess and environmental hazard

A RESIDENTIAL building site filled with rubbish has left neighbours and locals in consternation about the unsightliness and the potential environmental impacts.

The neighbour who remained anonymous commented the build had been going on for three years and understood the site would contain building and construction materials, but wasn't prepared for the food, lunch scraps and coffee cups that had been left and blown into neighbours' yards and Western Port Bay.

"...the pile is now growing every day and nobody is concerned. I moved here because of our beautiful area and nature but I am starting to think that's all changing. Note the back yard is beginning to look the same," wrote the concerned neighbour on the Phillip Island Community Facebook page.

The neighbour commented that nothing has been done, despite having written to the builder and contacting council.

With no skip bin on site, soft plastics, cardboard boxes, wooden pallets, Besser blocks, wire, material, sheets of tin and offcuts have been piling up along the fence line in the front yard, uncontained.

According to the Environmental Protection Authorities (EPA) website, a business that generates waste is responsible for it and inappropriate disposal such as poor storage or stockpiling it at a place that's not



A residential building site filled with rubbish has left neighbours in consternation and locals fear for the surrounding environment.

licensed to accept it, is illegal.

If that waste impacts human health or the environment and threatens the natural eco system, it can be deemed a crime whether it occurs on public or private land and significant penalties can apply for businesses who breach waste duties.

While some of the 76 responses to the neighbours' complaint were dismissive, the majority expressed their support and concern about the mess left.

"Where are the Bass Coast Compliance Inspectors this is definitely not

acceptable practice for a construction site," wrote one.

"Agreed, not good enough. None of the waste is separated either - lots of recyclables in there," wrote another.

Locals expressed their fears that it creates a good site for vermin to breed and a haven for cats to survive in, posing an increased threat to native birds and wildlife.

Clearing dumped waste costs Victorians around \$30 million a year, according to the EPA.

Bass Coast Shire Council has been contacted for comment.

\$290,000 in Bass Coast community grants

BASS Coast Shire Council held its Community Grants celebration at Berninnett in Cowes last week, bringing together a range of community groups who were recipients of thousands of dollars of funding to deliver community projects.

Representatives from a broad range of community groups shared their stories not only about their projects, but also the impact they have in local communities.

Grants summary:

- Quick Response Grants – 50 applications for \$72,285
- Community Grants – 47 applications for \$200,207
- Climate Action Grants – four applications for \$18,006

Community Grant recipients included:

- Community programs and events: Phillip Island Ukulele Group's inaugural Phillip Island Ukulele Festival, Corinella and District Community Centre Veggies on

the Verge, Inverloch Tourism Association for the Inverloch Community Festival, Dalyston Football Netball Club Deb Reilly run for the kids.

- Sporting programs: Wonthaggi United Soccer Club portable goals, Wonthaggi Underwater Hockey Club come and try underwater hockey.

- Capital work projects: Phillip Island Boardriders Club clubhouse exterior renewal, YES Youth Hub remove and replace gas appliances, Corinella Ratepayers and Residents provision of power to rotunda, Harold Hughes Reserve.

- Equipment: Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club equipment for youth development (nippers) and lifesaving operations, 317ACU Wonthaggi equipment seeding grant to support youth Army cadets.

- Environmental: Phillip Island Land Alliance book launch 'A field guide to the native flora of Millowl', Ventnor Coast Care Association Ventnor foreshore reserve weed

mapping.

• Major Project Grant Category. Six programs were awarded up to a maximum of \$10,000 each, three each round. This year's successful recipients include: Phillip Island Football Netball Club outdoor blind project, Cowes Yacht Club boat ramp renewal stage 2, Dalyston Football Netball Club playspace, Phillip Island Community Orchard strategic plan and design for building hub, Newhaven Yacht Squadron public accessible stairway renewal, Glen Alvie Recreation Reserve gazebo for historic display stage 1.

Additionally, a \$10,000 major project funding was awarded in the Climate Action category for each round which was awarded to Energy Innovation Co-op for a feasibility study of EV charging stations at community buildings.

Community Grants 2024 Round 1 is open until Friday, March 8, 2024.

Planning and Environment Act 1987 Bass Coast Planning Scheme Notice of Approval of Amendment Amendment C162basc

The Minister for Planning has approved Amendment C162basc to the Bass Coast Planning Scheme. The Amendment comes into operation on the date this notice is published in the Victoria Government Gazette, 3 November 2023.

The Amendment rezones land at Bass Road, Bass (Lot 1, LP149977) from Farming Zone to Low Density Residential Zone.

A copy of the Amendment can be inspected, free of charge, at the Department of Transport and Planning website at www.planning.vic.gov.au/public-inspection or by contacting 1800 789 386 to arrange a time to view the Amendment. A copy of the Amendment can also be inspected, free of charge, during office hours, at the offices of Bass Coast Shire Council, 76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi or online at engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/c162.

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Cnr McBride Avenue and Watt St
Tuesday, 19 December
4.00pm – 5.30pm

Fire campaign warns Victorians 'if you light a fire, you own it'

CRIME Stoppers Victoria is partnering with Victoria Police to remind people to consider the consequences of their actions in a bid to prevent potential bushfires this summer.

The new 'You Light It, You Own It' campaign reminds Victorians to exercise caution to avoid starting reckless or accidental fires.

This campaign follows the recent launch of Operation Safe-guard – the annual police operation which aims to deter or reduce the impact of fires across Victoria.

Bushfires cause devastation in Victorian communities, claiming the lives, displacing families and impacting livelihoods.

Advice from the Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council (AFAC) states Australians are being urged to prepare for a bushfire season similar to the 2019/20 Black Summer.

This follows a forecast of above average temperatures and below average rainfall for large parts of Australia.

Devastating bushfires have already started in Western Australia, New South Wales and Tasmania, with Victoria's Gippsland region and Otway ranges considered to be at an increased fire risk following dry conditions.

"We want Victorians to stop and think before their actions cause a fire this summer," Crime Stoppers Victoria chief executive Stella Smith said.

"Bushfires can start from



CFA Commander Michael Masters, Victoria Police Detective Inspector Arson and Explosives Squad Chris Murray APM, Crime Stoppers Victoria Chief Executive Stella Smith, and Fire Rescue Victoria Assistant Chief Fire Officer Anthony Pearce recently launched the 'You Light It, You Own It' campaign to prevent bushfires.

actions as simple as lighting a campfire or using farm machinery and power tools on a hot and windy day.

"No one wants to be responsible for risking lives from an out-of-control fire, so we want to encourage people to make the right decisions."

Crime Statistics Agency data shows in the year ending June 2023, there were 29 offences recorded in Victoria for causing a bushfire.

Ms Smith said the 'You Light It, You Own It' campaign was a reminder to stop and think about the consequences of starting a catastrophic fire.

"The forecast is for a hot summer and we want the

community's help to stop bushfire before they start," she said.

Victoria Police Detective Inspector Chris Murray APM of the Arsons and Explosives Squad said preventing bushfires is everyone's responsibility.

"For areas at risk of fire, expect to see highly visible police presence, particularly during fire danger periods. Expect to be spoken to by police and understand this, if you light a fire, you own it," he said.

"Accidental and recklessly lit fires are just as devastating as those fires deliberately lit. The consequences and outcomes to the community are the same.

"If you're responsible for a fire that gets out of control, you will

be investigated, with penalties ranging up to 15 years in jail. The maximum penalty for arson causing death in Victoria is 25 years imprisonment.

"You don't want your actions to be the cause of a bushfire. Ask yourself this, if the fire gets away from me, can I control it? If the answer is no, don't light it."

Victorians are urged to share what they know about suspicious and reckless fire activity with Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or at crimestoppers.com.au.

In an emergency, or if you see smoke or flames, contact 000.

For information on fire danger ratings and total fire bans, visit cfa.gov.au.

Homes boost for regional workers

REGIONAL Victorian workers will benefit from a huge boost to affordable housing and accommodation.

This forms part of the State Government's investment in supporting local businesses to retain and attract workers.

Premier Jacinta Allan and Minister for Regional Development Gayle Tierney visited the Ararat East Development Zone to announce the opening of the \$150 million Regional Worker Accommodation Fund for workers in key industries where staff are in demand like agriculture, hospitality and teaching.

Building and construction companies are amongst the wide range of eligible groups that can now apply for grants between \$150,000 and \$5 million to develop projects that support local businesses to retain and attract workers by delivering affordable housing and accommodation.

The State Government is also delivering an additional \$1 billion through the Regional Housing Fund – building more than 1300 new homes with a mix of social and affordable housing, on top of the Big Housing Build, which includes \$1.25 billion to build new homes in communities across rural and regional Victoria.

The \$25 million Regional Council Support Package is also now open, supporting local projects that will bring long-lasting benefits to rural and regional communities – empowering local volunteers, strengthening businesses and communities, and promoting Traditional Owner culture, participation and leadership.

An expression of interest process for the Regional Worker Accommodation Fund will run until February 25.

To find out more visit rdv.vic.gov.au/rwaf.

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Renewed efforts to protect Phillip Island's hooded plover population

PHILLIP Island and wildlife authorities are coming together this summer to protect our native wildlife and educate people about how they can safely share the beach with animals and give them the best chance to thrive.

Phillip Island Nature Parks' Sharing Our Shores campaign, run in partnership with Bass Coast Shire Council and the Conservation Regulator aims to raise awareness about some of our most vulnerable species, including the beach-nesting hooded plover, and how beach visitors can support their survival.

Reserve Manager Ben Thomas says the joint campaign is about sharing the coast safely and helping care for these threatened shorebirds during their breeding season.

"It is a shared community responsibility that we all help safeguard the unique and wonderful wildlife we have on Phillip Island to ensure they are protected," Mr Thomas said.

Sharing Our Shores is aligning with the Conservation Regulator's Operation Save Our Hoodies (SoHo), which is educating beachgoers and enforcing rules around hooded plover nesting sites.

Hooded plovers are a tiny, native bird that nests along the high tide line and in sand dunes during spring and summer. Their eggs and



Stay out of dunes and ensure dogs are on leads to help protect hooded plover nesting sites.

chicks are difficult to see and at risk of being trampled or disturbed by beach users and their dogs.

"We encourage all beach users to be mindful of wildlife in the area. Keep to the designated paths and have your dog on a lead, away from signed nesting areas."

"This campaign is about respecting all beach users, which is why the regulations prohibit dogs between the hours of 10am and 5pm on some beaches."

Sharing Our Shores runs from December 1 to March 31, 2024 and involves both patrols by Authorised Officers along the Phillip Island coast and an educational poster competition.

Local students are encouraged to create artwork that communicates the importance of harmony between

residents, visitors and the natural environment that supports local conservation efforts.

The winning artworks of threatened shorebirds and other native animals from last year's competition feature in advertising for this year's campaign.

Bass Coast Shire Council Mayor Clare Le Serve said residents and visitors had an important role to play in supporting local conservation efforts.

"Phillip Island is loved by many, and we want everyone to enjoy and respect this special part of the world together," Mayor Le Serve said.

"I urge dog owners to check local signage and take advice from the rangers and authorised officers who will be doing an important job this summer to help protect local

wildlife and ensure everyone has a safe and enjoyable experience."

Hooded plovers are protected under the Wildlife Act 1975 and it is illegal to disturb, injure, or destroy them; damage their habitat; or interfere with warning signage. Penalties range from \$96 on-the-spot fines up to a maximum penalty of \$46,154. Dog owners must also be aware of local beach regulations, particularly areas where dogs are prohibited, and always keep pets on-lead or under their control, as they face fines up to \$4807 if their dog attacks wildlife.

The Conservation Regulator investigates reports of habitat destruction and dogs harassing hooded plovers. Reports can be made to Crime Stoppers Victoria on 1800 333 000.

Maintenance blitz set to hit Gippsland

THE State Government is rebuilding and repairing roads right across Bass and Gippsland as part of its regional road maintenance blitz, keeping drivers and freight on the move.

Between now and June 2024, crews will deliver more projects across some of the region's busiest and most important trade and travel routes, including:

- Bass Highway between Pier Road, Grantville to Koonwarra - Inverloch Rd, Pound Creek
- Inverloch-Venus Bay Road, between Pound Creek Road, Inverloch, and Millars Road, Pound Creek
- South Gippsland Highway, between Lang Lang Golf Club and Korumburra South Road, Korumburra
- Tarwin Lower Road, at Hellicars Road, Tarwin
- Fish Creek-Foster Road, between Promontory Road, Fish Creek, and Maines Way, Foster
- Meeniyan-Promontory Road, between Harding Lawson Road and Williamson Street, Fish Creek
- Korumburra-Warragul Road, between Drouin-Korumburra Road, Ranceby, and Warragul-Leongatha Road, Ellinbank

Across Victoria, road maintenance projects will be delivered, thousands of potholes will be patched, tens of thousands of kilometres of roadside grass will be mowed and tens of thousands of signs will be replaced.

The blitz will also ensure other vital parts of our road network are well-maintained, including strengthening bridges, rebuilding culverts, and retaining walls and inspecting and maintaining thousands of traffic lights, signs, and other structures.

With warmer weather on the way and conditions more suitable for major roadworks, drivers can expect to see hundreds of workers across Gippsland delivering this critical maintenance.

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**South Gippsland
Shire Council**

South Gippsland Shire Council News

Holiday Food and Gift Drive

The festive season is synonymous with joy and celebration; however, it can be financially difficult for many in our community, especially given the current economic climate.

To help spread some holiday cheer, Council has teamed up with The Salvation Army to be a collection point for this year's Christmas Food and Gift Drive.

The Food and Gift Drive is an opportunity for those who can to support our local vulnerable families by gifting unwrapped toys, books, and clothes, as well as non-perishable food items.

Last year, The Salvation Army provided over 250,000 gift and toys for families who may otherwise have gone without.

Bring a smile to someone's face by placing your gifts under the Christmas tree at Council's Main Office, 9 Smith Street, Leongatha.

Donations will be accepted until 5.00pm Thursday 7 December.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday 13 December 2.00pm
(Council Chambers, Leongatha)

Dates are also listed on Council's website at:

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

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

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live

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

16 Days of Activism

South Gippsland Shire Council is proud to be supporting the annual 16 Days of Activism campaign.

The campaign is a call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls.

This year, find all of your orange clothes and join us at the Walk Against Family Violence on Wednesday 6 December 12.00pm, starting in front of Memorial Hall, Leongatha. It will be a great opportunity for our community to have important conversations about gender equality and respect in relationships.

In addition to the walk, a photo pop-up with Artist PollyannaR will be taking place Thursday 7 December from 12.00pm to 3.00pm in the laneway next to Memorial Hall, Leongatha.

Bring your work mates, friends and family to act in solidarity with those who have been affected by domestic violence.

For more information, please visit:
16daysgippsland.com.au

Road Closure



Please avoid travelling Boolarra - Foster Road, between Schmidts Road and Turton's Creek Road, from Monday 4 December.

The Road will be close for two weeks to facilitate landslip repairs.

We advise drivers to seek an alternative route when driving.

Updates will be shared on Council's Facebook page when the road becomes operational.

To view current road closures in the Shire, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/roadhazards

REQUEST FOR TENDER

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

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

New electric vehicle charger in Yanakie now operational

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council is pleased to announce that the second of Council's six proposed electric vehicle (EV) chargers is now operational. Located in Yanakie, the charger provides additional charging opportunities for electric vehicle owners, offering fast charging at 60kW.

Situated near Wilsons Promontory National Park, the charger will provide a convenient location for regional visitors to stop, shop, relax and recharge before continuing their journey.

In Leongatha, issues related to high voltage from the electricity grid impacting the charger's functionality have been resolved by AusNet. This means the charger is now fully operational and the occasional outages that were affecting the charger will no longer be a concern.

These two operational chargers will soon be part of a network of six EV chargers across South Gippsland offered by Council, all fully funded through State and Federal Government grants via Destination Chargers Across Victoria and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure programs.

The remaining chargers in Foster, Korumburra, Mirboo North, and Meeniyan are fully installed, and will come online as soon as AusNet are able to connect the charger to the electricity network. Applications are in with AusNet and are expected to be finalised in the coming weeks.

Bus service to support residents

RESIDENTS in Sandy Point and Venus Bay will benefit from new transport options to connect them to healthcare, local businesses and education through a collaborative pilot community electric minibus service.

This initiative is supported by the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP).

Through funding of \$249,450 from the DTP's Flexible Local Transport Solutions Program (FLTSP), the purchase of electric buses will help engage the two communities to reduce their carbon impacts as well as promote inclusion.

The day-to-day operation and management of the services will be undertaken by the respective committees and local communities, with the pilot being supported by a two-year research project aiming to identify sustainable models to benefit remote communities.

As well as assisting with the promotion and marketing of the new service, the research project will, through contributions from the DTP's transport research team, La Trobe University and the iMOVE Cooperative Research Centre, investigate ways to make the community bus service efficient, financially sustainable and provide a model for other regional communities in Victoria.

The funding from the Victorian Government is via the FLTSP, which provides funding to local government and community organisations for small-scale transport projects, evidence-based transport studies, and funding to redesign and trial new ways in which transport services at local level can be delivered across the state.

For more information on the FLTSP, visit the DTP website.



Community members and representatives of local organisations have contributed their ideas on respect for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign.

Korumburra takes stand against gender-based violence

COMMUNITY groups, emergency responders and Korumburra Secondary College (KSC) staff and students have thrown their support behind the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign, taking part in an exhibition at Korumburra's new Community Hub to highlight the issue.

Participants provided photos of themselves holding written messages detailing what respect means to them, when they feel respected, or how they show respect to others, with those images now on display.

Respectful Relationships Coordinator at KSC, Nicole Creaser outlined the importance of the campaign and the exhibition.

"It would be great to have people from all of our communities represented to encourage gender equality and promote an awareness of gender-based violence in Korumburra and surrounds," Nicole said.

Korumburra Fire Brigade, Lions Club of Korumburra and community members have joined KSC staff and students in the campaign display.

Nicole stressed that violence takes many forms.

"We're not just talking about physical violence; we're talking about emotional violence, coercive control, financial violence, anything where someone's rights are being denied by another person is something that's not ok and we would encourage people to seek assistance," Nicole said.

Those requiring assistance are encouraged to contact Orange Door, which provides access to women's and children's family violence services, Aboriginal Services and men's family violence services.

The Inner Gippsland branch of Orange Door can be contacted at iga@orange-door.vic.gov.au or on 1800 319 354.

Nicole expressed appreciation to Milpara Community House for its commitment to promoting the 16 Days of Activism and the need to tackle gender-based violence, with the Community Hub based organisation setting up its now traditional display of vibrant artificial orange flowers outside the Hub.

"The fact organisations are jumping on board highlights that this is an issue our community wants to address and it's important that we do something positive in

this space," Nicole said of the community's increasing involvement in the 16 Days of Activism.

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.

She said the photographic display and the 16 Days of Activism promote discussion about the ramifications of gender-based violence.

Jenni spoke about the positive impact of the displays.

"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.

Like Nicole, Jenni noted that the campaign is an opportunity to promote services for those in need.

"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," Jenni said.

High calibre exhibition by Australian artist Rona Green to open at Coal Creek

THE WORKS of established Australian artist Rona Green will be on show at Coal Creek, with community members invited to attend the opening night of her 'There's millions of people, but no one like you' exhibition on Thursday December 14.

This exhibition features a selection of Rona's hand coloured linocut prints depicting a variety of creatures.

Rona has received notable awards for her printmaking and her works on paper are widely exhibited in public art collections including at Gippsland Art Gallery, Latrobe Regional Gallery

and the National Gallery of Australia.

The artist lives and works in the picturesque Dandenong Ranges.

Her practice spans three decades, having graduated from La Trobe University (Bendigo Campus) in 1995 before completing a Master of Fine Art degree from Monash University (Gippsland Campus) in 2012.

Member of the South Gippsland Arts Advisory Committee, Lucy Hersey, is delighted Rona's work will be showcased at Coal Creek.

"She's well represented in significant Australian

and international galleries and it's great for our South Gippsland audience and artists to be able to engage with such high calibre artists,

and to be able to put on this show at Coal Creek," Lucy said.

"It's good we have a facility that can host shows of this standard."

The exhibition opening night event runs from 6-8pm, December 14.

If attending, please RSVP to coalcreek1@southgippsland.vic.gov.au or phone 5655 1811 by 5pm, Wednesday December 13.

The exhibition continues until February 12, 2024.

Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Williams

HELLO South Gippsland.

The first full week as Mayor has been jam packed full of meetings and catching up with the community at a multitude of events.

I attended my first One Gippsland meeting as Mayor. One Gippsland is a strategic planning and advocacy forum comprised of all the Gippsland Mayors and Chief Executive Officers. We work together to advance projects that have Gippsland-wide significance including roads, offshore wind, tourism, health and wellbeing services, education, and capitalising on the strengths of our region. I look forward to working with this group and the wider Gippsland community through this forum to help progress the needs of our community.

Congratulations to Adam (Chief Executive Officer) and John (President) on the opening of the **Stony Creek Races** for the racing season. If you are looking for something to do over the Christmas/New Year period, the first race for the year and a family fun day will be held on December 29.

The **70th Anniversary of Leongatha Rotary Club** was held last Thursday. I would like to congratulate all six Rotarians that received their 'Paul Harris' recognition. Opportunities to give back are endless. Life is busy and we all have many obligations, but if you do have time I encourage to lend a hand when you can.

On Monday, myself and Chief Executive Officer Kerryn Ellis went to Barry Beach Marine Terminal and Port Anthony to meet with Tom McIntosh MP. It is fantastic that we can keep the conversation going with our state government counterparts on this important topic for our region.

What a difference a bright, colourful mural has made to the Leongatha Railway Precinct, it is lovely to see something bright welcoming people into the town. I would like to sincerely thank the artist, Ash Taylor, for her hard work getting the mural done in such a short time.

Now, our attention turns to the new mural in Korumburra where voting has now closed. I would like to thank everyone who placed their vote. Over 460 people voted – way to go Korumburra! The artist/s with the most votes will be announced in the coming days.

Upcoming Events

The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence began on November 25 and runs until December 10. Held every year, it is an important opportunity for us all to learn more about gender-based violence and the impact it has on our community's women and girls in particular. For more information and resources, please visit <https://16daysgippsland.com.au>

Please join us outside Leongatha Memorial Hall on Wednesday December 6 at 12 noon for a leisurely stroll through the main streets of Leongatha to show our support.

There is also a Big Respect Photo Pop Up with Artist PollyannaR being held on Thursday December 7 in the laneway next to Memorial Hall between 12 noon and 3pm. If you are in town on the day, please stop by, write a sign with what respect means to you and have a photo. You get to take a print-out of your photo that you can put somewhere in your home as a reminder of how you hope to embody respect.

Fire restrictions announced for SE

THE Fire Danger Period (FDP) will begin at 1am on Monday, December 18 for the remainder of CFA's South East Region, including the following municipalities: Cardinia Shire Council, City of Casey, Bass Coast Shire Council, Frankston City Council, French Island, Greater Dandenong Council, City Kingston, Mornington Peninsula Shire, Baw Baw Shire Council, South Gippsland Shire Council and Latrobe City Council.

The El Niño weather pattern means Victorians can expect a hotter and drier summer than recent years, and communities should begin preparing their properties and creating a Bushfire Survival Plan.

CFA Deputy Chief Officer South East Trevor Owen said "the abundance of grass fuels is the focus over the summer period. Fast moving grassfires with the higher available grassland fuels is a risk that we have been preparing for.

"Ensuring grass is properly maintained this summer will be critical. Continuing to mow, mulch and slash grass around your property to reduce the risk will protect properties and assist fire services in the event of a fast-moving grassfire".

Residents are asked to take this opportunity ahead of the FDP to clean up their properties and for landowners to conduct safe private burn-offs where possible.

Those conducting burn-offs must notify authorities online at the Fire Permits Victoria website (firepermits.vic.gov.au), or by calling ESTA on 1800 668 511.

By registering your burn-off online, you allow emergency call takers to allocate more of their time taking calls from people who need emergency assistance immediately.

No burning off is permitted during the FDP without a Permit to Burn.

Farmers can find legal guidelines and practical advice at cfa.vic.gov.au/farms.

More information about FDPs is available online at cfa.vic.gov.au/firedangerperiod.

To find out what you can and can't do during FDP, visit cfa.vic.gov.au/can or by calling VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

Pakenham's loss is Leongatha's gain

THE announcement last week that VLE's Pakenham Saleyards would be closing earlier than expected, in June 2024, has been taken in their stride by South Gippsland's stock agents.

And they believe that the already expanding Leongatha selling centre could accommodate most if not all of the 100,000 head of cattle set to be displaced when Pakenham closes down.

According to Meat and Livestock Australia, Leongatha was already the biggest cattle selling facility in the state in 2021-22 processing 160,202 head, up from 142,634 the previous year.

In the same year, Pakenham processed 109,048 cattle, a rise of 5.8 per cent on the previous year.

"You're going to get a different view from the Pakenham agents than you will from South Gippsland, but the announcement that Pakenham is closing wasn't all that unexpected," said Terry Ginnane, a director at South Gippsland Livestock P/L at Leongatha.

"Given where it is located, right on the edge of Pakenham, everyone knew it had an end date, but it has probably come a year or two early, that's all."

Asked if he agreed with VLE management that Leongatha could handle an extra 100,000 cattle a year, Mr Ginnane said the saleyards were already gearing up to do just that.

"They opened up two new lanes recently and they're working on another two lanes to bring us up to 124 pens.

"We've already had yardings of up to 4000 head so going to



Leongatha's saleyards, already the biggest cattle market in the state, is expanding and is expected to handle any additional demand coming its way from West Gippsland following the closure of VLE Pakenham.

5000 is certainly feasible.

"They're putting in an extra truck wash bay and extra holding and feeding pens. It's going fairly slowly, but they've got people working on it, so it is happening.

"And, being where it is, Leongatha has still got plenty of space for expansion."

Mr Ginnane said Leongatha was already selling more East Gippsland cattle in recent times, not only as a result of South Gippsland Livestock's purchase of Greenwood Livestock Pty Ltd in Sale but also because of Leongatha's record of consistently strong selling results.

But whether the cattle from West Gippsland will continue to come to Leongatha after the closure of Pakenham is another matter.

Managing Director of Alex Scott and Staff, Greg Price, said Alex Scott and its investors

were still pursuing the option of establishing a new saleyards at Longwarry.

"We'd have to look at the alternatives for selling cattle from West Gippsland in the meantime, including Koonwarra, Sale and Yea, as well as computer-aided marketing but it is certainly our intention to go ahead and have Longwarry built."

Mr Price said he believed all existing agents would consider using a selling facility at Longwarry.

"In the coming months we will be conducting a capital raising exercise," Mr Price said, with the expectation that a new saleyards would cost \$20 million to build.

Pakenham, like Leongatha, is owned and operated by the Victorian Livestock Exchange, a privately owned company, and was built in 1997.

VLE managing director Brian Paynter told the Weekly Times

that the decision to close Pakenham had not been taken lightly, claiming a \$500,000 increase in land tax had forced the firm's hands.

"At rough figures of 100,000 cattle through the yards annually, we would have been forced to add another \$5 per head to yard fees," Mr Paynter told the Weekly Times.

"Everyone knew Pakenham had a life span but I think there was a sense of surprise when we told the agents this week," he said.

It may also have come as a surprise to VLE management because just on two years ago, Mr Paynter said VLE was committed to Pakenham for the long term.

"We are committed to keeping it as a saleyard," Mr Paynter told The Weekly Times Jenny Kelly in November 2021.

"The best use of the land is as a saleyard facility and that is what it will remain," he said at the time.

Mr Paynter said they would even consider locking in long-term lease deals with the five stock agencies that operate at the facility if agents wanted that level of business security.

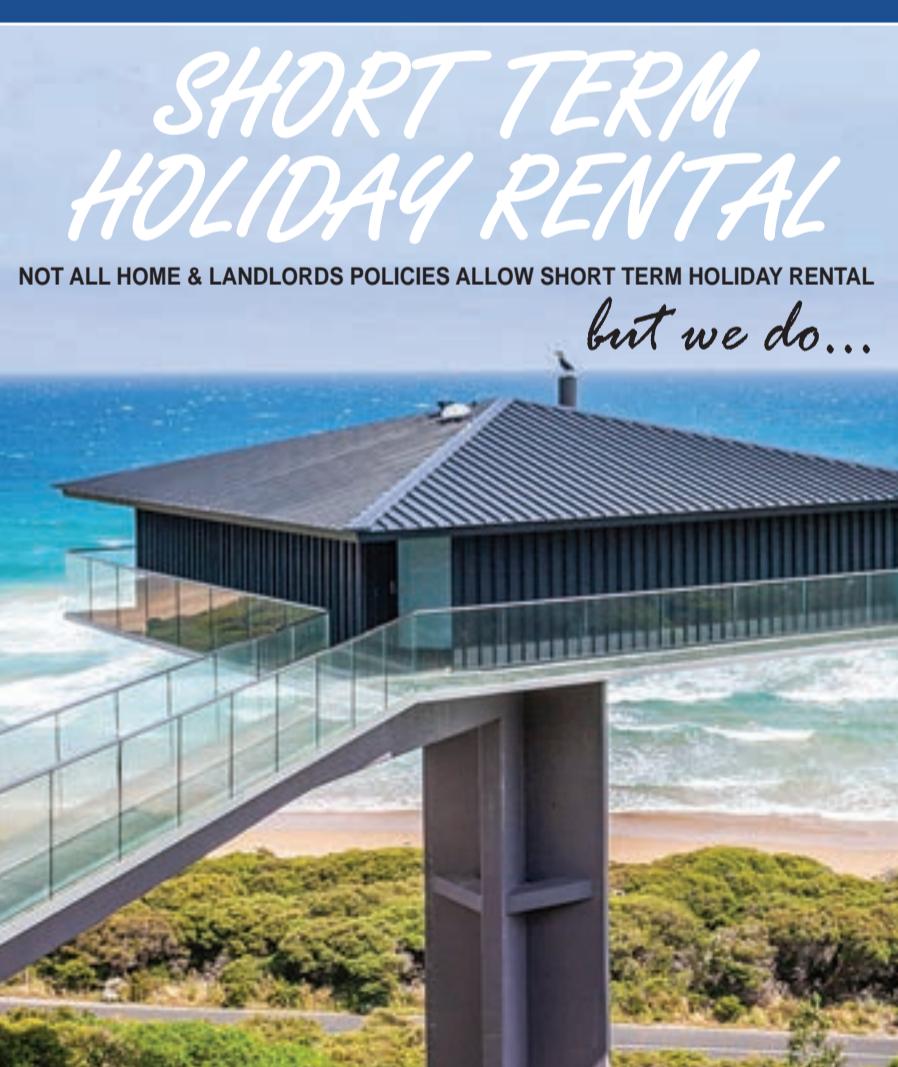
"I think what agents really wanted was to know we had a commitment to keep Pakenham open," he said.

"If they wanted a 10-year lease with the option of another 10 it is something we would be willing to discuss if it gave them comfort."

But all that has changed now, and Pakenham will close, with a final store sale, in June 2024.

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Olivia made Artisan Fellow for wood work

OLIVIA O'Connor, a wood-worker in South Gippsland, was awarded status of Fellow by the Artisans Guild of Australia and was recently announced as a finalist in Australian Wood Review's Maker of the Year Awards.

Olivia has been making wooden rocking horses by hand and refining her skills to meticulously detailed levels over the past ten years and this work has seen her earn recognition.

A group of professional artisans from the Artisans Guild judge the work of potential Fellows without their knowledge.

"They assess your work and if they deem your work to have a high enough standard, they award you a position of a Fellow. They're very stringent with who they let in, which is nice," said Olivia.

Olivia not only makes rocking horses but restores old, faded beauties to their former glory and runs classes in wood carving and rocking horse making.

About her work restoring rocking horses, which often hold great sentimental value for the owners, Olivia is self-effacing.

"I delivered a finished restoration horse on the weekend, and it's been in the ladies family since 1883," recounted Olivia.

"It's a very big deal for people to trust me and give me that privilege to look after this family heirloom."

Olivia's skillset and technique



South Gippsland wood worker Olivia O'Connor (in her studio) was awarded a Fellow by the Artisans Guild of Australia for her work making rocking horses.

has become ever more refined over the years and has expanded to include sculpture and wood block printing.

Using local wood, and in particular, black wood for her sculptures, inspired by animals and the surrounding landscape, is a change to the clear pine used for

the horses.

"It's to keep things a bit fresher and I can try new techniques," explains Olivia.

Olivia meticulously plans through drawings her wood block prints and has discovered benefits of this new way of creating with wood.

"It's just a way to bring a bit more colour into my

work which I've really been enjoying; and that's fun because that's a whole new community of makers I've been exposed to through that as well."

Olivia will be exhibiting her sculptures and wood-block prints at Little Oberon in Fish Creek in February 2024.



The Loch rock sign undergoes beautification work with help and funds from the Loch Village Garden Club and Opportunity Lochs.

Loch rocks once again

LOCH Village Garden Club and Opportunity Lochs have pitched in their time and funds to help Loch rock once again.

Placed a few years ago by ladies in the village, the Loch rock sign had become overgrown by plants and weeds and was barely visible to passersby.

Members from the Garden Club recently sprayed the weeds and cleaned up the site so they could start again with a clean slate.

Timber and a volunteer was sourced to fix up the retaining wall at the bottom of the steep little slope and then the real work started.

"We got some soil and some mulch and lots of plants," said Howard Booth from the Garden Club.

The men tackled the slope that got steeper each time they went up and distributed the plants in the ground among the rocks.

Loch Primary School students are set to complete beautifying the area by putting in a few extra flowers and with a little bit more mulch, the work to make Loch rock once again will be complete.

The members of the garden club will continue to maintain the site and Wonthaggi Nursery has offered to provide a few more plants for any spaces that might need them.

Now taking Christmas orders



Order your family Christmas favourites including:

Otway Australian Ham, boneless, bone in and nugget

Australian Free Range Turkey, whole turkey, breast plain or
seasoned, buffe, cooked turkey breast

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

Mitchell & Co house made seasonings, cranberry and walnut GF,
sage and onion GF, apricot, mango and prune GF

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

Modernising healthcare in Gippsland

DOCTORS and nurses will be able to deliver better and faster care with reduced paperwork due to the modernisation of medical records at Gippsland Southern Health Service, South Gippsland Hospital and Yarram and District Health Service.

Electronic Medical Records (EMRs) streamline tasks, reduce the manual writing of reports and prescriptions, and give healthcare workers easy and fast access to vital patient information, improving care coordination and increasing efficiency and productivity.

"The new Electronic Medical Records (EMRs) system will connect all Gippsland health services. It will make it quicker for clinicians to review patient records and enable faster and more contemporary documentation," said Louise Sparks, Gippsland Southern Health Service CEO.

"It is better for patients as it is more efficient with quicker access to information."

Over the next four years \$12 million in Government funding will be invested to support Gippsland health services to upgrade their systems and deliver safer and more patient-centred care for the region.

This will be a significant step towards digitising health care in the region, which will support home-based and virtual care programs – keeping patients connected and able to access quality care no matter where they live.

Digitising medical records is also a priority of the Labor Government's Health 2040: Advancing Health, Access, and Care plan, which highlights the importance of using technology to improve outcomes for patients.

LIFE Moments



LACEY-MAE Steel was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on November 23, weighing 4.13kg. She is a daughter for proud parents Rob and Hayley Steel of Cape Woolamai, and is a sister for Sienna, 9, Ella-Rose, 7, Riley, 6, and Kingston, 2.

Send your photos to news@sgst.com.au

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South Gippsland Specialist School receives lifesaving device



South Gippsland Specialist School student Zarisha holds the new defibrillator presented to the school by St John Ambulance media and communications executive Andrew Kilmartin, with student Aylah and principal Heather Braden also on hand for the occasion.

