



Wonthaggi identity Sadie Hanley celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends last Sunday, ahead of her actual birthday day on Christmas Day.

Mother of a Christmas

– 100 reasons to celebrate with ‘Sadie’

IF CHRISTMAS is all about family, then Wonthaggi’s ‘Sadie’ Hanley, who turns 100 on Christmas day this year, must surely be the personification of that.

Sarah Therese ‘Nanna Sadie’ Hanley (nee O’Halloran), born at Korumburra on December 25, 1923, celebrated her 100th birthday, ahead of the day last Sunday afternoon, in a room packed with family and friends at the Cape Paterson Surf Lifesaving Club.

Among them were five of her seven children; Denis (dec), Peter, Philip, Terry (absent), Leonie, Patsy and Marita; and most of her 15 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

But, as considerable as her responsibilities have been to her own family

over the years, Sadie’s mothering efforts went well beyond that to “always having a house full of people” right through her life.

“We shared our mum with the whole community,” said third of the Hanley siblings, Philip, during the afternoon speeches.

He was recalling a time when he had to wait in line, with a group of other junior footballers, for a hug from his mum when Sadie had turned up with sandwiches and supplies for the long trip to Maffra.

“If there was one word I could use to describe mum, it would be accommodating,” said second son Peter.

“Shelter, food and companionship...

everyone was welcome. We always had a few extras staying over.

“Yes, they can come to our place, everyone was catered for,” he said.

“We were taught kindness and care. Be a good person,” said number six sibling Patsy, “and I think we’ve been able to pass that on.”

In true school-teacher style, Peter Hanley gave the context to Sadie’s long life; from horse-drawn carts to electric vehicles, chalk and slate blackboards to smart phones, and penicillin to Medicare; from the Great Depression and World War Two to the Vietnam War and the worrying national conflicts of today... there’s been a lot.

Continued page 5

How Cliff died at Inverloch

CLIFFORD Eavis, formerly of Ferntree Gully, loved visiting Inverloch so much that he bought an onsite van at the local caravan park and ultimately retired to the town.

It was an easy transition for him, when the vagaries of old age set in, to move into the local aged care facility, Domain Seahaven, ultimately into its dementia specific Nautilus wing.

But his life was cut short, at age 85, on Thursday, January 16, 2014, when a fire broke out in Room 17 of the dementia wing, prompting the evacuation of residents and staff to the front car park of the Seahaven facility.

Four aged care residents were hospitalised due to smoke inhalation (Mr Eavis, Ms Oldham, Patricia Richter and Audrey Foat) but Mr Eavis died the same day.

The cause of Mr Eavis’ death, according to the coroner, was “the effects of smoke inhalation from the fire in the context of significant cardiovascular disease”.

Staff members from the Seahaven Facility, Ms Dobie and Ms McKenzie, also went to hospital for treatment.

A police investigation into the death of Mr Eavis was subsequently conducted and referred to Coroner’s Court.

However, according to a case in the Victorian County Court, finalised last Friday, December 15, just short of 10 years after the incident, the response to the fire was likely impacted by the fact that there was maintenance work being conducted on the facility’s fire services. The result was that “at the time the fire broke out, the external alarms were impaired as was the sprinkler system”, while the plumbers from Celsius Fire Services Pty Ltd were in the process of completing their work.

As a result, Celsius Fire Services Pty Ltd was charged with a breach of the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004, and pleaded guilty to one offence: “The Director of Public Prosecutions charges that Celsius Fire Services Pty Ltd (ACN 126 595 060) at Inverloch in the State of Victoria on or about the 15 and 16 of January 2014, being a person who had, to any extent, the management or control of a workplace failed to ensure, so far as was reasonably practicable, that the workplace was safe and without risks to health”.

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Leongatha Business turns its mind to wind power

THIRTY-seven international players are jostling for a limited number of feasibility licences to build \$40 billion worth of wind farms off the Gippsland coast, and South Gippsland is in line to receive a huge dividend.

Initially, it's the location of an operations and maintenance base at the Barry Beach Marine Terminal and Port Anthony near Toora that will generate the activity locally, but the local economy is expected to benefit from flow-on jobs, service contracts and even a boost to tourism during the 30-plus year life of the renewable energy facilities.

Last Thursday night the Leongatha Business Association invited the South Gippsland Shire Council's economic development manager Ken Fraser along to their meeting to provide details about the nationally significant infrastructure project and an idea how the local area might benefit.

Mr Fraser said there was no time to waste in rolling out renewable energy to replace the Latrobe Valley's coal-fired power stations, and he expected the feasibility licences to be announced in a matter



Members of the Leongatha Business Association with third right, South Gippsland Shire Economic Development Manager Ken Fraser, including from left, Mark McCarthy, Prue McCarthy (treasurer), Martin Reidy (vice president), Paul Nelson, Brenton Williams (treasurer), Scott Cameron (secretary) and John Ozols (president). m055123

of weeks if not days.

"We are already seeing a lot of activity but that will increase once they announce which companies have been approved to go to the next stage," Mr Fraser said.

And while the Port of Hastings has been slated as the main construction hub, it was likely most of the firms would set up a maintenance and service base at Barry Beach, likely to create hundreds of

direct jobs and many indirect opportunities.

Members of the business association were interested to turn their minds to what the spinoffs might be, including the need for accommodation for workers locally, jobs, service contracts, a boost to tourism and an improvement to local infrastructure, including the South Gippsland Highway.

Mr Fraser said there were exciting times ahead and while

those towns in closest proximity to Barry Point would fare best, the likes of Korumburra and Leongatha, as the bigger service centre, were also well placed to benefit from the added jobs and investment.

And it wouldn't just be during the five to 10-year construction period, South Gippsland's involvement in the operation of off-shore wind farms would be ongoing for the next 30 to 40 years.

How Cliff died at Inverloch

From page 1

According to the particulars of the change: "It was reasonably practicable for Celsius to reduce the risk by providing notice in writing to Domain, or any of its associated entities of: a. The extent and duration of the impairment (to fire services); and b. The alternative fire safety measures that the aged care facility could implement during the time of impairment."

According to the court, Celsius failed to do the matters referred to in the above paragraph.

However, while the Australian Standard (AS 1851) required that notification to the responsible entity or nominated person be given of certain matters, including the extent and expected duration of the impairment so that alternative safety arrangements can be implemented, the Standard did not specify that the notification must be written.

And as explained to the court by Richard Bradley, Celsius' fire sprinkler manager for Victoria, while the firm had two forms that can be completed and provided to a client prior to a fire system being isolated when maintenance works are being conducted, the firm only used these forms when the site Celsius was working at did not have its own fire impairment procedures in place. This was to ensure there were no conflicts in procedure.

The court acknowledged that Domain had in place detailed maintenance and safety procedures, including procedures as to what to do if its fire detection and suppression equipment was impaired, but said Celsius did not provide the forms to Domain, nor did it provide written notification of any alternative fire safety measures that the Seahaven Facility could implement while the fire safety systems were impaired.

As it turned out, a smoke detector in Room 17 was first activated at 9.10am, Seahaven staff observed smoke and notified the fire brigade by telephone at 9.14am and immediately commenced evacuating residents and staff.

The removal of the ASE key from the fire services board caused a further notification to the brigade at 9.15am but with the Celsius plumbers completing their work at about the same time, the sprinkler system reactivated and extinguished the fire before the first Inverloch pumper arrived at 9.23 am.

No cause of the fire has since been discovered but it had nothing to do with the maintenance work.

Judge Trevor Wraight said last Friday he took into account Celsius' guilty plea, avoiding the need for a 20-day trial, and also their cooperation with investigators when handing down the penalty. He said there was also the issue of general deterrence, needing to draw attention to the importance of workplace safety, but as for specific deterrence, he said the firm came before the court with no priors, nothing subsequent and was no longer operating therefore adding no weight to the outcome.

He said there had been no calls to record a conviction and handed down a fine of \$35,000 without conviction, explaining the penalty would have been \$60,000 without a guilty plea.

Beware of lithium-ion battery safety at home this Christmas

A RISE in the severity of house fires due to an increase in popularity of rechargeable lithium-ion battery products in homes has prompted a warning for Aussies to know the safety risk this Christmas.

Christmas is already a high-risk period for housefires but could be made worse by not understanding the safe use, storage and dangers of lithium-ion battery products like e-scooters and e-bikes.

Most modern devices like laptops, mobile phones, power tools, e-cigarettes and electric vehicles have rechargeable lithium-ion batteries containing highly flammable electrolytes, but a surge in popularity of items like e-scooters and e-bikes and a link to housefires in recent years is problematic.

If used, charged, stored or disposed of incorrectly, these

batteries could be prone to intense, difficult-to-extinguish fires when damaged or overheated and pose a significant risk in the home.

They can often explode or emit an intense self-sustaining fire that is not easily extinguishable by water or traditional fire extinguishers making the dangers and damage from this type of fire worse.

While the number of fire claims has decreased over the last decade, there has been a general shift towards higher severity house fire claims.

When there is a house fire, it's more severe, notably due to items like batteries, electrical faults and appliances making it so much worse, according to Suncorp.

In 2014, just 82 of Suncorp's claims were for large fires over \$400,000; that is up to 160 in 2023.



Christmas is already a high-risk period for housefires but could be made worse by not understanding the dangers of lithium-ion battery products like e-scooters and e-bikes.

Danny O'BRIEN MP
State Member for Gippsland South

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CHRISTMAS DEADLINES

Due to the upcoming public holidays the next issue of the Sentinel-Times will come out a day late on **Wednesday, December 27**

The Advertising deadlines for this edition:
DISPLAY: 5pm Wednesday, Dec. 20
CLASSIFIEDS: 12 noon Thursday, Dec. 21

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CONTACT

WONTHAGGI OFFICE: 47 McBride, Avenue, Wonthaggi, VIC, 3995 (03) 5672 1888

LEONGATHA OFFICE: 36 McCartin Street, Leongatha, VIC, 3953 (03) 5655 1422

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

EMAIL: **EDITORIAL & LETTERS** news@sgst.com.au
ADVERTISING ads@sgst.com.au
ACCOUNTS accounts@sgst.com.au

MANAGING DIRECTOR: Michael Giles michael@sgst.com.au

OPERATIONS MANAGER: Jim Akers jim@sgst.com.au

EDITOR: Chloe Kent news@sgst.com.au

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Holly McMaster holly@sgst.com.au

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DISPLAY: Advertising closes at 3pm on Fridays

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*Please note changes occur as a result of public holidays.

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6 Day Weather Forecast

SOUTH GIPPSLAND



TUE | Dec 19
Shower or two.
Wind AM: SW 25-35km/h
Wind PM: SW 25-35km/h
14° **19°**



WED | Dec 20
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: SW 20-25km/h
Wind PM: S 15-25km/h
11° **18°**



THUR | Dec 21
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: SE 20-30km/h
11° **23°**



FRI | Dec 22
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: E-SE 20-30km/h
Wind PM: E-SE 20-30km/h
14° **23°**



SAT | Dec 23
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: E 15-20km/h
Wind PM: SE 15-25km/h
14° **23°**



SUN | Dec 24
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: S-SW 15-25km/h
14° **21°**



Cartoon by Glenn 'Grobb' Robinson.

IN BRIEF

Missing Island man found

THERE was more pre-Christmas good news for emergency services on Phillip Island last Wednesday, December 13 when an 83-year-old man reported missing was found by the police airwing.

The police helicopter landed in a paddock at Ventnor and made sure he was ok, and then gave him a 'taxi ride' back to Cowes in the helicopter.

He is safe and well, and back with family.

Police thanked all those in the community who helped and assisted with the search and they too thanked the Police Airwing for saving them a lot of effort.

Call For Action on sand extraction

ANYONE interested in checking how the big sand extraction businesses are conducting operations on the many sites around Grantville has an opportunity to be part of the process.

The Grantville Quarries Reference Group (GQRG) is being formed and is open to any person who lives or works in the vicinity of, or has an interest in the quarries and is required to engage with the local community.

The GQRG will comprise of up to 20 people, including a chairperson (independent facilitator appointed and funded by the Grantville Quarries).

To apply and for more information email gqrg3984@gmail.com.

Marinus Link goes out to tender

MARINUS Link, a large transmission infrastructure project that includes 90 kilometres of underground cable running from Waratah Bay to the Latrobe Valley is calling on Australian businesses to pre-qualify for its major civil construction tenders.

The pre-qualification process is for its land cable and buildings' civil works packages and submissions will close at 2 pm on Wednesday February 7.

Although this pre-qualification process is targeted at large contractors that will lead the civil works, there will be opportunities for local small businesses to subcontract, according to Marinus Link.

Marinus Link is an underground and undersea electricity and data cable that will further connect Tasmania and Victoria.

Vale fireman Phil Ruby

BASS Coast Mayor, Cr Clare Le Serve, marked the passing of a dedicated member of the Kilcunda Fire Brigade, Phil Ruby, at the council meeting last week. Mr Ruby, she said, had served for over 33 years, starting as a firefighter in 1990, before holding key leadership roles, including 10 years as captain. He received the National Emergency Medal for service during the 2009 Black Saturday Bushfires. The flag flew at half-mast following his passing on November 16, his funeral was held on December 11.

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Bass Coast Health staff are applauded at AGM

BASS Coast Health (BCH) staff, including long-serving staff, were celebrated at BCH's Annual General Meeting last week, with all staff praised for their tremendous contribution.

Forty-eight staff received awards recognising their dedicated service to the community.

The growing sub-regional health service honoured staff who have been part of the BCH family for between 10 and 35 years. Special mention was made of Irma Hyde and Linda Goltz for each serving 35 years, and Kerry Griffiths, Kay Barford, Tracy Creaton, Glenda Churchill and Melissa MacDermid for each serving 30 years. In total, 820 years of dedicated service was recognised.

2022-23 saw an extraordinary year of achievements by BCH staff as they opened the new \$115m Wonthaggi Hospital, increased the number of clinical services available locally and planned the construction of the Phillip Island Community Hospital.

BCH CEO Jan Child said while new buildings and modern equipment were essential to delivering healthcare to the growing community, staff were



Enrolled Nurse Melissa MacDermid was congratulated on 30 years of service to Bass Coast Health by Board Deputy Chair Nicky Chung and Chair Ian Thompson.

the key reason the health service succeeds.

"Our staff are simply amazing. They work extremely hard to provide the care our community deserves; they're adaptive and skilled, they're dedicated and kind, and they come to work every day to do their best because they are caring for their friends, neighbours, family members and community members," she said.

"Our staff have a special investment in our service, and it's this extraordinary commitment that saw many of them

stepping up to provide above and beyond support to their community. Many were working extra shifts, double shifts and overtime, as well as taking on new roles and challenges, to ensure our services continued to grow and be accessible."

A highlight of the 2022-23 year was the opening of the new state-of-the-art Wonthaggi Hospital. This featured the first purpose-built Emergency Department for the sub-region, as well as the modern Kodowlinun acute ward, a contemporary Theatre complex,

new Radiology precinct and a grand Main Reception.

BCH was thrilled to share in the funding in this year's State Budget. The commitment to Stage 2 of the Wonthaggi Hospital Expansion of up to \$290 million, will re-develop the master plan and see the construction of expanded maternity services, wards, expanded outpatient clinics and a new day treatment area that is much anticipated by our Dialysis patients.

Another highlight was advancing the planning and construction of the new multi-million-dollar Phillip Island Community Hospital. This long-anticipated project will ensure the growing community of Phillip Island has access to a greater range of clinical services locally.

Construction of the double-storey building at Cowes is now underway and will deliver a significantly expanded Urgent Care Centre that will allow "flex up" capacity for our peak seasons. Non-complex day surgery will be provided across two operating theatres.

There will be dialysis and chemotherapy, a public dental service and a public radiology precinct offering CT, ultrasound and general x-ray.

Bass Coast bids for \$3M dinosaur trail funding

IT'S a huge project, estimated to cost upwards of \$20 million if it ever gets up.

So why did three Bass Coast Shire Councillors; Cr Rochelle Halstead, Cr Geoff Ellis and Cr Les Larke, vote against submitting an application to the Federal Government's Growing Regions Fund asking for \$3 million for the Bass Coast Dinosaurs Trail?

No one seems to know why they voted against it.

The Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve says it's a great project with the chance to spread visitor interest beyond the Penguin Parade, to the remainder of the coast between San Remo and Inverloch, also offering another off-peak opportunity for Bass Coast visitors and locals.

"The project has a lot going for it and if we can attract government funding, we could get on and complete Stage One," she said.

Components of Stage One include:

- Inverloch Dino Hunters Playground \$4.3m cost (\$2.5m council reserves & \$1.8m Growing Regions Federal funding)
- Eagles Nest \$100,000 (GRF)
- The Caves \$600,000
- San Remo Time Machine \$700,000
- Kilcunda Village Green \$300,000

The proposed breakdown in funding is \$7m for creative components on the trail and art elements, \$7 million for a proposed Museum/Cultural Centre at Inverloch and \$6 million for a Sound and Light installation in Wonthaggi.

Former mayor Cr Michael Whelan moved the motion to apply for \$3 million in Federal Government funding but also confirming council will put up \$3 million if the application is successful.

"I'm very happy to move because I think it's a great project. And while palaeontology and dinosaur digs have been occurring there for a long time, it's in the last few years that their calls for some assistance has been realised," said Cr Whelan.

Cr Whelan said that with the support of local volunteers, the fossilised remains of monster amphibian, the 125 million-year-old Koolasuchus clelandi had been found and subsequently adopted as Victoria's fossil emblem.

"So, we were really on the map in respect to the dinosaur trail and whenever you talk to anyone, they get excited about this sort of thing. So, I think it'd be a really great success. We haven't got it yet but we're in the running for the funding from the Federal Government which is very exciting," said Cr Whelan.

Neither Cr Halstead, Larke or Ellis have revealed why they voted against applying for the Federal funding or matching it with \$3 million of the shire's own money.

100 reasons to celebrate with 'Sadie'

From page 1

But asked for her secret to longevity, the answer from Sadie was "nothing special".

"I've had seven kids, so I've always been busy. Hard work, I've always worked pretty hard. Just good food, I'm not a health freak. And ice cream and chocolate, I do like those.

"A house full of people, morning tea always and getting involved in the community."

Seems simple enough, and if you wanted an answer to the eternal question of how long is a good innings? Sadie Hanley has that too.

Honestly, she looks fantastic, mobile and still giving plenty of cheek.

"You're from the paper, you say, we don't want anything in

the paper."

If I could just have a minute, Mrs Hanley?

"That would be one minute too long," she said, with the flash of a smile.

It won't be the first time Mrs Hanley has featured in the Sentinel-Times, having been pictured with the entire playing group from the Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club earlier this year, where she has long been a life member, when she was honoured as Number One Ticketholder.

And it may not be her last. Happy 100th birthday, Sadie Hanley.

RIGHT: Joining Sadie Hanley for her 100th birthday celebrations last Sunday was Susan Cadwallader.



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Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Le Serve

HELLO everyone in Bass Coast,

As we approach the festive season, I wanted to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to each and every one of you. The Christmas season is upon us, and our community has a sleigh-full of festive activities for all ages.

Council, along with a range of local organisations and partners, has been working tirelessly to organise a variety of events that promise to bring laughter, cheer, and a touch of magic to the Bass Coast. From caroling in the park or by the bay and fireworks, there's something for everyone to enjoy. I encourage you to participate and make the most of these wonderful moments with your friends and family to create everlasting memories.

While Christmas is undoubtedly a time of celebration, we must also recognise that it can be a challenging season for some. Not everyone is surrounded by loved ones, and not everyone has the means to fully embrace the holiday spirit. This is where our strength as a community truly shines.

I urge you to reach out to your neighbors and those around you. A simple "hello" or an invitation for a cuppa can go a long way. Let's ensure that no one feels alone this year. Check in on each other, share stories, and create memories together.

In light of the current cost of living crisis, it's important to acknowledge that not everyone may have the resources for a bountiful Christmas feast or extravagant gifts. Thank you to everyone who has been able to donate non-perishable goods and gifts at our Council Giving Trees and other local organisations. Your generosity will make a world of difference to those in need.

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, please don't hesitate to visit the various local organisations that are here to help. Our community is stronger when we support one another.

Remember, a simple smile can be contagious, and a kind word can brighten someone's day. If you suspect someone may be feeling lonely, make that call and initiate a conversation. Let's spread warmth and kindness like tinsel on a tree and make this season truly special for everyone in the Bass Coast.

Wishing you all a festive, safe and heartwarming holiday season!

How the shire's climate change policy could cost you

THE Bass Coast Shire Council has been warned that its new Investment Policy, around not investing in banks which engage with fossil fuel companies "may lead to reduced interest returns".

However, despite being made aware of the risk it was planning to take with ratepayers' money, a majority of councillors, with the exception of Cr Les Larke, voted in favour of amendments to the policy at its council meeting last Wednesday.

In line with 'Action 35' in its Climate Change Action Plan 2020-30, that council should "further encourage fossil fuel divestment", councillors were being asked to allow more flexibility with where its surplus funds were being invested, increasing the variance from the "best available rate" (currently 0.3%) to 0.5%.

Effectively, if the shire invested the \$35 million it expected to have on deposit at June 30, 2023 at an interest rate that was 0.2% below what it could get at one of these fossil fuel aligned banks, it would be out of pocket by \$70,000.

But it's a risk the shire is prepared to take based on its climate change stance.

Former mayor Cr Michael Whelan was unapologetic:

"A few years ago, Council declared a climate emergency and developed a comprehensive climate action plan as a result of that," said Cr Whelan.

"One of the things that plan recognises is that climate action is a whole of organisation initiative and a whole community



Bass Coast Shire Council votes to further restrict where it can invest its money based on whether the bank is engaged with the fossil fuel industry. m015123

initiative not just the bailiwick of sustainability. If we are to be truly resilient, then we need to take a whole range of issues.

"One of the things that is important is where we invest our money. It has become clear that the big four banks are just ticket checkers for the fossil fuel industry, having invested over \$57.5 billion in fossil fuel projects since 2015.

"In 2022 alone, the ANZ Bank put in \$18.6 billion, Commonwealth Bank \$15.8 billion, NAB \$14.1 billion and Westpac \$9 billion into supporting fossil fuel projects.

"Our children depend on us decarbonising our economy, getting out of fossil fuels, despite what the president COP28 may say. And we really need to wind this down quickly to respond quickly."

Cr Whelan said Australia's big four banks, in particular were "a disgrace".

"I would hope to not invest a single dollar in their dirty projects," he said highlighting that while Westpac, for example, offered "green" investments on the one hand, they were funding multiple fossil fuel projects on the other.

Cr Les Larke raised a pertinent question:

"Could I just clarify with the administration who our major banker is to facilitate all our operations?"

"I believe our current bank is Westpac," said the shire's General Manager Business Transformation Robyn Borley.

Speaking next in the debate, Cr Rochelle Halstead said that while she agreed "wholeheartedly with the intent of this decision" she did so with some trepidation that it might come back to bite council in the future.

Cr Whelan closed the debate:

"A couple of points I'd like to make – Westpac. We should be moving out of Westpac, their money stinks as far as I'm concerned. If they invest in fossil fuel projects, then they are bad news. Now the likes of the Bendigo Bank, the community banks, don't invest in fossil fuels, the Bank of Queensland, you've got a whole range of banks, Sunbank (Suncorp Bank?). So, there are many options out there of banks that do not invest in fossil fuels, and we should be taking that on board."

