

Sentinel-Times

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HANDS OFF GEELONG!

FIRST it was the Bass Coast Shire Council's rising star, CEO Ali Wastie.

Now it's the shire's most important General Manager, its key planning executive, James Stirton, who has been headhunted by the City of Greater Geelong.

It can't be a coincidence that Mr Stirton would have followed Ms Wastie, three short months after her own appointment as Geelong CEO.

The news, first published on the Geelong City website, last Wednesday, December 6, has left local councillors shellshocked.

Phillip Island Councillor Ron Bauer termed it a "huge loss to the shire, especially Phillip Island".

He has acknowledged that he would have liked to see Mr Stirton appointed to replace Ms Wastie at Bass Coast.

"To give him his due, though, he has been entirely honourable and didn't apply for the position. Things were already clearly in motion."

The Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve said the position of Bass Coast CEO wasn't offered to Mr Stirton.

Should it have been? asked the Sentinel-Times at the weekend.

"We are involved in a very thorough process (for the appointment of the CEO)," Cr Le Serve said, "and we certainly wish James all the best, he's been a credit to himself, and to Bass Coast and it certainly sets the bar high for his replacement."

"It's a great opportunity for him, he's a great bloke and an excellent manager. Bass Coast's loss is certainly Geelong's gain."

Continued page 3



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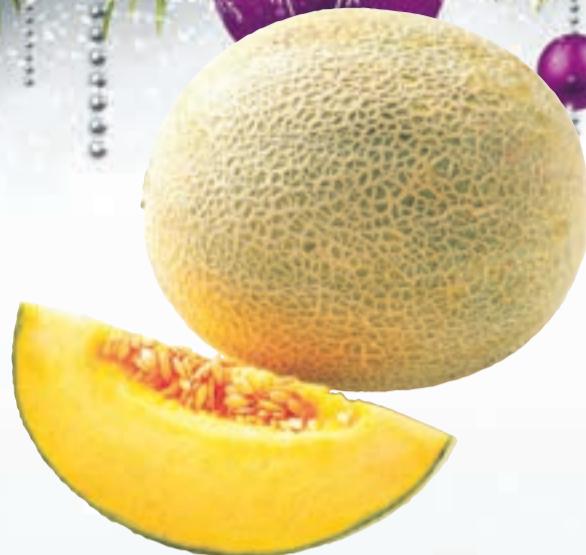
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Doctor jailed for accessing 'highly depraved' child abuse material

THE community of Wonthaggi and district, including the many local mothers who had their children delivered and treated by former Wonthaggi obstetrics doctor and GP Rick Whitehouse, have been left shocked, dismayed, and angry by the disturbing revelations concerning Dr Whitehouse at the weekend.

It follows the sentencing of Rick Whitehouse, 64, in the Melbourne County Court last Friday, December 8, after earlier this year pleading guilty to two charges, one of possessing or controlling child abuse material and another of "using a carriage service to access child abuse material" that is, via the internet.

Details about the files of child abuse material, accessed on 481 occasions by Dr Whitehouse between August 6, 2022 and February 4, 2023, were read out in court, for the record, by Judge Anne Hassan.

It revealed in full the deprived nature of the material accessed online by Dr Whitehouse, in a clandestine process, using supplied links and passwords, to a cloud-based porn site via a coin-based cryptocurrency account, to obtain 300 images and 46 videos of child abuse material.

The child abuse videos, according to evidence provided to the court, depicted male and female children, assessed as being between three and 15 years of age, engaging in penetrative sexual acts with other children and webcam style videos with close-ups of children's genitalia.



As well as being a popular and well-known Wonthaggi doctor, Rick Whitehouse was a keen local sportsperson.

Further, more explicit descriptions of the deprived nature of this material were read into the court record by Judge Hassan to explain the nature of the offending. Acting on advice from the Australian Federal Police, who received communications about the purchase of child abuse material through an account set up by Dr Whitehouse in August 2021, but using his own credit card, police executed a search warrant at the doctor's residence on February 9, 2023 where more offensive material was found on the doctor's laptop. This included a further 12 child abuse videos and 10 child abuse photos while forensic analysis also revealed that

Whitehouse had access to another 23 child abuse files.

The former doctor practiced in Wonthaggi continuously from 1994 to February 2023, when he voluntarily relinquished his Australian Health Practitioner registration. He previously worked in Sale, New Guinea, Wonthaggi, Hamilton and north-west Western Australia before returning to Wonthaggi in 1994.

In sentencing Dr Whitehouse to a term of imprisonment of 16 months, with a minimum of three months to serve, Judge Hassan said she took into account that he had pleaded guilty at the earliest opportunity, had co-operated fully with police, had expressed remorse and demonstrated a willingness to promptly commence treatment for his offending behaviour.

Despite exhibiting no behavioural problems at either a young age, or later in life, Dr Whitehouse has since been diagnosed as having a compulsive sexual behaviour disorder, not only involving his access to child abuse material, but also a "long-standing interest in spanking as a sexual fantasy" and female underwear.

The court heard that Whitehouse had no desire to have sexual contact with underage females, that he had no sexual interest in boys and knew his behaviour was wrong but that he previously believed he wasn't hurting anyone by looking at pictures and videos that were already there.

Turning to his character, Judge Hassan said Dr Whitehouse had no criminal record and had been provided with personal references by his mother, brother, son and daughter, as well as professional references, several of them by local colleagues.

"It is clear you have been a diligent and dedicated local GP working long hours in a small community."

Dr Whitehouse's involvement with local sporting groups was also acknowledged.

However, Judge Hassan said that the material accessed by Whitehouse was of a "highly depraved nature" and while he may not have understood that his behaviour was skewing the market towards the exploitation of children, he knew this activity was wrong from the outset.

The judge said that the sentence she handed down not only needed to be appropriate to the offending but also had to provide a measure of deterrence to others.

Starting last Friday, Dr Whitehouse was sentenced to 15 months imprisonment on Charge 1 and three months on Charge 2, one month not served concurrently, for a total of 16 months. Taking into account his remorse and that he was unlikely to reoffend but also that his moral culpability was high, Judge Hassan ordered that three months be served in jail, and 13 months suspended, pending completion of two years of good behaviour.

Hands off Geelong!

From page 1

Was it a missed opportunity? Does the mayor blame former CEO Ali Wastie for headhunting Mr Stirton.

"No, there are a limited number of people at this level. It regularly happens in Local Government," she said.

Cr Le Serve said she expected the council to be able to name a successor for Ms Wastie either before Christmas or very early in the New Year.

The appointment of a General Manager Place Making, especially with the significant challenges ahead for Bass Coast, including the major review of its Statement of Planning Policy (SPP) driven by the controversial Distinctive Area and Landscape process, looms as the new CEO's first and most important task.

Mr Stirton starts his new job at Geelong as 'Executive Director City Infrastructure' on January 22, 2024.

Among his roles at Bass Coast are Strategic and Statutory Planning, Recreation and Transport, Major Projects and Infrastructure Delivery (Civil design, construction and asset management).

Attracting planning executives is believed to be the hardest recruitment call in Victorian Local Government at the moment, harder even than finding a new CEO.

Bass Coast will have to do both in the next few months.

Also joining the executive leadership team at Geelong is former East Gippsland Shire CEO, Anthony Bassford, a colleague of Ms Wastie's on the 'One Gippsland' board.

Ali Wastie's rise up the government and local government ladder has been nothing short of meteoric:

- On August 10, 2022, the Minister for Environment and Climate Action Lily D'Ambrosio issued a media release to announce the appointment of Ali Wastie as the Chair of the Board for Alpine Resorts Victoria.

- On August 17, 2022, Bass Coast Council extended the contract of the CEO Ali Wastie for five years until February 17, 2028.

- In June 2023, Ali Wastie was appointed CEO of the City of Greater Geelong after the Victorian Minister for Local Government Melissa Horne had appointed two monitors to oversee the CEO selection process.

- In September 2023, Ali Wastie was appointed chair of the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds Joint Venture, to oversee the \$108 million redevelopment of showgrounds in a joint venture between the show society the State Government and its private sector partners PPP Solutions, comprising International Public Partnerships Limited and Brookfield Global Integrated Solutions.

- Ms Wastie joined Bass Coast as CEO in February 2019 after stints at the City of Melbourne and Yarra Ranges Council between 2013 and 2019.

'Missing man' call prompts full-scale search



Police, fire brigade, SES and ambulance responded when the call went out about a missing man, off the rocks, at The Oaks.

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SOUTH
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TUE | Dec 12
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: E 15-25km/h
Wind PM: Light
17° 27°



WED | Dec 13
Possible storm.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light
17° 28°



THUR | Dec 14
Shower or two.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: NW-SW 25-35km/h
16° 23°



FRI | Dec 15
Possible shower.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: W-SW 15-20km/h
13° 21°



SAT | Dec 16
Shower or two.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: W 15-25km/h
12° 20°



SUN | Dec 17
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h
12° 21°

IN BRIEF

Split your bill into smaller drops this festive season

GIPPSLAND Water is reminding customers that bill assistance is available for those who need it as the festive season begins.

Managing director Sarah Cumming said the organisation understood the festive period could be a financially challenging time, especially when cost of living pressures rise.

"We understand our customers are being impacted by the ongoing increased cost of living in all aspects of life," Ms Cumming said.

"Families can often feel the pinch during the festive season, and they don't need the added stress of an overdue water bill payment.

"Our customer care team is available to help people who need a little longer to pay a bill or information about longer term assistance.

"We offer a range of flexible payment plans, and our team can confidentially help customers explore the options available to them.

"They can also help customers apply for government utility relief grants, provide referrals to financial counsellors and government assistance programs."

Flexible payment plans include options to pay bills in smaller regular instalments tailored to individual needs, or payment extensions for those who need a little longer to pay their bill.

To find out more about the assistance Gippsland Water can provide or to request a call back from the customer care team visit gippswater.com.au/customercare.

Takes time at State Coal Mine

YOU can walk around and have your own above-ground tour at the State Coal Mine in Wonthaggi but despite

receiving \$1.5 million from the Minister for Environment Ingrid Stitt back in July "to restore the famous mine and reopen tours" it seems the wheels of industry are grinding slowly.

In a newsletter last week, the Friends of the State Coal Mine have advised that the lease on the café has been let, and is set to open in January next year, but the underground tours? Not so much.

Shiela Ormerod of the 'Friends' group asks, "if not now, then when".

"It's well past time when we should be seeing action there. It's my understanding the Parks Vic have the money, so let's get on with it or all of the volunteers will have drifted away.

OCEAN Sounds presents Steph Strings and Friends this Friday, December 15 at the magnificent new arts centre in Cowes, Berninnett from 7.30pm to 9pm.

This up and coming Melbourne born singer-songwriter is fresh from a tour of the UK and Europe playing multiple sold out headline shows.

Steph's musical style entails bursts of percussion alongside Celtic, blues and coastal finger style indie-rock taking influences from the John Butler Trio, Kim Churchill and Ziggy Alberts.

Bookings via trybooking.com

International airport bid takes flight

A FORMER wartime air-strip in Caldermeade near Lang Lang is again being touted as the ideal site for a new international passenger and freight airport, whose time has come according to the Greater South East Melbourne (GSEM) advocacy group.

With the potential to create

thousands of jobs, and provide easy access to the Mornington Peninsula, Yarra Valley and Phillip Island, it could potentially be Australia's first fully sustainable airport, according to a GSEM submission to the Federal Government's Aviation Green Paper.

GSEM chair Simon McKeon said the proposal made "economic, practical and environmental sense", claiming now was the right time to start planning such a development.

The Department of Infrastructure and Transport is now reviewing the submissions received, which will help inform the White Paper, expected to be released in mid-2024."

McCartin Street tobacconist hit

A SPECIALIST tobacco shop in McCartin Street Leongatha was hit by vandals last Thursday, December 7, when a huge rock was hurled through the shop's plate-glass window.

However, the incident was not connected with the spate of damage caused, mostly to metropolitan tobacco stores as part of a turf war involving organised crime.

The local shop reported that the matter was in the hands of police after CCTV showed youths smashing the window and escaping with a large quantity of legal vaping devices.

Metal shutters have been fitted to the store while arrangements are made for the window's repair.

Six vehicles hit at Wonthaggi Hospital

A NEW car for Christmas is on the list for six people after a car smashed into the six vehicles at Wonthaggi Hospital last Wednesday afternoon (December 6).

The cause is being investigated by Inverloch Police;

however, it is understood the driver was at the hospital for an appointment.

The trail of destruction in the top carpark also pushed a vehicle into the free-standing wall in front of the old hospital entrance, with structural engineers heading to scene to ensure the wall was still structurally safe.

Fortunately no-one was injured.

Hunting forum invitation

SHADOW Parliamentary Secretary for Public Land Use and The Nationals Member for Eastern Victoria, Melina Bath invites you to a free outdoor recreation and game bird hunting forum.

The Nationals oppose a ban and will continue to fight on behalf of Victoria's 60,000 licensed hunters.

Guest speakers include Field & Game, other hunting advocates, Deputy Leader of The Nationals, Shadow Minister for Agriculture Emma Kealy & other members of Parliament.

The forum will take place on Monday December 18 at 6.30pm at the Wonthaggi Workmens Club.

Carolers are caroling

ALL is in Readiness for Inverloch Community Carols at the Glade on Saturday evening, December 16, and Wonthaggi Community Carols on Sunday, December 17.

The free community events are organised by local churches and sponsored by local businesses.

As well as celebrating a shared message of hope for Christmas, the events will showcase local musical talent, being fun and family friendly.

Pre-carols entertainment begins at 5.30pm, with carolers taking to the stage for all your favourites from 6.30pm at Inverloch and 7pm at Wonthaggi.



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Island fire station opens

ALL the top brass were there; Chief Fire Officer Jason Heffernan, Deputy Chief Officer Trevor Owen, Assistant Chief Officers Michael Owen and Jamie Hansen, Commander Phil Rogan, Group Officer Damien O'Connor, Phillip Island Captain Lino Drazzi and Bass MP Jordan Crugnale, herself a Pound Creek fire fighter, life members of the brigade and more. It was big day for the Phillip Island Fire Brigade last Saturday, December 9 when they opened their new \$3.3 million fire station on Ventnor Road, on the edge of Cowes.

And they would all have been pleased to hear the caution from MC for the day, Murray Johnston, that despite being a special day, the fire station remained fully operational and if called to do so, the members in attendance would have to answer the call.

But, on the ideal day for a fire station opening, wet and dreary outside, hence the attendance of the state's top brass, there was no such emergency call, and neither the services of the back-up crew from Wonthaggi, nor the local fire fighters were needed on the day.

It all went off like clockwork.

Despite the wet and cool conditions, Chief Officer Heffernan said days of peak fire danger could still arrive all of a sudden, like they did in the state's north west last Friday, and the impact of climate change was that days like that would be more regular and more severe, hence the need for new facilities like this one at Phillip Island.

"That's why we are continuing to invest in our capacity, to keep the community safe," CFO Heffernan said.

"When you see these old Austin Fire Pumpers," he said indicating the fully-restored truck from



All the top brass was in attendance for the Phillip Island Fire Station opening on Saturday, including from left, Chief Fire Officer Jason Heffernan, Phillip Island CFA Captain Lino Drazzi, Bass MP Jordan Crugnale, herself a fire fighter and Group Officer Damien O'Connor.

the 1950s in the new shed, "you realise that we have come a long way, such is the investment in facilities, equipment, technology and training."

Representing the Emergency Services Minister, Jaclyn Symes, it was Jordan Crugnale's job to officially open the facility after the Allan Government had committed \$2.6 million to the project, ensuring the brigade is well-equipped to provide emergency support to the local community and surrounding areas.

The new station, she said, featured a meeting room equipped with training resources to support brigade and community education, a modern kitchen, office rooms, workshop and storage areas, and a breathing apparatus room.

The large engine bay houses the brigade's numerous firefighting vehicles, and includes direct access to two separate change areas for members, enhancing efficiency during an emergency.

The station also includes parking facilities for members, a secure backyard with enough space for onsite training, and a

back-up generator to ensure the station can always be powered.

The brigade is supported by its membership of 57 volunteers, of which 20 are female. Ms Crugnale was delighted to acknowledge.

"It has responded to 166 callouts since the beginning of the year, including rescues, fires and explosions, and hazardous conditions," Ms Crugnale said.

The brigade has served the Phillip Island community for almost 90 years, and for more than 60 years worked out of Settlement Road in Cowes.

Located in District 8, the brigade forms part of the CFA Bass Coast Group along with Bass, Corinella, Dalyston, French Island, Glen Alvie, Kurnot-Grantville, Kilcunda, San Remo and Wonthaggi brigades.

"It's such an honour to be part of the official opening and celebration of this new fire station and I want to take this opportunity to thank the leadership team, including former Captain Gary Grace, and members for their fierce advocacy and determination, their remarkable

fundraising efforts to make this a reality and our generous local community who have walked beside them in support," Ms Crugnale said.

"Our firefighters now have a stunning, spacious and fit for purpose modern facility which enables them to continue their incredible work protecting the Phillip Island and surrounding community during emergencies.

"This is a remarkable tight knit, highly regarded and respected brigade, a big family that is literally visually enmeshed in our community – whether it is beyond the fireground at their regular street BBQ's, at local events like the Moto GP and markets, educational visits to schools or forming strike teams at a moment's notice to go to fire affected areas such as recently in East Gippsland and Queensland.

"They work incredibly hard and are super dedicated volunteers that support, inform, and keep us safe in so many ways."

All the more meritorious is that the Phillip Island Fire Brigade is run 100 per cent by volunteers.

Why the start to fire restrictions is important

BY MONDAY next week, December 18, Bass Coast, French Island, and South Gippsland, together with Latrobe, Baw Baw and Cardinia will have entered the annual Fire Danger Period.

And while it doesn't look like we're in any sort of danger now, according to Bass Coast CFA Group Officer, Damien O'Connor, conditions can change very quickly.

"You can get days like last Friday out of the blue and while it has been pretty wet around here, there's a lot of fuel out there, and it will dry off eventually," said Damien this week.

"The biggest threat in Bass Coast and South Gippsland is grass fires and coastal peat and the fact that they interface with many of our coastal towns.

"The problem is the interface areas and they need to be cleaned up.

"When it does come, it will come with a bang, so we have to clean up now. I can't stress enough the importance of having a personal fire plan. It is going to come one year, and this could be the year."

Things to do to prepare the property include:

- Mowing lawns: grass should be kept short (no more than 10 cm high).
- Rake up leaves and small twigs.
- Remove lower branches of trees.
- Prune shrubs and keep them away from windows.
- Don't put flammable mulch on gardens (use rocks or pebbles).
- Move wood piles away from the house.
- Move doormats and furniture away from the house, decks and verandahs.
- Keep gutters clean.
- Move flammable liquids away from the house.
- Even if your family plans to leave before a fire (which is the safest thing to do) preparing the property is very important because it will reduce the impact of fire on the house.

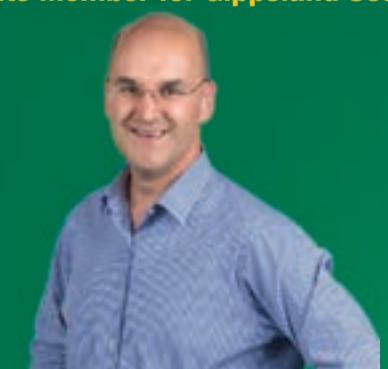
Once the Fire Danger Period has been declared, fire restrictions come into force. This means you cannot light a fire in the open air unless you have a permit or comply with certain requirements.

If you don't obtain a permit, you could be breaking the law and may be prosecuted.

Local municipalities may also have their own local laws in relation to lighting fires so you should contact your local council to find out what local laws may be in place.

A Total Fire Ban Day can be declared at any time throughout the year, when no fires can be lit in the open air at all.

Danny O'BRIEN MP
State Member for Gippsland South



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Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Le Serve



HELLO Bass Coast, I hope this message finds you well. I am delighted to share some exciting updates and important information about recent events and ongoing initiatives in our vibrant community.

Last week marked a significant collaboration between the Bass Coast Shire Council and three of our region's largest employers: Phillip Island Nature Parks, Westernport Water, and Bass Coast Health. Together, we launched a community campaign focused on how we can all play active roles in fostering safety and well-being within our communities, homes, and workplaces.

As part of the United Nations' international campaign, "16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence," we hosted a public event on Tuesday, December 5, at Apex Park in Wonthaggi. The Big Respect Pop-up featured the talented artist PollyannaR and aimed to raise awareness and promote solidarity in eliminating gender-based violence. This initiative runs annually from November 25 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) to December 10 (International Human Rights Day).

Let the festive spirit continue!

Grantville already had a wonderful Carols event on the 10th, and there are more opportunities to showcase your singing talent. Check out the upcoming Carols in various locations and join in the joyous celebrations. Brace yourselves for spectacular Fireworks starting on the 12th, lighting up the sky in various locations over the coming weeks. You can check out our website for exact events happening.

I'm thrilled to report the success of the Inverloch Street Party, which saw a fantastic turnout. It was

fantastic to hear so many people enjoyed the festivities, including our beloved dinosaurs donning Christmas hats as part of the Bass Coast Dinosaurs Trail.

Bass Coast also played host to the Richmond Tigers last week who came down to enjoy pre-season training at Inverloch, Kilcunda and at the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve which had a huge public turnout! There were hundreds of local fans in attendance with television broadcast showcasing our regional sporting facilities and the natural beauty of our environment and first class hospitality!

As we embrace the beauty of the season, it's hard not to notice the rapid growth of grass due to recent weather and abundant rainfall. Rest assured, our Council staff are actively addressing concerns about long grass around parks and reserves. Our mowers are working tirelessly as part of the regular maintenance program, with additional scheduling to ensure the grass stays as short as possible.

Our goal is to present a community with neatly trimmed grass on both Council and private properties for a joyous Christmas.

If you have any concerns about long grass that needs attention, please log a Customer Request through Council's Customer Portal at www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/contact. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us maintain a safe and beautiful environment for all.

If you're still thinking of the Christmas shopping you need to do - please remember we have so many lovely shops with a wide array of gifts and vouchers. Let's keep it local.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in building a strong and connected community in Bass Coast.

COUNCIL BRIEFS

Digging deep to fund dinosaur trail

THE Bass Coast Shire Council's plans to augment its offering to visitors by establishing the Bass Coast Dinosaurs Trail has passed another milestone by being invited to make a formal application to the Federal Government's Growing Regions Fund, which provides grants of between \$500,000 and \$15 million to local government entities and not-for-profit organisations for worthy projects.

The sticking point is that Bass Coast will have to find \$3 million, to match the possible \$3 million grant for the fund.

At this week's council meeting, the shire will reveal how they intend to raise those funds.

Council approval is being sought to access funds for San Remo and Kilcunda locations of the Dinosaurs Trail from the Public Open Space Contribution Fund (\$500,000).

While it is also envisaged that there be a redistribution of Council reserve funds (\$1 million) to fit with the requirements of the grant guidelines, should the application be successful.

Council has so far allocated \$2.5 million in the long-term financial plan (LTFP) to support projects associated with the Dinosaurs Trail.

The Dinosaurs Trail will reveal the fascinating world of polar dinosaurs through creative and immersive works across sites at Inverloch, The Caves, Eagles Nest, Wonthaggi, Kilcunda and San Remo.

In October 2021, Council purchased a site for the Gondwana Garden Sound and Light experience.

In 2022, Council received a State Government Investment Fast Track Funding grant of \$500,000 to undertake detailed design. This design was completed in October 2023.

Special charge petition goes nowhere

DESPITE the tabling of a petition signed by 317 people, urging council not to abandon the Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay Special Charge Scheme, the council is expected to do

exactly that, abandon the scheme, at its council meeting this Wednesday.

"How can it be reasonable," asks the head petitioner, Lou Pecora, "for absent property owners (regular holiday home users excluded), to have control over the future health and wellbeing of permanent?"

Mr Pecora is referring to the small matter of only three per cent of people affected by the scheme, needing to swing across and support it, for the \$30 million road and draining project to go ahead.

However, while council will table the petition at its meeting this week, they are likely to say they are hamstrung by government legislation:

"The project cannot proceed in accordance with Section 163B (6) of the Local Government Act 1989 as a majority of property owners liable for the charge have objected."

End of story, or so it would seem.

Why Bass Coast needs more land for industry

BASS Coast is going ahead in leaps and bounds when it comes to housing, but it could do with more business and industry development.

And with that in mind, council has published a new discussion paper canvassing the need for industrial-zoned land.

The Council as the Planning Authority has a statutory obligation to ensure there is enough land available for industrial land use.

Currently in Bass Coast, there are seven industrial precincts comprising 90 hectares of industrial land, of which 20.5ha is undeveloped but only 8ha available.

The projected demand over the coming years to 2036 could range from 26ha to 36ha of gross industrial land, or between 1ha and 2ha per annum but nonetheless, the shire needs to find more, hence the discussion paper.

The shire notes that while there is sufficient land to accommodate the shire's needs, the State Government's Bass Coast Distinctive Areas, and Landscapes

Project (Bass Coast DAL), through its Draft Statement of Planning Policy identifies the future supply in Grantville as not being suitable for industrial use, effectively halving the future supply.

Go-ahead for stage two of Mahers Landing

IT'S not entirely clear whether or not the Bass Coast Shire Council is being asked to commit further funds to the Mahers Landing Boat Ramp project in order for it to go ahead.

But the council is likely to give the green light to Stage Two of the project at its council meeting this Wednesday.

Better Boating Victoria made a significant investment of \$4.2 million for Part 1 (Construction of a new boat ramp, rock revetment and jetty) and this project was awarded in June 2023.

To complete the remaining works, BBV and Council have signed a funding agreement in the order of \$1.2 million plus an additional 20 per cent contingency of \$240,000, including a contribution of \$150,000 from council's capital works budget.

Work is currently progressing and council is set to endorse the funding agreement this week.

Council set to drop its cemeteries

THE management of cemeteries is not the core business of Council, according to the Bass Coast Shire Council which is expected to decide at this week's council meeting to commence the statutory procedures needed to abolish and amalgamate Wonthaggi Cemetery Trust and San Remo Cemetery Trust with Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust.

"Despite local government's long involvement in the management of cemeteries, it is a service that councils are actively moving away from," according to a report to be tabled at this week's meeting.

"Council currently has a minimum service offering, and the community would benefit from other services that could be offered

through amalgamation with a Class A Cemetery Trust," said the council as one of its main reasons for exiting cemetery management.

However, the shire has had a checkered history throughout its long-term history with the Wonthaggi Cemetery in particular.

"At its March 15, 2023 meeting, Council resolved to explore and determine the requirements for a potential transfer of management of Wonthaggi Cemetery Trust and San Remo Cemetery Trust from Bass Coast Shire Council acting as the Trust, to SMCT. The report estimated the financial obligation to range between \$3.8 million - \$5 million."

For Wonthaggi and San Remo Cemetery Trusts to seek abolition, a community consultation process is required. Council officers plan to start a community consultation through Engage Bass Coast on Friday, January 19, 2024 for the abolition and potential amalgamation of the cemetery trusts. The consultation will run over a five-week period, closing on February 22, 2024. However, it already appears to be a fait accompli.

Council acts on 'no fossil fuel' policy

THE Bass Coast Shire Council is continuing to take a principled approach to where it invests the community's money, shying away from any financial institutions that funds fossil fuel companies.

The course of action, which aligns with the shire's Climate Change Action Plan 2020-2030, has resulted in its Investment Policy being reviewed one year ahead of schedule.

Despite taking a socially-aware position on its investments, the shire still has as one of its guiding principles, to maximise returns, while divesting itself of fossil fuel investments.

Council's commitment to a fossil fuel divestment stance will position it as a local government sector leader in this regard, according to a report to this Wednesday's council meeting.

Cardboard belongs in your yellow-lidded Recycling bin



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



SOUTH GIPPSLAND BEEKEEPERS

Beginner Beekeeping Course

Have you been wondering if beekeeping is for you? Enrol in this locally run course to learn about beekeeping.

January 20th 2024 10am-3pm in Leongatha. Field Day to follow later.

CONTACT PETER OR BRON

newbeesgb@gmail.com

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE: southgippslandbeekeepers.org.au



Luke Johnson of TS Constructions takes a moment to show the works currently being undertaken at the old railway station. C23_5023

What's going on at the Wonthaggi Railway Station Museum, a lot they say

AFTER many years the project to glass-in the platform and increase the exhibition space for the Wonthaggi & District Historical Society's incredible collection of artefacts is under way. We are looking forward to a Grand Opening mid 2024!

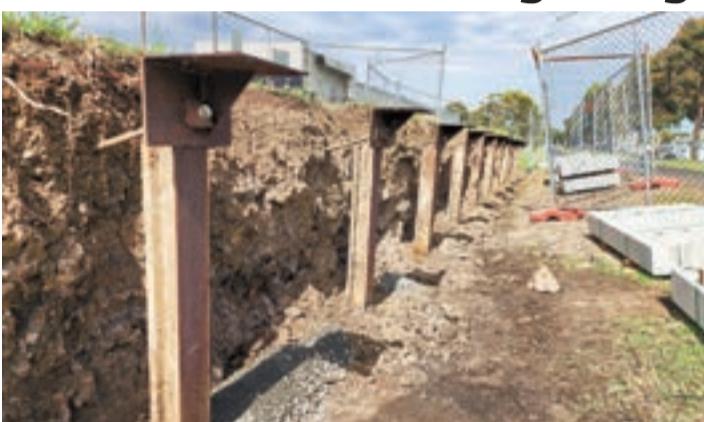
"Aspects of Wonthaggi's History through Street Names and Places" Sam Gatto's latest book, has been completed and will be launched on Saturday, February 10, 2024.

15 Minutes of History talks will once again take place on fifteen consecutive days from January 6 to 20 from

11.30am at the Railway Station Museum.

Megal Sale to raise funds for the Historical Society will be held on Saturday, December 16, from 10am to 2pm at the Railway Station Museum. Local history publications by local authors, historical framed photographs, historical memorabilia and second-hand books will be on sale. Great and meaningful Christmas presents!

Another busy, fruitful and rewarding year awaits us in 2024. Why don't you become part of it by becoming a member or volunteer?



Old railway tracks were used to form the original retaining wall that is currently being rejuvenated as part of the upgrade works. C24_5023

Plans made for future of Corinella Foreshore

MANAGEMENT of the Corinella Foreshore Reserve has a clear direction forward with the finalised Corinella Foreshore Landscape Plan now complete.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) released the plan, which sets the vision and provides clear expectations about future management of vegetation within the 30-hectare reserve.

DEECA regional manager land and built environment Jeremy Neilson said the Corinella Foreshore Landscape Plan provides the basis for vegetation works at the reserve and seeks to enhance the site while highlighting and protecting its unique values.

Following the release of the draft plan in June last year, community members were asked to share their feedback via an online survey on Engage Victoria and an in-person pop-up stall at the Corinella market.

"We know locals and visitors to Corinella love the foreshore reserve and care deeply about the way it is managed now and into the future," Mr Neilson said.

"There were more than 1000 visitors to the Engage Victoria website and 468 surveys were completed. Responses to the survey indicated that views of Western Port Bay and native vegetation, ecosystems and wildlife are what the community values most about the reserve.

"We take on board feedback from the community, making changes to the plan to address concerns about access and the aesthetics for proposed assets and facilities.

"The objective of the plan is to provide a balance in preserving the natural beauty of the foreshore while also maintaining the amenity with respect to sea views.

"We would like to thank reserve users, residents, businesses and visitors for participating in the consultation and helping to shape the plan."

The Corinella Foreshore Landscape Plan is available at corinellaforeshore.com.au/committee.html.



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MADE FOR MORE



Stop kidding yourself. If you drink, don't drive.

Thinking about driving after a couple of drinks? Think again.

If you blow .05 or over, you could face serious penalties, including fines, losing your licence, getting an interlock installed in your car and having to blow zero for three years.



No quick fixes to the rental and housing affordability crisis

THERE are little to no affordable options for vulnerable renters in Victoria, and the housing crisis is getting worse, spreading from capital cities to regional areas.

According to the Rental Affordability Index paying rent has become even more of a challenge for households on low to moderate incomes including pensioners, single parents and job seekers.

A number of complex and multifaceted factors have led to the crisis, according to the recently released report on the parliamentary inquiry.

The inquiry found that Governments have failed to provide enough public and community housing, more people than ever are experiencing rental and mortgage stress, rent and mortgage costs increase higher than wages, the liveability of rental housing declines and standards are poorly enforced, vacancy rates are extremely low and more people rent for longer and cannot buy their own home.

Jessica Harrison from Housing Matters Bass Coast, an auspice of Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre believes that if the state government and the



Jordan Crugnale MP and Minister for Housing Harriet Shing with round table attendees.

local councils don't act quickly, camps of homeless people will end up on the edges of towns and it might become the norm.

"We've looked at the stats and we found that Bass Coast homelessness is actually increasing more than other regional areas in Victoria, so we're very concerned about that increase.

"We don't want that to happen because we think people deserve a roof over their heads."

The inquiry found that

reducing excessive demand and addressing supply issues is a way to work towards solving the crises and will need to stem from both market and government efforts.

The Government would need to commit to significantly expanding Victoria's stock of social housing and set hard targets to build 60,000 new social housing dwellings over the next decade to meet the backlog of demand, according to inquiry

findings.