FOLLOWING the recent month-long 'Shocktober' campaign, St John Ambulance Victoria awarded a defibrillator to South Gippsland Specialist School (SGSS), presenting it to principal Heather Braden on Tuesday.

'Shocktober' highlights the vital nature of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and CPR in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest.

Both South Gippsland and Bass Coast Shires are prone to high rates of cardiac arrest, highlighting the importance of defibrillator availability and knowledge of where the life-saving devices are located.

While SGSS already had a defibrillator in the office area, the new device will be available to those using the school pool.

"Our pool is used by the community; Muir Swim School use it after school, so

it means the defibrillator is accessible to the community groups that use our pool," principal Braden said.

SGSS is one of five community-focused organisations to win a St John Ambulance G3 Elite Semi-Automatic Defibrillator as part of the organisation's 'Shocktober' promotion.

Thousands of entries were received across the State.

The defibrillator talks people through the entire usage process, meaning it can be used by those without training.

Anyone with a publicly accessible defibrillator is encouraged to register it with Ambulance Victoria through its website.

Locations of registered defibrillators are shown on the website and triple zero call takers can notify callers where a nearby defibrillator is located when required.

More people turn to Gippsland Southern Health for care



Gippsland Southern Health Service Board Chair Athina Georgiou and CEO Lou Sparkes noted services had continued to grow over the past year in the annual report released on Thursday.

grant of about \$2.1m at the end of the financial year.

Ms Sparkes said it was common for the majority of health services to receive this type of support, given the impacts of COVID.

"The health service is appreciative of this financial support from the State Department of Health," Ms Georgiou added.

GSHS had a budgeted deficit of \$1.87 million.

"Management of the budget was challenging given the impact of unfunded COVID costs, reduced occupancy in aged care and the impacts that the pandemic had on activity," they said in the report.

A financial management improvement plan remains

in place so the organisation can identify potential improvements with the aim of ensuring financial sustainability.

Ms Sparkes and Ms Georgiou said the balance sheet remained strong with current assets exceeding liabilities by \$2.6 million.

During the year GSHS continued to strengthen and work closely with partners. Key programs that were started included the regional Surgical Reform Program and the South Gippsland Coast Partnership (SGCP) medium risk COVID Positive pathway program and the planning for the GEM At Home program.

Ms Sparkes and Ms Georgiou thanked staff and volunteers for their support, adding that the health service faced some significant staffing challenges but had been able to attract high quality staff to leadership positions.

"These leadership roles are critical in assisting us to provide support to the organisation to recover and reset from the impact of a multi-year pandemic," they said.



LochVillage market

at the Loch Railway siding

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Plenty of goodies for Christmas.



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NO DOGS
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Bass Coast Health is proud to make residents' dreams come true

BASS Coast Health (BCH) was excited to be a finalist in the 2023 Victorian Public Healthcare Awards for helping to make the dreams of aged care residents come true.

BCH was named in the Excellence in Aged Care category because of a new initiative, 'The Bucket List', at its residential care facility at San Remo, Griffiths Point Lodge.

This initiative gives residents the chance to participate in a special experience they have dreamed of or wish to achieve – an item from their bucket list – resulting in the residents feeling happier and fulfilled.

Every bucket list experience is personalised with input from residents and their families. So far experiences have included a 21st birthday party for resident Ruth Andrews who never had one and a Paris-themed birthday party for 104-year-old Bonnie Castle who had wanted to go to Paris but didn't get the chance.

Resident Betty Pescud was treated to a ride in a race car around the Phillip Island Grand Prix track.

David Graham, a high care resident with significant mobility needs, wanted to visit a thoroughbred horse racing track. He is now able to after staff acquired a made-to-order wheelchair that allowed him access to transport in our accessible bus.

A resident, who has since passed away, who loved swimming hadn't swum for years. They were accompanied by a staff member to a local swimming pool and were able to enjoy swimming once again.

The Bucket List initiative was introduced by the Lifestyle team at Griffiths Point Lodge – Donna Dalton and Natasha Stapleton – who felt "very proud" after attending the awards ceremony in Melbourne recently.

"What a night! It was such an honour to be in the company of so many incredible advocates of excellence in aged care. We didn't win but being one of only three finalists in all of Victoria is an achievement in itself," they said.

"This recognition of our Bucket List initiative is so great because it highlights the importance of supporting older people to maintain their sense of identity and purpose.



Bucket List recipient and Griffiths Point Lodge resident Betty Pescud, front, at the Victorian Public Healthcare Awards with Bass Coast Health's Donna Dalton, Hope Thomas, Janette Elliott, Natasha Stapleton and Christine Henderson.

And it is a great reminder that ageing does not define us!

"We really hope this award will show the importance of lifestyle programs in improving the health of our very deserving older people through initiatives like our Bucket List.

"We are feeling very proud to be BCH employees. We are fortunate to be led by a genuinely compassionate and dedicated team who have allowed us the autonomy to drive this initiative. The support we have received to facilitate these events has made all the difference and resulted in these wonderful outcomes.

A huge thanks to our Griffiths Point Lodge family who go above and beyond, not only for our residents but also for each other.

"But mostly to the heroes of this initiative, our residents at Griffiths Point Lodge: the most incredible bunch of outrageously fun and positive people, who inspire us and work with us to make each day the best it can be. We're so lucky to have such a beautiful job!"

Natasha said the idea for the Bucket List arose from brainstorming by staff to create an initiative similar to the wishes granted by Make-A-Wish Australia.

"We wanted something individualised and that helped residents feel a sense of purpose, not just like aged care residents," she said.

Betty went to the awards ceremony in Melbourne and said she felt "very privileged to be a resident of GPL".

"The whole night was a list of firsts for me, from my Nurse Unit Manager Janette Elliott looking after me to the three Indigenous dancers and the MC's jokes, being part of a large group and participating in the camaraderie around the table. Thank you all so much for the experience," she said.

BCH CEO Jan Child said being recognised as a finalist in the awards was an amazing feat.

"This achievement recognises the dedicated and enthusiastic staff at Griffiths Point Lodge who genuinely care about our residents," she said.

"Our residents are at the centre of all that our staff do. Helping our residents tick off the items on their bucket lists is a way of saying thanks to them for all that they have done for their community throughout their lifetimes.

"We know that residents can experience depression and anxiety in aged care settings,

and the stress of having to adjust to unfamiliar environments, coping with health issues and facing end-of-life can all contribute to poor health.

"The Bucket List initiative celebrates each resident as a unique individual with diverse backgrounds, hopes, dreams and perspectives, and this goes a long way to achieving a sense of purpose, accomplishment and fulfilment.

"We've been impressed by the results too. Residents have enjoyed better connection with others and improved self-esteem, confidence and mood."

The awards are a celebration of excellence in public healthcare and acknowledge the achievements of Victoria's healthcare workers, volunteers and public health services.

The awards were announced at the 17th Victorian Public Healthcare Awards Gala Night in Melbourne on Thursday November 16.

Griffiths Point Lodge is now welcoming applications for new residents who wish to be cared for by passionate staff in a newly renovated home overlooking the sea. Enquiries are welcome to Rebecca Grant via email: rebecca.grant@basscoasthealth.org.au

• FAITH FACTOR

What does Christmas mean to you?

Rev Charles Lazaro,
Wonthaggi Baptist Church

CHRISTMAS means different things to different people. Some think it's a religious celebration for Christians. Others believe it is a time to spend with family and friends, expressing love, gratitude, sharing food, and gifts with one another.

Have you noticed recently that decorative lights are appearing everywhere? Lights are such a special feature during this season. What a miserable place our world would be if there was no light? It is hard to imagine a world without light. The first book of the Bible begins with the words: In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth (Genesis 1:1). Then an extraordinary event occurs. God literally calls light into existence. Yes, God created light on the first day of creation. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. (Genesis 1:3). This happened before God created the sun, the moon and the stars on the fourth day.

Jesus is that light who came into the world as a baby over 2000 years ago. This is why John the Gospel writer introduced Jesus' arrival by saying: He (John the Baptist) came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. John (the Baptist) himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. (John 1:7-10). Jesus is that true light, the real deal, the genuine embodiment, of God in the flesh.

This is why we celebrate Jesus "THE LIGHT" who came into the world. The true meaning of Christmas is to celebrate God's extraordinary act of love, when He sent Jesus into the world to take our place on the cross. So now we can be saved from sin, satan, death and hell. Therefore, it is out of gratitude to God for what He did for us, that we remember the birth of His Son Jesus by worshiping and praising Him for providing humanity with the only way to spend eternity with Him. This is what Christmas means to me!

Enjoy the light of a Christ filled Christmas!

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Yarram Golf Club member Brab Britten makes the putt on the 9th last week.

Hole in one happy at Yarram's ProAm

SO FAR, no one has won the rich prize of a new car in the hole-in-one event that forms part of the annual Pro-Am event at the Yarram Golf Club coming up on Saturday, December 16.

But there's always a first and if the prize does go off, for an ace on the first hole at Yarram, there's a set of keys to a spectacular looking \$28,490 ASX GS Auto Mitsubishi SUV supplied by Kingchurch Motors in Yarram.

The club is expecting a field of 120 for the Pro-Am, from all over Australia with the event open to all comers in grades of A, B, C, and D and prize money available to the winner of each division, men's and ladies.

Players all get a free egg and bacon roll in the morning, and the legendary hospitality for which Yarram GC is known, that and the reputation as the best volunteer-maintained golf course in Australia (in superb condition right now).

Want to know more, contact Yarram GC Captain Danny Dwyer on 0431 355 164.

Two new graduate paramedics are rolling out in Wonthaggi

TWO NEW highly skilled paramedics are ready to hit the road and start saving lives as part of the Wonthaggi Ambulance Victoria crew.

Ebony Cordell and Tayla Manning began a month long induction at the station in August and in September the pair of graduates started rolling out, in medium acuity transport (MAT).

They have been tending to a variety of cases including call outs for pain, falls and minor injuries, and are gaining familiarity with their new surrounds.

Ebony recently moved to Cape Paterson from Warragul and is enjoying exploring the area and the nature trails.

She enjoys having more time to spend with patients during longer trips and is getting back into the swing of studying and assessments after 18 months off, with her new colleagues helping with the transition.

"Everyone's been so nice, it's a really good branch for learning. They have lots of graduates come through, so everyone's really happy to get involved and help you out."

Tayla has been doing the long commute between her home and friends in Cheltenham, her temporary home in Phillip Island and work in Wonthaggi, but she is enjoying the change of pace that country life has to offer.

"It's really good, completely different to Melbourne where



Ebony Cordell and Tayla Manning have begun their graduate year as paramedics for Ambulance Victoria at the Wonthaggi Station and will be honing their skills and knowledge in medium acuity transport. ob06_4923

it's busy all the time and a bit chaotic. Where here it's actually quite nice, relaxing."

Before being placed at Wonthaggi both women had the chance to pursue other interests as there was a gap between finishing university and starting work.

After graduating in 2021 from Monash University, Ebony worked in patient transport in Melbourne then spent

six months living and working on a sheep and cattle station in Flinders Range, SA, where she got to pursue her love of animals and raised goats, pigs and sheep on the farm.

"I've always wanted to do it, and I just thought I'd never get the chance."

While Tayla graduated from Victoria University in St Albans in 2020 and pursued her love of football in the position

of an AFLW/VFL Goal Umpire.

"I ended up doing the AFLW Grand Final which was very exciting," she said and hopes to be able to eventually balance her paramedics career with her umpiring career.

The graduates have a roster of two days on, two days off, three days on and two days off, as opposed to a regular roster of four days on and four days off, which makes it a fine balancing act between work, study and leisure.

However, Tayla is looking forward to the moment where she can do the job with self-assurance and with a feeling of certainty that she has chosen the right career path.

"I feel like there'll be a moment where you're so confident and you feel like with all the information you've got, you go and do a really good job. Then you come out and go, I did it, and you can walk away with a really big smile on your face."

Ebony is looking forward to the next rotation at the station, so she can get to know all of her colleagues better and to keep learning from them and gaining valuable skills and knowledge.

"This is my third month on road and I've learned so many different things each month, from working with different people," explained Ebony.

"It's pretty good job, pretty good area. I'm pretty happy with it."

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Greer Arnott is just in the process of establishing her own business featuring functional and ornamental ceramics. Look for her at Loch and Poowong markets.

Loch night market gets Christmas started

WE'RE tipping the Loch Village's first night Christmas Market will become a regular feature of the community calendar after the success of the inaugural market last Friday night.

Victoria Street was positively bulging with Christmas cheer including Christmas gift ideas from local craft and produce

people and plenty of fine food and beverages on offer as well.

The Loch Primary School Choir accompanied by the South Gippsland Concert Band were a delight and right through to 8pm, there were good numbers in the street enjoying the goodwill that's the most important part of the festive season.



Michelle and Grant Johnston are Grantelle Grove metal sculptures of Nyora. What started out as a hobby 11 years ago has taken over their lives with a huge array of curious artworks created from just about anything.



His business is all about 'tools and jewels' made from all sorts of scrap and Trevor Wheeler of Sandy Point was quite a hit at the Loch Christmas Market last Friday night.



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Grantville Quarries Reference Group

Expressions of Interest invited for Community Representatives.

Along with parts of the neighbouring Cardinia and South Gippsland Shires, the Westernport Ward of Bass Coast Shire contains one of the most important sources of construction Sands in Victoria.

Sand quarrying in the region has its origins dating back over a hundred years. Most of the construction Sands produced for the Melbourne Supply Area (MSA), including the rapidly expanding south-east growth corridor, are sourced from the region.

This strategic Sand resource area provides a vital construction material for local Bass Coast construction and makes a vital contribution, to enabling the State Government's infrastructure "Big Build", e.g. Level Crossing Removal Projects and Pakenham-Koo Wee Rup Bypass.

The Grantville Quarries Reference Group (GQRG), formerly known as the Grantville Environmental Review Committee, is primarily comprised of Bass Coast (Grantville area) quarry operators, and local Community Representatives.

The group was established and initially administered by Earth Resources Regulation (State Government Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action) with the support of the Bass Coast Shire in 2006. Since 2019 the GQRG has been self-managed, with an Independent Chair and casual Administrative Assistant, fully funded by the participating quarry operators.

The GQRG extends standing invitations to Bass Coast Shire Council, Ward Councillors, Earth Resources Regulation (DEECA-ERR), EPA Victoria and Southern Rural Water to its meetings. Opportunities to meet with the GQRG are also made available to special interest groups on request.

The GQRG is not a decision-making, or policy determination body, its role is as a consultative Community engagement forum.

The GQRG endeavours to provide a two-way communications link between the Community and quarry operations in the area to address local amenity issues and Community values.

The GQRG meets quarterly at Grantville. Quarry operators table reports that address environmental criteria, project/site updates and any Community feedback, or complaints received for discussion and input with the aim of achieving satisfactory outcomes.

In the lead up to its next meeting in February 2024, the GQRG invites expressions of interest (EOI) from members of the local Community to fill two (2) of six (6) Community Representatives positions on the GQRG.

Interested persons (not special interest groups) should submit their EOI to the GQRG at: gqr3984@gmail.com

Terms of Reference for the GQRG are available on request via the above email address.

Partnership supports mental health

LIFELINE and Beyond Blue are linking up under a new partnership to make it easier and more efficient for people to find the support that best suits them.

As community demand for mental health and crisis support rises and resources become increasingly tight, Lifeline and Beyond Blue have designed their strategic directions to be complementary.

Lifeline will continue to focus on supporting people in crisis and Beyond Blue will continue to focus on prevention and early intervention, supporting people at the first sign of struggle.

Together, the organisations support millions of people a year with information, advice, online self-help and referrals via telephone, text, webchat and digital platforms.

"Australia's mental health and suicide prevention systems are too often crisis driven. People often only get support when they're at breaking point." Beyond Blue chair the Hon Julia Gillard AC said.

"Beyond Blue will continue its focus on supporting people early on – helping people to feel better sooner, to get well and to stay well."

Lifeline chair Jacinta Munro said Lifeline will support Australians in times of crisis, and equip individuals and communities to be suicide safe.

The partnership will see Beyond Blue transfer ownership of its popular suicide safety tool Beyond Now to Lifeline, which has supported hundreds of thousands of people to stay safe during a suicide crisis since its creation in 2016.

In the past four years alone, more than 400,000 people have used the app with more than 150,000 safety plans made.

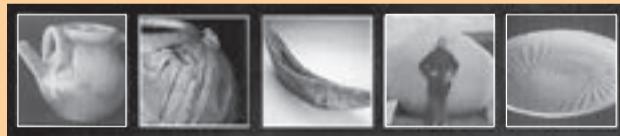
If you need support, talk to a GP or health professional or reach out to Beyond Blue on 1300 22 46 36 or beyondblue.org.au, or Lifeline on 13 11 14 or lifeline.org.au.

GOOSENECK



Robert Barron and Gooseneck Pottery invite you to the

KILN OPENING & CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION



Saturday & Sunday, December 9 & 10 from 10am to 5pm

The massive woodfired kiln has now been unpacked and new pots from last week's five day firing are on display and ready for sale. From tableware to ovenware, decorative pieces to plant pots. Robert's 45 years of experience making and firing pots are revealed in this unique collection.

Five minutes Korumburra, 10 minutes Leongatha, 25 minutes Inverloch. The pottery is also open weekends, public holidays and most weekdays. (It is best to phone first during weekdays 0403 023 761).

Email: gooseneckpottery@gmail.com www.gooseneckpottery.com.au

- Pots from the latest firing
- Kiln talk at 12.30pm
- Throwing demonstration 11am & 2.30pm
- Inspect the kiln & workshop
- Wine and cheese



LB1184

HB11100



Pictured is ABC broadcaster Jacinta Price at an event hosted by Friends of Inverloch Library with a delighted raffle winner Lindsay.

Inverloch book sale and more from FOIL

FRIENDS of Inverloch Library hosted Jacinta Parsons at the Warrawee Seniors Club on Saturday, November 25.

Jacinta is well-known for her role as a radio presenter previously on 3RRR and currently on ABC radio. She was featuring her recent book "A Question of Age" discussing challenges of ageing for midlife women.

She had many fans attending the night and was very entertaining with stories of her radio career and insights into her current role on The Friday Review on 774 Melbourne.

Friends of Inverloch Library (FOIL) is planning for its Bi-Annual Book Sale which will be held on Saturday, January 6 at the Warrawee Seniors Club Inverloch from 10am to 2pm.

Donations of good quality novels, biographies and children's books can be coordinated by contacting Ann on 0407 499 553.

Funds raised from this sale as well as author events during the year go to supporting Inverloch Library programs and 2024 looks exciting with several author talks already booked. To contact FOIL by email: foilinverloch@gmail.com



Westernport Water staff grew moustaches throughout November in support of Movember.

Motivated by Movember at Westernport Water



The Mo-Sisters of Westernport Water.

WESTERNPORT Water's corporate values of care, courage and commitment were demonstrated recently as part of Movember.

During a Movember Mo-moment morning tea on Tuesday, November 28, two staff members shaved their hair off, one had his hair dyed and other staff donned fake moustaches to support the fundraiser.

The morning tea was the culmination of a month's worth of moustache growing and fundraising by 12 members of staff, which resulted in more than

\$6000 in funds raised.

Movember is an annual event involving the growing of moustaches during the month of November to raise awareness and funding for men's health projects around the world, including mental health and suicide prevention, prostate cancer and testicular cancer – the three biggest health issues facing men.

Healthier men equal a healthier world and Westernport Water is proud to champion the fun and the serious side of Movember.

Committed to supporting regional Australia.

Our teams are proud locals who understand the importance of serving our community. To learn more about our three-year branch commitment, visit commbank.com.au/regionsupport

we can



Forty-four members of the Woorayl and Foster Probus clubs took in marvellous sights during their recent bus trip to Mount Gambier.

Probus Club tour Mount Gambier

FORTY-FOUR members of the Woorayl and Foster Probus clubs recently enjoyed a bus trip to Mount Gambier.

The trip included many attractions along the way but also included features of the limestone coast and stories of settlements and hardships.

As they journeyed back to Gippsland, they travelled along the spectacular Great Ocean Road and enjoyed the ferry ride from Queenscliff to Sorrento.

Mount Gambier is well known for its Blue Lake – a lake situated in an extinct, volcanic crater – but the Umpherston Sinkhole and the dolomite Tantanoola Cave are also examples of the natural beauty of the area.

Penola, proved to be another interesting discovery.

Yallum Park Mansion, one of the

best-preserved homes in the country, was home to one of the original squatters.

The original school of Australia's first saint Mary McKillop, was of great interest to our retired school teachers and was most enlightening about the establishment of education in the area.

The coastal town of Robe surprised everyone with its remarkable history of settlement and shipwrecks. The hardship endured by sailors and settlers was awe inspiring.

With limited steerage (and of course no GPS), the mariners and settlers were very brave people.

The spectacular, Great Ocean Road to Port Fairy, Warrnambool and stops to view the remaining apostles and the seaside towns, did not disappoint.

Members enjoyed their last night in a luxury motel with views out over the ocean especially enjoyable.

The trip concluded at Queenscliff, where they boarded the ferry for Sorrento, and then the bus back to Leongatha and Foster.

A very busy trip that revealed to everyone just how much there is to see in the country.

The coastline of south eastern South Australia and Victoria provide spectacular scenery and enjoyable experiences – especially for a group who love to share the fun and friendship of Probus.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experiences, the good food and the good company.

As they returned to Leongatha and Foster, they noted the green hills that they're so used to – no complaints about the rainfall.

Pack your summer smarts to stay safe in parks

AS WE look ahead to a hot and dry summer, Parks Victoria and the Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) have teamed up to remind day-trippers to pack their summer smarts and stay safe in Victoria's parks.

Werribee Gorge is one of the most popular short walks in Victoria, with most visitors coming from Melbourne and staying for around four hours. Though only a short drive from the Victorian capital, it is a wild and rugged place, exposed to weather, with steep pathways where it is easy to trip or fall.

Since 2017, VICSES and Parks Victoria have performed 30 separate Search and Rescue (SAR) operations at Werribee Gorge and in nearby Lerderderg State Park and the Brisbane Ranges National Park.

These operations are complex and expensive to stage. SARs require, on average, eight VICSES volunteers in three separate vehicles, working for around four hours, equating to 32 hours of volunteer time for each rescue.

This does not include the work undertaken by Ambulance Victoria and Victoria Police SAR personnel.

Take some simple steps

to stay safe on your visit to a national park:

- Use trusted sources of information when planning your journey
- Tell someone what your plans are
- Bring three to four litres water per person
- Pack what you need to be ready for an emergency
- Choose a walk or activity in line with your fitness and stamina
- Wear or carry high-quality walking shoes and protective clothing, even if you think you won't need it
- In an emergency, call Triple Zero.

With this summer expected to be hot and dry, heat poses the biggest risk this year to park visitors.

You can manage this risk by setting out early, or late, in the day to avoid the hottest hours. Have a plan to exit the park if conditions change along the way, even if it means not reaching your destination.

When planning your walk, use trusted sources of information like the Parks Victoria website. Visitor Guides on park specific pages have maps and information about walking difficulty and estimated duration, based on the Australian Walking Track Grading System.



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*Availability by grade may vary between Toyota Dealerships. Colours and trims displayed are a guide only and may vary from actual colours due to display process. Speak to your Toyota dealer to confirm availability, price, colour and trim when ordering your vehicle.

T2023-020549 TOY3001789/S/RNG

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LMCT 8179
wonthaggityota.com.au

Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha VIC 3953
T (03) 5662 2302
LMCT 8179
leongathatoyota.com.au

JG21985

Access online deliveries 24/7

WONTHAGGI residents can now get their hands on online purchases day and night, using Australia Post Parcel Lockers available outside the Australia Post Shop.

Wonthaggi Post Shop is officially home to a bank of shiny new red Parcel Lockers for residents' convenience.

When shopping online, residents can conveniently choose to have their packages delivered to a Parcel Locker instead of their home or workplace at no added cost.

By simply downloading the Australia Post app, creating a MyPost account, and registering a preferred Parcel Locker location, customers can receive their deliveries when and where it suits them.

For added convenience, residents can track and view estimated delivery dates all in one spot via the app.

Australia Post general manager of retail operations Josh Bannister said Parcel Lockers provide customers with 24/7 access 365 days a year, allowing collection convenience and added security.

Not only can you collect your parcels from the Parcel Lockers,

but you can also return your items by following the merchant instructions with pre-paid packages.

"As Australia's postal service for more than 200 years, we're at the heart of every community and Parcel Lockers are just one of the many ways we're responding to the changing needs of contemporary Australian communities," he said.

"With Australia's eCommerce market having grown exceptionally in size over the past two years and online shopping now accounting for nearly 20 per cent of total retail spend, we look forward to continuing to invest in our network to meet the needs of our customers."

Customers can now register to access Parcel Lockers at Wonthaggi Post Office.

Not only this, with more than 700 Australia Post Parcel Locker locations across the country, customers have the option to register at multiple locations, making it easy to receive online orders in their local area or away from home.

To find out more, visit auspost.com.au/receiving/collection-points/use-a-247-parcel-locker.



Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club committee Liza, President Tina (front), Ian, Pauline, Heather, Suzanne, Terri, Lorraine and Bev. Z27_4923

Senior Citizens annual Christmas lunch



Lifelong friends Ian Burns, Tom Hantley and Roy Reid at the Phillip Island Senior Citizens Christmas lunch. Z28_4923

THE Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club came together in the spirit of giving for their annual Christmas lunch and the occasion wouldn't go ahead without the generous support of the Bass Coast community.

Secretary Liza Lee would like to share a special thanks to those who kindly donated raffle prizes for the luncheon to raise money for the club that gives back so much to their members.

A special thanks to Phillip Island Nature Parks, Cowes Curry Club, Ladasha Jewellers, Vinnies, Kmart, Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre, Phillip Island Winery, Island Pies, Marios, San Remo Hotel, Westernport Hotel, Amaze n Things, Brinne T Design, Vietnam Veterans Museum,

The Woolie Tavern, Auto-pro, French Island Accommodation, The Coffee Co, Grumpies Golf, Maru Koala and Animal Park, Flowers of Phillip Island, The North Pier Hotel, Linen House in Cowes, Terry White Chemist, Beachside Bites, The One Stop Discount Shop, Wing lock Chinese Restaurant, San Remo Butcher, Australia Post Cowes, and artist Marilyn Forrest.

"We'd also like to acknowledge the year-round support of our regular sponsors."

The Christmas lunch is a special celebration for those who connect with each other through the club, those who make lifelong friends and consider each other family.

Merry Christmas to all from the Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND DRIVERS, WE NEED YOU!

Do you travel along Koonwarra-Inverloch Road?

Have you been in, or witnessed, a road accident?

Please contact us.

Our client sustained serious injuries following a motor vehicle accident on Koonwarra-Inverloch Road, in September 2023.

8 days later, on the same stretch of road, there was a major car accident. The history of incidents occurring on this road warrants investigation by Council.

Our team would be greatly assisted by those aware of prior accidents, to please provide details by calling 03 9001 1318 or by email to info@hcalawyers.com.au.

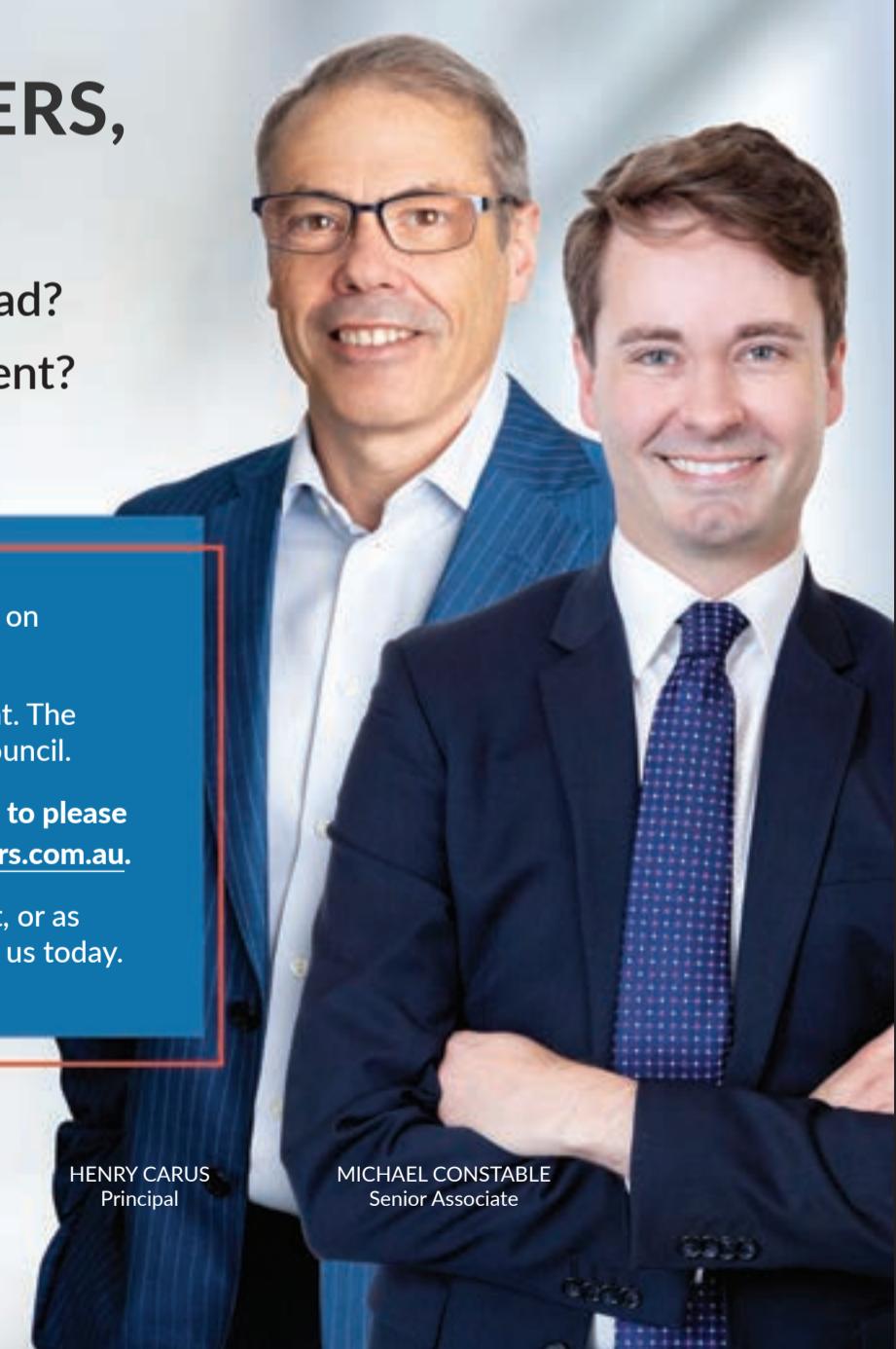
If you've been injured as a driver or passenger, a pedestrian, or a cyclist, or as someone psychiatrically affected by a tragic accident, we can help. Call us today.

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MICHAEL CONSTABLE
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2016 Toyota FJ Cruiser
53,990 DRIVE AWAY

52,325kms, 5 speed auto 4x4 SUV
SN: W101688



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77,790kms, 6 speed sports auto hatch
SN: W101619



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2020 Ford Ranger XLT PX Mk III
47,990 DRIVE AWAY

90,750kms, 10 speed sports auto
4WD double cab SN: W101666



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2016 Hyundai Santa Fe Highlander
30,990 DRIVE AWAY

85,000kms, 6 speed sports auto SUV
SN: W101662



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2019 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross LS YA
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70,733kms, 8 speed CVT auto SUV
SN: W101671



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2017 Nissan Juke Ti-S F15 Series 2
20,990 DRIVE AWAY

107,554kms, CVT auto AWD SUV
SN: W101658



EX-DEMO
2023 Toyota Hilux SR Hi-Rider
57,990 DRIVE AWAY

5,250kms, 6 speed sports auto ute
CNW 563



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2022 Mazda CX-30 G25 Astina DM
43,990 DRIVE AWAY

13,695kms, 6 speed sports auto SUV
SN: W101660

Leongatha Toyota

USED VEHICLE SPECIALS



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2019 Toyota Hiace Super LWB
64,990 DRIVE AWAY

34,359kms, 6 speed CVT auto van
SN: L101098



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2019 BMW 5 Series 520i Sport G30
46,990 DRIVE AWAY

80,441kms, 8 speed CVT auto sedan
SN: L101071



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2023 Ford Ranger XLT
63,990 DRIVE AWAY

15,391kms, 10 speed CVT auto 4x4
double cab CID 687



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2020 Ford Ranger FX4 PX MkIII
49,990 DRIVE AWAY

116,211kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4
double cab L101025



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2019 Ford Everest Trend UA III
44,990 DRIVE AWAY

94,233kms, 10 speed CVT auto
RWD SUV SN: L100990



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2017 Toyota Landcruiser Prado
50,990 DRIVE AWAY

128,684kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4
SUV SN: L101030



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2017 Holden Commodore RSV Sportwagon
27,990 DRIVE AWAY

73,799kms, 9 speed auto AWD
wagon SN: L101088



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2021 Toyota Landcruiser Prado VX
78,990 DRIVE AWAY

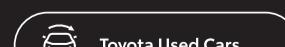
50,450kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4
SUV SN: L101097

Wonthaggi Toyota

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Leongatha VIC 3953
T (03) 5662 2302
LMCT 8179
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OH WHAT A FEELING



Merrijig based Cass McCormack (centre) has returned for another year as president of the Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria. She will be supported by past president Bruce McCormack (left) and vice president Ben Treasure (right).

Sixth generation Mountain Cattlemen re-elected as president

MOUNTAIN Cattlemen Cass McCormack was re-elected unopposed as president of the Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria (MCAV) last month.

Ms McCormack, who is now in her second term as president, said it had been a steep but rewarding 12 months.

"Like all jobs, it takes a while to find your feet, especially when you consider the knowledge and experience of other MCAV board members," she said.

"But with 12 months under my belt, I am even more confident that I can lead this great team to effect real change in the way our High Country landscape is managed."

In the last year, Ms McCormack helped the MCAV provide advice to Victoria's Bushfire Management Strategy, provided a detailed submission on the MCAV's brumby management position and has developed and commissioned a resource for VCE students on alternative landscape management practices.

"The reality is we are fighting a battle that just keeps getting larger," Ms McCormack said.

"The High Country landscape is in far worse condition than it was 20 years ago, and we firmly believe that things will continue to worsen unless something is done."

"I'm not talking about commissioning another study or paying for a desk-bound expert to provide an opinion – I'm talking about getting out there and having a real impact on the dangerous levels of bushfire fuel building up."

Ms McCormack, in her opening speech as president, said she was tired of hearing warnings about the bushfire threat when no one was interested in mitigating the situation.

"We are talking to people with closed ears, and it is incredibly frustrating," she said.

"Instead of warning the public about the dangers of a bad bushfire season just around the corner, how about we do something about it?"

Ms McCormack is focused on making a positive change both within her organisation and farther afield.

"As president, I have a long list of goals I want to achieve, some more likely than others," she said.

"I intend to continue raising management issues, which includes the strategic use of Alpine grazing, at both a state and federal level on behalf of the MCAV."

"I will advocate for a louder voice in the education system at all ages, encouraging the government to put forward alternative methods of land management."

Other goals for the MCAV in 2024 include increased advocacy for public land users, increased support of other alternative management groups such as the Howitt Society, additional documentation of historical trials and scientific experiments conducted in the High Country and return of Alpine grazing licenses.

Ms McCormack will again be aided by Gippsland Mountain Cattlemen Ben Treasure, who returned to his role as vice president, with Tania Coleman and Cameron Rash taking on the positions of MCAV treasurer and secretary respectively.

For more information on the MCAV or to become a member, head to mcav.com.au.