Cleaner environment and circular economy

THE Bass Coast Shire Council is excited to support Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS), but residents who would rather remain anonymous have raised several issues with council regarding decreasing the cost in rates due to less waste being left out for collection.

Spokesperson for Bass Coast Shire Council confirmed that the CDS increases recycling and keeps precious resources in use for as long as possible; in line with actions reflected in the Bass Coast Climate Change Action Plan.

"Council does not expect to see a significant reduction in recycling bins being put out for collection every fortnight, as there are many items that are accepted in kerbside recycling bins that are not included in the Container Deposit Scheme including: paper and cardboard, aluminium foil and steel food packaging containers, aerosol cans, glass jars, plastic food containers, glass wine bottles, etc."

The Bass Coast Shire verified that the Council is committed to improving environmental outcomes whilst keeping costs to ratepayers as low as possible.

"The costs of Council's kerbside collection service are unlikely to change significantly as a result of the introduction of the Container Deposit Scheme."

Residents also raised whether council waste will be kept within the shire to reduce external costs, whereby council responded stating that the kerbside collection 2017-2027 contract was awarded to local company Wonthaggi Recyclers.

With the cost-of-living crisis, residents are looking into ways to reduce their spending and are asking the shire to consider these measures to help residents with their financial pressure when it comes to rate rises.

The Council spokesperson stated that Council's waste services are provided on a cost recovery basis via the dedicated Garbage Charge, which is reviewed annually. Any material changes in the costs of providing waste services are reflected in the total calculation for the Garbage Charge in coming years.

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Should Bass Coast keep the fireworks?

As part of the annual Christmas and New Year's Eve celebrations in the future, Bass Coast Shire Council is considering dropping the popular fireworks as part of the festivities.

But before they do so, they'll consider your feedback. Is it a must have?

"Your feedback will help to influence how we celebrate the festive season for 2025 and beyond," said the shire in a statement this week.

"In 2022, we committed to hold fireworks displays as part of the Cowes Christmas Carols and New Year's Eve celebrations in Inverloch, Coronet Bay and Cowes for three years up until 2024. We're evaluating the impact and benefits of these events on our community to shape what celebrations will look like in the future."

Inverloch business operator Fiona McMahon-Hughes is all for retaining the family-friendly fireworks display at 9.30pm, but like the Carols By the Bay at Cowes, she would like to see it down by the water.

"Being on early in the evening, there's no doubt it attracts people to the town for the day. They go to the beach, come up to the town for a meal and then it's not too long to wait for the fireworks at 9.30pm. Everyone loves it, it one of the highlights of the year for many," said Fiona.



The fireworks which rounded out the Carols by the Bay in Cowes recently were very well received but should the shire continue to pay for New Years Eve fireworks?

"But it would be really spectacular down by the water. People could spread themselves out along the beach. It would be fantastic."

So, that's one vote for the fireworks at Inverloch to stay. But what do you think?

In addition to community and visitor feedback, Council is also gathering information on the environmental and economic impacts of fireworks, plus events held around these displays.

The aim of this consultation, says the shire, is to balance the

needs of residents, business owners, visitors and our environment, while also creating a vibrant destination for all to enjoy.

"During the last consultation, over the 2022/23 summer, we had over 850 responses to our survey with 75.5 per cent of the responses coming from residents. We also heard from non-resident ratepayers (12.21 per cent), business owners (2.12 per cent) and visitors (7.17 per cent)."

Upcoming fireworks displays are being held in Bass Coast on

New Year's Eve at:

- Coronet Bay: Sunday, December 31 at 9.30pm
- Cowes: Sunday, December 31 at 9.30pm
- Inverloch: Sunday, December 31 at 9.30pm

Once consultation has finished the feedback will help to form a recommendation for how Council celebrates the end of the year, and if fireworks are included, after 2024.

To have your say visit engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/eoycelebrations. Survey closes on January 31, 2024.

Council defuses public access crisis

THE Bass Coast Shire Council was able to hose down another crisis in its council chambers last Wednesday, December 13, when Phillip Island resident and avid council watcher, John Trigt, was again asked to leave the chamber before the meeting even started.

General Manager, Business Transformation, Robyn Borley, took charge of the situation and with a helpful offer from a member of the public gallery, the incident was defused.

But it didn't take away from the fact that the crisis was partly of the council's own making.

Where previously, the Bass Coast Shire Council has been able to accommodate up to 30 people in the public gallery of its Wonthaggi council chambers, numbers have been steadily reducing since the advent of livestreaming, with council needing to introduce additional audio-visual equipment into a relatively small meeting space.

Last Wednesday, the number of people who could watch the meeting live was down to nine, which under normal circumstances may have been adequate, but with a larger number than usual attending the meeting, a remote gallery was set up outside the meeting room, in the foyer.

Those in the foyer might as well have been at home, reduced to watching the proceedings, on delayed livestream.

Unhappy with the arrangements, and also unable to hear the livestream, John Trigt walked into the council chamber, just before the appointed time for the start of the meeting and took a spare seat at the 'media' table.

Not a big issue, you'd think, but it was enough to disrupt the meeting and delay the start to proceedings further.

Mr Trigt was asked to leave by security but was ultimately found a place in the inside gallery when another person offered him her seat.

The issue remains as to whether nine chairs are enough for interested members of the public to attend monthly council meetings or if the recent disruption will prompt Bass Coast to close its meetings to the public.

wishing everyone a safe and happy holidays

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9.00 to 1pm

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CLOSED

CLOSED

CLOSED

Tuesday 26th Dec

9.00 to 3pm

CLOSED

CLOSED

Wednesday 27th Dec

8.30 to 5.30pm

8.30 to 6pm

9.00 to 5.30pm

Thursday 28th Dec

8.30 to 5.30pm

8.30 to 6pm

9.00 to 5.30pm

Friday 29th Dec

8.30 to 5.30pm

8.30 to 6pm

9.00 to 5.30pm

Saturday 30th Dec

9.00 to 5pm

8.30 to 1pm

9.00 to 12pm

Sunday 31st Dec

9.00 to 3pm

CLOSED

CLOSED

Monday 1st Jan

9.00 to 3pm

CLOSED

CLOSED

Tuesday 2nd Jan

8.30 to 5.30pm

8.30 to 6pm

9.00 to 5.30pm

Global agreement the death knell for coal, oil and gas

A HISTORIC agreement was declared at the COP28 United Nations climate talks where countries collectively agreed on the need to rapidly shift away from fossil fuels.

At the conclusion of the climate summit in Dubai last week, countries agreed to triple global renewable energy capacity by 2030, and shift away from using fossil fuels like coal and gas in energy systems.

This was a hard fought win that follows many years of determined advocacy by Pacific Island nations and other frontline communities. Australian Climate Change and Energy Minister Chris Bowen with the Australian delegation played an important role in finding a workable agreement.

Climate Council Senior Researcher Dr Wesley Morgan said: "Australia remains the world's third-largest fossil fuel exporter - exporting nearly three times the fossil fuels that talk hosts the United Arab Emirates does - and has dozens of new coal, oil and gas projects in the approvals pipeline."

"The science has been clear for some time - we need to stop pollution at its source. Every step we take to cut pollution across electricity, transport and industry helps secure all of our futures."

"By aligning with international efforts to combat climate change, we can proudly stand alongside our Pacific neighbours knowing we're doing everything in our power to protect communities in our own country and region. In putting our hand up to co-host these climate talks in 2026 with Pacific island countries the steps we take next will come under the global spotlight," said Dr Morgan.

Blame game starts after street scheme stops

IT'S officially over. The \$35 million Surf Beach Sunderland Bay Special Charge Scheme, to fix the dusty roads and open drains on a key Phillip Island coastal housing estate, has been abandoned.

And it's the fault of the 'No Campaign', according to Cr David Rooks, for "confusing the message", ensuring the estates' 1041 property owners would miss out on council's proposed \$7 million contribution to the cost of the project.

"I'm disappointed with the 'No Campaign' which confused the message for the people of Sunderland Bay and Surf Beach... but the majority of people, 54% voted against it so we have to respect that," said Cr Rooks at the council meeting last Wednesday, noting council had wasted \$1/2 million on preparations.

In fact, the council has spent \$622,225 on the project to date of a budgeted amount just under \$1 million as the cost of design and preparations.

But a spokesperson for the Say No to the Surf Beach Sunderland Bay SCS, Maxine Sando, says that's not what happened at all.

"The Say No group repeatedly requested on site meetings or discussions with ward councillors and the project engineer but to no avail. Emails were ignored, questions to council went unanswered for



It was one of the last roles for Bass Coast General Manager Place Making James Stirton to explain to council the reasons why it had no alternative but to abandon the Surf Beach Sunderland Bay Special Charge Scheme. Mr Stirton starts his new job at the City of Greater Geelong in January 2024.

so long that it took a Freedom of Information Request before council would even consider answering questions relating to the scheme," Ms Sando said in a statement this week.

She rejects the claims council genuinely consulted with the community about what was needed and in the end has been left with "egg on its face"

for wasting ratepayers' funds. "Stop blaming ratepayers who voted you into your positions as our elected officials, who when push came to shove, did nothing to help ratepayers apart from pushing what council wanted, not what the ratepayers wanted," she said.

However, while this scheme

must be abandoned, in accordance with State Legislation, it might not be the last we'll hear of a street scheme for the two estates.

"This is the end of the initial process. It's a legislated process, it has all been followed and this is simply procedural to close down this part of it. It doesn't mean anything moving forward but it does mean that this part of the project has to come to an end," said Cr Brett Tessari.

But Cr Rochelle Halstead told council something needed to be done as a matter of urgency.

She blamed the rigid, bureaucratic process adopted by council for prosecuting the scheme, and urged greater flexibility when it reviewed its urban streets and drainage policy next year.

"I also urge council to consider residents in this area still suffer the environmental effects of dust, drainage dangers, and flooding and that ways to ease these effects should be addressed as a matter of urgency."

Council also received a petition signed by 317 people, many of them residents of the estate urging council not to abandon the scheme. As is procedure, the petition will "lay on the table" until it can be considered at the February 21, 2024 meeting.

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Choppy seas for the good ship Bass Coast

CR CLARE Le Serve's tenure in the chair as Mayor of the Bass Coast Shire Council did not start well last Wednesday, December 13.

And there looks to be choppy waters ahead, leading up to the October 2024 council elections, little more than 10 months away.

Some of the unrest appears to be coming from the debacle over the election of Cr Le Serve, over Cr Rochelle Halstead, as mayor when Cr Geoff Ellis first nominated Cr Halstead but then voted against her at the 11th hour last month.

Even before Cr Le Serve's first monthly council meeting could go ahead there was trouble in the foyer, and in the public gallery where only nine members of the public had been balloted to sit.

A separate gallery had been set up, outside in the foyer, complete with a big screen TV with which to view the proceedings going on in the room next door online.

It must be said however, it was the first trial of such arrangements, and the proximity of an online relay and the PA from within the council chamber created an echo-effect that dogged the rest of the meeting.

Phillip Island resident and keen council watcher, John Trigt, objected to being one of those excluded from the chamber, and, claiming he couldn't hear the proceedings outside anyway, he walked into the council chambers, just before the meeting was scheduled to begin at 1pm, and sat down in



Cr Clare Le Serve's first time in the chair, as Mayor of the Bass Coast Shire Council, did not go well. She is pictured at last Wednesday's meeting with General Manager Resilient Communities, Jodi Kennedy, acting as CEO while a replacement is found. m025123

one of the spare 'media' chairs.

"No, I'm not going," he told a security guard who approached him.

It was a "not again" moment for councillors and officers who had experienced a similar situation at the September 2023 meeting, also involving Mr Trigt.

General Manager Business Transformation Robyn Borley took charge of the scene this time, asking councillors to vacate the chamber, and ultimately negotiated a better outcome than the last time when Mr Trigt was escorted out by police.

Last time Mr Trigt was asked to

leave, it was by the former mayor, Cr Michael Whelan, when Mr Trigt declared "shame, shame, shame" after council voted to take a 'Yes' stance on the Voice to Parliament referendum and in so doing, encouraging others by example to do the same.

In the end, though, 65.66% of the people of Monash voted 'No', and with the exception locally of Cape Paterson, Inverloch, Kilcunda and Newhaven which voted 'Yes'; the rest of the Bass Coast shire produced a similarly resounding 'No' vote.

An offer from one of the nine people in the chamber, that they

would give up their seat for Mr Trigt, was accepted by Ms Borley and Mr Trigt, and the meeting went ahead, albeit 10 minutes late.

Clearly ruffled by the incident, the new mayor opened proceedings and welcomed everyone to the "13th of November council meeting".

Other cracks also started to appear.

Both Cr Les Larke and Cr Rochelle Halstead took umbrage at the efforts of Cr Leticia Laing, which Cr Larke said were simply designed to embarrass him, by twice calling for an explanation

of what Cr Larke's abstaining from a vote amounted to.

Cr Larke had abstained from voting to commit \$1.5 million of ratepayers' money to the Bass Coast Dinosaurs Trail project, and he abstained from voting not to do business with the "dirty banks" involved in financing fossil fuel projects.

Asked for an explanation twice, in 10 minutes, according to Cr Halstead, Ms Borley said an abstaining vote was recorded as a no vote.

There were other prickly moments as well with Cr Halstead effectively accusing council of botching the \$35 million Surf Beach Sunderland Bay Special Charge Scheme, and its obvious health benefits to residents, by adopting an overly bureaucratic approach to the scheme and local residents.

Cr Halstead voted against and Cr Larke abstained in response to a resolution on the shire's dinosaur trail project, and Cr Halstead said she hoped the shire wouldn't need to go cap in hand to any of the big four banks after Cr Michael Whelan had called on council to sack its main banker, Westpac, and not deal with the others.

There has been something of a political divide evident on the council in the first three years of the present regime, but after Cr Halstead was overlooked for mayor, it appears likely that this schism will be more pronounced over the next 10 months.

And it appears that just as he was in the mayoral vote, Cr Geoff Ellis will be ultimate decision maker.

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South Gippsland Shire Council News

Merry Christmas to Everyone

South Gippsland Shire Council would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

As 2023 draws to a close, it's a good time to reflect on the year that has been and the one that is just around the corner. We hope that 2024 is a happy and healthy year for all.

During the Christmas/New Year period, many Council services

will be closed or have different operating hours. Please read the section below as it provides a run down of the services that may be impacted.

Please remember to shop and eat local where possible and travel safely within South Gippsland and abroad. For ideas on things to see and do in our region, please visit:

www.visitsouthgippsland.com.au

Australia Day Photography Competition



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

The theme of the competition is Australia Day: South Gippsland – Our people and places.

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 2024.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council will be in recess for January 2023, there will be no Meetings conducted.

Meeting dates for 2024 are listed on Council's website.

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/meeting-dates

The first meeting of the year is scheduled for 21 February 2024 at 2.00pm.

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

South Gippsland Shire Council offices will be closed from 3.00pm Thursday 21 December 2023 and will reopen Tuesday 2 January 2024 at 10.00am.

Phone services will be available until 5.00pm Friday 22 December and recommence on Tuesday 2 January 2024 at 8.30am. Council's after hours service will be operational throughout the closure period on 5662 9200.

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

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

Coal Creek, Korumburra: 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 January but will recommence Tuesday 6 February 2024. Got 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

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Nyora supermarket gets go ahead

SOUTH Gippsland Shire councillors on Wednesday approved the development of a supermarket with associated shops at 29-31 Davis Street Nyora, voting unanimously to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit for the project.

The original permit application for the development received nine objections when advertised, with a subsequent amended application attracting six objections and two supportive submissions.

At the December meeting, councillors expressed the view that a long list of requirements that must be met for the development to proceed will result in a positive outcome for Nyora residents.

Cr Nathan Hersey stressed that by choosing to support the supermarket project, councillors are ensuring the many conditions for its construction and operation are met.

“I did appreciate the time some of our local residents took to come in and to share their concerns with us about this application when it was in its earlier iterations,” Cr Hersey said before highlighting the fact an extensive list of conditions must be met for the development to go ahead.

“The importance for us as a council approving such an application in the chamber is that we do have the say over the conditions, rather than it going off to VCAT and being taken out of our hands,” Cr Hersey said.

He added that council supporting the application means the concerns residents have expressed will be taken into account and influence the development, explaining the land is zoned Commercial making it appropriate for a supermarket.

Cr Hersey said one of the main concerns expressed by residents related to an unnamed laneway and that those concerns have prompted requirements that it is widened to accommodate two-way traffic, its surface sealed and supporting infrastructure such as kerbs and channeling are installed.

He expressed the view that a supermarket offering a wide range of products will be well received in Nyora, basing that on feedback he has received from residents.

Nyora resident, Cr Mick Felton said the supermarket development ties in with the anticipated substantial growth of Nyora, seeing this as a starting point and noting significant infrastructure improvements will be needed in the town.

He also referred to objections received in relation to the laneway behind Mitchell Street.

“I believe with the conditions that are in this permit that those objections will be sorted,” Cr Felton said.

Cr Adrian Darakai expressed confidence that with the required conditions for development, the supermarket will be a win for local business and Nyora residents, while also being a win for community consultation.

South Gippsland infrastructure support

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council has thrown its support behind road and sporting infrastructure improvements by endorsing applications for grant assistance and committing to making its own contributions if those applications succeed.

Councillors leapt at the opportunity to endorse an application for \$3,160,000 under the Australian Government’s 2024-25 Bridge Renewal Program towards the Bass Valley Bridges Renewal Project, committing to provide a further \$632,000 for bridge renewal should the grant application succeed.

Cr Nathan Hersey said at Wednesday’s council meeting that it had been established the Bridge Renewal Program is undersubscribed, providing a great opportunity.

On the sporting front, councillors voted to endorse an application for a \$300,000 grant from the Victorian Government’s 2023-24 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund (Community Facilities Stream) for the intended Korumburra Recreation Reserve cricket nets project. The \$420,000 facility would be shared between Korumburra Cricket Club and Korumburra City Soccer Club.

Should the grant application succeed, council will chip in \$50,000, equalling the contribution of the cricket club, with the soccer club providing \$20,000.

Divisive arts policy needs work Shire councillors decide

PROPOSED changes to South Gippsland Shire Council’s arts policies have been sent back to council staff for reworking after Cr Adrian Darakai outlined concerns including a racist element to the document.

“We’ve got here the revocation of one policy and the adoption of two being proposed; there are quite a few, what I consider flaws in the two proposed policies and further questions that need answering,” Cr Darakai said during Wednesday’s December council meeting.

He questioned why in the requirements outlined in the proposed Arts and Civic Memorabilia Collection Policy, the arts practitioner must have a connection to South Gippsland for council to acquire or commission that person’s artworks.

Cr Darakai highlighted the new Leongatha mural painted by Brisbane artist Ash Taylor as an example of a positive artistic contribution to South Gippsland Shire by a creative person not connected to the area.

“It would have prevented our recently completed mural at the railway precinct of Leongatha,” he said of the local connection element proposed.

The Arts and Civic Memorabilia Collection Policy document put before councillors on Wednesday makes an exception to that local connection requirement for indigenous artists.

One of the essential cri-



Cr Adrian Darakai was critical of aspects of proposed arts policies brought before South Gippsland Shire councillors at their December meeting. A02_5123

teria listed for art acquisition in South Gippsland Shire is that the piece concerned “increases the representation of works in the collection by Victorian-based First Nations artists, with additional preference for Gunaikurnai and Bunurong artworks”.

“So it suggests that if you’re white or non-indigenous, you have to have a connection to South Gippsland Shire; if you’re indigenous you don’t need to have that connection, so at the moment it is racially divisive,” Cr Darakai said.

He also criticised the proposal that artworks need to complement each other to be acquired by the shire, arguing a more

flexible approach is needed and that contrasting artistic styles can happily co-exist.

Following Cr Darakai’s speech, only councillors Jenni Keerie, Clare Williams and Sarah Gilligan supported the original recommendation before them to adopt the Arts and Civic Memorabilia Collection Policy along with the Public Art Collection Management Policy, while revoking the existing Arts and Culture Policy.

Councillors then voted to support Cr Darakai’s call to defer the arts policy decision until the first public council meeting of 2024 in February, with only Cr Keerie not supporting that motion.

Chance to comment on latest Local Law draft

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council’s reworked General Local Law 2024 draft document has been released for public consultation, with its considerable changes taking account of extensive public feedback on the original version.

The consultation period runs until January 15, 2024.

While councillors again urged community members to have their say, they stressed the importance of providing meaningful feedback rather than a broad dismissal of local law.

Cr Scott Rae encouraged people to read the newly released local law document before providing feedback, with Cr Mick Felton backing up that message and urging the community not to rely on Facebook for information.

“As a ratepayer you should be involved in your local council,” Cr Felton said, noting laws change and you need to keep abreast of the situation.

“Stop listening to individuals that have an agenda,” he said of what he labelled misinformation on Facebook, encouraging people to ring him if they



Cr Scott Rae is happy with the changes to the draft local law document. A51_5123

have any local law questions or concerns.

Cr Jenni Keerie thanked those responsible for the 366 submissions received during the previous round of General Local Law consultation.

“What concerns me though is that 137 of those submissions told us nothing, except we don’t approve,” she said.

Cr Nathan Hersey noted that the consultation now occurring includes the Christmas period, enabling those with holiday homes in South Gippsland Shire and visitors to contribute their ideas on the proposed local laws.

In addition to ironing out concerns about potential

negative impacts on local agriculture and making changes in relation to camping on private land, a couple of new aspects are included in the revamped local laws draft.

These additions were highlighted by Cr Rae, who said he wanted to ensure nobody suggested they have been added by stealth.

He said treated pine is now included on the “do-not-burn schedule”, noting he has received information from the EPA about why treated pine shouldn’t be burnt, and will share that knowledge with anyone who asks.

The other new aspect of the local laws Cr Rae noted relates to the enforcement of noxious weed control within South Gippsland Shire.

He said that should the newly specified weed requirements be adopted, he will seek an amnesty and education period to help people adjust, a call supported by Cr Hersey.

Visit the ‘Your Say South Gippsland’ website to have a say or watch for details of other opportunities to contribute your thoughts on the latest local laws draft.

Mayor’s Message



Cr Clare Williams



HELLO South Gippsland.

The last Council Meeting of 2023 was held on Wednesday, with some great, constructive discussion between all Councillors. Thank you to those who took time out of their day to come along to the meeting and sit in the gallery.

Some of the key matters included a:

- Third round of consultation endorsed for the **Draft General Local Law 2024**;
- Draft Discussion Paper and engagement strategy for the future of **Coal Creek**;
- Re-establishment of the **Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee** via an Expression of Interest process; and
- **Grant** opportunities.

Everything we do at Council is for the community. A point of difference for this Councillor group is engaging with our community in a positive way.

We are bringing the decision making to you. We are increasing our transparency through open consultations and one-on-one catch up opportunities. We are more accessible and consistently encourage our community to get in touch and provide their feedback.

The **Draft General Local Law 2024** and the **Draft Coal Creek Discussion Paper** are both amazing opportunities for you to get involved. The Local Law is open now until January 15, 2024 – that is 30 days’ worth of engagement! The Coal Creek Discussion Paper will be open from January 22 to March 31, 2024. The length of these engagements is proof that we want to hear from you.