The Bass Coast Council were given a budget of \$25 million in 2021 as part of the Victorian Governments Big Housing Build and a strategy was put in place, however, the speed at which public housing is being built is slow and housing numbers won't relieve the crisis for years to come.

Read the full story online at sgst.com.au

A finer balance in life for Lynda Sainsbury of LS Finance



LS Finance are back on the road delivering a wealth of knowledge from the comfort of your own home.

individuals visit multiple banks in town or spend hours comparing across multiple sites online."

With interest rates continuing on an upward trend this year, Lynda also recommends an annual mortgage health check.

"It's a good time for people to shop around, especially if you feel you are on a higher interest rate than you should be – give me a call, together we can explore your options. It is never too late to explore refinance options; and there's a good

chance we can beat it."

Reach out to a specialist and let Lynda do all the legwork for you.

"We do not charge, so there are no financial impacts by sitting down, and our aim is to give you the confidence as we guide you through the process, whether refinancing or purchasing, ensuring financial well-being tailored to your unique needs.

"There are also a myriad of budgeting resources available online that allow individuals



Lynda Sainsbury, the mobile finance expert, brings 23 years of wisdom to your doorstep.

and families to keep track of their spending, especially over the upcoming festive period."

An exciting road ahead, Lynda looks forward to welcoming both existing and new clients on her mobile journey in 2024.

LS Finance Broking Credit Representative 495763 is authorised under Australian Credit Licence 389328.

Your full financial situation would need to be reviewed prior to acceptance of any offer or product.

Bass housing roundtable builds on housing statement

THE Government's landmark Housing Statement – The Decade Ahead 2024-34 sets out a commitment to boost housing supply and affordability in Victoria and has garnered significant interest from Bass housing stakeholders and community groups.

To provide further insight on how the Housing Statement reforms will impact our community, Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale invited Minister for Housing Harriet Shing to join local housing advocates at roundtable meeting on November 24.

In attendance were representatives from Bass Coast Health, Gippsland Homelessness Network, Gippsland Family Violence Alliance, The Salvation Army, Community Housing (Vic) Ltd, YMCA, Housing Matters, Bass Coast Specialist School, Rotary Club of Wonthaggi, Live at the Cape, Department of Families, Fairness and Housing, and Bass Coast Shire Council.

"I want to thank the commitment of everyone present to work together, think innovatively, and be driven by their compassion for those in need in our community. We remain committed to working with locals to deliver more housing for Bass," said Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale.

Minister Shing was interested in understanding what was happening on the ground in Bass and appreciated the honest and informed feedback.

"Having somewhere secure, accessible and fit for purpose is so important. We know that having a home provides a solid foundation that enables people to find a job, access education and raise a family," said Minister for Housing Harriet Shing.

The diversity at the table, from sustainable builders and advocates to on the ground support services saw a well-rounded discussion and understanding of the complex challenges our community is facing. The conversation was robust, and solution orientated, with a focus on how we could better support vulnerable residents and look to innovative new ideas to increase local housing supply.

The Bass electorate is growing, and so is Victoria. We're the fastest growing state in Australia, with our population set to hit 10.3 million by 2051. The Housing Statement recognises this and sets our state a target of building 2.24 million homes by 2034, including a target of 425,600 across regional and rural Victoria.

The \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build investment is delivering 12,000 new homes right across the state. This investment will see 25 per cent going into regional Victoria, with Bass Coast a priority council area which has been allocated a minimum of \$25 million.

Seven homes have already been completed and 30 new homes are underway. The total Big Housing Build has already invested \$14 million in Bass Coast and created 125 jobs.

In addition – we're creating a new \$1 billion Regional Housing Fund to deliver more than 1300 new homes across regional Victoria. The new homes will include a mix of social and affordable housing – and we'll work with councils, regional partnerships, and local communities to determine the right mix of stock and locations for each region.

IT'S OUR COUNTRY RACING

Stony Creek Summer Series

Day 1 - Family Fun Day

Day 2 - Pink Roses Race Day

Day 3 - School Holiday Race Day

Friday 29th December

Tuesday 9th January

Thursday 18th January

**Food trucks - live music - Kelly Sports supervised kids activities
Funky Farm wildlife shows - face painting - entertainers & more!
Reserved tables & umbrellas, marquees, and bean bags available**



For tickets, information or bus timetables visit www.stonycreek.com.au or phone (03) 5664 0099



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**South Gippsland
Shire Council**

South Gippsland Shire Council News **Australia Day Photo Competition**

South Gippsland Shire Council is once again running an Australia Day Photography Competition.

The theme of the competition is Australia Day: South Gippsland – Our people and places. Images must be taken within South Gippsland Shire or nearby. Entrants can interpret the theme however they choose, and entries are welcome from any South Gippsland resident or ratepayer.

There are two prize categories this year - an open category with a \$500 prize and a junior category (15 and under) with a \$300 prize.

Submitted images will not be used by Council outside of the competition.

The Australia Day Photography Competition is funded by the National Australia Day Council.

To find out more about the South Gippsland Australia Day Photography Competition, or to submit an entry, please visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiadaycompetition

Entries close Wednesday 17 January 2024.

Winners will be announced on Friday 26 January 2023.

Free Rapid Antigen Tests



Free Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) are available for community members to collect at the following locations:

Foster Library – 9 Main St, Foster
Poowong Library – 18 Ranceby Rd,

Poowong Mirboo North Library – 2 Brennan St, Mirboo North

Korumburra Library – 15 Little Commercial St, Korumburra

Leongatha Library – 2 Smith St, Leongatha

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

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.

REQUEST FOR TENDER

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

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

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

South Gippsland Shire Council offices will be closed from 5.00pm Friday 22 December 2023 and will reopen Tuesday 2 January 2024 at 10.00am.

Council staff will be available on the phone and online from Tuesday 2 January 2024 at 8.30am

Bin Collections: Properties scheduled to have their kerbside bins emptied on Christmas Day will be serviced on Tuesday 26 December instead. This affects Buffalo, Fish Creek, Pound Creek, Stony Creek, Yanakie, Tarwin Lower, Waratah Bay, Sandy Point, Venus Bay and Walkerville.

Tourism: Visitor Information Centre, Foster: 7 days a week, 10.00am to 4.00pm. Closed Christmas Day. Phone 1800 630 704.

Coal Creek: 7 days a week, 10.00am to 4.00pm. Last entry 3.30pm. Closed Christmas Day.

South Gippsland Citizen's Advice Bureau and Visitor Information, Memorial Hall Leongatha: Closed 24 to 26 December and 31 December and New Year's Day. Closed Sundays. Open with variable hours outside those days. Phone 5662 2111.

Maternal and Child Health: Centres are open (except for public holidays) but limited to Key Ages and Stages (KAS) checks. Appointments required. For support, call 13 22 29.

Council and community playgroups do not run during school holidays. Go to www.playgroup.org.au to find contact details for your local playgroup.

Public Immunisation: Sessions will not be held in the first week of January but will recommence on 31 Jan and 1 Feb. Go to: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/immunisation

Waste Management: All transfer stations and the Koonwarra landfill are also closed on Christmas Day. Operate as scheduled all other times. Opening hours are displayed at sites and on: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha

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Port positives in South Gippsland Shire

COMMUNITIES in South Gippsland Shire are well positioned to benefit from offshore wind energy projects according to mayor Clare Williams and council CEO Kerryn Ellis.

The pair recently met with Upper House member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh and the operators of the side-by-side ports at Barry Beach.

"We've been in conversation with the State and Federal Governments for a while about the use of the two ports at Barry Beach for offshore wind (energy generation), and the opportunities that might present to South Gippsland; Tom McIntosh reached out and said he'd love the chance to have a look at the ports and meet the port operators," Kerryn said.

Tom spent half a day with Clare and Kerryn, being introduced to Port Anthony operator Ben Anthony, and representatives of Barry Beach Marine Terminal operator Qube, who gave the trio a tour of the ports.

Kerryn was delighted to hear the ideas of the port operators.

"They talked to us about their plans for expansion and redeveloping their ports to be ready for offshore wind (energy generation)," she said.

Tom's interest in the potential of the ports, combined with the port operators' intended investment gives Kerryn further confidence



Upper House member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh, Qube Energy site manager Matt Walker, South Gippsland Shire Council CEO Kerryn Ellis, Nick Murray and Associates consultant to Qube Energy on the port redevelopment project Nick Murray, mayor Clare Williams, and council's manager of economy community and investment Christian Stefani.

significant benefits will flow into South Gippsland Shire.

She anticipates local employment opportunities with the chosen offshore wind energy companies, and the ports themselves, along with related supply chain roles that will benefit South Gippsland businesses.

As former mayor Nathan Hersey has previously stressed, Kerryn argues port improvements will be advantageous to other sectors of the South Gippsland economy.

"If the ports are redeveloped and they're world class, there'll be opportunities for other industries like

agriculture and manufacturing to use them for export purposes," Kerryn said.

The potential of industrial land around the two ports was discussed as was land availability for housing in the area.

Clare and Kerryn spoke to Tom about the need for new community infrastructure to support the growing worker population, not just roads but also early years services and other education services.

"It's a good opportunity to advocate for the fact that if the population grows, the community will need those supportive services," Kerryn said.

While the Federal Government

is responsible for the declaration of renewable energy zones and granting licences to operators, the State Government's role centres on ensuring infrastructure and support can be put in place.

Kerryn said previous discussions with Federal Government ministers and departments in Canberra about their aspirations for renewable energy were positive, and believes the three levels of government are working well together and there is commitment at State and Federal levels to ensure wind energy projects deliver local benefits.

All possibilities on table for Coal Creek's future

CLOSURE of Coal Creek Community Park and Museum has not been ruled out by South Gippsland Shire Council despite considerable recent improvements to and expenditure on the Korumburra tourist attraction.

That is one of three options proposed in a council Discussion Paper created to spark community feedback, likely to begin next month, that will inform the development of a draft Coal Creek Community Park and Museum Strategic Plan.

It is acknowledged that to close Coal Creek would be an expensive and complex task and would require extensive community consultation.

Substantial costs would be involved in the management of the Coal Creek collection.

"It's noteworthy that the collection's removal, a more time-consuming process than demolishing buildings, would necessitate three full-time curators over three years to complete," the Discussion Paper states.

"Council would face a significant financial burden in managing this process, ensuring appropriate standards in handling the collection, and meeting its obligations to the community and the site's heritage."

Wages, demolition costs, and collection storage fees would all contribute to the expense of permanently shutting Coal Creek.

Potential resistance from the State Government regarding asset relinquishment is noted as a possibility in the Discussion Paper.

"However, this option offers



The future direction of Coal Creek Community Park and Museum needs to be determined. A48_5023

the opportunity to re-purpose the land for new community needs and reduces long-term ongoing operational expenses," it states.

Council would still be expected by State Government to retain responsibility for the site as the Committee of Management.

The possibility of closing the park completely, with no public use is also floated, allowing for minimal maintenance.

Revitalisation of Coal Creek is the most conservative of the three options put forward by council.

That would see Coal Creek's current operations continue, while adding new activities and attractions.

"The key challenge is the need for funding to address

operational and safety issues, and the necessity to innovate beyond current offerings to significantly boost appeal," it is stated.

Revitalisation would be aimed at achieving the goals of increased visitation, enhanced community engagement and a positive impact on the local economy, with hosting diverse events, festivals and educational programs mooted as ways of accomplishing those aims.

Setting a new direction for Coal Creek is the middle-ground option proposed.

"The opportunity here could be transformative, turning Coal Creek into a sustainable tourism attraction that offers long-term benefits to the community," council states.

It is noted significant investment may be required, including external funding, with potential to partner with third parties to attract new offerings and investment.

Councillors will vote at Wednesday's public meeting on a recommendation to endorse the Coal Creek Strategic Plan Discussion Paper for community engagement from January 22 until March 31, 2024.

Should that recommendation be upheld, community members are encouraged to have their say on Coal Creek's future when the consultation period opens.

The Discussion Paper does not rule out additional options for Coal Creek's future should they arise out of the consultation process.

Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Williams



HELLO South Gippsland.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas as towns deck their streets with decorations. Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped with this. You are helping to bring Christmas cheer to all who drive through and live in our towns.

If you still have some Christmas shopping to do, I encourage you to shop locally. Support our local businesses where you can and you will help our community reap the rewards.

Council has been doing its part by hosting the Salvation Army's Christmas Giving Tree. Thank you to those who gave so generously! There were so many toys and food items that will be going to those in need.

Christmas Carols events were held in Leongatha and Mirboo North last weekend. Congratulations to those towns for organising another year of fabulous events! If you still want a chance to enjoy a magical evening with your favourite Christmas tunes and connecting with your community, Carols at the Creek will be happening on Friday December 15 from 6pm.

Councillor Events

Being a Councillor is a terrific opportunity to be more involved with the South Gippsland community as a whole. Here's some of what we've all been up to:

- Councillor Schelling recently completed the Great Victorian Bike Ride with his daughter and grandchildren.
- Councillor Gilligan was part of the Venus Bay community's emergency management preparation planning process coming into the summer period.
- Councillor Darakai graduated from the Gippsland Community Leadership Program, and attended the Mount Eccles 'Christmas on the Mount' event.
- Chief Executive Officer Kerryn Ellis and I had a visit with Tom McIntosh MP at Barry Beach Marine Terminal and Port Anthony to continue conversations about the offshore renewable energy project.
- Councillors and Council staff attended the Walk Against Family Violence in Leongatha as part of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

Every day as a Councillor is a privilege.

Council Meeting

The last Council Meeting for 2023 will be held on Wednesday December 13 at 2pm.

We would love to see you there in person, but if you can't make it, I encourage you to tune in to the livestream when it suits you.

Staying informed with what is happening at Council is extremely important for us all and tuning into the Council Meeting is a great way to do that.

To view the meeting, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live

Prepare Your Property

With the Fire Danger Period for South Gippsland starting on December 18, now is the perfect time to take advantage of Council's Green Waste Amnesty.

Clean up your property in preparation for the fire season and dispose of most green waste for free at any of Council's Transfer Stations.

View the exclusions and Transfer Station locations and opening hours by visiting: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/greenwasteamnesty

New draft version of proposed South Gippsland local law

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council is confident glitches have been ironed out of its draft General Local Law 2024 and seems ready for a new round of community consultation, a series of changes having been made to the document following strong public feedback on the original draft version between October and November.

At the October council meeting, Cr Scott Rae, also a beef farmer, abstained from voting on whether to release the original draft version for consultation, pointing out his concerns about its potential negative ramifications for agriculture locally.

His reservations and those of many in the community centred on the possible implications of proposed new local laws on that crucial sector, particularly regarding the requirement to keep grass from exceeding 300mm in height and whether that would interfere with hay and silage production.

Council states in its latest meeting agenda that clarification has now been included in the draft General Local Law document of instances in which provisions do not apply to farming practices.

In the above-mentioned instance of grass height, "except that which is grown for fodder on land greater than one acre", has been added for clarification.

There have also been significant changes regarding requirements for camping on private property.

Cr Rae is pleased with the updated draft General Local Law 2024.

"It's a vast improvement and I genuinely thank the 360 plus residents and organisations who provided their responses to council, which enabled the updates to be made," he said.

While conceding it isn't possible to please everyone, Cr Rae anticipates the modified document will be well received, encouraging people to read it and to express their views when the opportunity arises.

Should councillors vote at Wednesday's public meeting to endorse the next stage of community consultation and release the draft General Local Law for exhibition, that will open a submissions period between December 15, 2023 and January 15, 2024.

Demo makes way for the new

THE OLD Korumburra library building is being stripped and demolished to make way for a new, larger IGA in the town.

The trees have been bulldozed and the inside of the building cleared out with the developers hoping to have the site completely cleared by Christmas, according to IGA General Manager Dom D'Agostino.

In June this year South Gippsland Shire Council officially handed over the site to IGA and in mid-November plans and design documents for the new supermarket were fully endorsed by council.

The building was originally the Korumburra Shire Council Chambers with Richard Scott, a councillor for more than 50 years, placing the foundation stone in 1955, with the library housed on the lower level.

With the amalgamation of six local shires in the eighties to become the South Gippsland Shire Council and operating from Leongatha, the library moved to the top level and the Korumburra Historical Society moved from the Mechanics Institute to the lower level, where both remained until recently.

President of the Korumburra Historical Society Bob Newton has been engaging with Dom to preserve some items of history from the site.

Two of the wrought iron seats from the entrance of the old library have been placed at Carinya Lodge for residents to



A wrought iron seat from the old Korumburra library was saved and will now be used by residents at Carinya Lodge. ob09_5023

use, the iconic statue of The Miner has gone to Coal Creek and a garden will be planted around it and the painted mural on the library wall will be digitally recreated to adorn the front facade of IGA.

Bob claims to be the most passionate historian around and he is pleased to be able to retain some of the history of the building and Dom is happy to accommodate these requests.

According to Dom, a builder has been appointed for the new site and tenders are being sought from suitable subcontractors.

IGA first began acquiring land in 2017 for the site which covers 13 titles in all, and while Dom said it had been a long process, they are happy with current progress and anticipate an opening date of early to mid-2025.

Excavation and construction

works are anticipated to start in February next year.

At about 3200m² in size, the new Michael's Supa IGA supermarket will be twice the size of the present store in Korumburra and slightly bigger than Leongatha's 2800m². It will represent a \$20 million investment in the town.

All staff will go across to the new site and additional jobs will also be available.

Likely sale of former Korumburra Senior Citizens Centre

COUNCILLORS will decide whether to set the wheels in motion to sell the former much-loved home of the Korumburra Senior Citizens Club, located at 14 Radovick Street, voting at Wednesday's December council meeting on advice to commence the statutory process to do so.

The club's members earlier

this year vacated the premises of the Korumburra Senior Citizens Centre, with council electing not to renew their lease and instead allocating them an area within the Korumburra Community Hub that was to provide priority use for the days required.

However, the seniors group rebelled, voting not to move to

the Hub, with its hilly location and the perception of insufficient parking spaces being driving factors in that decision.

The Korumburra Senior Citizens Centre was purpose-built by the town's community in 1961.

Council stressed that its now complete lease agreement with

Korumburra Senior Citizens Club included the fact council was pursuing the development of a community hub facility in Korumburra and could end the lease with 30 days' written notice should the hub development proceed during the term of the lease and make adequate provision for the club.

An advertisement for Carrera Eyewear. It features a man wearing large, dark sunglasses and a dark shirt. The Carrera logo is at the top, and the text "#DRIVEYOURSTORY" and "PAT CUMMINS" are at the bottom. The background is a textured wall.

Ready for your new Summer look

19 Murray Street, Wonthaggi
5672 1965

Locally owned and proudly independent

A photograph of a cemetery with several headstones and a small building in the background, surrounded by trees and greenery.

Would you like to join the
INVERLOCH CEMETERY TRUST?

We are seeking volunteers

to join the current trust members to ensure the cemetery continues to offer their magnificent facilities for the future generations burials and cremations.

There are no specific qualifications required although administration and computer skills and a desire to assist and contribute to the local communities' benefit for current and future generations would be highly valued.

All appointees need to be approved by the Department of Health and the term of your appointment would be for 5 years.

If you are interested to discuss ring Frank on
0418 177 505 or email fkisvarda@bigpond.com

\$9.5 billion to overhaul inadequate employment services

A COMMONWEALTH inquiry into Australia's employment system has been found to be so inadequate and ineffective it requires a massive and immediate overhaul.

Over \$9.5 billion will be spent over the next four years to pull the service back from the private sector, which it has been operating in for 25 years and put it back into the hands of the public sector.

Workforce Australia currently represents the fifth iteration of contracted out employment services in Australia and was introduced by the previous Government.

Their aim is to provide a simple, supported, connected and respectful service that helps people find jobs and supports businesses to recruit appropriate candidates.

A onesize-fits-all approach that profiles jobseekers is taken and does not account for the many and varied differences between individuals nor does it provide sufficient recognition of capability and needs.

The current system intensified the use of "mutual obligation and compliance," which forces unemployed Australians to do often pointless activities and apply continuously for jobs that are unsuitable in return for receiving unemployment assistance.

It is a rigidly structured system that treats people as pieces of data rather than human beings and this would be all too familiar to so many people who have had to engage with the system.

As the evidence overwhelming states in the 596 page report, Workforce Australia's objectives have been woefully unfulfilled and services are fragmented, disconnected, and hard to navigate.

Seventy five recommendations have been laid out in the report to overhaul and improve the service for all Australians.

Recommendations include a new Commonwealth Employment Services System be developed under

the name of Employment Services Australia which would have a network of regional hubs around the country.

The idea is that people should be able to walk into a hub to look for work, training, or health and well-being support for employment-related issues.

Staff could assess new jobseekers, determine their needs and goals, and refer them to the right people or organisations to then help them get a job.

The system would operate with an entirely different regulatory culture and with a contracting model that prioritises relationships, partnerships, and building quality service.

It would seek to better support the most disadvantaged in society and reduce longterm unemployment and get better value for money.

This is the Australian Government's largest single procurement outside of Defence.

Beginner Beekeeping Course anyone?

EXCITING news – South Gippsland Beekeepers is hosting another Beginner Beekeeping Course on January 20, 2024 in Leongatha.

South Gippsland Beekeeping Club has an ongoing commitment to spread awareness and provide education for those interested in diving into the world of beekeeping.

Beekeeping has experienced remarkable growth in popularity in recent years. As more beekeepers emerge, each one undertakes the responsibility of caring for their small

charges. Bees, regarded as livestock, come with specific needs and protocols. Enrolling in a beginner beekeeping course sets you on the right path and equips you with the tools for success as your beekeeping journey unfolds. Everyone interested in learning more about beekeeping is welcome to enrol — we'd love to have you join us.

Keeping bees not only offers personal benefits but also contributes to the global effort to protect honey bees amid their declining numbers

worldwide. Bees play a crucial role in providing us with a diverse range of nutritious fresh food, making their care essential for our continued enjoyment of these resources.

Why not consider this course as a Christmas gift for someone special on your list?

For more information contact course tutors Bron and Peter at newbeesgb@gmail.com

To book direct go to the Beginner Course Page at southgippslandbeekeepers.org.au

Aussie online shoppers urged to download AusPost App

AUSTRALIA Post is encouraging customers to download its free AusPost app to better protect themselves and their personal information this Christmas.

Ahead of the year's busiest shopping season, Australia Post is reminding shoppers the AusPost app is the best way to get trusted, accurate and legitimate delivery notifications that protect customer security.

All too often customers are targeted with fake scam text messages and emails about parcel deliveries, prompting them to click links in an attempt to gain personal or financial information.

The AusPost app provides customers with a secure place to receive updates and tracks parcels along their journey.

Recently, Australia Post updated the functionality to include in-app notifications for missed deliveries and parcel collection (which can be accessed once customers enable in-app notifications in their app settings).

Out of the 11 million Australians who have registered MyPost accounts, less than half of these customers (5.1 million) actively use the AusPost app.

Customers who have the AusPost app get access to the following features for Australia

Post parcels that can be matched to their MyPost Account:

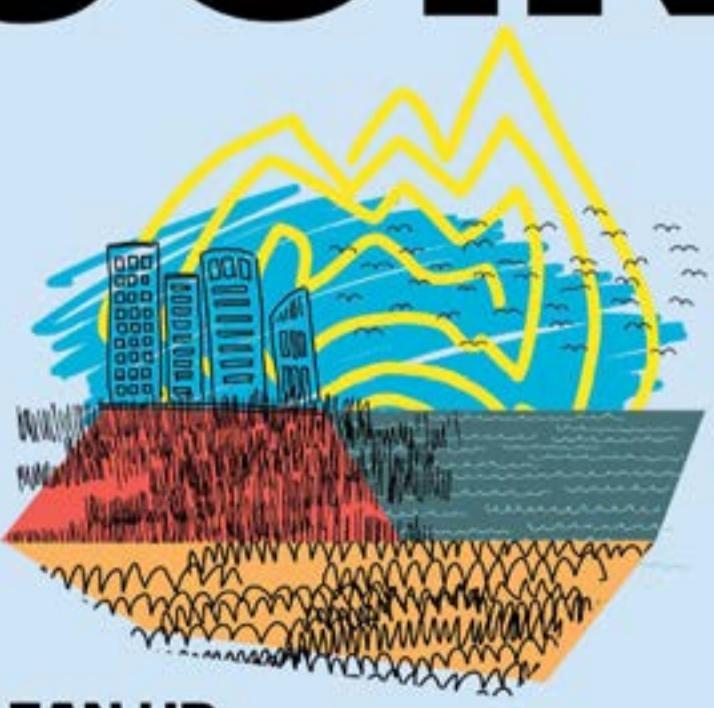
- Estimated delivery timeframe notifications
- Real-time delivery updates and instant push notifications
- Contactless access to Parcel Lockers
- Photos of Safe Drop Images
- Seamless redirects to Parcel Lockers or Post Offices

"Online shopping for Christmas presents has become the norm. However, shoppers need to be mindful of the multitude of online scams; for example, websites created by scammers, many of

which look at first glance to be genuine, and scammer texts that appear to come from Australia Post or other couriers which trick consumers who are expecting a delivery," said Professor Monica Whitty, Head of Department Software Systems and Cybersecurity at Monash University.

The AusPost app is ranked one of the top business apps in Australia, which is regularly upgraded to support and protect customers. To sign up for a free MyPost account either visit auspost.com.au/receiving/mypost or download the AusPost app from the Apple Store or Google Play.

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JOIN



**CLEAN UP
AUSTRALIA DAY
SUNDAY 3 MARCH**

REGISTER NOW CLEANUP.ORG.AU



2024



CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY

Sign a contract in Dec 23 to purchase half an acre at Seabliss Corinella and receive a Husqvarna Garden Tractor valued at \$4,000 thanks to Bass Coast Light Engines in Wonthaggi*

*T&Cs apply





seabliss.com.au

Students celebrate ATAR results



Dux of Mary MacKillop College for 2023 was Gabrielle Perry with a remarkable ATAR score of 97.55.

Gabrielle achieves Dux of Mary MacKillop

MARY MacKillop Catholic Regional College celebrated their class of 2023 achieving their final VCE results with a morning tea on Monday.

It provided an opportunity for the students to catch up and congratulate each other on their hard work and to be congratulated by their teachers.

Dux of the school for 2023 was Gabrielle Perry with an ATAR score of 97.55, followed by James Rowe with an ATAR of 96.2, Jordan Clarke with 93.35 and Martha Dunemann with a score of 91.6.

Outstanding results were achieved by seven students gaining an ATAR of 90 or more, which is approximately 13 per cent of the students who applied to complete VCE.

Twenty-six per cent of students earned ATAR scores above 80 and 47 per cent achieved an ATAR score above 70, while 20 per cent of students achieved at least one study score of 40 or above.

The mean ATAR for the school according to available data was 30 and 53 sat for VCE exams with all successful.

"We're very pleased with their students, each of them has done very well," said Principal, John Freeman.

When speaking to some of the students who came in to celebrate their results, John said the students were happy with their results and will be able to get into courses they were intending to apply for.

Fourteen students who were pursuing applied pathways also achieved notable success, with four securing places in their preferred TAFE courses, one gaining a traineeship, six have begun employment and three are seeking TAFE or employment.

"We are absolutely proud of the students. They worked hard to work towards their goals and we wish them all the best success in the future," John said.

KAYLA Humphrey was named dux of Bass Coast College with a score of 95.6 on Monday, December 11.

Joining Kayla, the top 10 ATAR scores from Bass Coast College (BCC) were achieved by Isaac Seuren, Jack Leverington, Frankie Murray-White, Lachie Owen, Jessica Roberts, Charlie Berry, Tess Wingfield, Jett Watson and Elijah Fokkens.

Several students from the college achieved a score above 80.

Senior campus principal Ross Bramley said he was happy with the overall results throughout the college.

"The key for us is it's about the pathways for individual students," he said.

"We're fortunate to be able to get details about students' preferences and the scores they need in order to get access to the university courses they want, and to see so many of our students get results that are around what they need is a really rewarding part of the job.

"A day like today is wonderful, and we can also reflect on the students who chose other pathways. Our (vocational major) students have been highly successful this year. Most of them are already stepping into apprenticeships and traineeships. A couple of our unscored VCE students are also

doing very well – one has already started a TAFE course in media. You put together the ATAR results, the VM results and the results of the individual kids, and you get a really nice picture of how we cater to kids of all backgrounds and future pathways. We offer an opportunity to them all and it's something we're really proud of."

The top 10 ATAR scorers were thrilled with their results, receiving their score at 7am with a mixture of surprise and delight.

"I felt so terribly about the textiles exam. It was so different from any of the practice ones I did, but it was my top subject," Jessica said.

The students credited dedication to their success but stressed the importance of finding a balance throughout the school year.

"My advice is to keep on top of it. If you have notes you don't feel like writing but will only take an hour to do, just chuck on a show and write the notes. The more you do, the more you learn, but take a day off when you feel you really need it," Frankie said.

"Just try to have fun. Do exactly you're best and if you're getting too stressed, slow it down. Be fair to yourself."

Many students also found balance in contributing to the school

in other ways.

"These students were involved in musicals or the band, sport, and leadership positions. All these things contribute to the school, but hopefully out of that they've learnt a lot about themselves, and what they are capable of and what they need to do to succeed," Mr Bramley said.

Mr Bramley said for the top scoring group of 10, the hard work did not begin this year – they've been preparing for this moment since their high school experience began.

"This group has been solid throughout their time at the school," he said.

"I've had the pleasure of working with this group for three years at Dudley, and three years at the senior campus and what pleases me is the people that put in the effort and who have worked hard over the journey have gotten rewarded for their effort. It's been six years of work that has given them the results they've got today."

Next year will be filled with possibilities for the graduating students, with many planning to go off to university and study courses from biomedical engineering to marketing and advertising or deferring to travel and work overseas.



Ruth Tucker is the 2023 Dux at Chairo Christian School in Drouin.

Chairo students enjoy VCE success

THE WAIT for VCE results finally ended on Monday morning for students across Victoria, with those at Chairo Christian School's Drouin campus achieving great success.

Ruth Tucker was Dux, recording an excellent ATAR of 98.35 and plans to study science at the University of Melbourne.

She also intends to have a Defence Force gap year with the Australian Navy.

This year, Ruth received the Year 12 All-rounder Award and ADF Future Innovators Award and was also nominated for the University of Melbourne Principals' Scholarship.

She completed outdoor environmental studies in Year 11, with a study score of 47, and this year studied English, mathematical methods, specialist mathematics and physics.

"Ruth's very impressive results are testament to her consistent hard work and calm and positive disposition and she was a fine role model to our students, encouraging them to do their very best to achieve strong outcomes," Drouin principal Judy Linossier said.

Overall, 14 per cent of the school's graduating students achieved an ATAR over 90, with 31 per cent managing a result above 80.



Dux of Mirboo North Secondary College, Ella McCulloch.

Pleasing VCE outcome at Mirboo North

ELLA McCulloch is Dux of Mirboo North Secondary College, achieving an ATAR of 91, with principal Vaya Dauphin delighted with the school's overall VCE results.

"We had 23 percent of students with scores over 70 and 10 percent over 80," she said, adding that mean study scores for each subject were up, apart from those for psychology and visual communication and design.

Vaya acknowledged the hard work of students and staff and noted the contribution of Philip Holmes-Smith of School Research Evaluation and Measurement Services who provided helpful advice to students and teachers early in the year.

He talked about the importance of adopting a relentless approach to achieve strong results, stressing that a student who works hard will outdo a gifted student who doesn't work hard.

Celebrating Excellence at Leongatha Secondary



Campbell Jackson accomplished an ATAR of 96.55, with Lachlan Gill, 2023 Dux of the Leongatha Secondary College with an ATAR of 99.3, placing him in the top one per cent of the state.



2023 College Leader of Leongatha Secondary, Lily Hume, was proud to achieve an ATAR of 85.45.



Six of Newhaven College's top performing VCE students of 2023, Alana Vanderstaay, Leigh Pouw, Tess Papas, Oscar Healey, Yvette Dhar and Willamina Archibald-Donohue.

Newhaven College celebrates VCE results

DUX OF Newhaven College, Tess Papas, celebrated an exceptional ATAR of 97.75, placing her in the top 2.25 per cent of Victoria at the announcement of VCE results today.

Tess was closely followed by Saffi Campbell-Walker, who received an ATAR of 97.45.

Newhaven College Principal, Tony Corr, congratulated all this year's VCE students on an incredible result.

"We are pleased nearly half (46 per cent) of our students were placed in the top 30 per cent of the state. In addition 15.8 per cent of our students achieved an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) of above 80."

Other high achieving students with ATAR scores of above 80, placing them in the top 20 per cent of the state, were William Murphy, Max Brown, Sienna McFarlane, Oscar Healey, Yvette

Dhar, Willamina Archibald-Donohue, Leigh Pouw and Alana Vanderstaay.

"It has been a delight to accompany this wonderful group of Year 12s on their journey at Newhaven. We are proud of the many pathways our students take post school – whether that be university, apprenticeships, vocational studies or employment. We wish them the very best of luck as they set off on their life beyond our school," Tony said.