Edney's sales team expands

NEW Edney's sales consultant, Brad Beyers, has only been in the role a couple of weeks but has quickly settled into the family-run business.

Korumburra-based, Brad ran his own landscaping business for eight years, but previous sales experience and the friendly team at Edney's have ensured a smooth transition.

He said achieving customer satisfaction is a highlight of the role, as is the variety of knowledge required.

"There's always something to learn," Brad said of the changing industry.

Change is set to continue with the all-electric Hyundai Kona not far away.

Brad's arrival was well timed, with Edney's impressive new Hyundai showroom now in service, its official opening to happen in coming weeks.

He has expanded the Edney's sales team, joining dealer principal Darryl McGannon and sales consultant Heather Walker.

While the exact date of its establishment is uncertain, Edney's has been running for over 100 years, having now sold Nissans for close to 50 years and Hyundais since 2003.

"They must be doing things right," Brad said of the dealership's longevity, noting the business isn't resting on its laurels.

"They've revamped the Hyundai showroom and will revamp the Nissan one soon," he said, noting that will create a drawcard for those passing by.



Dealer principal Darryl McGannon with new Edney's sales consultant Brad Beyers and a new model Hyundai Kona introduced this year. A01_4923

Dale and Stephen enjoy well-earned retirements

RECENTLY retired local policemen Sergeant Dale McCahon of Leongatha Police Station, and Leading Senior Constable Stephen Van Hamond of Korumburra Police Station, are enjoying their newfound free time and absence of stress after a combined 75 years of service.

Dale joined Victoria Police in 1982, aged just 19, prompted by a recession that prevented the then apprentice carpenter finding work, while Stephen developed a passion to become a policeman during childhood, doing so aged 24.

Both started their police careers in Melbourne, but after shifting to the country found working in a regional community rewarding.

"You can see the result of your work," Dale said when highlighting what the country experience provides that isn't the case in the city.

Even after retirement, he continues to see positive outcomes from a seemingly unlikely source, with people he has charged over the years wishing him well and one giving him a hug and telling him his intervention saved her life as a teenager, helping her get back on track.

Dale added that as a city policeman, judging the result of your work tends to be attached to the outcome of court cases, something that largely leads to disappointment.

Originally from Pyramid Hill in Northern Victoria, he made the switch back to the country in 1990, transferring to Wonthaggi Police Station



Dale McCahon and Stephen Van Hamond are finding retirement relaxing. A02_4923

when his wife got a position as a kindergarten field officer for the then Shire of Woorayl.

While Stephen started his policing in the Melbourne CBD, most of his career has been spent working in Bass Coast, South Gippsland and Latrobe Shires, and he was based at Korumburra Police Station for his final decade in the force.

He was happy being a country police officer.

"I never chased promotion," he said, noting he got to know a lot of people through his work, something that at

times made the job easier but could also have the opposite effect.

"I have no regrets and I did enjoy it most of the time," Stephen said of his police career.

However, the challenges of the job increased over the years, particularly in relation to dealing with community situations involving mental health and family violence.

Both Stephen and Dale retired in early September.

The pair recently decided to have a go at playing bowls.

They love hiking, albeit

Dale goes in for bigger adventures, having tackled Mount Everest, Kilimanjaro and one of his favourites the Larapinta track, while Stephen walks most days but is generally happy to stick to places such as Wilsons Promontory.

However, travel is in his plans, with trips to Far North Queensland and Europe on the agenda.

While Stephen and Dale retired a little earlier than they initially planned, they are happy they did so.

Although inadequate police resourcing prompted Dale's retirement, he has realised since that it was the right time anyway, finding he is loving life and is sleeping better.

Like Stephen he has no regrets about his choice of career.

"Overall, it's been a great job; I've met the best people and made great friendships with police and community members," Dale said, adding he never expected his police career to be so long and doubts it would have been had he remained in Melbourne.

Living in a 100-year-old house, there is repair work and painting to be done, and there is lots of travel to visit his first grandchild.

While Dale has been involved in a range of community roles over the years through footy, netball and basketball, as well as a long period on the Leongatha Primary School Council, Stephen has been content to make his community contribution through his police service.

Christmas Savings

AT EDNEYS LEONGATHA

DEMO CLEARANCE

2023 NISSAN QASHQAI ST-L

1.3 Turbo, auto, grey, 5 seat, sat/nav, active cruise, SUV.
CMM 971



\$44,990 DRIVE AWAY

2023 NISSAN XTRAIL TI-L

2.5L auto, 4WD, white, 5 seat, full leather, sunroof, SUV.
CIU 988



\$55,990 DRIVE AWAY

2023 NISSAN PATHFINDER TI

3.5L V6 auto, 4wd, white, 8 seats, full leather, 2.7t towing.
CIU 977



\$71,990 DRIVE AWAY

2022 NISSAN NAVARA ST D23

2.3 Twin Turbo, manual, 4x4, Diesel, white, dual cab, 3.5t towing.
COB 989



\$51,990 DRIVE AWAY

2023 NISSAN NAVARA STX D23

2.3 Twin Turbo, auto, 4x4, Diesel, white, dual cab, full leather, 3.5t towing.
CHC 989



\$57,990 DRIVE AWAY

2022 HYUNDAI TUCSON ELITE N LINE

2.0L auto, AWD, Diesel, white, N line, sport styling.
CBW 841



\$47,990 DRIVE AWAY

USED CAR CLEARANCE

2021 HYUNDAI KONA N PREMIUM

2.0L, 8sp DC Sports auto, Red, 206kw, sport styling, heated front seats, low profile, 17676km.
BTQ 917



\$46,990 DRIVE AWAY

2018 HYUNDAI TUCSON GO TL3

2.0L, 8sp Sports auto, Diesel, white, 5 seats, tow bar, 60502km.
1NX 1VG



\$26,990 DRIVE AWAY

2022 MITSUBISHI TRITON MR GLX+

2.4L, 6sp Sports auto, 4x4, Diesel, dual cab, blue, canopy, tow bar, 20475km.
1WH 4HA



\$49,990 DRIVE AWAY

2018 NISSAN NAVARA ST S3

2.3L, 7sp auto, 4x4, Diesel, dual cab, white, redarc braking, tow bar, 79185km.
AYS 869



\$38,990 DRIVE AWAY

2018 NISSAN NAVARA SILVERLINE S3

2.3L, 7sp auto, 4x4, Diesel, dual cab, white, bullbar, side steps, tow bar, 62400km.
1OA8ZH



\$34,990 DRIVE AWAY

2017 NISSAN XTRAIL ST-L S2

2.5L, auto, 4x4, Petrol, white, SUV, Nudge bar, tow bar, leather seats, 85705km.
ATA933



\$28,990 DRIVE AWAY



1 ROUGHEAD STREET, LEONGATHA 5662 2327 LMCT 1500

Brad Beyers (Sales Consultant) 03 5662 2327 or 0434 884 649 | www.edneysleongatha.com.au

Volunteers making a difference to Ambulance Victoria

THIS International Volunteer Day, Ambulance Victoria (AV) is taking the opportunity to thank those who volunteer their time to give back to the community as part of our world-leading ambulance service.

There are many roles within AV and in the community that are entirely or partially volunteer-based and make a huge difference to our ability to respond and provide Best Care to our patients.

These roles include AV's Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), Ambulance Community Officers (ACO), Auxiliaries and GoodSAM responders.

AV Executive Director Clinical Operations, Anthony Carlyon said community and AV volunteers make an enormous impact on the outcomes of our patients and the work of our paramedics.

"AV is a great place to volunteer and there are many rewarding benefits such as practical life skills and helping others in their time of need," he said.

"Our First Responders and GoodSAM members work extremely hard to ensure their communities have access to early medical care in the event of an emergency, which ultimately increases a patient's chance of survival.

"Our auxiliary members have made a positive contribution to Victorian ambulance services for decades and we always welcome the work they do."

AV has more than 240 CERT volunteers and more than 980 ACOs across the state.

Meanwhile the 40 AV Auxiliaries in Victoria are made up of more than 400 valuable volunteer members, who helped raise more than \$145,000 for ambulance branches in the last financial year.

Paramedics are also frequently supported by GoodSAM responders who volunteer their time to respond to patients who require CPR or defibrillation in their area.

Cardiac arrest is often unexpected and for every minute a patient doesn't receive immediate treatment, their chance of survival falls by 10 per cent – that's why GoodSAM responders improve patient survival rates and outcomes.

To learn more about AV CERT volunteers, visit ambulance.vic.gov.au/careers/become-a-first-responder and for more on AV Auxiliaries, visit ambulance.vic.gov.au/community/community-partnerships/auxiliaries.

To become a GoodSAM responder, you can sign up at ambulance.vic.gov.au/goodsam.

Scouts looking for new leaders

THE 1st Fish Creek Scout Group is looking for volunteers.

With 20 children between the ages of 10 and 15 enjoying the scouting experience, the group is looking for new leaders to guide the program.

Currently, the 1st Fish Creek Scout Group is led by Janine Taylor and Chris Schirlinger.

However, Chris will soon be leaving this role.

"Chris is happy to mentor anybody willing to step into his role, so they won't be thrown in the deep end," Janine said.

New volunteers will also be given training when they sign on.

The training involves an online course and two weekends away.

The online portion can be completed over 12 months.

Leadership responsibilities include attending meetings, organising programs, supervising the children and generating ideas to develop new skills.

A police check is required, as is a Working With Children Check.

Janine said volunteers will be supported through the process.

The 1st Fish Creek Scout Group meets every Thursday from 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

Scouts play an important role



The 1st Fish Creek Scout Group is looking for more adult volunteers.

in the community, as it offers children the opportunity to develop friendships and new skills.

Some of the skills explored include navigation and mapping, construction, cooking, knots, making campfires, and survival skills.

There is also a service component, with the scouts given the chance to contribute to the community however they can.

The weekly meetings also focus on a range of topics.

Most recently, the 1st Fish

Creek Scout Group had an international night where they learned about different countries, and a music night as many members play instruments.

Weekends away are featured in the program.

The 1st Fish Creek Scout Group recently visited Wilsons Promontory, where they camped, hiked, learnt about first aid and participated in a range of activities.

Janine said new group leaders are encouraged to come in

with their own ideas.

"If new group leaders come to us with a new set of skills, they will be embraced," she said.

"(Being a leader) is a rewarding experience. The young scouts are keen to learn and when they succeed its rewarding for us.

"We encourage anyone who is considering volunteering to give us a call."

For more information, contact Janine on 0418 580 076 or group leader Brad Gale on 0428 632 219.

Fresh Korumburra Lion a passionate volunteer



New Korumburra Lions Club member Rob Blanco (second from left) with his wife Lisa, club president Roger Powell and Rob's sponsor Susan Taylor.

NEW Korumburra Lions Club member Rob Blanco was motivated to start volunteering when he and his wife Lisa moved to the town 10 years ago, recognising the chance to become part of the community and invest in it.

"It's a great opportunity to connect with people," he said of volunteering.

The chance to become part of a community was a key reason for shifting from Mount Waverley to the country.

While Rob considered joining his local Lions Club soon after arriving in Korumburra, the timing of its meetings at that stage didn't fit in with his work schedule.

Instead, he volunteered at Korumburra-Bena Football Club manning the gates and working behind the bar, and continues to deliver for Meals on Wheels in Korumburra and Leongatha, something he's done for the past couple of years.

"It's a significant contribution but it's not a significant investment in time," Rob said, averaging around once a month for Meals on Wheels.

He illustrates that it is possible to fit volunteer roles into a busy lifestyle, working in a management capacity for an American software company involved in cyber security, and having a hobby farm with Black Angus cattle.

Rob felt pride when recently inducted into his local Lions Club, with its objectives appealing to him.

"One of the things which attracts me to this group is that

they have a focus around youth, and I believe if we're going to invest anywhere in the community, youth is a critical part of that, particularly in regional Australia where services are less available for them," he said.

That belief has already prompted Rob to provide mentoring for young people, helping teenagers realise the potential for them in the world.

While so far he has only had his induction with Lions, Rob is

set to throw himself into preparations for the upcoming carols event at Coal Creek, assuming lolly-packing duties.

He's looking forward to January's swap meet at Korumburra Showgrounds, a major source of fundraising for Korumburra Lions Club.

Club president Roger Powell is always delighted to have new Lions join.

He recently worked out there are at least 66 clubs and groups in Korumburra alone that require volunteers to exist.

Rob encourages people who are yet to try volunteering to give it a go, stressing it doesn't have to be a major time commitment to benefit the community and build your social connection with others.

"It's such a great opportunity for so many people but for some reason they get hung up on the effort and time required," he said.

He added that younger people joining Lions, such as those in their thirties, can benefit from its leadership programs and developmental pathways.



Olga Wilkinson, President of Friends of the Prom, with volunteer Mary Walker who has been giving her time, skills and knowledge to the group for over three decades.

Mary, a dedicated Friend of the Prom

MARY Walker, 77, joined Friends of the Prom in 1984 and travels over two hours to Tidal River each Thursday to volunteer in the nursery.

Friends of the Prom assist Parks Victoria with the preservation and upkeep of the iconic Wilsons Promontory area.

The group established a nursery about 30 years ago and volunteers collect seeds, sow and grow natives and revegetate areas enabling flora and fauna to flourish.

Mary's own love of plants and growing took off after she completed an 18-month horticulture course at Holmesglen many years ago.

She began managing the nursery twenty years ago and passes on her knowledge of plants and growing techniques to new volunteers.

"My memory is not as good as it used to be. Botanical names I sometimes forget, but it'll come to me at two o'clock in the morning," laughed Mary.

Mary enjoys the bushwalking and the raw, natural elements of the Prom and had a passion for spotting orchids at one time.

"I like the freedom. You can go for a walk and if you look, you can see amazing things like insects, animals, birds."

Volunteering for decades with

the Friends has enabled Mary to see the result of their efforts literally grow and flourish, such as the trees planted on the isthmus over the last 10 years for koalas, as their numbers have dwindled since the bushfires.

"(We get to) see our gum trees grow out there into budding big eucalypts for the koalas."

Mary enjoys the company and the longstanding friendships she has made as well as taking care of the environment in an iconic part of Australia.

"It gives you something to do and you're not stuck in your house and being miserable," declared Mary.



Star of the South

Wishing you and your family a safe and happy Christmas



As we near the end of another busy year working to bring offshore wind to Gippsland, we want to thank everyone who has taken an interest in Star of the South in 2023. We look forward to continuing the conversation in 2024.

2023 highlights

It typically takes 6-10 years to plan an offshore wind project. This sometimes feel like a long and slow journey but over the past year there's been significant progress to celebrate! Here's a few of our highlights...



Connecting with students at a career expo



Applying for an **Australian Government 'feasibility licence'**, needed to continue work on Star of the South



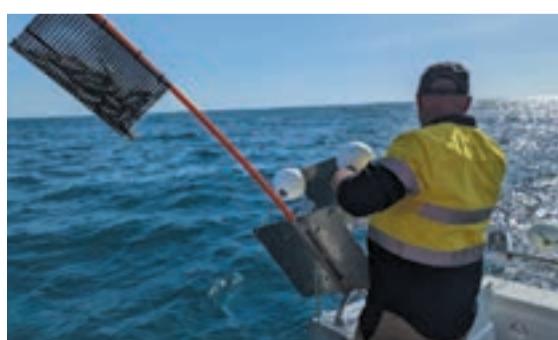
Completing **Australia's first seabed investigations for offshore wind**



Shortlisting local ports for the project's long-term Gippsland Operations Base



Studying the marine life in Bass Strait



Deploying an underwater camera for fish surveys



Speaking with young people about career opportunities in offshore wind at 16 careers fairs and expos



Releasing a **Guide for Workers** outlining opportunities to make the move to offshore wind



Promoting Gippsland businesses to global offshore wind suppliers through our **Supplier Showcase**



Talking with hundreds of locals and hearing feedback



Touring the vessel used for seabed investigations



Coming up in 2024

We hope to learn if our application for a feasibility licence is successful in the coming months.

Our key focus for 2024 is preparing and submitting environmental and planning approval applications. We'll promote opportunities to get involved in the planning process as they come up.

We look forward to working closely with our partners and locals across Gippsland, including the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, residents, landholders, visitors, community groups, councils and schools, to name just a few!

Come and talk with us

Got an offshore wind question?
Find our team at:

Mid Valley Shopping Centre, Morwell
Mon 11 December, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Gippsland Centre Sale, Sale
Mon 11 December, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Sea Days Festival, Port Welshpool
Sat 6 January 2024, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

Gippsland office hours

Our Gippsland office will close on Tuesday 26 December and reopen Wednesday 3 January.

More information

To find out more about the Star of the South project and register for updates:

starofthesouth.com.au

1800 340 340

info@starofthesouth.com.au

310 commercial road Yarram

Star of the South Project

Star of the South



Year 5 student Ivy Addison recipient of three 2023 achievement awards. Z16_4923



Recipients of an academic award Lara Smyth and Ruby Taylor. Z17_4923



Teachers Brendan Kimber and Lachlan Gale celebrating 10 years or more service at the College. Z18_4923



Mr Greg Price, who was given the honour of being named a Life Governor following more than 20 years of service to Newhaven College, congratulates this year's recipient of the Reverend John Leaver Award, Year 11 student Jack Ryan. Z20_4923



Mrs Sue Mitchell who had the honour of lighting the Newhaven College candles, is departing Newhaven after twenty years of service.



The Bendigo Community Bank awards recognise students in Year 9 who have displayed strong community values and includes \$1000 per year for the next three years. The award recipients are Year 9 students Tilly Stecher, Felix Fothergill, Jasmine Ruffin and Meyanna Christensen with Mr Bruce Proctor and Mrs Bronwyn Pratt from Bendigo Bank.

TO CELEBRATE the conclusion of the 2023 school year, Newhaven College held two highly anticipated Presentation Evenings for the Junior School and Middle/Senior School.

Both events were held in the College's gymnasium, overflowing with teachers, staff, students and their supportive families.

The Year 5-11 Presentation Evening was hosted by the 2024 College Captains Tahlia Williams, Max Arceo, Tom Bird and Alice Mabilia who performed their first formal captaincy duties with confidence and style. Congratulations were also offered to the Junior School Celebration Evening hosts, 2022 Captains, Harper Perry and Alfie Russo, and Vice Captains Edith Jamieson and Flynn Wright.

Junior School Celebration

The Junior School Celebration was held on Wednesday. The evening was a fitting end to the school year as the success of all students was celebrated. Junior School students were presented with a certificate of achievement for completing a wonderful year of learning and improvement. The students demonstrated their talents with singing and music performances onstage.

Mr Ralph Arceo, reflecting on his 10 years as Head of Junior School spoke about the Junior School philosophy, "Throughout my years in Junior School, there has been one collective obligation that has driven our every action: the commitment to positively impact the well-being and academic outcomes of the young students entrusted in our care. Every student who has walked through our doors

has been valued, and our expectations have consistently been reinforced. In this nurturing environment, we have fostered self-esteem, independence, empathy, and equipped our students with the skills to make informed decisions to have success in life." Mr Arceo will be commencing as Head of Middle School in 2024. Mrs Cath Huther, who will be replacing Mr Arceo attended the evening.

Middle and Senior School Presentation Evening

On Thursday evening, the school celebrated with song, words and awards in an evening to celebrate the successes of our students, in academics, sport, values and music. The procession of award presentations was interspersed with some stunning musical performances. The Middle School Choir performed Easy on Me by Adele, Senior School band The Dropkicks pumped out Chelsea Dagger by The Fratellis and the final performance of the evening was from the Senior School Ensemble, Waka Waka by Shakira.

Staff Awards

Newhaven College is incredibly proud of its teaching and non-academic staff. This year, three staff members received recognition for twenty years or more of service and dedication to the school over those years. Recipients include Chris Appleby, David Arnott and Sue Mitchell. Six staff were recognised for fifteen or more years of service, namely Nathan Leys, Marcelle Krieg, Carmel Roberts, Stewart Bathgate, Melanie Flower and Ric Pearce. With 10 or more years of commitment to the college, twenty-five staff were also recognised.

Life Governor

Mr Greg Price, after 20 years of dedicated participation on the College Board - over 10 years as the Board Chair - and many years of support of Newhaven College, has been given the honour of being named Life Governor. Greg was thanked for his contributions over the years.

Student Awards

A wide range of awards was presented to recognise outstanding achievement in Academic Studies, Music, Sport, Values, Theatre and Drama, Design, Visual Arts, Technology, and Building and Construction.

Major award recipients:

- Senior School Dux Awards for Year 9 – Tilly Stecher, Year 10 – Maisie McMurray, Year 11 – Gabriel Winterson.
- ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership Award – Thomas Scott (Year 10)
- ADF Future Innovators Award – Isaac Savona (Year 10)
- Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program – Lara Smyth (Year 10)
- Luke Bolding Memorial Scholarship – Gabriel Winterson (Year 11)
- St Vincent de Paul Society Frederic Ozanam Awards – Zachariah Coldora and Bonnie McBride (Year 6)
- The Bendigo Community Bank Awards - Tilly Stecher, Felix Fothergill, Jasmine Ruffin and Meyanna Christensen (Year 9)
- Peter Reith AM Memorial Prize – Tilly Stecher (Year 9)
- Donald Cameron OAM Award – Zoe Scott (Year 10)
- Rev John Leaver Award - Jack Ryan (Year 11)
- Duke of Edinburgh Award – Gold – Mackenzie Wain (Year 11)

Celebrates Excellence



Clarke House took out the honours for the House Cup this year. Principal Mr Tony Corr presented the cup to Middle School Clarke House captains: Maximilian Brocklesby, Ania Falzon and Zoe Paterson.



The winners of a new St Vincent De Paul Society Frederic Ozanam scholarship award are Zachariah Coldora and Bonnie McBride pictured here with Principal Mr Tony Corr and Chair of the Board Mr David Jobe. These two Year 6 students have displayed the qualities of quiet achievers, with compassion and thoughtfulness towards others while at school.



Life Governor Mrs Pam Cameron and Mrs Meryl Reid from the Lions Club of Phillip Island who sponsor the Donald Cameron OAM award, with this year's recipient Zoe Scott (Year 10).



The 2023 recipient of the Luke Bolding Scholarship is Gabriel Winterson (Year 11). This award is given in memory of Luke Bolding, who was a proud Bass House Captain in 2014.



Winner of the ADF Future Innovators Award – Isaac Savona (Year 10) with Director of Learning Karen Milkins-Hendry.



All Junior School students were presented with a certificate of achievement for completing a wonderful year of learning at the Junior School Celebration evening on Wednesday night. Pictured: Thomas Hardy, Tillie James and Hazel Jones.



This year's recipient of the Reverend John Leaver Award is Jack Ryan (Year 11), pictured with Principal Mr Tony Corr and Life Governor Mr Greg Price.



Thomas Scott was the recipient of the ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership Award pictured here with Vice Principal and Head of Senior School Mr Jason Scott.



Peter Reith AM Memorial Prize winner Tilly Stecher (Year 9) with Mrs Kerrie Reith and Principal Mr Tony Corr.



Year 4 students presented their last performance as part of the Junior School at the Celebration evening on Wednesday night.

Shop local this Christmas

Leongatha Art Gallery

WHEN you are thinking about Christmas Gifts, Leongatha Art & Craft Gallery is the perfect shop to visit.

There is a beautiful range of hand crafted items, which includes paintings, ceramics, jewellery, photography, wood-work, glassware, clothing and textiles.

There are a range of beautiful handmade Christmas decorations, and if you are looking to add a personal touch to your decorations, or add a special touch to your Christmas table, you can have your serving plates and Christmas baubles personalised.

There is a display in the gallery that has examples of what is available and can be ordered at the gallery.

We will also have a comprehensive range of Christmas jewellery, all of which adds that festive touch when you are going to your Christmas Function.

The member's of the Gallery would like to thank you for your support over the last twelve months, and wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We look forward to your continued support in 2024.

Shop locally and support local artists and our community.

The gallery is located in the Memorial Hall, Cnr McCartin Street and Michael Place. Opening times are Tuesday to Friday 10am-4pm and Saturday 10am-1pm.

Phone: 5662 5370 Web: leongathagallery.com.au Email: leongathaartandcraftgallery@gmail.com

Instagram: leongathaartandcraftg



Christmas Eve Santa Run is back

THE annual Wonthaggi Fire Brigade Santa Run is back this year with present drop off running each Monday and Wednesday, from 10am to 1pm and then again from 4pm to 6pm, and Saturdays from 1pm to 4pm from now until December 20 at Wonthaggi Fire Station. One of the major fundraising events on the yearly calendar the \$5 per gift goes towards new equipment and vehicles for the brigade. This year they are accepting both cash and eftpos. Deliveries are made on Christmas Eve (December 24) from 3pm - make sure you're home! With the towns increasing in size Dalyston Fire Brigade are again running their own Santa Run this year, for more details visit their Facebook page - Dalyston Fire Brigade. Please ensure each gift is clearly marked with the child's name and address so Santa does not get lost! For more information regarding the Wonthaggi Santa Run visit the Wonthaggi CFA Facebook page. C60_4923

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Woodies Eric, Fred, Bob and Frank in the workshop creating toys for the Christmas Shop.

Christmas at the workshop

THE festive season is almost upon us and the Wonthaggi Woodcrafters Christmas Shop will return again for the 21st year, but with a difference.

The shop will be open for two weeks only and be located at the Woodies clubrooms and workshops at 239 White Road, Wonthaggi. That is, in the Bass Coast Adult Learning complex, adjacent to U3A and the new South Coast FM studios.

This year, the Christmas Shop will be open every day from Saturday, December 9, until Saturday December 23. Opening times: Mondays to Thursdays 10am to 4pm; Fridays 10am to 6pm; Saturdays and Sundays 10am to 2pm.

On display and for sale will be a huge range of quality locally crafted timber products. There will be beautiful turned bowls, platters, vases, wall displays, containers and pens, wall and mantle clocks, kitchenalia, chopping boards, small furniture, artistic display items and so much more.

Children's toys feature rocking horses, pull-alongs, scale models and a variety of wheeled toys, or choose a toy kit to enjoy assembling and decorating with your kids at home. There's always something for everyone at the Woodies Annual Christmas Shop.

This is the 21st year of the popular Woodies Christmas Shops and this year the shop will open with over 600 items, everything at very reasonable prices. Get in early for a great choice. If you're looking for that unique special Christmas gift, what could be better than something locally made from beautiful, resilient, natural timber?

If you would just like to call in and browse, you will be made very welcome. Have a talk to the Woodies on duty about how they create some of their fabulous works – they love a chat. Or ask how to become a Woodies member, there are 100 now, both ladies and men, and learn how to create your very own wonderful products from timber.

The Woodies warmly welcomes prospective new members and offers a broad range of woodcraft activities in three spacious, well-equipped workshops. Skill areas include woodturning, toy-making, joinery, pyrography, scroll-sawing, and carving. If you're interested in joining, or would just like to find out more, email the Secretary at woodies-sec@gmail.com, visit the Woodies on the web at wonthaggiwoodcrafters.com.au or look us up on Facebook and Instagram.



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Shop local this Christmas

Sing-a-long with Santa this Christmas

THERE'S nothing quite like going to your local carols evening, sharing the community spirit with others, and giving your lungs a good workout by joining in on your favourite carols.

Most local towns have set the date and have, in many cases, wrapped some other activities around it.

Christmas in The Boo 2023, at Mirboo North for example, will be held on Friday, December 8 from 5pm.

As well as the carols which will follow, Baromi Park will be overflowing with market stalls, food trucks and live entertainment on the big stage!

You can also tick off your Christmas gift list by supporting the local makers and creators and then throw out your picnic rug, grab a bite to eat and sit on the grass and listen to the music.

There is fun for the whole family and thanks to the generous support of local community organisations, you won't have to dig deep into your pockets with free activities such as a kids disco, face-painting, roaming entertainment, lawn games and mini golf!

At Korumburra, Coal Creek's 'Carols at the Creek' is on Friday, December 15 from 6pm with the Coal Creek Choir and South Gippsland Concert Band leading the singing-a-long.

The Cowes Carols by the Bay, is always a great occasion with the Tuesday, December 12 from 5.30pm event going off with a bang – a big fireworks display to round out a fun night.

There will be a range of free children's activities, including free rides, face painting, and an animal farm and Santa Claus will arrive at 6:30pm. Carols by Candlelight, featuring local artists, will commence at 7.30pm. Entry is free, and visitors are welcome to bring their own picnic rugs and chairs and their own food and drink (no alcohol permitted).

Here are a few of the other carols events in your area:

- Tuesday, December 5 at 7.30pm – A Celtic Christmas by A Taste of Ireland, Wonthaggi Union

Community Arts Centre, Wonthaggi

- Friday, December 8 from 5.30pm – Leongatha Community Carols Leongatha Recreation Reserve.

Live music, food trucks, Santa, and fireworks what more to get you into the festive spirit on Friday evening. Pull out the picnic rug and chairs and spend the night with family and friends.

- Friday, December 8 from 5pm – Christmas in The Boo 2023, Baromi Park, Mirboo North.

A fun-filled evening with plenty of free activities for the kids. Christmas in the Boo will include a magical visit from Santa, a petting zoo, free face painting, mini golf, games and kids disco – to name but a few

- Sunday, December 10 from 5pm – Grantville Christmas Carols and Market.

Browse the local market stalls and then listen to and join in the Christmas Carols performed by the local group Sister and Masters. There will be stalls, face painting, a jumping castle, food and drinks and of course Santa. A family fun night with free children's entertainment and food and drinks will be available for purchase. Bring a picnic rug or chairs to relax on the grass and enjoy the carols and meeting other locals.

- Sunday, December 10 from 5pm – Foster Community Christmas Carols at Pearl Park, Foster.

Free Christmas Carols event presented by the churches of Foster, and everyone's welcome! Please bring a chair or picnic blanket – if weather's bad it'll move to the Anglican Church in Foster.

- Tuesday, December 12 from 5.30pm (pre-entertainment), 7.30pm Carols by the Bay, at the Amphitheatre on The Esplanade. Fireworks to follow.

- Thursday, December 14 – 'A Korumburra Christmas' shopping event presented by the KBA.

- Friday, December 15 from 6pm – Sing-a-long Carols at the Creek, Coal Creek, Korumburra.

- Friday, December 15 from 7pm – San Remo Christmas Carols. Go along to the San Remo

foreshore, bring along a chair or blanket and join in as San Remo celebrates Christmas with Carols, food and of course a visit from Santa.

- Saturday, December 16 from 5.30pm - Inverloch Community Christmas Carols in The Glade, Inverloch.

Inverloch Community Christmas Carols is a free community event put on by the churches and sponsored by local businesses. It's a celebration of the message of hope we share at Christmas. This event showcases local musical talent and is a fun family friendly event. Food will also be served.

- Saturday, December 16 at 6pm – Corinella Carols in the Park, at Harold Hughes Reserve in Corinella (or Corinella Hall if raining).

There will be children's activities with Maru Koala and Animal Park display, balloon twisting, face painting, Mr Elf entertaining and Father Christmas will be distributing lolly bags. Artists leading the Christmas carols will be Eric Cillier, Island Harmony Choir, Wonthaggi Citizens Band, Sage Kelly, Lyndall Wales, Travis Thompson, Michale Kelzke, Milly Bernardi, Majella and Jim. There will also be a giant Christmas raffle, CFA BBQ, coffee cart and pofferjes and free song books.

- Sunday, December 17 at 5.30pm – Wonthaggi Community Carols, at Wishart Reserve, Wonthaggi.

Wonthaggi Community Carols is a free community event put on by the churches and sponsored by local businesses. Children's free and fun activities are also available and will begin from 6pm. Carols start at 7.45pm, a visit from Santa will be included. All are welcome, families, seniors and youth.



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Shop local this Christmas

All I want for Christmas...



Korumburra Christmas shopping night

WITH KORUMBURRA'S Christmas shopping night reinstated and locked in for Thursday December 14, there's heaps of fun planned for the whole family and the chance to stock up on presents and support local businesses.

There'll be free Santa photos for the kids, with the jolly chap in a red suit stationed on the main street, as well as face painting and the chance to hunt for Bluey and friends.

Corie Blackley will be performing Christmas carols, and along with his partner providing further entertainment for children, with games, balloon animals and glitter tattoos.

The CFA fire truck will be on display, while some locals will show off their eye-catching cars and motorbikes at JB Automotive.

Korumburra Lions Club is running the sausage sizzle, and the CWA ladies are set to sell the baked goods for which they are renowned.

There'll be prizes up for grabs with a number of raffles planned.

Members of Korumburra Business Association's enthusiastic new committee have thrown themselves into organising the Christmas shopping night.

The event runs from 4pm until 8pm.



Korumburra Business Association committee members Jack Gilchrist, Alma Morrison, Robyn Van Hamond, Evan Enbom, Steve Kovacs and little helpers Hayley and Spencer Kovacs look forward to the town's upcoming Christmas shopping night.



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Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

Imagine if everyone volunteered

TODAY, Tuesday, December 5 is International Volunteers Day.

The theme this year is: "If Everyone Did".

If everyone volunteered, the world would be a better place, they say; South Gippsland and Bass Coast would be a better place.

In this past week we've seen examples of the power of volunteering.

Despite the challenges of Gippsland's weather, the 300 or more people who volunteered within the Great Victorian Bike Ride organisation, and the locals who volunteered to host them, raising money for their own clubs along the way; they made the event what it was, a big success despite the problems.

But since COVID, we've seen community groups and clubs struggling for volunteers to keep them going; everything from local business associations to service clubs and sporting clubs have struggled to attract volunteers.

The pandemic, they say, has underscored the importance of looking after yourself and your family first. Fair enough, but it has also tipped over into making us more selfish with our time.

Elsewhere however, at the likes of the Korumburra Business Association and Leongatha Lyric Theatre, people have been prepared to answer the call and these groups can go forward now with new ideas and new enthusiasm.

In country areas in particular, where there isn't the scale of metro areas to provide all services, we rely especially on volunteers to provide the sports and facilities that can't be provided by government or professional organisations.

Which is why the Community Grants handed out by the Bass Coast Shire Council recently are so important.

The volunteers who step up to support school and community literacy, our sporting, service and social clubs; these are the people we want to say 'thank you' to today.

But also the grandparents who offer childminding and other support while their adult kids get back into the workforce to pay the mortgage and address the cost of living. They're volunteers too and we love them for it.

Also, this year's International Volunteers Day makes the 'retirement' if that's what it is when you're a volunteer, of George and Anne Hendry of the registered charity Bryn's School, after decades of providing schools in remote locations around the world.

George and Anne, and the many, many people who have supported them along the way, have made a real difference, and to them, on this day, we say a heartfelt thank you too!

Local sustainable food

THANKS for your article "Permaculture with Penelope" (Nov 28, page 37). It highlighted for me how important local food production and distribution is when confronting the cost-of-living and climate crises.

Instead of being wholly reliant on supermarket chains, there are plenty of local, community-based initiatives like Penelope's permaculture workshops, not-for-profit food outlets like Grow Lightly in Korumburra and the Wonthaggi Food Collective, and several community gardens in Bass Coast and South Gippsland that we can all take advantage of to make our lives more affordable and more sustainable, and to help our local community become more resilient.

Michael Nugent, Cape Paterson

Vox Pop

What are your plans for Christmas this year?



Melissa Harrison

Wonthaggi

"Staying local this year having Christmas at home with my sister and immediate family."



Kim McIntyre

South Dudley

"Cooking Christmas lunch with my family at my parents house this year in South Dudley."



Kylie Barnes

Wonthaggi

"Having family together is the centre of Christmas for me and we'll be hosting at our place."



Ian Barnes

Wonthaggi

"I look forward to cooking the Christmas roast pork for family at home."

Free of the constraints

I HAD hoped to be the first Independent for Monash, but it appears Russell has pipped me to the post!

I will be watching closely to see if, as an independent, Russell listens to and represents his community's values now that he is free from the constraints of following the Liberal party line.