Please read through the documents available and provide your clear, constructive feedback by visiting: <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

If you would like to watch the meeting back, you can do so by visiting Council’s website.

Australia Day Celebrations

As the end of 2023 fast approaches, Australia Day will be upon us quickly.

Please keep a look out for your local events. This is a terrific opportunity to be with your fellow community members and celebrate our fabulous country. We are a proudly diverse region and it is important we continue to extend a warm welcome to those who are new to our region, or even our country. We are all Australians and we all have a place here.

Council has also launched an Australia Day Photo Competition. I encourage you to submit a photo that fits the theme of ‘Australia Day: South Gippsland – Our People and Places’.

Submissions are welcome from people of all ages.

To find out more, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australia-daycompetition

Discounted Pool Entry for Concession Card Holders

Summer is a great time to enjoy all of our pools across South Gippsland, so we have made it even easier and more affordable for Concession Card Holders to enjoy our pools.

The discount is available for those with a Health Care Card, valid Student Card, Veterans Affairs Card, Victorian Carers Card, Pension Card, Seniors Card or Companion Card.

I wish you all a very merry and safe Christmas.

Tax Cuts

- Stages 1 to 3

By David Caporale,
Investment Manager of Gippsreal Limited

The Australian Government legislated 3 stages of tax cuts in 2018 and 2019 with the third stage commencing 1 July 2024. This editorial will detail what they are and what it means for you as a tax payer.

The first tax cut took effect in the 2018-19 income year and saw immediate tax relief for low and middle income earners in the form of a tax offset which was in addition to the low income tax offset (LITO). The low and middle income tax offset (LMITO) was temporary, as it ended 30 June 2022 whilst the LITO continues. It was estimated the offset assisted over 10 million Australians with the second stage locking in additional changes.

The second tax cut implemented increased the tax thresholds and the LITO. From 1 July 2018, the top threshold of the 32.5 per cent tax bracket increased from \$87,000 to \$90,000 and then subsequently increased to \$120,000 on 1 July 2020. Also on 1 July 2020 the top threshold of the 19 per cent tax bracket increased from \$37,000 to \$41,000. This change resulted in less income tax being paid for people earning between \$37,000 and \$120,000.

The reason behind the changes to the tax threshold (which are fixed in legislation) was to curb "bracket creep" due to no indexation of the tax rate thresholds which describes the effect where income/wage growth pushes personal income taxpayers onto higher tax rates without an increase in real income. The last time the tax rate thresholds changed (prior to 2018) was on 1 July 2012 when tax rates increased for low and middle income earners.

The third tax cut, which finalises the Government's plan for more Australians to pay less tax, is set to occur 1 July 2024 and this change is expected to have the biggest impact, particularly on high income earners. The change will see everyone earning between \$45,000 and \$200,000 paying 30 per cent in tax thus completely removing the 37 per cent bracket as well as reduce the 32.5 per cent bracket to a flat 30 per cent for each dollar over \$45,000.

To summarise, under stage three the tax brackets will look like this:

- \$18,200 – no tax
- \$18,201 to \$45,000 – pay a 19% tax rate
- \$45,001 to \$200,000 – pay a 30% tax rate
- \$200,001 plus – pay a 45% tax rate

The table below illustrates the changes on tax payable between the 2018-19 and 2024-25 financial years, after taking lower income rebates into account.

Year	2018-19	2024-25
Income Level	Tax	Tax
\$20,000	Nil	Nil
\$50,000	\$7,547	\$6,592
\$150,000	\$43,132	\$36,592
\$200,000	\$63,232	\$51,592

*source <https://atotaxrates.info/individual-tax-rates-resident/ato-tax-rates-2025/>

The stage 3 tax cuts have been the subject of criticism because of the disproportionate benefit flowing to higher income earners, notwithstanding that the tax scale adjustments initiated from the 2018 year had provided reductions for lower and middle income earners.

Additionally, the flip side to gaining more money in our pockets due to less tax is that for each dollar not collected through taxes is a dollar of lost revenue for the government to spend on services, infrastructure, and all the other things we rely on as a society.

The cost of the stage 3 cuts to the national budget is estimated at \$243 billion over the next 10 years. Some economists warn these tax cuts may push up inflation and subsequently delay interest rate cuts.

To further exacerbate the situation the Labor Government has said they won't break a promise on the stage three tax cuts to maintain trust with voters ahead of the next election.

It remains a topical issue and it is hard to know whether it is here to stay for the short or long term, but as it stands many people may prefer the money from these tax cuts left in Australian's pockets to spend as they see fit.

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



Coal Creek's future to be based on public feedback. A03_5123

Coal Creek decision making platform skewed Cr Darakai says

COAL Creek's future will be up for discussion from next month, with South Gippsland Shire councillors endorsing a Discussion Paper on the topic and locking in a consultation period running from January 22 until March 31, 2024.

As outlined in the Sentinel-Times December 12 edition, the Discussion Paper puts forward three options for Coal Creek, being revitalisation, new direction or closure and is intended to encourage community members to provide their thoughts on what should happen with Coal Creek.

During Wednesday's December council meeting, Cr Adrian Darakai hit out at the Coal Creek draft Discussion Paper, arguing it was designed to steer people away from considering the option of closure, and that changes should be made to the document before commencing public consultation.

"What I find this Discussion Paper about Coal Creek lacking is balance," Cr Darakai said.

He objected to the level of

focus in the document on the costs involved in closing Coal Creek, suggesting the way in which the three options for its future are presented is like offering people the choice between a mouldy apple and a couple of tasty pieces of fresh fruit, with revitalisation or new direction presented as tantalising choices.

Cr Sarah Gilligan spoke of the tough financial climate in which council operates, saying it is not immune to the current world economic situation.

"Many of our council assets, like Coal Creek, could actually be called liabilities," she said, noting council spends a lot of money on the park and museum every year.

Cr Gilligan said community members need to detail what Coal Creek means to them and the level of council expenditure they feel it should attract.

Cr Scott Rae noted the varying opinions he hears of Coal Creek, ranging from it being a great asset to being "the can that's been kicked down the road by

successive councils".

He said while Coal Creek has been the subject of discussion and ideas for years, it is time to get a clear understanding of what the community wants for the facility.

"We want your feedback, and then we'll make a balanced decision on what we're told," Cr Rae said.

South Gippsland Shire Council allocated \$40,000 in its budget to assess what it should do in relation to Coal Creek's future.

Korumburra-based Cr Jenni Keerie expressed her fondness for Coal Creek but said a decision needs to be made on whether council turns it into what it could be or closes it down and hands donated memorabilia back to families.

She said council will make the decision based on the feedback received.

"We do know there are definite costs to closure," she declared, backing up the Discussion Paper's message that shutting Coal Creek would be an expensive, complex and time-consuming option.

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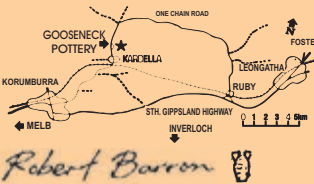


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LB1210

Visitors recognise challenges for and potential of Coal Creek

WHILE it was quiet on Sunday, a trio of visitors from Cranbourne were among those exploring the mix of natural beauty and historic exhibits at Coal Creek.

They were enjoying the experience but had just been talking about how the vast tourist attraction can continue to open for free and attract sufficient funding, when the Sentinel-Times stopped them for a chat.

One of the group, Caitlin Haigh, fondly recalls a school excursion to Coal Creek when she was aged about six.

"They gave us a tour and showed us how things were run," Caitlin said.

A visit to an old-style store to see how shop staff used to attend to their customers was a highlight, including a flying fox like device to transfer your money to a separate room for counting and return with your change.



Bethany Ellis and Caitlin Haigh stand in front of the wattle and daub cottage at Coal Creek. A49_5023

"It was great fun," Caitlin said.

That change system still operates in Coal Creek's recently rejuvenated General Store, continuing to impress children and others.

"They had the train open and we sat in there and ate our lunch,"

Caitlin recalled of her school visit to Coal Creek.

Such visits continue during the school year, with many school groups coming, and students getting a taste of an old-world classroom setting, albeit the crack of the cane only comes from striking a

desk, not a scolded child.

Andrea Ellis said the trio had been studying some of the equipment in the park and would be delighted if it can be restored to working order to show kids how things used to operate.

"It would be great if they could keep it all open," Caitlin said, with Andrea describing the park as a beautiful spot.

"I've got childhood memories of coming here with my family," Andrea said.

There's no doubt Coal Creek holds special importance for many visitors and locals.

However, South Gippsland Shire Council has a challenging task to determine the attraction's future, with all possible options requiring significant expenditure, prompting the likelihood of community consultation to help decide how that looks.

Changing of the guard at Korumburra Round Table

LAST Thursday night, December 14 was the final meeting of the Korumburra Round Table for the year, and they took the opportunity to farewell Barbara Look, who has recently retired from her position as the South Gippsland Council's Community Strengthening Officer.

This included her role as secretary for the Korumburra Round Table.

Round Table President Pee-Wee Lewis recorded the group's appreciation:

"It goes without saying that Barbara has played a pivotal role in the Round Table's growth since its inception 10 years ago, continually working to improve our ongoing relationship with Council. She will be sorely missed," said Mrs Lewis.

"Last night we were also joined by Christian Stefani in his role as Council's Manager for Economy Community and Investment. He was able to bring us up to date with the latest council news, including the latest draft of the local laws.

"Of particular interest in his report was the release of the Coal Creek Discussion Paper. I have noticed already on social media some highly dramatized reports of decisions having already been made about Coal Creek's future.

"I can tell you now without a shadow of a doubt that nothing could be further from the truth.

"This report highlights the opportunities and challenges facing Coal Creek, and crystallises the issue down to three options, going forward.

"These range from 'Let's get better at what we're doing already; maybe introduce an entry fee again...?' to 'What about making it a venue for music festivals

and school camps!' and of course the old chestnut: 'Close the joint!' (this last one being a bit more complicated than you might think - see page 18 of the discussion paper!).

"It is a complex problem and it requires calm, nuanced and logical input from the residents of all of South Gippsland. I am highly impressed by the discussion paper, and I urge you to pick up a copy from the Hub in Korumburra, or the Shire offices in Leongatha.

"This is my final report for the Round Table, as I am leaving the committee to spend a bit more time on some other community and personal pursuits. I leave it at a time when the members are enthusiastic and committed and, in the capable hands of Terry Waycott as president, it will continue to go from strength to strength.

"If you are keen to get involved, particularly on behalf of a group of which you are a member, please email Terry at: korumburroundtable@gmail.com

"I feel incredibly positive about the future of Korumburra as we enter the next phase of its revitalisation. The construction of the new supermarket at the bottom of Commercial Street will soon direct tourists and locals up into a newly refurbished main street (to begin in March), and the icing on the cake will be the exciting new arts and leisure precinct up on the railway land. So much to look forward to in 2024.

"Wishing you all a fabulous Christmas, and a safe and happy New Year."

Pee-Wee Lewis, Outgoing President, Korumburra Round Table.

Electric vehicles to be charged in Yanakie

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council is pleased to announce the second of council's six proposed electric vehicle chargers is now operational.

Located in Yanakie, the charger provides additional charging opportunities for electric vehicle owners, offering fast charging at 60kW.

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

In Leongatha, issues related to high voltage from

the electricity grid impacting the charger's functionality have been resolved by AusNet.

This means the charger is now fully operational and the occasional outages that were affecting the charger will no longer be a concern.

These two operational chargers will soon be part of a network of six electric vehicle (EV) chargers across South Gippsland offered by council, all fully funded through state and federal government grants via Destination Chargers Across Victoria and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure programs.

The remaining chargers in Foster, Korumburra, Mirboo North and Meeniyan are fully installed and will come online as soon as AusNet is able to connect the charger to the electricity network.

Applications are in with AusNet and are expected to be finalised in the coming weeks.

"I'm excited to see the successful installation of new EV chargers in our community," council CEO Kerryn Ellis said.

"This reflects dedication to sustainability and opens opportunities for regional visitors and locals."



Charge your electric vehicle at the newly available Yanakie station.



Bin collection changes for Christmas

- There are no kerbside bin collections on Christmas Day (Monday, 25 December)
- If you're in Cape Woolamai, Wimbledon Heights and Ventnor please put your **Recycling and Organics** bins out on Christmas Night (Monday night) for collection on Boxing Day (Tuesday morning)
- If you're in Corinella, Coronet Bay and Tenby Point please put your **Landfill and Organics** bins out on Christmas Night (Monday night) for collection on Boxing Day (Tuesday morning)
- Boxing Day collections will start earlier than usual – please make sure your bins are out before 5.00am
- Weekly Recycling bin collections start on Wednesday, 27 December until Friday, 26 January 2024.

For a copy of the bin collection calendar scan the QR code, visit basscoast.vic.gov.au/bincalendar or contact Council's Waste Services Team on the numbers below.



Bass Coast Shire Council, 76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi | PO Box 118, Wonthaggi VIC 3995
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*Closed New Years Day: Monday, January 1, 2024
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Big December meeting for Council

SOUTH Gippsland Shire councillors waded through a hefty December meeting agenda on Wednesday, starting with the recently contentious issue of local laws, a matter that appears to have been largely resolved but awaits a new round of public consultation.

A decision on adopting new arts policies was then deferred until next year's first council meeting in February to allow for improvements.

The next item on the agenda related to the future of the much-discussed Coal Creek, a decision taken to give the public a say from next month on what they envisage for the tourist site.

Councillors then set the wheel in motion to establish an Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee, approving the commencement of an Expression of Interest process to attract community members to the committee.

With council's Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2022-2025 active for almost 12 months, councillors received a report on what has been achieved so far.

The report details work towards the five strategic priorities the plan set.

A highlight under the 'equity' priority is the establishment of the South Gippsland and Bass Coast Partnership to Prevent Family Violence.

Progress towards 'improving mental wellbeing' has included delivery and promotion of mental health first aid training, and advocacy to establish a Mental Health Hub in South Gippsland.

Council intends to continue to support the management of open spaces for residents and

visitors as part of its commitment to the priority of 'healthy and active living'.

'Healthy eating' is another area of focus in the Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, with council supporting South Gippsland Farmers Markets and other local events to promote local and regional produce.

The development of a draft Coastal Strategy is one of the steps council has made towards 'tackling climate change'.

A recommendation to endorse a revised Information Privacy Policy was then unanimously upheld, intended to ensure councillors, council employees, contractors and volunteers understand their obligations to protect personal information.

Councillors then endorsed the Roadside Weed and Vegetation Spraying Policy to provide direction and clarity on where and why council uses chemicals to spray roadsides, and the management of a 'No Spray Register'.

Council's progress in achieving its aim of providing social and affordable housing is detailed in the Social and Affordable Housing Strategy Update 2023, which was received at the meeting, with submission of a Planning Scheme Amendment that incorporates the Affordable Housing Strategy in the South Gippsland Planning Scheme one of the actions already undertaken.

The public section of the December meeting ran for over two and a half hours, leaving only a couple of members of the public and a scribe from the full gallery observing earlier proceedings.



A mural for the Korumburra Railway Precinct

Melanie Caple has been selected to create the mural for the Korumburra Railway Precinct, pictured with Clare Williams, Mayor, South Gippsland Shire Council.

BASED on a brief created with students from the Korumburra Secondary College, a mural will be painted by local artist Melanie Caple and will be commencing soon.

Selected following a public voting process, Melanie's initial concept for the Korumburra mural project encapsulates birdlife and floral elements that are specific to the area. These species include a double-barred finch, flame robin, silver-eye, golden whistler and red-browed finch which are thoughtfully po-

sitioned on top of native flora such as gladioli blooms and ginkgo leaves to create contrast, forming a bold impactful mural. It received 56 per cent of the votes.

The mural will be painted on the external wall of 42 Commercial Street and will bring the blank brick structure to life.

Melanie is renowned for creating expansive exterior murals and she has refined her craft to seamlessly blending art with the urban landscape. Her unique creative approach captures the

essence of native flora and fauna in a way that captivates the viewer time and time again.

The mural project is expected to commence early 2024.

Councillor Clare Williams, Mayor South Gippsland Shire Council said,

"I would like to thank all of the entrants who each came up with wonderful mural concepts and congratulate Melanie on her successful design. We look forward to seeing the final concept and watching it come to life over the next months."



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Community supports maternity fundraiser

A MOTHER'S emotional journey where she was separated from her family and friends after a complex birth has highlighted the need for a Special Care Nursery at Wonthaggi Hospital.

Joanne Duscher's newborn son Brayden was transferred to a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Monash Health Clayton after he was born by an emergency Caesarean at Wonthaggi Hospital at 34 weeks. He stayed there for 11 days to assist with his breathing, with his mother and father Glenn staying in hospital and then at Ronald McDonald House.

Brayden was then transferred to Warragul Hospital's Special Care Nursery, where he stayed for 16 days, with his parents by his side.

"Having a special care nursery at Wonthaggi Hospital will be amazing for local families within the area as this would relieve the stress - at an already stressful time - of having to be living away from home for a substantial amount of time," she said.

"It would also relieve the financial stress that comes with living away from home and allow families to care for other siblings and family members, and allow family and friends' support to be close by."

Joanne spoke about her experience at the Indulgence Raffle fundraiser held by three local businesses recently: Headlines Hairdressing, The Cape Tavern, and Revive Beauty and Spa.

The fundraising event, which culminated in an event at Inverloch's Inlet Hotel, raised \$20,771 for the Special Care Nursery at Wonthaggi Hospital,



Bass Coast Health Women & Families Operations Director Jess Jude, Melissa Stirton of Headlines Hairdressing, Michael and Sue Turton of The Cape Tavern, Alison Adams of Revive Beauty and Spa, BCH CEO Jan Child, BCH Midwifery Unit Manager Relle McMullin and BCH Clinical Director of Women's Services Dr Carmen Brown.

which is scheduled to open in April 2024.

The nursery will enable Wonthaggi Hospital to offer a Level 4 Maternity Service, which will allow mothers to give birth at Wonthaggi from 34 weeks onwards. Currently these mothers need to travel to other hospitals to give birth due to the higher level of care required.

A Level 4 service would enable the 200 plus women who are more complex, or whose babies are more complex, the choice to give birth at Wonthaggi Hospital, said Bass Coast Health (BCH) CEO Jan Child.

"This higher-level maternity service reflects what we are all

about at Bass Coast Health: providing more healthcare services to local people, closer to their homes and support networks, rather than them having to leave their communities to receive care in Melbourne or elsewhere in Gippsland," she said.

"We are so grateful to people like Joanne for sharing their story and to our local businesses, Melissa Stirton of Headlines Hairdressing, Alison Adams of Revive Beauty and Spa, and Michael Turton of The Cape Tavern, who do so much to support the growth of services in the Bass Coast Shire - their support is extraordinary!"

Engineered Stone banned from 2024

THE USE of all engineered stone will be banned in Victoria from July 2024 to protect workers from the devastating lung disease silicosis.

Minister for WorkSafe and the TAC Danny Pearson today joined his Commonwealth, state and territory counterparts in agreeing to implement a national ban on the deadly product.

From 1 July 2024, Victorian employers will no longer be permitted to carry out work involving the manufacturing, supply, processing or installation of engineered stone. The Commonwealth Government has also confirmed an intention to ban the importation of the product, providing further protections.

An exception to Victoria's prohibition of all engineered stone will apply if the work involves the removal, repair or minor modification of product installed in a premises before 1 July 2024. This work will be subject to existing control requirements for engineered stone and additional high-risk crystalline silica work regulations.

The national ban follows a report by Safe Work Australia that recommended a prohibition on the use of all engineered stone, regardless of crystalline silica content.

Safe Work Australia's report found that the high levels of respirable crystalline silica generated from working with engineered stone are likely to contribute to more rapid and severe disease and that there is no evidence of a safe threshold of silica content.

Several specific products will be expressly excluded from the definition of engineered stone including concrete and cement products; bricks, pavers and other similar blocks; ceramic and porcelain wall and floor tiles; roof tiles; grout, mortar and render; and plasterboard.

Danny O'BRIEN MP State Member for Gippsland South



Wishing you a Merry Christmas

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Victorians
suffer amid
road damage

THE NUMBER of Victorian drivers seeking compensation for damage to their vehicles caused by dodgy roads has soared 414 per cent in just three years.

New data provided in State Parliament shows that claims for compensation rose from 298 in 2020/21 to 755 the following year and a staggering 1532 in 2022/23.

Alarmingly, just four of those claims were assessed as payable.

It follows a 45 per cent cut in the road maintenance budget since 2020, including a 25 per cent cut this year.

Shadow Minister for Roads and Road Safety, Danny O'Brien, said the data was further evidence of the dire state of Victoria's roads.

"Potholes, cracking, rutting and uneven surfaces are being experienced by Victorians every day due to Labor's cuts but many are also suffering significant damage to tyres, wheels and vehicles.

"This not only costs Victorians money, it costs businesses with vehicles off the road and hampers the ability of many Victorians to get to work, study or go about their daily lives," Mr O'Brien said.

With a minimum threshold for the cost of damage set at \$1580, most claims are not paid, leaving Victorians out of pocket.

"If the Government actually fixed our terrible roads Victorians wouldn't be suffering this damage, yet despite cost blow-outs of more than \$30 billion on major infrastructure projects the Government is actually spending less on basic maintenance of our roads."

Aged Care Secret Santa delivers Christmas joy



Brooke Smith will deliver the Aged Care Secret Santa gifts to the residents of Inverloch Coast Care on Christmas Eve.

THE community has once again rallied to spread the magic of Christmas through the local aged care facilities.

Organised by Inverloch Coast Care general service officer Brooke Smith, the Aged Care Secret Santa program is now a beloved tradition in its third year.

Brooke began delivering festive joy to others when she started doing Secret Santa amongst her friends.

She decided to implement the concept into Inverloch Coast Care after seeing the disconnect caused by the pandemic.

"Residents couldn't have visitors, especially during lockdowns. Sometimes they could barely leave their rooms," she said.

"Secret Santa was a way to stay connected and it helped to get the community involved. People have enjoyed doing it and it's been wonderful.

The program delivers gifts to 110 residents at Inverloch Coast Care.

Last year, the program branched out to include Griffiths Point in San Remo and Kirrak House in Wonthaggi.

Around 200 gifts are delivered between the two facilities.

Brooke said she tries to match residents with members of the community who share similar interests.

"It has been received amazingly. From the first year at

Inverloch, the staff and residents really loved it. There were tears and laughter when the gifts were received," she said.

"The residents were really thankful; it made their day. There have been some amazing presents received."

Some of the gift ideas have included personal paintings, children's drawings, clothes, indoor plants and vases.

"I don't put a money limit on it, it's whatever people are able to donate during these times," Brooke said.

"Some of the gifts are bought, some are handmade, it all varies."

Brooke said she has had people reach out from far and wide to be involved in the program, and she has encouraged others to start up Secret Santa programs in facilities close to home.

"It's well worth it and any form of community volunteering helps to improve mental health outcomes for the residents," she said.

The residents at Griffiths Point and Kirrak House will open their gifts with their lifestyle teams this week, while presents will be delivered by Brooke to Inverloch Coast Care on Christmas Eve.

"I want to thank the amazing community for its help this year - I couldn't do it alone," she said.

To find out more about the program or to become involved, head to the Aged Care Secret Santa Facebook page.



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Solomon Islanders happy in South Gippsland

A GROUP of Solomon Islanders working at the Poowong Abattoir has quickly settled into South Gippsland despite the shock of its cold weather.