"Special recognition to Year 11 student Sienna Michie who had the extraordinary achievement of the perfect study score of 50 in two subjects – Art Making & Exhibiting and Biology. William Murphy also achieved a perfect study score of 50 in Music Performance – Contemporary. To achieve a study score of 50 is the highest possible result in a subject and an exceptional

effort by both these students."

Students who achieved study scores of 40 or above, placing them in the top nine per cent of the state, were: English, Tess Papas and Willamina Archibald-Donohue, Food Studies, Alana Vanderstaay, Maddison Lethbridge and Sienna McFarlane, Health & Human Development, Tess Papas, Media, Max Brown, Music Performance, William Murphy, Esta Christensen and Saffi Campbell-Walker, Outdoor and Environmental Studies, Christopher Eastwood.

Students in Year 11 doing a Unit 3 & 4 subject also receiving study scores over 40 were, Art Making & Exhibiting and Biology, Sienna Michie, Biology Sienna Michie, Finn Leary, David O'Neill and Dion Piers-Anderson, General Mathematics, Leigh Pouw and Tilia Pires-Andersen, History Revolutions, Gabriel Winterson, Psychology,

Max Brown and Georgia Reich, Visual Communication and Design Abbey Dwyer, VET Music Performance, Dean Lyle, and Callan Spencer.

"I would also like to pay tribute to the teachers who have guided each student's learning throughout their time at Newhaven. For some that is right back to when they started at our school in Grade Prep," Tony said.

"As we recognise our Year 12s VCE results it is important to remember academic marks are only one area of success for any individual. Our students have many exceptional gifts and talents that may not be reflected in their VCE performance but will serve them well into the future. We are very pleased with all of our students' achievements in a cross section of areas during their time at our school."

Korumburra Secondary College congratulates the Class of 2023

KORUMBURRA Secondary College assistant principal Bekk Anthony offered her congratulations on behalf of the school and the town's community to all KSC Year 12 students for their efforts this year.

"After completing their six years of secondary education, two of them through COVID, they deserve to be proud of their final results," Bekk said.

"We are thrilled to announce that our Dux this year is Alana Surman who has always been a quiet and studious achiever and displays all of the qualities that KSC strives for."

respectful, resilient and endeavouring for excellence.

Alana achieved terrific results in English, Visual Communications, Maths Methods, Biology and Art.

She deservedly spent Monday celebrating with her group of friends at a Dungeons and Dragons meet.

"We wish her every success in her future studies in the field of Zoological Science," Bekk said.

Dux runner-up, Liam Wilson kept to the theme of quiet achieving, with Bekk noting his hard work and study.

"Congratulations also go to Liam for his excellent results

in English, Visual Communications, Psychology, Art and General Maths," the acting principal said.

"Liam is currently exploring all that the world has to offer and we can't wait to see where it leads."

Looking ahead, one of next year's Year 12 group was acknowledged.

"Providing an insight into the 2024 year, we are also extremely proud of April Reeves from Year 11 for topping our early access students with a score of 38 in Physical Education, which will set her up nicely for an outstanding result next year," Bekk said.



Alana Surman is the 2023 Dux of Korumburra Secondary College



Hamna Mohamed Fahmi from Warragul is the 2023 Dux of St Paul's Anglican Grammar School.

Excellent VCE results at St Paul's Anglican Grammar

THE 2023 Dux of St Paul's Anglican Grammar School is Hamna Mohamed Fahmi of Warragul who received an ATAR of 99.75.

Hamna also achieved a perfect score of 50 for Psychology.

Close behind were Shivi Mapeshwari of Warragul on 98.5, Harrison Miller of Pakenham on 96.5, Devmini Ranketh-kumbura of Traralgon on 96.2, Quinn Carmichael of Warragul on 95.55 and Lachlan Spears of Traralgon on 95.5.

Other high achievers included Samuel Williamson of Warragul on 94.8, Charles Jaques of Warragul on 94.65, Elsie Steenholdt of Warragul on 92.95, Lucy Shen of Morwell on 92.65, Madison Ashley of Warragul on 91.85, Ocea Urbach of Warragul on 91.55, Alannah Rogalsky of Traralgon on 91.4 and David Baker of Warragul on 91.35.

In a press release, the school expressed pride in the way its class of 2023 embraced every opportunity presented, both in and outside the classroom.

"They have applied themselves to their studies in a dedicated and enthusiastic manner and balanced this with involvement in a wide array of co-curricular pursuits," it stated.

"The Class of 2023 approached this year with maturity and good humour and have actively pursued their potential to achieve excellent results."

In all, 14 per cent of students achieved an ATAR over 90 and 69 per cent of students achieved an ATAR over 70.

The percentage of students who achieved an ATAR of over 80 was 46 per cent, placing them in the top 20 per cent of the state, 98 per cent of students achieving an ATAR over 50.

"The fact that St Paul's does not stream students out of Year 12, or offer a VCAL stream, means that these results are truly indicative of the quality environment of learning and teaching that St Paul's offers," it was stated.

This year's cohort have a variety of plans for the immediate future, including tertiary study in areas such as health, commerce and law, apprenticeships, Australian Defence Force traineeships and work.

"We are incredibly proud of the class of 2023 and wish them the very best for the future," St Paul's declared.

Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

Another leadership fail by Bass Coast

IT WAS on Friday, June 23, 2023, that the City of Greater Geelong announced it had recruited Bass Coast's CEO Ali Wastie as its new CEO.

And here we are, almost six months later, and the local council still hasn't named her successor.

There's nothing like a vacuum in leadership to make the troops restless, and that goes for a footy club and a small business operation as much as it does for the employees at your local council.

Conversely, the prompt appointment of an impressive individual to take the reins has the opposite effect, helping to galvanise a revitalised leadership group around the exciting challenge of leading one of the fastest growing, most picturesque, well-appointed, coastal municipalities in the state.

We're not saying that an early appointment of a CEO might have encouraged key planning executive James Stirton to stay, but it might have made a difference.

So, while the Bass Coast Shire Council was navel-gazing over the messy appointment of a new mayor, and several other non-core matters, they've dropped the ball again, and failed to discharge one of their most important jobs, the appointment of a new CEO.

They've now lost their most talented, most engaging executive as well.

These councillors have just 10 months to get their heads back in the game before the next election; focusing on the basics of infrastructure and planning, waste management, community services, local laws and regulations, environmental management, health and wellbeing, economic development and financial management, building and inspections, accountability and transparency; to name a few of their key responsibilities, or else, they'll be out.

Helping others in need

EACH day as I speak to local residents across Gippsland South it is evident that many Gippslanders are struggling to deal with the rising cost of living. This is a pain shared by many Victorians as reflected in a recent 47 per cent surge in calls to the Debt Helpline.

While I continue to push back against increased taxes and poor policy from the Allan Labor Government which compounds the issue, I wanted to take the time to thank the local volunteers and organisations in our community who are helping others in their time of need.

We are fortunate to have a number of great services within Gippsland South which are able to assist you if and when you need it including help with meals and basic necessities.

I encourage anyone who is finding it tough to reach out to their local neighbourhood house, Vinnies or Uniting for advice on what specific support is available to you. Free financial advice is available by calling the National Debt Helpline (Victoria) on 1800 007 007, Monday to Friday, 9.30am – 5pm or visiting the National Debt Helpline's Financial Counselling page at ndh.org.au/financial-counselling/find-a-financial-counsellor.

Danny O'Brien, MP The Nationals Member for Gippsland South



Cartoon by Glenn 'Grobb' Robinson.

What's wrong with Australia today

ONE hundred and forty kids sleeping in tents and cars in multiple towns and cities across Australia.

Families skipping meals. Babies born homeless.

The Labour Party puts up one hundred and forty foreign criminals in hotels and motels and gives them money to buy drugs with.

Would you really like to know what is wrong with Australia today? Have one guess.

"He's a real nowhere man
Sitting in his nowhere land
Making all his nowhere plans - for nobody."

Credit: The Beatles.

Happy Christmas everybody!
Rob Parsons, The Gurdies

cost of living times is so appreciated by families.

The amount of smiles we get see on the kids' faces, the happy stallholders, who without a doubt are so grateful to the customers who come to buy their products, to the families gathering around in the park celebrating their Christmas catch ups, and our own children who we get to see living their absolute best lives, it's a great pleasure to see how one event can impact so many people.

Stacey, Jessie and Christina, Christmas in The Boo Crew, an MCDI sub-committee

Christmas in the Boo committee joy

WOW! Another year, another successful Christmas in the Boo, and the weather was perfect.

The Christmas in The Boo committee thank everyone who helped put this amazing event together from the bottom of our hearts.

We feel so humbled by all your support and love for this extraordinary community event.

With what started out as an idea, from three friends, seven years ago, Christmas in The Boo has grown from strength to strength.

These three friends weren't sure if the event would run again this year.

You see, things change and lives get busier.

But, this trio of friends called upon the help of more friends, and together with Mirboo Country Development Inc (MCDI), we all worked tirelessly to bring Christmas in The Boo to light.

We honestly couldn't have done it without the help of generous volunteers, many from the Winterfest and the Italian Festa committee, who share our love for this community and showcasing Mirboo North.

The jam-packed day, and the months leading into it, again reminded us why we put in all this effort, because we love seeing people come together to celebrate with their loved ones.

The Community Bank came on board again this year and generously sponsored free kids activities, which in these high

TAFE Gippsland gives thanks

AS 2023 comes to an end, I write to thank the South Gippsland community and industry for its support of TAFE Gippsland this year.

We have had around 11,000 students from throughout Gippsland pursue their study and training with us this year, along with thousands of local businesses trusting us with the vocational training of their staff.

The past six years have been transformational for TAFE Gippsland. We have worked hard to engage with the community again after some tough times and create an institute you can all be proud to call your own.

This year we were named the Large Training Provider of the Year at the Victorian Training Awards, and we took out silver at the Australian Training Awards in the same category last month.

Just last week our engineering and fabrication team won the Training and Education Organisation Award for Victoria at the 2023 Weld Australia Awards. We couldn't have achieved all of this without the Gippsland community and local industries working with us to provide high quality vocational education and training that is custom-made for the skills needs of Gippsland.

As our students finalise their studies for 2023 and look forward to a summer break, we thank you South Gippsland for your support this year to make TAFE Gippsland the leading vocational training provider in Victoria. We look forward to welcoming new and returning students to our campuses in 2024.

Laura Macpherson, Chief Executive Officer



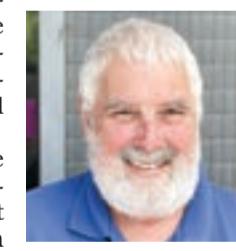
Sophie Dixon
Leongatha

"Potatoes. If there are no potatoes, I get very offended."



Nathan Hersey
Loch

"Wine. Good South Gippsland wine."



Les Byrne
Leongatha

"Turducken, because it is unusual and it is fun to say."



Grant McMahon
Leongatha

"Christmas pudding and brandy custard. It's something I've always had and I love it."

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



Wonthaggi Toyota

WE BUY
CARS!

USED VEHICLE SPECIALS



2016 Mitsubishi ASX LS XB
20,990 DRIVE AWAY

125,501kms, 6 speed CVT auto SUV
SN: W101672



2017 Hyundai Accent Sport
19,990 DRIVE AWAY

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



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

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



2016 Hyundai Santa Fe Highlander
30,990 DRIVE AWAY

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

2019 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross LS YA
27,990 DRIVE AWAY

70,733kms, 8 speed CVT auto SUV
SN: W101671



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

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



2022 Mitsubishi ASX MR XD
30,990 DRIVE AWAY

12,267kms, CVT auto SUV
SN: W101652



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



2019 Toyota Hiace Super LWB
64,990 DRIVE AWAY

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



2019 BMW 5 Series 520i Sport G30
45,990 DRIVE AWAY

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



2018 Ford Ranger XLT MkIII
42,990 DRIVE AWAY

104,393kms, 10 speed CVT auto
4x4 double cab L101103



2019 Toyota Hilux SR5
46,990 DRIVE AWAY

176,260kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4
double cab SN: L101094



2017 Holden Commodore RSV Sportwagon
26,990 DRIVE AWAY

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



2018 Nissan Navara ST D23 Series 3
26,990 DRIVE AWAY

91,909kms, 6 speed CVT manual
double cab SN: L101100



2021 Toyota Rav4 Edge
53,990 DRIVE AWAY

28,862kms, 8 speed CVT auto AWD
SUV SN: L101027



2022 Ford Transit Custom 340S VN
51,990 DRIVE AWAY

19,338kms, 6 speed manual CVT
van SN: L101070

Wonthaggi Toyota

346 Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi VIC 3995
T (03) 5672 1722
LMCT 8179
wonthaggitoyota.com.au

Leongatha Toyota

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



OH WHAT A FEELING



A VERY special welcome to George Alan Hughes, the 200th baby born at Wonthaggi Hospital this year! George was born on November 30, weighing 2.84kg. He is the first child for Daniel and Sarah Hughes of North Wonthaggi.

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

• FAITH FACTOR

Peace on earth

Father Darren Howie, Parish Priest, St. Joseph's Parish Wonthaggi

IN THE lead up to Christmas we will undoubtedly hear the words, "Peace on Earth."

How does this sit with the fact that over the past two months we have heard about unspeakable violence in the Holy Land where Jesus was born?

Seeing a home and buildings which have taken great planning and effort to build destroyed in seconds adds to the cycle of violence and revenge.

Innocent lives snuffed out through violence further inflames the desire for revenge and feeds the cycle of violence and hatred.

Christians believe that God gives us a choice. In a few weeks we will contemplate the birth of Christ in poverty in Bethlehem. Then next year on Good Friday we will contemplate his sufferings and death which according to some Mel Gibson's depiction of in the film the Passion of the Christ are just too confronting. The two scenes of Christ born in poverty in Bethlehem and crucified on Calvary are meant to make an impression to show the power of love over hatred, violence and evil.

It is impossible to scientifically demonstrate the invisible love of God working in the hearts of people, yet I and countless other Christians assert from personal experience that it is very real.

In the Beatitudes Christ said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God."

Sadly, because God made people free we can't stop others making bad decisions. In contemplating the message, he gives us at Christmas and Easter at the very least we avoid ourselves being caught up in the cycle of hatred and violence, and like countless Christians and believers in God before it helps us to replace hatred with love, destruction with rebuilding.

For Christians that is a reason for hope, a reason to celebrate.

Jazz students celebrated



Cr Ron Bauer with Encouragement Award recipient Ambrose de Goyer from Newhaven College.

Bass Coast Shire Council's Cr Ron Bauer presenting the Encouragement Award to Seb Kenny from Bass Coast College.

AFTER a hiatus of two years due to COVID, Phillip Island Jazz reinstated the Encouragement Awards to music students of both the senior and junior schools at Newhaven and Bass Coast College.

Long time supporter of jazz on Phillip Island, Bass Coast Shire Council was represented by Cr Ron Bauer, who did the honours in presenting the student awards to both colleges on behalf of Phillip Island Jazz.

One of the recipients Will Murphy, a Year 12 student at Newhaven College who will be studying at Melbourne University in 2024, gave an outstanding impromptu performance on the bass with the David Dower Quartet – David just happened to be one of his early teachers during his studentship at Newhaven College.

Other recipients were Ambrose de Goyer – a Year 6 student from Newhaven College who plays trombone – Seb Kenny – a Year 9 student from Bass Coast College who plays alto saxophone – and Noah Robertson – a Year 12 student from Bass Coast College who plays trumpet and cornet.

The directors of music at Newhaven and Bass Coast Colleges, in conjunction with Phillip Island Jazz, are committed to ensuring the Encouragement Award process continues long into the future.

~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~

WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

UNFORTUNATELY, we started last week with a disappointment – we had to cancel the From Now to Wow upcycled fashion giveaway. Sadly, a family emergency meant the event could not go ahead; our thoughts go out to Jo and her family. The lunch however was able to go ahead and was enjoyed by a larger group than usual – we will keep you informed regarding a new date in 2024 for the fashion event.

As we mentioned last week, Wednesday, December 13, is the date of the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre Christmas get-together. It is also our final Community lunch for 2023. If last year's

Christmas lunch is any indication (and I think it is) then this year's will be a great event. Numbers are limited so you will have to RSVP to secure a seat at this much-loved Mitchell House Christmas meal. Just call 5672 3731 or pop into the house to book a place for you and a friend or two.

December 14 will see our final Renters' Rights session for 2023. The group 'Housing Matters Bass Coast', in conjunction with WNC and Gippsland Community Legal Service has provided access to qualified lawyers for free, confidential, renters' rights advice at our monthly

sessions. If you've got some questions or concerns and you're free between 3pm and 4.30pm on Thursday, December 14, just – you guessed it! – give us a call on 5672 3731 to make a booking.

We are currently working on our program for first term 2024. There will be some changes – some new programs starting, some current programs finishing. We are planning to have everything finalised and printed by the third week in January so you will have plenty of time to work out how best you can be a part of the programs and activities at the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre.

Of course, we are always looking for new ideas and groups so if you've got any thoughts on something you'd like to happen here at Mitchell House, just let us know. You never know – there might be others with the same or a similar idea and between us, we could get something started...

And don't forget Mitchell House's 40th birthday celebration on February 14, 2024 – save the date.



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

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

someone who already understands their journey.

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

■ WONTAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

Garden highlights this year began in February with the open edible garden weekend.

The garden welcomed dozens of visitors from near and far, who were happy to wander among the growing plots and enjoy the abundant diversity on offer.

Encouraging the Bass Coast Children's Centre kids and staff through regular visits, interacting with garden volunteers and helping with their creative nature and sustainability projects was a treat for all involved, in particular for the garden members who got to judge and award prizes to the children's best efforts.

Soil health has been a

major focus this year. Thanks to composting champion, Kevin, we are making plenty of enriched compost from the garden's green waste and chook manure supply, plus a few carbon-rich top ups of cardboard and straw mulch.

Care of the little orchard got a boost when members picked up some tips from an early spring pruning workshop held at the garden. Could be a good year for our plums!

Best of all is the ongoing positive feedback from visitors; those who are old and new friends of the garden or people who drop in as they pass by.

For more information about getting involved or visiting the garden please contact tgordon@westnet.com.au or join in on a Thursday between 10 and noon.

■ WONTAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

The Woodies' annual gift

shop is now open! Featuring hundreds of hand-made items, there is something to suit every taste and every budget. What could be better than giving (or receiving) something locally made and truly unique?

This year, the gift shop is located at the Woodies' own workshop on the BCAL site at 239 White Road. Opening day was last Saturday and they are already doing a brisk trade.

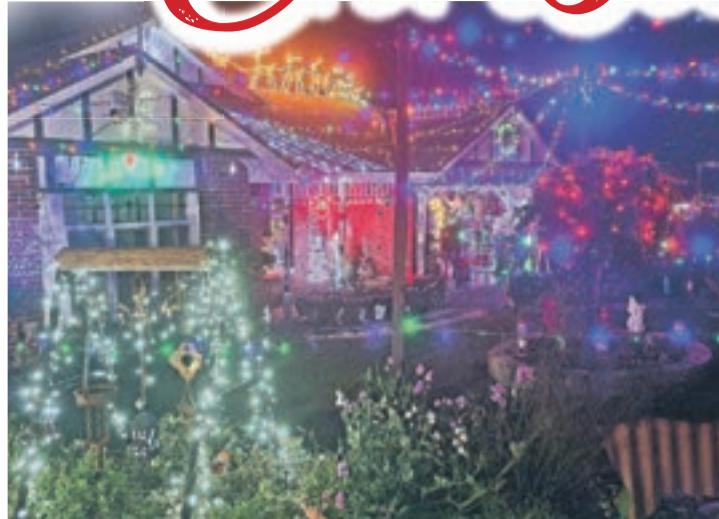
Don't delay because it will take all year to restock. You might even get to meet the woodcrafter who made the piece you choose.

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 www.bcal.vic.edu.au 

Shop local this *Christmas*



Christmas spectacular shifts from Rowville to Korumburra

WHILE you can't quite see it from the moon, Korumburra's new Christmas lighting display is spectacular, created by Helen Murray (Muz) and husband Ryan Burns (Burnsy) who were long-renowned for turning their Rowville home into a festive extravaganza before their move to the country last year.

This is the first time the couple have decorated their Korumburra home at 23 Grandview Rise, a process that took about a month.

It was an even bigger job than in Rowville.

"This year we had to reconfigure it all because at our old house we had it set up permanently with things on the roof and the fence, so this year it took a while to figure out where to put everything," Helen said.

Ryan works full time and is accustomed to taking three weeks off to help set up the festive display.

"He knew what he was in for," Christmas tragic Helen said, adding that she makes him dress up in costumes for the last couple of nights before Christmas.

The Korumburra display opened at the start of the month with people invited to explore its delights from 8pm each night, and Santa will be present on December 23 and 24 between 8-11pm.

His caravan house features in the festive wonderland.

As well as extensive outside lighting, the large carport and garage are also decorated.

"I spend a couple of thousand dollars a year adding to it," Helen said of the overall display, which also causes a major spike to the couple's power bill, but she says it is well worth it.

"We just love making people happy," she declared.

Hopefully, the neighbours will maintain their Christmas spirit as the street becomes increasingly busy with joyous families.

"I had one neighbour say, 'There's been a lot of cars coming up and down the street', and I said 'Well, it's going to get worse,'" Helen said.

However, some of the neighbours invite different friends or relatives every night to enjoy the display.

Hundreds of people used to visit the Rowville display on December 23 and 24.

Don't miss Korumburra Christmas shopping night

KORUMBURRA'S Christmas shopping night is ready to hit town this Thursday, December 14, with 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 MEDICAL CENTRE

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS CLINIC HOURS 2023/2024

Saturday, December 23	9am - 12noon	Friday, December 29	9am - 5.30pm
Sunday, December 24*	CLOSED	Saturday, December 30	9am - 12noon
Monday, December 25*	CLOSED	Sunday, December 31*	CLOSED
Tuesday December 26*	CLOSED	Monday, January 1*	CLOSED
Wednesday, December 27	9am - 5.30pm	Tuesday, January 2	9am - 5.30pm
Thursday, December 28	9am - 5.30pm		

*After hours emergency care: Emergency or 'aftercare' is available outside these hours and is easily accessed by calling 5654 2753.

50 Radovic Street, Korumburra | Phone 5655 1355

20% off Storewide until Christmas

The Old Corner Post Office

For a unique shopping experience for giftware that will add flair and a finishing touch to every home.

Christmas Trading Hours:

- Thursday December 14: 10am-8pm
- Friday December 15: 9am-5pm
- Saturday Dec. 16 & Sunday Dec. 17: 9am-4pm
- Monday Dec. 18 - Saturday Dec. 23: 9am-5pm
- Sunday December 24: 9am-3pm

26 Bridge St, Korumburra | P: 0417 342 268 | E: theoldcornerpo@gmail.com

Join us as we Celebrate

Christmas in Korumburra

THURSDAY DECEMBER 14, 2023
4.00 - 8.00 PM
COMMERCIAL ST, KORUMBURRA

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING & FAMILY FUN EVENING

COMPETITIONS
MEET SANTA
SHOW N SHINE

CHRISTMAS CAROLS
BLUEY
SHOPPING

Shop local this Christmas

Deck the halls with Christmas trees...



With a big comfy chair for Father Christmas in the window, Jodie and Mark from SportsPower are ready for Santa himself as well as all the Christmas shoppers coming in, in the lead up to the big day. ob10_5023



Zara Kreutzberger has had a few busy days with shoppers getting an early start on their Christmas presents at AW Smith Gifts and Homewares. ob11_5023



Presents come in all styles, shapes and sizes just like this unique Christmas tree at Lyn Rose Boutique, with Emily Dwyer who has a few Christmas presents left to buy for her families Kris Kringle, but has it under control. ob14_5023

MANY of us eagerly anticipate the joy of decorating our Christmas trees – sometimes the ideas come thick and fast, other times a quick google for inspiration is required.

Wonthaggi's very own Mrs Christmas, Paradee Titulaer, is renowned for her love of Christmas, and collectables, and in particular, the beyond imaginable Christmas trees she creates.

"I've gone a bit mellow this year, usually I put four/five trees up in my house, but this year I've narrowed it down to three," Paradee smiled.

Inspired by staircases, a stunning nine-foot-tall tree stands in the family lounge room rotating with Mark Robert elves and 150 individual light-up candles as Christmas music plays in the background.

"The staircases were originally candy cane striped – but I spray painted them (red)."

"(Inspiration) starts with one thing – the tree conspires from there."

From a Toy Story Christmas tree last year to future plans for Disney, Sesame Street, superheroes and Pokémon, the choices are truly endless.

"Have fun with it, don't be too hard on yourself!"

"A majority of (last year's) Toy Story tree was the boys' toys. We went shopping for the little green army men as a family – it was fun going shopping as a whole family."

And although the brains behind Santa's Little Helper in Wonthaggi, Paradee's collection includes items from Kmart, Big W, The Reject Shop, Costco, Aldi right through to higher end ornaments.

"It doesn't have to be expensive – vintage ornaments are very popular at the moment."

Additionally, consider starting a tradition of collecting one significant ornament or decoration each year. It's a wonderful way to build a collection and create a legacy that can be passed down to future generations.

As for those who are torn between the perfect tree and the enthusiastic yet brief little helpers helping – Paradee's solution is simple.

"Get them their own tree! I have my tree and my kid's tree."

"(If you become) too critical or frustrated have a break and then come back to decorating – don't become too fixated on ornaments just shove



Santa's Little Helper Paradee captures the spirit of the festive season year-on-year, and her advice for creating your perfect Christmas tree is simple – have fun! C18_5023

it in and keep going!"

And as Brad Titulaer adds, "Do what you love, don't compete with others."

Paradee's tips for decorating your Christmas tree:

- 1) Pop on Christmas music or a Christmas movie (or two).
- 2) Fluff the tree.
- 3) Start with lights – if it doesn't have enough or even if you think it does have enough, add more! For easy ways to add lights to the tree jump on YouTube.
- 4) Decide on a theme – from Gingerbread to Australiana, The Grinch to colours.
- 5) Start with one thing and build

from there – maybe a particular ornament or item.

- 6) Go with the flow.
- 7) Don't be afraid to shove ornaments inside the tree – create layers.
- 8) Try ribbon – the wider the ribbon the easier to manipulate, there are countless styles to experiment with.
- 9) Create your own tree toppers.
- 10) Use different size baubles.
- 11) Don't forget the tree skirt/collar – it helps to prop the tree up.
- 12) Lastly, there are some great tips and tricks to make decorating easier on Facebook and YouTube.



Season's Greetings

Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season from everyone at Westernport Water

Westernport Water's Customer Service Centre at Newhaven will only be closing on declared public holidays and from midday on Friday 22 December.

As an essential service provider, we provide emergency support 24/7, 365 days a year.

If you need to contact us urgently about your water or wastewater service, please call 1800 249 090.

For general enquiries, please call 1300 720 711 or email westport@westernportwater.com.au.



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westernportwater.com.au



Shop local this Christmas



Indie and Sophie Chetland pictured at the Melbourne Furnishing Co's window display. A collaboration with Paradee at Santa's Little Helper and Harvey Norman Wonthaggi providing free 6x4 print instore. As times are a bit tougher for a lot of people this year with the cost of living, the Melbourne Furnishing Co are welcoming families instore for their 2023 portrait. Melbourne Furnishing Co will take the photo, edit it, and send it to each customer, and Harvey Norman will then print a 6x4 photo for free this Christmas. This is Melbourne Furnishing Co's way of giving back to the community who have supported them since 1910. Open Monday to Friday: 9am to 5pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm.



Kate Hammer at EB Games is feeling festive this holiday season, selling an infinite range of Christmas ideas for gaming lovers of all ages. Z09_5023



Grant Ryan and Maya Fraser of the Wonthaggi Hotel/Santas Little Helper store stock an exquisite display of Christmas decorations for sale this holiday season. Z10_5023



Georgi Phillips and Scott Harmon are fundraising for the Wonthaggi Lions Club selling Christmas cakes at the Wonthaggi Plaza every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, until December 22. Z08_5023



Wishing everyone a very happy and safe Christmas from all at St. Joseph's Parish Wonthaggi.

2023 CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

St. Joseph's Wonthaggi and Our Lady Star of the Sea, Inverloch:

Normal Weekend Mass Times

Saturday, December 23 - 6.30pm (Wonthaggi)

Sunday, December 24 - 9.00am (Inverloch)

Sunday, December 24 - 10.30am (Wonthaggi)

Additional Christmas Masses are as follows:

Sunday, December 24 - 5.00pm (Inverloch)

Sunday, December 24 - 6.30pm (Wonthaggi)

Monday, December 25 - 9.00am (Inverloch) and 10.30am (Wonthaggi)



Christmas turkey

with French fruit stuffing

By Meg Viney

THIS recipe is originally for roast goose – can't get them anymore – so I do it with turkey and it is really delicious.

Ingredients

- 2 onions, chopped
- 1 peeled coarsely chopped orange
- 2 apples, peeled and chopped
- 12 prunes, chopped
- 2 sprigs each of marjoram (or oregano) and thyme
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp freshly grated nutmeg
- 1 tbsp brandy
- 2 tbsp madeira
- 1 cup breadcrumbs
- Salt and pepper to taste

Method

Remove liver, giblets and neck from the turkey. Place in a pot with some salt and a few herbs and a couple of peppercorns and cook half an hour on low. Strain. This is the stock.

In three tabs butter sauté the onions with a good pinch of salt, lid on, over low heat for 10 mins.

Add orange then apples, prunes, thyme, marjoram, nutmeg, brandy, madeira and breadcrumbs.

Mix well.

Place some fresh sage inside the cavity then stuff loosely with stuffing – extra can be served from a casserole.

The way to get a moist turkey is to melt butter in a pot and put some gauze or even a piece of old sheet in to soak up the butter and cover the turkey with this.

Cook as recommended for the size of the bird, basting occasionally, removing the cloth for the last 15 minutes.

Allow to rest on a serving platter whilst you make the gravy. Stir a tablespoon or so of flour into the pan, stir well, then gradually add the stock, stirring well to create the gravy.

Serve to an enthusiastic crowd.



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Shop local this *Christmas*



Christmas Shortbread

By Lyn Balfour

Ingredients

- 150g caster sugar
- 300g butter – chopped
- 300g plain flour
- 75g corn flour
- 75g rice flour (McKenzies)

Method

Place flours and sugar into food processor, add chopped butter

Process until mixture nearly forms a ball

Press into slice tin (28cm x 18cm)
Bake at 160°C for 30 minutes or until cooked

Keep checking and turning, don't let it brown!

Cut into bars while still warm
Sprinkle with caster sugar



Dan, Jess, Nola, and Tim of Wonthaggi Library are open until 3pm on December 22 and re-open on December 27. Z11_5023



Shop local this Christmas and pamper yourself or a loved one with a treatment from the team at Revive. Cody Santurini, Allison Adams and Michelle Crellin. Z12_5023



David England of the Melbourne Furnishing Co at the incredible window display put together by Paradee from Santa's Little Helper and Harvey Norman Wonthaggi. Z13_5023

Christmas in the Boo



Nikita and Alex McMahon of Kooroaman check out Christmas in the Boo for the first time. A34_5023



Sonny and Charlie Martin of Mirboo North enjoy Christmas in the Boo. A35_5023



Ruth and Lorelei Sinclair of Mirboo North love coming to Christmas in the Boo. A36_5023



Noah Grundy and Stacey Stewart of Mirboo North get into the festive spirit at Christmas in the Boo. A37_5023

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Mark Lamers 0491 606 479 www.in2technology.com.au

Shop local this
Christmas



Leongatha Lions Grant and Les provide friendly service while selling Christmas cakes in McCartin Street. A01_5023

Flavoursome Lions fundraiser

LEONGATHA Lions Club secretary Les and member Grant enjoyed Thursday's sunshine while selling the Christmas cakes for which Lions is renowned, with an as-yet-undetermined local cause to benefit.

Last year Leongatha aged care home Woorayl Lodge gained a defibrillator with help from fruit cake proceeds.

Christmas cake generated funding accounted for a third of the price, with

Leongatha Lions and the Lodge making the same contribution.

Cake sale funding goes into a Lions pool, with each club receiving a distribution from that.

The cakes are made in Dandenong, with Grant giving this year's version a resounding endorsement.

"They're moist and flavoursome," he declared.



Sue Weir and Annabelle Meadows volunteered at the Leongatha Carols evening on Friday. A30_5023



Jayson Filomeno and Belinda Chandler look forward to the Carols at Leongatha. A32_5023

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CHRISTMAS

Santa's Little Helper & Collectables
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CHRISTMAS BAKERY RANGE NOW AVAILABLE



Including our popular plum pudding, shortbread and mince pies

Platters - sweet or savory - perfect for entertaining



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FRESH LOCAL SEAFOOD FOR CHRISTMAS
Including crays straight off the boat from San Remo



CHRISTMAS TRADING HOURS: Sunday, Dec. 24 7am-3pm, closed Dec. 25 and 26
Check Facebook  Bass Strait Direct for other hours
1/24-26 Boys Home Road, Newhaven Phone 5956 7980

WONTHAGGI WOODIES
Christmas Shop
15 DAYS ONLY

AT THE WOODIES WORKSHOP
239 White Road, Wonthaggi with BCAL. U3A and South Coast FM
Open every day from December 9 - 23
LOOK FOR THE SIGNS

Shop local this Christmas



Whether decorating the Christmas tree or looking for a collectable gift – Santas Little Helper in Wonthaggi is stocked to the brim.