Monash has been ignored by the major parties for decades and it is time we are heard on issues that affect us, and receive the funding for housing, infrastructure and health services that we vitally need.

Monash will definitely be a seat to watch at the next election!

Deb Leonard, Former Independent for Monash

Community concerns ignored

BASS Coast Shire Council is allowing sand extraction companies to ride roughshod over the community by failing to implement the Regional Sand Extraction Strategy, Lang Lang to Grantville.

Past Shire Mayor, Michael Whelan, said he 'is not interested' in talking about the issues.

The Shire has ignored a requirement in the sand strategy - which forms a key part of the Bass Coast Planning Scheme - To establish an Environment Review Committee for each company operating on the resource.

It clearly states that a committee "shall be established" for every new extractive industry, membership must include the Council and the local community. The committee is required to monitor compliance by the operator and provide feedback on any environmental problems.

A dubious committee was established referred to as The Grantville Quarries Reference Group but this does not meet the requirements of the Sand Strategy. Membership of the committee has been hidden there has been no oversight of actions on site which damaged regional wildlife habitat and compromised water flows on adjoining land and into Bass River, threatening platypus, blackfish and other aquatic species.

Phil Westwood, Grantville

Internal politicking & treachery in BCSC mayoral elections

IT was with interest that I read the article in the Sentinel Times dated Tuesday November 21 which suggest that Cr Ellis had been pressured by certain Council colleagues, to change his vote for Mayor from Cr Halstead to Cr Le Serve.

Of course it is Cr Ellis's prerogative to vote for whomever he likes but this is not

what is at issue here.

It seems the problem goes back to when in an effort to create public debate on social media about The Voice, Cr Halstead was deemed by her colleagues to be acting against the 'woke' culture so deeply embedded in Council policy.

The public venom from the 'Vote Yes' supporters that Cr Halstead received was not lost on the Council hierarchy who do not tolerate public debate of politically and culturally sensitive matters. Free speech is dead, and we all have to kowtow to any group or individual nursing any type of injustice or vulnerability.

In my opinion Council is not a political party and should refrain from having cultural positions and policies espoused by the 'woke' New Left.

Councillors are paid by ratepayers' money to serve their community. Their focus should be on delivering good governance, community services and infrastructure projects not to focus on personal or collective biases and belief systems.

It's a sad day when personal politics and entrenched cultural biases are the basis for the election of our Mayor who is the face of the shire and a residents and ratepayers advocate.

Helen Zervopoulos, Grantville

College principles don't apply to us

I WOULD like to respond to articles which have been published in the Sentinel Times, online and in print, and in the Mirror newspaper regarding the planning approval for Corner Inlet College in Fullers Road, Foster.

Ms Young says as fact "there are a lot of schools located adjacent to farmland with no problems".

I have worked for 10 years in five Victorian country schools, all in the same type of location as 625 Fullers Road, and have observed the disadvantages and challenges of such a site. None of these schools had the luxury of starting from scratch and none were wedged between close neighbours on a small piece of land.

Ms Young also says: "It is important to note that the closest neighbours did not object". It is also equally important to note that the closest neighbours have their properties on the market.

Ms Young states that "there have been objections raised but none of them have been demonstrated as valid".

It is wrong to suggest that because the application was approved, that the objections were in-valid. Nowhere in the determination does it say that the concerns raised were not valid or not considered as valid reasons.

Many people believe concerns around impacts on farming operations, contradictions to the South Gippsland Planning

Scheme, environment, bushfire risk, road traffic, etc. as very valid reasons but were not enough to convince the Victorian Department of Transport and Planning.

The Corner Inlet College board and Ms Young have gone to great lengths to point out the "thorough process". Part of the "thorough process" is to allow for the democratic rights of neighbours, and other interested parties, to be able to scrutinise the application and express any concerns they may have. The only opportunity to do this was to submit an objection. There was a tiny window of time to do so after very few received a notice of application in July.

To portray objectors as holding up progress on "minor issues" or that "needed schools were unnecessarily being held up by neighbours for no good reason" or that neighbours were unsupportive of an independent school in the Corner Inlet catchment, does not show consideration or respect, nor does it demonstrate a commitment to the Corner Inlet College Democratic Principles and philosophy including freedom of speech, openness and tolerance and understanding of others.

Sue Rowell, Foster

Shame on you

IT BEGGARS belief even with the images circulating of terrible flooding and dust conditions, that there are still members of our community that lack empathy and consideration for those who will have to continue living in these deplorable conditions if the scheme is abandoned. To continue with the vitriolic attacks on those trying to stop council from abandoning the scheme, is shameful.

For them to say the community has spoken is reprehensible for the many hundreds of people affected and for the many families who will now be forced to move if they are financially able to, or able to find a rental property.

In regard to the outrageous claim that 80.7 per cent of the community voted against the scheme is typical of the misinformation peddled over the past 18 months. Whether it was indifference, or confusion with the wording on how to vote, only 692 from a total of 1041 properties voted, of which 559 opposed i.e. 53.7 per cent of total property owners.

The scheme was an essential affirmative project to be voted against, of which only 53.7 per cent opposed despite the long aggressive and unscrupulous campaign which many have referred to as fearmongering, misinformation, disinformation and harassment.

Can they not understand that people's welfare is at stake. The vote was for a vital infrastructure "need" and not for an optional "want" feel-good item.

Lou Pecora, Surf Beach

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

THE NDIS Capacity Building group held their Annual CelebrateAbility day last Friday. It was great for all the participants to come together for an exhibition by the Exploring Art class with catering by the cooking classes and live music from Alysha & Duffy. Read more in the main article in this issue.

The previous Friday saw the presentation of the Learn Local Awards at the RACV City Club in Melbourne. Last year, BCAL's Practical Music course won the Pre-accredited Program (Small Providers) award. This year, the group was invited to perform via video at the presentation. They were recorded performing I Can See Clearly Now, and the clip was played at the acknowledgement of nominees at the opening of proceedings.

The MC for the evening was Brian Nankervis. It was quite a thrill for the musicians to be introduced by the RockWiz legend.

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

■ Wonthaggi Community Garden

The garden's summer planting program picked up speed last week. Di brought along a tray of sunflower seedlings for all the Thursday volunteers to grow on.

Lorraine came with tomato seedlings to share, and another volunteer put in water and rock melon seedlings in a sunny, shared spot.

Regular helpers also harvested much of the season's garlic crop. Some of the bulbs were undersized but all were welcome at this time of the year.

It has become a community garden tradition to harvest the home-grown garlic before the festive season so that it can be dried a little and given as gifts to family and friends.

And of course, the gardeners get to use the delicious local bulbs throughout the year ahead.

For more information about activities at the garden, or to participate, join or visit please contact tgordon@westnet.com.au or drop into the garden on a Thursday between 10 and noon.

■ U3A Wonthaggi

Are you aged 50+ and retired or semi-retired? Want to keep your brain and body active and make new friends? Then join U3A Wonthaggi, located in the vibrant Bass Coast!

The University of the Third Age is a volunteer organisation of mature people who share an interest in educational, creative and leisure activities.

U3A Wonthaggi 2024 course enrolments are now open! You can enrol online or by phone.

For more information go to u3awonthaggi.org.au, phone 0493 471 254, or email secretary@u3awonthaggi.org.au

■ Wonthaggi Woodcrafters

The Woodies' annual pop-up gift shop opens this Saturday.

The store has become a local Christmas tradition and this year, it is located at the Woodies' workshop on the BCAL site at 239 White Road.

There are over 600 items for sale, all of them locally crafted by group members, and much of it from locally sourced timber. With items ranging from pocket-sized to full pieces of furniture, there will definitely be something for everyone.

Plus, you will get to see the workshop where it was created and meet the makers.

For more information about joining the Woodcrafters, visit wonthaggewoodcrafters.com.au or visit the store at the workshop.



239 White Rd, Wonthaggi
PH: (03) 5672 3115 [F](https://www.facebook.com/bcal.vic.edu.au)
www.bcal.vic.edu.au



WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

WE'RE feeling pretty excited here at Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre. We have finally been able to purchase a new vehicle for our L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program! Plans for the new car have been afoot for more than 12 months but with various glitches derailing things, it was just last week that the big day finally arrived.

The funding for the new car was definitely a community enterprise and we would like to thank the Freemasons Foundation as well as their Powlett and Phillip Island Lodges.

We also had donations from the Phillip Island Bicycle Users Group and the Wonthaggi RSL.

To find out more information about the L2P program, contact program coordinator Melanie Mumford, Monday to Wednesday on 0467 590 679 or at basscoastl2p@wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com.

We are having a special Community Lunch at Mitchell House this Wednesday, December 6. Along with the usual fabulous meal,

WNC will be hosting Jo Hinchliffe and her 'bespoke, one off, upcycled' fashion collection From Now to Wow. Come along for lunch and the opportunity to choose a (free!) garment from the Collection.

The gift of the garments is Jo's Christmas gift to our community. RSVP on 5672 3731 or drop into Mitchell House at 6 Murray Street, Wonthaggi to let us know you'll be attending.

Fixit Café has finished for 2023, but this program is so popular that we are already taking bookings for next year. The Fixit Café reopens on Sunday February 18, 2024 and as usual will be held at the Wonthaggi Men's Shed. To book just call us at Mitchell House on 5672 3731.

Our final Community Lunch for 2023 will be on December 13. It will be the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre Christmas Lunch and if last year's event is anything to go by, this will be very well attended so again, RSVPs are essential.

A reminder that Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre will be closed for three weeks over the holiday season. Our last day is December 22 and we reopen on January 15.

Groups such as AA and NA will continue to meet during the break whilst some groups will restart on January 15 and others will return when the school term begins.

For further details do keep a lookout for the next edition of our program 'The Grapevine' which should be available from late January 2024.



6 Murray St, Wonthaggi
PH: (03) 5672 3731 [F](https://www.facebook.com/wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com)
www.wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com



MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

AND we're up and running!

Come check out 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.

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. We also wish to thank the wonderful members of our community who have thoughtfully donated items and funds toward the emergency food bank that will provide extra assistance to families over the Christmas period.

Together with Milpara volunteers, your generosity and kindness make the operation of our important services possible and mean that people experiencing tough times have help to get through.

We look forward to showing you through the Hub, and to hearing your ideas about programs and activities for next year – we're putting together our Term 1 2024 program as this goes to print...

The new spaces might spark an idea and certainly create some new possibilities. 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 [F](https://www.facebook.com/milparacommunityhouse)
www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au

LEONGATHA COMMUNITY HOUSE

THERE is a lot going on at the house this December. We are excited to share our collaboration with Leongatha Community Garden! We have a wonderful vegie patch taking shape and we are looking for volunteers to help out for an hour or two once a week. If you are interested in supporting this great project, please get in touch at the house!

And have you heard about our new exciting community transport service. In conjunction with Gippsland Southern Health Service, Leongatha Community House is trialling "Thursday Essentials", a free community transport service that takes passengers to Wonthaggi to access their essential appointments such as health specialists, Centrelink, banking and more.

The trial continues every Thursday until the Christmas Break and will recommence January 18, bookings are essential, and conditions apply. We have had a great start to this venture, and it is important to see this service being used so it continues past the initial trial. Get in touch with us for more information or to book.

Also don't forget our free handyman and technology advice sessions. Every Monday 9.15am-10.15am. Both gents offer free advice and assistance on your technology queries and home projects.

And most importantly, we would like to invite the community to our Christmas Party on Wednesday December 13 at 1pm! Bookings are required, please let us know by Thursday December 7.

You can contact us on 03) 5662 3962 or office@leongathacommunityhouse.org.au



16 Bruce Street, Leongatha
PH: (03) 5662 3962 [F](https://www.facebook.com/leongathacommunityhouse)
www.leongathacommunityhouse.org.au



Tallow and Macey share in the joy of Christmas at San Remo Pre-School end of year celebration. Z25_4923

Community support early childhood education

THE joy of Christmas filled the room when families gathered at the San Remo Pre-School last Friday evening for their end of year celebration; an evening organised by a committee of volunteers with the generosity of the local community.

President of the kindergarten Nikole Charlton acknowledged the spirit of community when the kinder hosted over 80 families; thanking the kind volunteers for holding a sausage sizzle, and the San Remo Butcher and San Remo IGA for their generous support.

The kindergarten is independently funded and parent run, and strongly rely on fundraising to create a fun and educational environment for their growing number of children, to develop their skills and learn from play.

As the term gradually draws to a close the kindergarten committee and teaching staff volunteered their time in bringing families together for Christmas, sharing that the San Remo Pre-School couldn't successfully operate without the generosity of the community and their tireless support for early childhood education.

The committee received generous donations for the Christmas raffle that was drawn at the close of the evening, with over \$1300 in prizes won.

Sincere thanks to Tennis Australia, Jim's Bait & Tackle, COR Pilates, Mello, Phillip Island Winery, Lina Collection Consultant Sue Cohen, Bunnings Wonthaggi, Lash House, and Fig & the Bay.

The kindergarten committee will be holding a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Wonthaggi on December 10 from 9am until 4pm – their last fundraiser of the year, so head on down to support the community kinder this Christmas.

Gippsland awards for Lyric Theatre

ALL three local theatre companies, Leongatha Lyric, Wonthaggi and Offshore on Phillip Island came away with a swag of awards from the Gippsland Associated Theatre Awards 'The GATs' last Saturday night.

Leongatha Lyric Theatre won a number of technical and performance awards for its production of The Producers, including the following:

- Most Outstanding Set Design - Colin Mitchell
- Most Outstanding Choreographer - Emily Laughlin
- Most Outstanding Technical Achievement for Digital Scenery - Zac Krause and Colin Mitchell
- Most Outstanding Costume Design - Colin Mitchell
- Alby Fisher Award for Don Devonshire for the moving pigeons
- Most Outstanding Youth Performance Over 13 - Taine Lowe for Carmen Ghia
- Most Outstanding Cameo Performance - Christine Skicko for Hold Me, Touch Me
- Most Outstanding Support Actor Male - Dan Lawrie for Roger De Bris



BCAL teaching staff and participants at the opening of the Exploring Arts exhibition. Melissa Harrison, Camille Monet, Kim McIntyre, Shelly Gray, Shelley McAuliffe, CEO David Leslie, Cr Geoff Ellis, and Dr Laura Brearley. Z15_4923

Celebrating International Day of People with Disability

BASS Coast Adult Learning (BCAL)'s NDIS program, Exploring Arts, unveiled its latest exhibition, 'Looking in the Mirror,' to an enthusiastic audience last Friday. Dr Laura Brearley, an arts specialist, officially opened the exhibition and shared her insights about the art pieces.

"What you the students have revealed is how gifted, beautiful, and courageous you are. There is a great vibrancy to the artwork."

She invited the audience to read quotes from famous artists, which emphasised the importance of continuing to express oneself through art even in adulthood – students

sharing quotes including "Creativity takes Courage", and 'Every child is an artist. The problem is staying an artist when you grow up.'

"We have seen enormous leadership demonstrated by the exploring art class about what it looks like to do the hard work of the picture inside – the picture within you," said Dr Brearley.

Shelley McAuliffe, Exploring Arts participant exhibited her artwork and shared "The skeleton represents the old Shelley, the angel represents the new me, and the little bird is my pet Harry who has helped me come a long way."

The exhibition is a vibrant

collection of various mediums, photography and colours, each piece reflecting the participants' unique talents. The arts program is led by talented local artist Camille Monet.

"The participants were asked what they feel and think about themselves and express it on a painting. I think they have done a wonderful job."

Following the exhibition, was the BCAL annual event, titled 'CelebrateAbility,' which is a laid-back celebration of the participants' achievements and hard work throughout the year in a relaxed environment.

This event was held in conjunction with the International

Day of People with Disability, which aims to promote community awareness, understanding and acceptance of people with disabilities. As part of the festivities, participants and their supports were treated to a delightful lunch prepared by the staff.

Local rock duo Alysha & Duffy provided lively entertainment, and participants were even given the chance to paint their own t-shirts.

For more information on all BCAL's courses and services visit bcal.vic.edu.au or call 5672 3115. The centre will close over the Christmas period and re-open on January 15.



Some of the Loch pre-schoolers who co-authored the book, Willow Pillows Great Adventure Around Universes at the book launch last Thursday at Korumburra library. ob02_4923

Loch pre-schoolers launch their very own book

A STORYBOOK written by 23 four and five-year-old preschoolers from Loch was launched with a reading at Korumburra library last Thursday.

Willow Pillows Great Adventure Around Universes takes the reader on a meandering, magical, and hilariously epic adventure in search of Willow's best friend.

With the help of parent, writer, editor, artist and translator, Leah Broadby, the children spent months coming up with ideas and crafting a story line that was unique

and cohesive and prepared drawings and collages to go with the story.

"There's nothing so exciting as the unfettered imagination of a child," Leah said.

"They're not so formulaic, the meandering nature and the randomness is beautiful."

The preschoolers wild imaginations and differing views led them to create a story with portals and unexpected twists and turns.

"I believe the easiest thing to do for them is come up with ideas. They had great fun doing that," commented Leah.

"and helping shape their unbridled, beautifully naive way of thinking into story format has been a joyous experience."

The books have been printed and the children are excited to call themselves authors and illustrators and to see the end product of all their hard work.

"They have learned a lot about literacy, literature and editing. What an author is and what an illustrator does, and it's been quite an amazing experience for them to be involved in," said pre-school teacher, Debbie O'Halloran.

"They have a really strong

connection with the story and they all identify what parts were their contributions, what parts were their ideas and words, and there's a lot of meaning to the children as a group which is fantastic."

Loch Preschool Storybook Reading of Willow Pillows Great Adventure was held last Thursday at Myli Library Korumburra with families of the children who worked on the book attending.

The book is available to purchase, \$15 for one and \$10 for any extras from the Loch and District Preschool.

Offshore awarded for challenging play

OFFSHORE Theatre's play, 2:20AM by Rebecca Lister has scooped the pool at the annual Gippsland Associated Theatre Awards gala in Wonthaggi last Saturday night.

Not only was the play hailed as the Most Outstanding Production but the director Melissa McMillan also won the award for Most Outstanding Director in the drama category against some pretty stiff opposition including from the likes of her colleague Amanda Price who directed Australians All, Scott Miller of OTL for The Laramie Project, Peta Crawford MDS for God of Carnage, Sue Lindsay Moartz for Mr Bailey's Minder and Kylie Sinclair of WTC for the time-honoured Charley's Aunt.

2:20AM is a contemporary drama laced with humour, grief, conflict, and resolution which tackles the impact of suicide and bereavement head-on through several realistic scenarios that manage to touch the soul of everyone who sees it.

Offshore delivered the message from writer Rebecca Lister so strongly and faithfully as to earn the praise of the playwright herself after watching the production in October.

If discussion of these themes troubles you call Lifeline 24/7 on 13 14 11.

As well as taking the top drama award, Offshore snatched a host of other awards for best actors, sets etc.

They also received a GAT Judges' Award for resilience, getting their play 'Australians All' to stage after more than two years of rehearsal and several changes to the cast, constantly thwarted by COVID lockdowns.

The winner of the Most Outstanding Musical Production was the Warragul Theatre Company for Jekyll & Hyde, also with the Most Outstanding



Lead Male by Michael Gray for his role as Jekyll & Hyde and Most Outstanding Director by Liam Charleston, plus numerous design awards.

A highlight of the night was a reprise of his song 'Keep It Gay' by Dan Lawrie as 'Roger' from Leongatha Lyric Theatre's production of The Producers.

For their musical productions of School of Rock and Dusty Wonthaggi Theatrical Group took out the following awards:

- Most Outstanding Large Ensemble - Kids Ensemble (School of Rock)
- Most Outstanding Female Lead - Helena Leonardos (Rosalie Mullins, School of Rock)
- Most Outstanding Female Support - Shontelle O'Connor (Mary O'Brien, Dusty)
- Most Outstanding Youth Performance Under 13 - Jude Fisher (Billy, School of Rock)
- Cast 2:20am Most Outstanding Small Ensemble
- Ashley Reed Most Outstanding Support Actor Drama/Comedy Australians All
- Chris White Most Outstanding Lead Actor Drama/Comedy 2:20am
- Melissa McMillan Most Outstanding Director 2:20am Drama/Comedy
- 2:20am Most Outstanding Production Drama/Comedy
- Cast of 'Australians All' Judges Certificate.

Performing in an Open Production for his role as Billy in School of Rock.

Offshore Theatre on Phillip Island took out the following awards:

A compelling drama by Phillip Island's Offshore Theatre company, the Rebecca Lister play 2:20AM, scooped the pool at the Gippsland Associated Theatre Awards on Saturday night. The company also won awards for a production delayed three years by COVID, Australians All.



Shontelle O'Connor wins Most Outstanding Support Actor Female for her role as Mary in Wonthaggi Theatrical Group's production of Dusty.

Music assists charity milestone for Noah's Gift

SINCE its inception in 2018, local charity Noah's Gift has raised an incredible \$100,000 for the Royal Children's Hospital.

This milestone was reached following a music event at The Clubhouse in Wonthaggi on Friday night.

Led by Darren Parker and his band Standing Room Only, the event featured local musicians Leigh and Mauz, and Captain Tasty and the Filthy Horns.

The aim was to reach \$2000 – a target which was more than doubled on the night.

Noah's Gift founder Emma Jones said \$2742 needed to be raised to reach the \$100,000 mark.

"It was lovely to not only reach that amount, but to well exceed it," she said.

"We received incredible support throughout the night."

More than 100 door prize tickets were sold, and an estimated 150 people enjoyed the entertainment before the night was through.

"We had some people come in who didn't know about the charity and wanted to have a chat. A lot of people showed amazing generosity," Emma said.

"It was a great night, a great atmosphere. Everyone was



Tracey Jones, Emma Jones and Theresita Plumb with the raffle items at Friday night's Noah's Gift Fundraiser.

up and dancing from the first song, it was really fun."

Emma thanked the three acts for organising the event.

"As the kids are getting older and life is getting busier, it can be hard to organise events like this. We really appreciate the work of Darren and people like him who can arrange these events and make our role easier," she said.

Darren said the event was a

fun way of raising money for an important cause.

"We were rapt that we were able to smash the target, it was incredible," he said.

"We were thrilled to hear that Emma, Nathan and the extended family were able to reach \$100,000."

"It was a great night with a really good crowd. There were a lot of generous donations, and we had some great sponsors

on board."

Emma hopes to put the money raised towards an existing grant for the Royal Children's Hospital.

This grant goes towards cord blood therapy for children at risk of heart failure.

Noah's Gift is also looking to hold a fundraiser next summer with the intention of raising funds for the Wonthaggi Hospital.



Sue Gilford works on a gourd, building up her moth design through pyrography. A03_4923

Pyrography demonstrated at Meeniyian Art Gallery

MEENIYAN Art Gallery recently highlighted the pyrography of Agnes-based Sue Gilford who uses the technique to decorate gourds she has grown.

First, she dries the gourds and coats the inside of the 'vessels' with a mixture of PVA, river sand and pigment.

"This gourd's taken me two years to dry out," she said as she demonstrated pyrography, burning designs into its outside.

Sue explained how she got into pyrography.

"Many years ago, someone gave me some gourds to grow, and I've loved growing them since," she said, adding that she discovered people were using pyrography to decorate gourds overseas.

Sue also uses pyrography to create designs on paper and textiles.

While the gourds belong to the same species, they come in many varieties, creating diverse shapes, with long-neck gourds, snake gourds and apple gourds a few of those Sue grows.

Last year wasn't a good growing season, with too little rain, and the artist hopes for better fortunes this time despite the predictions of a hot and dry summer.

While she normally likes peace to concentrate on her work, Sue talked her audience through the process as she illustrated pyrography.

"I've got the temperature on low, which means it's like having an HB pencil," Sue said as she demonstrated a drawing technique, creating the image of a moth on her gourd, and sticking to a technique that wouldn't create too much smoke in the gallery.

Gourds have their own aromas and those featured in the recent exhibition had been completed at least two weeks ahead of the show to make sure their smell wasn't overpowering.

While some people use a variety of tools for their pyrography, Sue uses one, but alters the temperature and varies her technique according to the desired look.

It's easy to get carried away with your design, she explained.

"One thing with pyrography is you've got to know when to stop," Sue said.

"I virtually hold my breath when I'm doing it because I don't want to make a mistake."

Sue has found patience is the key, slowly building up her designs, so takes a break if she feels she is starting to rush.

Phillip Island teller of stories, writes his own

PHILLIP Island legend Laurie Dixon has always loved to tell a story.

Whether it's from his shearing days travelling Australia with his late twin brother John; the towns they visited, the people they met.

Or about football, cricket, music, the old Ventnor Primary School, the Penguin Parade where he and John worked, farming, family happenings, or Island history... he's always got one ready to go.

And as family and friends will readily agree, his recall of the facts, scores and intricate detail, like which two players made the crucial partnership or who set up the winning goal, is uncanny.

"See that shearing stand over there," he says, pointing to what looks to be an early-model Sunbeam single of some sort in the old shearing shed on Ventnor Beach Road.

"The only person to get more than 200-a-day out of that was Lofty (Someone or other), a world champion, who sheared in this shed."

He's ready to go with another tale before he's interrupted.

"Who was the best shearer, you or John?" someone asks.

"Both the same. One day he'd do a few more than me, the next I would. We swapped it around."

Like the theme of a poem specially penned for the occasion



There was a copy of Laurie Dixon's book "Home Paddock Stories: Phillip Island and Beyond" for each of the grandchildren. Laurie with wife Jenny and the kids at the launch of his book last Saturday.

of his book launch last Saturday by noted local raconteur, Mike Cleland, who may well have learned some of his craft from Laurie, sharing a shed with him in his later years.

The Dixon twins laced up their boots, and pulled their guernseys on. To play for Phillip Island, against old rivals Dalyston.

And John and Laurie took the field, the red, the white and blue. John wearing number 18 and number 10 was Lou..." so, it began.

The poem relates the tale of the day the Dixon twins bamboozled the opposition when

they changed jumpers at half time, John's number 18 for Laurie's number 10, and kicked a winning score before the Dalyston boys woke up.

There's plenty more like that, some drawn from the meticulous diaries he has kept since 1952 and the voluminous scrapbooks, but mostly from memory, in a new memoir titled "Home Paddock Stories: Phillip Island and Beyond" by Laurie Dixon, with a forward by Anne Oswin of the Phillip Island Advertiser and fact-checked (if needed) by former Phillip Island and District Historical Society Secretary,

Christine Grayden.

And what an occasion it was last Saturday afternoon when a gathering of Phillip Island locals and extended family members turned out at the original family farm, owned by Laurie's parents Rex and Mollie (Thompson) to celebrate the book and the life of a great Australian.

Cameron Sanders and Quinn Kellock, on a pair of euphoniums, Laurie's own instrument of choice (John's was trumpet), playing "It's a grand old flag", "I did it my way" and even "Nessun dorma" wafted over after the speeches, as people milled around in the shearing shed exchanging their own stories over a sumptuous afternoon tea.

And would you believe it, not a mobile being tapped, except to take the odd photo.

The art of conversation and the joy of community may not have been lost after all.

"I think Laurie has had a really good day," observed one of the guests as they walked across the paddock carpark to their car.

"I'm glad he cut the grass," was the practical reply.

Watch out for Laurie's book "Home Paddock Stories: Phillip Island and Beyond" when it goes up for sale around the town, it's compelling reading for anyone with a connection to and a love of the Island.

Bass Coast Fine Film Group presents "Past Lives"

ON SUNDAY December 10 at 10.45am, the BCFFG is screening "Past Lives", from debut South Korean writer/director, Celine Song.

With many reviewers claiming "Past Lives" as the best film of 2023, this romantic drama explores the complexities of relationships at different stages of life. The story revolves around the relationship between two childhood friends, Na Young/Nora and Hae Sung. Na Young's family emigrates to Canada, and the two friends lose touch, leaving their relationship uncertain. The film follows their journey of rediscovery. The characters are portrayed beautifully, with Greta Lee delivering a truly miraculous performance as Nora, the lead character. The film's plot is well-crafted, and the characters are well-developed, making it a compelling watch.

"Past Lives" touches on several themes, including the Asian diaspora, the impact of leaving one's home, and the blurred sense of identity that can result. The film's central message is that the past can have a profound impact on our present and future. The story is told through a captivating, slow-burning narrative that speaks volumes about the value of time and memories.

Overall, "Past Lives" is a well-produced film that delivers a powerful message about the importance of relationships and the impact of the past. The acting is top-notch, with Greta Lee's performance a standout. The cinematography is also excellent, with cinematographer Kirchner's careful framing adding depth and emotion to the story. The film's exploration of themes such as love, loss, and the passage of time makes it a compelling watch, and the ending is particularly poignant, delivering a message of hope and infinite possibilities.

"Past Lives" is a must-watch for anyone who enjoys a well-crafted romantic drama that explores the complexities of relationships.

To find out more head to: bcffgfilms.weebly.com/past-lives.html

BCFFG Members entry is free on presentation of membership card; general public welcome with tickets at usual box office prices.

Film screening at Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre, 96 Graham Street, Wonthaggi.

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



10.45am SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER
PAST LIVES

Two childhood friends, Na Young/Nora and Hae Sung, lose touch after Na Young's family emigrates from South Korea to Canada. The film follows their journey of rediscovery, exploring themes of love, loss, and the passage of time.

General public welcome. Members Free Entry!

@ WONTAGGI UNION CINEMA
96 Graham Street, Wonthaggi.

Check the website for more info:
basscoastfinefilmgroup.weebly.com

The ARCHIES CREEK HOTEL
AND THE CARAVAN MUSIC CLUB PRESENT

Caravan

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
- 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
- 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

South Coast FM
88.1 89.1 89.5

WONTAGGI
B I N G O

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



Mardi, Evie and Ivy celebrate their 2023 achievements at the Newhaven College end of year celebration. Z09_4923



Molly and Maggie Mackenzie awarded for an outstanding effort to uphold the college values. Z10_4923



Lorraine Moore and Sharon Fullarton at the Phillip Island Senior Citizens Christmas lunch. Z11_4923



Dale Brain and Grant Colwell of the Phillip Island & District Railway Modelers and the Senior Citizens Club enjoy the end of year festive lunch. Z12_4923



Enjoying themselves at the Loch Village Christmas Market on Friday night were Darcy, Lorelei and Yolanda Fulton of Leongatha.



Hannah Rowe of Venus Bay had some of her 'Wild Woman Whole Food' goodies including Christmas puddings for sale at the Loch Village Christmas Market.



Visitors Michael and Jane Peacock pick up some supplies on their way to Sandy Point from Gabe Boyd of the Loch Village Foodstore Café at Friday's Christmas Market.



Julie Box (Harris) and Win Jeffrey, who went to school at the Ventnor Primary School with Laurie Dixon turned out for his book launch in the old Dixon shearing shed last Saturday.



Old mates of Laurie Dixon, Bob Watson and Cefn Price turned out last Saturday for the launch of his book.

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Newhaven College End of Year Celebration, The Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club Christmas luncheon, Woolamai and District Racing Club's end of year celebration races, Loch Village Christmas Markets and Laurie Dixon Book Launch.



Turning out for the Loch Village Christmas Market last Friday night were Jess, Bella, Erika, Mikayla and Emma.



Julie, Faye and Mary celebrate the festive season with friends at the Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club Christmas lunch. Z13_4923



Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club treasurer Ian Burns with Bob Jolly supporting the community with a Christmas celebration. Z14_4923



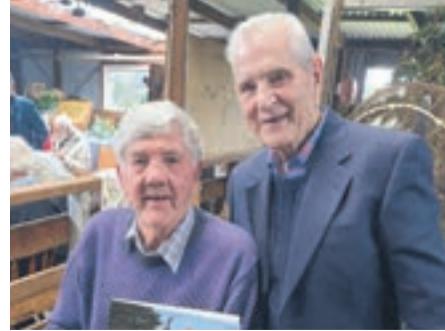
Cate and Geoff of Lucky Bet had their work cut out for them with no shortage of punters trying their luck. Ns06_4923



Rob and Steve were busy taking care of Punters Club duties for the day at the Woolamai end of year celebration races. Ns01_4923



A former euphonium player, Laurie Dixon, temporarily joins the band at the launch of his book, with Quinn Kellock and Cameron Sanders.



Robin Goodall helped Phillip Island author Laurie Dixon launch his memoir 'Home Paddock Stories Phillip Island and Beyond' last Saturday.



Jockeys Chelsea Heard and Jasmine Trenwith battled the challenging conditions on the track. Ns09_4923

Prepare your garden for Christmas

CHRISTMAS is fast approaching, and it is a busy time of year and not much time for gardening but it is important at this time of year if not done already to mulch and feed to help plants survive the hot weather.

Mulching keeps the soil temperature cooler and helps retain moisture. If the soil is poor, it is best to use mulch that will break down and add humus to the soil. Sugarcane mulch is ideal and is also great to use on the vegetable patch.

Plants make an ideal gift and looking good at this time of year are the hydrangeas. Hydrangeas have been around forever but in the last few years have been very popular again. There are many kinds of hydrangea the most well-known are the old fashioned mopheads. They come in a range of colours – red, blue, purple, pink and white, and there are some now with double flowers.

Another popular variety is the hen and chicken that has tiny bud like flowers in the centre surrounded by large flowers around the edge. These also come in a variety of colours and there is one that has a blue centre surrounded by white flowers that is very attractive. The colour of the flower's changes with the pH of the soil. If your soil is acid flowers will tend to be blue shades, of alkaline then you get red shades. The colours can be manipulated by adding lime or sulphur to the soil, but this needs to be started in the winter. White flowers stay white.

To grow hydrangeas choose a spot in the garden with well-drained soil that receives gentle morning sun or partial shade all day and is sheltered from strong winds. They love lots of water especially when hot but once established are really quite hardy. Hydrangeas also grow well in pots.

Another plant looking great this time of year are the smoke bush or cotinus. It is a multiple branching deciduous shrub growing to around three to four metres, though they can be pruned to be kept smaller, and characterised by the flowers that are large and numerous, and produced in large inflorescences that look like puffs of smoke above the dramatic rounded leaves. There are several varieties and most popular is the Ctinus Coggia Royal Purple which has rich wine-purple, rounded leaves. Another popular one is Cotinus Grace whose leaves are deep red and not as dark as royal purple, but it is spectacular when in flower and in the autumn when the leaves change to a rich red. Other form includes a green variety (flame) and gold leaf form called Golden spirit which make a great contrast with the darker varieties. Cotinus are quick growing, tough drought hardy

By Karen Haw,
Mirboo North Garden Centre

plants and need full sun to maintain the rich colour.

Winter may seem a long time away, but this is the time of year that nurseries do their bare root orders – ordering fruit and ornamental trees and roses they will receive in winter. So, if you are planning on doing a large planting or want a specific tree or rose this is the time to place an order.

Last year when we were visiting Fleming nursery we saw a spectacular red flowering dogwood called Cornus Scarlet Fire. This is a Kousa variety which means it has bigger flowers and is a harder specimen, it features huge dramatic, deep pink to fuchsia bracts on a sturdy, disease resistant small tree. A real stunner is late spring; the big, showy bracts stand out against the rich green foliage and look like they are floating on the tree. It also flowers for many weeks. Prior to the showy flowers, early spring leaves emerge streaked with purple. Autumn brings red to purple leaf colour to finish the season. The tree grows to around six meters tall by five metres wide. This new Fleming introduction makes a dramatic statement when smothered with vibrant pink flowers in late spring.

Another old-fashioned plant popular again are the fuchsias. Many remember popping fuchsia flowers in their grandmother's garden.

Fuchsias are flowering perennials that come in all shapes and sizes. It is part of the evening primrose family and native to central and southern America as well as a few from New Zealand and Tahiti.