With some of the group now parishioners of St Paul's Anglican Church, Korumburra, the Sentinel-Times stopped in for a chat before a recent Sunday service.

Lionel Kuia is the team leader for the Solomon Island worker contingent, having applied to come to Australia in 2021 and accepted this year, arriving in late September and living in Bena.

He is responsible for raising any concerns or questions on behalf of the more than 20 Solomon Island workers assigned to the abattoir.

"It's a great opportunity for me," Lionel said, with his four-year contract set to benefit his family back home, including his five-month-old child.

While the separation is difficult, Lionel can return home for a visit after 12 months when he gets leave.

He is keen to build a Solomon Island house for his family when he has saved sufficient money.

While the motivation to come to Australia was financially driven, Lionel is impressed with South Gippsland and its people, quickly feeling welcome.

"Living here is a good experience for me and I've met a lot



Junior Subu, Lionel Kuia, Ruth Eneley and Max Silas from the Solomon Islands are enjoying South Gippsland life. A01_5123

of kind people and the environment is very conducive for me," he said.

Like others in the group, Lionel is delighted with the friendliness and generosity shown by the people of South Gippsland.

St Paul's Anglican Church provided the Solomon Islanders with warm clothes through its op shop and furniture from its garage sale.

One of the eight Solomon Island women in the group, Ruth Eneley said the South Gippsland weather differed greatly to what she anticipated.

"It was a lot colder than I expected," she said.

In addition to the local community's generosity in

providing clothes and furniture, Lionel was stunned by the kindness of a lady who paid for cinema tickets in Leongatha when a quartet of Solomon Islanders discovered they didn't have sufficient money at hand.

"It's a new experience for me; I've never experienced this type of thing in the Solomon Islands," Lionel said.

To the delight of Reverend Fran Grimes at St Paul's, the islanders love music and singing.

"They've been given a couple of guitars, which I am sure will live up to our Sunday Services," she said.

Lionel explained that singing and music is important in the Solomon Islands.

"Sometimes we use instruments and sometimes we just do acappella," he said.

Member of the St Paul's congregation Nancye Harley said the Solomon Islanders have joined in well.

"They've got lovely singing voices and are good musicians," she said, adding it is great to see more people coming to church.

One of the Solomon Islanders at St Paul's during the Sentinel-Times' visit, Junior Subu is enjoying walking in South Gippsland and seeing new sights.

Another, Max Silas also loves exploring different places and has found local people friendly and helpful.



A colony of Grey-headed Flying-foxes can be seen hanging out roosting in the trees at the Leongatha wetlands. ob20_5023

Bats hanging out at Leongatha wetlands

THE TREES around Leongatha wetlands are hanging with a colony of roosting Grey-headed Flying-foxes, one of the largest bats in the world.

Spotted by nearby residents, the colony of bats are the only permanent species found in Southern Victoria and are protected.

While urban myths around these bats abound, such as being noisy, messy, a nuisance to gardens, carrying rabies and getting stuck in your hair, these aren't entirely true and they are an important part of the eco system.

Flying foxes are known to make over 30 squealing, shrieking and cackling sounds and when they are flying, their large wings make a heavy flapping sound.

According to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action flying foxes tend to roost in forests and woodlands where food is more abundant and prefer to feed on the blossoms, nectar, fruit and occasionally leaves of native plants such as eucalypts, tea-trees, grevillias, lilly pillies and figs.

They may visit backyards, orchards and nearby parks to feed on fruit if other food sources are scarce and may leave remnants of fruit and flowers on the ground.

Flying foxes are known to carry Australian bat lyssavirus and Hendra virus, however, if left alone, there is little to no risk of infection to people or pets as they don't attack or get stuck in hair.

The bats are nocturnal and typically roost by hanging upside down during the day. They fly out at sunset or when its dark to feed and may travel over 50 kilometres in a night.

They are ecologically important, playing a major role in the regeneration of native forests by pollinating trees and dispersing seeds as they move between trees and forests.

A single flying-fox can disperse up to 60,000 seeds in one night and they have been called big bees.

With large colonies in Melbourne and Bairnsdale, smaller groups of the social creatures may roost in areas in between, usually in the summer months.

They migrate down along the east coast of Australia from Queensland and NSW, following food resources, due to a loss of habitat in these areas.

Increased plantings of native trees over the last 30 years and year-round irrigation have made some areas of Victoria more attractive to these animals and numbers have been increasing over the years.

Wonthaggi Sureway have moved

THE WONTHAGGI Sureway team have recently moved to a larger premises, with three additional rooms for offices, training and a space for two job seeker computers.

Moving from a shared and somewhat hidden office space in Murray Street to the highly visible location on Graham Street in Wonthaggi.

Sureway Area Manager for Southern Victoria, Sean Maddocks said their signage is much more noticeable and with on street access and plenty of parking, it makes it far easier for people to find and access.

Staff can now also hold training sessions onsite, with programs such as job clubs, job readiness, preparation

for work, and training in skill sets for particular industries such as hospitality and cleaning, running.

Computers are onsite for people to use, to search and apply for jobs, create or update resumes and do their Centrelink declarations, with staff readily able to help with these processes.

Job seekers who are receiving online health support through Sureway such as counselling or psychology appointments can also now use private rooms.

The friendly and easy to approach team at Sureways are always happy to help job seekers with any questions or queries, from walk-ins and over the phone.



Sureway Area Manager for Southern Victoria, Sean Maddocks said the organisation is more visible and easier for job seekers to find, now they've moved to Graham Street. ob02_5123



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Hillside residents produce tasty 2024 calendar

HILLSIDE Lodge residents in Korumburra have contributed to a tasty 2024 calendar that brings together 12 favourite recipes.

As part of Hillside Lodge's diversional therapy program, residents have provided a monthly recipe which they cooked and preserved in the 2024 calendar.

The cooking calendar idea was developed by diversional therapist Leonie Somerville-Smith who said it gave residents a sense of purpose and motivation and meant that recipes could be shared and preserved.

Each month features photos of the resident, their recipe and the finished product.

Grace Schellenbach created a date, apricot and walnut loaf, based on a recipe from her mother.

"Almost all my recipes came from mum," she said. "My dad was the first child born in Kongwak in 1883 so there's been a lot of history and a lot of cooking."

As a member of the RSL and local church groups, Mrs Schellenbach baked a lot of biscuits over the years. "They sold quicker than anything else; that's what you did when you lived on a farm," she said.

About to turn 95, Mrs Schellenbach echoes Mr Thomason's view that

living at Hillside Lodge is "like an extended family".

"I know I can't go home and the staff here are wonderful and it's nice to join in with things like the calendar when I can."

Steve Thomason provided a tomato relish recipe that he found online. "I liked it but I'm not sure everybody did," he said. "I don't mind spicy foods."

Mr Thomason has been a resident at Hillside Lodge for nearly a year after living and working in South Africa, the UK, most Australian states, Borneo, China and more, initially as a civil engineer in design and later in construction and project management.

"I have a daughter and granddaughter nearby and came here on respite and decided to stay," he said. "The staff are great and I've made friends. It's more like an extended family than anything else."

He enjoyed being part of the calendar project. "It was a good exercise and got everyone together, with a few funny comments along the way," he said.

Sadly, some of the residents featured in the calendar have since passed away but their families have given permission for the images and recipes to be used.



Patient Russell Wilson with the Gippsland Southern Health Service team.

Gippsland Southern Health Service introduces Transition Care program

A NEW program at Korumburra is preparing people to return home after major stays in hospital.

The Transition Care Program at Gippsland Southern Health Service's Korumburra Hospital, in partnership with Latrobe Regional Hospital, is bringing a new style of specialised care for older residents in the area.

The program started this week and is already helping its first patient in his recovery from a joint operation.

Korumburra campus director of nursing Cat Chung said the Transi-

tion Care Program (TCP) provides short-term specialised care for older adults to assist recovery after a hospital stay.

"TCP can last for up to 12 weeks and helps individuals regain independence and confidence, which can avoid longer term care services," Ms Chung said.

The TCP at Korumburra hospital provides 24/7 support and care for people that have high care needs after a hospital stay and before transitioning home.

"It provides individualised specialist care for people who need extra

time to get back on their feet to return to their homes in an independent way," Ms Chung said.

TCP brings together therapy services and nursing support under a different Federal Government funding stream to regular hospital beds.

"Care is tailored to an individual's needs and goals when they need 24-hour care but not necessarily in an acute hospital setting," Ms Chung said.

The program is available for older people who are assessed as needing allied health involvement to recover from surgery or an illness.



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Practise nurse Amandeep Kaur with paediatric nurse Emma Foster and Business Manager Consulting Suites Paul Ferguson.

New services for allergy complaints

ADDITIONAL services at Latrobe Regional Health's (LRH) Consulting Suites will make it easier for parents and carers to have their children diagnosed with allergy complaints.

The addition of skin prick testing adds an important diagnostic tool to the Children's Allergy Clinic which opened in May 2022.

"Almost 20 per cent of Australians have an allergy of one sort or another and Australian children have the highest prevalence of food allergies in the world," LRH Business Manager, Consulting Suites, Paul Ferguson said.

"Since the Children's Allergy Clinic opened in 2022, we've seen more than 350 appointments from across Gippsland indicating that there is strong demand for a local service. Adding this extra level of diagnosis to what we can offer, will aid our specialists in their work and bring better results for children and their families."

The Children's Allergy Clinic is the result of a partnership between LRH, the Royal Children's Hospital and the Department of Health. The establishment of the clinic, initially as a trial project, enabled further training for doctors and nursing staff in the specialised area of allergy management.

The 'skin prick test' is a common tool to aid in the diagnosis of allergies. Administered by a nurse, it checks for immediate allergic reactions to up to 50 different substances including pollen, mould, dust mites and foods.

"Combined with a patient's medical history, the skin test can confirm whether a particular substance is causing an allergic reaction. From that point, the doctor can develop a treatment plan that brings relief to the patient and greater comfort to the parents and carers of the child," Paul said.

To ensure the success of the new service, staff have been recruited and received specialised training to deliver the test locally.

Parents are asked to chat with their GP to arrange a referral to LRH's Children's Allergy Clinic at the Private Consulting Suites.

Free sanitary products from next year

A \$23 MILLION program will provide free pads and tampons at 700 public sites from next year – at places like cultural institutions, hospitals, courts, TAFEs, public libraries, and staffed train stations across the state.

Pads and tampons are not a luxury, they are a necessity, yet many people in Victoria cannot afford the products they need to manage their periods.

Research commissioned by Plan International Australia earlier this year showed almost six in 10 Gen Z and Millennial women were finding it more difficult to pay for period products due to the rising cost of living.

Vending machines are expected to be installed next year, in a Government move to make pads and tampons available for free.



The four graduates alongside teachers and members of the team at Bass Coast Specialist School. C05_5123

Bright futures ahead



Henry, Brenton (dad), graduate Mitchell, Nathan (brother) and Connor celebrated Mitchell's achievements last Friday night. C02_5123



Graduate Jaide was supported by her parents Ben and Karen who were both incredibly proud of Jaide's achievements. C03_5123w



Graduate Kaedin was cheered on by his nan, Vicky and family at the graduation ceremony. C01_5123



A spectacular drum performance by Daniel earlier in the evening, he was watched on by dad Jimmy. C04_5123

TEARS, laughter and plenty of smiles filled the room on December 8, as four students from Bass Coast Specialist School celebrated their graduation at the Wonthaggi Golf Club.

Music was played, presentations had and speeches delivered in a truly spectacular celebration of achievement.

The graduating students have been very busy in their final year at Bass Coast Specialist School Wonthaggi, taking part earlier this year in volunteer work at Connecting 2 Australia Op Shop. This led the way for long time student Daniel Biggar to sign with the work crew and day program at Connecting 2 Australia for 2024. Daniel will work for two days a week with the mowing crew utilising his Certificate 2 in Horticulture he obtained at Bass Coast Specialist School whilst being a part of the SBAT program (School Based Apprenticeship Trainee). Daniel will also do a day's work with the car detailing crew, detailing cars from BCH. On his day off Daniel will look forward to a bit of fishing and going to the local YMCA for some swimming and a workout.

Jaide Francis will also look at being a part of Connecting 2 Australia work crew and utilising her Horticulture Certificate. Jaide has also been doing some work experience with Bass Coast Health assisting at San Remo Op Shop and Griffiths Point Lodge Retirement Home. Jaide enjoyed assisting with activities at the retirement home and taking her ukelele in and singing some Christmas carols to the residents. Jaide is looking forward to working next year and going to some concerts in her spare time.

Kaedin Barnes continued his casual position at Wonthaggi McDonalds whilst finishing his final year at school this year. Kaedin also got his white card for future employment opportunities along with his basic barista certificate and assisted making coffees in the school café program. I think Kaedin's big achievement for the year was obtaining his car licence and buying his first car out right with his savings. Kaedin is looking forward to next year and is following his dream of an apprenticeship within the building industry.

Mitchell O'Brien continued his casual position at Phillip Island Go-Karts and also enjoyed volunteer work at Cowes Golf Club throughout the year while he completed his final year at Bass Coast Specialist School. Mitchell is looking forward to next year and the prospect of some permanent work perhaps within the hospitality industry as he is an awesome barista and a whizz in the kitchen. Mitchell also enjoys going to AFL games in Melbourne and the cricket and has been practising his golf game with his dad.

The four students enjoyed a wonderful Graduation Celebration at the Wonthaggi Golf Club on Friday evening (December 8) amongst family, friends and staff. It has been an honour for everyone at the school to watch the students grow and succeed with their achievements in the Transition and Pathways Program at Bass Coast Specialist School.

General Local Law Review

You spoke. We've listened.



South Gippsland Shire Council would like to thank everyone who reviewed and provided feedback on the first draft General Local Law for South Gippsland. In total, we received 366 submissions which helped to inform the second draft, which is now available for review.

The General Local Law is an important document. Although we would prefer that it never has to be used, there are times when Council needs the General Local Law to respond to issues and resolve disputes within our community.

Below we have listed key changes that have been made from the last draft, based on the submissions we received. We are now seeking your feedback once more.

Please note:

- The General Local Law is designed to complement, and does not replace, existing laws such as the Country Fire Authority Act and the Victorian Planning Scheme.
- There is a provision for Council to make exemptions to the clauses if required, depending on the circumstances.

Feedback on the second draft of the General Local Law is open until Monday 15 January, 2024.

The second draft of the General Local Law includes a number of clauses that have been updated as a result of what was heard during the last consultation.

These include:

- Changing an excessive vegetation clause to exclude grass or other crops grown for the production of fodder on land greater than 1 acre. This clause generated significant feedback, and Council recognised the need for it be amended.
- Updating wording around tree removal on or in a municipal place so that pruning can be undertaken, if required. A safety exemption was also added. This clause helps to protect trees and enables Council to respond to vandalism on Council trees, including those on nature strips, in parks, and those damaged or removed to allow people a better view from their property. As part of this clause blackberries can still be removed, weeds can be sprayed and trees overhanging fence lines can be pruned.
- A change to the dilapidated buildings clause so that the focus is on public safety rather than appearance or character.
- Removal of a clause stating domestic bins should be brought in within 24 hours of collection.
- Updating a clause around roadside trading to make it clear that while permits are required to display goods for sale in a municipal place/road, they are not required for private property. Permits are required on municipal land to ensure appropriate insurances are in place and there are no safety concerns.
- Updated wording around stock crossings to provide clarity. The General Local Law does not require a permit for stock crossings as long as it is undertaken in accordance with the Manual for Traffic Control at a stock crossing. Permits are only required if the manual cannot be complied with or if you are crossing a highway (in which case a Regional Roads permit is required). A permit is also required if permanent signs are to be installed on a Council road – this is to ensure road safety and that they meet the relevant signage requirements.

The above list is just a summary of some key changes. For a list of all changes and to review the entire General Local Law (second draft) please go to:

yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au



Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

The gift that keeps on giving

WE'VE got a General Manager Partnerships, Economy and Culture at the Bass Coast Shire Council, or did have until Greg Box was promoted to the role of shire CEO last week, and we certainly wish him all the best for a rewarding and productive time in the role.

We've also got a General Manager Placemaking, the person who has the key responsibilities of strategic and statutory planning, but we'll be looking for a new one of those too after James Stirton joins Ali Wastie at Geelong.

And we've also got a General Manager Resilient Communities, Jodi Kennedy.

But what the Bass Coast Shire Council could really do with is a 'Pub Test' General Manager because there is a lot about what the council does that simply wouldn't pass the pub test.

At the council meeting last week, a majority of councillors voted to give up as much as \$175,000 worth of ratepayers' money so they could make a climate-change point about so-called 'dirty banks' lending money to coal-fired or gas-fired energy or mining companies.

Why shoot yourself in the foot to take a stand on climate change when it doesn't need to cost you anything like that?

Oh, the councillors were told it will only cost the shire "about \$30,000" in potential lost income from interest, if it invests at up to 0.5% below the best rate on offer. But last time we looked, \$35 million (estimated cash reserves at June 30, 2023) multiplied by 0.5% equals \$175,000.

Now, it might never get to that, but losing even \$30,000 of ratepayers' money, just to make a point on climate change, when there are dozens of other more imaginative ways to do it, is ludicrous if not negligent.

Let's see a proper report on the implications of such a policy, not only on funds on investment, but also borrowings, and give us 10 other options for "action on climate change" that won't cost us as much.

You shouldn't simply be following the rantings of the former mayor Michael Whelan on the subject (see YouTube December 13, 2023 council meeting) and blindly voting for his harebrained scheme.

You also had the situation last week that there were just nine chairs available for members of the public who wanted to come along and see their councillors in action.

If you had guests come to your house, you'd find more chairs!

It's emblematic of what happened with the \$35 million Surf Beach/Sunderland Bay special charge scheme (see letter to the editor this edition 'Don't blame ratepayers for your scheme failure').

And the Christmas spirit too seemed to be lacking from the council meeting too last week, with Cr Leticia Laing accused of trying to "embarrass" Cr Les Larke when he opted to abstain from voting for the dinosaur trail and new Investment Policy.

At this time of the year, you want to try to forgive and forget, but honestly, the Bass Coast Shire Council is the gift that just keeps on giving!

Vox Pop

What are you looking forward to this Christmas?



Liliana Sibenik

"I'm looking forward to seeing all my family and the spirit of giving."



Marley Salce

"The joy and the feeling of pure happiness and love that comes with Christmas."



Ruby Mowlam

"I'm excited to go to lunch with my grandparents and have all my family together."



Hope Tucker

"I'm excited to get lots of presents and share presents with everyone."

Duck shooting ban

VICTORIAN duck shooters evidently fear the shooting ban because they think it may lead to other outdoor recreations being disallowed ("Victorian duck hunting report released", 7/11). But this is most unlikely as duck shooting was banned many years ago in WA, NSW and Qld and all other recreations are still safe.

These fellow Aussies are evidently happy with an array of recreations including hiking, swimming, canoeing, camping, art, photography and even bird watching!

Barbara Fraser

Don't blame ratepayers for your scheme failure

At this week's Council meeting, council voted on the motion not to proceed with the proposed Surf Beach Sunderland Bay Special Charges scheme, due to the fact that council is legally bound by the Local Government Act that if over 51% objections received, the Scheme cannot go ahead.

Council was quick to lay blame on the 'Say No' campaign group that supposedly "confused the messaging" according to Cr Rooks who also went on to say that residents were offered "the cheapest and most feasible options and that council was very active with communication at all times".

To quote council's official summary, the key reasons why the community objected to the scheme was based on cost let alone damage to the local environment, so one has to ask where Cr Rooks thinks this scheme was cheap and feasible particularly as many residents begged council to rectify the drainage issues, which were historically inherent issues due to lack of council maintenance ... and use dust suppressant as was used 15 years ago and lasted well until Council decided to dig it up just before the proposed Scheme was mooted!

This was a perfect opportunity for council to reflect on its community engagement methodology but instead, it was easier to lay blame on the residents in Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay who according to the project engineer "wasted Council money on this process".

Council believes that the spasmodically emailed newsletters and adding information on the Engagebasscoast web page is an ideal way of communicating to residents but not all residents had access to online communications.

Council stopped mailing hard copies of the newsletter so many residents were not kept informed on the process.

The Say No group repeatedly requested on site meetings or discussions with

ward councillors and the project engineer but to no avail.

Emails were ignored, questions to council went unanswered for so long that it took a Freedom of Information Request before council would even consider answering questions relating to the scheme.

This has been an embarrassment to this council, and all involved should be blamed for wasting ratepayers' money on a scheme that could have been discussed face-to-face instead of giving ratepayers convoluted questionnaires designed to confuse.

Cr Halstead closed by saying "the flooding and dust should be considered as a matter of urgency" so the question has to be asked, council budgeted over \$7 million towards this scheme, so use this money and rectify the areas that are deemed urgent and reapply the dust suppressant as was what was asked by your ratepayers originally.

If only the Westernport ward representatives - Crs Halstead, Le Serve and Kent (at the time) met with their ratepayers when requested, there may have been a different outcome - a special charges scheme that was environmentally friendly and affordable, leaving council with less egg on face!

Stop blaming ratepayers who voted you into your positions as our elected officials, who when push came to shove, did nothing to help ratepayers apart from pushing what council wanted, not what the ratepayers wanted.

Signed by a representative of the 'Say No to the Surf Beach Sunderland Bay SCS'.

Christmas wishes from The Nationals Melina Bath MP

As Christmas and the New Year holiday season rapidly approaches, I would like to take the opportunity to thank my Eastern Victorian constituents for the contribution they make to our beautiful region.

The holiday season is an opportunity to touch base with our neighbours, friends and spend time with loved ones.

It is good to see our small traders busy as people shop locally and families enjoying Christmas events.

Generosity of spirit and locals helping locals is the hallmark of country people and it is heartwarming to see many charities receiving donations of toys, clothing and food hampers despite the cost of living pressures at home.

To all who have donated in a variety of ways, thank you for your kindness.

Representing eastern Victoria in State Parliament is an honour. As a local, I am passionate about our region's future. I remain committed to working with our community to continue to tackle the challenges faced by individuals and communities.

If you are travelling on our roads during this holiday season, please take care, be patient and drive to the conditions.

Finally, may I wish you a joy filled Christmas surrounded by the people you know as family. May your start to 2024 be a safe, healthy, and blessed one.

Melina Bath MP, Member for Eastern Victoria Region, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Public Land Use, Education and Volunteers

Day of reckoning is coming for council

While new Mayor Clare Le Serve wrote an excellent piece in The Mayor's Message delivering the message: "As Mayor, I will be working with community to support climate change, reconciliation, protection of our coasts from erosion, support the arts and culture sectors as well as delivering support to our farming community", I would counsel Clare Le Serve to take note of what The Editor of The Sentinel Times has had to say:

"The issues around action on climate change, reconciliation, and social engineering including "preventing family violence" (if that's even a core role of council) received a lot of prominence, more some would say, than the three Rs of local government rates, roads and rubbish, as well as the other core responsibilities of council, and the importance of transparent and accountable leadership."

Clare, your predecessor oversaw the worst "Community Satisfaction Survey" for Bass Coast Council during his time as Mayor as a direct result of his actions. Literally every category went down, and I would implore you not to follow his example.

In particular, community response reveals lower satisfaction on the issues of 'Overall Performance' down from 57 to 54, 'Overall Direction of Council' down from 47 to 44 and 'Community Decisions', reflecting the level of genuine community engagement and consultation, down from 53 to 48 in the 2023 Survey.