A last-minute Christmas idea for those who are hard to buy for perhaps. Christmas scratch-it trees are available from Lucky Lotto in the Wonthaggi Plaza.



The team at Mitchell & Co are well and truly in the Christmas spirit with some Christmas favourites still available.

WONTHAGGI Carols

SUN 17 DEC

WISHART RESERVE

FAMILY TIME 5.30PM

CAROLS 7PM

We wish all our wonderful clients a safe and festive season



Don't forget your batteries!



abc

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- Independent, local and not aligned to any manufacturer so you can be assured of the best advice and a complete choice of devices with the latest hearing technology and comprehensive service
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 - Accredited to provide the Australian Government Hearing Services Program
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Open: Monday to Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm
Closing at 12noon Friday, Dec. 22, re-opening Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2023
Shop 5, Plaza Walk Arcade, 23 Murray Street, Wonthaggi
(opposite the new Bass Coast Library)
For bookings, please phone 5672 5598

Shop local this *Christmas*

Fun for all at Christmas in the Boo

CHRISTMAS in the Boo attendees enjoyed shopping, entertainment and dining in balmy summer conditions on Friday evening.

A wide range of stalls offered jewellery, clothes, plants, baskets, biscuits and cakes, meals and snacks, and Christmas items.

Adults and children were entertained.

Families played mini golf and other challenging games such as jenga and cornhole, with the younger members also having faces painted, hair braided, and creating bubbles, with the Community Bank Mirboo North and District sponsoring children's activities.

That support meant those activities were free, a boost for parents having to contend with the current cost of living pressures.

Mirboo North Primary School's stall added its own challenges, with people trying to double their money by balancing a coin on a floating lemon, an insurmountable task for the youngster the

Sentinel-Times observed.

However, better fortune was had by another in the coin tossing, his coin landing on a chocolate prize.

Volunteers Michelle Beresford and Bernadine Brullo were clearly enjoying raising funds for the school, Bernadine having created wooden Christmas trees for the event.

Mirboo North Scouts were selling live Christmas trees to fund the group's activities.

There was a mix of music, with more modern numbers at one end of the outdoor market and the Latrobe Community Concert Band providing traditional offerings.

Locals Ruth and Lorelei Sinclair come to Christmas in the Boo every year.

"We love the community atmosphere," Ruth said.

The joyous evening was organised by the Christmas in the Boo Committee, part of Mirboo Country Development Incorporated (MCDI).

Committee member Stacey Harriage is the volunteer co-ordinator for the not-for-profit event and said there were

more volunteers than ever helping with the organisation and running of Christmas in the Boo.

Those involved in running the Italian Festa and the Winter Fest pitched in, with Christmas in the Boo volunteers to return the favour at those events.

While wind died down early, making for the perfect evening, Stacey said numbers were down a little on previous years, attributing that to the fact less pleasant conditions in other towns made some people less inclined to travel to Mirboo North.

However, the crowd was still estimated at a healthy 4000 to 5000.

Stallholder fees, grants and sponsorship funding go into the MCDI account and assist in running the next Christmas in the Boo.

Stacey was delighted with feedback received for this year's event.

"People said it was great and there was heaps of free kids entertainment," she said.



Julie Allan of Moe adds a festive touch to her Belgian chocolates stall at Christmas in the Boo. A43_5023

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CAROLS @ THE GLADE

Sat 16 Dec

5.30PM FOOD & ACTIVITIES
6.30PM CAROLS START



Shop local this Christmas

Shop locally in Leongatha to benefit community

LEONGATHA Business Association president Johnny Ozols has called on people to support their local businesses, highlighting the ongoing community benefits of doing so, despite the prospect of online bargains.

"There are myriad options for Christmas and people should, where they can, do things at home and use the businesses that are around them because they're the ones that support our community," Johnny said.

"The benefit that you get from shopping locally is that you've got successful businesses and there's more money to support local sport, schools and community groups."

He declared that the positives of shopping in your community outweigh the convenience of shopping online.

While the immediate focus is on Christmas, Johnny encourages people to continue shopping locally on an ongoing basis, supporting not only retail outlets but local tradies, hospitality businesses and other service providers.



South Gippsland Shire mayor Clare Williams, Linda Jarman, Cousin Koala and Amanda Hart of The Salvation Army get into the Christmas spirit at the Leongatha carols. A40_5023

ALL YOU NEED
RIGHT HERE
SHOP LOCAL

Leongatha
Business Association



Weather cooperates, ensuring successful Leongatha Carols

RAIN stayed away long enough for everyone to enjoy a great night of carols and fireworks in Leongatha on Friday, organisers pleased with the estimated turnout of 1500 people.

Expectations of less than favourable conditions prompted alterations to the original plans, something that turned into a positive.

While Lyric Theatre's stage is normally borrowed for the event, it is made of wood and unsuitable for the expected conditions.

Leongatha Community Carols Committee member and treasurer Natalie Meadows explained the improvisation required and its outcome.

"We got two trucks instead of one and it was all last-minute staging and putting marquees on top of the trucks, and it worked out to be a lot better," Natalie said, adding there was much positive feedback on this year's stage.

The new approach will continue in 2024.

While the crowd wasn't as large as last year, that was expected, with 2022 being the first time the event was held following

COVID cancellations.

Some people played it by ear, waiting to see what the weather was doing, before venturing to the carols.

"We were so lucky that the weather held off," Natalie said.

With rain approaching late in the evening, the event was shortened by quarter of an hour, ensuring the firework crescendo could proceed to cap off a terrific family event.

Attendees enjoyed the usual blend of Christmas songs and carols performed by talented locals, the ever-popular South Gippsland Shire Brass Band accompanying the singers.

The many highlights included band members 'Kiki' Joseph and Katie Cantwell singing 'Angels We Have Heard on High', and a performance by Lyric Theatre's popular young talent Aoife O'Connell, with Jim Pickersgill of the South Gippsland Singers rounding out the singing for the evening.

Fireworks then lit the sky above the Leongatha Velodrome, not long before the clouds opened.



Hudson Hill, Dallas Marriott, Hunter Stretton, Ryder and Koa Breen, Jess Burrowes, Tylah Marriott, Max, Byron and Lennox Hill and Kim Critchlow settle in for carols in Leongatha. A39_5023



Gippsland based A Better Life for Foster Kids (ABLFK) has been recognised at the Australian Community Achievement Awards for Victoria, winning the Nectre Regional Service Award. Melina Bath, Heather Baird ABLFK, Leonie McCann ABLFK, Evonne Baird ABLFK.

A Better Life for Foster Kids are Community Achievers

GIPPSLAND based A Better Life for Foster Kids (ABLFK) has been recognised at the Australian Community Achievement Awards for Victoria, winning the Nectre Regional Service Award.

Based in Gippsland, A Better Life for Foster Kids was founded in 2014 by Heather Baird, who herself grew up in foster care.

The well-known charity supports children and carers in the out-of-home-care system through essential items and advocacy.

Long time supporter, The Nationals Member for Eastern Victoria, Melina Bath was part of the nomination process and celebrated with A Better Life for Foster Kids at the award ceremony.

Ms Bath said, "Last month I arranged for Heather to have a face to face meeting with the Minister for Children, Lizzie Blandthorn to share her perspective on why so many carers are leaving the system and the need for mental health triage for children entering care."

"I was delighted that Heather Baird, and her ABLFK team were recognised for their outstanding support of children in out of home care.

"Heather has worked tirelessly to support and advocate for our most vulnerable children – she is an inspiration.

"The physical and emotional support ABLFK bestows on children in out of home care and their carers is invaluable."

ABLFK has a voluntary Board of Management and operates with an extensive network of volunteers who deliver support throughout Gippsland and statewide.

Ms Bath said volunteers power the ABLFK charity with over 450 community groups across the state hand making or donating clothes to the charity.

"ABLFK has created an impressive network that assists the child and the foster family.

"Navigating through the state government's complex out of home and child protection system is often stressful and challenging for those individuals and families who find themselves in it.

"Heather Baird has consistently been a fierce campaigner for children in out of home care.

"The award is due recognition of the years of hard work that a ABLFK has put into supporting vulnerable children and I sincerely congratulate Heather, the Board and all volunteers for their recognition."

Hugh success at Inverloch Street Party



Harvey Welsford with Toby the Dinosaur at Inverloch's Street Party.



Elijah and Alex Hamilton met Toby at Inverloch's Street Party on Thursday night.

INVERLOCH'S dinosaur-themed street party was a hit for the whole community.

More than 2000 people turned out to explore the market stalls, enjoy the activities and, of course, catch a glimpse of the dinosaurs.

Inverloch Tourism Association's (ITA) Monique Wilson said the committee was thrilled with the overwhelming response.

"The objective of this street party was to revitalise the ITA and showcase what is fabulous about Inverloch, and I think we certainly achieved that," she said.

"It's the first time we've ran an event like this, but for four years we've had the late-night retailers' market. This year we decided to combine the market with a street party, and it was received really well.

"I had one person tell me they were proud to be from Inverloch after experiencing the event, which was wonderful. There was a great vibe from everyone there and the weather was on our side."

The street party leaned into a dinosaur theme, as Inverloch is about to be put on the map as the dinosaur capital of Victoria thanks to the Bass Coast Dinosaur Trail.

"It was great to see so many children inspired. It's a vision of the ITA to have a dinosaur festival long term," Monique said.

The children's activities at the street party included fossil and pet rock painting, face painting and interacting with dinosaurs that roamed the street from 5.30pm onwards.

ITA president Glenn Morris

said the event exceeded all expectations.

"It was a great success, and what was pleasing to see was the diversity. Adults, children and families all had something to do. It was great to see the whole community come together," he said.

The ITA will now be looking ahead to 2024 for more ways to boost Inverloch.

As well as bringing back the street party next year, the ITA will be considering ways to build on Inverloch as a destination to explore.

"I recently spent time in Western Australia, and we stayed in the townships, but what stood out to me was the things you could do within an hour of those townships," Glenn said.

"It had me thinking about what is within an hour of Inverloch – there's Wilsons Prom, Phillip Island and Cape Woolamai, the Hinterland. There's so much for people to explore and reason to justify spending a bit of extra time staying in Inverloch.

"We will be considering strategies to transform Inverloch into an "all year" town rather than just a "seasonal" town, with the community still at heart. We want to make it sustain for our businesses, and things like the Bass Coast Dinosaur Trail is sure to be a national magnet when its fully operational.

"We have some incredibly talented people on our committee, so we will see what can emerge from those discussions."

The ITA thanked Bass Coast Shire Council for awarding the \$5000 grant that made the Inverloch Street Party possible.

Christmas cheer spread at Grantville carols and market



Grantville's Lincoln, Jordyn and Levi King, and Sunni, Ollie and Mark Kasprovicz enjoyed carols on Sunday night.

GRANTVILLE'S Christmas Carols and Market was well attended on Sunday night.

The event was run by the Grantville Business and Community Association at the Grantville Hall and Reserve, and is funded each year by Bass Coast Shire Council.

The event has been a favourite in the community when it first began in 2004 in a paddock where the transaction centre is now located.

"We ran it off the back of a big truck, and the Grantville Business and Community Association has been putting it on ever since," community representative Helen Zervopoulos said.

"It's something the community has really appreciated,

and it's been lovely to see the demographic change over the years. We have a lot of young families in town now and they really get on board."

The carollers were from the Sisters and Misters Vocal Group, which made a name for itself after appearing on Australia's Got Talent.

The group proudly features 30 local singers.

Helen said she was pleased to see more stallholders than ever before, and children enjoyed the activities available, including face painting, a jumping castle and an animal nursery display.

The event ran from 5pm to 8pm, with an appearance from Santa Claus to the night.

Santa lands early to visit Summersalt Gymnastics



Ziggy, Indi and Reef took time out to visit Santa at Summersalt Gymnastics.



Delilah and Sophie pose for their Santa picture at Summersalt Gymnastics.



Santa at the ready Matt K and dog Bella are all smiles for their Santa picture.



Rotary to fundraise for rehabilitation garden at Phillip Island Community Hospital

THE ROTARY Club of Phillip Island and San Remo will raise \$100,000 over five years, to design and develop a new Rotary Rehabilitation Courtyard for the new Phillip Island Community Hospital in Cowes.

Rotary representatives met with Bass Coast Health (BCH) CEO Jan Child at the site on Monday, December 4, to sign a Memorandum of Understanding.

The garden will be used by patients recovering from surgery, and patients who are learning to walk safely and regain function after other serious issues such as strokes, falls and fractures.

All of this, under the supervision of physiotherapists from BCH.

Rob Robertson, President of the Phillip Island and San Remo Rotary Club, said the Club was proud to partner with BCH on this valuable project.

"The garden will have gravel paths, a range of other surfaces, ramps and steps so that patients can gain confidence in tackling a variety of surfaces post their surgery or illness, and clinical staff from Bass Coast Health, along with community members, will have input into the design of the garden," he said.

"We see this project as a major contribution that we can make for the long-term benefit of the Phillip Island and San Remo community."

The Club has already raised \$30,000 this year from the Putting on the Ritz



Bass Coast Health CEO Jan Child and Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo President Rob Robertson. Rotary will fundraise for the Rotary Rehabilitation Courtyard at the new Phillip Island Community Hospital at Cowes.

dinner dance and will aim to raise much of the future funds from the proceeds of the Rotary Opportunity Shop at 132 Thompson Avenue, Cowes.

During summer, the op-shop is open from 10am-3pm Monday to Saturday and is able to sell used electrical items due to having the services of a volunteer licensed tester.

Rotary is working with landscape design company Island Landscape and

Design to create the rehabilitation courtyard.

BCH CEO Jan Child thanked the Rotary Club for their generous support of healthcare on Phillip Island.

"It's through the amazing support that we receive from our community that we are able to provide such fantastic healthcare services to the public," she said.

"Bass Coast Health values the Rotary Club's passion for this project and for their drive in taking on the

fundraising commitment to make this Rehabilitation Garden happen.

"This area will be such an exciting feature of the Phillip Island Health Hub and we can't wait to see it in operation."

For more information about the Phillip Island Community Hospital, go to: basscoasthealth.org.au/pich

Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo President Rob Robertson can be contacted on 0412 331 218.

Yoga on the lawn at Coal Creek this summer

HOPEFULLY the sun will shine for yoga on the lawn at Coal Creek this summer, with five Friday morning classes planned, the first on December 29.

The sessions are open to those of all ages and abilities, with the expert guidance of Nat Jefferis, originally from Korumburra.

"I've always done something in the way of movement; I was a dancer as a kid when I lived down in Korumburra and that evolved into pilates and yoga as I grew up," Nat said.

"Mindful movement and mobility, and remaining healthy both physically and mentally, has always been a priority of mine," Nat said.

She runs Nata Yoga, having begun teaching yoga in 2016, and, although now Melbourne based, conducts regular classes in Korumburra.

"I came down to teach a couple of classes in Korumburra and it stuck, so I travel down every week and spend two days teaching yoga to adults and kids in South Gippsland," Nat said.

She runs yoga sessions at the Korumburra Indoor Recreation Centre and the Sports and Spinal Clinic, as well as overseeing kids classes at

the Karmai Community Children's Centre.

The Coal Creek yoga sessions will be held on the grass outside the Pig 'N Whistle, with plans to move inside that building if South Gippsland's weather misbehaves.

Nat enjoys teaching family classes.

"It's important to teach people how to find these spaces of mindfulness and calmness in amongst our everyday lives," Nat said.

She encourages yoga participants to listen to their bodies.

"If there is something you're not in position to do at the time, it's fine for you to sit it out," Nat said, adding that the beauty of yoga is that it is not only about poses but also mindfulness, meaning participants are always benefiting.

She offers a range of levels for each pose and brings in a playful element for kids.

Classes start at 11am on Friday December 29, and January 5, 12, 19 and 26, costing \$20 per family for up to five people.

Additional group members are \$5 each.

For enquiries, email itsnatayoga@gmail.com or call Nat on 0400 586 097.



Nat Jefferis illustrates one of her yoga poses at Coal Creek.

Health sector all about Phillip Island cruise ships

CRUISE ships carrying hundreds of passengers have begun arriving at Phillip Island.

While a boon for the local tourism sector, Gippsland Region Public Health Unit (GRPHU) operations director Annelies Titulaer said her team was working with Bass Coast Health and Ambulance Victoria to prepare for cruise ship arrivals and possible health events or outbreaks.

The multi-agency partnership was formed last year.

"While last year didn't see any health events requiring escalation, it provided us all with some valuable lessons in terms of the relationships and the processes we'll need to step up our response," Annelies said.

Cruise ships, due to their close quarters and the movement of travellers between various locations, can be associated with an increased risk of infectious diseases, namely respiratory infections (such as COVID-19 and influenza) and gastroenteritis outbreaks caused by pathogens like Norovirus and/or Campylobacter.

When detected and notified, outbreaks of these conditions will trigger a response from land-based health agencies and local public health units.

"Before any ship arrives, we receive a briefing from the Gippsland Region Public Health Unit about any possible risk factors they may have identified during the voyage. Based on that briefing, agencies such as Bass Coast Health and Ambulance Victoria (Gippsland) can respond if necessary to ensure passengers receive the best care where needed and the community are protected," Bass Coast Health chief executive Jan Child said.

Phillip Island is used to event-based increases in population with the Grand Prix circuit attracting thousands of visitors on particular weekends and the Island being a favourite destination over summer for Victorians.

"We are fortunate in some ways to have experience with the need to step up our oversight and provision of service to the Island through any given year," Ambulance Victoria Gippsland emergency management coordinator Danny Anderson said.

"With that in mind, the arrival of cruise ships does provide us with an extra challenge but one that the partnership between ourselves, Bass Coast Health, the Gippsland Regional Public Health Unit and the community allows us to be confident that we have measures in place to manage any health events that the cruise ships may encounter."

This season, 11 cruise ships are expected to berth at Phillip Island with the first ship arriving on December 10 and the last on April 27.

To stay up to date with the latest public health news, visit the Gippsland Regional Public Health Unit website or find them on Facebook.

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Ryder enjoyed steering the fire truck on Thursday night at the Bunnings Family Christmas event. C01_5023



Ryder and Jett were in the Christmas spirit on Thursday as they jumped into Wonthaggi's fire truck at the Bunnings Christmas Family Night. C02_5023



Elijah was all smiles on Thursday night in the fire truck as he hopped in the passenger's seat. C03_5023



Lola and Finn took a seat up front and checked out the views from the passenger's seat as a firefighter with Wonthaggi Fire Brigade. C17_5023



John Giliam and Chloe Stock of Dumbalk attended Friday's Koonwarra Store Sale to check out Friesian steers but found those there too big. A25_5023



Lindsay Powney of Leongatha said cattle prices still have a long way to go at Friday's Store Sale. A26_5023



Robert Findlay, Jill Forrester and Kevin Morgan at Friday's Koonwarra Store Sale, where Kevin of Nutrien Traralgon was pleased to see widespread rain continue to improve buyer confidence. A27_5023



Georgia Trease and Sophie Lester at Friday's cattle sale in Koonwarra. A28_5023



Lenny and Glenda Sellings of Leongatha hoped to sell 28 mixed beef cattle at Friday's Store Sale, while Robyn and Rob Peacock of Modelia came for a look. A29_5023



Pictures of you and your friends in the fire truck at Bunnings Wonthaggi, Koonwarra Store Sale, Phillip Island Fire Station Opening and Inverloch Street Party.



San Remo's Lulu and Sage van der Walt and Inverloch's Rose Deery painted fossils at the dinosaur themed Inverloch Street Party.

Sentinel-Times

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Wonthaggi's Jayden, Ava and Jade Best enjoyed their Thursday night at the Inverloch Street Party.



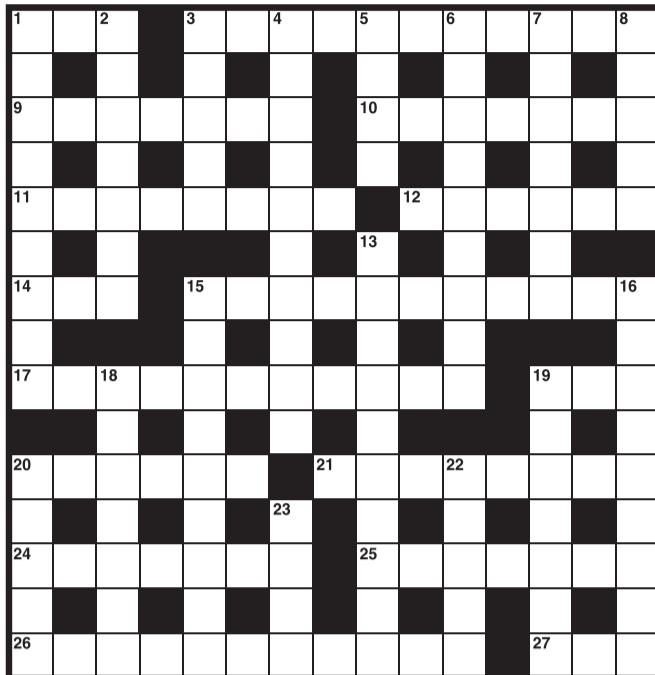
Inverloch's Freya and Amelia Henderson had their faces painted at the Inverloch Street Party.



Wonthaggi's Cooper and Brenden Milkins played games at the Inverloch Street Party on Thursday.



CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Big b-ball league (1,1,1)
 3 A permanent administrative office (11)
 9 Supervisors (7)
 10 Country in Horn of Africa (7)
 11 Income streams (8)
 12 Conventions (6)
 14 Bad (3)
 15 Possibly (11)
 17 Curse (11)
 19 Type of palm tree (3)
 20 Board rider (6)

9-LETTER

No. 205

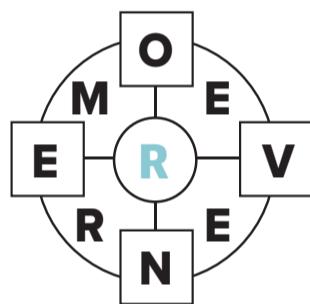
Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural words ending in "s".

Today's Aim:

9 words: Good

13 words: Very good

18 words: Excellent



SOLUTION



No. 205

21 Hats, helmets, etc. (8)
 24 Accepting without resistance (7)
 25 US writer (1817–62), Henry David (7)
 26 Representation of an abstract meaning (11)
 27 Deity (3)

DOWN

1 Egyptian queen (9)
 2 Touchdown (7)
 3 Boy's name (5)
 4 Theoretical (10)
 5 Simple (4)
 6 Acknowledgement (9)
 7 Forbidden by law (7)
 8 Streetcars (5)
 13 Germ-free (10)
 15 Earlier (9)
 16 Annual (4-5)
 18 Sunshade (7)
 19 Titanic沉没者 (7)
 20 Prefix meaning above (5)
 22 Amusingly odd (5)
 23 Close (4)

WORDFIT

3 LETTERS HERE
 ADO HONE
 AIL PATS
 ALE SASH
 ASK SHES
 BEE CRY
 CUE ABATE
 DIE ACTOR
 EWE ADORE
 EYE ADORN
 GEE ALIEN
 HES ALIGN
 ICE ALIKE
 IFS APART
 ITS AVAIL
 KEN BLUSH
 KEY CASTE
 NIL CRAVE
 ORE DEBTS
 OVA DWELL
 PRO EATER
 SHE EDGES
 TEA EMITS
 YEW EPOCH

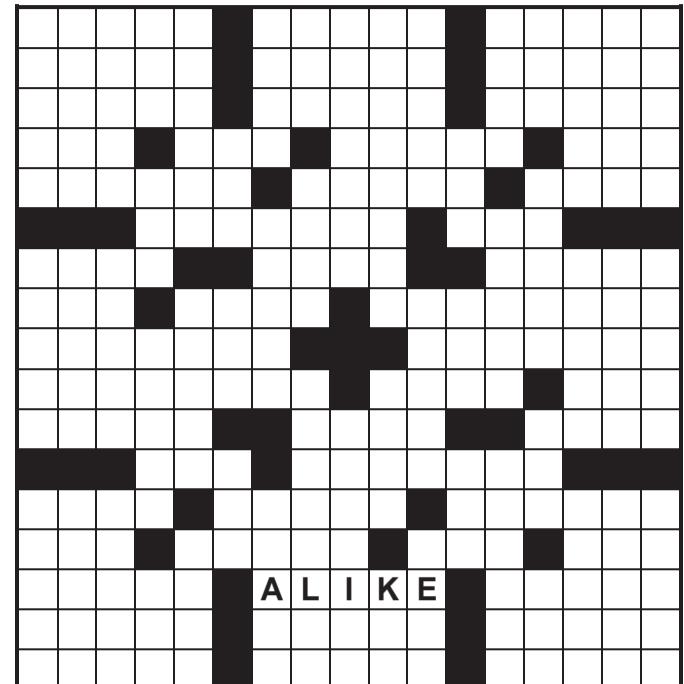
4 LETTERS

ACTS ICONS
 ANTS MEANT
 COOS NEVER
 DENS NURSE
 DISK PATTY
 EELS RABBI
 ENDS RESET
 HATS RINSE
 HERD ROTOR

5 LETTERS

SABRE TREED
 SARIS TREKS
 SEEPS TREND
 GENES SLEEK
 SLOTH WARNS
 SNOUT YELLS
 SORTS YESES

No. 115



7 LETTERS

8 LETTERS

FEATHER DEPLORES
 NIMBLER OVERSEES
 OUTLIVE SHRILLER
 RINSING STARTLED
 RUDDERS TARTARS

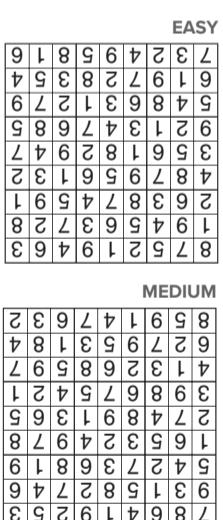
6 LETTERS

ROSARY
 SHRINE
 STRINE
 YOKING



0812 | PUZZLES AND PAGINATION © pagemasters.

SOLUTIONS

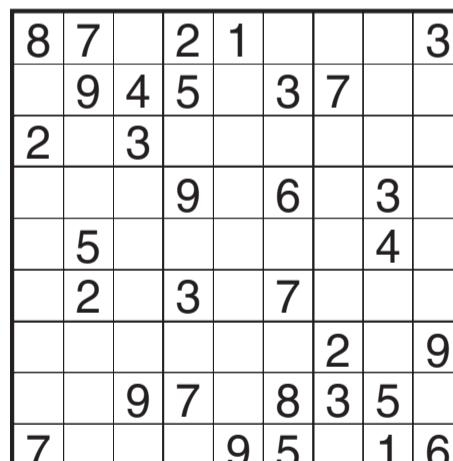


No. 205

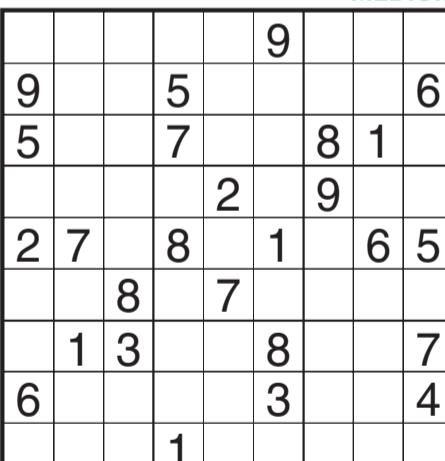
SUDOKU

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 3x3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.

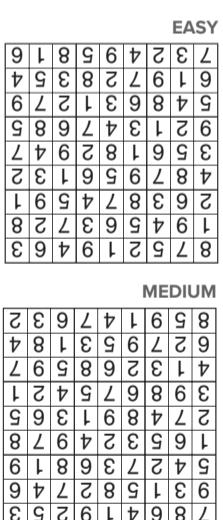
EASY



MEDIUM



EASY

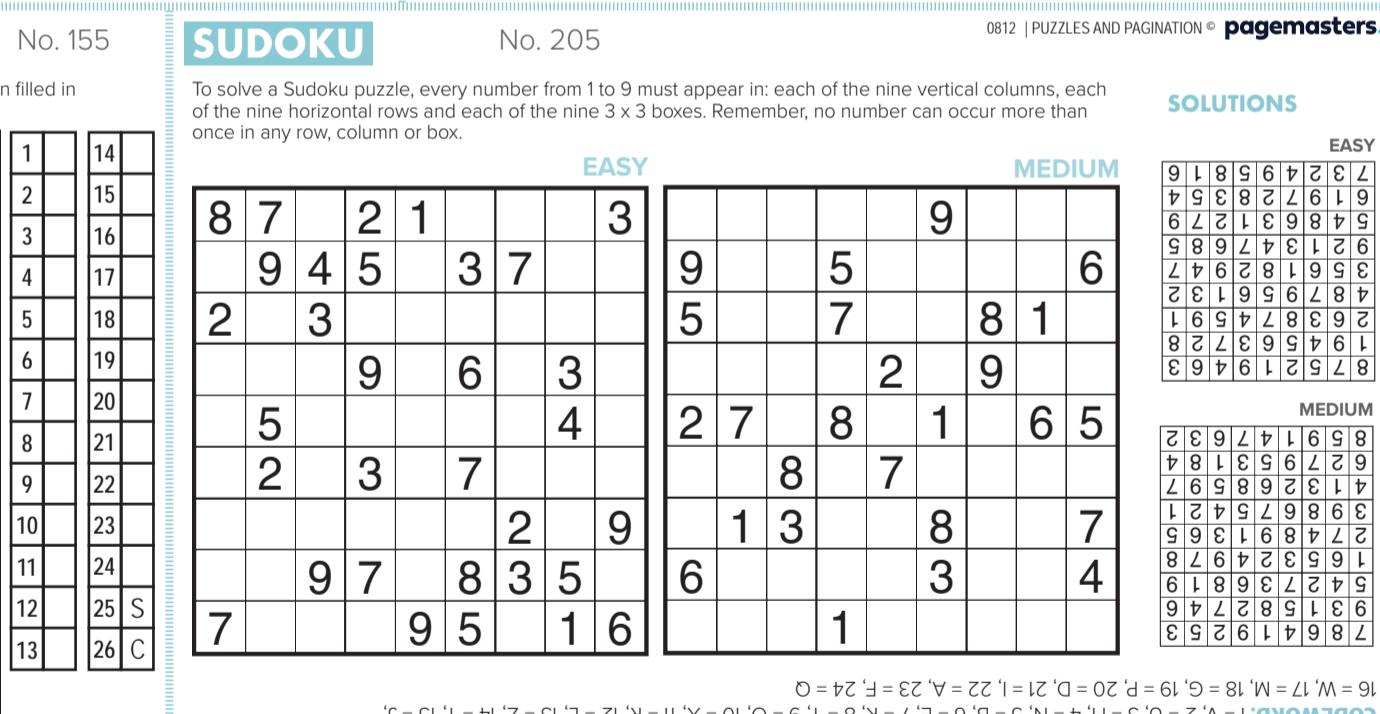
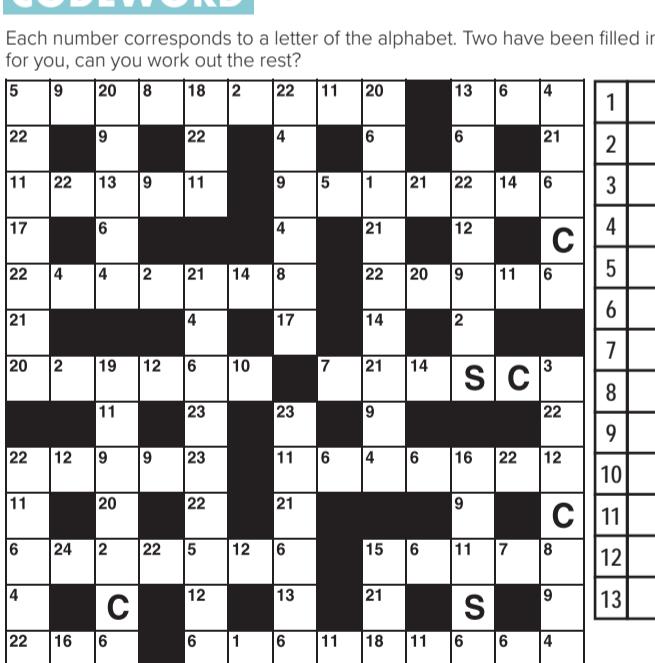


CODEWORD: 1 = V, 2 = U, 3 = H, 4 = N, 5 = B, 6 = E, 7 = K, 8 = Y, 9 = Q, 10 = X, 11 = R, 12 = L, 13 = Z, 14 = T, 15 = J.