There are more than 100 species of fuchsias in nature, but most garden fuchsias are hybrids that have been bred for their showy flowers. Some species have upright and bushy habits while others have a graceful trailing and cascading form ideal for hanging baskets. Flowers appear mostly from late spring to early winter and have a pendulous teardrop shape.

Fuchsias are wonderfully delicate, graceful and colourful plants yet not difficult to grow. They like well drained, fertile, moist soil in a sheltered position that is in part shade. Like hydrangeas they need regular watering especially when in a pot or basket and fertilise regularly. The old fashioned fuchsia triphylla with the long tubular flowers are very hardy and will grow in full sun. Fuchsias flower on new wood so it is helpful to prune regularly, and they also attract butterflies and native birds to the garden.

LOTS OF GIFT IDEAS

Novelty cactus and planters, bromeliads and new indoor plants

Living Christmas trees

Beautiful hydrangeas in flower **from \$12.00**

Huge variety of fuchsias in tubes **\$5.00**

Smoke bushes on sale **were \$30.00 reduced to \$20.00**

New range of Cloggee shoes



MIRBOO NORTH GARDEN CENTRE

78 Grand Ridge Road West, Mirboo North

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK **5668 1859 OR 5668 1459**

GG0843-V6



Lucy with the new cornus dogwood Scarlet Fire.



Cornus Scarlet Fire is a stunning specimen in spring.



Sharing food abundance with neighbours and inspiring children to garden. Clare, Adam, Ziggy and Etta's garden in Wonthaggi.

Explore 17 bountiful gardens at the 3rd Bass Coast Edible Garden Event

BASS Coast Edible Gardens Weekend is just around the corner, beckoning all garden enthusiasts to mark their calendars for an inspiring two days of green revelry. Dive into some of Bass Coast's finest and most inspiring food gardens on February 10 and 11.

Each garden tells a unique tale, showcasing varied approaches to gardening. From no-dig gardens to permaculture paradises, from espaliered fruit trees to wicking beds. Sharon, Gardens Coordinator, says that she's absolutely thrilled to have many new gardens including a rural property in Kilcunda with over 50 years of gardening experience, a quirky art-filled edible garden in Cape Woolamai, and a lovely family garden in Wonthaggi join in this time. For a sneak peek into what awaits, our website is now live, offering glimpses into the seventeen enchanting gardens that will open their gates from 10am to 4pm on both days.

The practical benefits of growing your food resonate deeply. It's not just about the joy of plucking sun-ripened tomatoes or fragrant herbs; it's about embracing an ethos that keeps costs down, fosters communal bonds through shared harvests, and assures the purity of freshly grown produce, free from unwanted chemicals or excessive food miles.

Tickets can be purchased through Trybooking (trybooking.com/CMWOU) offering you two options: roam through all gardens for just \$25 or savour the experience of individual gardens at \$5 each.

Organisers, Sharon, Maddy and Mary are looking for volunteers to support what is a major fundraiser for Bass Coast Adult Learning (BCAL), who will then be rewarded with a complimentary all-gardens ticket. Simply fill in the volunteer form on our website basscoastediblegardens.com or email us at bceg@bcal.vic.edu.au



The Government is being called on to prioritise the Domestic Building Contracts Act ahead of a new Bill introduced in parliament last week.

Domestic Building Contracts Act review a priority for industry and consumers

MASTER Builders Victoria (MBV) is calling for government to prioritise the review of the Domestic Building Contracts Act 1995 (Act) before parliament considers the Building Legislation Amendment (Domestic Building Insurance New Offences) Bill 2023 (Bill).

The Victorian Government introduced the Bill 2023 to parliament last week, to provide stronger protections for consumers.

The Bill introduces offence provisions where builders receive money for domestic building work for contracts over \$16,000, before insurance is in place. The Bill also provides the Victorian Building Authority with powers to enforce disciplinary action against builders who breach their responsibilities.

MBV CEO Michaela Lihou said it was disappointing that the Government decided to legislate only around insurance, while there were still many concerns about the current state of the Act.

"Obviously, we want to see consumers appropriately protected, but we also want to see builders protected in the face of the existing Act, which many consumers and the industry say is out of date and no longer fit for purpose to suit current building practices," she said.

"MBV has – and will continue to – advocate for a detailed review of the Act to ensure that it better supports protections for all parties that enter into a contract, both consumers and builders."

Ms Lihou said the Act needs to be improved and needs to be clearer for industry as the new penalties for these offences will be up to \$96,000 for an individual or \$480,000 for a company.

"And since the collapse of Porter Davis, more consumers and builders have become aware of these roles and responsibilities. In addition, the Victorian Building Authority is now auditing builders to see whether they are following the legislative requirements."

"We believe that a closer review and improved amendments to the Act, will better protect all parties and support the industry to deliver homes for Victorians," she said.

Ms Lihou said the Victorian Government's recently released Housing Statement sets an ambitious target to build more homes for Victorians, which only highlights the importance of a pragmatic and holistic review of the Act.

"We urgently need changes to the existing Act and implore Government undertake the review as a priority," said Ms Lihou. "These changes are well overdue."

MBV is urging the Government to make sure that all relevant stakeholders are engaged and consulted through the review process, this includes the building and construction industry, insurance sector, financial sector, and consumer representatives.

Victorian building approvals on the up

MASTER Builders Victoria (MBV) has welcomed the latest building approvals data which saw an increase of 5.4 per cent in approvals for new detached houses in Victoria during the three months to October 2023 compared with the previous three-month period.

The growth also compared favourably with an increase of 4.1 per cent over the October 2022 quarter data.

MBV CEO Michaela Lihou said the latest ABS figures were a good sign for the industry which is continuing to slowly rebuild momentum after the challenges of the pandemic.

"While the positive gains might not be as fast as we might all like, there is no doubt that the signs are of an industry – and importantly consumer confidence – slowly rebuilding and moving forward," she said.

The latest data showed an increase in Victoria of 3.5 per cent total volume in major home renovation works during the

three months to October 2023 compared with the previous three-month period, and an increase of 6.9 per cent compared to October 2022 quarter data.

"As we continue building on this upward trajectory, it's important that our key policy and decision makers recognise the potential damage to consumer confidence that future interest rate rises will have on our industry, and many others," said Ms Lihou.

"It's also important that the Federal Government fully appreciates the impact of its industrial relations Bill which is currently before Parliament, and what we see as the potential damage it could inflict on independent contractors, subcontractors and self-employed trades."

"Our industry is making slow but positive and important progress, and we can ill afford for it to be a case of 'one step forward and two steps back' thanks to bad policy," she said.

FINAL NOTICE

Auction to be held this Saturday, December 9 at 10:30am on site.

Great Development Opportunity!



57 Peart Street, Leongatha

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! This weatherboard home is on a spacious flat block and would be perfect for renovators and investors alike!

Last open for inspection from 10-10.30am prior to auction.



Kellie Thomas
E kellie.thomas@nh.com.au
M 0438 647 449



HM1109

47 Bair Street, Leongatha • (03) 5662 2292



Real Estate

KORUMBURRA



PRIME COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY

- Zoned Commercial 1
- Dual street frontage on 256m² block
- Existing structure includes upstairs office (framed) & modern shop front
- Structural engineering report available
- Ideal position in Korumburra's main street

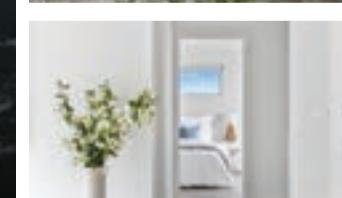
Contact:
Katrina Griggs on 0428 571 083
or Don Olden on 0417 805 312
Expressions of Interest closing
Monday 11th December at 4pm
Web ID: 300P130030

eldersrealestate.com.au

Discover

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New Homes From
\$265,000

- Own your own home
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Elizabeth Moss - 0416 814 691
www.livingatriverside.com.au

RIVERSIDE



'Ashford' charm & elegance

LOCATED in one of Korumburra's most popular streets, 'Ashford,' built circa 1925's, stands as a testament to timeless elegance and thoughtful renovation. The home has been restored to honour its heritage.

As you enter the home and walk into the front lounge which serves as a welcoming space and has an ambiance that is both charming and comfortable. The expansive formal dining area is spacious and includes a solid fuel wood heater and a split system reverse cycle, enabling comfort year-round, making this space a great second living area to use. The tastefully renovated kitchen is a highlight, featuring a 'Falcon' dual stove, stone benchtops, Italian floor tiles, an integrated refrigerator, and a walk-in pantry, effortlessly blending style and functionality. The kitchen opens to an outdoor area, creating a seamless transition between indoor and outdoor living.

This home comprises three bedrooms, with the main and second bedrooms boasting built-in robes, while the third bedroom doubles up as a great office space. The central bathroom services the home and includes a shower over bath, a vanity, and a toilet. A renovated laundry includes a second toilet and a utility charging station drawer, a great modern addition. Original elements such as high ceilings, ornate cornices, Baltic pine floorboards, and stained-glass doors contribute to a rich sense of history. The recent reinstatement of ducted gas heating ensures comfort during the cooler months.

The landscaped front and back yard set the stage with the backyard featuring a trickling water feature, maples and gums trees for privacy, and raised veggie beds to grow your own seasonal produce. A workshop with a concrete floor, power, and lights, along with a carport accessed from Little Commercial Street, adds functionality and convenience. There is also a garden shed for additional storage needs. 'Ashford' is ideally positioned only a stone's throw from the main street which includes cafes, restaurants, a supermarket, and other services. The property is also just a short walk to the towns sporting precinct, schools, and the community hub. Situated an hour from Melbourne's southeastern suburbs, 20 minutes from Inverloch, and just 10 minutes from Leongatha, offers a perfect balance of seclusion and accessibility.

'Ashford' with its tasteful renovations and meticulous preservation of original features, every corner of this residence tells a story. This property offers a lifestyle that is both elegant and convenient. Don't miss the opportunity to make this timeless gem your own. Contact Katrina Griggs on 0428 571 083 or Don Olden on 0417 805 312 for an inspection or for further information.



3 | 1 | 3 924m²

20 Victoria Street, **Korumburra**

For Sale \$850,000

Agent Elders

Katrina Griggs 0428 571 083

Don Olden 0417 805 312



Real Estate

eldersrealestate.com.au

VACANT BLOCK BOOLARRA

8.8 ACRES



- Attractive undulating 8.8 acre block
- Ready for you to build your dream home (STCA)
- Well suited for horses, cattle, alpacas or sheep
- Dam for stock water
- Close to Rail Trail & Morwell River Falls Reserve
- Mirboo North & Morwell 20 min, Traralgon 27 min

Price \$500,000 - \$550,000 Elders Web ID: 300P105909

TRANQUIL RURAL LIVING MOYARRA

7 ACRES



- 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 living renovated home
- Kitchen includes stove, dishwasher & loads of storage
- Tank water for the home and a dam for stock water
- 6.5kw solar system feeds into the grid
- 12 x 7.5m shed, lock-up workshop & disused dairy
- Ideal for horses, cattle, alpacas or sheep

Price \$1,040,000

Elders Web ID: 300P109297

BRICK HOME WITH TIMELESS CHARM KORUMBURRA



- Three generously sized bedrooms
- Timber kitchen includes a gas stove & servery bar
- Two living areas with a gas log fire & reverse cycle
- Bathroom featuring deep bath, walk-in shower & vanity
- Single car garage, with an automatic roller door
- Prime location to schools, shopping and cafe's

Price \$480,000

Elders Web ID: 300P125610

LIFESTYLE PROPERTY WITH SCENIC VIEWS KORUMBURRA

99 ACRES



- Beautifully undulating to rolling hill country
- Modern double story 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home
- 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom cottage ideal for guests or office
- Horse facilities include 8 horse paddocks & round yard
- 8-bay shed, hay sheds, disused dairy & cattle yards
- Central laneway to 12 paddocks with dams & troughs

Price \$2,100,000 - \$2,200,000 Elders Web ID: 300P110309

Elders Korumburra - 11 Commercial St - Ph 5658 1894

Don Olden 0417 805 312

Sharon Turton (Property Manager)

0439 383 091

Elders Leongatha - 37 Bair St - Ph 5662 3523

Katrina Griggs 0428 571 083



Great location, quality grazing!

SITUATED just six minutes to Inverloch and a central 15-minute drive to both Leongatha and Wonthaggi is this ideal turnout block or lifestyle property with an option to build your dream home (STCA).

135 acre*/54.63 hectare – Grazing Property with gentle to flat topography, sandy loam soil type with ryegrass/clover pastures.

The land is subdivided into five paddocks with a central laneway and good fencing throughout.

There are six dams providing stock water in addition with the Screw Creek running through the property.

Steel Stockyards with concrete base, circular push up, crush, loading ramp, additional holding yard and a hay shed.

Dual access with Bass Highway frontage and Duncans Road.

Ideal for beef or dairy grazing, hay and silage production, properties of this nature, in a great location are most worthy of your consideration.

For further information and to arrange a personal inspection, please contact Irene Walker SEJ Livestock & Real Estate 0429 045 632.

For a Due Diligence Checklist go to: consumer.vic.gov.au/duediligencechecklist

*Denotes Approximately



Grazing/Rural 54.63ha

89 Duncans Road, **Inverloch**

For Sale \$1,990,000

Agent SEJ Real Estate

Irene Walker 0429 045 632



YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE & LIVESTOCK SPECIALISTS

DUMBALK



- In the heart of town on 935m²
- 3 bed, 2 bath, country home
- Galley kitchen, quality appliances
- Exc. 10mx4m lock up garage
- Big backyard, with rural farm views
- Ready to move in & make it yours!

SOLD

BERRYS CREEK



- Highly productive, gentle topography & river flats
- Est. garden, a backdrop of hills & paddock views
- 48ha/120 acres plus river lease - grazing
- 3 Bed, 2 Bath open plan modern Federation home
- Additional 'Dairy Studio' ideal guest accommodation
- Excellent location, 14 min. Leongatha, 90 min. Melbourne

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST – CLOSING 08/12/2023

MARDAN



- 'Nampara' Est 1908 Edwardian
- 2.01 HA/5AC, established garden
- 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 carport
- 12ft ceilings, timber floors
- Country kitchen & spacious living
- Charming, 20 min. Leongatha

\$1,180,000





Welcome to "The Ranch"

Lifestyle/Horticultural opportunity.
Eco friendly sustainable living.

A WELL-ESTABLISHED small farmlet of approx. 7.5 acres with an exciting mixture of comfortable living and a farm gate sales venue specialising in vegetable seedlings and fruit trees.

Situated in the coastal Bass Coast Region with proximity to Wonthaggi and Kilcunda townships, 1 1/2-hour drive from southeast suburbs.

Charming three-bedroom, two-bathroom country style residence with a study, quality tiling throughout, wood heater and split system.

Separate self-contained one bedroom bungalow.

Huge three bay high clearance garage/workshop with power solar system with battery storage and generator back up.

Five hothouses with auto water system, temperature control and low maintenance ground cover are well sited to promote the growth of vegetables and citrus trees.

A service building with a Level 2 Cafe Permit has a sales area, bathroom and toilet.

Inspection by appointment.

Disclaimer: Whilst every care has been taken in preparing the above information, it is to be used as a guide only. Please refer to the appropriate legal documentation to complete your due diligence.

3 | 2 | 5 7.5 acres

185 Dalyston-Glen Forbes Road,
Dalyston
For Sale \$2,145,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Phil Hanley 0417 140 508
Mick Chambers 0418 349 783



Blank canvas in walking distance to Silverleaves Beach

OPPOSITE Cowes Golf Club, this large, 753m² blank canvas is ready to go.

The hard work has been started for you with the huge double garage/shed, fully enclosed veggie garden and mature trees lining the boundary.

This is arguably one of the best located vacant blocks on Phillip Island. Close to everything that the beautiful area of Silverleaves has to offer.

Frontage: 21.52m Depth: 35m

Call Alex Scott & Staff on 5952 2633 for more information on this unique land.

Vacant Block 753m²

302 Coghlan Road, **Silverleaves**
Auction Sat. Dec. 16 at 2pm on site
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Cowes Office 5952 2633



LEONGATHA



14 Arcadia Crescent

- 4 bedroom 2 bathroom, 2 car
- Beautiful home on flat block
- Double garage, large yard

\$825,000

Contact: Leongatha Office

KROWERA

NEW LISTING



1005 Loch-Wonthaggi Road

- Approx 78 acres, endless views
- 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home
- 25m x 18m Barn

\$1,375,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

WOOLAMAI



772 Turnbull Woolamai Road

- Energy efficient lifestyle property
- ¾ Acre (approx.) 4 bedroom, 2 bath home
- 12m x 8m shed with roller door

\$1,050,000 - \$1,080,000

Contact: Grantville Office

WONTHAGGI



79 Broome Crescent

- 3 bedroom cottage
- Low maintenance block
- Sunroom at rear

\$410,000

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

LEONGATHA



7 Royal Place

- 3 bedroom 2 bathroom
- 2 car garage + extra parking
- Beautiful country home with views

\$760,000

Contact: Leongatha Office

JUMBUNNA



17 Goochs Road

- Approx. 120 acres
- Stockyards & loading race
- Undulating to hill country

\$1,800,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

GRANTVILLE



25 Brazier Street

- Affordable brick family home
- 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, LU garage
- Walk to shops and bus

\$640,000

Contact: Grantville Office

DALYSTON



50 Domain Avenue

- 3 bedroom plus a study
- Beautifully presented
- Manicured block

\$629,000

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

LEONGATHA



1/15 Allison Street

- 2 bedroom unit
- Locally built
- Flat block close to CBD

\$535,000

Contact: Leongatha Office

KONGWAK



Wolonga Estate Road

- Approx. 152 acres
- 4 dams
- Variety of sheds, stockyards

\$1,824,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

CORINELLA



149 Corinella Road

- Renovated home on 3000sqm (approx.)
- Fully fenced rural lifestyle property
- 3 BR, 2 bath, large shed with concrete floor

\$795,000 - \$840,000

Contact: Grantville Office

WONTHAGGI



4B Kirrak Street

- 3 bedroom home
- Great for retirees or first home buyers

\$529,000

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

LEONGATHA



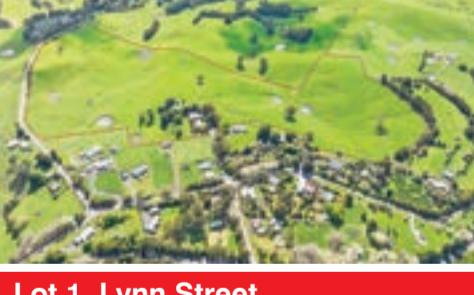
49 Turner Street

- 3 Bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 living
- Carport + lock up workshop
- Secure rear yard, central location

\$525,000

Contact: Leongatha Office

JUMBUNNA



Lot 1, Lynn Street

- Approx. 75 acres
- Disused dairy, stockyards
- Views

\$1,500,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

KILCUNDA



27 Kilcunda Ridge Road

- First home, holiday home or Air BnB
- Classic beach house on 767sqm (approx.)
- Easy walk to beach, café and rail trail

\$670,000

Contact: Grantville Office

WONTHAGGI



1/213 Graham Street

- 3 bedroom unit
- Corner position
- Close to hospital

\$459,000

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

GRANTVILLE

5678 8433

1505 Bass Highway

Greg Kane 0477 020 267

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



CROSSWORD

John Lennon, now more than ever ...

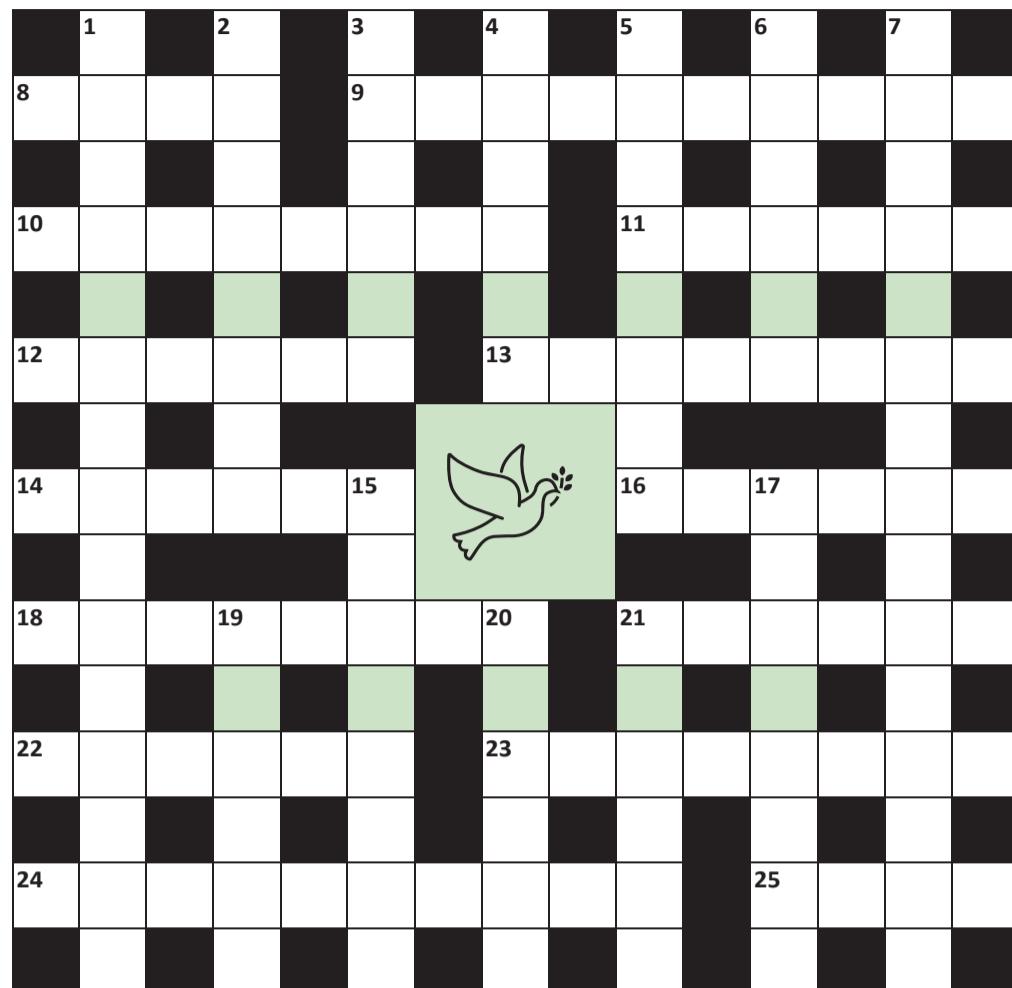
CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- It's nothing but charity in 'The Good Book' (4)
- He worships spicy pastes (10)
- Truth* guaranteed by a strong newspaperman getting company (8)
- Skin or bone back flap (6)
- Name echoes out of thin air: 'Daniel' (6)
- Whomever half pray to, when strife ends for all the people (8)
- Song, when played backwards, is inducing spiritual awareness (6)
- Alarm in cot's going off (6)
- White House leader excluded by periodic, fluid 'no go' (8)
- Heard two sides, from the middle, in mostly Algerian Creole (6)
- 'Olde England', a sentimental bio now streaming (6)
- Rough and tumble 'chat' between Security Council Resolution and penultimate Letter (8)
- Deal a blow to toll with a measure of success (6,4)
- Like to think, then, with no letup, peace lasts (4)

DOWN

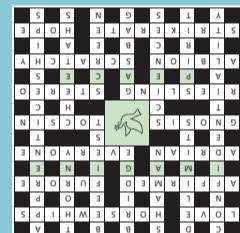
- Understanding when 'anti' movement blocks faith after fraud (15)
- Drive smashed miles and it's in bounds! (8)
- He might get 19-downs (not red), shared with another bloke (6)



- 'In-line Hybrid Generation Crossover' (6)
- Most imposing worker put on endless 'holiday' (8)
- Many pointed north, excited and finally ready (6)
- Trades starting places, to repair to pie and chips with parents (15)

- They can be social - formal or natural; '101' early in training scenes? (8)
- Big cats smashing the chase? (8)
- Feeling for alcohol (6)
- Blowhard's deep-voiced wisecrack to Spooner? (6)
- Filter is fantastic: rarer fire due thrown butts! (6)

SOLUTION



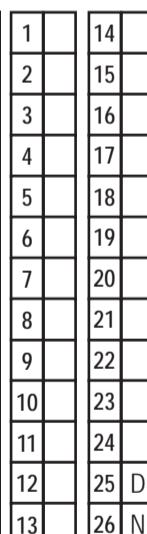
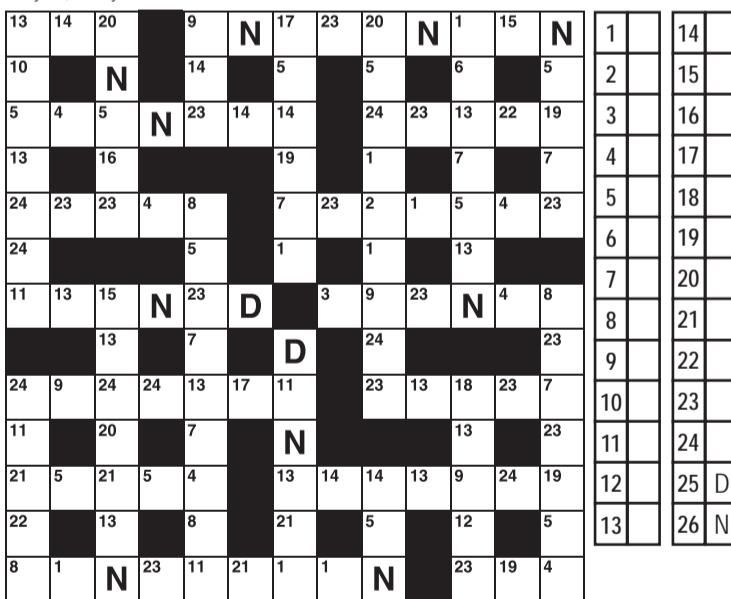
0112 | PUZZLES AND PAGINATION © pagemasters.

SOLUTIONS

CODEWORD

No. 154

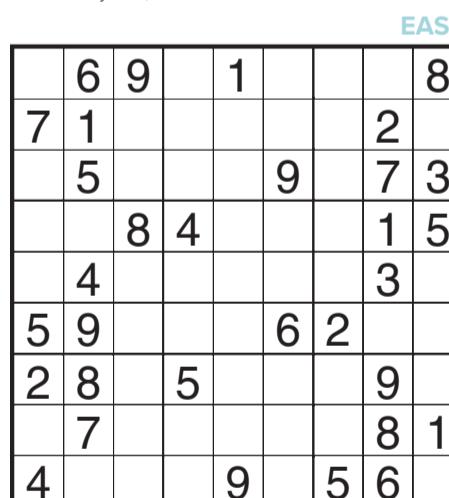
Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



SUDOKU

No. 204

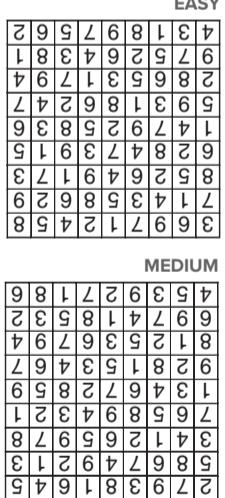
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3 x 3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.



EASY



MEDIUM



MEDIUM

QUICK QUIZ

- Pedro Pascal (pictured) and Bella Ramsey star in which 2023 series adapted from a video game?
- What are the two ingredients that form the Italian cheese burrata?
- Who is the captain of the Port Adelaide Football Club?
- Which radio station hosts the annual Hottest 100?
- Who won the 2022 Australian Open Men's singles title?
- What is the heaviest bird in Australia, weighing up to 76 kilograms?
- The Great Sphinx of Giza has the head of a human and the body of a what?
- Who plays Saul Goodman in the TV series *Breaking Bad* and the prequel series *Better Call Saul*?
- For which US state did Kamala Harris serve as attorney general?
- In which year was the luxury sunglasses company Ray Bans first released?



WORD SEARCH

No. 114

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



AMPLITUDE	LUMEN	THEORY
AXIS	MAGNET	THERMAL
EMPIRICAL	MASS	TIME
ENTROPY	MECHANICAL	TORQUE
FLOW	NEWTON	ULTRAVIOLET
FLUID	NUCLEAR	VACUUM
FORCE	POWER	WAVE
FRICITION	QUARK	WEIGHT
HERTZ	RADIAN	WHITE NOISE
IMPULSE	RADIOACTIVITY	X-RAY
JOULE	SENSOR	
KINETIC	SPEED	

6. The cassowary. 7. A lion. 8. Bob Dernierik. 9. California. 10. 1937

ANSWERS: 1. The Last of Us. 2. Mozzarella and cream. 3. Tom Jones. 4. Triple J. 5. Rafael Nadal

to happen

SECRET MESSAGE: Matter is energy waiting



Beef and lamb team up for new campaign

AUSTRALIAN beef and lamb have joined forces for the first time in a new push to drive consumption for the start of summer.

In a new marketing campaign released by Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), these two iconic red meats are pairing up to highlight the great opportunity for shoppers to purchase beef and lamb.

The ad features iconic 'lambassador' ex-AFL star Sam Kekovich, and Broncos and Maroons legend Sam Thaiday representing beef, with the pair putting aside their differences in football codes to promote their shared love of Aussie red meat.

MLA managing director Jason Strong said the ad was an addition to the existing beef and lamb campaign calendar and was developed to support the industry at a time when saleyard prices had declined through a large part of 2023.

"There has been good news in the last few weeks with some areas receiving decent rain a lift in saleyard prices – but producers have also experienced a dry winter and saleyard prices remain below 10-year averages," he said.

"This new ad is helping us reach out to Australian shoppers to illustrate that red meat is great value leading up to Christmas. Now is the time to pick up some Australian beef and lamb."

Mr Strong said there had been an increasing number of consumers looking to purchase beef and lamb in recent weeks, with the trend expected to continue through December towards Christmas.

Timber transition sham exposed by plantings

SIX YEARS on from promising more plantations to help Gippsland transition from the native timber industry, the State Government has planted just 4000 trees.

The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien said the revelation this week in Public Accounts and Estimates Committee (PAEC) hearings confirms the Government's failure on Gippsland jobs and industry.

"It was in the 2017-18 Budget that the Government committed \$110 million for more plantations – a commitment we welcomed as we need more trees in the ground to support local jobs and industry," Mr O'Brien said.

"That commitment became even more important when the government disastrously decided to shut down the native timber industry."

"In announcing the Gippsland Plantations Investment Program (GPIP) the State Government committed to planting 30 million trees, but this week advised only 4000 had so far been planted."

"This is a major let down for Gippsland timber industry workers, and timber mills around the region who rely on plantations."

"I'll continue to advocate strongly for our timber workers and jobs across the region."

MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

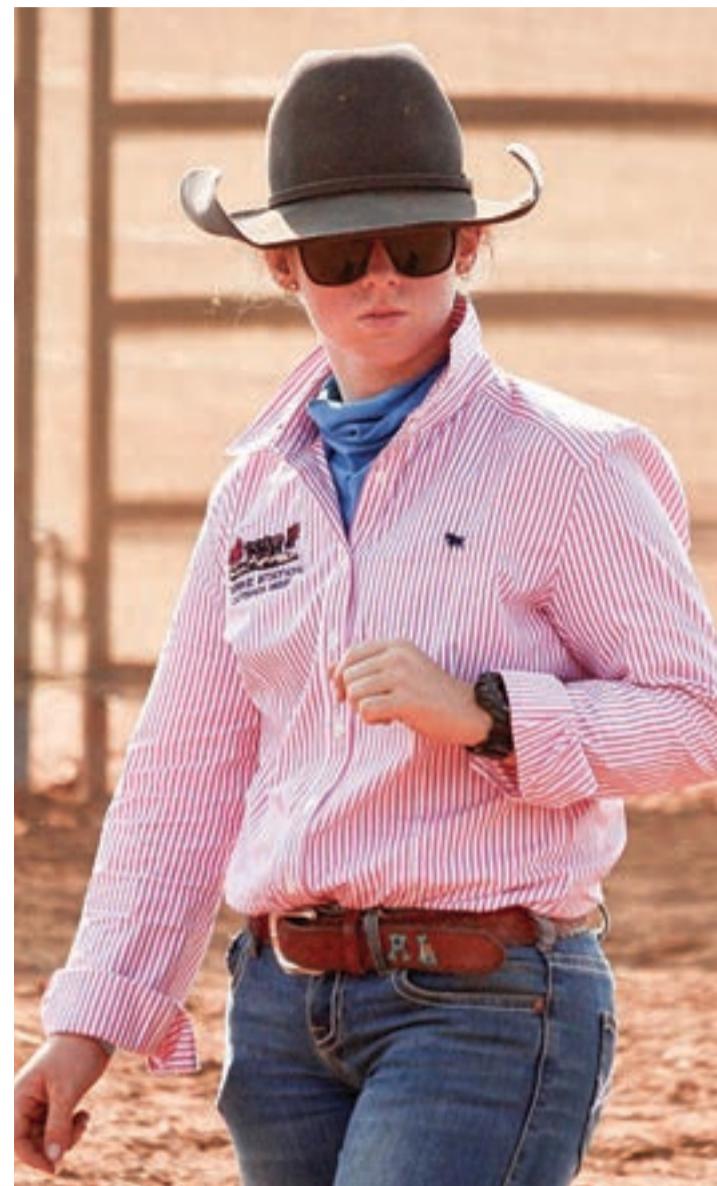
CLAAS Harvest Centre 

Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, November 27, 2023

Jersey & Jersey x \$18 to \$62
 Friesian Bulls \$40 to \$80
 Friesian Heifers \$62 to \$130
 Beef Bulls \$75 to \$115
 Beef Heifers \$80 to \$105
 Number of Calves: 51
 Number purchased to rear: 20

Ainslee's love of cattle will see her fly high



Ainslee Logan from Dowling Dairies in Leongatha is pursuing her dream of becoming a helicopter pilot so she can muster cattle from the air in NT and WA.

LEONGATHA born and bred Ainslee Logan has set her sights high and is learning the ropes of mustering cattle from the sky.

Growing up at Dowling Dairies is where Ainslee's love of the agricultural industry and cattle began.

"(Cattle) are just so interesting and you can teach them so much. They're very smart animals. People think they're dumb but they're smarter than people."

Taking a gap year before starting university to train as a nurse was Ainslee's plan as she followed her best friend to Queensland after finishing high school.

Ainslee accepted a job, among many offers, working as a station hand in the Northern Territory.

The first day on the job saw her and her new boss get stranded in a 4WD for 14 hours in flood waters only five kilometres from the station.

All they had was a bag of chips and a slab of beer which they 'pretty well' drank all of.

Ainslee spends six months of the year living out of a swag and works with a crew of ten to twelve people, mostly females.

"They become your family because you're so far away from home. You live and work with them, they become family."

While in the Territory Ainslee decided she wanted to train to get her helicopter licence and contacted Annabelle Coppin the founder of Outback Beef and owner of Yarrie Station in

Western Australia.

Annabelle was known to fly and have helicopters and Ainslee thought it was a good place to start and made her way to the station.

"It's not just about flying. It's more so about helping the ground crew and being able to teach them and lead them from above, because you can see more from up in the air than you can on the ground. And there's a lot of crappy pilots out there."

Ainslee is completing her theoretical exams in Perth and will then need to rack up 105 hours of flying experience to gain her licence in March next year.

With two years of on ground mustering experience in the NT and nine months at Yarrie under her belt, Ainslee plans on flying in Yarrie for a while before heading back to the NT, to fill a desire to fly in the Kimberley region.

"I just love that there's so many amazing water holes that you can't see unless you hike out or fly out. And there's a lot of untouched country."

Even though it's a tough and wild ride out on Australias' remote cattle stations - already having her bedroom roof at Yarrie ripped off in Cyclone Isla in April this year – the girl from South Gippsland has no plans of returning home soon, except to pay her family a visit for Christmas, before flying off again to pursue her love of cattle, travel and sky high adventure.