As Michael Giles rightly points out: "If councils don't get the balance right between having a social conscience and managing the core responsibilities of council, a day of reckoning on that score is coming - in October 2024". The next Council Elections.

Rob Parsons, The Gurdies

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.



San Remo Primary School Grade six graduating class of 2023.

San Remo’s largest graduating class

SAN Remo Primary School held their Grade six graduation last Wednesday evening in celebration of their 34 students that will set off for high school in 2024.

21 of the students attended the Primary school since Prep in 2017, making this year the largest year six graduating class ever at San Remo

Primary School.

The ceremony was conducted in the San Remo gymnasium. Each graduate was presented with an acknowledgement from their peers and a vision they had created for themselves for the next 10 years when they reach the age of 22.

The night was a roaring success with many proud faces in

the 100-plus crowd of families and staff. After the formalities were finished staff and students attended a dinner celebration at the San Remo Hotel.

Marley Salace of year six said that it was an awesome night and super enjoyable, with her peer Lily Sibenik agreeing stating “it was exciting.”

Noah Margrie shared that

it was fun and he is proud to have graduated, and Brax Schiebel said it was a great night that he enjoyed with his friends.

San Remo Primary is so proud of the 2023 graduates and is looking forward to hearing of their bright futures, the teachers and staff wish them all the best.

A whole school performance at Powlett River Primary

POWLETT River Primary School students wrapped up the end of 2023 with their annual Christmas concert, showcasing the work of drama and music work throughout the year.

The junior school - prep to year two students performed The Hobyahs’ an old Scottish folk story rewritten in the second Victorian school reader, 1930 for all second-grade children. It still appeared in the school readers up until the 1950’s before ‘The Hobyahs’ in Wonthaggi was re-born.

Two locals John Counsel and Greg Simmons who were heavily involved in the Wonthaggi Theatrical Group, wrote The Hobyahs Pantomime based on the story in the reader in late 1974.

So successful it was that in the summer of 1985-6 this Australian panto played at the National Theatre in Melbourne for 42 performances (matinee and evening performances) to critical acclaim... and audiences who attended over and over again.

Powlett River music teacher Ian Chambers then worked collectively with volunteer drama enthusiast Jerry Petersen sharing that their story is an adaption of these stories rewritten for the kids at Powlett River.

The students have been learning a series of music throughout the year to work in with the annual play and “this year we’ve incorporated a bit more drama,” said Powlett River Principal Wendy Nichol as she watched the final rehearsal.

The students worked tirelessly on their lines and got into character for their final performance last Thursday at the Dalyston church. “We couldn’t have done this



Senior students of Powlett River performing as Wild Bill's Gang in their end of year concert. Z01_5123

without the support of our parents Gene Young and Patrina Linklater for costumes, Kerryn Drennan for the donated fabrics and Jerry Harley’s help with the sets,” said Wendy.

The juniors dressed as bilbys, kangaroos and frogs before the senior students – grade three to six got in character for their cowboy performance, featuring the Jesse James Gang and the Dance Hall girls.

Jerry volunteers her time each year to work with the students of Powlett River – this year writing the cowboy skit and collectively working with Ian and the students to incorporate the live music.

Grade six school captain Evie Speed played the drums and narrated her final performance with Powlett River Primary School.



The Dance Hall Girls in the Powlett River 2023 concert. Z02_5123



Hattie, Kim (Educational Leader), Dusty and Georgina from Fish Creek Kindergarten who are leading the way in children’s health and wellbeing.

Leading the way with children’s health and wellbeing

FISH Creek Kindergarten has created a healthier environment for their students, and has been recognised by the Victorian Government.

They are the first early childhood service in South Gippsland to achieve every health priority area within the state-wide Achievement Program.

The Achievement program is a free evidence-based health and wellbeing framework that helps workplaces, schools and early childhood services create a healthier environment.

It is supported by the Victorian Government and delivered by Cancer Council Victoria. The program is implemented locally by the South Coast Prevention Team (Health Promotion workforce of Bass Coast Health, Gippsland Southern Health Service and South Gippsland Hospital).

Fish Creek Kindergarten has been recognised for meeting best practice benchmarks in all six health priority areas under the Achievement program.

This includes Healthy Eating and Oral Health, Physical Activity and Movement, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Sun Protection, Safe Environments and Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drugs.

Paul Greenhalgh, Chief Executive Officer at South Gippsland Hospital, acknowledges Fish Creek Kindergarten’s achievements. “Congratulations to Fish Creek Kindergarten on their achievement and commitment to creating a healthier environment for our local children and the wider Fish Creek community. They have taken the lead, reviewing and building on the great work they deliver to support the health and wellbeing of our community.”

Some examples of the key activities they have implemented to improve physical activity include, looking at safe transport and active travel, with a new footpath built to encourage walking and cycle access, improving staff and educator knowledge and easy access to health and wellbeing information now available on display in the foyer, provided a child-initiated space for yoga and updated policies.

Education Leader, Kim, encourages other centres to get involved in the Achievement program. “Go for it! I loved that you can work at your own pace, as well as there being so much information to support with meeting each health and wellbeing benchmark. It also fits into our quality improvement plan and strengthens this”.

Dimity Gannon, Cancer Council Victoria’s Head of Healthy Places, has congratulated Fish Creek Kindergarten on achieving Victorian government recognition for their commitment to health and wellbeing.

“I applaud Fish Creek Kindergarten on achieving every health priority area in the Achievement Program, and especially for being first early childhood service in South Gippsland to do this.”

“The Achievement Program supports services to create healthy environments that benefit children, educators, and families,” Ms Gannon said.

The Achievement program is available to all early childhood services, schools and workplaces. For local support, and more information contact the South Coast Prevention Team on 0409 798 861 or email prevention@basscoasthealth.org.au.



Merry Christmas

Grantville's Christmas Carols and Market

Merry Christmas

Thanking all our loyal customers throughout 2023



Best wishes for the New Year from Leonie and all the team.



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JAZ2045



Bec Micallef, Sage Walker and Rowanne Grinstead were ready to sing Christmas carols in Grantville last Sunday night.



Grantville's Yasi and Kat Cox enjoyed a night out at the Grantville Christmas Carols and Market.



Rowanne Grinstead and Janice Orchard at Grantville's Christmas Carols and Market last Sunday night.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

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HM1125

Classic carols at Cowes goes off with a bang



The jolly man himself, with his welcoming party, got a great 'Carols by the Bay' night started at Cowes last Tuesday night.

THE family fun organised by Phillip Island Voice on the foreshore in Cowes last Tuesday night, at the 'Carols by the Bay', was one of the best-ever, they say, with the weather ideal, plenty of free activity for the kids and lots of great acts on stage.

Starting at 5pm with children's rides, a petting zoo, where the highlight were two cute little pigs and a baby goat, face painting, and the arrival of the jolly man himself, Father Christmas (courtesy of the Phillip Island RSL) for 'Santa Photos'.

That was followed by carols and musical treats on stage, which all went off with a bang... in a fantastic fireworks display.

And for once, the hundreds of cars seemed to get away without a fuss.

So, to Phillip Island Voice, its many sponsors and volunteer helpers, together with the SES, St. John Ambulance, CFA, police and other emergency services in attendance – a big well done!

Merry Christmas!

On behalf of all the councillors and staff at Bass Coast Shire Council, I'd like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe new year.

Mayor, Cr Clare Le Serve



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MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a safe and happy New Year

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HM1127

Merry Christmas



San Remo Primary School students took the stage singing Christmas carols with the community. Z19_5123



The San Remo community warmly welcomed Santa as he arrived on the San Remo CFA fire engine. Z16_5123

The joy of Christmas on the San Remo foreshore

THE San Remo community gathered on the foreshore for the annual Christmas carols last Friday night; a joyous event led by a team of volunteers and supported by the Bass Coast Shire Council.

Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve addressed the community audience before welcoming the San Remo Pre-School students to the

stage to sing Dear Old Santa and We Wish You a Merry Christmas. "We all know Christmas is about the joy of giving, the joy of community, and the love that we bring together, and I'd like to wish you all a magical Christmas."

The 3-year-old and 4-year-old kindergarten students opened the evening with a dance and

sing-along before welcoming San Remo Primary School students and Newhaven Primary School students to the stage for their merry performance.

Throughout the evening the community applauded the former San Remo Newhaven Lions Club to honour their commitment in running the San Remo carols on the foreshore. The

dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly to keep the tradition alive in the old fishing town.

The annual event is now proudly supported by the shire and the local traders – San Remo District Tourism and Business who have honoured the tradition, including Westernport Water and The Bendigo Bank.

With a live broadcast on the big

screen, the community were able to see the stage clearly to sing along to the live performances throughout the evening, including a live performance from special guest and well-known local performer Imogen Price. All sharing their talent with the public and wishing the San Remo and Phillip Island community a very Merry Christmas.

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Wishing you all a Joyous Festive Season

and a year filled with Kindness & Good Health

As the year draws to a close, I want to thank our amazing community for showing your continued generosity of spirit, valuing all our volunteers; as to our first responders and health care workers, supporting local fundraisers, our local clubs, groups and organisations and checking in with those you love and cherish.

The collective kindness exemplifies our community is at the heart and our true community colours keep on shining through.

Sadly, we have community members doing it tough or facing the first Christmas without that beautiful someone by their side. If this is you, please reach out and let others know - you are not alone. My team and I are here to help too.

This is the true spirit of Christmas.

As we reconnect with family and friends to celebrate the festive season, please look out for each other, support your local businesses, show appreciation for our retail and hospitality workers and please take care on the roads and in our waters. A reminder to also be bush fire prepared and download the VicEmergency app.

My family and I wish you and those you cherish a joyous reuniting season and a year filled with kindness, positive experiences and good health.

T: 5672 4755 jordan.crugnale@parliament.vic.gov.au 9 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi 3995

jordan crugnale mp
STATE MEMBER FOR BASS



Merry Christmas



Phoenix Lawton, Indiana Brick, and Florence and Violet Nye were among those who attended the Glade for Inverloch's annual Christmas carols on Saturday night.



The Care Love Dance group and the Bass Coast Ripples – accompanied by Banjo Sam – were the first act at the Inverloch Carols on Saturday night.

Inverloch celebrates Christmas at the Glade



Leongatha's Layla and Arlo Kilpatrick, and Josh and Hannah Browne enjoyed a night of Christmas carols in Inverloch on Saturday night.

THE Inverloch community gathered at The Glade to celebrate Christmas on Saturday night.

The annual Christmas carols were once again a success with around 1000 people turning out to be part of the festivities.

Entertainment kicked off at 5.30pm with the Care Love Dance group performing with the Bass Coast Ripples, accompanied by Banjo Sam the Koala.

This act was followed by the Wonthaggi Youth Brass Band.

The carols were performed by the Combined Churches Band, with Inverloch Primary School

students also performing a few items.

Coordinator of the carols team Jeff Robertson said it was wonderful to see the children contributing to the evening.

"It's great to see a lot of families and multiple generations joining in and getting into the spirit of the night," he said.

"It's also great to see a lot of people dressed up. It's nice to see the Christmas colours out there."

A free sausage sizzle was provided by the Inverloch Lions Club, and children also enjoyed free popcorn, fairy floss and

face paint.

The Inverloch carols is able to run every year thanks to the hard work of the Inter-Church Council.

"The local churches work throughout the year to organise it. It's exciting and a bit of a relief to get here," Jeff said.

"After this, we will re-evaluate in a month or two and start looking towards next year as well.

"We want to give a big thank you to everyone who helps out, performs or volunteers. There's a whole lot of people involved who contribute in lots of different ways."

We wish all our wonderful clients a safe and festive season



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Thank you for making a difference by supporting the Community Banks that support your Community. We hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year!

From the San Remo, Cowes and Grantville Community Bank teams.

During the festive season our branches will be closed from Saturday 23 December, and reopen Wednesday 27 December. We will also be closed Monday 1 January.



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PH11133

Merry Christmas



Wishart a winner for Wonthaggi

TIS the season for carol singing and for once, Wonthaggi cracked it for a superb evening last Sunday night.

And combined with the inspired decision to move back to Wishart Reserve, sheltered from the wind and with its better acoustics, all was in readiness for a great night.

The Wonthaggi Citizens Band was in the house, under the baton of musical director Craig Marinus, and offsetting their sublime tones were the members of Wonthaggi's Sing for Fun Group which really had the harmonies going nicely and the rich timber of a superb bass line rolling through.

An early highlight of the night was the best-ever nativity scene by the students from St Josephs in Wonthaggi, as realistic as you could get with the Blessed Virgin Mary producing the baby Jesus from under her seat at the appropriate time, the shepherds delightfully attired in lambswool coats and the Three Magi, believed to be the King of Arabia 'Balthasar', King of Persia 'Melchior' and King of India 'Gaspar', pointing towards the Star of Bethlehem.

We could do with their intervention in the Middle East right now.

MCs on the night, Brett Tessari and Natasha Crestani did a great job and with a sausage sizzle going, coffee available and some other bits and pieces on offer, the night was a real success.

The event was organised by the churches of Inverloch and Wonthaggi. Sponsored by Bass Coast Shire Council and a number of Wonthaggi businesses. Well done to all concerned.



The Three Magi point the way to the first Christmas following the Star of Bethlehem.



Wonthaggi's Sing for Fun led the community singing at the Wonthaggi Carols last Sunday night.



Whoa, big crowd at the Wonthaggi Carols in superb conditions on Sunday night.

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Celebrate the wonderful

However you celebrate, whoever you're with, may your Christmas be merry, always.

From the Community Bank Inverloch team.

During the festive season our branch will close on Saturday 23 December, and reopen Wednesday 27 December.

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Merry Christmas

Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal helps those in need



The team at Wonthaggi Kmart are encouraging the community to donate to their Wishing Tree this year to help provide gifts to those in need. ob09_5123

THE WONTHAGGI community is supporting the Kmart Wishing Tree again this year, helping to provide Christmas gifts to those in need.

Kmart Australia has recently launched its 36th annual Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal together with founding charity partner, The Salvation Army and this year's theme is 'Join us in creating a positive change this Christmas'.

With the generous support of communities like Wonthaggi, the Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal has become Australia's largest and longest-running gift collection drive and has donated over \$5.6 million in funding and distributed 10 million gifts to those in need at Christmas.

Kmart Wonthaggi's Wishing Tree Champion, Brooke Pendlebury says, "For 36 years the Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal has been an important local initiative that gives our customers and team members the chance to make a direct impact to the people struggling in our community.

This is my first year as

the Kmart Wonthaggi Wishing Tree Champion, and I feel the Appeal is a chance for Wonthaggi to do their bit and give back. We've already received around 60 gifts in four weeks but want to keep this incredible support going in the countdown to Christmas."

Kmart is aiming to raise over half a million dollars for the Appeal in 2023 as well as collect 300,000 gifts to help those in need at Christmas and beyond.

The community is encouraged, if possible, to contribute a new and unwrapped gift under the Wishing Tree at Kmart Wonthaggi or make a monetary contribution across in-store or online from now until Sunday December 24, 2023.

Major Rebecca Inglis, Salvation Army, shares that this year the need is even greater, "Our hope at Christmas is for no one to have to do it alone, and we are extremely proud and grateful to Kmart and the Wishing Tree Appeal, who for over 36 years have partnered with The Salvos to help brighten the festive season for those doing it tough."



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)

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we thank everyone for their support throughout 2023, and send all our best wishes for the new year
Damien, Joanne & Staff

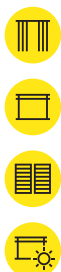
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HM11105

Merry Christmas



There was a mix of carols from around the world sung by the choir. Ns255123

Carols delight in Corinella

CORINELLA put on an incredible night of carols for delighted residents on Saturday, December 17.

The weather fortunately stayed favourable as many other carols have been cancelled due to the recent downpours.

There was young and old, families and couples and everything in between with a healthy crowd of more than 100 enjoying the atmosphere.

The Corinella CFA were on hand serving up delicious sausages, while the Island Harmony Choir provided the tunes serenading all with many popular Christmas carols.

Bass Coast Mayor Clare Le Serve as well as Cr Geoff Ellis were also in attendance, while well-known local Greg Thompson was MC for the night.

There was plenty of activities for the kids too with face painting and the chance to meet Santa and Rudolph's best friend... which happens to be a horse!



'Mr Elf' as he known on the night and the next best thing to Rudolph, his best mate, were delivering Christmas cheer to all at the Corinella carols. Ns225123

Angela connects at community lunches this Christmas

ANGELA has found solace, support and friendship at the community lunches held at the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre.

After losing her husband, Angela began coming to the house in December last year to share in the lunches on Wednesdays.

"Mitchell House is open to anybody. It's non-discriminatory and you always feel welcome. I feel at home here because I'm always very welcomed."

Angela was a carer for her husband who had vascular dementia, for a long time. When he passed on, she went from a carer pension to a new start allowance – a considerable drop in income.

At 65 she has two years before she can officially retire and with a mortgage and bills to pay, like many Angela does it tough and the community meals are a help.

"Another reason I come here is it saves me one meal a week," Angela explains. "Occasionally I'll take home a few frozen dinners because it saves me meals."

Coming from parents who were restaurateurs, Angela says she knows good food and comments there is a lot of love and thought that goes into the food that is served.

Angela attended the special Christmas style spread last Wednesday, a meal of ham, chicken, salads, pudding, Christmas cake and all the trimmings.

"Meals are varied and we have beautiful salads and very healthy food that keeps the energy going and that sustains you."

"I would eat Emma's food any day. It's the love that goes into it. She's got that love and she's an excellent - I call her chef."

Angela has also recently lost her beloved dog and being only in



Angela has found support, connection and great food at the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre. ob20_5123

Wonthaggi for six years doesn't have a great network to draw upon but knows how important it is to connect with others and Mitchell house has provided this space for her.

"Everything about Mitchell House is positive. It's the activities they provide. It's the coming together of people. This is the sort of place that people can come to."

This Christmas day Angela is meeting up with a friend on Phillip Island where they will go to the beach, toast their loved ones – those still here and those not - and then go to The Uniting Church at Cowes to partake in another traditional Christmas community lunch there.

"You can complain at times. What really is there to complain about? If you've got your health and your happiness and your family around?" said the ever optimistic Angela.

SUMMER HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS

Season's Greetings

Please note that our office will be open throughout the holiday period, closing only on the public holidays and from midday on Friday 22 December.

Day	Date	Operating Hours
Friday	22 December 2023	8.30am - 12pm CLOSED from 12pm
Monday	25 December 2023 (Christmas Day)	CLOSED
Tuesday	26 December 2023 (Boxing Day)	CLOSED
Monday	1 January 2024 (Public Holiday)	CLOSED

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Further information can be found on our website.

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All the staff at Elders Korumburra & Leongatha wish all clients a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy 2024!

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Damien Minogue: 0427 507 369
Alex Dixon: 0409 581 935
Jason Fry: 0407 295 909
Hayden Hanratty: 0429 181 672
Joshua Chiavaroli: 0407 029 255
Dean Foat: 0488 732 181
Don Bowman: 0429 801 138
Ross McRobert: 0418 838 454
Lachie Bowman: 0408 871 388

INSURANCE
Leongatha: 5667 3277
Debra Wightman
Jamie Hutchison
Mark Hutchison
Teresa Scott
Tina Bellink
Katie McNee
Jenna Jenkin



Merry Christmas



Leongatha Men's Shed members show off the caps awarded for their walking exploits at the local velodrome during the A.W. Smith Gift. A47_5123

Leongatha Shedders end year in style

A VARIED and productive year of monthly activities wrapped up at Leongatha Men's Shed, with blokes turning up in strong numbers to celebrate their accomplishments and get into the Christmas spirit.

The mixed session featured group Christmas karaoke, the singing effort labelled by shed president Max Wood as "bloody terrible", a couple of comedy sketches sparked by the days of the Two Ronnies, and even a slightly frightening robotic vacuum cleaner popping balloons with attached blades to determine prize winners.

It was one of 10 events funded through a \$7,500 Australian

Men's Shed Association grant to run a series of workshops and meetings for local men on men's health and wellbeing.

Paull Lahn of Leongatha Men's Shed was the project coordinator organising the monthly activities and promoting them in the Sentinel-Times.

An open day in March got the ball rolling, with The Treble F Singers and the South Gippsland Shire Brass Band providing entertainment.

In another session, toys were made as Christmas presents for disadvantaged children.

A couple of cooking-themed events were held, boosting the men's skills, with air frying

proving popular.

There was a retired farmers coffee morning, as well as an event focused on men's mental health, and another encouraging the men to improve their fitness by arming them with exercises to do so.

Myotherapist Julian Walker guided the fitness-themed session, leading into an event labelled the AW Smith Gift that got men up and about walking laps of the Leongatha Velodrome.

Every man who achieved his chosen lap target was presented with a cap to mark the accomplishment at Friday's year-ending event and was entered into a draw to win a \$400 voucher to use at

A.W. Smith & Sons Hardware.

"They're great customers of ours," the store's Dave Bartlett said of the local shedders.

Dave Burton was the standout in the Gift, completing 300 laps of the velodrome for a distance of 120 kilometres.

Combined, the men managed 737 laps, equating to almost 295 kilometres, additionally clocking up over 51 hours walking around their pool table.

The penultimate event on the men's calendar was a November possum box making workshop, Leongatha Men's Shed having a long-term relationship with Wildlife Victoria.

'Jim' Hendry was the shop-

keeper in both of Friday's comedy sketches, becoming exasperated by a difficult customer played by Geoff Birnie in the first and serving a customer with an array of tech issues played by Trevor Smith in the second.

The first sketch involved constant misunderstanding of what the customer wanted, while the second was a play on words, substituting real fruit for technology such as Apple and Blackberry.

In times in which it is becoming increasingly challenging to hold men's only gatherings such as Friday's, Paull summed up the importance of doing so.

"It's all about men and the health and wellbeing of men," he said.



The partners and staff of BRB Law would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Our office will be closed from 12 noon Fri, Dec. 22, 2023 and reopening at 9am on Mon, Jan. 8, 2024

50 BAIR STREET, LEONGATHA 3953 • P 5662 2275
info@brblaw.com.au • www.brblaw.com.au



Wishing all of our customers
a safe and happy Christmas

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christmas
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Celebrate Christmas with **AMCAL**

Tuesday, December 19 – Friday, December 22 8.30am – 6pm,
Saturday, December 23 8.30am – 12.30pm, Sunday December 24 10am-1pm
Christmas Day CLOSED, Boxing Day 10am – 1pm,
Wednesday, December 27 - Friday December 29 8.30am – 6pm,
Saturday, December 30 8.30am – 12.30pm,
Sunday December 31 - Monday January 1 10am-1pm

**Brett, Kerryn & staff wish you and your family a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

Amcal **Nagel's Pharmacy**
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On behalf of us all here at the
Korumburra Medical Centre,
we wish you a Merry Christmas
and a safe and happy New Year.

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 Radovick Street, Korumburra | Phone 5655 1355

Merry Christmas



A Christmas lunch for the community

A SPECIAL Christmas lunch and generous spread of ham, stuffed chicken, salads, pudding and pavlova was put on by the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre (WNC) last week for community members.

The WNC holds a 'pay what you feel' lunch for up to twenty people each Wednesday. Last week was their last community lunch for the year and once again Emma Bowditch, the cook, didn't disappoint.