MEDIUM

CODEWORD

No. 155



QUICK QUIZ

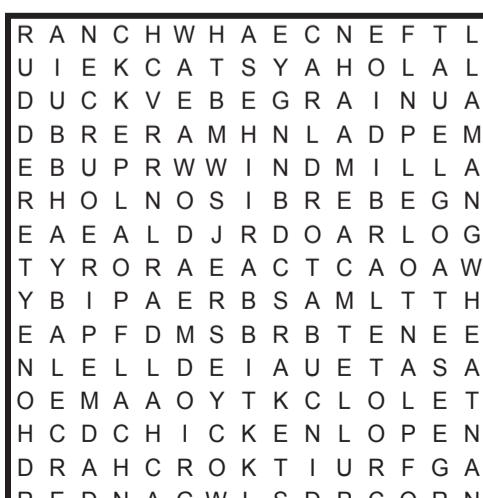
- A person suffering from friggatriskaidekaphobia is afraid of what?
- Which award-winning singer was born Natalie McIntryre?
- In the Star Wars universe, what 'forest moon' is home to the Ewoks?
- In which month of 1666 did the Great Fire of London occur?
- The Round House in Western Australia was originally built for what purpose?
- Lead singer of Foo Fighters, Dave Grohl (pictured) was once the drummer for which iconic '90s band?
- What is the name of the largest island of Fiji?
- Vesak is a holy day observed in which religion?
- Which great classical composer died of a suspected stroke in 1750 in Leipzig, Germany?
- Sadie Madison and Sunny Madeline are the children of which US actor and comedian?



ANSWERS: 1. Friday the 13th 2. Macy Gray 3. Endor 4. September 5. A prison 6. Nirvana 7. Vitiligo 8. Buddhism 9. Johann Sebastian Bach 10. Adam Sandler

WORD SEARCH

No. 115



Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

ACRE	GATE	PLANT
BARLEY	GESE	PULLET
BISON	GOAT	RABBIT
BOAR	GRAIN	RAKE
BREED	HAY BALE	RANCH
BULL	HAYSTACK	REAP
CALF	HONEY	RICE
CATTLE	INCUBATOR	RIPE
CHICKEN	JERSEY COW	SILO
CORN	LAMB	STABLE
DUCK	LAND	TEND
FENCE	LLAMA	UDDER
FLOCK	MARE	WHEAT
FOAL	MEADOW	WINDMILL
FRUIT	MULE	
GANDER	ORCHARD	

SECRET MESSAGE: Whatever happened to Old McDonald?

Sing-a-long with Santa this Christmas

• Tuesday, December 12 from 5.30pm (pre-entertainment), 7.30pm Carols by the Bay, at the Amphitheatre on The Esplanade. Fireworks to follow. The Cowes Carols by the Bay, is always a great occasion with the Tuesday 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 Clause 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).

• 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. At Korumburra, Coal Creek Choir and South Gippsland Concert Band will lead a singing-a-long.

• 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.

• Monday, December 18 at 11am - Mirboo North's big tree. Lock in 11am for a big jolly hoo-haa at Mirboo North's big tree! Mirboo North Aged Care residents choir have been practicing and they are coming down to sing Christmas carols. There will also be a group of kids from the Primary School coming up to enjoy the show along with a special visit by the big man himself.



Stevenson's Rockets are set to play this Sunday at Phillip Island Bowling Club for the final event of 2023.

Stevenson's Rockets for final jazz for 2023

SUNDAY December 17 we are fortunate to have Stevenson's Rockets performing for the final jazz event for 2023.

This group is a four piece with some of the most successful and acknowledged musos namely Jo Stevenson, Steven Grant on keyboards, Chris Ludowyk on bass and Ian Smith on drums.

Jo Stevenson has been playing both piano and piano accordion since the age of 13 but now specialises in reeds. Steven Grant will be playing piano and has become a regular playing with many groups

throughout the year, Chris Ludowyk who we normally see playing trombone will be playing the bass and Ian Smith will be our fantastic drummer. Boy!!! What a line up.

With Christmas only a few days from our Sunday Jazz afternoon why not make up a table with friends for a Merry Christmas afternoon while listening to some great entertainment with a few nibbles along with drinks from our happy bar staff.

This event is proudly supported by Terry White Chemmart Pharmacy.

We are expecting lots of people for the event, so we suggest that you book your spot. Cost for the day will be \$20 a head for members and \$25 for guests. The entertainment commences at 2pm and concludes at 4.30pm.

Venue is at Phillip Island Bowling Club, 40 Dunsmore Rd, Cowes.

For more information on bookings please contact Robin – 0432 814 407 or Jill – 0417 416 300 to arrange purchase of tickets. Tickets are selling fast, but we still have some available.

Arts Centre forecourt becomes a vibrant hub of free summer fun

THE West Gippsland Arts Centre (WGAC) is excited to announce 'Forecourt Fridays,' a series of free live music events guaranteed to bring the good vibes.

Kickstarting on Friday 15 December, the once-a-month events will feature a mix of local artists and musicians, showcasing the rich talent of Gippsland.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own food, chairs, or picnic blankets, but if you would prefer to skip the packing, Coffee Vibes will have you covered with coffee and burritos for sale on-site, as well as licensed service from the WGAC foyer bar (no BYO alcohol permitted, alcohol consumption restricted to designated areas).

Where: West Gippsland Arts Centre (Forecourt), 1 Civic Place, Warragul. When: 6pm to 9pm, on: Friday December 15

Act 1: IO
Act 2: Tood Cook and the Rufus Whistlers

Friday January 19
Act 1: Meg Doherty
Act 2: Harry Hook is Real

Friday February 9
Act 1: Jayne Neilson & Malcolm McCaffery
Act 2: Ally Row

Friday March 15
Act 1: Queen of Hearts
Act 2: Cheap Skate

Admission: Free for all ages
In case of inclement weather, the event will be moved inside.

Join us at the Arts Centre for a memorable series of Friday evenings filled with music, community spirit and fun.

For more information and updates follow WGAC on social media at facebook.com/westgippslandartscentre and instagram.com/westgippslandartscentre.

FISH CREEK CARNIVAL

DEC 31st 2023 - JAN 4th 2024



TOM BALLARD
LIVE

**NEW YEARS
EVE CABARET**

**ARE WE
THERE YET?!**



~ Local Christmas Mass times ~

Christmas Eve, December 24

Bass: St Paul's 7.30pm
Cowes: St Philip's 5pm, St Mary's 8pm, St Philip's 11pm
Inverloch: Our Lady Star of the Sea 5pm, Church of the Ascension 9pm
Koo Wee Rup: St John the Baptist 7.30pm
Leongatha: St Laurence's 7.30pm
Mirboo North: St Joseph's 5pm
San Remo: St Augustine's 5pm, Our Lady Star of the Sea 6pm
Tarwin Lower: St Andrew's Union Church 5pm
Toora: St Agnes 5pm
Wonthaggi: St Joseph's 6.30pm
Yarram: St Mary's 7pm Christmas Carols, 7.30pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Christmas Day, December 25

Bass: St Joseph's 11am
Cowes: St Mary's 9am, St Philip's 10am
Foster: St Joseph's 9am
Inverloch: Church of the Ascension 8am, Our Lady Star of the Sea 9am
Korumburra: St Joseph's 9am
Leongatha: St Laurence's 10.30am
Meeniyian: St Kevin's 9am
San Remo: St Augustine's 8am
Wonthaggi: St George's 10am, St Joseph's 10.30am
Yarram: St Mary's 9am

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



Saturday January 6th 2024 ~9am onwards

THE SHOW SHED

- Garden & Farm Produce Competition
- Scarecrows Competition
- Decorated Gumboots Competition
- Amateur Photography Competition
- Backyard Chooks & Much More

- Horses, Donkeys
- Animals Nursery
- Street Theatre
- Stilts, Clowns, Balloons
- Tractors & Old Fashioned Equipment
- Utes & 4X4
- Carnival Side Shows
- Show Bags, Show Food

Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve Korumburra Rd Wonthaggi
Follow us on facebook:
Bass Coast - Wonthaggi Summer Show



This superbly located block, of 753m², opposite the ninth fairway at the Phillip Island Golf Course, within walking distance of Silverleaves Beach goes to auction this Saturday, December 16 at 2pm.

Stroll to the beach or nine iron to the green

REAL estate agents will tell you that it's a good idea to take unique properties to auction because of the interest that's likely to be generated.

And such is the case with a property that is being marketed as a 'blank canvas' at 302 Coghlan Road, Silverleaves.

Situated opposite the ninth fairway of the Phillip Island Golf Course, here is a golfers' dream property, while also having wide appeal from anyone interested in a well-located residential block of land with the best of all worlds; golf course access, close to town and walking distance to the beach.

And the beauty of 302 Coghlan Road is there's no beach shack, overgrowth of mess to remove before you can go ahead and build a home to your own specifications and without the baggage that sometimes comes with an established home.

Greg Price, principal of Alex Scott and Staff in Cowes, is excited about the possibilities.

"It's arguably one of the best located vacant blocks on Phillip Island. Close to everything that the beautiful area of Silverleaves has to offer and with a very generous frontage of 21.52m which you

don't often find these days," said Greg.

"The block is ideally elevated to give you uninterrupted views over the golf course and all the work has been done for you in preparing a site for a new home."

There's a double garage set at the back of the property, providing space for a workshop, men's shed or studio, a place for storage while you're getting ready to build.

An inspection will confirm the possibilities.

The property goes to auction this Saturday, December 16 at 2pm on site, with a price range of between \$650,000 and \$710,000.

For more information contact Greg Price at Alex Scott and Staff on 0419 337 441.

Vacant Block

753m²

302 Coghlan Road, **Silverleaves**

Auction Sat. Dec. 16 at 2pm on site

Agent Alex Scott & Staff

Cowes Office 5952 2633





Unparalleled lifestyle

BUILT by a reputable local builder, this four-bedroom brick veneer home has views as far as Wilsons Promontory. Situated on approximately two acres, this property is perfect for those who appreciate space and privacy.

Featuring four generously sized bedrooms, this home provides ample space for a growing family or those who love to entertain guests. The master bedroom boasts its own ensuite, built in robes and ceiling fan. There is room for everyone with the three remaining bedrooms also boasting built-in-robdes. The additional bathroom ensures convenience and functionality for all occupants with a separate bath and shower.

The large two car garage connects seamlessly to the home through the large sunroom/mudroom which could have many uses. The property also offers an impressive 12m x 6m powered shed providing ample space for vehicles, storage, or even a workshop. This is a rare find that will surely impress car enthusiasts or those with a need for extra storage. Connected to this shed is another large undercover area perfect for the caravan.

The possibilities are endless outside, whether you dream of creating a beautiful garden oasis, having some animals including utilising the established chook pens, or simply enjoying the serenity of the surrounding nature including the bird attracting native plantations.

Located in Kardella South, you can enjoy the tranquility of rural living while still being within close proximity to essential amenities. The nearby towns of Leongatha and Korumburra provide a range of shops, cafes, schools, and medical facilities, ensuring all your needs are met.

This property offers incredible value for those seeking a premium lifestyle. Don't miss out on this rare opportunity to own a slice of paradise.



4 | 2 | 5 2 acres

745 Old Leongatha Road,
Kardella South
For Sale \$1,025,000
Agent Ray White Leongatha
Dave Trotman 0418 589 805



Ray White.

For Sale

4 Walsh Court, **Leongatha**

EXCELLENT LOCATION, AFFORDABLE PRICE

- Quiet court close to schools
- Modern style kitchen & laundry
- Good sized living area plus alfresco
- Established gardens & single carport

Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196

\$550,000

3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1



For Sale

42 A'Beckett Street, **Leongatha**

PRIME POSITION

- Hop, skip & jump to shops & eateries!
- Generous open plan living/dining/kitchen
- Two bedrooms with BIR's
- Rear courtyard, lovely garden & garage

Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$465,000

2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1



For Sale

30 Allison Street, **Leongatha**

QUALITY, LOCATION & NOTHING TO DO!

- Immaculate, light filled & low maintenance
- Open plan living/dining/kitchen
- Covered outdoor entertaining area
- Short distance to shops & day care centres

Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196

\$665,000

3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1

NUMBER 1
SELLING AGENCY IN
LEONGATHA &
SOUTH GIPPSLAND

Michael Hanily



Paige Matthews



Dave Trotman



Kasey Bowman



Ray White Leongatha

03 5662 5800

15 Bair Street, Leongatha

raywhiteteleongatha.com.au



Lifestyle dream on 2.5 acres!

WITH small acreage and a stunning manicured garden, this four-bedroom, two-bathroom lifestyle property is an extraordinary opportunity to own a piece of South Gippsland paradise!

Located only nine minutes from the township of Leongatha this spacious home offers flexible dual-zoned living areas with the option to make one end of the home a separate living space. With expansive verandahs that wrap around the house – every window has a view!

The spacious central kitchen/dining/living areas have gorgeous timber lined cathedral ceilings making the home feel spacious and airy. All bedrooms have built in robes, with the master also boasting an ensuite.

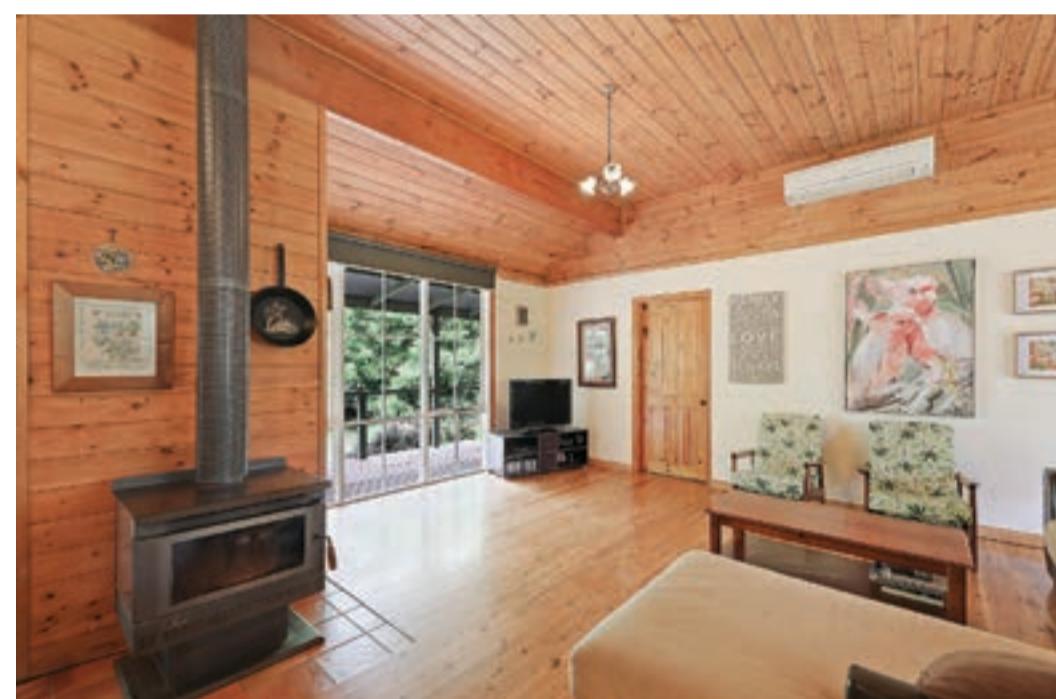
Small lifestyle properties are highly sought after, and the land on offer here takes this already wonderful home into a class of its own.

Currently the land is divided into a house surrounded by the most magnificent garden, attracting the abundant birdlife, with an adjoining paddock that is low maintenance. The property also has a host of established trees, veggie gardens, garage/shed, reverse cycle air/heating, solid fuel heating, ceiling fans, ample tank water.....and the list goes on!

There are simply too many features to list here – you really do have to see this gem to believe it.

- Four bedrooms, two bathrooms
- Dual-zoned living with main open plan living area
- Lovely sweeping verandahs overlooking the garden and north facing
- 2.5 acres of land with shedding, chook house and an enclosure for berries
- Stunning rural outlook
- Mature gardens with established trees and veggie gardens
- Reverse cycle heating/cooling and wood heating
- Gas cooktop, electric oven
- Tank water
- Solar electricity panels

Don't miss the opportunity to secure this gorgeous property. Call Kellie Thomas on 0438 647 449 to arrange your inspection today!



4 2 2 2.5 acres

55 Nerrena Hall Road, **Nerrena**

For Sale \$925,000 - \$950,000

Agent Nutrien Harcourts

Kellie Thomas 0438 647 449
kellie.thomas@nh.com.au

Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha

47 Bair Street, Leongatha
(03) 5662 2292

Scan the QR code to visit our website



POUND CREEK

Off Grid Luxury Living!

- Stunning family home on approx. 40 acres.
- Large modern kitchen with WI butlers pantry.
- Amenities inc. fencing, shedding & water supply.

\$1,850,000 - \$1,950,000



TARWIN LOWER

Spectacular & Stunning on 4.95 Acres!

- Beautiful turnkey family home.
- Master bedroom with Ensuite & walk in robe.
- Fully appointed modern kitchen with WI pantry.

\$1,400,000



MEENIYAN

Unique Opportunity!

- Fantastic townhouse set on approx. 562m².
- Open plan kitchen/dining/living areas.
- Great location and zoned commercial land.

\$595,000



LEONGATHA

Charming Family Home!

- Neat & Modern home on approx. 908m² block.
- Well equipped kitchen, and open plan living.
- Stunning backyard with great alfresco area.

\$765,000 - \$785,000



LEONGATHA

1,793m²

Rare Opportunity!

- Residential building block STCA, private location.
- Established trees & all services available.
- Walking distance to the schools & CBD.

\$475,000



BARRY REDMOND
Director / Estate Agent
0477 622 292



KELLIE THOMAS
Licensed Estate Agent
0438 647 449



MATT REDMOND
Licensed Estate Agent
0418 357 341



MONIQUE WIGHTMAN
Marketing Manager & Office Admin



KROWERA

Impeccable Rural Property!

- Fully renovated home on approx. 311 acres.
- Beautifully designed home throughout.
- Great outdoor amenities.

\$3,700,000

HM10640/V12

We get results!



Latest technologies featured at Leongatha South farm day

NATIONAL experts and specialists will present on the latest technologies being used at Jelbart Farm at a feature event near Leongatha on Wednesday, December 13.

This free on-farm event includes a panel session, presentations from guest speakers and demonstrations of key technologies that help reduce the farms' environmental footprint.

Agriculture Victoria program manager dairy services Del Delpitiya said the day will focus on feed pads, renewable energy, effluent management irrigation and much more.

"Participants will be taken on a tour of the farm's technologies, giving them a firsthand experience of cost savings, environmental considerations and future plans," he said.

"Tim Jelbart's farm highlights the benefits of updating technologies to reduce your environmental footprint, such as solar energy applications."

"The event will also provide a great opportunity for Gippsland farmers to come together, network, share ideas and learn from national experts."

Keynote topics and speakers featured on the day include:

- Jennie Pryce, Agriculture Victoria principal research scientist – the role of genetics in sustainability.
- Karen Romano, Dairy Australia feeding and farm systems lead – Australia guidelines for cattle shelters and feed pads.
- Peter Best, Innovative Farm Services – integrated effluent management system benefits and considerations.

The day aims to help farm businesses of all kinds and sizes to increase productivity and resilience through sharing knowledge and technology on renewable energy practices.

Join Agriculture Victoria and GippsDairy this Wednesday from 9am to 2.30pm at Jelbart's dairy farm in Leongatha South.

Registrations are required and can be made at trybooking.com/CMZKG.

For more information or help registering, contact Maria Rose on 0438 282 205 or maria.rose@agriculture.vic.gov.au.

This event is delivered in partnership with GippsDairy and supported by the Farm Business Resilience Program (FBR).



Nutrien auctioneer Brian McCormack sells steers during Friday's Koonwarra Store Sale. A50_5023



Cattle prices continue to improve as confidence rises. A51_5023

Improving cattle prices due to healthy rain

Sentinel-Times

COVERING SOUTH GIPPSLAND AND BASS COAST



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UNEXPECTEDLY good rain in New South Wales and Queensland continues to drive improved cattle prices, with Elders auctioneer Rohan McRae commenting on the more buoyant market over the last month at Friday's Koonwarra Store Sale.

"It's getting a little stronger each week," he said, impressed by a good yarding of almost 5200 head of cattle.

Rohan attributed increasing farmer confidence to healthy rainfall across the Eastern Seaboard, helping turn the market around after it had endured such a sharp fall previously.

"A market will only run one way for so long," he said.

People were drawn to Friday's Store Sale to see how the prices went.

Sophie Lester of Mardan was one of the interested observers, saying that while prices could be better, they aren't too bad and have picked up a bit.

Australian livestock sustainability progress story hits world stage

THE Australian livestock sector's progress and achievements in climate sustainability will be put into the global spotlight at the COP28 summit in Dubai.

The annual conference of the parties (COP) summit is a key international forum that discusses key issues related to climate change mitigation.

Australia's red meat and livestock sector participated in the conversation, including presentation on the flagship climate change sustainability program CN30 (carbon neutral by 2030).

CN30 project manager Julia Waite is currently attending the summit and said there was very strong interest from global stakeholders in the leadership and innovation being shown by the Australian livestock sector.

"The Australian livestock industry, in delivering on its CN30 commitment, has made significant investments through collaborative partnerships in new technologies and practice change to increase the efficiency and productivity of the Australian livestock sector," Ms Waite said.

"This includes improved land management such as the sequestration of carbon in soils and planting trees, development and adoption of feed additives, and new livestock breeding techniques and strategies."

"The session at COP28 was an opportunity to acknowledge that while livestock make a contribution to global emissions, our industry is part of the climate solution – while also playing a critically important role for global nutrition and food security."

Ms Waite was joined at COP28 by other representatives talking about the Australian livestock sector, including head of environment and sustainability at AA Co Naomi Wilson and CSIRO team leader for Northern Cattle Production Dr Stuart Denman.

"There was strong interest in solutions, with recognition that global challenges need local solutions," she said.

"This is exactly what CN30 is about – finding innovative solutions through research, development and adoption that have practical implications for livestock producers. CN30 is about ensuring our sustainability gains are very much focused on productivity and profitability as well."

Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) invested more than \$180 million into CN30, including investment from government and commercial partners.

To date, industry has reduced its net greenhouse gas emission by 65 per cent since 2005.

MLA has worked closely with the Australian Government in raising the profile of the Australian livestock sector at COP for the second year running, highlighting the importance of the industry and its performance in delivering food security while mitigating climate impacts.

Consumer spending on food shrinks

By Michael Harvey, Senior Analyst, Rabobank

food retail and foodservice markets.

The latest ABS retail trade data also shows that retail trade was sustainably weaker than expected. Focussing in on the food market, we can see that trade in food retail and foodservice were both higher in October year-on-year, but not when adjusted for inflation. Food retail was 0.5 per cent higher month-on-month in October (versus one per cent in September). Foodservice performance was weaker, at -0.4 per cent in October (versus -0.3 per cent in September). The combined performance of food retail and foodservice showed that the trend is toward less spending in food markets and smaller baskets. The year-on-year growth in the combined food retail and foodservice trade has been trending lower since March, and was just 3.7 per cent higher year-on-year in October (not adjusted for inflation).



36 BRIDGE STREET, KORUMBURRA PH: 5655 1133 FAX: 5655 2480

Livestock Sales

KORUMBURRA

David Ryan 0408 311 895 Dick Faulkner 0408 595 174

Dean Bailey 0438 531 672 Brian Vuillermin 0429 436 040

LEONGATHA

Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager 0408 176 063

Kaleb Jans 0487 155 471

WARRAGUL

Neil Darby - Livestock Manager 0418 595 265

Terry Ahearn 0438 562 816

Jordan Sim 0448 058 435

Mark Malacarne 0418 654 590

FOSTER

0408 595 174

0429 436 040

WONTHAGGI

0408 595 183

0428 749 390

0419 723 255

0428 888 300

PAKENHAM

0409 443 473

0408 975 476

0457 001 877

0420 306 599

INVERLOCH

0403 525 413

COWES

0419 337 441

0408 316 715

0423 272 819

0407 347 509

VENUS BAY

0417 631 252

0419 885 489

KOO WEE RUP

0457 120 277

Real Estate Sales

KORUMBURRA

Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

Greg Kane 0477 020 267

GRANTVILLE

Michelle Gibson 0439 707 252

LEONGATHA

Andrew Newton 0402 940 320

Peter Dwyer 0428 855 244

Emily Clifford 0422 622 299

Tony Giles 0407 528 192

WONTHAGGI

Phillip Hanley 0417 140 508

Dan Huther 0418 334 801

Cal Nation 0439 334 163

Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

WARRAGUL

Alan Steenholt 0409 423 822

PAKENHAM

Tom Gibson 0438 574 472

LANG LANG

Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

MELBOURNE LAND

Matt Koster 0474 781 711

KOO WEE RUP

Michelle Lunney 0457 120 277

SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE



History of Tarwin Meadows

HISTORY came alive in late November, when the owners of Tarwin Meadows shared their knowledge of the property's past with the Tarwin Landcare Group.

Ruth Hoffman and Peter Halstead fascinated the large crowd with their research into the entrepreneurial endeavours of George Black, who purchased the property in 1851. Believing there was "money in mud", George embarked on an ambitious project to drain the low-lying land and establish a viable farming enterprise, shaping the future of Tarwin Lower and its surrounds in the process.

Ruth and Pete described how the advent of refrigeration allowed the already thriving business to expand into dairying.

By the early 1900s, between 1000-1600 cows were being milked each day (by hand), and a cheese factory, piggy and butchery were also operating. Many workers were required to run the enterprise, all of whom - along with their families - were accommodated on-site. By 1913, 177 men, women and children called Tarwin Meadows home and farm buildings included a school, post office, store, tramway and telephone line. Tarwin Meadows even had its own postcode!

George's death resulted in the property being split and in 1949, management of a



Col McMicking shows Tarwin Landcare Group members the single men's quarters at Tarwin Meadows, which many believe is haunted.

smaller Tarwin Meadows was taken over by Owen McMicking. Owen's son, Colin (Col) McMicking, still farms next to Ruth and Pete and he entertained the group with stories of a childhood spent playing amongst the ruins of the small township.

Col was joined in his storytelling by Jenny Robertson (nee Black) and Alistair Black, who also grew up at Tarwin Meadows, and their schoolmates, Trish Jelbart and Don Jelbart, whose family farmed

at Cape Liptrap.

Later, Col led a walk around the property, pointing out various points of interest including the single men's quarters, which was used in the 1980s for a community playgroup, and is apparently haunted. He also showed the group the steep channels, believed to have been dug by Chinese labourers who arrived in Victoria during the Gold Rush, that drained Tuteong Swamp, enabling the land to be farmed.

Tarwin Landcare Group

(TLG) is extremely grateful to Ruth, Pete and Col for their generosity, and to Jenny and Alistair for attending and sharing their own memories of Tarwin Meadows. TLG also acknowledges the indigenous owners of the land, believed to be the Yowengarra clan of the Bun wurrung (Bunurong) group, of which we sadly know very little.

TLG welcomes new members. Contact tarwin@group.sgn.net.au for more information.

Projections are a game of tug-of-war

By Vitor Pistoia, Agriculture Analyst, Rabobank

While the price of DAP in Morocco has been flat since early October, the price of urea in the Middle East has fallen 14.3 per cent in 30 days. This is due to a combination of lower fertiliser subsidies from the Indian government to its farmers and modest tender activity.

In addition, rainfall has been scarce in central Brazil, which is a concern for the start of the second summer crop (mainly corn), in early January. Every

year, 15 to 17 per cent of urea exports go to the South American agricultural powerhouse. Added to this, OPEC decided on November 30 to extend crude oil cuts until 2024, which will ultimately have an impact on freight costs.

International seaborne exports are already facing rough seas due to low water levels - for example in the Panama Canal - and pirate attacks in the Red Sea. On top of that, the Chinese government announced that it may restrict fertiliser exports to guarantee

affordable prices in the local market.

On the agrochemical front, the bearish trend continues. Not only has production capacity increased over the last two years, but global demand is also mild. With uncertainties in the commodity markets, end users are buying from hand to mouth. The index for a basket of Chinese Ex-Work products is down 43 per cent over the past 12 months. Better prices are on the way, but first the old stock has to be used up.

Phelan & Henderson & Co.

STOCK & STATION AGENTS

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- Auctions Plus Sales
- Live Heifer Export Orders
- O/Hooks sales to Processors
- Rural Property Real Estate



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Simon Henderson 0428 740 750
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0408 515 184

Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, December 4, 2023

Jersey & Jersey x \$30 to \$50
Friesian Bulls \$46 to \$128
Friesian Heifers \$130 to \$190
Beef Bulls \$75 to \$175
Beef Heifers \$42 to \$150
Number of Calves: 51
Number purchased to rear: 23

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MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

CLAAS Harvest Centre 

5000 yarded for final store sale for 2023

By the SGSAA

AGENTS yarded 5000 head at the final VLE Leongatha store sale for 2023 in a good quality offering.

There was a larger offering of extra heavy steers and plenty of feedlot weighted types penned.

The market was dearer with some good gains for most grades of the better-bred types with the Xbred, Dairy and secondary types selling around firm to shade better than the previous sale.

Strong competition from Bunnaloo, JBS and Charlton feedlots and local graziers made good gains in the 400kg to 520kg bracket for Angus steers as well as some of the better end coloured steers.

Better bred Weaner steers and heifers lifted again with locals and commission buyer NSW orders bidding strongly. Grown Angus heifers attracted strong interest from graziers looking for quality lines to join.

Secondary, Xbred and dairy types held firm while cows and calves improved in price in line with quality.

On behalf of the SGSAA members, thank you to all our clients, buyers, carriers, canteen ladies, VLE staff and everyone associated with VLE Leongatha saleyards and wish everyone a safe and merry Xmas and all the best for 2024.

Leongatha Store Sale on Friday, Dec. 8, 2023

J Wood 15 Angus	685kgs	\$2.59	\$1780
Aquila Fields 20 Angus	656kgs	\$2.68	\$1760
B & L Neemann 20 Angus	656kgs	\$2.59	\$1700
M & A Lyon 27 Angus	646kgs	\$2.63	\$1700
Nw Page 11 Angus	597kgs	\$2.59	\$1550
B & L Neemann 20 Angus	555kgs	\$2.86	\$1590
Kuch Grazing 20 Angus	552kgs	\$2.98	\$1650
D French 20 Angus	551kgs	\$2.94	\$1620
M Rolls 27 Angus	542kgs	\$2.95	\$1600
Melaleuca Pastoral 18 Angus	520kgs	\$2.98	\$1550
Nw Page 23 Angus	519kgs	\$2.89	\$1500
J & B Dunbar 20 Angus	511kgs	\$3.17	\$1620
M & N Castello 14 Angus	492kgs	\$3.19	\$1570
D Jelbart 24 Angus	488kgs	\$2.95	\$1440
Latrobe Park 21 Angus	472kgs	\$3.28	\$1550
High Voltage 19 Angus	466kgs	\$3.17	\$1480
Hobson & Jones 11 Angus	458kg	\$3.10	\$1420
Blackwood Grazing 30 Angus	457kgs	\$3.26	\$1490
Nalajule 26 Angus	453kgs	\$3.31	\$1500
Blackwood Grazing 27 Angus	452kgs	\$3.31	\$1500
D Jelbart 19 Angus	452kgs	\$3.07	\$1390
High Voltage 25 Angus	447kgs	\$3.27	\$1465
Nalajule Nominees 23 Angus	414kgs	\$3.62	\$1500
Kinglake Produce 14 Hereford	528kg	\$2.65	\$1400

Weaner Steers

G & J Jacobson 13 Ang & Angx	440kg	\$3.40	\$1350
I & R Hengstberger 23 Angus	430kg	\$3.48	\$1500
O'Loughlin Pastoral 18 Angus	430kg	\$3.44	\$1480
DC Bates 24 Angus	424kg	\$3.49	\$1480
D & D Cameron 14 Angus	403kg	\$3.27	\$1320
I & R Hengstberger 23 Angus	395kg	\$3.74	\$1480
S & W Claap 18 Angus	395kg	\$3.41	\$1350
Northside Pastoral 16 Angus	394kg	\$3.37	\$1330
M Dean 14 Angus	393kg	\$3.40	\$1340
G & J Tuckett 20 Angus	390kg	\$3.30	\$1290
P & V Milner 10 Angus	389kg	\$3.00	\$1170
A & A Missen 20 Angus	387kg	\$3.51	\$1360
I & R Hengstberger 21 Angus	386kg	\$3.52	\$1360
G & L Bennett 15 Angus x	380kg	\$3.34	\$1270
M & D Harms 10 Angus	377kg	\$2.67	\$1010
SJ Conway 21 Angus	373kg	\$3.72	\$1390
Brewis & Woodhouse 21 Angus	365kg	\$3.26	\$1190
Ripplebrook Park 13 Angus	359kg	\$2.89	\$1040
G & J Tuckett 23 Angus	357kg	\$3.38	\$1210
S & W Claap 24 Angus	336kg	\$3.39	\$1140
A Stollery 18 Angus	332kg	\$3.55	\$1180
G & P Giardina 23 Angus	311kg	\$3.21	\$1000
Tarwin Pastoral 22 Angus	300kg	\$4.16	\$1250
N & K Hansford 24 Hereford	421kg	\$2.97	\$1250
Pondersosa Herefords 20 Hfd	414kg	\$3.16	\$1310
A & B Wilkin 12 M/Grey	396kg	\$3.30	\$1310

Heifers

M Rolls 20 Angus	528kg	\$2.74	\$1450
Nalajule Nominees 13 Angus	418kg	\$3.47	\$1450
M & N Castello 17 Angus	416kg	\$2.76	\$1150
SP Dunlop 12 Angus	396kg	\$2.90	\$1150
Nalajule Nominees 17 Angus	384kg	\$3.07	\$1180
Brewis & Woodhouse 14 Angus	316kg	\$2.81	\$890
D & K Clark 14 Charo	378kg	\$2.27	\$860
R & J Trease 18 Hereford	374kg	\$2.75	\$1030
A & B Wilkin 22 M/Grey	316kg	\$2.69	\$850

Cows & Calves

Tpa Pastoral 7x8 Charo		\$2060
Tc Collins 9x10 Angus		\$1700

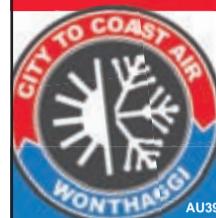
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SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023 | 39

DEATHS**DEATHS****DEATHS****DEATHS****DEATHS****DEATHS****DEATHS****DEATHS**

BARLOW, Sylvia Lucy:
19.03.1927 - 08.12.2023.
Passed away peacefully.
Much loved wife of Ken (dec.).
Loving mum and mother-in-law to Penny and Jim, Pat and Tony (dec.), Ken and Kim.
Adored Nana to Michael, Andrew, David, Erryn, Kenneth and 9 great grandchildren.
Sadly missed, in our hearts forever, in God's care.