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; Asian artefacts; Honda 4WD quad bike; 15 ltr backpack sprayer; 400 Silvan 3pt linkage sprayer; set heavy duty car ramps

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



Contact: Stuart Jenkin 0447 602 302

**ALEX SCOTT
AND STAFF**

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 Kaleb Jans 0487 155 471 David Holden 0428 749 390

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Neil Darby - Livestock Manager 0418 595 265 Alan Bolding 0419 723 255
 Terry Ahearn 0438 562 816 Dale Atherton 0428 888 300

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Cool Cows discussion held for South Gippsland Young Dairy Network.

Keeping cows cool during warmer months

A COOL Cows discussion group was held for members of the South Gippsland Young Dairy Network on Wednesday November 29.

The event took place at Ben Vagg's farm in Leongatha South and was the pilot session for Dairy Australia's new module designed to help farmers mitigate heat stress in cows.

As an active member of Gippsland's Young Dairy Network, Ben recognised the importance of running the discussion group specifically for the up-and-coming generation of dairy farmers.

"A lot of the information they have might be second-hand from their parents and farm managers, but they've got no baseline understanding of the whole topic," he said.

The Cool Cows module aims to provide farmers with strategies to improve cow health, welfare, and milk production during hot weather. It covers topics including infrastructure, management strategies, nutrition and feed additives, and genetics.

This pilot module was run by Dairy Australia's Development and Regional Adaptation Lead, Josie Garner. Josie encouraged farmers to consider that – despite the wet weather some regions are currently experiencing – this summer's forecast is set to be warmer than average and will have an impact on the health of their cows.

"It is important that dairy farmers have an effective heat stress management plan for both milking herd and dry cows," she said.

Participants in the pilot were able to engage in discussions around the various ways to keep cows cool during heat and heard findings from Dairy Australia's 'Feeding cool cows' research program around nutrition and dietary options for cows subjected to heat stress.

For more information on managing heat stress in cows, visit the Dairy Australia website.

Saputo Dairy Australia welcomes ACCC Inquiry decision

SAPUTO Dairy Australia (SDA) welcomed the announcement last week that the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC) will not oppose Coles' (ASX: COL) proposed acquisition of their two fresh milk manufacturing plants noting that 'fresh milk products remain an important part of SDA's business' and that 'there will also be no changes to SDA's valued farmer relationships.'

The plants are located at Erskine Park, NSW and Laverton North, Victoria.

Coles and Saputo both currently acquire raw milk from dairy farmers in Victoria and NSW. Coles currently has its milk processed at the Erskine Park and Laverton North plants by Saputo. After the acquisition, Saputo will have its raw milk processed by Coles at these facilities under similar arrangements.

Following engagement with key stakeholders, the ACCC released a Statement of Issues in July 2023 identifying its preliminary concerns that the proposed acquisition may

increase Coles' bargaining position in the dairy supply chain.

Concerns were also raised that the acquisition may change Saputo's incentives and result in it exiting the raw milk market in NSW, which would reduce the number of buyers of raw milk.

"We acknowledge the strong concerns raised by some dairy industry participants about Coles' acquisition of milk processing facilities," ACCC Deputy Chair Mick Keogh said.

"We explored the industry's concerns very closely through discussions with farmers and their representative bodies, and conducted a detailed review of Saputo and Coles' internal documents and their incentives."

"After careful consideration, we concluded that, compared with the current state of competition where the majority of the capacity at these facilities is already contracted to Coles, the acquisition is unlikely to result in a substantial lessening of competition in breach of section 50 of the Competition and Consumer Act," Mr Keogh said.

The ACCC took into account Saputo's financial data which indicates that it has a commercial incentive to continue selling its Devondale milk in NSW. Saputo also recently entered into a five-year toll processing agreement with Coles at the Erskine Park processing plant.

"We considered that the proposed acquisition would be unlikely to change Saputo's incentives to continue acquiring raw milk from farmers in NSW for at least the next five years," Mr Keogh said.

"We also found that other dairy companies such as Lactalis and Bega would continue to be competitors for raw milk in central NSW, and that the proposed acquisition is unlikely to change this."

The ACCC also looked closely at concerns that the acquisition would strengthen Coles' position in the dairy supply chain, and that it would give Coles the incentive and ability to adversely affect other processors.

"While we found that Coles may have an incentive to consolidate some of its milk

volumes in the eastern states, this was unlikely to lead to a substantial lessening of competition," Mr Keogh said.

"Coles will likely continue to face financial incentives to stock and support branded milk from other processors, due to the higher retail margins it earns on these products."

In addition, the ACCC found that Coles' commercial incentives to consolidate its milk supply would exist with or without the transaction due to the significant excess capacity at the Laverton and Erskine Park facilities.

The ACCC acknowledges that some stakeholders asked that conditions be imposed on Coles so its relationships with processors and farmers are effectively covered by existing industry behavioural codes.

The ACCC considers that these safeguards are already in place, given that Coles' conduct with farmers it purchases raw milk from is covered by the mandatory Dairy Code of Conduct in the same way as other processors and purchasers of raw milk.

Community empowered at weed workshop

LANDHOLDERS from across the region came together to learn about how creating healthy soils is fundamental to the fight against weeds and to improve agricultural productivity.

The event, which took place in Hallston on November 25, witnessed the participation of nearly 40 individuals eager to learn about effective strategies for managing soil health and combating weed infestation.

South Gippsland Landcare Network hosted the event with Hallston Regenerative Agricultural Group.

This workshop was made possible through funding from Agriculture Victoria's Partnership and Against Pests program.

The event featured a dynamic session by renowned soil scientist Declan McDonald,

who shed light on the crucial correlation between soil health and weed control.

Participants learned about the significant of managing soil health as a means to achieve a reduction in weed growth and enhance agricultural productivity.

McDonald emphasised the importance of adopting a holistic, long-term approach to weed management, centred around nurturing soil health and promoting ground cover.

"It's not just about spraying herbicides. It's about comprehending the reasons behind presence and implementing sustainable practices to make your farm less enticing to weeds," he said.

The South Gippsland Landcare Network chair said there is a huge interest in understanding how to work with

soil to reduce the spread of weeds and feed stock more effectively.

Landcare facilitator (Eastern Cluster) Nick Stephens expressed his satisfaction with the workshop.

"The workshop provided the participants with valuable insights and strategies for tackling weeds from a broader perspective. The emphasis on soil health and ground cover equips landowners with a well-rounded understanding of effective weed management techniques," he said.

Agriculture Victoria's Partnership and Against Pests program aims to encourage collaboration among local communities to combat weed infestation collectively.

Through its partnership with South Gippsland Landcare Network, the program

aims to empower farmers and landowners by providing them with the knowledge required to combat and manage weeds more effectively.

The success of this workshop reinforces South Gippsland Landcare Network's commitment to the region's environmental sustainability and agricultural productivity.

By fostering community-led initiatives, the network aims to facilitate weed management that is tailored to the unique needs and challenges faced by the local farming community.

For more information about South Gippsland Landcare Network and its initiatives, visit sgln.net.au/ or contact Landcare facilitator Jane McKenzie-Smith at jane@sgln.net.au.

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Sharing a love for dairy at annual ladies' lunch

OVER 150 of Gippsland's women in dairy gathered in Glengarry North on Thursday, November 23 for GippsDairy's annual ladies' lunch.

The celebration, held on the grounds of Narkoojee Winery and Restaurant, featured a variety of guest speakers and an abundance of gifts and prizes donated by local companies and individuals.

The event, now in its second year, is organised by the Gippsland Women in Dairy Discussion Group and aims to highlight the hard work and successes of dairying women across the region. It has become a

much-anticipated day where women can leave the farm to spend time celebrating their achievements and hearing inspiring stories from their peers.

Drouin dairy farmer, Rose Atherton, has been involved with Gippsland's Women in Dairy group for over 16 years. She is one of the organisers of the ladies' lunch and was this year's event MC.

Reflecting on the day-to-day routine of farm life, Rose said it's a full day and hard day's work.

"That's why this day is just a great celebration," she said.

The lunch featured keynote

speaker Chloe Brown, a passionate dairy farmer from south-west Victoria, co-creator of the 'Cream of the Crop' conference, and host of the 'More than Milk' podcast. Chloe moderated a panel discussion featuring Gippsland dairying women, Alanah Moore and Sarah Kelly, who shared their personal journeys into the dairy industry and plans for the future.

Another member of the organising committee, GippsDairy Extension Officer Robyn McLean said it's important to provide these opportunities for dairying women to come together.



Sarah Kelly, Chloe Brown and Alanah Moore in Glengarry North celebrating the achievements of women in dairy.

VLE LEONGATHA STORE SALE 4000 CATTLE 4000

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2023 - Starting at 10am

GROWN STEERS

A/C Aquila Fields, Neerim Sth (NUTRIEN)

140 Angus steers, 18-20 mths, Kelly Angus, Alpine & Jarobee blood

A/c NW Page, Sale (NUTRIEN)

50 Angus steers, 2yo

A/c Mondamac Pastoral, Mirboo Nth (NUTRIEN)

50 Angus steers, 22 mths, Western District Bred, Bassano & Pathfinder blood, GF, AF & VQ

A/c BJ & LE Neumann, Perry Bridge (NUTRIEN)

40 Angus steers, 24-26 mths, Innesdale & Leewood blood

A/c M & A Lyon, Athlone (NUTRIEN)

25 Angus steers, 22-24 mths

A/c Kinglake Produce (ELDERS)

25 Hereford Steers, rising 2yo, Ex Yea weaner sale, Glendon Park blood

A/c S Mundy Family P/L, Cape Liptrap (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 20 mths

A/c Frenchs 4 Enterprises, Munro (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 18-20 mths

A/c Kuch Grazing, Darriman (NUTRIEN)

185 Angus steers, Aug/Sept Drop, Landfall blood, EU & NE Accred, MHR/IBR Vacc 22/11

A/c Blackwood Grazing, Trafalgar (NUTRIEN)

150 Ang Steers, 14 Mths , Pathfinder Blood , Drenched 10/9 Ne Accred

A/c Nalajule P/L, Mardan (NUTRIEN) "Annual Draft"

90 Angus steers, 14-15 mths, Leewood blood, very quiet

A/c D Jelbart, Tarwin (NUTRIEN)

70 Angus steers, 18 mths

A/c Chesterfield P/L, Glenmaggie (NUTRIEN)

70 Angus steers, 14 mths, NE Accred, Pinora blood

A/c Latrobe Park Angus, Morwell (NUTRIEN)

40 Angus steers, 14-15 mths

A/c M Rolls, Flynn (NUTRIEN)

30 Angus steers, 16 mths, Leewood blood

A/c J & B Dunbar, Traralgon (NUTRIEN)

22 Angus steers, 14-15 mths

A/c Melaleuca Pastoral Trust, Ruby (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 16-18 mths, NE Accred

A/c I & R Ripper, Stratford (NUTRIEN)

13 Angus & Angus/Hfx X steers, 18 mths

7 Hereford steers, 18 mths, GF, AF, NE Accred, VB

A/c Balas Holdings, Welshpool (NUTRIEN)

15 Angus steers, 15-18 mths

A/c R Holt, Leongatha (NUTRIEN)

14 Angus Comp X steers, 18 mths

A/c J & R Bennett, Yinnar (NUTRIEN)

12 BB steers, 2yo

A/c R & E O'Hara, Perry Bridge (NUTRIEN)

6 Angus Hereford X steers, 2yo

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c Malabar Farm, Tarwin Lower (SEJ)

18 Angus heifers

14 Angus Hereford X heifers

26 Poll Hereford heifers

16-18 mths, by Weeran & Innesdale Angus Bull, Wirruna & Tarwin Poll Hereford Bulls

A/c Nalajule P/L, Mardan (NUTRIEN) "Annual Draft"

57 Angus heifers, 14-15 mths, Leewood blood, VQ

A/c Blackrange Angus, Ryanston (ALEX SCOTT)

40 Angus heifers, 15-16 mths old, by banquet and Cheitham Angus bulls and had all treatments future breeders

A/c M Rolls, Flynn (NUTRIEN)

30 Angus heifers, 16 mths, Leewood blood

A/c R & P Davis, Leongatha South (ALEX SCOTT)

14 Brangus heifers 14-16 mths

A/c A & P Swasbrick, Warruk (NUTRIEN)

12 Speckle Park heifers, 20 mths

A/c Bulleondurra, Mirboo Nth (NUTRIEN)

10 Angus heifers, 12-18 mths

WEANER STEERS

A/c A & B Wilkin, Mirboo (NUTRIEN)

25 MG steers, 12 mths

50 MG steers, 12-18 mths

weaned, VQ

A/c High Voltage Consultancy, Flynn (NUTRIEN)

60 Angus steer weaners, 12 mths, Leewood blood, Drenched 22/11 With Cydectin Platinum, Vacc, VB

A/c DC Bates, Munro (NUTRIEN)

60 Angus steers, 12 mths, Millah Murrah blood

A/c Doonagatha, Sandy Point (SEJ)

60 Angus steers, May/June drop, Mordallup and Harris Farms blood, Cydectin pour on, MH one, 5in1, B12 + Selenium and Copper on 5th of October, weaned 24th of November

A/c Tarwin Pastoral (NUTRIEN)

60 Angus steers, 7-8 mths, yard weaned, Alpine Ang blood

A/c Bulleondurra, Mirboo Nth (NUTRIEN)

57 Angus steers, 12-18 mths

A/c I & R Hengstberger, Dumbalk Nth (NUTRIEN)

50 Angus steers, 14 mths

A/c Ponderosa Herefords, Meeniyana (NUTRIEN)

50 Hereford steers, 14 mths by Mountain Valley & Glen Park Bulls

A/c Northside Past, Inverloch (NUTRIEN)

40 Angus steers, 12 mths

A/c S & C Claap, Iona (NUTRIEN)

40 Angus steers, 9-10 mths

A/c G & C Hosking, Woodside (SEJ)

40 Angus steers, 8-9 mths old, VB, GF and AB Free, Leewood & Battersby blood

A/c Ripplebrook Park (ELDERS)

13 Angus steers, 10 mths, Temania blood, weaned, GF, ABF

A/c J & S Gathercole, Glengarry (NUTRIEN)

12 Angus steers, 9 mths

A/c S & J Hunt, Euroa (NUTRIEN)

6 Angus x Angus steers, GF, AB Free, Coolana & Hazeldean blood, 13-14 mths, VB

A/c J Bowron, Sandy Point (NUTRIEN)

30 Shorthorn steers, By Balmoral Quantum & Bayview Dynamite

A/c G Mcainch, Dumbalk (NUTRIEN)

10 Hereford steers, 12 mths, Mundook blood

A/c W Sampson (ELDERS)

18 Speckle steers, 8 mths

A/c Locklier & Smith, Brandy Creek (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 9-10 mths

A/c Mardan Lodge, Mardan (SEJ)

20 Angus & Angus/Hereford X steers, 8-9 mths, By Top Stud Alpine Angus bull, weaned & quiet, VB, GF, AB Free

A/c S & D Perry, Yinnar (NUTRIEN)

16 Angus X steers, 14 mths

A/c K Hengstberger, Dumbalk (NUTRIEN)

16 Angus & SP steers, 12-14 mths

A/c M + M Standfield, Fish Creek (SEJ)

15 Angus steers, 14 mths, VB, GF & AB Free, Dunoon blood

A/c Ripplebrook Park (ELDERS)

13 Angus steers, 10 mths, Temania blood, weaned, GF, ABF

A/c J & S Gathercole, Glengarry (NUTRIEN)

12 Angus steers, 9 mths

A/c S & J Hunt, Euroa (NUTRIEN)

6 Angus x Angus steers, GF, AB Free, Coolana & Hazeldean blood, 13-14 mths, VB

A/c J Bowron, Sandy Point (NUTRIEN)

30 Shorthorn steers, By Balmoral Quantum & Bayview Dynamite

A/c G Mcainch, Dumbalk (NUTRIEN)

10 Hereford steers, 12 mths, Mundook blood

A/c W Sampson (ELDERS)

18 Speckle steers, 8 mths

MIX SEX WEANERS

A/c N Smith, Pound Creek (SEJ)

300 Angus & Euro x M/S weaners, 9-10 mths old by Moorunga, Dunoon, Leewood & Keystone bulls

A/c Polyplas, Buln Buln (PHC)

85 Angus mixed sex weaners- 8-9 mths, weaned

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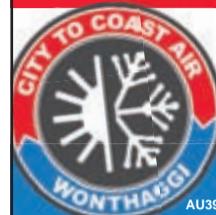
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SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023 | 51

DEATHS

COATES, Maureen Helen:
Aged 71.
Loved daughter of Fred (dec.) and Pat Thomas.
Loved wife of Ian (Bear).
Beloved mother of Aaron (dec.), Brendan, and wife Liz.
Devoted nana to John, James, Maggie, and Henry.
Loving sister of Kay, Ken (Strawb), Lyn, Daryl, Jeff (Swampy), Barry and Trevor.
Dear friend of Terry. Suffering is over.
Rest in Peace.

COATES, Maureen Helen:

Devoted sister of Kay and Charlie (dec.) Cook.
vLoving aunt to Steven and Leanne, Paul and Ellam, Vicki and Gavin.
Great aunt of Tayla and Aden, Peter, Kody and Ash, and Jay.
Forever in our hearts.

COATES, Maureen Helen:

Loving sister of Trevor, sister-in-law of Kellie and beloved 'Bob' of Ben and Soph.
Sleep sweetly Maursy. We will always love and miss you.

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DEATHS

GOW, Darren John:
01.03.1964 - 25.11.2023.
Aged 59 years.
Adored husband of Anni (dec.)
Stepdad to Donna and Scott.
Loved son of Ernie and Shirley (both dec.).
Brother to Bruce, Janene, Brian (dec.), and Dean.
Reunited with Anni.
Privately Cremated

HUTHER, Margaret:
Thank you for the life we shared.
Love always, Laurie.

HUTHER, Margaret:
Mum/Grandma, You live on in the hearts and minds of the loving family you left behind.
Love Geoff, Gayle, Chloe, Malory, Ben, and Romy.

HUTHER, Margaret:
Our neighbour and friend for over fifty years.
Will miss the Monday morning coffees and trying to solve problems of town and country.
Rest in peace Marg, free of pain.
-- Elaine, Secondo, Darren, Leanne, and Mark Tiziani, and families.

DEATHS

HUTHER, Margaret:
Loved sister-in-law to June and Jock Barrie, and auntie to Robyn, and Kevin and Robyn, and great auntie to their children.
We will all miss you Marg.

HUTHER, Margaret (Marg):
It is with deep sadness that the Wonthaggi Evening View Club has lost a long serving member of 28 years.

Marg was our great jokes teller and will be sadly missed.

R.I.P. Marg.

HUTHER, Marg:
All our love to you Laurie, Geoff and Gayle, Paul and Debbie, Anthony, and families.

Such wonderful memories of our Marg.
Love Ian and Kaye, Scott and Cath, Jodie and Chris, Sam and Andy, and families.

HUTHER, Margaret:
Remembering happy times shared with dear Margaret.

-- Diana and Curly, Eira and Don, Val and Peter, Dot and Gordon, Libby, Janice, and Betty.

HUTHER, Margaret Jean:
Long time friend of Val and Peter.
'Aunty Marg' to Janene, Carolyn, Rohan, Meagan and their families.

Will be sadly missed.

Will be sadly missed.

Now resting in peace.

DEATHS

MITCHELL, John:
19.09.1934 - 29.11.2023.
Beloved husband of Leslie for 55 years.
Father to Michelle and Fiona, father-in-law to Tony.

Much loved Grandad of Eve, and Mitchell.

You passed away as you would have liked reading the paper, front page headline "See You Later".

Till we meet again.
As per John's wishes, a private cremation will be held.

RICK:
Born September 7, 1969, passed away November 2023.

Sleep peacefully.
Very much loved.

ROWE, Adriana Petronella (Audrey):

Passed away peacefully at home on November 30, 2023. Aged 81 years.

Loved wife of Brian. Loving Mum of David, Ruth, Michelle, Stephen, and their partners. Adored Nan to all her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Always Remembered.

TREASE, Rohan Ronald:

17.10.1971 - 19.11.2023.

Dearly loved son of Dianne and Ron (dec.). Brother of Caryn and Trevor. Uncle of Toby, Teagan, Telina, and families.

Will be dearly missed.

'Forever in our hearts'

Now resting in peace.

DEATHS

TREASE, Rohan Ronald:
17.10.1971 - 19.11.2023.
Loved husband of Jodie.
Loving father of Ashlee and Georgia.

Adored Pa of Nate and Archie.

Son-in-law of Don and Jean Barnes.

Brother-in-law of Cherie, Craig, and families,

Melissa, Brendan, George, and families.

Will be dearly missed R.I.P. Big Fella x.

You had a smile for everyone.
You had a heart of gold.

You left behind the memories.

That we will always hold.

It's not what we write.

It's not what we say.

It's how we remember you.

in our own special way.

Loved and remembered always.

Forever in our hearts

xxx

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TROTMAN, Kelvin P:

18.06.1948 - 26.11.2023.

Brother of Brian, Tony, and sisters.

Brother-in-law of (Tess dec.) and Chris.

Uncle of David, Stephen, Matthew, Tim and families.

R.I.P.

FUNERALS

HUTHER:

A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mrs. Margaret Jean Huther will be held at the Wonthaggi Power Football / Netball Club Rooms, Korumburra Road, Wonthaggi on Saturday December 9, 2023, commencing at 11am.

A Private Cremation was held.

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FUNERALS

ROWE:
The Funeral Service for Mrs. Adriana Petronella (Audrey) Rowe will be held at Handley & Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Friday December 8, 2023, commencing at 2pm.

A Private Cremation will follow.

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IN MEMORIAM

BOOTH, Shirley:

02.12.2021.

Two years, always remembered.

From all your friends.

CHURCHILL, Joseph Alfred:

In loving memory of a wonderful husband and father, passed away December 5, 1964.

Beautiful memories.

Just as you were, you will always be, Someone special in our memories.

Much loved husband of Emily (dec.) and loving father of Wayne and Jennifer

McINTOSH, Kevin Thomas :

07.06.1924 - 03.12.2022.

One year has gone. It's so hard as I loved you so much and always will.

R.I.P.

-- your loving wife Dorothy.

ZURMA, Maria:

Passed away 04.12.2019.

We think of you in silence, And often speak your name,

But all we have are memories, And a photo in a frame.

To your resting place we wander, And place flowers with loving care,

But no-one knows the heartache, As we turn and leave you there.

Your loving son Tony, Tricia, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Rest In Peace.

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

TIMOTHY ELS:

06.12.1992 - 24.12.2022.

On his birthday we remember Timothy as a loving son and brother who richly blessed and touched our lives and the lives of those he met.

Your legacy is the lives you touched, you inspired people around you, treating all with respect, fairness, and honesty. These are the memories that we will always treasure.

Our family is so proud of you and will always remember you with love. We will miss your funny cheekiness and beautiful spirit. We miss you every day!

No farewell words were spoken, there was no time to say goodbye. You were gone before we knew it and only God knows why.

R.I.P. until we meet again.

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

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Thanks everyone for the cards and phone calls on Jude's passing.

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-- Kevin Watson

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- Assisting in the preparation and maintenance of accounting and taxation records
- Communicating with clients
- Other tasks as delegated by the team manager

We are looking for candidates who are client focused, team players with positive "can do" attitudes.

Advancement opportunities exist for ambitious, self-motivated team members with a desire to achieve.

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Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only/Sales,' training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.

Placing misleading job ads is an offence against the ACL and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval. For further advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1300 302 502 or Consumer Affairs Victoria.

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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.

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Sentinel-Times



Employment

Complete jobs listing online | www.sgst.com.au

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.

INVERLOCH MARINE

29-31 Bear Street, Inverloch, 3996

Boat Cleaner/All Rounder

Inverloch Marine has a part time position for a Boat Cleaner/all-rounder to assist in the business. Working approximately 24 hours per week you will need to be self-motivated and able to work unsupervised.

The role involves:

- Pre delivery detailing of vessels including washing, polishing and buffing
- Washing and polishing of display stock
- Assisting Sales and Service Departments
- General maintenance and yard duties

The successful applicant will need the following:

- Good communications skills
- Be well organised and give attention to detail
- Able to work independently
- Able to meet the physical demands of the position
- Valid drivers' licence
- Forklift licence an advantage but not essential

Applications to accounts@inverlochmarine.com.au

Maintenance Technician - Mechanical

South Gippsland Water (SGW) are currently seeking a qualified and enthusiastic person to join us as a Maintenance Technician - Mechanical. The key requirements of the role are:

- Demonstrated knowledge and experience operating and maintaining a variety of mechanical assets including pumps, mixers, chemical dosing pumps, blowers, compressors, pneumatic systems or equivalent, mobile plant and equipment.
- Proven ability to fault find, diagnose and problem solve mechanical faults and breakdowns within minimal support and guidance.
- Demonstrated understanding of electrical control equipment and processes particularly relating to mechanical assets
- Demonstrated computing, and general software skills and knowledge
- Permanent Full Time
- Starting Location Korumburra, Victoria
- Flexible Work Arrangements Available
- SGW Enterprise Agreement Level 3

At SGW diversity is celebrated and respected as important for our wellbeing and success. We strive for a workplace that is equitable and inclusive. We welcome diversity in applicants.

Please go to <https://www.sgwater.com.au/careers/> for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply.

Applications Close Wednesday December 6, 2023 at 5pm



1300 851 636 | www.sgwater.com.au

PUBLIC NOTICES

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Notice to all animal owners in and around Leongatha area

A Fireworks display will be held on Friday December 8, 2023 Approx. 9.30pm

Please ensure your animals are secure at this time thank you

Further info contact 0430 021 100

LB1192

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP

Notice is hereby given that the business partnership between H. de Roth and P. J. Crozier known as 'Crozier & Son' ABN 82 667 008 575 has been dissolved with effect 30 November 2023.

JB2018

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP

Notice is hereby given in accordance with section 41 of the Partnership Act 1958 that the partnership heretofore subsisting between P.L Birrell and C Minett, trading as Fields of Fairlawn, ABN 61 949 741 613, was dissolved with effect from 29 November 2023.

GrilloHiggins Lawyers
Level 25, 367 Collins Street, Melbourne Vic 3000
Phone: 03 8621 8888
Email: hchia@grillohiggins.com.au

LB1201

SITUATIONS VACANT



All 4 Dairy Services (an up-and-coming new local dairy business) are seeking two new members for our team. We service South Gippsland and Bass Coast areas.

Apprentice

The desired applicant will be 16+ years, be self-motivated, enthusiastic and punctual. As well as a keen interest in the dairy industry and willing to work in a team environment. No experience necessary. The apprentice will attend trade school and complete a Certificate 3 in Metal Fabrication.

Full Time Dairy Installer

The successful applicant will be required to work in a team environment, self-motivated, have great attention to detail and the ability to work autonomously. Trade qualification would be advantageous, however, not essential; as on the job training can be provided. This position would suit someone with boilermaking, fitting, or mechanical knowledge. We can offer competitive pay according to your experience and knowledge.

If either of these roles sounds perfect for you, please email your resume and cover letter to admin@all4dairy.com.au

LB1193

Registered Nurses Enrolled Nurses Personal Carers

Prom Country Aged Care is seeking highly motivated and enthusiastic individuals to join our team at Prom Country House in Foster, South Gippsland.

Prom Country Aged Care is a community-based, not for profit, residential aged care service. We provide ageing in place residential care services as well as short-term respite care for our local community. Our 68-bed home is fully accredited to Government standards.

Prom Country Aged Care pays generous above award wages and offers significant Salary Packaging.

For a copy of a Position Description or discussion about the various roles available, please contact Marianne Wigg.

All applications should address the Key Selection Criteria, as outlined in the Position Description and accompany a resume.

All enquiries and applications to:

Marianne Wigg, Care Manager
T: 03 5682 0800
E:marianne.wigg@promcountryagedcare.com.au

LB1189



Maintenance Trainee

South Gippsland Water (SGW) are currently seeking an enthusiastic person to join us as a Maintenance Trainee.

The key requirements of the role are:

- A willingness to complete Certificate III in Water Industry Operations (Network).
- The ability to work effectively in a team environment.
- An interest in working outdoors and ability to learn use of a range of tools, plant and equipment.
- Ability to learn and apply safe work practices
- An ability to work collaboratively as part of a team to achieve customer outcomes.
- Fixed Term (2 Years) Full Time
- Starting Location: Various including Wonthaggi, Leongatha, Korumburra and Toora
- Flexible Working Arrangements Available
- Trainee Wage Level A

At SGW diversity is celebrated and respected as important for our wellbeing and success. We strive for a workplace that is equitable and inclusive. We welcome diversity in applicants.

Please go to <https://www.sgwater.com.au/careers/> for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply.

Applications Close Tuesday December 12, 2023 at 5pm

1300 851 636 | www.sgwater.com.au

Visit our website: www.sgst.com.au



Accomplished basket weaver Pat Dale said, "The variety of natural fibres allow me to plait, weave, twist cordage, make string. I coil, sew, and random weave to construct my creative fibre works."

Pat's books on basket weaving

PAT DALE arrived in Leongatha in the late 1950's as a young bride and one of the first things she did was learn how to collect, dry, and weave with bulrush.

Joining the younger set of the CWA, Pat found that several members of the senior CWA were keen to demonstrate the art of weaving using plant materials that were readily found in the farmers' dams.

"I have memories of going to somebody's farm, just out of Leongatha, baby in a pusher and Marg Beilby (CWA member) offering to sit on a rug by the dam with him," Pat recalls.

Beryl Geary and Beth Hutchinson were the other ladies, who took us to the edge of the dam and showed us how to cut and prepare bulrush."

Pat didn't know it then, but this experience would be the beginning of a lifelong journey exploring the art and intricacies of using natural fibres for basket weaving.

Pats husband John was an earth moving contractor working on farms and clearing scrub in the days when there was still plenty around.

Pat would take her children out to have lunch with him and this offered up the perfect opportunity to forage for and gather plant material to weave with.

"I would often take home small plants of sedges and rushes and grow them for my own use," Pat recalls.

"One day a farmer came to pay his bill and on seeing my little patch of plant fibre, he commented, 'John, I pay you good money to get rid of that stuff!'"

It's not so much the end product that Pat enjoys but the journey of getting there; being able to choose from a range of techniques to create something beautiful from different plant materials.

"The variety of natural fibres allow me to plait, weave, twist cordage, make string. I coil, sew, and random weave to construct my creative fibre works."

Decades on and Pats love and

knowledge of fibres and weaving became masterful and led to her first book being published in 1998.

Basketry and Weaving with Natural Materials had a first run with Kangaroo Press followed by a second edition published in 2002 by Simon and Schuster.

"My friend and an author herself, Mary Ellis, now at Foster, supported, proofed and typed my written pages for both books for which I am very grateful."

Pat commented that her second book took her much longer to research and features a fully illustrated botanical plant list.

It is titled *Australian Plants and Fibres* as used by First Nations People and was released in 2021.

"I am happy with my clear artwork detailing plants and techniques in colour and in pen and ink on almost every page, that help to understand the indigenous use of the plants around us," Pat said.

In 2006 Pat was able to spend time with a First Nations basket-maker (Mavis) over two weeks at Aurukun, Cape York with the Wik Mungkan people.

"She took me out into the bush, collecting dye material and bringing roots back to cook up and dye her pandanus. Then sitting with Mavis each day talking about her trying to talk to the girls at the school, about learning to weave, so that they could become, 'a little bit famous'."

Pat's latest book was self-published, proofed by well-known Australian plant author Rodger Elliot and designed through Provincial Media by Jon Zabiegala, who had the Mirboo North Newsagency at the time.

Both of Pat's books are available online and through the Leongatha Newsagency, Meeniyani Art Gallery and basketmakers everywhere.

Pat has been teaching natural fibre weaving for many years in Gippsland and interstate and more recently, locally in Leongatha.



Pat Dale has published two books, one on basketry and weaving with natural fibres and the other on plants and fibres used by First Nations People.



Photo by Adel Gröber on Unsplash.

Man on electric bike takes on big cat

By Meryl Brown Tobin

ONE day in late February a big wild cat challenged a man riding an electric bike.

The man, who is retired, was cycling along a track a kilometre or so inland from a small village along the South Gippsland coast between 4 and 4.30 pm.

About two weeks earlier he had seen a dead wombat across the trail. Dead for some time, it was belly up and bloated.

On the morning of the day of his interaction with the big cat, the man had ridden past the dead wombat again. He said there were fresh drag marks to where it had been dragged over to the opposite side of the track. It was flipped over on its belly and appeared to be eaten out to about 30 per cent of its total body mass.

In the afternoon, for the third time, he was approaching the site, which was along a straight, level and clear section of the track.

He said, "About 600-700 metres ahead I could see this black figure silhouetted in the centre of the track. At first I thought it was a person and I kept riding at 22 kilometres an hour. At about 120 metres from it, I thought it was a fox.

"When I was within 40 metres of it, it leapt to the side and went into crouch position. I could see it was a big wild cat and I thought it was going to have a crack at me. If I stopped, I thought there was a 50 per cent chance of it attacking me. I had a split second to decide what to do.

"Ringing my bell and screaming at it, I kept

This article also advises how to behave should you meet a panther in the wild.

Don't turn your back on it or try to outrun it; make yourself look bigger than it to try to scare it; make a noise to try to chase it away; look into its eyes and do not show fear.

The man on the electric bike instinctively did all these things and won out because he called the animal's bluff.

The witness said most feral cats would be under 7 kg and 12-14 kg would be a big one.

He has a small collie cross that weighs 20kg and he once had a rottweiler that weighed 48 kg and estimated the weight of the big cat he saw at 25-30 kg.

At first because of fear of ridicule, the witness did not share his story widely.

However, because he believes it is in the public interest and general safety, he has now done so. "I believe they [big cats] are still reasonably rare to detect," he said.

"Being ambush predators, they don't see humans as natural prey. My experience is the result of one protecting its food source. If the big cat hadn't retreated, if it had jumped up and pulled the man off his bike or if he had fallen off his bike, this story could have had a different ending."

However, according to Are Panthers Dangerous? Do Panthers Attack Humans? (wildexplained.com), there have been no records of man-eating panthers (melanistic leopards) though a panther might attack if provoked or if their cubs or territory is threatened.

FRIENDS OF MIRBOO NORTH SWIMMING POOL EVENTS COMMITTEE

MOVIE NIGHT

RESCHEDULED TO FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15



FEATURING
NESSIE 2.0 (INFLATABLE)
& FOOD VANS

SCREENING
THE SUPER MARIO BROS
MOVIE AT DUSK

BYO CHAIRS, PICNIC RUGS, BLANKETS ETC
FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT

MARY BAKER 0417 148 619



Repair Cafés

By author Claire Chitty

AFTER recently relocating to the Bass Coast, I discovered we have a community 'Rough Trade' Facebook page where people can trade or donate bits and pieces.

You can't imagine how happy that makes me feel.

Many years ago, I worked in the kitchen department of a major store.

I was horrified to learn that a large electrical company changed the mechanics of their toaster simply because the product continued to function without fault.

In other words, no defects equates to no sales, and no profit.

Speak to a salesperson or an engineer and they will confirm that corporations deliberately create products with a limited lifespan.

This mentality and wastefulness, not to mention the expense to replace items infuriates me.

And don't get me started on glass screens for mobile phones and incompatible chargers for different models. That's another story.

When I heard about 'Repair Cafés,' a worldwide movement I was ecstatic.

This forward-thinking program values and preserves practical repair skills, and sparks enthusiasm for a sustainable society.

It builds community, improves mental health through interactions and volunteers provide positive teaching experiences to school students in relation to repair lessons.