A good part of the morning was spent by Emma and assistant Chris putting together the fabulous selection of festive food with the ham being donated by local MP Jordan Crugnale.

A festive spirit was in the air with bon bons being pulled and colourful Christmas crowns donned, excited conversations taking place and lunch being enjoyed by everyone.

"There's been a fair bit of effort going into it," said Emma who also began a Frozen Food Program in March this year with left-over food from the lunches.

"That's been really helpful

for people that are disadvantaged or going through any kind of hardship."

After running out of room for to freeze meals, the community house acquired a grant from the Bass Coast Shire Council for an upright freezer and now prepare up to 40 meals per week, which are given to people in need.

"People can just come in and ask for a frozen meal or two. They just need to ask at the front counter or they can ring up and then come and pick it up," said Emma.

"They're supported in a nonjudgemental way, so that they have their dignity and are respected as well."

WNC try not to run out of food but if they do they also receive generous donations of a large variety of bread and rolls from the St George's Anglican church every Wednesday and Friday at midday, which people are welcome to come and get.

Mitchell House will be closed between Friday December 22 and will reopen on Monday January 15 with community lunches resuming after this.



A festive spirit was in the air with bon bons being pulled and colourful Christmas crowns donned at the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre community lunch. ob03_5123



Emma Bowditch, the cook for the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre put great effort into preparing the Community Christmas lunch with Helen Searle President of the WNC Committee. ob06_5123



A full Christmas spread was enjoyed by all who attended the community Christmas lunch at Mitchell House. ob04_5123



Russell
Broadbent MP
Federal Member for Monash

Merry Christmas

FROM MY FAMILY
TO YOURS

Enjoy this wonderful time of
year with those near and dear
to your heart.

Wishing you a happy holiday
season and New Year.

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



Season's Greetings

The Team at JPA would like to wish you
a very Happy Christmas and a
safe and prosperous New Year.

Please note our office will be closed from
12 noon Friday, December 22, 2023 and will
re-open 8.30am Monday, January 8, 2024.

Jim Pickersgill & Associates – More than just a tax return

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JEN2391

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Thank you for supporting a local business for over 22 years

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T&G Mechanical Repairs

Clint, Terry, Dana & staff would like to wish all their valued customers a Merry Christmas & a safe & happy New Year

We will be closing on Friday, December 22 reopening on Monday, January 8

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We would like to thank our customers and wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year in 2024

Closing December 22, reopening January 8, 2024

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Phone 5655 2913 PROP: Ross Harris

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Sun 24th, Mon 25th, Tue 26th closed
Wed 27th, Thur 28th, Fri 29th 8.00 til 5.00pm
Sat 30th 8.30 til 12pm,
Mon 1st closed,
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Coal Creek Singers in fine voice on Friday. A39_5123

Carols at the Creek delights

CAROLS at the Creek showcased the value of Coal Creek Community Park and Museum on Friday, just two days after South Gippsland Shire Council announced it would ask the public to help determine the attraction's future.

The weather played its part as attendees set themselves up on lush grass to enjoy the Coal Creek Singers including performers from Korumburra

Primary School, and the South Gippsland Concert Band.

The newly refurbished ronduda housed the band.

Excited children ran helter-skelter throughout the event.

Few of the audience joined the singing, most content to sit and relax and take in the festive atmosphere.

While other people dressed for Christmas, the Hersey family stood out, Cr

Nathan Hersey, wife Lucy and son Hugo wearing matching Christmas jumpers, with Hugo having a ball at the casual event.

Despite talk of El Nino, the Northern Hemisphere style jumpers fitted in perfectly in the cool of South Gippsland.

In keeping with country tradition, Santa and his helpers arrived with the local fire brigade, children rapidly

converging to greet the man in the red suit and receive their gifts.

There was a happy mix of Christmas songs and carols, including the favourite of young local Lucy Tringas, 'Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer'.

All too soon, 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas' rang out to signal the end of another successful Coal Creek event.



South Gippsland Shire Councillor Nathan Hersey enjoys Carols at the Creek with wife Lucy and their son Hugo on Friday evening. A38_5123

A big thank you to IGA Korumburra for their help and support with Vinnies Christmas Hampers.

Melina BATH MP

NATIONALS MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

May we all give and receive the gift of kindness at Christmas time.

Enjoy our local food, wine and fabulous attractions while driving safely in Gippsland.

2/181 Franklin St, Traralgon
melina.bath@parliament.vic.gov.au
5174 7066

Merry Christmas

Christmas shopping night prompts shrieks of delight in Korumburra

KORUMBURRA'S Late Night Christmas Shopping evening was a success after the determined and enthusiastic efforts of the new team in charge of the Korumburra Business Association (KBA).

The area around Kelly's Bakery formed a lively hub, performer Corie Blackley having adults and children dancing in the closed carpark as he delivered popular numbers such as the Nutbush, and prompting shrieks of delight from the kids with his singing, games and humour.

Youngsters revelled in receiving glitter tattoos and face painting, some also having a go at gingerbread decorating in the bakery.

Gingerbread houses proved popular, as did donuts.

A trio of bubbly CWA members were also offering delicious baked goods, hedgehog slice a prolific seller.

Near the town's Christmas tree, kids inspected and climbed into a Korumburra Fire Brigade truck.

An unusual inflatable nativity scene was also on show in that area, the baby Jesus replaced with baby cheeses.

The night was a boost for Korumburra shops.

Hilary Sullivan of The Hare & Tortoise Books reported a busy evening, happy the originally cancelled Christmas event was reinstated.

The local Rotary and Lions Clubs both set up catering vans, Lions running the barbecue, while Rotary sold hot dogs and donuts.

Max Hall of Korumburra Rotary Club enjoyed socialising with passersby as he handed out lollies and fairy floss and also chatted to adults about the rewards of volunteering for the organisation.



Matt Patten gives Ginger and Wednesday McKinlay encouragement as they decorate gingerbread. A29_5123



Nicole and Phil Fowler of Korumburra stock up on baked Christmas goods on Thursday evening. A28_5123



Corie Blackley keeps attendees at the Korumburra Christmas shopping night entertained. A30_5123

Wishing the South Gippsland Community a safe and joyous festive season.

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and New Years with your loved ones.

From the team at
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Merry Christmas and happy New Year from Keith, Doreen, David, Shane and Steve at Korumburra and Glenn at Wonthaggi.

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Wonthaggi 5672 1313

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Carols by Candlelight

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

Tanderra Park, Meeniyam

Free Sausage Sizzle at 6.30pm
CAROLS BEGIN at 7.30pm

Come and share in joyful carol singing as we celebrate Christmas this year. There will be a children's story and a special Christmas message on peace. Music at this year's Carols will be brought to us again by the South Gippsland Concert Band and will also feature items by Serenity and Tarnya Wilson. Glow light candles will be available plus prepacked treats for kids. Some seating will be provided. BYO chair or picnic blanket if you prefer.

Sponsored by Meeniyam Christian Fellowship.
ALL WELCOME

LIFE Moments



Jack John Heddles was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on 9 December, weighing 3.44kg. He is the second child for Jamie and Shaye Heddles of Cowes, and a brother for George, 2.

Send your photos to news@sgst.com.au

• FAITH FACTOR

Second Opinion

Ps Darren Evans - Wonthaggi Christian Life Centre

MY DAUGHTER, Gemma and I were travelling to the Dandenong Hospital for a removal of a cyst on her ovary.

Upon arrival the hospital staff prepared her for the operation and informed me that it would take approximately three hours.

I said my goodbyes and went to the Dandenong Market to kill time and eat multiple jam donuts (I recommend them).

After the three hours I made my way back to the hospital and to my surprise Gemma had not been operated on.

There had been a terrible accident that took priority so Gemma was re-scheduled for another day. Before leaving the hospital, the surgeon informed us only then that the position and size of the cyst would require the removal of the whole ovary, this was the first time we had heard this and she was only 15 years old.

On our way home, Gemma asked me this question: "Dad will I be able to have children if they remove my ovary?" My answer to her was: "We will pray." And pray we did and God responded "Get a second opinion."

So, we booked for a specialist appointment for four weeks and around the same time the hospital also re-booked her in for her operation. We explained to them that we were getting a second opinion. The hospital advised us that if we didn't take this time slot it would be another 12 months before she could have the surgery.

Jesus said "If you have faith/trust the size of a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain move from here to there, and it will move. For nothing will be impossible for you."

This is found in the Bible Matthew chapter 17 verse 21. So, we put our faith in Jesus Christ and believe what He says and went for the second opinion.

The result when Gemma went in for her appointment was that there was no cyst on the ovary and it was in perfect condition. Fast forward on 16 years and Gemma has given us two beautiful grandchildren. So, we are people of faith, we put our trust in God and when we pray, He answers. Maybe you are facing some challenges right now, have you ever thought about getting a second opinion.

Gemma gave me permission to share this part of her life with you.

Love you guys and have a Merry Christmas.



The five graduates of the Certificate 1 in Transition Education with staff at the presentation ceremony last week. Trainer Suzie Hurry, Sue Rutherford, Patsy Hanley (DSW), John Marotta, Lee Witton, Michelle Hardy, Adele Mangano (Education and Training Coordinator at Life Skills Victoria), Marion Hughes and Amy McAdam (DSW). ob07_5123

Five students from C2A graduate

FIVE participants successfully completed their Certificate 1 in Transition Education through Connecting2Australia and proudly graduated last week.

The course is an entry level program that gives students skills about being in the community and personal development.

Participants who successfully completed the course were Sue Rutherford, John Marotta, Lee Witton, Michelle Hardy and Marion Hughes.

The students began the course in 2020 and over the years have had a change in location and trainer as well as an interruption due to COVID.

"Through all of this you never stopped trying. During the past year and a half, you've worked independently and in groups to achieve what you all set out to do and that's a great achievement," said Trainer, Suzie Hurry, at the graduation ceremony.

"We had a great year with some ups and downs but you

all have shown commitment and courage to get through."

Completion of the certificate leads into next year's course, a Certificate 1 in Adult Literacy and Numeracy, which the majority of participants will go on to undertake.

Suzie said the participants completed ten units of study varying from preparing food to calculating sport scores to developing personal goals, participating in travel and using technology.

"It's all about learning things to be independent

and launching into a work environment."

John Marotta was one of the participants who completed the course and as a result gained employment as a cleaner with Connecting2Australia.

"I loved doing it. Getting to learn things I didn't even know," John said.

Adele Mangano, Education and Training Coordinator at Life Skills Victoria who assessed participants work said they all should be very proud of themselves.

~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~

MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

WELCOME to the final edition of Milpara news for 2023. It has been a huge year and we are very much looking forward to a well-earned summer rest.

Holidays closures

Milpara Community House regular programs and staff take a break starting Thursday December 21 and return on Monday January 29, 2024. A Services Australia agent will be available over the school holidays on Tuesdays 10.00am-2.00pm, Wednesdays 10.00am-2.00pm and Thursdays 10.00am-1.00pm.

The emergency food bank is also accessible during these

hours only. Please note that public and government holidays mean that Thursday December 28 is the only day Services Australia and Food Bank will be open between Christmas Day and the New Year.

We especially wish to thank the wonderful members of our community who have thoughtfully prepared meals and donated special items and funds toward the emergency food bank for the Christmas season.

It is a privilege to have an insight into the kindness of so many groups and individuals. Together with Milpara

volunteers, your generosity and care make the operation of our services possible and mean that those experiencing tough times have help to get through.

For anyone yet to come visit, Milpara Community House is on the lower floor of the Korumburra Community Hub at 15 Little Commercial Street.

We extend our thanks to all the people who are continuing to work to make the Hub a fantastic place to meet, relax and learn. We look forward to showing you through our light-filled home, and to hearing your ideas about programs and activities for next

year. The new spaces might spark an idea and certainly create some new possibilities. Let us know if you have a skill to share, a group to promote or a vision for something you would like to see in our community.

Keep an eye out for Milpara's Term 1 2024 program in your mailboxes in the new year. Wishing you a safe and peaceful holiday season. See you soon.



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

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

BCAL STAFF are very proud of the Certificate

course students who completed their studies last week. On Wednesday, they all got together for a barbecue lunch and it was great for students studying fields as diverse as hairdressing, horticulture and information technology to get a chance to mingle.

It's been a massive year for BCAL with the centre winning a Learn Local award for the Practical Music program, and being a finalist in the Victorian Training awards for

community training provider of the year.

Whether it's a year-long Certificate course, a short course over a few weeks, or a one-day session, BCAL will always go all-out to make everyone feel welcome and valued.

In 2023, the Centre delivered Responsible Service of Alcohol to 130 people and over 250 people did First Aid training. BCAL would like to thank all their students and supporters for a great year.

And all of the courses for the new year are on the

website right now.

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

WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

The annual pop-up gift shop has a great first week with over 300 items sold already.

The most popular pieces so far have been toys, decorative objects and kitchen items, particularly bowls.

Unfortunately, some customers were not quick enough

for their preferred items which were already sold out.

Avoid disappointment by having a look this week because the store must close this Saturday 23rd December.

For more information about joining the Woodcrafters, visit www.wonthaggiwoodcrafters.com.au or visit the store at the workshop.



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



Ford Everest impresses Wheels judges

FORD decisively took out Wheels Car of the Year for the first time since 2004, with its Everest, a large SUV designed and built to meet the demands of Aussie buyers.

Trialled on four criteria of value, safety, how it drives, cabin design and execution, The Everest covered the assignment comfortably, according to Wheels.

It impressed with its dirt performance, its innovative towing tech, its near-genius off-road functionality and its expertly calibrated and easy-to-operate onboard driver assists.

Cabin design and execution also came in for praise, with acres of space, intuitive infotainment including wireless CarPlay and Android Auto, decent materials quality and solid ergonomics, clearly built with family practicality in mind.

It drives well too, with both the 2.0-litre bi-turbo and 3.0-litre V6 powerplants getting the clever automatic all-wheel-drive function, unlike the Ranger where you need to step up to the V6 engine in order to net this functionality.

All judges agreed that the six-pot engine was the pick, however, delivering a cultured note – for an oil burner – at the top end and 600Nm on tap to tow up to 3500kg braked.

“The Everest is predictably excellent on dirt, but miles



The Ford Everest is an impressive vehicle that offers so much capability and is packed with such ingenuity at a great price.

better than you’d suspect on bitumen,” said one of the Wheels judges.

The Everest’s smartphone-activated trailer towing light test sequence is another example of making life easier for owners.

As is the blind-spot monitoring that takes the total length of the vehicle, including the trailer, into account. Or the grille-mounted camera that can peer over a sharp off-road crest while the driver can see nothing but a windscreen full of sky. Its everyday utility done smarter.

The best part about the Everest is that it really is

engineered for Aussie conditions. Take it anywhere, even for a spin on a forty-degree day in the bush.

The air-conditioning is powerful and Ford have gone to the considerable engineering effort of routing the rear air conditioning plumbing along the roof of the Everest to drench rear-seat occupants in a waterfall of cooling air, while its rivals feebly fire cold air at passengers’ shins.

Its 800mm wading depth will see it through most fords, the proper low-range transfer case and the rear diff-lock enable it to clamber up anything that seems vaguely

categorised as motorable, while an 80-litre fuel tank gives it a long-legged 900km cruising range between fills.

The Everest couldn’t be a great deal better suited to how Aussies typically use their vehicles.

According to Wheels it’s an impressive vehicle that offers so much capability and is packed with such ingenuity at such a keen price that it’s a clear winner for 2023. Designed in Australia, by Australians, for Australians.

The Everest was the winner from large SUV finalists, the Nissan X-Trail, Tesla Model Y and Cupra Formentor.

Australia’s most fuel-efficient cars

ELECTRIC vehicle sales might be on the rise in Australia, but the fact is that for most Australians they remain out of reach – either by choice, price or sheer logistics.

With fuel prices reaching record highs this year, and the pressure of living costs mounting, owning a fuel efficient or hybrid vehicle may help keep more dollars in the bank account.

While there are fuel-sipping cars in various shapes and sizes, when it comes to the most efficient, there is a common theme – compactness.

According to the Green Vehicle Guide, Shell, has found that the most fuel-efficient car on sale now is the Toyota Yaris Hybrid, which uses just 3.3L of fuel per 100km.

A very impressive return, but there’s still a big price difference between a hybrid small car and one that only uses an internal-combustion engine.

The cheapest Yaris Hybrid starts at \$29,840 (plus on-road costs), whereas the Suzuki Swift is priced from just \$20,490 and uses 4.6L/100km.

That’s a lot of petrol for the \$9350 price difference.

Despite not being a hybrid, the Swift’s 4.6L/100km is a very thrifty figure, and not much thirstier than some hybrid models, so it will help maximise every dollar of fuel put in the tank.

There are other options, too, including the Suzuki Ignis, which uses only a fraction more petrol than its stablemate, rated at just 4.7L/100km. If you don’t want a Suzuki, the Kia Picanto GT is another good choice, with the pint-sized city car using a scant 4.8L/100km.

If the thought of a compact car does not suit one’s sense of style and sophistication, there are other options across different segments of the market.

The Audi A3 is a small car but still larger and more luxurious than what Suzuki and Kia offer, with the A3 35 TFSI sipping 4.9L/100km. Or, for something even larger, the Audi Q5 35 TDI is a mid-size SUV that uses 4.8L/100km of diesel fuel – proving that size and efficiency aren’t mutually exclusive.

Another surprise contender for fuel efficiency is the Volkswagen Caddy, specifically the TDI320 model. Its four-cylinder turbo diesel engine is designed to extract maximum range, which means this delivery van uses as little as 4.9L/100km.

These are the best of the best, but there are many more cars available with engines capable of returning sub-6.0L/100km fuel economy figures, which is still a very efficient car by any standards.

So, for those who can’t afford to buy an electric car or simply don’t want to, there are cars out there that provide exceptional fuel efficiency, meaning more dollars in the bank and that can’t be a bad thing.

LandCruiser 70 Series - a Toyota for all seasons

FOR some people, whether they be farmers, tradies or in the mining industry; it’s just got to be a Toyota LandCruiser 70 Series.

And at Wonthaggi Toyota, sales manager Rob O’Neill understands why.

“For people who love the LandCruiser 70 Series, they say nothing works like it or handles the punishment like it. It has just been an enormous package over the years and the 2024 range, just coming out now, takes it to a new level,” said Rob O’Neill this week.

“It was great to hear they were bringing out such a heavily upgraded model but honestly, the initial pictures didn’t do it justice. What they have done is fantastic and I’d invite people to come down and have a look.

“I’ve had two in the yard, both

sold, but I’ve held back the dual cab, GXL 4cyl model while we’re waiting for a tray to be fitted and you can come down and have a look now.

“Fortunately, we are seeing supplies of these starting to free up, in the four-cylinder at the moment, and while we clear a backlog of orders for the V8 but we are expecting supplies of those to start coming early in the new year as well.”

It’s the same with many of the other Toyota 4WDs where demand ran ahead of supply during COVID and, to an extent, they’re still catching up.

“We’re seeing more supplies of the bigger 4-wheel drives coming through, including the HiLux and the Landcruiser which is pleasing, and the 70 Series adds another dimension to that.”



Boasting all-new styling, upgraded technology and both a 4.5 litre turbo diesel V8 and a 2.8-litre turbo-diesel four-cylinder engine, mated to a six-speed automatic transmission, the new 2024 Toyota LandCruiser 70 Series needs to be seen to be appreciated. Check it out at Wonthaggi Toyota and Leongatha Toyota now.

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Gluten Free Christmas Cake



By Meg Viney

LOTS of folk want gluten free recipes, so this is a gluten free Christmas cake.

Ingredients (Gluten Free Flour)

- 2 cups white rice flour
- 1/3 cup tapioca flour
- 2/3 cup potato starch flour

Combine and mix. Store in airtight container

Ingredients (Christmas Cake)

- 850 gm dried mixed fruit
- 1 cup brandy
- 150 gm soft butter
- 3 eggs
- 1 1/4 cups gluten free flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 1/2 freshly grated nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp cloves
- 3/4 cup chopped almonds

Method

Place fruit and brandy into a bowl, mix, cover and leave overnight or longer

Grease and line a 20 cm cake tin with baking paper

Cream butter and sugar, add eggs one at a time, beating well. Sift and mix in flour and spices, then add fruit and almonds. Pour into tin and bake 2 to 2 1/4 hours, until a skewer comes out clean.

You can pour over a little more brandy if you choose.

Cool and keep in an airtight tin.

PICES pop up exhibitions are back

NOW in its fifth year, the PICES summer Pop Up Exhibition has become a 'must go to' event in Cowes, Phillip Island during January.

The fifth PICES Pop Up Exhibition will be held, in partnership with Bass Coast Shire Council, in the art gallery at Berninnet, 91-97 Thompson Avenue Cowes, from January 3 until January 29, 2024 (closed Tuesdays).

Opening night 7pm Tuesday, January 2 at Gallery, Berninnet;

Closing night 5.30pm Monday, January 29 at Gallery, Berninnet.

All welcome.

Sandra Peeters of PICES shared for art lovers and others alike, there will be something to capture your attention and delight you.

This an event not to be missed -27 first-class emerging and established artists from Phillip Island, the Bass Coast and beyond, showing a broad range of high-quality contemporary photography, painting, sculpture, drawing, printmaking, weaving, ceramics, and pyrography.

Exhibiting artists include:

- Week 1 - January 3, 2024: John Ansell, Lana de Jager, Mandy Gunn, Melinda Holt, Anne Mestitz, and Owen Rye.
- Week 2 - January 10, 2024: Marlene Abela, David Bell,



de Jager, Lana Repose, 78 x 151 cm, solarplate etching

Sue Gilford, Steve Horswood, Carolyne Jane, Chris Lawry, Gayle Margaret, and Ursula Theinert.

- Week 3 - January 17, 2024: Chris Farrell, Ken Fisher, Wendy Habraken-Flack, Jillian Mitchell, Michelle Osabutey, Mick Turner, and Kylie Watson.
- Week 4 - January 24, 2024: Tamara Bailey, Adam Cox, Scott McFadden, Marian Quigley, Amanda Thompson, and Kim Wood.

A visitor to last year's exhibition commented "Fantastic art show, truly inspirational."

"We are sure that you too will enjoy and feel inspired," said Sandra.

This event will be immediately followed by a new initiative, PICES in Focus, in the same venue from January 31, 2023, until February 12, 2024.

Renowned painter, Mark Schaller and well-known sculptor, Andrew Kasper, from Bass Coast join with talented weaver Mae Adams from Venus Bay to bring together a powerful and reflective combination of their artwork.

They invite you to join them in the Gallery on Sunday, February 4 at 2pm when they will share ideas about their art practice in a discussion moderated by well-known local journalist, Catherine Watson.

"All welcome."

PICES is thrilled to have

received grants from Bass Coast Shire Council and Regional Arts Victoria enabling it to mount this exhibition and to make a film of the artists involved.

As in past years, a dedicated and energetic team of artists, art lovers, with Curator, Warren Nichols, are working to present a stunning range of quality art works equal to the high expectations that the beautiful, purpose-built art gallery a Berninnet inspires.

All works on display are for sale each week.

Visit the PICES website, www.pices.com.au for more information and keep up to date on Instagram and Facebook @picesartspace.

The VANNS announce massive regional tour



The VANNS will be coming to San Remo in February as part of their massive regional tour next year. Photo Credit: Jye Talbot.