GARDNER, Glenn Andrew:
18.12.1969 - 03.12.2023.
Garry and Pam sadly announce the unexpected passing of our dearly loved son Glenn, loved husband of Jane devoted dad of Jordan and Zara. Brother of Scott and Brett and special friend to Monique and Melanien and their families.
Loved by all and will be missed by many.

Rest well our "gentle giant".
Love always Mum and Dad.

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DEATHS

HAMILTON, Roy:
18.02.1949 - 07.12.2023.
Aged 74.

Youngest son of Robert and Elsie Hamilton (both dec.) of Wonthaggi.

Roy died after a long battle with Alzheimer's.

He will be remembered for his footy, music, teaching, umpiring, sailing, and being an all-round good guy.

He will be sadly missed by his wife, family, and friends.

A private cremation will be held.

DEATHS

LANDELLS, Russell John:

Russ, my darling Fuzzy. You are the kindest and most gentle soul. Truly one of nature's gentlemen with a heart of gold.

I am so proud of you. You have gone far too soon, and I am devastated but the memories you have given me will stay within my heart until the end of time.

Rest peacefully with all my love my darling, your Louey.

As per Russell's wishes a private family service will be held.

A gathering for family and friends will be held in the New Year.

More details to be advised at a later date.

DEATHS

LANDELLS, Russell John:

07.02.1957 - 02.12.2023.

Totally adored and very much loved husband and soulmate of Louise.

And coolest Dad ever to Sally, and her partner Andy.

Much loved son of Stan (dec.) and Margaret.

Beloved brother and brother-in-law of Paul, Chris and Julie, Jenny and Simon, Cath, Elise and Zach, Joy and Michael, and Ian.

Adored Uncle Russ to his nephews and nieces.

And so loved by all his friends.

DEATHS

LANDELLS, Russell John:

07.02.1957 - 02.12.2023.

Dearly loved brother of Chris, brother-in-law of Julie, treasured uncle of Jarrod and Kieran.

No more pain, now at peace.

Thanks for the many wonderful memories we shared.

Love you Muzzie from Titta, Jules, Jad, and Kier.

DEATHS

MADDERN (nee Allen), Ada La Rhonda:

Passed away peacefully at Korumburra Hospital aged 90 years.

Loving wife of Foster (dec.).

Loved mother to Susan and Jim, and mother-in-law to Peter.

Loving nana to William, Daryl, Nyssa, Karina, and Xavier.

Loving great granny to Wyatt, Eli, Annabelle, Elena, Patricia, Remus, Jameson, and one anticipated 1/2 built newby.

Now at Rest.

DEATHS

O'MALLEY, Kevin:

Passed away on December 3, 2023 surrounded by family.

Aged 91 years.

Late of Sawtell, formerly of Leongatha.

Loved husband of Jennifer (dec.), father of Richard, Mark, Jane, and Louise.

The funeral service was held on Monday December 11, at Sawtell.

DEATHS

OPRAY, Howard (Hec):

Passed away peacefully December 4th, 2023, aged 97.

Much loved dad of Brian and Allyson.

Treasured grandpa of Lauren and Scott, Matt and Kim.

Adored great grandpa of Georgie, Willow, Harper, Rudy, and Art.

At peace.

DEATHS

OPRAY, Howard (Hec):

Passed away peacefully aged 97 years at Alchera House.

Dearly loved husband of Patricia (Elaine) for 76 wonderful years.

Much loved dad and father-in-law of Gwenda and Dessie, Noel and Glenice, Anne and Neville, Marg and Rod, Graham and Ruth, Norma and Ron, Brian and Allyson, Helen (dec.) and Ray.

Adored and proud grandpa to his 27 grandchildren, 64 great grandchildren and 11 great great grandchildren.

DEATHS

OPRAY, Howard (Hec):

17.03.1926 - 04.12.2023.

Passed away peacefully aged 97 years at Alchera House.

Loving husband of Rosa (dec.).

Loving Papa and Nonno to Maria and Loui Condoluci, Jim and Nadine Parini, Sarina and James Olsen, Corey and Mel, Krystal, Bailey, James, Marcus, Sean, Amity, and Oscar.

Love you always.

DEATHS

OPRAY, Howard (Hec):

12.02.1937 - 03.12.2023.

Passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones aged 86.

Loving husband of Rosa (dec.).

Loving Papa and Nonno to Maria and Loui Condoluci, Jim and Nadine Parini, Sarina and James Olsen, Corey and Mel, Krystal, Bailey, James, Marcus, Sean, Amity, and Oscar.

Love you always.

DEATHS

OPRAY, Howard (Hec):

12.02.1937 - 03.12.2023.

Passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones aged 86.

Loving husband of Rosa (dec.).

Loving Papa and Nonno to Maria and Loui Condoluci, Jim and Nadine Parini, Sarina and James Olsen, Corey and Mel, Krystal, Bailey, James, Marcus, Sean, Amity, and Oscar.

Love you always.

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Love you always.

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Love you always.

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Love you always.

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OPRAY, Howard (Hec):

12.02.1937 - 03.12.2023.

Passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones aged 86.

Loving husband of Rosa (dec.).

Loving Papa and Nonno to Maria and Loui Condoluci, Jim and Nadine Parini, Sarina and James Olsen, Corey and Mel,

Sentinel-Times Classifieds

FUNERALS

MADDERN:

A Funeral Service to Celebrate the Life of Mrs Ada (Rhonda) Maddern will be held at the Leongatha RSL Corner Smith Street and Michael Place on Monday December 18, 2023, commencing at 11am.

The Funeral will leave at the conclusion of the Service for the Leongatha Lawn Cemetery.

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PARINI:

A Funeral Mass for the repose of the soul of Mr Giuseppe Parini will be held at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Guy's Road Korumburra on Thursday, December 14, 2023 commencing at 11:30am.

Rosary will be recited in the above church on Wednesday evening December 13, at 7pm.

This Service will be livestreamed, to view please visit www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au

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SUMMERFIELD:
The Funeral Service for Mr. Allen Victor Summerfield will be held at the Korumburra Cricket Club, Richard Street Reserve, Korumburra, **TODAY, TUESDAY**, December 12, 2023, commencing at 11am.

At the conclusion of the service, the funeral will leave for the Korumburra Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Korumburra Cricket Club would be appreciated. Envelopes available at the service.

Allen's service will be live streamed. Please go to www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au for details.

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BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

WANGMAN, Ray:
Happy 90th birthday for the 10th of December.
You are always in my heart.
Forever miss you.
-- Kerrie and family.

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

GRENON:

The Grenon family wish to thank everybody for their kind calls, hugs, cards and flowers on the death of John. It was a life well lived.

THANKS

PHIPPS:

We would like to sincerely thank the members of the Inverloch community, the paramedics, members of the Police force and the GP who attended the scene of an accident in Inverloch, on the 15th November, when our beloved family member passed away.

Thank you from the Phipps family.

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THANKS

PHIPPS:

We would like to sincerely thank the members of the Inverloch community, the paramedics, members of the Police force and the GP who attended the scene of an accident in Inverloch, on the 15th November, when our beloved family member passed away.

Thank you from the Phipps family.

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INVERLOCH:

25 Pymble Avenue, Saturday December 16, 8am - 2pm.

LEONGATHA:

18 Tilly Court, Saturday, December 16, 8am. New Toys.

NORTH WONTHAGGI:

16 Toorak Street, Saturday December 16, 8am - 1.30pm.

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Re proposed new bylaws by South Gippsland Shire. RSL Leongatha, 1.45pm, Wednesday 13th December. ALL WELCOME.

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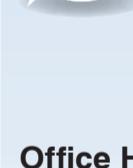
Phone:
5672 1888



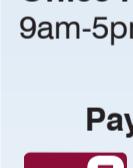
Email:
ads@sgst.com.au



In person:
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi
36 McCartin St, Leongatha



Mail:
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi



Office Hours:
9am-5pm Monday to Friday

Payments accepted:



Advertising conditions:

Full name and address of advertiser must be supplied even though not necessarily included in advertisement.

The publishers reserve the right to omit and alter any advertisement. Please check your ad is correct the first day it appears. While every care is taken to ensure your ad is correct, errors can occur. We regret that we cannot be responsible for any errors beyond the first day if you fail to bring it to our attention.

All advertisements must be prepaid unless client has an existing credit facility. Accounts are due and payable on the due date as shown on the account.

The Motor Car Traders Regulations:

States that from July 1, 1998 all advertisements for used vehicles including motorcycles must include the cash price of vehicle and registration number or engine number if not registered.

Is your employment opportunity listed online?

Advertise your job vacancy in the Sentinel-Times and get a

FREE listing in our online

ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE:

Much hardship and difficulty is caused to jobseekers by misleading advertisements placed in the employment columns.

Our Positions Vacant / Situations Vacant columns are reserved for advertisements which carry a specific and genuine offer of employment.

Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only/Sales,' training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.

Placing misleading job ads is an offence against the ACL and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval. For further advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1300 302 502 or Consumer Affairs Victoria.



Marine Crew Masters, Engineers, Deck Crew South Gippsland VIC

About Bhagwan Marine

Since beginning operations in 2000, Bhagwan Marine has become the largest Australian marine vessel operator servicing the Oil & Gas, Resources, Civil Construction, Towage, Marine Logistics, and Defense Industries.

With over 650 staff, a fleet of more than 150 vessels and marine assets, and an international network of offices and facilities, Bhagwan Marine is recognised today as a diverse, adaptive, and proactive business that strives to not only meet the needs of its clients but to surpass their expectations.

This year we are deploying a dynamic expansion strategy to ensure that our fleet and operations capabilities continue to develop through the acquisition and design and commissioning of purpose-built vessels, as well as through the recruitment of talented, well-trained, and highly motivated people.

The Opportunity

Bhagwan Marine is looking for expressions of interest to join our casual marine crew for various upcoming projects based in South Gippsland.

We are looking for near coastal personnel with experience working on Crew Transfer Vessels, Utility Vessel, Multicats, Tugs and Barges.

Minimum Requirements:

- Full Australian work rights with no restrictions.
- Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) Certificate of Safety Training.
- Maritime Security ID Card (MSIC) or the ability to obtain an MSIC.

Masters:

- Minimum qualification of Coxswain Class 1, Master Class 5 (<24m) NC / Master Class 4 (<35m) NC.
- AMSA Marine Engine Driver 1 / 2 (MED1 / MED2) NC.
- Radio Operator Certificate of Proficiency (LROCP / MROCP).
- Gippsland Local Knowledge an advantage

Engineers:

- AMSA Marine Engine Driver 1 (MED1) NC.
- AMSA Marine Engineers Class 3 (MEC3) NC.

Deck Crew:

- Elements of Shipboard Safety AMSA Certificate of Safety Training.
- High Risk License – Dogging, Rigging, Forklift and/or Crane is desirable.

What we need from you

- A CV outlining your certifications, skillset, and experience.

Please email to
recruitment@bhagwanmarine.com
 along with cover letter.



ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN A CARING
AND CREATIVE ENVIRONMENT

CANTEEN ASSISTANT

Bass Coast College
- San Remo Campus 2024
Monday to Friday, 4 hours per day
during school terms

Please contact Nancy Crismanich on
5611 4000 for further information.

LB1113



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

Taxi Drivers wanted Come join our friendly team!

South Coast Taxis is seeking Drivers to join our busy team. The positions would suit both those looking to earn some extra income or those looking for more a regular job. The shifts are available from both our Cowes and Wonthaggi Depots working the areas of Phillip Island, Wonthaggi or Leongatha with a mix of days, nights and weekends available.

The successful applicants must enjoy people, be experienced drivers and hold an appropriate Drivers licence. The Taxi Driver Accreditation and WAV endorsement can be sourced easily.

Please phone 5951 4600 or send your resume to Brendan at: operations@southcoastbus.com.au or post: PO Box 946, Cowes, 3922

CC5257



Morwell, Warragul, Sale

Applications are invited from lawyers admitted to practice, or eligible to be admitted, for full-time employment at our Morwell office.

Real experience will be highly valued, and recognised with a commensurate higher salary, and an immediate start if required, for the right candidate.

Further information about the firm can be found at www.simonparsons.com.au

Please forward your resume and covering letter to PO Box 814 Morwell, 3840 or via email to enquiries@simonparsons.com.au

Applications will close on Friday December 15, 2023.

LB1190

Join Our Crew At Wonthaggi



Whether it's a first job, a job before the dream job, or the job that turns into a career. See what we can do for you. To apply to work in this restaurant use the QR code or visit apply.mcdonalds.com.au



Complete jobs listing online | www.sgst.com.au



South Gippsland Hospital

Positions Vacant

Case Manager

- Home Care Packages

Welfare Worker, Grade 2A

0.42 EFT Fixed term, part time, parental leave position

Health Care Worker

- Home Care Packages

Grade 2-3

0.73 EFT (job share considered), permanent part time

Administration Officer

- Home Care Packages

Grade 1A - Casual

Podiatrist

Grade 1 or Grade 2

0.84 EFT, permanent part time

Nursing Position/s

Acute total 1 EFT

EFT negotiable up to full time

Registered Nurse Midwife RN Grade 2

Registered Nurse RN Grade 2

Enrolled Nurse EN Level 2

For more information

<https://southgippslandhospital.com.au/employment-2/>

Expressions of Interest - Volunteers

- Consumer Information and Communications
- Transition Care Program
- Banksia Groups

<https://southgippslandhospital.com.au/volunteers/>



Office Administrator

- Join our accounting and financial planning practice in the role of Office Administrator.
- The role on offer is full-time, Monday to Friday, and will draw upon your sound administrative and / or corporate administration experience. Prior experience in an accounting practice is preferred but not essential.

MJA Accounting is a long established accounting practice that serves greater Gippsland and beyond from our Leongatha and Korumburra offices. Our practice provides taxation, business, superannuation and financial planning advice as well as general accounting and bookkeeping services.

The Office Administrator role is diverse and has a number of key responsibilities:

- Liaising directly with clients in person, over the phone and via email
- Email and database management
- Various administrative duties including preparing correspondence and reports, accessing records, collating documents, filing, preparing invoices / billing and the like
- Assisting Partners and Practice Manager with various administrative and clerical duties as required
- Supporting the accounting team as required
- ATO and ASIC compliance

Understanding the ATO portal, ASIC, MYOB and Corporate Administration is highly regarded but not essential. Training will be provided to the successful applicant.

The role is available for an immediate start, working full-time, five days per week in the Leongatha office. A wage commensurate with skills and experience will be offered to the successful applicant.

Please forward your application including a resume and cover letter outlining your experience and skills to practice@mjacpa.com.au

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Enquiries via email are encouraged. Alternatively, please call 03 5662 5662

Qualified Accountant and Graduate Accountant or Near Graduate Accountant

MJA Accounting is growing and we are looking for candidates to fill two new full-time roles.

Successful applicants will work in a close-knit team and will be exposed to a broad range of accounting and taxation work for small to medium size businesses.

The new roles will cover a variety of responsibilities, including:

- Preparation of income tax returns and financial statements for individuals, partnerships, trusts, companies & superannuation
- Preparation of BAS / IAS
- Liaising with the ATO on behalf of our clients
- 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.

Ideally, candidates will live within 30-40 minutes of Leongatha or Korumburra, as these are full time, in office / on-site positions.

Applicants must have permanent work rights with no restrictions to apply for these positions.

If you are interested in applying for either of these roles, please email your resume and cover letter to: practice@mjacpa.com.au

For a confidential discussion regarding these roles, please call Tim Kemp on 0438 623 183

LB1203

LB1191

LB1204

Employment

Complete jobs listing online | www.sgst.com.au



Head Chef – Full Time

Are you an experienced chef with untapped inspiration that you want the freedom to explore?
Do you want to be a part of interviewing, choosing and training your own team to a very high standard?
Want to work in a family run business that has been successfully running for over 35 years and where you will deal directly with the owners with no red tape in the middle?
Want to work mainly daytime hours and get your evenings and work life balance back?
Does the option of profit sharing, on top of your wages, sound interesting to you?

Then chat to us about joining our award winning business that continues to grow and expand with further developments in the planning.

We are seeking a chef with vast experience and a genuine passion and pride for cooking who can show inspiration to create and run their own kitchen and menu. On top of being experienced in the kitchen, you will need to be confident in budgeting and understanding costs, staff HR and training, have knowledge of relevant food safety regulations and work in a highly professional manner.

You will cater to visitor needs including café style and bistro menu's but also larger group catering for bookings. An interest in pursuing menus around use of our charcoal oven and grills would be a bonus. We can offer a premium salary package with bonuses and options to discuss profit sharing with management providing the support and encouragement to explore your own ideas.

Apply to Mr Ian Heffer, Director via vacancy@marukoalapark.com.au and serious applicants will be contacted to listen to your ideas.

LBI207

PUBLIC NOTICES

Join our First Peoples Advisory Committee



Do you have strong community connections and a passion for local healthcare?

BCH is seeking applications to join our First Peoples Advisory Committee to help BCH deliver culturally appropriate services.

You will work with local Indigenous Peoples to provide guidance towards

Please submit your application to Aboriginal Clinical Nurse Consultant Darelle Van Haaster (Darelle.VanHaaster@basscoasthealth.org.au) by Friday 15 December. For more details, phone Darelle, 0490 665 673.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Asbestos Removal Korumburra Railway Precinct

As part of the ongoing revitalisation of the Korumburra Rail Station Precinct, works to identify and remove asbestos containing materials from the vacant rail yard are planned for Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 December.

Although there is no immediate risk to the public, it is appropriate to remove the materials prior to redevelopment works taking place.

As part of the works, asbestos warning signs and workers in safety gear will be visible. The works will be managed in accordance with WorkSafe protocols and the impacted area will be fenced off.



Taliah Joyce, Caroline Grainger - CWA Wonthaggi Branch Secretary, Bailey Webster, Rue Grainger, Harper Farrell, Levi Simon, Riley Ross-Bryant, Heidi Vanzet - CWA Wonthaggi Branch President.

CWA Wonthaggi donates to local youth

CWA WONTAGGI Owl Women's New Branch President Heidi Vanzet and new Branch Secretary Caroline Grainger presented a donation to the Youth Advisory Council at their November meeting.

The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) are a passionate group of local young people overseen by the YES Youth Hub and Bass Coast Shire Council.

The CWA donated \$500 to the YES Youth Hub with funds raised from cake and craft stalls run during yearly events such as Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas.

The YES youth hub is in talks with their Youth Advisory Council as to how best to use the donated funds.

Possibilities include using the money to help keep the Hub open more often and/or for longer, or for one of the major projects being proposed for next year, to help youth in the area.

The YES Youth Hub provides a safe, welcoming, and inclusive space for young people aged 12 – 25 within the Bass Coast community, hosting a drop-in space at 76 Watt Street, Wonthaggi three afternoons per week (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday), as well as organising events, activities and programs throughout the year

PUBLIC NOTICES



PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE A TELSTRA MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION AT 718 FOSTER PROMONTORY ROAD, FOSTER VIC 3960, SITE ID: MOUNT HODDLE WWW.RFNSA.COM.AU/3960002

1. The proposed facility comprises the swap out of the redundant headframe, six (6) panel antennas (2533mm L) and one (1) parabolic dish antenna (600mm diameter), with a new headframe, six (6) panel antennas (2533mm L) and one (1) parabolic dish antenna (600mm diameter); ancillary equipment to be upgraded including remote radio units, tower mounted amplifiers, mounts, junction boxes, cabling and feeders; and internal works within the equipment shelter, to improve Telstra's mobile phone network (including 5G).
2. Telstra regards the proposed installation as a 'Low impact' Facility under the *Telecommunications (Low Impact Facilities) Determination 2018*, based on the description above. The proposed infrastructure will comply with the ACMA EME regulatory arrangements.
3. In accordance with Section 7 of C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Code, we invite you to provide feedback about the proposal. Further information and/or comments should be directed to: Planning Consultant on behalf of Telstra, via email to planning.vic@servicestream.com.au, phone: 03 9937 6555, via post to Planning Consultant, ServiceStream, PO Box 14570, Melbourne, VIC 8001 by **5pm 12th January 2024**.

Service Stream Ltd ABN 46 072 369 870
Telstra Ltd ACN 086 174 781

JPs thanked

THE document signing station run by the local Justices of the Peace at the Wonthaggi Police Station celebrated some significant milestones recently.

Run by a small group of dedicated Justices of the Peace (JPs) they have now completed more than 1500 shifts, equating to more than 6000 hours of voluntary work since 2015.

John Duscher JP – the coordinator of the service – highlighted this tremendous milestone and the dedicated commitment of the long serving Justices. He also acknowledged the tremendous support of the VicPol members at the station.

Brad Proudlock JP has been a part of this small team since 2015 and has done a remarkable job, consistently working each Wednesday and filling in many times when others were not available or unwell. He recently notched up his 400th shift and in that time has dealt with 17,600 documents at the centre and a further 23,000 documents elsewhere, including aged care facilities, Bass Coast Health and at home.

Another stalwart Dr Terence Shannon JP has always been here from day one and was instrumental in setting up this service with Sergeant Barry McCoy and Mr Doug Prescott JP. He was thanked and acknowledged for his 300 shifts at the Wonthaggi document signing station, another measure of his great commitment to the community.

Other Justices acknowledged and thanked were John Duscher (250 shifts), Peter Vanzuyden (170 shifts), Caroline Talbot (100 shifts) and Mary O'Connor (100 shifts).

Free from Violence
Pop-Up event

Michelle Stewart of Phillip Island Nature Parks with Fiona Passarin of Gippsland Women Health. Z03_5023



Nyree Davis and Tim Best of Social Planning with Corin Spencer of Emergency Management. Z04_5023



Arlee Wilson, Leanne Renwick, and Rebecca Stark of Phillip Island Nature Parks. Z05_5023



Bass MP Jordan Crugnale together with Mayor Clare Le Serve join in the 16 days of activism for violence against women. Z07_5023



Joy Barnes, George Scott, Neil Barnes, and Georgi Phillips volunteer with the Wonthaggi Lions Club support the violence against women 16 days of activism. Z06_5023

Respect is... 'an equal and safe future'



Leanne Fairbrother, Fiona Passarin, Rachel Sands, Lauren Daly, and PollyannaR deliver the Big Respect Pop-Up stand against gender-based violence at Apex Park in Wonthaggi. Z01_5023

THE four biggest employers of Bass Coast united with artist PollyannaR for the 16 days of activism campaign. PollyannaR popped up the white sheet for the pop-up photobooth in Apex Park and raised awareness against gender-based violence.

Employees of Bass Coast Shire Council, Phillip Island Nature Parks, Westernport Water and Bass Coast Health (BCH) assembled to participate in the campaign as a public show of support for women and children.

As part of the Active Bystander program, these major four employers have been training their people with the skills to act in our communities, homes, and workplaces. Training which has contributed to successes like equal paid parental leave for both parents; equal prize money for all genders; "put her name on it" campaign, and unforeseen flexible working arrangements.

Bass Coast has some of the worst statistics with family violence in Victoria and the shire are urgently trying to change that. The training within this program is a key practical way employers spark desire for change and support the campaign.

Spokesperson for the four organisations, Bass Coast Shire Council Acting Chief Executive Officer, Jodi Kennedy said, "The people who work in these organisations mostly live locally, enabling this program to have a direct impact on the Bass Coast community through activities and relationships.

"This year's campaign encourages all Victorians to work together to prevent violence against women. It is a tragic fact that, on average, a woman in Australia is killed by a man they know every 10 days."

The pop-up photobooth was open to the public from 1pm until 4pm, where everyone was invited to support the cause by getting a picture taken by PollyannaR with a sign of what respect means to them...

Each participant was then provided with an immediate printed copy of their photo along with local service information and detail on the United Nation's international campaign - 16 Days of Activism Against

Gender-Based Violence, that takes place each year from November 25 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) until December 10 (International Human Rights Day).

Joy Barnes, George Scott, Neil Barnes, and Georgi Phillips of the Wonthaggi Lions Club volunteered their time supporting the campaign, providing water and a free sausage sizzle.

The activism campaign is aimed to make women confident in identifying gender-based violence, reporting violent behaviour and accessing support in their local area.

If you or someone you know

is experiencing violence, this campaign encourages you to contact any of the following support services or report family violence by calling Triple Zero (000).

Sexual Assault Crisis Line. Ph: 1800 806 292

1800 RESPECT National Sexual Assault Domestic Family Violence Counselling Services. Ph: 1800 737 732

The Orange Door Gippsland. Ph: 1800 319 354

Victoria Police Sexual Offence and Child Abuse Investigative Teams (SOCIT) Morwell. Ph: 03 5120 0300

Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre (24 hr). Ph: 1800 015 188

Intervention Orders to protect against Family Violence



Solicitor Deb Leonard of Leonard & Associates in Cowes often appears as a Duty lawyer at the local Korumburra Magistrates Court.

Family Violence includes not just physical violence, but also emotional or psychological abuse, financial abuse, controlling or coercive behaviour, or exposing a child to any kind of violent behaviours.

While it is important to get individual legal advice, Deb says there are basically three options for someone who's had an intervention order application served on them. Firstly, if the matter is relatively low level, they can enter into an "Undertaking", which is a written promise to the Court not to do any of those things that would be prohibited by the order. This can only be done if all other parties agree.

Secondly, they can consent to

the Order against them without admitting the allegations. In that case they are agreeing not to commit family violence or do anything else set out in the intervention order, but they're not admitting any wrongdoing.

The third option is to contest the order. The matter will be adjourned for a procedural hearing, called a direction hearing, and then booked in for contested hearing at a later date, which is when the court will hear evidence from witnesses. This can often take several months due to backlog in the court system.

At a contested hearing, the Court will make sure that both the AFM and the respondent are represented to protect

against the AFM being cross examined directly by the respondent. The Court will then make a decision on the balance of probabilities, whether there are grounds for an intervention order. It is important to note that the balance of probabilities is a far lower threshold than the criminal threshold which requires proof 'beyond reasonable doubt'.

An intervention order is a civil order and does not appear on any criminal record. After the expiration of the order, it will go away.

Breaching the conditions of an Intervention Order can result in a criminal charge, which can result in a penalty of up to two years in prison (in addition to any sentence for any violent behaviour that breached the order). Deb says anyone found charged with breaching an intervention order should take the matter very seriously and seek legal advice as soon as possible.

Deb often appears as Duty lawyer at the local Korumburra Magistrates Court, providing free legal assistance to people court matters when they do not have their own representation.

The Duty Lawyer scheme is coordinated by Victoria Legal Aid in Morwell and many local solicitors participate.

"It's our way of giving back to the community and using our skills to help those most vulnerable at times when they may need it most," says Deb.



Traffic was stopped as the Let's Chat Gippsland walkers in Leongatha took to the streets in a campaign to say no to family and gendered violence. ob18_5023

South Gippsland says no to family violence

TRAFFIC came to a halt in Leongatha last Wednesday as over fifty people walked the streets to raise awareness and start conversations about gendered violence.

Ninety-five per cent of all victims of violence, regardless of gender, experience violence from a male perpetrator.

With Gippsland being overrepresented in gendered violence statistics compared to the rest of Victoria, the walkers wanted to send a message that South Gippsland says no to family violence.

Dressed in orange for the 16 Days of Activism, the campaigners walked from the steps of the Memorial Hall up and down McCartin Street down to Bair Street and back to the steps.

Newly elected Mayor for South Gippsland Shire Council Clare Williams and CEO Kerryn Ellis led the way.

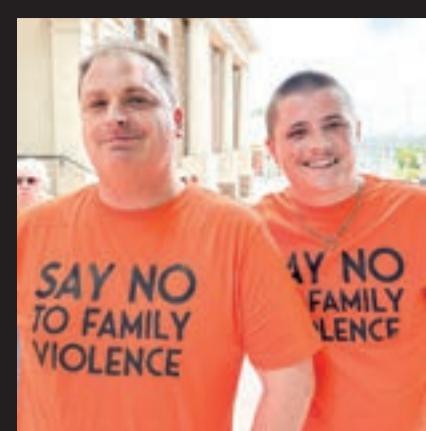
"We're highlighting that

we're saying no to family violence and the 16 Days of Activism is to make people aware and think about the actions and what's happening around them, making sure they're aware and can call out different behaviours," said the Mayor.

The walk is one of a range of events held across Gippsland as part of the United Nations international campaign.

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

RIGHT: South Gippsland Shire Council CEO Kerryn Ellis and Mayor Clare Williams led the way and want to send the message that South Gippsland says no to family violence. ob16_5023



Mitch and Harry from the Salvation Army walked in Leongatha for the campaign against gendered violence because raising awareness is key. ob05_5023



Helen and Kelly from the Salvation Army believe awareness for family violence is important and are participated in the Let's Chat Walk in Leongatha. ob06_5023

Building on Victoria's work to end family violence

THE State Government is inviting the family violence sector, community advocates and people with lived experience to help guide the next stage of its critical reforms for a safer future for all Victorians.

Minister for Prevention of Family Violence Vicki Ward last week released Strong Foundations – Building on Victoria's work to End Family Violence, which outlines focus areas for Victoria's response and prevention of family violence, in recognition of the nation-leading reform and investment undertaken to date.

Victorians now feel more confident in identifying, reporting, and accessing support for family violence, but we know further work is needed to prevent violence before it starts.

Strong Foundations outlines five focus areas to guide the third and final Rolling Action Plan (2024-2026) under Ending family violence: Victoria's 10-year plan for change due for release in mid-2024.

The Government has implemented all 227 recommendations of the Royal Commission into Family Violence, investing more than \$3.8 billion.

In Victoria, 406,980 people including 167,960 children have received support through The Orange Door network since it opened in 2018 and more than 1950 Victorian schools run Respectful Relationships programs.

Having already added over 2000 new frontline roles to deliver our nation-leading reforms, the Labor Government will continue to grow our skilled workforce, by investing in a pipeline of workers through Free TAFE and other supports.

Consultation is now open and closes on Sunday, February 4. To find out more visit engage.vic.gov.au/end-family-violence

Messages of respect in Leongatha

LEONGATHA locals and visitors shared their thoughts on 'respect' when the PolyannaR pop-up photo booth visited town on Thursday as the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign continued.

South Gippsland Shire Council's Peter Sleeman reflected on the importance of community members and council acknowledging the 16 Days of Activism, given the high level of domestic violence in the shire and elsewhere, and the value of promoting conversation on what respect is.

The photo booth session encouraged people to chat about gender-based violence and offered information on help available for those experiencing it.

Representatives of Gippsland Women's Health and The Salvation Army were on hand.

Fiona Passarin is the Regional Capacity Building Coordinator for Gippsland Women's Health and summed up her role and that of the 16 Days of Activism campaign.

"It is about creating awareness of the prevalence of family violence and giving people the tools to prevent it," she said.



Bec Wilson of The Salvation Army, Peter Sleeman of South Gippsland Shire Council and Fay Wilde of Gippsland Women's Health show what respect means to them. A03_5023



Michael and Manola Olsen make a statement during the 16 Days of Activism campaign. A02_5023

Colleague Fay Wilde, Regional Coordinator of Health Promotion for Gippsland Women's Health said tackling gendered violence is "a whole of community issue" and believes gender stereotypes play a part.

The Salvation Army's Bec Wilson, Team Leader of Integrated Men's Services, outlined the importance of working with men who are perpetrators of gender-based violence to help them change their behaviour.

"We do a men's behaviour change group, working with

men who have used family violence, and we also work one-on-one with men in a case management capacity so that they can understand the behaviours they're using with their families," Bec said.

"The core of our work is to keep women and children safe."

Bec spoke of the focus on reducing family violence as well as men's self-harm.

Some men are referred to the Salvation Army's men's services through Orange Door, while others self-refer.

"Non-Negotiable" was their simple but powerful message.

"We shouldn't even have to be talking about it," Manola said.

Michael feels raising awareness is important.

"Otherwise, there's going to be no change in the world," he said.



Julia gives the thumbs up following her dash.

Colourful dash for diversity

SOUTH Gippsland Specialist School students ran a colourful Diversity Dash on Friday December 1 to celebrate International Day of People with Disabilities on December 3.