In addition, the flow-on benefits of 'Repair Cafés' include less demand for raw materials to produce items, and reduce CO2 emissions from manufacturing and transport.

Raised in an era of scarcity due to war and depression, my mother's generation had little choice but to repair and make do.

I remember her darning the heels of threadbare socks and she, like many women, had button jars filled with fascinating shapes, colours and materials. Back in her day, mass production and consumerism were an unknown concept.

Nowadays, it's become a throw away society.

Many charities have become big business and no longer accept electrical pieces, or sofas with the slightest tear in the upholstery, and way too much ends up in landfill.

Tip fees or lack of transportability and 'it's all too hard' attitude, and hard rubbish collections become a collective hive of curiosity, disbelief and laziness, particularly in affluent suburbs; several houses and childcare centres could be furnished with tables, chairs, sofas, toys and clothing all destined for the tip.

Last year, I had a chance meeting with Billy Trash 'Cash for Trash' (Channel 31) and we had a delightful conversation regarding the clutter sprawled along the Bayside Streets.

His passion to raise awareness and get the message of 'second life' out into the wider community was conceived by the astounding wastefulness.

Personally, I'm not opposed to 'pickers' who take the initiative to reuse, recycle, repurpose or rehome items or even make a bit of cash, in preference to polluting the planet.

After all, 'one person's trash is another person's treasure.'

I believe the pendulum is slowly swinging back to practicability and sensibility where we are forced to make new choices, brought on by sustainably, rising inflation and 'There is no planet B.'

What are you doing to make a positive difference?

About Repair Café - Repairing for a Sustainable Future (repaircafe.org)



Helmut Burri of Burri&Co demonstrates the use of a spoke shave to a student.

Much more than just wood working

By Courtney O'Brien

HELPING people discover the craft, learn about wood and furniture and the design purpose, to enrich lives is what Helmut Burri strives to do.

"It's about passion. I think the world's got a little bit too much darkness in it and I want to bring people something that's beautiful and something that connects them to nature and to the world and gives them a purpose in life."

Holding intimate sized classes in Venus Bay, Foster and Coal Creek, Helmut infuses his teachings with philosophy on the craft itself.

"Every tree has a story, where it grew, its life history is made manifest in its grain, in its body and as woodworker we take that body of a tree, and we have to work with it and working with it means understanding and talking about its life story and bringing its life to life."

"Woodworkers are like the caretakers of deceased trees, the undertakers of trees. We look after their corporeal remains after they're gone, and by making furniture and by making objects from them, we give them a second life."

Helmut aims to instil a love of the craft and the process in students, and skills on how to work with and treat wood properly, so it can be gently shaped rather than forced into shape.

"If you kind of look at what you're doing, listen to what it's saying to you; talk, I literally mean, talk to the wood. There's a sort of a dialogue that goes on with the material and you will succeed because you're no longer fighting."

Spoon carving, chair making and tool sharpening workshops are being taught by Burri&Co., the business Helmut founded a year ago.



A student puts the final touches on his spoon in a spoon carving workshop.

Having been teaching students privately, just for the love of imparting the craft to others, for many years, Helmut decided to begin offering public classes.

With students from their twenties through to their eighties attending and both men and women showing an interest.

"I teach spoon carving because it's a really approachable and achievable project that takes you from, I know absolutely nothing, to understanding the structure of wood, how a tree grows, how the grain works, and then how to break that down into an object that you can work with, and then to using a variety of tools that teaches you how to cut wood."

In a spoon carving class students get to split a green log - of liquid amber, cherry, plum, apricot, or birch - with a froe, break it down and do a rough carving with an axe, then using a shave horse and a large blade, carve out the plan and side views of the spoon before carving out the bowl using a hook knife.

Students also learn about chemistry for wood finishes, about tool sharpening, different

abrasive mediums, different ways of sharpening odd tools, which in spoon carving there are quite a lot of, as well as tree anatomy, and tree biology.

"The aim is to get people hooked on working with their hands, hooked on working with wood and understanding the value of the material."

Helmut commented that students can learn the basics in spoon carving and go on to shrink pots and then chair making, to gain a good foundational knowledge. They can then tackle more complex elements like mortise and tenon, dovetail joinery, parquetry inlays, bent laminations and steam bending.

His focus is on teaching an appreciation for the finer aspects of working with wood, as well as an appreciation for personally created objects.

"It kind of ties in with this question of sustainability."

"Unfortunately, people have things because they're impulsively acquiring things, and because there's no emotional resonance with the object, the object becomes disposable."

"I think, let's try not to kill the planet any faster."

Helmut is looking for a permanent space for his wood working and furniture design school, where people can come to class, form connections and build community.

Burri&Co's long-term aim is to build a community of designers and makers who work in a communal space creating different furniture, wood works and carvings, under a social enterprise structure.

"I'd love to set up a venue where you could have people who can take classes and people can make pieces and people can have exhibitions and share that space."

For more information visit burri&co.com.

Road safety tips these school holidays

WITH holidays and family road trips nearly upon us, RACV is urging Victorian motorists to take a safety-first mindset to keep safe on the roads.

"School holidays at this time of year are a great opportunity for a road trip, but that often means an increased number of people driving on unfamiliar roads with different conditions," RACV Policy Lead - Road Safety, Sam Lynch said.

"We are encouraging everyone heading away to make sure they get to their destination safely – even one life lost on our roads is too many and we need all Victorians to play their part in driving safely."

As of December 4, 271 people have lost their lives on Victorian roads in 2023 – an increase of 19.9 per cent on last year.

Concerningly, as of July, the Victorian road toll was also 37.5 per cent beyond the National Road Safety Strategy target for the year, which all Governments committed to in an effort to significantly reduce road trauma by 2030.

RACV is sharing five key tips for Victorians heading on road trip journeys:

1. Don't get stuck roadside: Make sure your roadside assistance is current.

2. Make sure your car can get you there: Ensure your car servicing is up to date and check on the quality of your tyres as well as air and fluid levels.

3. Share driving and plan breaks: Make sure you are well rested before embarking on a long trip. Plan to stop for 15 minutes every two hours. If possible, take turns driving even if it's only for a short time.

4. Patience with fellow drivers: During the holidays there are more cars on the road and a chance for more traffic and congestion. Patience and empathy with your fellow motorists will lead to safer driving decisions.

5. Remove distractions: Using mobile phones or other portable devices while driving is not only illegal but very dangerous. Make sure that you've removed temptation and if you must receive or make a call, ensure that you have pulled over and parked safely before doing so.

More tips are available for Victorians planning a road trip at the RACV website.

LIFE Moments



ELSIE Louise Brayley was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on November 14, weighing 3.62kg. She is a daughter for proud parents Aaron and Anna Brayley of Dalyston, and is a sister for Grace, 3.



LEAH May Evans was born November 3, to Joel and Mikaela Evans. Leah is a baby sister to Aliana and Eli.

Around the Bay

by Jims Bait and Tackle

MOST will have been sitting around for the last couple of weeks, looking out the window waiting for the weather to improve.

The week coming looks to be the best for a while.

November was an improvement from November of last year, but plenty of days were missed with easterly winds showing up. There have been some good quality fish of many different species being reported, even a couple of school tuna a couple of weeks ago.

Most are fishing in the bay because of the weather and not many venturing offshore yet, but it won't be long before plenty more are heading that way chasing tuna, sharks or just a feed of flathead.

While numbers are lower than expected, the quality of all the fish in the bay has been exceptional and because of the slow start it could be a season that continues well into the holiday period.

Most by now would have seen the concept drawing that Better Boating has produced for the Newhaven boat ramp.

If not, jump onto the Better Boating socials and have a look.

If there are things you don't agree with or think should be changed, best place for you to have your say is on the BBV/VFA social or web pages.

Drop-in sessions will be held at the Newhaven Yacht Squadron on Thursday, December 7, from 4pm - 7pm.

The BBV team will be there, as well as engineers, to chat through the finer details and to see the plans.

To submit your feedback before January 19, head to betterboating.vic.gov.au/consultations/newhaven.

However, complaining about Cowes or Rhyll will not help this project and this is not the place for it.

The best thing you can do is go have a look, ask questions then give your opinion based on what can actually be done.

Everyone wants acres of land reclaimed, huge areas dredged and a carpark to hold 200 cars and trailers.

The reality, unfortunately, is very different.

Reclamation of large areas, especially in this area,



Michelle Birchall caught a ripper Snapper with Amanda Keilar of Ladies Fishing Charters San Remo and Craig Martin from Island Offshore Charters.

is one of the hardest things to do and the process can take years. Excessive dredging is the same with so many levels of approval to go through.

Despite the lack of opportunity and seemingly low numbers for some with snapper, whiting, calamari, others have had no problem and lucked out pulling up in the right spot at the right time catching as many as they wanted which suggests the fish are there just not everyone is finding them.

The question then comes with a statement like, "when is the best time and spot?"

If you plotted the reports on a map and timeline you would fill up both, such is the inconsistency of both.

The snapper have probably had more of a pattern to anything else with the typical deep early and shallow late.

While this narrows it down a little bit, there is a lot of deep for the early fish with the afternoon a smaller area towards Coroton Bay and the mud.

There were several reports from those fishing middle of the day across the corals and while they were kept busy with undersize fish not many brought home a feed.

The suggestion would be to look at something different because the bigger fish will be there somewhere.

Look around and find yourself some live bait, small mullet, salmon, yakkas and calamari.

Set up a live bait rig - you will need some weight.

A five kilogram snapper or decent gummy will have no trouble at all taking a live bait but the little pinkies will leave it alone.

Whiting reports have been more difficult with reports literally coming from every inch and depth of the

bay.

Deep water off Rhyll, the channel off Elizabeth Island, across the corals and the normal whiting spots below and above the bridge, even in the shallows above maggi shoal.

The only thing common to the whiting reports is whatever the size of the first fish you catch is that the rest in that spot will be very similar.

There are still reports about the very small ones, and there does seem to be good numbers of small stock in the bay.

Most of the reports contain good quality healthy whiting that is a meal on its own.

Calamari are not as bad as they were early season and while not what we expect definitely an improvement and there are more times where a bag is possible.

Like the rest, not a lot of consistency in where but when seems to have narrowed to change of light, especially off the land or jetties.

There have also been a handful of reports over the last month of snapper and whiting off the jetties.

Cowes jetty was the best for snapper with Rhyll, and San Remo the better for whiting.

While land based never produces dozens of fish the quality of the ones reported would have been worth the effort and time spent chasing them.

Salmon are everywhere at the moment, or that's what the reports suggest.

Reports from boats, beaches and jetties with the best method metal slugs but don't go too big.

Far more 2kg salmon is reported on 25g lures than on 60g lures.



Sandy Points Eva Based secured first place in the U19 Girls Allstars (Schools) division at the Woolworths Australian Junior Surfing Titles at Cape Woolamai.

Sandy Point juniors clinch impressive places at Junior Titles

THE Woolworths Australian Junior Surfing Titles wrapped up at Cape Woolamai with high-quality surfing in all age divisions and tightly contested finals action on Sunday with Sandy Point juniors securing places.

Eva Based of Sandy Point and Sarsha Pancic won the U19 Girls Allstars (Schools) by 3.03 with an overall score of 12.41.

Paired with Jerry Kelly, Rye Cicero placed fourth in the U16 Boys Allstars (Schools).

In the U16 Boys MR Shield (Schools) Rye and Jarrah Cicero placed third on 9.28 for Foster Secondary College.

U18 Men's winner, Eden Hasson (NSW), delivered an incredible performance against Macklin Flynn (WA) and Jimmi Hill (NSW). His powerful rail surfing and a late score of 9.2 secured his victory as Hasson was able to combo the field.

Willow Hardy (WA) claimed victory in the U18 Women's division with a strong back hand attack and her two final rides, which scored 6.33 and 7.00.

Maverick Wilson (WA) produced something special to win the U16 Men's final, scoring a 9.50 on his last wave in an exciting comeback under pressure from Mitchell Peterson (QLD) and Ben Zannatta (NSW).

Ziggy Mackenzie (QLD) secured the U16 Women's title from state rival Samantha Arderne. While Eliza Richardson surfed an incredible final, posting the highest heat total of the day, a 17.88 (8.38 + 9.50), to win the U14 Girls title.

Locana Cullen (NSW) was another standout, winning the U14 Boys title after landing an air reverse in his semifinal heat, earning a perfect 10.00 score.

Contest Director, Liam Roberston

said: "It was a fantastic end to the Woolworths Australian Junior Surfing Titles at Cape Woolamai. We were greeted with playful two-foot waves, which saw some amazing surfing and great battles go down. A massive congratulations to all the champions and overall state champion Queensland. The future of surfing in Australia is in good hands!"

Finals results:

U18 Men: Eden Hasson (NSW) - 17.53, Macklin Flynn (WA) - 13.08, Jimmi Hill (NSW) - 12.98, Willem Watson (VIC) - 12.73

U18 Women: Willow Hardy (WA) - 13.33, Natalie Fensom (NSW) - 12.03, Jordy Halford (QLD) - 9.38, Sarah Young (QLD) - 9.25

U16 Men: Maverick Wilson (WA) - 17.07, Mitchell Peterson (QLD) - 16.45, Ben Zannatta (NSW) - 12.25, Max McGilavray (NSW) - 12.10

U16 Women: Ziggy Mackenzie (QLD) - 13.38, Samantha Arderne (QLD) - 11.33, Ava Arghyros (NSW) - 10.35, Meika Locke (QLD) - 10.26

U14 Boys: Locana Cullen (NSW) - 10.96, Jaggar Phillips (NSW) - 10.50, Hunter Sutcliffe (NSW) - 10.11, Cruz Uros (WA) - 8.58

U14 Girls: Eliza Richardson (QLD) - 17.88, Savannah Rielly (QLD) - 10.38, Rose Holland (VIC) - 8.88, Lani Cairncross (NSW) - 6.48

Surfing Australia special awards:

Duke Kahanamoku award: Maverick Wilson, Isabel Letham award: Willow Hardy, Champion overall state (determines seeding for 2024):

1. QLD 2. WA 3. NSW 4. VIC 5. SA 6. TAS

Find all the results on LiveHeats.com.



A Cicero team effort, Jarrah sealed a third-place victory in the U16 Boys MR Shield in the Junior Surfing Titles.

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
December 5
6.03am 1.52m
11.44am 0.62m
5.52pm 1.28m
11.45pm 0.47m

WEDNESDAY
December 6
6.38am 1.46m
12.23pm 0.62m
6.38pm 1.24m

THURSDAY
December 7
12.23am 0.57m
7.14am 1.40m
1.04pm 0.61m
7.33pm 1.20m

FRIDAY
December 8
1.04am 0.67m
7.53am 1.35m
1.50pm 0.60m
8.44pm 1.20m

SATURDAY
December 9
1.54am 0.77m
8.37am 1.31m
2.41pm 0.57m
9.58pm 1.24m

SUNDAY
December 10
2.54am 0.86m
9.28am 1.27m
3.38pm 0.52m
11.05pm 1.32m

MONDAY
December 11
4.08am 0.92m
10.22am 1.25m
4.39pm 0.46m

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Inverloch Bowling Club's Men's Major Singles champion Martin Hannaford and runner up Steve Snelling.



Inverloch Bowling Club's Ladies' Major Singles runner up Carol Hughes with champion Anne Tschiderer.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club Singles runner up Rob Aitken and champion Craig Fisher.



John Halls, John Duthie (skip), Jill Kennedy and Allan McLean were the social bowls winners at Inverloch Bowling Club.



Jan Milkins, Mary Spooner and Maggie Scapin were the Friday winners at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls.

INVERLOCH

CLUB Championships: Sunday saw the Major Singles Ladies and Men Championship matches played.

Both rinks displayed excellent bowling throughout the matches.

Most ends were decided by centimetres and some by millimetres.

Excellent and close shots were applauded by the enthusiastic but quiet crowd.

The Men's Major Singles final finished first with Martin Hannaford the first to reach 25 shots.

Steve Snelling was close behind.

Martin Hannaford is the Club Major Men's Singles Champion for this season.

The Ladies' Major Singles match provided the crowd with a very entertaining match.

The two bowlers Anne Tschiderer and Carol Hughes kept everyone guessing about who the Ladies' Champion would be.

Anne Tschiderer was the first to reach 25 with Carol Hughes not far behind.

Anne Tschiderer is the Club Major Ladies' Singles Champion for this season.

Other matches in the Club Championships continue as scheduled.

Social Bowls:

Last Thursday saw John Duthie (skip), John Hallas, Allan McLean and Jill Kennedy come out as winners on the day with two wins and 35 points.

Runners up were Mal Marshall (skip), Rob Dowling and Allan Johnstone with two wins and 32 points.

KORUMBURRA

THE wet weather has played havoc with bowling over the last couple of weeks with only the midweek sides able to compete.

In Division 1, the bowlers travelled to Foster to take on the ladder leaders all to no avail.

Jenny McVeigh went down 20 shots to 21, Judith Nicholl lost 15 shots to 18 while Joanna lost 16 shots to 24 – not a good result for the club.

In Division 3, Korumburra hosted Fish Creek after a good start.

Korumburra went down with Lena Harfield going down 15 shots to 21 and Cheryl Moore losing 13 shots to 22 against the top placed team.

No play was able to be held on Saturday owing to the weather.

LEONGATHA

ROUND five of the Midweek Pennant Division 1 competition was played at the Toora Bowls Club.

Leongatha strengthened their side at the selection table, which had a positive effect on the final result.

Leongatha won on all three rinks with an overall score of 72/43 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

Wilhelmina Low skip (Toora) was defeated by Marj Pearson skip (Leongatha) 13/28 shots.

Beth Curram skip (Toora) was defeated by Rosa James skip (Leongatha) 14/22 shots.

Lynette Hewson skip (Toora) was defeated by Jenny Miller skip (Leongatha) 16/22 shots.

Last Saturday, all three division sides in the Saturday Pennant Competition were drawn to play at home.

The weather was unkind,

which contributed to the Division 4 game being abandoned after 12 ends had been played.

Why was the Division 4 contest with Loch Bowling Club abandoned?

Perhaps it may have been because the average age of the players >80 and their health was a factor.

The Division 1 side played against a side from Philip Island and displayed some improvement on their performance on the previous Saturday.

A 12 shot margin in favour of Leongatha was the difference at the finish if play.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

Anthony Collier skip (Leongatha) defeated Russel May skip (Phillip Island) 25/23 shots.

Paul Michael skip (Leongatha) defeated John Newcombe skip (Phillip Island) 15/13 shots.

John Hall skip (Leongatha) defeated Peter Ferguson skip (Phillip Island) 22/14 shots.

The Leongatha Division 2 side had a battle against Inverloch and were defeated on two rinks with a final score of 50/61 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

Ron Symmons skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Doug Archer skip (Inverloch) 16/21 shots.

Anne Lye skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Neil Everitt skip (Inverloch) 11/26 shots.

Vito Serafino skip (Leongatha) defeated Reg Varty skip (Inverloch) 23/14 shots.

Coming events are the following:

Business bowls: December 5 and 12.

Medley event: December 7 – contact Janice Sing 0429 436 991 for booking.

Corporate events: December 8 and 15.

MIDWEEK BOWLS

SAN REMO once again welcomed the 36 bowlers for another round in the weekly challenge.

The day started with some very mild weather, a slight chance of rain, and a little wind to make the day more interesting.

The sound of friendly banter and laughter was heard as usual across the green.

Some great bowling across the rinks, but it was mixed with a few wayward shots as always from a few.

As the day progressed the wind increased somewhat, making it hard to control the bowling, but also it turned icy making everyone run for extra clothing – but at least it didn't rain.

Peter, Pauline and John once again did all the hard work to make the game a success, as they do each week.

This week's winners on 35 points were John Nicholson (S), Frank D'Univille (3), Raff Mernante (2) and Max Williams (L).

Runners up on a score of 34 points were Tony Heppleston (S), Laurie Bell (3), Gwen Jeffrey (2) and Bob Arnold (L).

Best one game winners on a score of 23 were Craig Brown (S), Mark Hanrahan (3) and Marites (Mae) Soledad (L).

Mark was appreciated by all for his work behind the bar, and Gwen, as always, is the quiet achiever for her work looking after the kitchen.

Next week, the bowlers will be meeting at Koo Wee Rup.

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

ANOTHER good week at the club.

Tuesday saw Division 1 play host to Inverloch on a fine mild day.

Wonthaggi was looking for a win in the lead up to the Christmas break.

All rinks played well to record a solid win.

The final scores Wonthaggi 71 Inverloch 35.

Division 2, also at home, played host to San Remo and once again looking for a win.

All rinks had very different results.

One had a good win, another a loss and the other a draw.

At the end of the day, Wonthaggi just fell short.

The final scores Wonthaggi 57 San Remo 62.

Tuesday evening barefoot bowls was a success with fine weather, which is always good.

Wednesday social bowls was a washout with rain and a cold wind all day which was the same for Thursday morning.

Saturday saw Division 1 travel to the seaside town of Inverloch looking for a win to continue on from last week.

After a wait for the rain to stop the match got underway in fine but overcast conditions.

All rinks played well to record a solid win.

The final scores Wonthaggi 83 Inverloch 36.

Division 2 and Division 3 were both washed out.

Bowls this week: Tuesday Midweek Pennant, Tuesday evening barefoot bowls from 5pm, Wednesday is Turkey Triples Day, Thursday social bowls at 10am, Friday coaching at 10am and Saturday is Pennant Day.

There are good numbers on the sheets for the Christmas lunch on Sunday, December 10.

Lorraine Day is home and going well.

Please give Lorraine a call and have a chat, as being home is always the best medicine.

Next week there will be a report on the finals in the men's and ladies' singles, which were held on Sunday.

The bowlers are Rob Aitken and Craig Fisher, with Jan Jeeves and Denice Silver.

Have a good week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

IT was another enjoyable week of bowling this week with a total of 46 players.

A reminder that there are two more weeks of bowling till the club finishes for Christmas.

Tuesday saw 21 players competing the winners on plus four were Fred Demenech, Jim Rodhi and Ken Peterson.

Coming second, winning one game only on plus nine, were Phylis Peterson, Helen Rook, Jean Wylde and Bill Featherson.

Friday saw 25 players competing with the ladies coming out on top.

The winners on plus 12 were Jan Milkins, Mary Spooner and Maggie Scapin.

Coming second on plus six were Thelma Kavanagh, Sylvia Mattock and the lone male John Rook.

Finals a thriller

•Leongatha table tennis

AN impressive set of grand finals were played. In A Grade, the fight for top dog was between Devo (Phil Munro, Glenn Bolam and Allan Fletcher) and We Are The Champions (Dirk Holwerda, Michael Holwerda and Tom Stone).

After the first round of singles and doubles, the scores were locked at two games apiece. After the second round of singles, the score was in "We Are The Champions" favour. They needed to win the second doubles to have any chance.

Alas it was not meant to be.

The final game of the night was between Allan and Tom with team scores at five all. After five tough games, Allan won with an 11-8 victory ensuring Devo took home the shield. Scores for the night: Devo: six rubbers, 19 games. We Are The Champions: five rubbers, 20 games.

A Reserve wasn't any easier for the teams involved – Bonanza (Ian Rasmussen, David Sutten and Sam Holt) taking on Thunderbirds (Ian Tucket, Harley Brewer and Tom Taylor). Once again, after the first round of singles and double the score was 4-4. After all singles were played bar one, the scores were five all. It was down to the final game of the night between club stalwart Ian Rasmussen and young gun Tom Taylor. Youth won out in the end giving Thunderbirds the win. Final scores: Thunderbirds: six rubbers, 24 games. Bonanza: five rubbers, 18 games.

Leongatha Table Tennis held its presentation night at Leongatha RSL on Tuesday, November 21.

Autumn Comp Awards: A Grade Winners: Braden A, Dom M, and Allan F/ Jesse P. Runners up: Dirk H, Michael W and Bom D. Aggregate: Michael C.

Spring Comp Awards: Winners: Phil M, Glenn B and Allan F. Runners up: Dirk H, Michael H and Tom S. Aggregate: Braden A. A Reserve: Winners: Jesse P, Trevor W, VB. Runners up: Aiden H, Kim P and Harley B. Aggregate: Ian T/Aiden H.

Spring Comp Awards: Winners: Ian T, Harley B and Tom T. Runners Up: Ian R, David S and Sam H. Aggregate: Aiden H.

Junior of the Year: Braden Andrigutto. Most improved junior: Trent Beggs. Tammy Holwerda Trophy: Michael McKillop.

Most improved all grades: Sam Holt. Club Person: Hayley DeLacy-Shrives. Special Awards: Case De Bondt.

Presented with an inscribed clock for his work, dedication and time spent with Leongatha TT since its inception in 1963 (60 years ago).

Life Membership: Michael Grist was given this prestigious award as he has always shown his dedication to the sport and his coaching on the side during his own time, while always encouraging the juniors to reach their full potential.

ALLAMBE MIRBOO & DISTRICT

Tournaments to be rescheduled

THE association tournaments were organised to be held on Saturday, but the weather had other plans.

It is hoped that the tournament will be rescheduled to another weekend in the New Year.

Team captains are encouraged to keep a look out for more information to ensure teams can be put in.

Next week is the final match before the Christmas break.

Let's hope the weather is kinder for this one.

RIVERSIDE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

ALL matches for Riverside Tennis Association on Saturday, December 2 were a washout.



Lauren Edwards, Chase Edwards, Ian Dick, Riley Weinzierl and Matt Edwards of Knackers claimed Wednesday night victory. C01_4923



2s Company's King Pins Raff Merante and Les Peters took home first place this season in Monday night league.



Winners of Business League from the left, Old Timers, Glenn, Gerard, Bob and Ray.



In second place for Thursday Business League, from the left, are Johnny, Kerri and Troy.

And the winners are...

PHILLIP Island Tenpin Bowling had a fantastic season across all leagues with celebrations had last week in the wrap up for 2023.

Phantom League: 1st place on 29pts PBA9X, 2nd place on 25pts AlleyGator, 3rd place on 21.5pts Dragonfly and 4th place on 21 Elizabeth.

Season High Scores for the men and woman: 204 PBA9X and 180 Elizabeth.

2s Company: 1st place on 34pts King Pins, 2nd place on 21pts Tinabe and 3rd place 28.5pts Mustang Alley.

Season High Scores for the

men and woman: 209 Raff Merante and 192 Tricia Niessink.

ABL (Almost Bowling Legends): 1st place on 205.5 pts Knackers, 2nd place on 199pts PinPals and 3rd on 192.5pts Just Bowl Already.

Season High scores for the men and woman: 237 Matt Edwards and 199 Karen Klym.

Thursday night Business League and playoffs.

To begin the season high scores across both business leagues were:

Clinton Armour with a huge score of 243 and Stacey Bjar ring on 159.

Playoffs:

Thursday the November 30, 11 our business teams competed in a knockout round to see who would be crowned the official winners of the 2023 Spring season!

From our early league: 1st Balls Deep, 2nd Happy Hour, 3rd Wooly Rollers and 4th Old Timers.

From our Late League: 1st Team Rich, 2nd Jd's, 3rd Loose Knuckles and 4th Bananas in Pyjamas.

The top team from each division received a 30-pin head start whilst the 2nd place teams received a 15-pin start.

For the first time in the business competition both the first and second place teams in each division were knocked out leaving the third and fourth place teams to battle it out for the trophies and bragging rights!

The Old Timers (Bob, Gerard, Glenn and Ray) and Wooly Rollers (Kerri, John and Troy) were left standing with The Old Timers taking the title with a total of 677pins total whilst Wooly Rollers finished on 582 pins total.

Congratulations to Bob, Gerard and Glenn on the victory, (although we're sorry you missed your dinner reservation!).

Wonthaggi duo triumph at Korumburra

FOUR Wonthaggi Croquet Club members travelled to Korumburra on the weekend of November 18 and 19 to compete in their annual doubles tournament.

Tom Lacey and Sue Baker were successful in topping the bill in Section 1, winning five games (+2 hoops) from the Warragul pairing of Julie Beasley and Heather Lees who won four games (+9 hoops).

This was Sue's first two-day tournament for some time, having had to recover from a shoulder injury – well done.

Max Wise teamed up with Ian Nicholas (Korumburra), also in Section 1, winning two games and Kathy Ross teamed up with Maree Nicholas (Korumburra) in Section 2, winning one game.

Wonthaggi's external handicap singles was held on November 25 and 26 with players from far and wide participating. Sponsored by the Wonthaggi Workmens Club, the tournament was a huge success.

Two sections of eight players each fiercely competed over the two days.

It was the first time an external event has been held where the

club was able to showcase its new club rooms.

Play was held up late on Saturday due to thunder and lightning, and abandoned earlier than planned due to torrential rain. Catch up play started early on the Sunday, and all ended well early that afternoon.

Paul Manwaring from the RNB club took out Section 1, winning five of seven games with Wilma Freeman from Sale as runner up.

Section 2 was won by Mick Crawford from Drouin with six games (+14 hoops) just pipping Denise Bray from Phillip Island with 6 games (+12 hoops) – a closely fought section indeed.

Wonthaggi's Kathy Ross stepped in to fill the last place in this section, winning two games against some very experienced players.

Tom Lacey (Wonthaggi) and Terri Manwaring (RNB) were the referees on the weekend and many of our members assisted throughout – a big thanks to all of them.

A thank you also to Haymes Paint Shop Wonthaggi who, for many years now, have supplied the club with line marking paint.



Section 1 winner and runner-up, from left, Sue Cartwright (Sec), Gerry Kool (Pres), Wilma Freeman (Sale - runner up), Paul Manwaring (RNB - winner)



Raymond Douglas (2) and Popeye the Sailor push the pace. Ns20_4923



Melinda McDonald receives a helping hand onto Rivers Reward. Ns12_4923



Leigh Taylor battles through the soft going on Mr Zigmund in race 4. Ns21_4923



Caitlin King and Tofik Tok take the lead by a thin margin. Ns30_4923



Jockeys battle it out for the top spot. Ns15_4923



Dylan Dean rode Galleria to victory in the Jim's Mowing Maiden Plate. Ns25_4923



The crowds managed to stay somewhat dry throughout the day. Ns16_4923



Conditions were muddy in the car park after the morning's rain. Ns18_4923

Top day at the races to remember Duck

WHILE the weather wasn't kind, the atmosphere was warm and full of life at the Woolamai and District Racing Club's end of year celebration races on Saturday, December 2.

And there was much to celebrate, with a strong crowd despite the incessant rain with the club also paying tribute to one of their long-time stalwarts, Don Matheson, who passed away earlier this year.

One of the races was even named in his honour to recognise his vital contribution of more than 50 years.

Don, or 'Duck' as he was commonly known as, was a deeply valued committee member who always kept a close eye on the track and its condition.

It was noted that there were very few days he didn't pop in to make sure everything was in order.

He held the position of president of the Woolamai Recreation Reserve, and made significant contributions to the wider community.

Don also held numerous roles in the racing industry, starting out as a barrier attendant before becoming a race day judge.

This would see him cover meetings in the south eastern and Port Phillip Districts.

In 2011, Don was recognised by Racing Victoria for his 30 years of service.

Crowds turn out

Woolamai and District Racing Club's vice president Bruce Spiden said while the races would have been much busier if the rain had held off, bookings still sold out.

"We were lucky we're in an area that hasn't rained much," he said.

"The tracks been fantastic, it's a credit to the guys who maintain it.

"We probably would have had double the crowd with people coming through (the area), but I'm surprised we got as many we have."

Spiden highlighted there were plenty of great races and events coming up at the club.

"These days we don't get too many smaller meetings, they are around 2000 plus, but when you get that crowd here, it feels like 5000, the atmosphere is great," he said.

He noted while there were a few hiccups on the day, including a malfunction with the PA, everything went smoothly in the end.

The club has also been busy undertaking various upgrades.

"We put in a new sprinkler system which has made it so much easier to control the track," he said.

Good to be back

For Ben Sporle, it was great to be back at Woolamai calling the races for the day and reliving old memories.

"I used to get down here in the early days, I started off about 12 years ago, and got down here while Adam Olszanski was still doing it (calling) then," he said.

"But then he took over the secretary duties and I've been doing it ever since."

Sporle highlighted he loves calling at Woolamai out of the many tracks he covers.

"I do Woolamai, Balnarring, Yea, Alexandra, across six to eight tracks, it's a busy time of the year," he said.

When asked how he keeps up with the race, he described it like 'cramming everything in for an exam last minute'.

"When the jockeys come out of the rooms and go to the yard and then barriers, you just don't take your eyes off them," he said.



They're off! It's an even start for all in the Maiden Plate field. Ns274923



Dylan Dean on Galleria takes the lead as the pace ramps up in race 5. Ns28_4923



Imogen Price played a number of great hits for the crowd. Ns17_4923



Caitlin King on Tofik Tok takes out first place in the Flagsharks Trophy Race. Ns32_4923



Strappers parade the horses before the race. Ns114923



Bikes and tents cover the ground at the Yarram Recreation Reserve.

Wettest bike ride in 50 years, they say



Great Bike Ride visitors Richard James and Kym Miles weren't going to miss out on a fish'n'chip dinner on the wharf at Port Albert despite the fact that the weather derailed plans for an overnight stop in the town. The verdict? "Sensational".



Despite the weather, perhaps because of it, the riders received a warm welcome wherever they went in South Gippsland and Bass Coast.

NEVER again, said the Lord, would he destroy all living creatures in a flood lasting 40 days, but it certainly felt like he'd reneged on the deal when more than 2000 riders descended on Gippsland last Sunday, December 3 for the 2023 Great Victorian Bike Ride.

The heavens opened in biblical proportions from the time they rode out of Buchan headed for Orbost and the deluge didn't let up, even when they were riding up the long climb out of Foster, towards the Hoddle Ranges, with the wind and rain in their faces on Saturday, bound for Fish Creek.

Almost 400mm fell across two days in East Gippsland, and didn't stop then, and in the hills above Yarram, there was more than 350mm, swelling both the Tarra River and Albert River, on either side of Yarram, to major flood levels.

At Alberton, 5.5 kilometres south of Yarram, the Albert River closed the South Gippsland Highway on Friday night, while the Thompson River was doing likewise up the Sale end.

As the riders went to bed on Friday night, many of them in damp clothes from days of pedalling in the rain, they didn't know if they would be able to continue the scheduled ride to Fish Creek.

But the tide dropped (Moses parted the waters) and while the rain continued, the highway was reopened, and the pilgrimage could continue.

Finally, on the last day of the ride, "hallelujah", the skies cleared and the first rays of sunshine in a week hit the riders' backs as they left for Inverloch, a ride around the spectacular Bunurong Coastal Drive, and the finish point at Wonthaggi, with a tail wind behind them for good measure.

It was simply superb.

But the riders were philosophical all the same.

"These are the ones you remember," said a veteran of many Great Vic Rides.

Two visitors from Alice Springs, Rudy and Lester, enjoying lunch at Long John Pickles café in Fish Creek on Saturday, weren't at all concerned about the rain.

"We come from Alice Springs. We've never ridden in the rain before. It's beautiful and cool."

Mind you, they'd book a nice Airbnb up the Prom Road for the night rather than tent-it at the footy ground.

So, it's all well that ends well, although there was a sobering side to the ride as well.

Such were the conditions and the state of the road between Paynesville and Sale on

Wednesday, November 29, that the police declared all riders under 18 would have to bus through to the next stop.

Upwards of 500 riders reportedly bailed out, among them Cr John Schelling of the South Gippsland Shire Council, who admitted he went home to Leongatha for a hot shower and some dry clothes during Thursday's rest day at Sale.

"I wasn't going to come back but I was on the ride with my daughter," said John.

To give you an indication of the conditions, the local SES had to rescue a driver caught on a flooded road at Alberton West late on Friday night.

The organisers have, however, hailed the ride a success.