OFF THE back of what has been a touchstone 2023 for The VANNS, the South Coast favourites are seeing out the year by giving fans something to look forward to as soon as 2024 kicks into gear.

Armed with their acclaimed record Last Of Your Kind, The VANNS are excited to bring a fresh perspective on their well-honed sound and performance style to fans nationwide.

With the release of Last Of Your Kind, The VANNS solidified their place as one of Australia's best live bands currently on the circuit, landing the 17th most played artist spot on triple j for 2022, as well as selling out countless venues across the

country throughout 2023, and impressing an overflowing tent of punters at Splendour in the Grass.

The album, which charted at #8 on the ARIA Albums Chart, #2 on the Australian Albums Chart; as well as being long-listed for the Australian Music Prize, achieving the lucrative triple j Feature Album spot during release signalled a moment of striking elevation for the four piece. The songwriting, evocative; the performances that have come off the back of it, career-defining.

The VANNS will be coming to the Westernport Hotel, San Remo on Friday February 23. Tickets via www.thevanns-band.com.

27
EXHIBITING
ARTISTS

PICES
PHILLIP ISLAND
CONTEMPORARY
EXHIBITION SPACE

**POP UP
ART SHOW**

27 exciting artists from Bass Coast & beyond are participating in the 5th series of PICES Pop Up weekly exhibitions at:

Berninnet

91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes Vic

Open **Wed - Mon** 10am - 4pm

January 3 - January 29

Proudly supported by



Bringing contemporary art to the community

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JAZ2037

Local author publishes debut novel

A LOCAL Yanakie-based author, Simon Carey, has just published a historical novel based on true events, a true story, and about real people. "The Siberians: Fire on the Ice" is the first book in a planned four book series about a Siberian family caught up in the Russian revolution of 1917 and the civil war that followed. This is their story of love, loss and fight for survival.

You may wonder what a South Gippsland resident is doing writing about Russian history? Simon has always held a fascination for European history and was fortuitously asked by the last remaining member of the family to document their story. This first book has been more than a decade in the writing, involving a lengthy trip through Russia, collaboration with a Russian university, and years of research.

It is 1917. Russia is at war with the Central Powers, the Tsar has abdicated, and Russia is being governed by a shaky coalition of political interests. In the cities starving people are



Yanakie-based author, Simon Carey, has just published a historical novel based on true events, a true story, and about real people, called "The Siberians: Fire on the Ice."

queuing for food. There are strikes and protests, and soldiers are starting to mutiny and desert.

Pavel Sukhov is a prosperous merchant in Barnaul, a large town in southern Siberia. He and his wife, Maria, their



"The Siberians: Fire on the Ice" is the first book in a planned four book series about a Siberian family caught up in the Russian revolution of 1917, written by Yanakie author Simon Carey.

three daughters and young son, try to distance themselves from the political unrest gripping the nation. But, events spiral out of control. In Petrograd (St. Petersburg), the Bolsheviks storm the Winter Palace, and inexorably, Russia

slides into a devastating civil war. Now the Sukhovs' world will be overturned and they will be forced to fight for their very survival.

"There have been many books written about the Russian revolution," Simon pointed out, "but these mostly deal with the complex political and military situation. There has been very little written about the devastating effect on the average middle-class Russian family, and even less about the horrible four-years of civil war that followed. Such was the horrendous toll on the population, and the bitter divide between the opposing sides, that the communist victors largely expunged mention of it from their history books. This is an opportunity to redress this imbalance."

"The Siberians: Fire on the Ice" is available in print and e-book form from Amazon. But for locals, the new Atticus Bookshop & Gallery in Foster, and Nice Stack of Books in Meenyan will have stock of this book available.



Lyn's Summer Yo-Yo's

By Lyn Balfour



Ingredients

- 250g butter
- 80g icing sugar
- 125g plain flour
- 100g self-raising flour
- 150g custard powder
- 1 tsp vanilla

Method

Place flours, icing sugar into food processor

Add chopped butter and custard powder and vanilla

Process until mixture nearly forms a ball

Tip into a bowl and mix together to form a dough

Roll into balls

Place on baking tray and press down with a fork

Bake 160°C for 15 minutes until cooked

Don't let them brown

Filling

- 80g softened butter
- 1 ½ cups icing sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- (optional 1 tsp lemon rind)

Mix together in bowl until combined

Sandwich two biscuits together with filling

FAMDA will present The Architect in 2024

FOSTER theatre company, FAMDA, has just completed a sold-out season of a very innovative staging of Harold Pinter's, The Dumb Waiter, which dates from the 1950's.

FAMDA's next exciting theatrical venture is a much more recent drama, The Architect, by Melbourne playwright, Aiden Fennessey, first staged by the Melbourne Theatre Company in 2018.

Bernadette Grainger is directing The Architect for FAMDA, having previously directed 'The Peppercorn Tree' by Alison Campbell Rate for the company in 2015. That production earned Gippsland Theatre Awards for Best Play and Best Director as well as other accolades.

Leongatha Lyric's 2022 production of Ladies in Black, directed by Bernadette, also earned Gippsland Theatre awards and was the recipient of two awards at this year's Music Theatre Guild of Victoria awards presentation.

FAMDA has already assembled a highly talented production team to support Bernadette in bringing The Architect, to the Foster stage in a season which will run from Friday April 26 to Sunday May 5, 2024.

All FAMDA needs now is a cast consisting of one woman and three men.

There will be an information session about the project on Sunday January 21 at 2pm in the Foster War Memorial Arts Centre with auditions by appointment to follow on Sunday February 4.

More information about this poignant Australian play and its characters is available online via famda.org.au, vdl.org.au/auditions or by contacting the director, Bernadette Grainger on 0439 394 704.

RIGHT: Bruce and Bernadette Grainger, who will be directing The Architect with some trophies for previous show, 'The Peppercorn Tree'.



Gillian Carpenter and Bruce Hargrave welcome you to their joint exhibition:

Summer Palette

An exhibition of Australian works as seen through the eyes of 2 well known watercolour artists.

ArtworkStudio Gallery
at The Hub

27 Falls Road, Fish Creek 3959

Wednesday December 27, 2023

- Sunday January 14, 2024

Daily 10.30am - 4pm

Launch Saturday December 30
at 2.30pm

Enquiries 0400 414 547
or 0411 754 450



WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm
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Come and join in the laughs at South Coast FM Bingo

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Send us your photos

If you're having a 21st, club function, wedding, or other social event, take some photos, name the people in the snaps and email to news@sgst.com.au

Sentinel-Times

It won't cost a cent to see them in print!



Lucy and Wendy Tringas relax at Carols at the Creek. A42_5123



Elijah and Asher Sakala have fun at Coal Creek. A45_5123



Inverloch's Camille and Cristian Iniesta Oliva attended the Inverloch Carols at the Glade on Saturday night.



Inverloch's Darby Boyd and Renee Pilkington enjoyed the carols at the Glade on Saturday night.



Missy looks ready for Christmas as she relaxes with Tony Lambides-Turner during the Korumburra Christmas shopping evening. A33_5123



Michael and Laura Vidic of Korumburra take in the entertainment at Thursday's Korumburra Christmas shopping night. A35_5123

Snappped Out Pictures of you and your friends at Carols at the Creek, Korumburra Christmas shopping night, Corinella carols, Inverloch Carols at the Glade, San Remo Christmas Carols and Wonthaggi Carols.



Ziggy McDermott at the Inverloch Carols with Blake and Scarlett Birt.



Coco and Willow Toomey and Quinn Eddy were in the Christmas spirit during Inverloch's carols on Saturday night.



Aaliyah and Nicole Gal display Christmas treats for sale at Kelly's Bakery. A36_5123



Members of Wonthaggi's 'Sing for Fun' had the harmonies going nicely as they led the community in carol singing in Wishart Reserve last Sunday night. snapWonCarols3_5123



San Remo SES volunteers Charlotte Jones and Ron Chambers celebrating Christmas at the San Remo carols by candlelight. Z06_5123



Ariel and Laurie were on face painting duties for the night. Ns275123



San Remo SES Flynn Swanwick and CFA Nick Say welcome the community to say hello to Santa at the San Remo carols. Z07_5123



Tegan and Lucas Lamers sit back and enjoy a night of Christmas carols and entertainment in Wishart Reserve last Sunday night.



Janine Lloyd, Lachy Cameron, and Fi Blackmore raise funds for the Woolamai Surf Lifesaving Club at the San Remo carols. Z10_5123



Maddie Hungerford and Chris Pezet volunteer for the Woolamai Surf Lifesaving Club at the San Remo carols. Z09_5123



San Remo SES volunteers Ellie Bate and Elder Bejar with daughter Mia celebrating Christmas at the community carols. Z08_5123

No. 116





Charming home in convenient location

POSITIONED in one of Leongatha's most convenient locations, this charming home offers a lifestyle of ease and accessibility. Perfectly situated within walking distance to shops, medical centres, the rail trail, and local schools, it presents an ideal opportunity for families or individuals seeking proximity to essential amenities.

The home boasts three good sized bedrooms and two bathrooms. A colonial-style kitchen is equipped with an electric stove, dishwasher and plenty of cupboard space. The front lounge features a gas log heater and ample natural light. A formal dining room includes an ornamental fireplace. Hardwood timber floors and ornate ceilings add charm.

The fully fenced yard creates a secure space, perfect for children and pets. Enjoy outdoor gatherings on the paved entertaining area surrounded by a low maintenance garden. A good-sized shed with access via Hassett St for additional storage or workshop space. There is extra land with double gate access for parking a vehicle, trailer or caravan. This property has previously been a great investment property.

This fantastic home, oozing with character, is ready to welcome its new owners. Get in touch today to arrange an inspection of this property, call Katrina Griggs on 0428 571 083 or Don Olden on 0417 805 312.



322705m²

17 Ogilvy Street, **Leongatha**
For Sale \$700,000 - \$750,000
Web ID 300P6183
Agent Elders
Katrina Griggs 0428 571 083
Don Olden 0417 805 312

eldersrealestate.com.au

MODERN COMFORT, RUSTIC CHARM
KORUMBURRA
710m²



- Custom-built four bedroom home in Daisybank Estate
- Well-appointed kitchen with walk-in pantry
- Three spacious living areas for comfortable living
- Modern main bathroom and ensuite
- Great outdoor undercover area, ideal for entertaining
- Double garage with low maintenance backyard

Price \$720,000Elders Web ID: 300P101334

‘ASHFORD’ - A TIMELESS GEM
KORUMBURRA
924m²

- Charming three bedroom, one bathroom home, circa 1925
- Kitchen features ‘Falcon’ stove and stone benchtops
- Large formal lounge and separate dining area
- Ducted heating provides warmth in the colder months
- Landscaped gardens featuring maples and gums
- Located close to cafes, restaurants and supermarket

Price \$850,000Elders Web ID: 300P22668

AFFORDABLE GRAZING & LIFESTYLE
MOUNT ECCLES
117 ACRES



- Undulating, hill country and well sheltered flat area
- Suitable for fattening/breeding cattle or sheep
- Water supply from 7 dams and springs
- Fenced to 6 paddocks
- Home sites with panoramic views
- 10km from Leongatha and 2 hours from Melbourne

Price \$950,000Elders Web ID: 300P125476

FATTENING/BREEDING / DAIRY TURNOUT
OUTTRIM
91 ACRES

- Heavy carrying flats & gently undulating country
- Water via 5 dams supported by a 40-inch annual rainfall
- Fenced to 5 paddocks and heavy duty stockyards
- Lock up shed ideal for machinery plus a small hay shed
- Established treed shelter plantations
- Close location to Inverloch, Korumburra and Leongatha

Price \$1,187,500Elders Web ID: 300P129468

Elders Korumburra - 11 Commercial St - Ph 5658 1894
Don Olden 0417 805 312

Sharon Turton (Property Manager)
0439 383 091

Elders Leongatha - 37 Bair St - Ph 5662 3523
Katrina Griggs 0428 571 083

40 | TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES

Exceptional Tarwin Dairy

THE HEART of South Gippsland is home to the family run 'Viewfort Holsteins & Jerseys', both a highly productive and successful dairy operation. This flat to gently undulating farm is exceptionally set up, from the dairy to the two magnificent homes. It offers heavy carrying river flats rising to the sandy loams and it's all located in a secure, high rainfall region with ease of access to regional towns and services. Offering: 326 acres (132 HA) * on two titles (an additional river lease provides an extra 28 acres*)

- The property features:
- 20 Double up Herringbone Dairy
 - Quick release stall gates (Daviesway Extreme 90)
 - Auto wash, light weight cups with auto cup removers
 - 2 milk vats combined total 12,100 Ltr
 - 30 ton. silo and cattle crush
 - Hay shed, sundry machinery shedding and portable calf sheds (5)
 - 45 paddocks with excellent fencing, all serviced by all-weather laneways.
 - Water security is excellent in addition to this high rainfall region (900MM)
 - 12 mgl commercial water licence for the Dairy with additional stock & domestic plus farm dams (2)
 - Established shelter belts across the farm and along the Tarwin River

Two excellent family homes:

- A 2015 built sandstone 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 cars plus study home offering open plan living with privacy and paddock views across the farm.
- The second home is a 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 car weatherboard home, with modern updates and is ideally located nearer to the working dairy operations.

Presently milking a 300hd split calving dairy herd, this property is also ideal for those who wish to farm with a seasonal calving herd - providing options for all dairy enterprises. Excellent fertiliser and pasture management allows for silage and hay production. Located 14 min. drive from the major regional township of Leongatha, 25 min. to the beaches of Inverloch & Venus Bay and two hours to the CBD of Melbourne.

*Denotes approximately



6 4 4 2 homes

40 Thorsons Road, **Tarwin**
For Sale
\$15,200 per acre / \$4,955,000
Agent SEJ Real Estate
Irene Walker 0429 045 632



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- Exc location, 14min to Leongatha

\$2,400,000

The team at SEJ Livestock & Real Estate would like to wish everyone
A Merry Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous 2024

MARDAN

SOLD

- 'Ardroy' 188 HA / 465 AC
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- Toomeys Creek / water security
- Homestead Est. 1896 4 bed, 2 bath
- Exceptionally clean & productive
- 8min. to Mirboo North

SOLD

IRENE WALKER
0429 045 632
iwalker@sej.com.au

www.sej.com.au
SOUTH GIPPSLAND HWY, LEONGATHA
PHONE 5662 4033

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023 | 41

HT10435-VIS



Archies Creek Hotel

AN OPPORTUNITY to secure the Freehold and Business of one of Victoria's Best regional Hotels.

Expressions of Interest closing 25th of January 2024 at 4pm (AEST).

Voted Regional Victoria's Best Venue (Music Victoria) in 2022 and again this year in 2023, The Archies Creek Hotel is firing on all cylinders.

Excellent opportunity for more growth with this refurbished hotel and its new facilities.

Recently renovated kitchen plus new outdoor wood fired pizza oven and servery, huge undercover area, world-class outdoor stage and new timber deck dance floor, green room and a separate two-bedroom dwelling.

The hotel has four comfortable hotel rooms plus a guest lounge and kitchen. Operating as a music venue the hotel has a General License with the "Red Line" covering the entire site.

Archies Creek is centred in the thriving Bass Coast and the hotel is only 20 minutes from Phillip Island and 20 minutes from Inverloch.

Loyal customers with an excellent email database.

Land Area: 2000m² approx.
Zoned Township Zone TZ - Township.
Includes excellent Inventory of Furniture, Plant and Equipment.

Call Alex Scott & Staff Phillip Island on 5952 2633 to discuss further or to arrange a private inspection.



Freehold Business

89-91 Archies Creek Road,
Archies Creek
EOI Closing Thurs, Jan. 25 at 4pm
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Cowes Office 5952 2633

Surprise Package in a premium location

LOCATED a stone's throw to Leon-gatha CBD and the medical clinics, this home offers a surprise package in a premium position.

Boasting its own title (with no Body Corporate) and frontage to both Koon-warra Road and Miles Lane, this modern home features 2 bedrooms – semi ensuite to master, 2 toilets, large open plan living, double glazing to street frontage, electric security shutters, modern fittings throughout (including electric cooking and single drawer dishwasher), lock up garage with secure internal access, and a low maintenance-good sized yard.

















With excellent street appeal, and immediate possession available, this 'superb townhouse' ticks a lot of boxes.

Call Andrew, Emily or Tony today on 5662 0922 to arrange an inspection, they'd love to show it to you.

2 1 1 381m²

7 Koonwarra Road, **Leongatha**
For Sale \$515,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Andrew Newton 0402 940 320



<div>LEONGATHA</div> <div></div> <div>28 Horn Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Iconic Leongatha Residence• 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 3 living area• Stunning residence on 3445m² allotment<div>\$1,550,000 - \$1,650,000</div>Contact: Leongatha Office</div>	<div>KORUMBURRA</div> <div></div> <div>14 Isabella Boulevard</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 bed, 2 bath, near new brick home• Open plan kitchen, meals & living• Rear yard access<div>\$599,000</div>Contact: Korumburra Office</div>	<div>ARCHIES CREEK</div> <div></div> <div>89-91 Archies Creek Road</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Archies Creek Hotel• Renovated kitchen, wood fired pizza oven• Undercover area with stage<div>EOI Closing Thurs, Jan. 25 at 4pm</div>Contact: Cowes Office</div>	<div>WONTHAGGI</div> <div></div> <div>47 Nelson Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large 800m² block• 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 4 car garage• Open plan living<div>\$779,000</div>Contact: Wonthaggi Office</div>
<div>LEONGATHA</div> <div></div> <div>7 Koonwarra Road</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 bedroom unit – No Body Corp• 2 toilets, lock up garage• Double glazing, yard + more<div>\$515,000</div>Contact: Leongatha Office</div>	<div>KORUMBURRA</div> <div></div> <div>18 William Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 bedroom/ 2 bathroom• Outdoor Entertaining• Views<div>\$599,000</div>Contact: Korumburra Office</div>	<div>COWES</div> <div></div> <div>2 Glen Isla Court</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Style & sophistication• Beautifully landscaped gardens• 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 2 car<div>\$1,780,000</div>Contact: Cowes Office</div>	<div>WONTHAGGI</div> <div></div> <div>2/145 McKenzie Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom• Close to town• Quite rear block<div>\$499,000</div>Contact: Wonthaggi Office</div>
<div>LEONGATHA</div> <div></div> <div>7 Silverback Place</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom (2 car)• Very private home with loads of natural light• Level site with easy access, secure rear yard<div>\$690,000</div>Contact: Leongatha Office</div>	<div>KORUMBURRA</div> <div></div> <div>5/31 Jumbunna Road</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 bedroom brick• New carpet• Single lock-up garage<div>\$389,000</div>Contact: Korumburra Office</div>	<div>COWES</div> <div></div> <div>48 Manna Gum Drive</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Central Cowes• Open plan living• 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom<div>\$680,000 - \$720,000</div>Contact: Cowes Office</div>	<div>WONTHAGGI</div> <div><div>SOLD</div></div> <div>45 Silvereye Circuit</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom• Close to town• Plenty of character<div>Contact Agent</div>Contact: Wonthaggi Office</div>
<div>LEONGATHA</div> <div></div> <div>3/15 Allison Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 bedroom 1 bathroom• Private with lock up garage• Close to CBD, locally built<div>\$530,000</div>Contact: Leongatha Office</div>	<div>KORUMBURRA</div> <div></div> <div>132 Isabella Boulevard</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ready to build - 738m²• Plans available• Soil test completed<div>\$225,000</div>Contact: Korumburra Office</div>	<div>COWES</div> <div></div> <div>2/28-30 McKenzie Road</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Townhouse with spacious living• Short stroll to the beach• 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 car<div>\$680,000 - \$740,000</div>Contact: Cowes Office</div>	<div>WONTHAGGI</div> <div><div>SOLD</div></div> <div>50 Broome Crescent</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Character and charm• ¼ acre allotment• Plenty of shedding<div>Contact Agent</div>Contact: Wonthaggi Office</div>



New dairy research gets to the root of soil health

THE VICTORIAN Government is working closely with Victoria's dairy industry to improve soil health through a new, innovative \$7 million research program called the DairySoil project.

The DairySoil project will introduce cutting-edge farming practices to help reduce industry's use of synthetic fertiliser, decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and increase productivity and resilience to climate change.

This program will utilise state-of-art sensors to measure, map, retain and recover the moisture and nutrient levels needed to produce reliable and sustainable soil.

In partnership with Dairy Australia and the Gardiner Foundation DairySoil is spearheading the initiative as part \$42.5 million Dairy Feedbase 23-28 program. The Dairy Feedbase 23-28 project is supporting transformational programs across soils, forages and animal nutrition over the next five years.

From researching soil health and pasture composition changes, to measuring and reducing methane emissions, the DairyFeedbase program will aim to increase the profitability and productivity of dairy farms while minimising their impact on the environment.

The projects will also link to other national research underway and make the most of Victoria's world-class facilities at Agriculture Victoria's Ellinbank and Hamilton Smart-Farms and the AgriBio Centre for AgriBiosciences in Bundoora.

For more information visit, dairyfeedbase.com.au.

Dairy Conference

EARLY bird registrations are now open for Australia's premier dairy event, ADC 2024 Melbourne.

Invest in a few days off farm to learn, challenge and be inspired by global innovators, homegrown heroes and those leading from the front in dairy.

Locked in for February 12 - 14, 2024 at the magnificent Crown Melbourne, ADC 2024 is shaping up to be an epic gathering.

Secure your spot and rub shoulders with 800 of the brightest and best in Australia's national dairy industry.

The ADC 2024 Program will be released later this month... and be ready to be gob-smacked, polarised and challenged as the conference looks to tackle issues and conquer taboo dairy topics in 2024.

MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

CLAAS Harvest Centre **CLAAS**

Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, December 11, 2023

Jersey & Jersey x\$25 to \$40
Friesian Bulls\$55 to \$90
Friesian Heifers\$160 to \$250
Beef Bulls\$80 to \$255
Beef Heifers\$110 to \$350
Number of Calves: **47**
Number purchased to rear: **38**

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New report optimistic as conditions improve

DRIER weather over the back half of 2023 contributed to significantly higher cattle production and record lamb production as producers turned off stock in response, according to Rural Bank's Australian Agriculture Outlook 2024.

Export demand for live-stock and wool remained subdued, primarily due to economic pressures.

Victorian milk production is expected to remain flat to slightly lower in early 2024 compared to 2023. Industry exits are expected to ease following a period of high profitability.

Average profitability of Victorian dairy farms was the second highest in 17 years, aided by record farmgate milk prices.

Weaker global dairy prices will see new season opening farmgate prices likely drop below \$8.50/Kg MS as processors continue to 'right size' their businesses to a lower supply environment.

Lamb markets are expected to strengthen in 2024 as the surge in supply eases. Increased processing capacity and softer retail prices are expected to see a lift in domestic consumption.

The outlook is for warm and dry weather in the new year which will continue to limit restocker confidence and restrict the uplift in prices.

Victoria's cattle prices are likely to continue the recent strong growth recorded throughout November into the first half of 2024.



Average profitability of Victorian dairy farms was the second highest in 17 years, aided by record farmgate milk prices for the back half of 2023. ob01_5123

Whilst strong export demand will likely apply upwards pressure on prices, it is expected that prices will remain below the five-year average.