"The event was the school's first colour dash and was hugely successful in joining community members, parents, carers and the community police officer Meg together with the students and staff from South Gippsland Specialist School," principal Heather Braden said.

"Students had a wonderful time whilst celebrating the contribution that people with disabilities make to our communities."

The event was sponsored by School Sports Victoria Play, Their Care, and Saputo Leongatha.

School Sports Victoria Play donated the colour powder, Saputo provided the protective sunglasses and the slime, and Their Care gave the sausages, bread and drinks for the post-run barbecue.

"It was such a fun time that we will be doing it again next year," Heather declared.

Nutritious Boost for Bass Coast and South Gippsland Kids

STAFF, families and children at Loch Primary School Outside School Hours Care (OSHC), Nyora Primary School OSHC, Wonthaggi Primary School YMCA OSHC and Bass Valley Primary School are all smiles after receiving recognition for their work in Vic Kids Eat Well.

Vic Kids Eat Well is an exciting new state-wide movement that's focused on boosting healthy food and drink options in the place's children spend their time, including schools, outside school hours care, sports clubs, recreation facilities and council operated facilities.

There are 18 schools and OSHC programs across Bass Coast and South Gippsland Shires now part of the exciting new movement.

The South Coast Prevention Team provide on-the-ground health promotion support to review menus and help local schools and OSHC select simple swaps as part of the initiative.

Loch Primary School OSHC are a school council run not-for-profit program who have taken simple steps to create a healthier food and drink environment. The program refreshed its menu by modifying existing items and adding new items, including fruit smoothies, homemade muesli bars filled with oats and fruit, mini sausage rolls using lean mince and grated vegetables, fried rice using brown rice and packed with vegetables, and apple and oat muffins using wholemeal flour. They also introduced a voting system, where kids can have their say on new menu items. Loch Primary School OSHC celebrated the wins along the way with vouchers.

Schools and OSHC are eligible to receive rewards as they implement healthy changes through the Vic Kids Eat Well initiative.

Register today by visiting vickidseatwell.health.vic.gov.au and be supported by a member of the South Coast Prevention Team. For more information contact prevention@basscoasthealth.org.au.

160 years since the demise of the cargo ship Amazon

ON DECEMBER 15 it will be 160 years since the demise of the Amazon, with the wreck still evident on the Surf Beach at Inverloch.

The Amazon was damaged during a massive 48-hour storm which 'blew' her from Cape Otway, across the bay and onto Flat Rocks when the decision was made to beach the ship.

After five hours the exhausted crew finally made it safely ashore with no lives lost. The following day Captain Ogier was taken by a passing farmer to Melbourne to report the disaster, after which H.M.V.S. Victoria was dispatched to collect the crew.

Bunurong People were familiar visitors to the area and colonists did not appear in Inverloch until the 1870's.

The Amazon was built in Jersey, Channel Islands in 1855 for Jersey/Australia trade route.

Lloyds of London 1856 Surveyor's Register No.729 states Amazon was an A1 Class ship and she was constructed from various oaks, mahogany and red pine with "Muntz" metal sheathing below the waterline.

She was 131.5 feet long (40m), 25.5 feet in breadth (8m) and a depth of 16.25 feet (5m).

Four years since the inception of Amazon 1863 Project Inc. and the Committee has successfully published a beautifully illustrated children's book, purchased a computer, and received a Living Heritage Grant to conserve the Amazon Deadwood which stands in the Inverloch Community Hub.

The Committee also physically protected the beach



The bow of the Amazon can be seen clearly on Surf Beach Inverloch, when the wreck was well exposed in June 2020.

wreckage from damage with barricades and patrols when necessary and initiated new Amazon beach signage.

The ultimate goal to secure a suitable location to display Amazon artefacts is now coming to fruition with Bass Coast Shire releasing plans for the appealing and innovative Inverloch Discovery Cultural Centre.

Recent research by the Committee has resulted in previously unknown Amazon passenger lists. It is difficult to imagine conditions below deck on such a cargo ship but financial reasons may indicate why people would choose to travel between the Port of Melbourne and Mauritius on a cargo vessel.

Families with young children have been discovered making this journey. Men often listed as merchants, were perhaps travelling from one colony to another for business.

One such journey listed 13 passengers, six of them being young children.

The Crew of 14 on that final journey were Captain Abraham Ogier, Chief Officer William LeRay, 2nd Officer George Collas, Carpenter Andrew Dustan, Cook Emmanuel Bray, Sailmaker Robert Walker, Able Seamen: William Milne, Thomas Cromfield, William Caires, Ordinary Seamen: Alfred Dufeu, Alfred Durocher, Joseph Fauer, Steward William Lynch, Boy Phillip LeBrun.

The Amazon committee are available to do presentations to interested community group and organisations.

Anyone wishing to support/join the Amazon 1863 Project contact secretary@amazon1863.org.au or call Karyn 0423 682 580 or if you have any recollections about the Amazon shipwreck when it was last exposed, they would like to hear from you.



There are no known photos of the Amazon but Helene is a similar size and appearance.



The wreck from the Amazon can still be seen on the beach today.

Rotary Club of Leongatha continues 70th birthday celebrations

By Mary Dortmans

THE ROTARY Club of Leongatha hosted a 70th Anniversary Dinner, having been chartered in 1953 and contributing to the local community and to Rotary's humanitarian aid projects around the world since then.

A gathering of 80 Rotarians and guests, including supportive family members, enjoyed a celebratory meal at the Woorayl Golf Club, where the Leongatha Rotary group meets fortnightly.

The Assistant District Governor, Teresa Mitchell and past ADG Graeme Sprague attended the event.

Past Rotarians returned to Leongatha for the event, alongside Past Presidents of Rotary Leongatha, as did the current Presidents of Inverloch and Wonthaggi Rotary Clubs.

Past Rotary youth exchange student, Leonie Albers from Germany also visited.

President of Rotary Leongatha, David Leslie was MC for the evening, outlining some of the history of the Rotary Club of Leongatha.

There were banners with the annual Rotary International themes from over the



Don Bruce, Bruce Grainger and Mary Dortmans received Paul Harris Fellow recognition of their service to Rotary, with Leongatha Rotary Club President David Leslie on the left.

years, and banners from visiting clubs from all over Australia and the world.

There was a moment of reflection as attendees remembered Rotarians who have passed away after serving their community well.

Badges of recognition were given to Garry Gardner for 50 years of service, Graeme Evans for 35 years of service and Colin McKenzie-McHarg for 33 years of service to Rotary.

Each of these Rotarians was presented with a Paul Harris Fellow Sapphire lapel pin.

Their wives, Pam Gardner, Wendy Evans and Christine McKenzie-McHarg were acknowledged for their support of Rotary and the community.

Don Bruce was recognised for his service to Rotary with a Paul Harris Fellow as were Bruce Grainger and Mary Dortmans.

Paul Harris was the founder of Rotary, being a Chicago

lawyer who saw a need to help people in America, forming the organisation in 1905 that became a global institution.

For more information about the Rotary Club of Leongatha visit leongatharotary.org.au with new members welcome.

The recent dinner was the second 70th anniversary celebration for Rotary Leongatha, following a popular rock trivia night at the Meenyan Town Hall.

Preventing heart disease in the community

CARDIAC disease kills more people in South Gippsland than any other condition. However, cardiologist Dr Swati Mukherjee says many of the deaths are preventable.

Speaking at the Gippsland Southern Health Service annual general meeting, Dr Mukherjee said there was clear inequity in outcomes between city and county living when it comes to chronic health conditions.

"One of four people living in regional areas compared to one in five in Melbourne die from cardiovascular disease," she said.

Cardiovascular disease is the number one killer of both men and women in the South Gippsland region, killing 185 men year and 129 women.

In men, cardiac disease is nearly double the next most deadly disease, lung cancer, which claims 95 lives per year.

Coronary heart disease claims 62.1 lives in the region per 100,000 people, well above the state average of 59.8.

In average avoidable deaths for South Gippsland residents, circulatory system diseases rank highest at 35.9 per 100,000 compared to the Victorian average of 32.5.

Dr Mukherjee said these were significant differences.

"We're only an hour and a half from Melbourne but we have a much higher percentage of deaths from cardiovascular disease, but not all of this needs to happen. Many are very avoidable deaths," she said.

Dr Mukherjee said there were five major risk factors influencing cardiac mortality – BMI, blood pressure, cholesterol levels, smoking and diabetes.

"More than half of the people die from cardiovascular disease because of these factors but they are preventable," she said.

"Prevention is important and very doable in the local community. If we can stop people from having to be in hospital, that is where we will get a mortality benefit. Mortality benefit comes from managing simple things well and having a pathway to escalate care."

"The more we can do locally, the better it will be. If we use our resources well, we will get better outcomes."

Dr Mukherjee said social factors often underpin the reasons for cardiac disease.

"It is important for the community to focus on this, not just health professionals," she said.

"We have less data and fewer prescriptions of guideline treatments in regional areas, but increasingly we are recognising the complex interactions between ethnicity, income and health related risk behaviours."

This year, GSHS introduced an advance Cardiac CT service.

Previously, patients had to travel to Melbourne for Cardiac CT Coronary Angiography (CTCA).

"What we are doing here with the CTCA service is a good example of collaboration using a CT scanner, local radiographer expertise, imaging associates and Victorian Heart and Lung clinic."



Kongwak Primary School students and teachers Sally and Fiona with South Gippsland Water's managing director Robert Murphy and communications officer Janika Murray.

South Gippsland Water celebrate "iilk" path

KONGWAK Primary School received South Gippsland Water's 2022 National Water Week \$500 School Prize.

A year later, the culmination of this achievement unfolded on Monday, December 4, as South Gippsland Water's managing director Robert Murphy and communications officer Janika Murray attended the school's weekly assembly to witness the impact of the awarded funds.

The prize contributed towards a plaque for Kongwak Primary School's "iilk" path—a beautiful trail adorned with native vegetation.

Robert Murphy expressed enthusiasm for the success of their project.

The "iilk" path, not merely a walkway, pays homage to the word 'Kongwak', meaning "to catch," and reveres the Boonwurrung people of the land upon which Kongwak stands.



A South Gippsland Water drink bottle and Kongwak Primary School's iilk path welcoming plaque.

"The dedication of the Kongwak Primary School's teachers and 26 students to celebrating the land we are on and making the school a wonderful space to be at was beautiful to see," he said.

"We are happy that the \$500

prize went towards something that will be read by many students, teachers and visitors of the school for years to come."

South Gippsland Water provided each student with an insulated metal water bottle at the assembly, promoting sustainable hydration practices.

As the bottles found their way into the hands of students, the Choose Tap message gained significance, especially on this scorching Monday, marking the advent of our first scorching day of the summer season.

Kongwak Primary School's commitment to recognising and learning about the Traditional Owners is a beacon of inspiration. South Gippsland Water reaffirms its dedication to supporting initiatives that enhance the local community's wellbeing and contribute to the broader environmental landscape.

Urgent call for increased pool safety awareness

AS FAMILIES gear up for pool party season, a troubling new report underscores the urgent need for heightened pool safety awareness with over half (55 per cent) of pool owners admitting to propping open their pool gates, especially when children are in the pool (25 per cent) or during social gatherings (20 per cent).

The new report released as part of Check-Your-Pool-Gate Month alarmingly reveals two in five (20 per cent) parents let their children swim unsupervised, and a quarter (25 per cent) of families admit their child has gained unsupervised access to the pool.

Laurie Lawrence, founder of Kids Alive and ambassador of Check-Your-Pool-Gate Month, stressed the importance of constant supervision and pool gate maintenance.

"Leaving a child unsupervised significantly increases the risk of accidents. Supervision is a drowning prevention method that parents really can't overlook. These statistics are a stark reminder of the dangers of complacency in pool safety."

Adding to these concerns, close to a third (30 per cent) of pool owners have faced issues with pool gates not closing properly, yet nearly half (47 per cent) of the families took more than a month to rectify such a critical safety issue.

"A quarter of families said there was an incident of children accessing their pools unsupervised, yet 30 per cent of pool owners did not have the highest safety standards in place; with no lock or alarm on the pool gate," she said.

"The new report shows 85 per cent of families are concerned about the safety of their children swimming at other people's pools.

In 2022, 16 children under five unfortunately drowned and with summer the start of the peak drowning season.

In response to the report findings, Check-Your-Pool-Gate Month urges pool owners to take immediate action to ensure their pools are safe environments including routine checks of pool gates and fences, fixing any issues promptly, and never leaving children unattended in or around the pool. A comprehensive checklist and tips for safe parties can be found at checkyourpoolgate.com.au.

Pharmacies to carry COVID vaccinations

THE new COVID-19 vaccine to target the current Omicron variant of the virus is now available in community pharmacies throughout Australia.

The category of vaccines known as XBB 1.5 was approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) in October and can be used as a primary vaccination dosage as well as booster dosages.

Pharmacy Guild of Australia national president Professor Trent Twomey said the new vaccine will be more targeted at the virus, which is currently circulating among the population.

"With COVID-19 cases on the rise, it is important that anyone who is due for their vaccination does so as soon as they can at

their local community pharmacy," he said.

"Health authorities have recommended that vaccines move away from formulations, which target the original or ancestral strain."

Professor Twomey said the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisations (ATAGI) is not recommending those who are not due for their vaccination to get an additional booster because of the arrival of the new vaccine.

"The advice remains that you must wait six months from your last jab to get your next booster shot and older vaccinations still provide protection against the severest of symptoms," he said.

The vaccines available are

being manufactured by Pfizer and Moderna.

Pfizer has two formulations with one for patients aged five and over and less than 12, and one for patients aged 12 and over.

The Moderna vaccine is for patients aged 12 and over.

Professor Twomey said Australia's community pharmacies delivered during the pandemic and continue to deliver for patients to today.

"We've administered more than 11 million vaccinations since the pandemic, so my advice is if you need a vaccination, think pharmacy first," he said.

To find your nearest pharmacy, go to findapharmacy.com.au.

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 12
▲	12.06am 1.42m
▼	5.30am 0.93m
▲	11.19am 1.26m
▼	5.38pm 0.38m

WEDNESDAY	December 13
▲	1.00am 1.52m
▼	6.36am 0.90m
▲	12.17pm 1.28m
▼	6.30pm 0.30m

THURSDAY	December 14
▲	1.49am 1.61m
▼	7.26am 0.84m
▲	1.14pm 1.32m
▼	7.19pm 0.23m

FRIDAY	December 15
▲	2.36am 1.68m
▼	8.09am 0.78m
▲	2.06pm 1.36m
▼	8.05pm 0.23m

SATURDAY	December 16
▲	3.21am 1.71m
▼	8.51am 0.72m
▲	2.55pm 1.40m
▼	8.51pm 0.17m

SUNDAY	December 17
▲	4.05am 1.72m
▼	9.34am 0.66m
▲	3.43pm 1.43m
▼	9.37pm 0.18m

MONDAY	December 18
▲	4.47am 1.70m
▼	10.18am 0.59m
▲	4.30pm 1.44m
▼	10.23pm 0.23m

Email us your fishing photos
news@sgst.com.au



Captain Phil Ellard with Isaac Batty, who is Phillip Island Golf Club's Club Champion for 2023



Wendy Brown was Leongatha Golf Club's December Monthly



Phillip Island Golf Club captain Phil Ellard with Malcolm McArthur, winner of the Bob Hodges Nine-Hole Trophy.



Woorayl Golf Club's A Grade and B Grade winners respectively Elly Berryman and Inge Giliam.

LANG LANG

RESULTS:
 Tuesday Stroke – field of 58.
 Division 1:
 Winner: George Morozoff net 70.
 Second place: Steve Bray net 71.

Division 2:
 Winner: Kevin Cresp net 65.
 Second place: Robert Garrett net 67.

Ball rundown to net 73.

Nearest the pins: Fifth: Chris Clark. Ninth: Rod Cameron. 12th: Alan Courtney. 15th: Gavin Bock.

Wednesday Ladies Stableford – 38 players.

Division 1:
 Winner: Nicole Ellen 34 points (by countback).

Runner Up: Heather Grist.

Division 2:
 Winner: Sue O'Connor 37 points.

Runner Up: Carolyn Cripps 35 points.

Ball rundown to 32 points.

Nearest the pins: Ninth: Kerri Besley. 12th: Leah Barker.

Thursday Stableford/4BBBB – field of 83.

4BBBB

Winners: Rick Falcone and Matthew Skinner 48 points.

Runners up: Peter Wilson and Richard Kordos 46 points.

Division 1:

Winner: Richard Kordos 42 points.

Runner up: Colin Crowle 41 points.

Division 2:

Winner: Peter Abraham 42 points.

Runner up: Neil Stafford 40 points.

Ball rundown to 36 points.

Nearest the pin: Fifth: Peter Sellers. Ninth: Nik Hock. 12th: Rick Falcone. 15th: Steven Varty.

Saturday Men's Foursomes Championship/Stableford. Men's Foursomes winners: Gary Sosenko and Matthew Skinner with a fantastic score of 79 gross.

Stableford results:

Winner: Michael O'Rafferty with 41 points.

Runner up: Michael Harmes with 40 points by countback.

Third: Michael Ramac.

Ball rundown to 34 points.

Nearest the pins: Third hole second shot (0-18): Craig Taberner. Third hole second shot (19+): Jodie Mays. Fifth (0-18): Bill Lucas. Fifth (19+): Peter Dovaston. Ninth: (0-18) Rena Casey. 12th (0-18): Michael Harmes. 12th (19+): Michael Ramac. 15th (0-18): Tim McManus. 15th (19+): Tim Winter.

Sunday Stableford

Winner: Randell Smith 41 points.

Runner up: Sharon Cox 37 points.

Ball rundown to 31 points.

Another rainy Saturday saw reduced fields for the Men's Foursomes Championship Board Event and regular Saturday Stableford competition.

Those who were brave enough to front the constant rain enjoyed a relatively dry course, given the amount of rainfall. Congratulations to Gary Sosenko and Matthew Skinner for taking out the event with a gross score of 79, which was very impressive given the conditions.

Lang Lang Golf Club had the pleasure of hosting Annika Rathbone for a round of golf on Saturday.

Annika lives in New South Wales and is currently a 19-year-old Amateur player who recently competed in the Australian Open in Sydney.

Annika plays off +6 handicap and was more than happy to share some tips with members on Saturday.

The club wishes Annika well in her future endeavours and she has promised she will be back at Lang Lang for another round in the not too distant future.

This Friday night will be the first twilight social night for the summer season.

Places are filling up quickly so make sure you book your spot as soon as possible.

Bookings are also required for dinner if you are not playing golf.

The major prize on the night will be a \$250 cash prize for nearest the pin on the ninth, or the "party hole" which it becomes on the night.

The previous social nights have been very well attended with a great atmosphere.

Come along and enjoy golf, dinner, live music and novelty prizes.

Contact the club or book online on the timesheet to make your booking.

This event is open to everyone, no handicap or membership is required.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, December 5: Stableford

Sixty-two members/guests played in Tuesday's Stableford round, enjoying the outstanding course conditions of one of Victoria's finest regional golf courses.

A Grade winner: John McInnes (14) with 43 points.

A Grade runner up: Calum McCaughan (18) with 38 points on a countback.

B Grade winner: Trevor Steer (22) with 40 points.

B Grade runner up: George Hendry (23) with 36 points on a countback.

C Grade winner: Geoff Maher (27) with 35 points on a countback.

C Grade runner up: Sean Munley (33) with 35 points on a countback.

NTP fifth second shot: Russell Williams at 1.20m. NTP 14th: William Norden at 3.47m. NTP 16th: Craig Hutchinson at 1.64m.

Extra balls comp prizes went to Craig Hutchinson, Ian Murchie and Timothy McCarthy.

Thursday, December 7: Stableford.

An excellent field of 94 members/guests recorded some quality results across all grades in sublime conditions in Thursday's Stableford event.

A Grade winner: Mark Lafferty (5) with 39 points.

A Grade runner up: Craig Hutchinson (7) with 38 points.

B Grade winner: Grant McRitchie (16) with 37 points.

B Grade runner up: Garry Rotteveel (17) with 36 points on a countback.

C Grade winner: Gary Sharrock (24) with 39 points.

C Grade runner up: Nicholas Byrne (21) with 38 points.

D Grade winner: Peter Horman (32) with 44 points.

D Grade runner up: Frank Gill (25) with 39 points.

NTP fifth second shot: Ian Murchie at 1.27m. NTP 14th:

Mark Lafferty 260cm. NTP 16th: Gary McGrath 80cm.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Joe Lowell, John Cadd, Norman Hughes and Fred De Bondt.

Saturday, December 9: Monthly Medal.

With the washout on the first week of the month, the Monthly Medal round was transferred from last Saturday to this week and was contested by a smaller field of 45 members/guests due again to the wet and overcast conditions.

Overall winner: Simon Kaiserman (33) with a net score of 64.

A Grade winner: Ken Smirk (17) with a net score of 66.

A Grade runner up: Albert Hayes (14) with a net score of 69.

B Grade winner: Brendon Richards (32) with a net score of 65.

B Grade runner up: Mick Reinhard (24) with a net score of 69.

Ladies

THIRTY-THREE women competed in the December Monthly Medal in near perfect conditions.

The winner of the December Monthly Medal was Wendy Brown (34) with an excellent 69 net.

The runner up, on a count back, was Joc Howson (30) with 71 nett.

Down the line balls went to Janet Monk 71 net, Dot Stubbs and Shirley Welsford 73, Linda Bassett, Alison Strong, Joy O'Sullivan, Rebecca Thomas and Maryanne Gartner all on 74 net.

The nearest the pin on the 14th was won by Mel Willder and Janet Monk was the closest on the 16th.

Marea Maher won the nine-hole competition with 18 points with Marie Sands runner up with 15 points, on a count back from Paula Cross.

MIRBOO NORTH

SATURDAY, December 9: Stableford.

A Grade: S. Mills (11) 38 points.

B Grade: N. Bracecamp (18) 37 points c/b.

DTL: B. Bradshaw, N. Bicker-ton 37 and A. Liebe 36 c/b.

NTP: fourth M. Payne, sixth D. Jerram, 13th M. Payne and 16th G. Renwick.

Birdies: sixth D. Jerram.

PHILLIP ISLAND

TUESDAY, December 5: Men's Stableford 18-hole: Overall winner: Paul Hewitt (32) 42 points

A Grade winners: A-1 Mario Amato (15) 38 points and A-2 Phillip Bencraft (11) 36 points C/B.

B Grade winners: B-1 Ron Davies (19) 38 points C/B and B-2 Peter Wilson (18) 38 points C/B.

C Grade winners: C-1 Paul Hewitt (32) 42 points and C-2 Andrew Rundell (33) 40 points.

BDL to 34 points C/B.

NTP: fifth John Gains, seventh Shane Palmer, 10th Mark Dykes and 17th Joseph Kelly.

Men's nine-hole Stableford:

Winners: David Gladman (16) 21 points, Noel Thomas (31) 19 points and Peter Lawrence (36) 18 points C/B.

BDL to 16 points.

Continued page 49



Annika Rathbone, Jodie Mays and Rena Casey after finishing their rounds at Lang Lang Golf Club on Saturday.

From page 48

Thursday, December 7:
Open Stableford 18-hole:
Overall winner: Bill Lang (21) 42 points.

A Grade winners: A-1 Chris Sanderson (14) 38 points C/B and A-2 Heath Grace (15) 38 points.

B Grade winners: B-1 Bill Lang (21) 42 points and B-2 Ron Davies (18) 39 points.

C Grade winners: C-1 Paul Adams (28) 41 points C/B and C-2 Rob Wood (29) 41 points.

BDL to 35 points C/B.

Great score: Steven Duggan hole in one on the 10th. NTP: fifth Alex Andrews, seventh Alex Andrews, 10th Steven Duggan and 17th Ron Owen.

Open nine-hole Stableford:
Overall winners: Richie Netleton (40) 22 points and Brian Baker (20) 20 points C/B.

BDL to 17 points C/B.

Saturday, December 9:
Men's 18-hole Stroke Monthly Medal (Type net).

Overall winner: Heath Grace (15) 64.

A Grade winners: A-1 Ian Smith (11) 68 and A-2 Wayne Morris (11) 69.

B Grade winners: B-1 Heath Grace (15) 64 and B-2 Anthony Johns (13) 71 C/B.

C Grade winners: C-1 Robert Fabiny (22) 67 and C-2 Gerald Taylor (25) 72 C/B.

BDL to 75 C/B.

NTP: fifth Peter Innes, seventh Robert Ferguson, 10th Matt Brown and 17th Aaron Saric.

Women's 18-hole Stableford.

A Grade winners: A-1 Michelle Davey (37) 36 points C/B and A-2 Jeanette Diss (20) 36 points C/B.

BDL to 32 points C/B.

NTP: fifth Karen Green and 10th Dawn Andrews.

Sunday, December 10:
Open Comp nine-holes:
Overall winners: Ken Ballingall (40) 21 points and Belinda Beckham (46) 18 points.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: December 7, SR. 71.

Competition type: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: Jim McEachern 39.

Runner up: Glen Turner 37 C/B.

BDL to 35.

Ball sweep: Graeme Crawford 37, Glenn Hewlett 36, Rod Walker 36, Gary Youlten 35 and Andrew Hooton-Shandley 35.

Results: December 7, SR. 34.5.

Competition: Stableford front nine-hole.

Winner: Bill Howard 20.

BDL to 18.

Ball sweep: Norm Burne 19, Ray Hender 19, Blake Cornelis 19, Secondo Tiziani 18 and Peter Sullivan 18.

Results: December 9.

Competition: Par 18-hole.

Winner:

A: Kevin Jamieson +4.

B: Andrew Hooton-Shandley +4.

C: Alan Jones +4.

BDL to 0 c/b.

Ball sweep: Simon O'Halloran +3, Peter Sullivan +3, Phillip Dynes +3, Gary Youlten +2, Graeme Crawford +2, Jim McEachen +2, Paul Cornelis +1, Sam Dennis +1, Kevin Bayley +1 and Jim Jordan 0 C/B.

NTPs: Peter Sullivan second, Michael Scott fourth, Ben Clark propin eighth, John Walsh 13th and Paul Cornelis money hole 17th.

FINAL MIXED DAY

SUNDAY saw a wonderful turnout of players to enjoy the Final Mixed Day for 2023.

The Wonthaggi Golf Club is very grateful to its wonderful sponsors The Cape Tavern for their generous prizes, which were highly appreciated at presentations.

The game was Canadian Foursomes and there were some beaut scores, lots of laughs and a few mumbles under the breath after an oopsie.

A Grade winners were Ian Baker and Marg Johnson 74(6)68 net.

A Grade runners up were playing partners Michael Scott and Kaylene Hodgetts 81(9.75)71.25 net.

B Grade winners were mum and son pairing of Kathy Geyer and Robbie Geyer 92(21.75)70.25 net from runners up Simon O'Halloran and Patsy Britt 87(16.5)70.5 net.

BDL went to Anne Walker and Craig Charles 72.125, Anne Poulton and Norm Burne 72.25, Catherine Bolding and Andrew Hooton-Shandley 72.375, Jan Beaumont and Warwick Judkins 72.875, Wendy and Jim Jordan 73.875, and Layla Robertson and Craig Harvey 75.875.

NTP on second was Michael Scott, eighth Catherine Bolding, 13th Wendy Cross and 17th Craig Harvey.

Special mention to Elly for her birdie/gobbler on seventh, Elly birdie on fifth and 18th, and Kath gobbler on 16th.

LADIES

THE final outstanding event in the syllabus was completed on Wednesday.

Next week will be the Christmas lunch and end of year fun.

The board event of the Lyla Taberner Foursomes Knock out was completed in a fabulous match on Monday, which saw Marg Johnson (15) and Yvonne Everitt (18) squeak in the win on the 19th hole from Robyn Wilkinson (27) and Heather Wintle (40).

Wednesday was a stroke round to determine the Star Medallist, the course is in great condition with the greens improving each day after their coring.

The scores reflected this with some better cards returned especially by the Star Medallists group.

Congratulations to the 2023 Star Medallist in her first year of playing competition golf – Layla Robertson 103(36)70 net from Simone Lindsay and Marg Johnson both with 71.

In the daily event, the winners were A Grade Marg Johnson 86(15)71, Chris Hamilton 105(32)73 and C Grade Layla Robertson 103(36)70.

NTP on eighth was Yvonne Everitt.

BDL went to Simone Lindsay 71, Wendy Cross 72, Yvonne Everitt 72 and Anne Poulton 74.

Nine-holes event was won by Anne Tschiderer 18 points.

WOORAYL

THERE were some very happy women to see a sunny golf day.

The monthly medal day sponsored by Heather Sullivan brought out some hot scores.

The winner of A Grade was the relaxed and retiring captain Elly Berryman, with a sizzling score of 82-14-68.

Inge came in with an excellent B Grade score of 104-35-69.

The runner up in A Grade was Pauline Lancaster with 100-25-75 and B Grade Jo Fennell with 110-32-78.

BDL were Anne Grist 77 net, Janet 79 net and Heather 80 net.

Elly's 26 putts contributed to her low gross score.

NTP's were eighth Elly, 11th Heather and 17th Inge.

Special mention to Elly for her birdie/gobbler on seventh, Elly birdie on fifth and 18th, and Kath gobbler on 16th.



It was the annual Christmas novelty golf day for the women of the Phillip Island Golf Club last Wednesday and they went to a lot of trouble to turn themselves out in the festive theme, while the four-ball best ball competition was made all the more difficult by the littering of the greens with a range of obstacles including eskies, deckchairs, Christmas trees, Santa's helpers, champagne bottles and all the Christmas trimmings, as to make it almost impossible to putt out in some cases. But it was all a lot of fun. Enjoying the day were Jill Zelman, Marlene Gibson, Christine Crane and Jude Lawrence.



At the Phillip Island Golf Club last Wednesday it was the annual Christmas theme day enjoyed by all including Sheryl Smith, Robyn Chipperfield, Roz Morris and Marilyn Jones.



Wonthaggi Workmen's Club participants with and Wonthaggi Croquet Club's own Rod Hill.

Wonthaggi Croquet

OVER three days from December 1 until December 3, Wonthaggi's Tom Lacey and Sue Baker ventured to the Victorian Croquet headquarters at Cairnlea to compete and officiate in their handicap doubles and singles events.

Tom refereed during the doubles event on the first and second whilst competing in the singles on the third where he won three of his six games.

Sue assisted on all three days with the entering of the results on croquet scores.

Virginia Wheeler headed to Drouin to play in their level play singles.

Competing in Section 1, she

was unfortunately only able to win one of her seven games.

It was a busy evening for the club on Monday, December 4, when it entertained 30 staff from major sponsor The Wonthaggi Workmen's Club.

Not all participated, but those who did had a fun time on the greens having a 'hit and giggle'.

Groups of four were taken through their paces by club members for about one hour.

No time to go through the finer aspects of the game but a great time was had by all.

Thanks must go to the members who gave their time and expertise to make this a fun event.



Congratulations to South Strzelecki Region Ladies Triples played at Phillip Island. Winners from Foster were B. Tyers, M. McGlead and M. Taylor who defeated Tarwin Lower. They will now play off against Strzelecki North to represent the region in the State Championships.



Runners up of Korumburra's Monthly Triples was the local team of Kevin Watson, Charlie Edgerton and Alan Cherrett, with Retire and Wealth Planning sponsor.



Korumburra Bowling Club's A Grade Club Championship winners Joanna Lomagno and Charlie Edgerton with president Brian Pepperell (centre).



David Turnbull, Graham Turton and Rob Howard were Inverloch Bowling Club's Social Bowls winners. Absent: Laurel Lee (skip).



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Turkey Triples winner was the Leongatha team of Ron Symons, Allan Easterbrook and Rod Jackson.



Laurie Culp, Jean Wylde and John Stewart were Friday's Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls winners.

INVERLOCH

Weekend Pennant:

Games were unplayed on Saturday due to the constant rain.

Midweek Pennant:

Division 1: Inverloch 55 Toora 56.

Division 2: Inverloch 63 San Remo 47.

Division 3: Inverloch (3) 40 Korumburra 37; Inverloch 29 Phillip Island 40.

Corporate Bowls:

Another successful Corporate Bowls night was held on Wednesday.

The bowlers were competitive over the games played.

Many thanks to all the volunteers that make this happen.

Thursday Social Bowls:

Twenty-two bowlers played two games of 10 ends.

There were teams made up of fours and triples.

Runners up were the team of Carol Hughes (skip), Joyce Arnold, Karen Orford and Jeff Curwood.

The only team to win two games and were winners on the day was the team skipped by Laurel Lee.

Her team consisted of three others, Graham Turton, Rob Howard and David Turnbull.

KORUMBURRA

IT was another busy week at the club, starting with the Monthly Triples.

With 24 teams in attendance, another successful day was held.

Thanks go to sponsors Retire and Wealth Planners for their generous sponsorship.

Winners on the day were the Wonthaggi team of R. Westbrook, S. Noad and G. Birt.

Runners up were local team of Kev Watson Alan Cherrett and Charlie Edgerton.

A big thank you to all concerned.

Midweek Pennant saw Division 1 travelling to Wonthaggi but all to no avail.

Judith Nicholl lost 22 to 18, Jenny McVeigh lost 21 to 15 and Jo Lomagno went down 35 to 16.