"The 2023 Great Vic Bike Riders have victoriously ridden into Wonthaggi today (Sunday, December 3), the last stop on one of the most challenging Great Vic Bike Rides ever.

"A week ago 2000 bike riders, volunteers and support staff started in Orbost and rode through Buchan, Lakes Entrance, Paynesville, Sale (two nights), Yarram and Fish Creek.

Caitlin Borchers, Bicycle Network General Manager of Events claimed the 2023 Great Vic had been "a fantastic week and everyone finished on a cycling induced high".

"According to veteran riders it has been the wettest Great Vic Bike Ride since the 1985 and 1988 rides," she said.

"One highlight that needs to be experienced to be appreciated is the community spirit of thousands of like-minded individuals intent on having a good time," says Ms Borchers.

"With riders aged from two to 86 it's an amazing active holiday."

"We have had great support from the local Gippsland communities, as well as the 300 volunteers and support staff," she said.

On route to 540km of riding, the riders received an especially warm welcome in Yarram, Foster, Fish Creek, Inverloch, Wonthaggi and towns along the way, particularly given the difficult conditions endured by the riders.

While Port Albert missed out on hosting an overnight stop, the Yarram community scrambled to provide a warm welcome at pubs, the bakery and other retail outlets, while organisers ran buses down to the Port for riders to enjoy a fish n' chip dinner.

The 2024 Great Victorian Bike Ride will be in the North East of the state, going from Wodonga to Healesville.



Cr John Schelling with daughter Becky Browne and granddaughter Jordy get set to head off from Sale in the rain.

Cr Schelling hits the road for Great Victorian Bike Ride

SHARING the experience with family, meeting people from far and wide, and the warm welcomes from communities along the way were highlights of the Great Victorian Bike Ride for South Gippsland Shire councillor John Schelling.

Those experiences made the wet and challenging conditions worth enduring.

John rode with daughter Becky Browne, who towed his granddaughter Harleigh in the early days of the ride before she went home.

Older granddaughter Jordy joined the last four days of the event, her sister Tilly getting involved on the final day, in which all three grandkids participated for at least part of the way, as the ride finished in Wonthaggi on Sunday.

It was John's second Great Victorian Bike Ride, having tackled the event six years ago along with Becky who was towing Jordyn and Tilly.

Becky wanted to give Harleigh the same experience and John was happy to provide support again, despite not being a regular bike rider.

"I practised for four or five months," John said of his preparation, having built up his distances over that period, culminating in a 70-kilometre ride on Melbourne Cup Day.

During the event, being hit with side winds and lashed with rain on the leg between Paynesville and Sale proved the toughest going.

"You were sort of leaning to your left to try to stop the bike from falling over," John said.

There were some tough hills along the way, with walking sometimes proving the faster and more energy-efficient approach.

John explained that generally once he got going for the day, riding went ok.

"Getting up the next morning is the real challenge," he declared.

Undoubtedly that challenge was all the sterner due to his rain-soaked swag.

"When you roll the swag up wet, everything inside it gets wet as well,"

John said.

That discomfort prompted him to call his wife who collected him and his gear, enabling him to dry out his swag before returning in the morning.

While he suggested he may have been a bit soft, John's riding was all under his own steam.

"I wouldn't ride an electric bike on principle," he said, noting many doing so told him to 'Keep up the good work' as they happily rode by him.

Fortunately, on the 103-kilometre stretch from Sale to Yarram, riders were aided with tail winds most of the way.

A highlight for John was riding between Welshpool and Woorarra.

"The creek was fully awash, the smell of the eucalyptus was peaceful and calm, which was magic," he recalled.

People came and went throughout the ride's eight days, tackling however many days they could manage, with lots of school groups participating, along with seasoned veterans such as a man in his 38th Great Victorian Bike Ride.

Fond memories of hot fire brigade sausages on a freezing day, and the hospitality of those from Fish Creek footy and bowls clubs, along with the sounds of the South Gippsland Brass Band were other great experiences.

"The communities are what make it so great and the people you meet on the ride; I met people from Edenope and Adelaide, and all over the place," John said.

He also spoke of the terrific support crew ensuring the Great Victorian Bike ride proceeds smoothly, with volunteers doing cooking and setting up tents, a marshal on a motorbike and police supporting riders, and medical assistance available when required.

Cyclists have the option of putting their bikes in a trailer and travelling by bus if a leg of the journey becomes too arduous.

"The coordination is amazing," John said, noting the ability of organisers to adapt the route when weather conditions required.

Great Victorian Bike Ride



Great Victorian Bike Ride marshall Rick chats with rider Julie at Fish Creek.



Great Victorian Bike Ride volunteer Neil Warren of Inverloch chats with visiting riders Neil and Alana Wilson of Bendigo at Yarram.



Twenty five murals by world famous mural artist Heesco Khosnaran, including this one high on the Yarram Water Tower provided a backdrop to the arrival by 2000 Great Victorian Bike Riders in town on Friday.

Female swing for Leongatha golf club



Leongatha Golf Club's general manager Kate Rowe, president Colleen Touzel and PGA teaching professional Melissa Taylor are looking forward to the club's future by making it more inclusive.

LEONGATHA Golf Club is always looking to expand their horizons on and off the greens, with a new program encouraging more women to take up the sport.

In an exciting addition for the club, they have launched the South Gippsland women's only beginner golf pathway program, with newly appointed teaching professional Melissa Taylor at the helm.

Melissa recently took on the role and has been busy expanding the program.

"My role is a contract teaching professional, but their (club) direction obviously aligns with my own values in that being a female PGA professional, what I specifically want to do is try and

increase more females in the game," she said.

"Having grown up in golf, and always playing with the men and boys, I know how intimidating it can be."

"Everything comes from my own firsthand experiences as far as not just my love of golf, but the passion I bring to the coaching especially to increase juniors and females."

"That doesn't mean that I don't teach men. I certainly do but as far as the programs go, I've created my own pathway to help women get into golf."

Melissa highlighted she started with three juniors which has now increased to 10.

"And starting from zero with the women... I have eight in the program and we're just heading into

the next stage of that," she said.

She highlighted it all helps the club's aim to grow and develop into a hub for the region.

"It's super inclusive, all their competitions are open gender," she said.

"Everyone down there seems really on board with the concepts of making it inclusive and understanding that's how they're going to make their clubs sustainable and grow."

"But the really amazing thing is, and not normally do we come across this, but there is a female president and female general manager, so that's really amazing."

For more information about coaching and the club, visit leongathagolf.com.au

KORUMBURRA

Ladies

TRUDI Mantell (26) won the women's competition on Tuesday with 36 points.

Runner up was Judy Webb (24), 30 points, on a c/b from Sherri Solly (23).

Jenny Blackmore was NTP on the 13th green.

The twilight nine-hole golf on Thursday was won by Collette Pearl and Tim O'Neill 22 points, and Dianne and Terry Maskell were runners up.

Maia Enbom was NTP on the first.

The weather was too wet for golfers on Wednesday and Saturday.

LEONGATHA

A NOTE of thanks to Don Smith from Leongatha Golf Club for an excellent job in submitting the weekly results for the past month.

Tuesday, November 28: Par.

Seventy-two members/guests played in Tuesday's Par round recording some excellent results.

A Grade winner: John Ryan (12) +3.

A Grade runner up: Doug Cleemann (14) +1 on a countback.

B Grade winner: Paul Kennedy (19) +4.

B Grade runner up: Andrew Smith (18) +2.

C Grade winner: Hans Hoefer (33) +8.

C Grade runner up: Tim Hogan (25) +5.

NTP fifth second shot: Philippe du Plessis at .85m.

NTP 14th: Jon Smith at 3.27m.

NTP 16th: Chris Leaver 2.60m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Hugh Goodman, Marilyn Williams, John McInnes and Phil Strike.

Thursday, November 30: Evans Petroleum Stableford.

This was the final Evans Petroleum Stableford event for 2023, with much appreciation for their outstanding sponsorship for the year.

High scores were a feature for the 74 members/guests who played in Thursday's Stableford event.

A Grade winner: Russell



The winners and runners up of the Evans Petroleum Stableford event at the Leongatha Golf Club Phil Strike, John Moor, Malcolm Legge, David Vorwerg and Graham Hoskin (Meenian).

Williams (8) 35 points.

A Grade runner up: Graham Hoskin (14) 34 points.

B Grade winner: John Moor (18) 38 points.

B Grade runner up: David Vorwerg (22) 37 points on a countback.

C Grade winner: Malcolm Legge (23) 38 points.

C Grade runner up: Phil Strike (23) 35 points on a countback.

NTP fifth second shot: Doug Cleemann at 2.10m.

NTP 14th: Graham Hoskin at 1.87m.

NTP 16th: David Vorwerg at 1.84cm.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Gordon Allan, Paul Kennedy, Peter Read and Nicholas Byrne.

Saturday, December 2: Monthly Medal.

Saturday's Monthly Medal round was contested by only 10 members/guests who braved the wet and windy conditions.

Winner: Eli Potts (16) from Hamilton Golf Club with a net score of 65.

Runner up: Michael O'Rafferty (19) with a net score of 71.

MIRBOO NORTH

SATURDAY, December 2: Stroke.

Day winner: D. Jerram (18) 66net.

DTL: Tim Traill 69 and G. Shandley 71.

NTP: fourth P. Draper, sixth J.

McFarlane, 13th B. Bradshaw and 16th G. Shandley.

Birdies: sixth B. Bradshaw.

Coring has been deferred due to weather until Wednesday, December 6.

PHILLIP ISLAND

TUESDAY November 28: Men's Stableford

Overall Winner: Ray Jansson (18) 39 points

A Grade winners: Lachlan Robinson (-3) 38 points c/b to Rob Haydon (12).

B Grade Winners: Ray Jansson (18) 39 points from Brett Saunderson (21) 37 points.

C Grade winners: Rob Wood (29) 37 points from John Gains (24) 33 points c/b.

BDL to 33 points.

NTP: fifth Ron Owen, seventh Stephen Mack, 10th Dave Egan, 17th Lachlan Robinson

Men's Nine-Hole Stableford

Winner: Col Cordery (33) 18 pts from Brian Baker (21) 17 pts c/b.

BDL to 15 pts c/b.

Wednesday November 29:

Women's 18-Hole Stroke

A Grade Winner: Vicki Ramage (24) 67 nett.

B Grade Winner: Michelle Pardoe (30) 73 nett.

BDL to 82 nett C/B.

NTP: fifth Emma Hall, seventh Megan Elbaz, 10th Rhonda Boyd, 17th Emma Hall

Thursday November 30: Open

Stableford

Overall winner: Brenton O'Brien (17) 38 pts c/b.

A Grade winners: Heath Grace (15) 36 pts c/b from Geoff Daff (13) 36 points.

B Grade winners: Brenton O'Brien (17) 38 pts Rickardo Meder (18) 32 pts c/b.

C Grade winners: Paul Waylen (35) 38 points pts Rich Robin (23) 35 pts.

BDL to 32 pts c/b.

NTP: fifth Mike Fitzmaurice, seventh Rob Hayden, 10th Steve Sloss, 17th Syd Hadley

Open Nine-Hole Stableford

Winner: Alan Tindale (31) 19 pts from Ian Samuel (28) 17 points c/b.

Saturday December 2: Men's 18-Hole Stroke, Round 4 Championships

Unfortunately, this round was a wash out, thereby the men's final round of the championships will be held Saturday, December 9.

Women's 18-Hole Stroke Round 4 Championships for A and B Grade

This round was also cancelled however the championship was decided on the results at the end of Round 3. Emma Hall is our ladies Club Champion and Lorraine Hammon our B Grade Club champion.

Sunday December 3: Open 18-Hole Stableford

Winners: Mark Collison (9) 35 pt from Vincent Phelan (15) 31 pts.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: November 30, SR. 71. Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: Malcolm Stephenson 41. BDTL to 36.

Ball sweep: Frank Huber 38. Andrew Hooton-Shandley 37. Gary Youlten 36 and Philip McCrimmon 36.

Results: November 30, SR. 36.

Competition: Stableford back nine-hole.

Winner: Secondo Tiziani 22.

BDTL to 18.

Ball sweep: Bill Howard 21. Norm Burne 20, Ken Cuman 19 and Bob Cornelis 18.

Results: December 2, SR. 72.

Competition: MM and putting 18-hole.

Winner: A: Sam Dennis 74. B: John Walsh 68.

C: Bailey Harvey 63 (Monthly Medal).

BDTL to 74 C/B.

Ball sweep: Ken Cuman 70. Bill Howard 71, Doug Putt 71. Russell Parker 71, Mick Bourke 71, Graeme Crawford 71, Paul Cornelis 72, Norm Bourne 72, Frank Loughran 72 and Peter Dell 74 C/B.

NTPs: Jason Sartori second, Peter Dell fourth, Geoff Huther eighth propin, Peter Dell 13th and Peter Dell 17th money hole.

Putting: Kevin Bayley 28 puts.



Coasters' Jett Garnham moves the ball forward in the semifinal against Traralgon.

Coasters bound for grand final

CBL Women v Traralgon: Sunday, December 3 – semifinal.

The Coasters travelled to Traralgon to play higher ranked T-Birds in what was expected to be a tough game.

The local team got out to a great start with Gemma Thomas making some good outside shots to lead 16 to 11 at quarter time.

It was a great defensive quarter, with Tannah Lean and Courtney Blair putting great stops on Traralgon's tall to restrict them to one field goal for the quarter and six points in total to go into half time with a 14-point lead.

A free flowing third term saw more points scored by both teams, with young guns Eva Garnham, Olivia Bramley and Tiarnie Ellingworth scoring well to keep a 13-point lead at the last change.

The last term saw Traralgon challenge the Coasters and pull the lead back to one point with one minute remaining.

The cool heads of Alana McRae, Courtney Young and captain Gemma steadied the ship, and the Coasters ran away four-point winners to advance to their second CBL grand final in three years.

Leading scorers for Wonthaggi were Gemma Thomas with 18, Courtney Young with 15 and Olivia Bramley with 12 points.

The grand final is on Saturday, December 9, at 5.15pm at Cardinia Life Centre in Pakenham versus Korumburra.

Be sure to head on over to Pakenham this weekend to show your support and cheer on the women in the grand final.

CBL Men v Traralgon: Sunday, December 3 – semifinal.

The men also travelled to Traralgon to play second placed T-Birds.

They started strong with Angus Murdoch, Dom Tomasi and Jenson Garnham all making three pointers to take the Coasters out to an early 12 to three point lead.

Will Mortimore was dominating inside scoring at will.

A series of dubious calls then derailed the Coasters, with a questionable foul on Will Mortimore leading to two shots for Traralgon, which then lead to two technical fouls against Wonthaggi.

Mortimore then had to go to the bench with three early fouls.

Traralgon settled and led 30 to Wonthaggi 20 at quarter time.

Wonthaggi rallied in the second quarter with strong play by Xavier Hughes and some much-needed scoring by Jett Garnham and Toby Mahoney saw the Coasters creep closer to trail by seven at the half time break.

The third quarter saw the coasters draw within a couple of points with Will Mortimore scoring well and Xavier Hughes crashing the boards, but the lead got back out to 12 at the last change.

A big quarter was needed for the Coasters to advance to the grand final, with Jett and Jenson Garnham scoring well and Mortimore dominating inside the Coasters challenged but fell short by 10 points to go down to Traralgon 86-96.

It was a great but disappointing end to the men's season.

Leading scorers for Wonthaggi were Will Mortimore with 21 points, Jenson Garnham with 17 and Jett Garnham with 16 points respectively.



Nippers and Starfish Nippers programs are close to kicking off at the Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club for this season.

Visit the Deck bar at Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club this summer

WITH the only bar in Inverloch that overlooks the ocean and every cent spent going back into the Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club there is every reason to visit the Deck Bar this summer.

The Deck Bar and the Club itself is entirely self-funded and run by volunteers and together with the bars intake, donations, fundraising, grants and sponsorships keep the club afloat.

This week, a huge Nippers program, catering to between 250 and 300 children, aged between six and 13, kicks off.

Starfish nippers also begins which is a new one on one program where young people with

disabilities can participate in similar activities as nippers.

The first Bronze Camp starts from December 10 – 16 and is open to anybody who wants to become a life saver on the beach.

This training program is run on site at Inverloch and involves first aid scenarios, water awareness and rescues using boards and tubes.

Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club President Glenn Arnold said there are some exciting and unique elements to Surf Life Saving that young volunteers can be part of.

"They're doing things that you don't see other young people do around first aid,

around maintaining boats, driving boats, cruising the boats, driving ATVs."

Glenn commented that the camaraderie at the club and friends made through the club is really good and he has seen it shape the lives and careers of many members.

"We've got paramedics, we've got sports teachers, we've got people that have gone into those broader social services areas that have all been born out of a journey with lifesaving, so it's a pretty significant pathway."

Glenn would also be pleased to see many more local people joining the club as 80 per cent of members come from

Melbourne and this can be problematic with travel and peoples availability.

There are roles for everyone to fill, in and out of the water, with administration and management a huge part also, many hands are needed and welcomed, said Glenn.

The Club will also be celebrating their 25 year anniversary of the club opening in January.

Glenn's message to the public this summer, he said,

"As always, swim between the flags, be respectful of each other, understand what you're doing, understand the rules, engage with us, come and say hello, ask us questions."

Chelsea debuts in National League for the Meteors



Chelsea Moscript bowled 1/34 off 5.2 for ACT in her debut match against Tasmania.

FORMER Leongatha cricketer Chelsea Moscript made her debut with the ACT Meteors recently.

The Meteors are the women's representative cricket team for the ACT.

Chelsea said it was a really special experience and something she had always dreamed about.

"I moved to ACT last year through an opportunity to work at Cricket ACT in the community cricket space," she said.

"Since working here, they offered me the opportunity to train alongside the squad when I could balance it with work."

In her first game, ACT 147 lost to Tasmania 4/150.

"It was a pretty tough day from a team perspective. There were not enough runs on the board with the bat, but we showed great fight in the field and with the ball," Chelsea said.

Chelsea's figures were 1/34 off 5.2.

She will continue to train with the squad as much as she can, to continue to learn and become the best player she can be.

"I am still balancing full-time work and training two to three times a week," she said.

"Both my manager and the

coaches have been really supportive in letting me do what I do, which I am very grateful for."

From being forced into backyard cricket with her brothers, Chelsea made her debut with Koonwarra/Leongatha RSL at 10 years old.

From there, cricket has taken her all over the world, including Japan, Samoa, Hong Kong and Fiji.

She is now enjoying her time in her role with Cricket ACT and taking the cricket opportunities as they come.

"I want to continue learning and be the best I can be on and off the field. Wherever that takes me, I will be very happy," she said.

Chelsea thanked those who have supported her along the way.

"It was particularly special to have my mum and two grandmas come up to Canberra for a FIFO visit," she said.

"Thanks to my family at home for letting mum escape the farm for the day as well."

"I'm grateful to Rob Wood, who coached me as a youngster and who I still catch up with whenever I'm around. I'm also thankful for Koonwarra/Leongatha RSL, Cricket Without Borders and Dandenong for their support along my cricketing journey."

Strong LDCA representation in young Gippsland Pride side

FIVE up-and-coming Leongatha & District Cricket Association players have been selected to represent Gippsland Pride at the Under 16 Country Cup in Wodonga starting on Monday December 11.

Inverloch Cricket Club features prominently, with three of its talented young brigade making the Pride squad: Rhys Newman, Riley Harris, and Andot Mankhong.

Phillip Island Cricket Club's George McCausland and Heath Womersley are also set for Country Cup action.

Batting allrounder Newman, who bowls right arm medium pace, will captain the side. Harris is an opening batsman and wicketkeeper. While Mankhong was likely selected chiefly for his leg spin, he adds value as a middle order batsman.

Opening bowler McCausland has impressive pace for a 15-year-old, his talent seeing him represent the Sharks' strong A1 line up.

Womersley is an opening batsman who also bowls right arm medium pace, his batting earning him selection in Phillip Island's A1 team.

The side is coached by young local talent Evan Allaway who played his junior cricket for Korumburra and is now representing Casey South Melbourne in Premier Cricket.

LDCA Junior Committee Chairman, Scott Checkley said the Country Cup is a good opportunity for the competition's kids to test themselves against the best regional talent in Victoria. Checkley coached the Under 16 LDCA team that won the Gippsland Cricket League premiership last season.

"They were the best group of kids we've had come through in a long time," he said.

Gippsland Pride will play a mixture of one day and T20 cricket, testing itself against the North East Knights and the Northern Rivers sides during the pool stage of the tournament.

Parrots to unfurl 2023 flags in Round 1

THE official season 2024 fixture for the Gippsland League has been released. The schedule features 18 home and away matches with the season set to kick off on April 6.

The finals series will begin on the last day of August leading into the first weekend of September with the Grand Final scheduled for September 21.

Season 2024 will however be launched on Easter Saturday, March 30, with Bairnsdale hosting Traralgon in a special "Season Opener" match. This feature was trialled a few years ago with Wonthaggi and Drouin having a successful event and with both the Red Legs and Maroons keen to test the market in 2024, the match looks set to be an early season highlight.

The first round of competition will see a number of key matchups and local rivalries headlined by the A Grade Netball Grand Final rematch with Moe taking on Morwell at Ted Summerton Reserve.

Leongatha will also have the opportunity they wanted, being able to unfurl their Senior and Reserves premiership flags at Leongatha in a round 1 clash against Traralgon.

The Battle of the Birds between Maffra and Sale will also be a key fixture to look out for in the opening weekend of matches.

This year's draw has produced a number of feature rounds with Round 2 playing host to the annual Loy Yang B Mental Health round. Traralgon and Moe again headline that theme round with a night match scheduled at Traralgon.

The Senior Grand Final rematch will also take place in round 2 with Wonthaggi hosting Leongatha.

The Round 9 Kings Birthday weekend will also be a feature again with Bairnsdale hosting their annual 'Big Freeze' event against Sale on June 8. Moe have also indicated they would like to run a repeat of their 2023 MND event and will have the opportunity to do that at home against Wonthaggi.

Power appoint general manager

IN a first for the Gippsland Football Netball League, Brendan Knight was named general manager of the Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club.

Knight has served as club secretary for the last three years and has taken on the newly established role to minimise administration pressures on volunteers.

"We're the first club in the league to appoint a general manager, so we are trying to set the pace," he said.

"It's a part time role. We are testing the waters to see if that's enough to cater to the needs of the club."

As general manager, Knight will oversee the day-to-day operations of the club.

His responsibilities include, but are not limited to, managing administrative and financial affairs, coordinating events and sponsorship deals, supervising staff, maintaining effective communication channels and strategising ways to further enhance the club's performance both on and off the field.

"I'll be overseeing a range of different areas, led by the committee who will mandate what needs to be achieved," he said.

Knight was selected for the role due to his background as a former director of the Port Melbourne Football Club.

He has more than 25 years' experience in the finance industry and has held various leadership and project consultant roles.

His knowledge will assist the ongoing professional



Brendan Knight was appointed general manager of the Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club.

development at the club and drive the new strategic plan through to 2030.

Knight has shown commitment to Power for several years.

"I went overseas in 2016 and came back wanting a slower, more relaxed lifestyle. I had a holiday house this way and decided to make the move permanent," he said.

"I've grown up around football and cricket, so I was naturally drawn to local football club. I watched for three years and then was asked to get involved due to my previous experience."

"It's a community club with a real family vibe that has always been very welcoming. The hardest part can be coming from the city into a coun-

try club when you haven't grown up there, but Power has been a great club."

Currently, the club is working towards forming the budget for the upcoming season, looking to invest further in its youth development program.

"The program kicked off two years ago in response to a drop in participation in the 14 to 18 age group post COVID," Knight said.

"We need to get behind these juniors or there won't be a senior team. We need to make sure kids are getting back into their sport."

Power was unable to field an U16s team in 2020 and there was no U18s side last season.

The club is also focused on re-establishing its Youth

Girls team by 2025.

"We had a Youth Girls side before COVID but it dropped away, so there needs to be more work done in that space," Knight said.

Collingwood's Steele Side-bottom joined Power at pre-season training last Wednesday night, and Power will be hosting the Richmond Football Club this Wednesday from 10am to 12pm.

"We are trying to build relations with clubs from Melbourne," Knight said.

"AFL players come down here and talk about how they got to where they are and the sacrifices they've made, and it's encouraging for our players."

With pre-season off and running, Power is looking ahead to its 2024.

"Pre-season is going very well. Initially, you tend to see low numbers in the first few trainings, but Power is going strong," Knight said.

"The Seniors are looking to back up last year's efforts and go one game more. They are all driven and focused to get out there and achieve their first flag in the Gippsland League."

Power will continue to train for two more weeks before the Christmas break.

A pre-season camp will take place in January, and practice matches are planned for February and March.

Despite the appointment of the general manager, Power is deeply appreciative for the time and dedication given by its volunteers.

Volunteer help will be vital to support the role of general manager going forward.

LDCA young pair takes national stage



Koonwarra Leongatha RSL's Harry Hoekstra and Jarvis Harvey from Wonthaggi Club get ready to take on South Australia on Monday.

LEONGATHA & District Cricket Association (LDCA) is being represented in Cricket Australia's Under 19 National Championships by bowlers Harry Hoekstra of Koonwarra Leongatha RSL and Jarvis Harvey from Wonthaggi Club, who are playing for the Victoria Country side.

That representative team is coached by Nick Speak who played a season for Outram Moyarra Kongwak.

While Hoekstra had little chance in Round 1 to make an impact with the willow, coming in at number 11 and scoring two not out after Victoria Country chose to bat, he took the ball in the second over of the New South Wales Metro innings, quickly showing promise.

Hoekstra beat the bat during his first over and soon after got the outside edge of Harjas Singh's bat, having the New South Welshman caught behind for three from a rising delivery just outside off stump.

Hoekstra finished with 1/30 from seven overs after having 1/9 off his first four.

He showed a willingness to pitch the ball up and invite batsmen to drive, targeting the stumps and ensuring they had to play most balls.

New South Wales Metro proved too strong for Victoria Country, winning by four wickets.

Right arm quick bowler Harvey got his chance against Victoria Metro in Round 2, a game in which Victoria Country prevailed by 14 runs, largely pitching the ball up.

He managed 0/32 from his five overs.

Both LDCA players took the field for Victoria Country in Round 3 against Tasmania.

Neither captured a wicket, with Hoekstra conceding 31 off his seven overs and Harvey 24 from his five overs.

The pair has impressed in spin friendly conditions that prompted Tasmania to bowl just one quick against Victoria Country at Kiewa Recreation Reserve on Sunday.

That was also the venue for the clash between Victoria Country and Victoria Metro, with the opening game against New South Wales Metro at Lavington Sports Ground.

Harvey and Hoekstra have come up against high quality batsmen such as Victoria Metro's Harry Dixon who has a Melbourne Renegades contract.

Round 4 action took place yesterday, with Victoria Country taking on South Australia at Bunton Park in North Albury.

Top results in veteran's cricket

MEN'S Over 60: Perth WA – November 10 to 14.

Vic 1: Division 1 runner up – Gippsland Goanna Ray Smith was due to play with this team, but injured his calf just before the tournament and was unable to participate.

Vic 2: Division 2 premiers.

Vic 4: Division 3 premiers.

Vic 6: Division 4 third with three wins and a tie.

Goannas' Ray Floyd and Peter Anton played in this team, and said they should have won the tied game, and made the final – they missed on percentage.

Anton bowled 24 overs for the week, taking 4/87.

Floyd opened the batting, making 77 runs, with a best of 42, retired, in the final (and man-of-the-match).

Anton batted three times, made 59 runs and had a best of 31 not out.

Men's Over-70: Bunbury WA – November 23 to 28.

Vic 1: Division 1 – four wins, premiers. Goannas' captain Kevin Lanigan, opening bowler Ian Southall and wicket-keeper Ian Gibson played significant parts in this team's win.

They won game one by nine wickets, game two by nine wickets, and game three by 106 runs and the final by eight wickets.

Southall bowled 29 overs, had six maidens and took 6/54 for the week.

He also had an important run out in the final.

Lanigan batted two times for 20 runs, and Gibson had three catches, two stumpings, and two runouts for the week.

Neither Gibbo nor Southy were required to bat at all in the four games.

Vic 3: Division 2 had three wins and a loss and were third.

Goanna Gordon Cowling opened the bowling for this team, and tore his calf in game two, which was the 10-run loss to SA2. He was then team scorer for the final two games.

Men's Over-55 was held in Christchurch, New Zealand, November 23 to 27.

Graeme Rankin and Brenton Howe were part of the Vic 1 team in Division 1, which won three of four games.

Rankin had three innings, with a best of 32, while Howe usually opened the bowling and took four wickets for 68 runs from 27 overs, and took four catches in the field.

Geoff Kinnish played for Vic 2 in Division 2, winning two of four games, making 42 runs in three innings, with a best of 22.

The Over-50 Championships will take place around Melbourne next week.

Women's Over-40: Wollongong NSW – November 19 to 23

Vic 1: Division 1 – three wins, three losses, fifth.

Vic 2: Division 2 – five wins, premiers.

Vic 3: Division 3 – five wins, one loss, premiers.

Vic 4: Division 4 – two wins, two losses, third.



Goannas' opener Ray Floyd from Sale cuts.

Goannas four down to South Gippsland

THE South Gippsland Over 60s scored their first win against Gippsland Goannas at Leongatha on Sunday.

After consistent rain over the previous few days, the match was shifted from the turf wicket at Scorpion Park in Leongatha to a synthetic wicket at East Campus, home of the Leongatha Imperials Cricket Club.

The ground was in excellent condition, but with a slow outfield.

Goannas captain Rino Metlikovec won the toss and batted.

The Goannas were soon in trouble when Ray Floyd was caught for five and Mark Brown was bowled for a duck.

Barrie Nunn joined Ray Smith and worked hard to restore the innings.

Nunn was eventually bowled for four off 44 balls, and Smith was joined by Rob Taylor with the score on three for 25.

Taylor batted with enterprise to retire on 40 off 54 balls, and Smith was caught for 28.

Rino Metlikovec (17 not out), Rob Bacchetti (14) and Anton De Vent (six not out) took the score to six for 118 after the allotted 40 overs.

The score looked a little light, but gave the Goannas bowlers a chance for a win.

However, South Gippsland's Peter Miller (40) and Rob Fran-



Churchill's Ray Smith drives for the Goannas.

cis (12) both retired after a bright start, while Peter Little, Neil White and Tony Latham all made contributions.

The Goannas did not take a wicket until the score reached 104, then took four.

Ray Smith bowled three overs to take two for seven, while Mark Brown and Bar-

rie Nunn took wickets.

Catches were taken by Murray Moore, Mark Brown and Ian Gibson, while Gibson also had one stumping.

It was a solid victory by a well-balanced South Gippsland side, who finished with four for 119 off 34 overs.

South Gippy Kookas prevail over the Goannas

THE Super Match between the unbeaten Kookas and Goannas Over 60's finally took place last Sunday.

After Leongatha Town did everything possible to get Scorpion Park "UP" - a shift was readily agreed to by Sauvy and Pistol to the "Dry as a Bone" East Campus!!!

The Wiley Goannas won the toss and batted. Master Blaster Loos soon had the Goannas "on the ropes", snaring two quick poles. Flight Captain Francis chimed in with, well flight and accuracy. Cycling Lej.

Neil White kept it tighter than Trump v Biden and Ol Grayzer Wighty joined him.

Burkey Burke, Professor Newton and Geoff Birnie burnt for wickets, finally restricting our nemesis to 6/118 off their 40 overs. Wazza Hayes was Rod Marsh like behind the pegs!!

A feeding frenzy then ensured in the historic Imps sheds. Next Vic central Pete Millzy continued his blitz-krieging form with a sublime 40no, ably supported by Burra Lej. Francis 12no, both blunting the champion

Ian Southall. Peter Perfect Little, 14no., Prez White 16no. (In front of his grandson Paddy!!) and new boy, Tony Latham a superb 24no.

A late slippage occurred but betta not discussed!!

Thanks to Pistol Grey for helping both sides socialise post-match. Next week it's back to Leongatha headquarters at the Rec, where the Kookas will continue their quest for fun, great cricket and hopefully another victory - or not - but friendship and frivolity will definitely follow!!!

NEXT WEEKEND'S GAMES & UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

ROUND 8 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 & 16, 2023

A GRADE, Division 1

Inverloch v Town (Inverloch Turf)
Ken Scrimshaw

Imperials v Club (East Campus)
John Schelling

Nerrena v Korumburra (Leongatha Turf)
Ashleigh Stride

Phillip Island v OMK (Newhaven)
Ian Salmon

A Grade, Division 2

Foster v Nerrena (Foster GC)
Les White

Kilcunda-Bass v Club (Bass 1)
Graham Wightman & Oscar Tuchtan

MDU v Koon L/RSL (Meeniyian)
Glenn Plymin

Glen Alvie v Nyora (Wonthaggi Turf)
Gary Quilty

B GRADE, Division 1

OMK v MDU (Outtrim)
Brad Phillips

Korumburra v P-Island (Korumburra Rec)
Neil Graham

Town v Imperials (Scorpion 1)
TBA

Koon L/RSL v Inverloch (Koonwarra)
Geoff Parkinson

B GRADE, Division 2

Nerrena v OMK (Nerrena)
Michael Ryan

Korumburra v Glen Alvie (Poowong)
TBA

Phillip Island v Kilcunda-Bass (Rhyll)
TBA

Club v Foster (McMahon)
Geoff Wyatt

C GRADE

Town v Inverloch (Scorpion Pk 2)
Michael Heenan

Kilcunda Bass v Glen Alvie (Bass 2)
TBA

MDU v Koon L/RSL (Dumbalk)
TBA

Nyora v Korumburra (Nyora)
TBA

Club v Phillip (Dalyston)
TBA

Subject to Confirmation.
Any prospective umpires can contact
Jason O'Reilly 0439 688 575
or Geoff Wyatt 0413 081 136



Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club Inc.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023
7pm at Power Rooms

- To confirm minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on December 8, 2022.
- To receive committee reports.
- To elect officers of the Association and ordinary members of the committee for a term of not less than 12 months.

BRENDAN KNIGHT
General Manager



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Winds of change ideal for Inverloch yachts

THE sun finally broke through after a week of rain in Inverloch on Sunday and with it came a stiff breeze blowing across Anderson Inlet making for ideal conditions for the South Gippsland Yacht Club's Commodore Series of races.

And among those enjoying the consistent wind was new state Impulse champion, Matt Keily.

Matt came out on top at the State titles at Chelsea on the weekend of the 12th and 13th of November, at an event where all four South Gippsland yachters competing came away with something.

Toby Leppin won the Masters event and Geoff Rippingale won the Grand Masters and Henry Mueller was second in the Masters.

"I've finished second before and had placings but that's the first time I've won the State title in an Impulse," said Matt.

There are quite a few Impulse boats at Inverloch, according to Matt, because they suit the changing conditions in the inlet.

"The nationals are on between Christmas and New Year at Lake Albert in South Australia, a fresh water lake near the mouth of the Murray River.

"I'd like to go but we'll just have to wait and see," said Matt.

SGYC Commodore Simon Wilson was pleased to see a lot of boats out on the water.

"We opened the season on the last weekend of October but it's been a pretty mixed season so far, with the weather, but today is the

best we've had. Terrific."

Some of the yachts are making 20 knots ahead of the wind with the Mosquitoes and Typhoons regularly getting up on one hull and the monohulls also making good time around the course.

"We've usually got one series or another going, plus there's individual races like the Tarwin marathon which is on one day.

"We've also got the Wood Dinghy Festival in February. That's a good one," said Simon.

"We race every Sunday."

RIGHT: South Gippsland Yacht Club member, Matt Keily, dismantles the rigging on his Impulse yacht after an invigorating day of racing at Inverloch last Sunday.

State Impulse Champion Matt Keily (yellow boat) in action in Anderson Inlet on a delightfully windy day last Sunday.



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