In Division 3, Korumburra hosted Inverloch.

Unfortunately, the tale was the same as Division 1.

Cheryl Moore drew 21 all while Lena lost 16 shots to 19.

Seventy-seven people enjoy a lovely counter tea provided by Brett Sinclair Catering on Friday night.

Unfortunately, for the third week in a row, Saturday Pennant was washed out.

The finals of the Club Championships were played on Sunday.

A thrilling game was witnessed in the men's, with both players on 24 shots.

Charlie Edgerton got up the only time he was in front for the game.

Congratulations to both Ben Peachey and Charlie Edgerton for the manner in which the game was played.

In the ladies' final, Erica Hayes got away early, but Joanna Lomagno pegged her back and came out a winner.

Once again, the game was played in excellent spirit.

LEONGATHA

ROUND six of the Midweek Pennant Division 1 competition was played at home against Corinella.

The result of the contest was decided at the last end with Leongatha winning overall with a score of 50/47 shots.

Individual rink scores were as

follows:

Marj Pearson skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Helen Fox skip (Corinella) 13/16 shots.

Jenny Miller skip (Leongatha) defeated Jacqueline Carter skip (Corinella) 22/12 shots.

Rosa James skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Barbara Oates skip (Corinella) 15/19 shots.

Last Sunday, December 3, the Club Championship events were conducted at the club.

Jenny Miller was the recipient of the Ladies Singles Championship award in a thrilling finish and Paul Michael collected the Men's Singles Championship trophy.

On Wednesday, December 6, 12 players arrived at the club to play in the social event that the match committee had scheduled for the afternoon.

Bruce Douglas and Mal Grant had a day out and went home with the chocolates with a score of two wins + 16 shots.

The predicted rain arrived on Friday night and the Division 1, Division 2 and Division 4 games scheduled for the Saturday afternoon competition involving Leongatha players were abandoned.

On Saturday morning, a Leongatha Club bowler on his journey to the Tarwin Bowls Club noticed that his feet were covered by his newly bought moccasins which does not conform to regulation pennant attire.

The driver reluctantly did an about turn to retrieve the slippers from home.

The moral of the story is for PD sufferers to take the piss out of oneself and laugh about actions of embarrassment.

Coming events:

Business bowls: December 12.

Corporate events: December 15.

Open pairs: January 14.

MIDWEEK BOWLS

THIS week was a rollercoaster ride as far as the weather was concerned.

However, Koo Wee Rup gave the bowlers a magnificent day's weather as well as a magnificent green to play their weekly challenge.

David opened the gates and prepared the rink for all while Peter, Pauline and John did the paperwork inside.

The club thanks these selfless volunteers for all their hard work.

A big thank you to George who looked after the bar for the entire day.

On the green, laughter could be heard from all areas and there was some excellent bowling from the friendly family.

Overall, it was a great day for the 39 bowlers.

The winners with a score of 34 were Mark Andreatta (S), Laurie Bell (3), Pauline McWilliams (2) and Neil Andreatta.

Runners up also on a score of 34 were Phil Wright (S), Rob Jeffrey (3), Frank D'Unienville (2) and Tony Morris (L).

Best one game on a score of 30 went to Tony Heppleston (S), Chris Coulson (3) and Shane Wright (L).

Thank you once again to David who along with Luke cleaned up the green and the clubhouse after they finished.

The volunteers deserve better than thanks but unfortunately that's all that can be given.

Next week, the bowlers will be meeting at Lang Lang for the final week this year.

Please all players 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

IT was another busy week at the club with something on every day.

Tuesday saw Division 1 play host at home to Korumburra.

On ladder positions, this was going to be tough match but all three rinks played well to record a solid win.

The final scores Wonthaggi 78 Korumburra 49.

Division 2, also at home, played host to Meenyan in another tough match.

With mixed results, two rinks went down, but the other had a good win to keep Wonthaggi in the match.

The result went down to the last bowl of the day with the final score Wonthaggi 68 Meenyan 67.

Barefoot Bowls once again was a success with lots of happy faces and in general people having a good time.

There are some pics on the Facebook page from last week.

Wednesday was Turkey Triples Day and with both greens full, the day was a huge success with most local clubs having teams.

There were two teams that were four game winners, with the winners being a team from Leongatha being Ron Symons, Allan Easterbrook and Rod Jackson with a score of four wins and plus 38 shots.

The runners up were a team from Wonthaggi who were Frank Cimino, John Migliorisi and Alan Jordan with a score of four wins and plus 24 shots.

Best game went to the Chas Buccilli team with a score of 25 shots up.

The Naba award was a surprise, as it went to the Rod Beech team.

Thursday saw a good number of bowlers, as with the Triples on Wednesday, people took advantage on Thursday to have a roll.

Saturday was a total washout in all four divisions.

Bowls this week: Tuesday Midweek Pennant and from 5pm Bare Foot Bowls, Wednesday social bowls at 1pm, Thursday social bowls at 10am, Friday coaching at 10am and Saturday Pennant.

The B Grade sheets will be on the board soon, so keep an eye on the board and put your name down.

Have a good week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

THE end of the year is drawing closer, but there was still a good turn up of bowlers this week.

Fifty-one players competed.

Twenty-seven players competed on Tuesday.

The winners on plus 10, winning both games, were Rhonda Rattenbury, Jeannie Slocombe, John Stewart and John Postlethwaite.

Runners up on plus three, also winning both games, were Thelma Kavanagh, Pat Smith and John Postlethwaite.

Friday saw 24 players compete with a very close finish.

The winners on plus 13 were Laurie Culp, Jean Wylde and John Stewart.

Runners up on plus 12 were Judy Sweetnam, Marg Hender and Pat Novak.

Both teams won two games each.

Grants to nurture future sport stars

THE State Government is helping more children get active and fostering the talents of Victoria's future sport stars through Active Schools Grants.

Minister for Education Ben Carroll announced the 100 schools receiving a \$30,000 Active Schools Grant as part of the latest round of the Active Schools initiative, which gives grants to schools to help them get local students physically active.

South Gippsland Specialist School was among the school selected.

"Even 15 minutes of physical activity can be all it takes to boost the overall wellbeing of our children, which can help improve how students learn – that's why we're keeping our students active at school," Mr Carroll said.

"We're thrilled to celebrate Active Schools funding recipients and congratulate the successful schools involved for their contributions to keeping young Victorians active, healthy and engaged."

Up to 500 schools in disadvantaged communities have shared in almost \$20 million in Active Schools Grants and funding boosts since the initiative was launched in 2021.

Schools have previously used their Active Schools funding to upskill PE teachers, purchase sports and fitness equipment, implement programs such as bicycle education, circus and dance, build outdoor learning spaces, make upgrades to playgrounds, install sensory play areas, and cover costs associated with sports and physical activity.

"Sports and physical activity help young Victorians thrive, and the Active Schools initiative is making sure that students get access to these benefits, no matter their background or where they live," Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence said.

MIDWEEK LADIES' TENNIS

Ladders after December 5

Section 1: Inverloch Diamonds 47, Westernport Pearls 39, Wonthaggi Rubies 39, Wonthaggi Sapphires 32, Inverloch Emeralds 31, Bena Opals 28

Section 2: Wonthaggi 51, Bena 46, Korumburra 46, Foster 43, Inverloch 30, Phillip Island Penguins 27, Nyora 25, Phillip Island Koalas 18

Midweek ladies' tennis is taking the annual Christmas/New Year break.

Matches begin again in February. Wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas.

RIVERSIDE TENNIS

Tennis called off again

ALL matches for Riverside Tennis Association were washed out again on Saturday.



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Savannah Bergmeier and Penny were dressed in true festive style for the Wonthaggi Pony Club's Christmas Rally.



Chelsea Dalton on Esme, with three exciting lessons keeping everyone on their toes at Wonthaggi Pony Club's Christmas Rally.

A festive riding extravaganza

THE SUN was trying to shine, and the festive spirit was in full swing at the Wonthaggi Pony Club's Christmas Rally held this past weekend. With 18 riders in attendance, the day was filled with laughter, learning, and a whole lot of cheer.

Adding a sprinkle of holiday magic, several members donned Christmas-themed costumes, turning the rally into a festive spectacle. From Santa's helpers to Gandalf riding, the creativity was truly impressive. A special mention goes to the rider who transformed into an angel.

The highlight of the day was the three exciting lessons that kept everyone on their toes.

The Barrel racing lesson brought out the competitive spirit in our riders. It was a true

display of agility and precision as riders manoeuvred through the barrels. The riders also enjoyed 'Old English Plate' which added a touch of tradition to the mix.

However, the real adventure kicked in with the third lesson — a scavenger hunt organised by Micaela Brereton. Riders navigated the cross-country course in search of hidden clues, adding an element of excitement and camaraderie to the rally. It was a joy to see riders and their horses working together to solve clues and complete challenges.

Special thanks go to our dedicated DC Erin Passarin and Assistant DC Lauren Wilkinson for orchestrating this fantastic day of fun and learning. Their hard work and commitment to the

club truly shone through, creating an unforgettable experience for all.

Our fabulous members helped run the entertaining rings throughout the day. Their enthusiasm and support added an extra layer of enjoyment to the rally.

A shared lunch brought everyone together, with members contributing delicious salads and sweet treats. The picnic atmosphere provided an opportunity for riders to relax, share stories, and bond over their mutual love for horses.

Our riders were presented with awards after lunch. We encourage our riders to be kind, courteous, engaged and learning in their lessons. Instructors give points to riders each lesson

and they are tallied at the end of the year. We also have presentation awards to riders who come to lessons with clean horses and uniform and gear.

As always, the Wonthaggi Pony Club is fortunate to have skilled and dedicated members who contribute not only to the fun activities but also to the maintenance of our beloved facilities. A heartfelt thank you to those who lent a helping hand, ensuring that our club remains a safe and welcoming place for all.

In the spirit of giving, the Wonthaggi Pony Club wishes everyone a joyous holiday season filled with love, laughter, and, of course, plenty of horseback adventures. We look forward to more exciting rallies and shared moments in the coming year.

Wildcat women triumph again in Country Basketball League

THE KORUMBURRA Wildcats made it back-to-back triumphs in Saturday's women's Country Basketball League Grand Final, downing the Wonthaggi Coasters by 24 points at Cardinia Life Aquatic and Recreation Centre in Pakenham.

Tyla Angwin led the way for the Wildcats, the Finals MVP shooting 23 points, edging out teammate Alahna Arnason and opponent Grace McRae who each registered 19 points.

All 10 Korumburra players scored.

The Coasters had a couple of extra options on the bench with 12 players to rotate.

Korumburra's total player point value came to just 20 of the allowable 30, Wonthaggi totalling 26 player points.

Wonthaggi started strongly, taking a three-point quarter time lead, with Korumburra cutting the deficit to just a point at halftime, the Wildcats powering away in the third term with a stunning 31 point to 10 display to charge to a 20-point advantage at the final change.

Angwin sparked Korumburra into life with five three pointers for the third term.

To their credit, the Wonthaggi

players dug in for the last quarter, ensuring it was a competitive term but couldn't stop the Wildcats extending the margin by game's end.

Korumburra captain and assistant coach Chloe Hogg was understandably delighted Angwin was coaxed back onto court mid-season after setbacks to

the team, having not originally intended to feature in this campaign.

"She provides a heap of energy," Hogg said of Angwin who played all her junior basketball for the Wildcats.

Hogg expressed pride in her young side's accomplishment.

"It was a massive achievement with five of our team still under 18 and still playing junior basketball," she said.

The accomplishment was all the greater with star Wildcats Chelsea Fox and Krystal Arnason currently visiting US colleges.

Matt Holmes and Brett Rolfe shared the head coaching duties for the Wildcats women this season.

Coasters coach Cathy

Garnham said her side entered the game mindful of the fact the Wildcats shot well from long range last time the teams clashed and that her team needed a solid plan to deal with Korumburra's skilled tall players.

Garnham felt her side was able to execute its plans well until halftime, crediting Angwin's classy display after the break as the decisive factor.

She praised the efforts of her own team.

"We had a solid contribution from Courtney Young; she was great and drew on her experience in big games. Gemma Thomas played well and Grace McRae scored well for us in the end, but we just came up a bit short," Garnham said.



The Tigers' Jack Ross meets with Louie Sorenson and Jack Radford at Wonthaggi.



It was a case of spot the Tigers' star at training in Wonthaggi last week.



Richmond co-captain Toby Nankervis meets with young fan Max Gammaldi during training at Wonthaggi.



Libby Carr of Wonthaggi gets her book signed by rising star Josh Gibcus during a training run at Wonthaggi.



Richmond players took their training camp all over Bass Coast, from the home of the Inverloch-Kongwak FNC to the famous trestle bridge at Kilcunda.

Richmond puts a Tiger in Bass Coast's tourism tank

BASS Coast became 'Tigerland' for the week last week as the high-profile Richmond Football Club launched a player-driven publicity campaign that took images of this magnificent coastal area to a million supporters Australia wide.

You couldn't buy that sort of exposure.

They rode bikes and staged training runs across the famous Kilcunda trestle bridge, cooled off in the pristine waters of Inverloch's surf beach, where they also played beach cricket, beach volleyball and demonstrated their skills on stand-up paddle boards.

They trained at the Inverloch Recreation Reserve, and also on the superb surface at Wonthaggi, where they took time out to meet and greet hundreds of local school kids and fans, signing autographs, books and stopping for selfies during a regional training camp which Richmond FC Executive Director Brendan Gale described as one of the best-ever pre-season training events.

He said he couldn't speak highly enough of the welcome the club had received, starting out with a Welcome to Boonwurrung Country and smoking ceremony, at the Inverloch RACV Resort by traditional owner Steven Ulula Parker from Millowl Dreaming and the local community and the diversity of training options on offer.

Speaking at Wonthaggi last Wednesday, on Day Three, he was effusive in

his praise of the facilities at Wonthaggi and elsewhere.

"The oval is outstanding. As good as you'd find anywhere. You could putt on that surface," said Gale.

"It (Bass Coast) is the ideal place to have a training camp. You've got the beach right here and a couple of fantastic ovals to train on. We're just delighted to be here. It's great, yeah.

"And terrific to see such a big crowd of supporters and all the kids. Aren't they supposed to be in school today," he said with a laugh.

At both Inverloch and Wonthaggi ovals, local schools allowed their students to come across and see the players train.

And they went at it hard, with the whole playing group of 40-plus players, including all of the stars and new recruits.

"Everyone has been very welcoming and it's great to be able to get out here into the country and meet some of our regional fans," he said.

New General Manager of the Wonthaggi FNC Brendan Knight was just as pleased, especially as Wonthaggi was hosting his own AFL club.

"Of course, I'm a bit biased but it's great to be hosting one of the big Melbourne clubs; Richmond, Collingwood, Carlton or Essendon," said Brendan.

"We heard that they were coming a couple of weeks ago and I'm not surprised such a big crowd has come out.

"The ground is probably as good as it can be right now, with that bit of rain

we had last week and the weather perfect today.

"We've had some terrific feedback from the Richmond officials. They couldn't be happier with the ground, the gym, and the other facilities.

"Of course, our facilities do need to be upgraded, especially for women's football. These are things that we'll be working on in the coming year," he said.

Maybe the publicity given by Richmond will help.

Brendan Gale will certainly be pushing for it.

"I'd like to see more VFL games coming out here," said Mr Gale.

It was the ultimate early Christmas present for Richmond Tigers fans in Bass Coast and South Gippsland, and didn't they love it, young and old.

A group of students from the Bass Coast Specialist School enjoyed a nice moment with the players during the session. Premiership hero Nick Vlastuin and some of his teammates noticed the group with their bus, parked on the scoreboard side of the Wonthaggi oval and went across and chatted with them for 10 minutes, taking selfies and signing autographs.

On the ground it was full contact with Richmond super star Dustin Martin coming off a bit the worse for wear after a head clash during a match-simulation session.

'Dusty' was ushered from the ground by medical staff and made no further appearance on the day, until he was put through an exhaustive assessment at

Inverloch the next day before rejoining the group.

Here are some other training notes:

- Up and coming defender Josh Gibcus was on limited duties as he comes back from a series of hamstring injuries last season but is expected to be a key part of Richmond's transition to a new era under new coach Adem Yze.
- Daniel Rioli and Maurice Rioli Junior were among the other stars who turned out on the day, with big Toby Nankervis, Ben Miller, Jacob Hopper, Noah Balter, Dion Prestia, Shai Bolton... they were all there.
- Big Nank, the club's co-captain, was one of the main ones to interact with the kids on the sidelines.
- Tom Lynch looked to be on light duties as well as he returns from injury but took part in most drills.

The playing group were put through sessions of game play and group ball-handling sessions, stopping for regular drinks on what was sunny, occasionally cloudy day at Wonthaggi but with a nice breeze blowing across the ground.

At the end in Wonthaggi, there was a competitive goal-kicking drill, which appeared to be part of some sort of competition, between black tops and white tops, but like other visitors to Wonthaggi, the Tigers appeared to have difficulty kicking goals at the Bass Highway (western end) end of the ground.



Maurice Rioli Junior meets traditional owner Steve Parker at the smoking ceremony and Welcome to Boonwurrung Country at the Inverloch RACV Resort last week.



At 208cm, Perth Wildcats basketballer Oliver Hayes-Brown shapes as a possible back-up ruckman for Toby Nankervis.



Richmond superstar Dustin Martin leaves the ground at Wonthaggi last Wednesday after a much-publicised head clash.



Zali Loughran and Paige Wann waited for their chance to meet the Richmond players.



Richmond premiership hero Nick Vlastuin in action during the Tigers' full-contact training day at Wonthaggi last week. [Tigers8_5023](#)



Richmond's Maurice Junior Rioli might find himself in the midfield next season if his role in match-play simulation at Wonthaggi last week is anything to go by.



Boonwurrung Country representative Steve Parker gets a good fire going during his Welcome to Country for the Richmond Football Club at Inverloch last week.



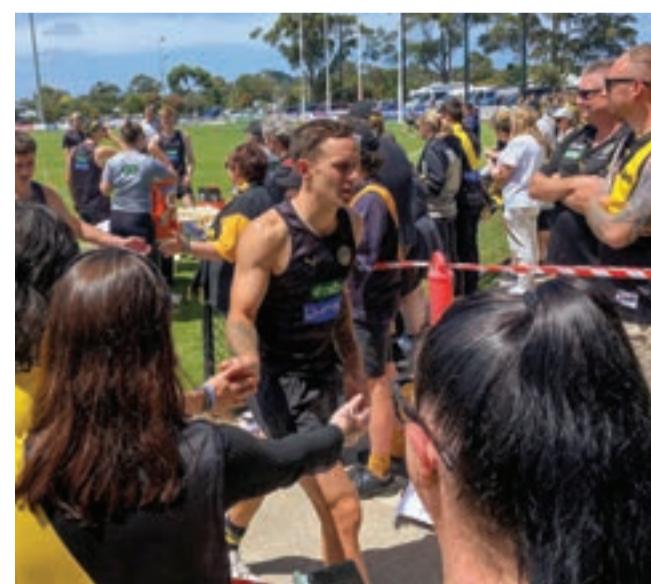
It was the best of both worlds for new Wonthaggi Power General Manager Brendan Knight, welcoming his AFL club Richmond to the Power's home ground last Wednesday.



Local Tigers' supporters - Courtney Moir of San Remo, Libby Carr, Raye Tucker and Dask Lawton of Wonthaggi at the Tigers' training run.



A big crowd lined the fence at Wonthaggi for the Richmond training run last Wednesday.



The Tiger players were more than happy to meet supporters during training.

South Gippsland Bridge

DECEMBER 1 at Inverloch: seven tables competing.

In the master points were:

First: Alan Johnston and Clive Hope with an excellent 68.52 per cent, Second: Hannah Martin and Ruth Stevenson with another good score on 64.44, Third: Philip and Nev Chapman 60, Fourth: John French and Faye Rowlands 58.15, Fifth: Anne Gibson and John Sutton 56.67, Sixth: Julie and Ian McPhee 51.11.

December 5 at Wonthaggi: seven tables competing. N/S Pairs: First: John Sutton and Alan Johnston 63.39, Second: Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour 60.71, Third: Clive Hope and Lois Dwyer 53.27.

E/W Pairs: First: Anne Gibson and Julie Perriam 56.55, Second: Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles 53.87, Third: Penny Loughran and Ruth Stevenson 51.79.

December 8 at Inverloch: six tables competing. First: Philip and Nev Chapman with a fine 61.48, Second: Kathy Dowd and John Sutton 57.04. Third: Julie Perriam and Anne Gibson 54.81, Fourth: Deb Anglim and John French 52.59, Fifth: Alan Johnston and Clive Hope 52.22.

A reminder to all members that the club's Christmas party and game this week starts at 11am – bring a festive plate to share.

Visitors as usual are most welcome to play and join in the fun of the day.

NEXT WEEKEND'S GAMES & UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

ROUND 8 - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 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)
Brad Phillips
Glen Alvie v Nyora (Wonthaggi Turf)
Gary Quilty

B GRADE, Division 1

OMK v MDU (Outtrim)
TBA
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)
TBA

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

Success is not born, it is grown



State Champions in Girls Tee-Ball.



State Champions in Cricket.



State Champions in Boys Tee-Ball.

From page 56
Teaching and Coaching

Shiny buildings, new equipment, specialist coaches and personalised uniforms are all noticeable aspects when we align something with success. But the underlying success at Bass Valley Primary School comes back to the greatest resource of all, the people.

Bass Valley Primary School Physical Education teacher Mr Jon McCormick is no novice when it comes to elite sport, but his introverted personality won't lead to you learning much from Jon directly. A former AFL player for Carlton, and highly skilled athlete in other sports, Jon's attention to the development of each student is legendary. He has observed so many 'firsts' in children's lives and loves the challenge of achieving their first experiences riding a bike, swimming a lap, and working in a team.

At recess and lunchtime, you won't see Jon having a break in the staff room. The students demand him in the school yard, where you will find him in his wide brim hat, eating his apple and working with a team or taking students aside for individual help. His ability to source further professional development in coaching is the icing on the cake, and his modest and calm personality makes him a loved and respected member of the school community.

This trait is shared by other staff at the school. The infamous Kylie Lansdown and her infinite positivity and energy rubs off on all staff. The self-described 'Fog Horn' can be heard supporting the kids on any boundary. Then, when nobody's looking, you'll find Kylie down on the kids' level coaching a student through a skill or helping them through a challenge.

The whole program is not just reliant on the people, but the process and programs that have been built throughout the school so that when one player or coach is away, the next person in line steps up. This is best represented by another staff member in Todd Smith, who you'll find reiterating and replicating the culture Jon and Kylie have

worked so hard to develop.

The care and support for their students is unmatched, and to watch a match or training session you truly see students have a sense of belonging and it is no surprise that success is achieved.

No fluke

Whilst the recent 'treble' is a highlighted achievement that brought Bass Valley Primary School to our attention, we soon learnt that this achievement is no fluke. Such is the modesty of the school, it took a long time before we learnt that state success, and to pardon the pun but 'bat out of their crease' is common practice.

Speaking with Jon, we asked about other success the school has had, and he was quick to brush it off. "We go alright" was his modest response. Thankfully Kylie was able to guide us towards a well filled cabinet at the school which showcased many achievements by the students.

This year alone they have had their boys relay team reach the state final of the 4 x 100m relay.

"It was funny to watch, when the heats came up on the live stream here, there were these well-known successful schools from the city then there was Bass Valley Primary School, competing with the big schools, and they held their own," laughed Kylie.

Adding to this year's success was their boys reaching the State tee-Ball and softball finals and Autumn Ross placing in the top 20 of the State Cross Country.

Further research saw that each year this same level of achievement occurs, multiple tee-Ball and softball state titles since 2017, state representation in Athletics, Cross Country, and AFL. It is unbelievable what one school has achieved for such an extended period.

School Principal Sharon King describes this phenomenon as "ridiculously good" and when asked what makes it all happen, she was quick to respond, "The culture. Caring and hard-working staff who enjoy what they do, great students who want to be their best, and a community who supports us. Pretty simple, but very successful."

Goannas represent Victoria at Nationals

THE over-50 National Cricket Championships were held in Melbourne last week, with several Goannas players involved, and some playing off for Division Titles.

In the Division 1 team, Anthony Bloomfield was selected as vice-captain. This team made the final with three wins from three games but were only just unable to chase down a Queensland score of 238, finishing on 6/227 after their 45 overs. Bloomfield with 38 was a fine contributor in the final played at the Junction Oval but did not bat in two earlier games. He bowled 15 overs and took 2/36 for the week.

Victoria had two teams in Division 2, with Steve Rogers vice-captain of Vic2. Rogers made 63 runs during the first three games which saw Vic2 qualify for the final, where they were beaten by a NSW team. Graeme Rankin made a cameo appearance in Game 3.

Patrick Spiteri, Chris Anders (vice-captain and wicket keeper) and David Nobels all played in the Vic3 team which won three of four games for the week, including the play-off for third place. Spiteri batted in three games, with a best of 43 in the final, Anders batted three times, for two not out scores, and had three stumpings, a catch and a run

out as keeper, while Nobels took wickets in every game, including 3/21 from 9 overs in the final.

Victoria also had two teams in Division 3, where Geoff Wells was captain of Vic White, and Chris Malone and Brad McDonald also played. Rod Jones played in Game 3 and took 3/37. Wells started the week in good form, with two scores of 50 retired. McDonald made 50 retired in Game 2, and 47 in the final, and Malone had a best score of 31 in Game 3. As wicket keeper, Wells took three catches and made two stumpings. After three good wins from the first three games VicWhite played

the other Vic team VicBlue in the final but were unable to defend a score of 143. Malone bowled 33 overs for the week, with best figures of 2/23 in game 2.

Victoria also had two teams in Division 4, but no Goannas players were in these teams.

In other news, the weather spoiled planned Goannas games at the weekend. The Over-60's will play Canterbury at home this Sunday. The Over-70's will play away at Glen Waverley on Tuesday December 19, while the Over-50's are not scheduled to play a game till late January, although there are some 'make-up' games to be arranged.



Last month, Korumburra's Allen Summerfield, centre, was named in the Korumburra Cricket Club's 'Team of the Half Century' during their 50th birthday celebrations. Z32_4523

How tragedy impacted the life of a champion

THE saddest thing about Cobra's passing isn't that he will no longer be with us.

And certainly, Allen Summerfield will be sorely missed by his two families, the Summerfields and the Korumburra Cricket Club, and beyond them, the whole community.

In fact, fellow 'Cobra's Legend' Darren Scott posted this on Facebook last week to advise local cricketers of Allen's passing:

"To all the Cobra Family, it is with a heavy heart that I bring to you the sad news of the passing of our club Legend Allen Summerfield overnight. Allen's contribution to our club will be irreplaceable, but most importantly he was a great person, and will be sadly missed around the rooms. The chats about cricket, footy or watching a race on a Saturday will never be the same again. Rest in Peace Cobra."

And the club has already had an initial get-together or two to share its grief and provide support.

No, the saddest thing about Allen Summerfield's death last Tuesday night, and we can

say it now because he's no longer with us, is the tragedy of his life, what he missed out on and what we didn't get to enjoy with him.

Here was a bloke, a lovable local larrikin and highly talented sportsman, cut down at the absolute top of his game by a freak accident, on his way to play representative cricket, in which he suffered an injury to the C4-5 section of his spinal cord, confining him to a wheelchair for the rest of his life.

It was the worst possible outcome for a bloke like that who absolutely lived to compete and to play with his mates, on the back of a season when he won just about everything there was to win in the Leongatha and District Cricket Association, including cricketer of the year.

In fact, he was on his way to repeating the dose when the accident happened.

There had already been two A Grade Premierships, the most recent in the 1983-84 season, and with Cobra one of several leading lights of the local competition in the team, more flags would certainly

have flown Korumburra's way. But like Allen, the club had suffered a severe setback.

Even at 60 years of age, he might still have been playing, especially if he thought he could impart some knowledge, be an example to a young group, or maybe to help an inexperienced team.

It was a long time before Cobra could re-emerge after the tragedy of that incident, to put his life back into some sort of order after battling through the aftermath, rehab and the mental scars, but re-emerge he did, to devote his life to the Korumburra Cricket Club, and them to him.

It's what sustained him, what he lived for, and he's left an enormous legacy, which is there for all to see, not just in the improved facilities at the Korumburra Rec, including a superb turf wicket, but also in the standing of the club, restored as one of the leading organisations in the LDCA and country cricket.

The fact that Korumburra could attract someone of the calibre of former Sri Lankan captain, Tillakaratne Dilshan, to play for them this season

is testament to that, although Cobra was adamant he should play here in February, not October!

There'll be a lot more said about the great Allen 'Cobra' Summerfield, what a terrific bloke he was, what a great cricketer he had been, and what a fiercely principled administrator he was right up until his death and about his selfless contribution to the club, the association, the sport and the community at large.

But suffice to say that despite his affliction, and his battles with it, he leaves this place all the better for his own efforts and you can ask no more than that from anyone.

Funeral arrangements

The Funeral Service for Allen Victor Summerfield will be held at the Korumburra Cricket Club, Richard Street Reserve, Korumburra on Tuesday, December 12, commencing at 11am.

At the conclusion of the service, the funeral will leave for the Korumburra Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Korumburra Cricket Club would be appreciated.

Close win for the Goannas

THE Gippsland Goannas Over 70s cricket team worked hard to achieve a close win against the combined Mornington/Canterbury side at Churchill on Tuesday.

Mornington/Canterbury captain Michael Angwin won the toss and batted.

He soon found trouble at two for five, with a superb run out by Steve Lincoln and wily spinner Kelvin Bond bowled the number three batsman Bruce White.

The innings did not improve initially, when two more wickets fell at 15, in Andrew Smith's fourth over.

The visitors gradually built their score, with Ian Rowland, Michael Angwin, Charlie Morris, Lindsay Murray and fill-in player Barrie Nunn all making contributions.

Mornington/Canterbury ended with 130 off their 40 overs.

Player of the match Dick

Noble bowled five overs to take three for 28, and two wickets were taken by Andrew Smith, Fred Debono and Anton De Vent.

Keeper Ian Gibson took a catch and three stumpings, while another catch was taken by Ian Southall.

Gippsland's innings started badly when Warren Dummett was caught for four and Garry Rose LBW for two.

However, skipper Ian Southall made an enterprising 36 retired, Steve Lincoln contributed nine, Dick Noble 14 and Fred Debono eight.

Ian Gibson provided the backbone of the innings with 39 not out, and combined with Andrew Smith (10 not out) to score the victory in the second last over.

It was a tight game played on a good wicket and a slow outfield, with Churchill Cricket Club being excellent hosts.



Ian Gibson cuts for the Goannas.

Stingettes played host to Nyora



Inverloch Stingette's Mackenzie Siddlers focuses on her delivery.



Inverloch bowler Jackie Newman bowls to Nyora's Jess Lynch.



Inverloch's Keely Dennerley was in form on Sunday.



Nyora's Amanda Linford in action.

Email your reports to news@sgst.com.au



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Bass Valley Primary School champions, from left, back, Emily Wheeler, Steph Jaskula, Dakota Baker, Harley Wesley, Paige O'Brien, Chelsea Stephens, Sophie Hale, Jon McCormick, front, Nikki Gatherum, Indy Magnussen, Lacey Rees, Autumn Ross, Amber Liddle and Taylah McMillan. Absent: Freya Bennett, Kylie Lansdown and Todd Smith.

Success is not born, it is grown

SOMETHING uniquely extraordinary is happening at Bass Valley Primary School, something that challenges the trend across the world. The success of their students, a small pocket of children from small towns, continue to compete and overcome all the odds relating to size, concrete resources and location.

What they do have is an attitude to 'Be Your Best' and with this can-do attitude and the greatest resource of all, people, they have achieved an amazing treble of 'State Champions' in Softball, Cricket and most

recently Tee-Ball.

Renowned author Daniel Coyle's famous book 'The Talent Code' investigated some intriguing worldwide occurrences. How can Brazil continue to produce so many of the greatest soccer players in the world without the academies that exist in Europe? How does a humble storefront music school in Dallas, Texas, produce Jessica Simpson, Demi Lovato, and a succession of pop music stars? How does a small Russian tennis club with one indoor court create more top-twenty women

players than the entire United States?

Daniel might have to add a chapter to his book. How does a small, rural Victorian school continue to produce so many State Champions?

The three teams, represented by girls in Grade 5 and 6, have had an incredible journey which started at local level against schools in their district. They won their way through their stages in each sport, to play against the best schools from all over the state. To put this into perspective, they were the

best out of over 2300 schools across Victoria, in three different sports.

The student's mindset to 'Be their Best' led them to challenge each other at training sessions almost daily, often self-run. They practiced their craft of fielding, bowling, and batting but what stood out at each game and training session was their culture.

Their supportive nature, understanding of their role within the team, celebration of each person's success and genuine love of being around each other doing something they enjoyed

showcased maturity beyond their years. All ingredients an experienced professional team or business spend years trying and often failing, to achieve.

Some of these girls played in all three State Championships, with four of the students Paige O'Brien, Chelsea Stephens, Sophie Hale and Autumn Ross also representing Victoria in Softball.

'The Treble', which their achievement has been coined, is an outstanding achievement by Bass Valley Primary School and one that may be hard to repeat.

Continued page 54

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