Cattle slaughter is likely to continue to increase during the next six months, however with most processing centres booked out over three months in advance

this could limit the potential pace at which slaughter rates lift.

Stability could be the defining feature of the wool industry in 2024. Economic conditions for consumers are set to keep demand for wool constrained.

Any price improvement will likely come from a small decline in production

resulting from dry conditions.

With prices set to remain below-average, wool growers will remain challenged by the high cost of shearing. The Southern Regional Indicator sat at 1,140c/kg at the end of November, 5.2 per cent lower year-on-year and 16.9 per cent below the five-year average.

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A Toora North property is the site of a reforestation project, which aims to restore local ecosystems.

Trees planted for reforestation project

MORE than 200,000 trees were planted at a Toora North property as part of a reforestation project aimed at capturing carbon and restoring local ecosystems.

The plantings are part of the Nestlé Global Reforestation Program, which, in Australia, aims to establish 10 million trees in partnership with Greening Australia, Canopy and One Tree Planted.

Louisa Vale lives on the Gippsland family property with her mother.

They're both passionate about finding ways to create local impact and support better biodiversity outcomes and joined the project in 2023.

"We have incredible wildlife surrounding our property, including platypus and marsupials such as the Greater Glider. The planting of more than 200,000 trees on our property will help to improve our soil quality and

local waterways, while also helping to restore much needed habitat for these native species," Ms Vale said.

"This property has been in our family for over 40 years and we can see firsthand the impact that climate change has had in the area. We're proud that we can join a reforestation project like this and do our bit to help to conserve local vegetation and leave a positive, long lasting environmental legacy."

The Nestlé Global Reforestation Program aims to capture an estimated 1.9 million tonnes of CO2 over a 25 year carbon crediting period.

Averaged over the project lifetime, this is the equivalent of exhaust emissions from more than 22,000 cars driving each year.

A biodiverse mix of native species, the trees are expected to help restore local biodiversity, improve water quality and revitalise degraded soils at each of

the planting sites.

"Nestlé has set the target of achieving net zero emission by 2050, reaching a 50 per cent reduction by 2030 – and a goal of 10 million trees in Australia, aiming to capture around 1.9 million tonnes of CO2. By the end of 2023, we'll have planted more than 1.9 million trees," Nestlé Oceania director of sustainability Margaret Stuart said.

"But this is about much more than just planting trees – this program aims to improve biodiversity, help restore habitats and provide environmental and economic benefits to local communities."

Greening Australia chief operating officer Paul Della Libera said partnership and collaboration were key to driving impact and change across Australian landscapes.

"To address the twin challenges of biodiversity loss and climate change, we must work together,

finding innovative ways to drive speed and scale. Working with partners such as Nestlé allows us to undertake ambitious projects that will help to deliver real change and tangible benefits to the Australian landscape.

"These projects are not possible without the participation of private landholders. In the 40 plus years we've been restoring landscapes, we've worked with thousands of landholders, helping them to re-establish native habitat, improve the health of their land and create environmental and financial value. These relationships are essential to achieving nature restoration at a scale, we couldn't do this work without them."

Landholders interested in learning more and registering their interest for a no-obligation chat with a Greening Australia representative can do so at www.greeningaustralia.org.au/landholderregistration.

Time to protect your harvest

AGRICULTURE Victoria is encouraging home gardeners to boost their harvest and safeguard the state's horticulture industry against Queensland fruit fly by using insect netting on their fruit trees. State fruit fly coordinator Cathy Mansfield emphasised that netting is the most effective way to protect fruit and vegetables from fruit fly infestations.

"Now is the time to prepare your netting for the upcoming season. It's important to check and mend any holes in the netting with string, fishing line or polyester thread. Another option is to clamp holes with bulldog clips," she said.

"Nets should be applied after the flower petals fall off fruit trees such as apricots, peaches, apples, cherries and loquats.

"For continuously flowering berries and fruit berries such as tomatoes, eggplants and capsicums, the netting should be applied after most of the flowering has occurred but while fruit is still small."

Ms Mansfield said draping a large net over small and medium sized fruit trees can be easy, particularly if you work with a friend, one on either side of the tree.

"A broom can help you push netting over high branches of larger, well-established trees. Make sure you secure the netting tightly to the trunk of tree of firmly to the ground to prevent fruit fly from entering at the base of the tree," she said.

While there are commercially produced frames available, DIY options like bending poly pipe and securing it to star pickets are cost-effective and favored by home gardeners, particularly for berry crops and fruiting vegetables.

Ms Mansfield advised gardeners to build a frame around larger trees to assist with the application of netting.

"A sturdy wooden or metal frame is a good solution for very large trees, however the netting will need to be removable as bees need access to the flowers to ensure pollination," she said.

"Using insect netting is an environmentally friendly option because it can last for years. It can also prevent other common pests attacking your fruit like codling moths in apples and tomato grub in tomatoes.

By taking these measures to protect their fruit and reduce fruit fly breeding sites, gardeners contribute to safeguarding not only their own harvest but also their neighbors' fruit and the broader horticulture industry in Victoria. Additional information on managing fruit fly can be found on the Agriculture Victoria website.



More than 200,000 trees were planted in Toora North as part of a reforestation project, which will see 10 million trees planted throughout Australia.



Seedlings arriving at Toora North.

Phillip Island Community Hospital construction advances before our eyes



An artist's impression of the exterior of the Phillip Island Community Hospital now under construction in Cowes.

GOOD progress is continuing to be made on the construction of the new Phillip Island Community Hospital.

Concrete slabs have been poured, all underground services below the ground floor slab have been installed and walls are being erected.

The multi-million-dollar Phillip Island Community Hospital will feature a larger Urgent Care Centre, day surgery, dialysis and chemotherapy.

There will also be dental services and a radiology precinct offering CT scans, ultrasound and general x-ray.

The new hospital will also include a new main reception area and a Central Sterile Supply Department to support the day surgery and dental unit.

Bass Coast Health CEO Jan Child said the new hospital will be a valuable asset for the permanent population of Phillip Island, and for the many visitors who come to the Island.

"The new hospital will expand the existing Phillip Island Health Hub and help to future-proof healthcare services on the Island as the area's population expands," she said.

The community hospital is being delivered by the Victorian Health Building Authority and will be operated by Bass Coast Health.

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DEATHS

AXFORD, John Neil:

26.02.1944 - 11.12.2023.

Passed away surrounded by his family.

Loved husband of Merle.

Loving dad and father-in-law of Shelley, Rachel and Phil, Malc and Carli, and Brad.

Adored Pa to Sammie, Jolie, Beau; Charlie, Jy, Jess; Jackson, Amelie; and Logan.

Treasured Memories.

Forever in our Hearts.

AXFORD, John Neil:

Dearly loved brother and uncle of Lesley and Judith and their families.

Rest in Peace.

AXFORD, John:

Another dear friend for over 70 years who will be sadly missed. Our deepest sympathy to Merle and family. We have a lifetime of wonderful memories. Love Ross & Gwen, and family.

Rest peacefully Acky.

AXFORD, John:

Words cannot describe how much you meant to me. You were my idol. You treated me like family.

I have so many memories to cherish. Condolences to Merle, Shelley, Malcolm, Rach, Brad, and families. He was the best man ever. Love from Stephen, Loretta, Elijah, and Xavier.

DEATHS

AXFORD, John:

John was a valued member of the Kongwak Public Hall Committee.

He will be sadly missed.

Condolences to Merle and family.

R.I.P.


GARDNER, Glenn Andrew:

Passed away suddenly at home on December 3, 2023.

Loving nephew to Robyn and Ian (dec.) Pentecost - Coffin Bay S.A.

Cousin to Briohny, Garth, and Clayton.

Forever in our hearts.



JACKSON, Bruce:

It is with great sadness that the family of Bruce Jackson announce his passing on the December 14, 2023. Bruce, son of Harry and Gwen Jackson (dec.) was loved by wife Lynette (née Joiner), children Kylie, Robert and Kristy and his 7 grandchildren. He will be sadly missed by us all.

Bruce leaves behind a legacy of cherished memories and invaluable life lessons.

Arrivederci, until we meet again.

FUNERALS

AXFORD:

A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. John Neil Axford will be held at Handley & Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi **TOMORROW**, Wednesday, December 20, 2023 commencing at 2pm.

Privately Cremated.

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IN MEMORIAM

CHAMBERS:

Father Sam 22.12.1979.

Mother Mary 02.02.1989.

Sister Frances 19.12.2010.

We will never forget the times we had. Love you lots.

-- Blanche and James.

WARDLE, Edward (Eddie):

In loving memory of a wonderful husband for 60 years, passed away December 25, 2019.

4 years have passed and I have missed you everyday but I tell myself you are at peace and suffering no more.

You are always in the thoughts of our wonderful family of 5, Bill (Erin), Darren (Patty), Glenn (Terry), Ross (Wendy), Dianne (Peter), along with our 11 beautiful grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Suffering no more, always in our thoughts, until we meet again my love.

-- Margaret.

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

BOYLE:

The Boyle family would like to send our deepest appreciation to all those who sent their good wishes, dropped by, had a drink with us, made food, and joined us for our gathering to remember the amazing man Robert was. We thought he was great - and by your show of support it seemed like you did too!

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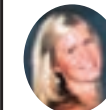
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Notice of Intention to Make Local Law

PROPOSED GENERAL LOCAL LAW 2024

The *Local Government Act 2020* provides for Council to make local laws which remain in effect for a period of ten years, unless revoked sooner by Council. The General Local Law 2014 ceases to operate on 15 April 2024 and must be replaced. Notice is hereby given pursuant to the provisions of Section 73 of the *Local Government Act 2020* that at its meeting on 13 December 2023, South Gippsland Shire Council resolved to release the proposed General Local Law 2024 for public submissions.

The objectives of this Local Law are to:

- (a) Provide for the peace order and good government of the **municipal district**;
- (b) Regulate and control activities which may be dangerous, unsafe or detrimental to the quality of life in the environment of the **municipal district**;
- (c) Provide a safe and healthy environment in which the residents of the **municipal district** enjoy a quality of life that meets the general expectations of the community;
- (d) Facilitate the provision of general public services, health and other community services, property services, recreational and cultural services, and other services in a way which enhances the environment and quality of life in the **municipal district**; and
- (e) Provide for the administration of **Council's** powers and functions.

A copy of the proposed Local Law may be obtained from Council Offices at 9 Smith Street, Leongatha, during office hours or telephone (03) 5662 9200. The document may be accessed also on Council's website <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/gll-review-r3>.

Any person who wishes to make a submission to the proposed Local Law must lodge the submission in writing addressed to Community Safety, South Gippsland Shire Council, Private Bag 4, Leongatha, Vic, 3953, online via Council's website <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/gll-review-r3>, or via email to: council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au. Submissions will be received until 15 January 2024. Please note, that unless a submitter advises Council to the contrary, the submission will be made available to the public.

Council, in accordance with Section 73 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, will consider all written submissions received within the prescribed time.

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Sentinel-Times Classifieds

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- Deliver maintenance on plant equipment across Council's operational sites
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We're looking for a motivated and positive individual with proven experience in maintaining operational plant equipment. If this sounds like you then we'd love to hear from you!

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Advertising conditions:

Full name and address of advertiser must be supplied even though not necessarily included in advertisement.

The publishers reserve the right to omit and alter any advertisement. Please check your ad is correct the first day it appears. While every care is taken to ensure your ad is correct, errors can occur. We regret that we cannot be responsible for any errors beyond the first day if you fail to bring it to our attention.

All advertisements must be prepaid unless client has an existing credit facility. Accounts are due and payable on the due date as shown on the account.

The Motor Car Traders Regulations:

States that from July 1, 1998 all advertisements for used vehicles including motorcycles must include the cash price of vehicle and registration number or engine number if not registered.

Sentinel-Times

Maintenance Trainee

South Gippsland Water (SGW) are currently seeking an enthusiastic person to join us as a Maintenance Trainee. The key requirements of the role are:



- A willingness to complete Certificate III in Water Industry Operations (Network).
- The ability to work effectively in a team environment.
- An interest in working outdoors and ability to learn use of a range of tools, plant and equipment.
- Ability to learn and apply safe work practices
- An ability to work collaboratively as part of a team to achieve customer outcomes.
- Fixed Term (2 Years) Full Time
- Starting Location: Various including Wonthaggi, Leongatha, Korumburra and Toora
- Flexible Working Arrangements Available
- Trainee Wage Level A

At SGW diversity is celebrated and respected as important for our wellbeing and success. We strive for a workplace that is equitable and inclusive. We welcome diversity in applicants.

Please go to <https://www.sgwater.com.au/careers/> for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply.

Applications Close Monday January 8, 2024 at 9am

1300 851 636 | www.sgwater.com.au

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHRISTMAS DEADLINE CHANGES

Due to the upcoming public holidays the deadlines for the next issue of the South Gippsland Sentinel-Times, to be published on Wednesday, December 27 will be as follows:

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

Deadline: 5pm
Wednesday, December 20

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Deadline: 12noon
Thursday, December 21

EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDING SPORT REPORTS

Deadline: 5pm Wednesday, December 20

Sentinel-Times

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.

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



College Timetabler

Leongatha Secondary College have advertised an Education Support position to join our team as College Timetabler & Data Analyst.

This ES1-3 role is responsible for preparing and implementing the college's timetable to reflect the curriculum directions and priorities of the school, and for assisting in the smooth running of the school.

The role is part time, with a 0.5FTE time fraction (19hrs/week). Fixed term contract commences 29/01/2024 for the 2024 school year.

Refer to College website www.leonsec.vic.edu.au for full details and role description.

Applications can be made via DET Recruitment Online, College Timetabler & Data Analyst Job Vacancy ID 1392444.
Applications close January 10, 2024.



High achievers celebrated at



Excellence Award winners Charlotte Lawler, Will Stein, Nicolette Wight, Ebony Dean, Lucy Patterson, Aydan Williams, Mackenna Anderson, Poppy Stewart, Mia Burt, Will Campbell, with Cohen Harrison holding the Matthew Trotman Memorial Award. A06_5023



Kwong Lee Dow
Young Leaders
Program Year 10
Award winner
Hannah Hogarth.
A20_5023



Principal's Senior
Award recipient Lily
Hume. A22_5023



Excellence Award winners Nico Kijlstra-Shone, Elana Abicare, Montana Kranen, Chloe Le Page, Mark Minchella, Chloe Challis, Heidi Davis and Ava Bennett. A07_5023



2024 College captains Bailey Close,
Phoebe Collins and Olivia Bott. A24_5023



Excellence Award winner in Indonesian Rahni Jeffrey and Excellence Award winners in English Jack Birkett, Montana Kranen, Georgie Dunn and Hannah Hogarth. A08_5023



Olivia Masiewicz (TAFE Gippsland
Award), Jorja Warren (VCE VM Senior
Award) and Sophie Lester (VCE VM
Intermediate Award). A12_5023



College and Community Leadership Award (senior) winners
Asha Chalmers, Saxon Rodda, Montana Kranen and Chloe
Stoops. A17_5023



2024 College leaders Bodhi Abernethy, Alana Lopez-
Freeman, Chloe Challis and Montana Kranen. A23_5023



Principal's Junior
Award recipient
Georgie Dunn.
A21_5023



Australian Defence Force 2023 Future Innovators Award winners Campbell Jackson and Hannah Hogarth. A19_5023



Effective Learner Award winners Ghun Phokaphol, Alice Prusa, Elana Abicare, Tayla Lester, Lily Hume, Mark Minchella, Lucy Guy, Jude Fixter, Melissa Diggerman, Ava Bennett, Alexandra Lawry, and Eden Robertson. A14_5023



Zac McRae with his Vocational Award for demonstrating excellence, dedication and commitment to the Head Start Program, and Matthew Keitley with his Bronze Award of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award. A13_5023



Excellence Award winners in mathematics, Ayla Lafferty, Ghun Phokaphol, Jackson Commadeur, Priya Nelson, Archie Moore, Luke Murphy and Hannah Hogarth. A09_5023



Australian Defence Force 2023 Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork Award winners Jude Fixter and Timothy Hibberson. A18_5023



Jack Dowling Memorial Quiet Achiever Award winners Prue Vandenburg, Charlotte Lawler, Omarsha Miller, Cohen Mackie, Zac Langstaff and Lucy Patterson. A15_5023



Whitworth Award for Year 11 Excellence winner Luke Murphy. A16_5023



Excellence Award winners for technology Jai Herrald, Elana Abicare, Mitchell Landry and Pursuit of Excellence Award winner Anthony Masiewicz. A11_5023



Excellence Award winners in science Charlotte Lawler, Tayla Lester, Mark Minchella, Luke Murphy, Alana Lopez-Freeman and Mia Burt. A10_5023

Stay beach safe this summer

THERE'S no doubt the 'swim between the flags' message has kept millions of people safe when visiting one of Victoria's beaches patrolled by lifeguards and lifesavers.

But last summer, 54 people drowned in 90 days along the Australian coast. All of them occurred in unpatrolled locations, including 78 per cent on beaches.

Studies have shown there are two primary reasons that people continue to swim at unpatrolled beaches, where there are no flags or lifesavers.

The first is that the beach is the closest one to their holiday accommodation. The reality is that people don't jump in their car and drive 20 minutes to the nearest patrolled beach.

The second main reason is they actively choose beaches that are quiet and away from the holiday crowds.

While 'swim between the flags' is a great message and keeps us safe on patrolled beaches, there are many popular and accessible unpatrolled beaches, and people will always visit them.

Life Saving Victoria (LSV) doesn't encourage people to swim at unpatrolled beaches but offers some practical advice about how people can be safer when visiting them.

Victoria has beautiful beaches, but they often have hidden dangers, such as rip currents and changeable conditions.

Rips are the number one beach hazard for swimmers and each year more people drown in rips than are killed in shark attacks, cyclones and floods combined.

When first arriving at the beach people should read safety signs and notices about local hazards, take time to observe conditions before entering the water and ask lifesavers for advice if unsure.

It's important to learn how to identify and avoid a rip current.

If caught in a rip current, stay calm, conserve energy and raise an arm and call out to seek help, float with the current as it may return to a shallow sandbank.

Swim parallel to the beach to escape the rip current.

If this isn't working LSV advises swimmers to reassess the situation and try another option until they are returned to shore.

LSV also recommends supervising children closely around water and to always swim with friend.

Lifesaving patrols run on weekends and public holidays until Sunday March 31, 2023 (Easter Sunday).

Beach goers can use the Beachsafe app to find the nearest patrolled beaches and times.

Be prepared for emergencies

VICTORIANS will have access to a range of education materials to better understand warnings for bushfires, floods, storms and extreme heat.

The Australian Warning System education initiative launched on December 14, and includes information on different hazard icons, warning levels and action statements to help the community understand what they need to do to stay safe in response to emergencies.

The three warning levels – advice, watch and act, and emergency warning – are the same for bushfires, floods, storms and extreme heat.

This community education initiative features well known ABC presenter Justine Clarke and the voice of Chilli from children's TV show Bluey Melanie Zanetti, and includes videos, story books, audio books, posters, social media content, radio advertisements and more.

It has been developed by Emergency Management Victoria (EMV), on behalf of Victoria's emergency services.

This follows the national implementation of the Australian Warning System coordinated by the Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council (AFAC).

EMV has worked with emergency service agencies to ensure materials are fit for purpose, with key focus on distribution across the state – particularly in high-risk areas.

For more information, head to <https://ausws.emergency.vic.gov.au/index.html>.

Edwards takes out first All-Star bowling tournament

THE first annual All-Star bowling tournament was held at the Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre on Wednesday, December 13.

Twenty-four of the best bowlers across all leagues were rounded up and played against each other across four separate games to see who would take out first prize – and bragging rights for best bowler this season.

Cash and prizes were up for grabs for the top four bowlers and highest scores across each round.

Nerves set in for the bowlers first round, but not for Toby.

Toby snagged the highest score in round one with a total of 183 pins.

In the second round, the nerves settled, and everyone was starting to fire up with Valma Peterson and John Batty both reaching the highest score for round two with a total of 202 pins.



The placegetters in the inaugural All-Star tenpin bowling tournament were John Batty (third), Justin Porthouse (second), Steven Clarke (fourth) and Matt Edwards (first).

Steven Clarke stole the show in the third round with a whopping 214 pins.

The energy was flowing in the fourth and final round, and the boys weren't mucking around, finishing the night with a bang.

First prize winner Matt Edwards started off his last game with eight strikes in his first nine frames with an

amazing score of 250 pins.

Matt finished up averaging 204.25 over the four games with his total score finishing on 817 pins – a whopping 132 pins ahead of second place.

He was crowned the winner for the first All-Star bowling tournament.

Second place winner Justin Porthouse wasn't too happy with how he started his first

games, but brought it home in his last two games finishing with a total of 685 pins.

Third place was awarded to John Batty who scored a total of 678 pins.

Fourth place went to Steven Clarke, who finished on 672 pins.

It was a close margin between the second, third and fourth place winners.

Newhaven College AFL SportsReady Traineeship

NEWHAVEN College focuses on students' academic growth as well as their social, sporting, and cultural development. During their Senior School years, students make decisions that shape their future career paths. The aim is for every student to graduate with a clear vision of their future opportunities, whether that's further study or entering the workforce.

For the past few years, Newhaven College has offered AFL SportsReady traineeships for one lucky departing student. AFL SportsReady is a not-for-profit company dedicated to helping young Australians develop careers through traineeships, cadetships, direct employment, and educational opportunities. Traineeships provide an excellent opportunity for trainees to earn while they learn, gaining real-world experience and invaluable skills along the way.

In 2023, the role was adeptly



2023 AFL SportsReady Trainee, Jenna Harman, assisted Newhaven College Sports Teachers and students with a variety of sports activities throughout the year.

filled by 2022 alum Jenna Harman. Jenna proved to be instrumental in the smooth running of many of Newhaven College's sporting events. With close mentoring from Head of Senior School Sports,

Stewart Bathgate, Jenna went from strength to strength throughout the year.

Jenna reflects on her time as an AFL Trainee, "I have many highlights from this year like attending camps, making

friends and coaching teams. One of my most rewarding highlights was putting together the successful Newhaven South Eastern Independent Schools Association (SEISA) Athletics team. We won for the first time in SEISA history – something I was very proud to have had a part in."

With Jenna now heading out into the world to further her study and work opportunities, the College will be welcoming back 2023 Year 12 student Lucas Chihotski into the role in 2024. Lucas' sporting background is phenomenal, having participated in numerous sporting teams and received several awards over his time at the College. His skills and knowledge will be of great benefit to students in 2024. "I'm looking forward to the challenges and triumphs of the position. It's a great opportunity to grow and achieve successful outcomes," Lucas says.

Respect our Gippsland paramedics this festive season



As the festive season approaches, respect towards all emergency service workers should be paramount.

AMBULANCE Victoria is calling on the Gippsland community to support our paramedics to continue doing their lifesaving work this festive season.

As the holiday period approaches, many Victorians will be out celebrating, but for our paramedics and first responders it's one of the busiest and toughest times.

For paramedics to provide treatment to you or your loved one, they need a safe environment to work in that is free from aggression or abuse.

Unfortunately, an assault or attempted assault is reported by paramedics every 15 hours.

Across the state, paramedics are reporting a rise in violent assaults and verbal abuse – injuring an emergency worker in Victoria is a category 1 offence and carries

a mandatory minimum six-month jail sentence.

Incidents of occupational violence (OV) have increased by 14 per cent, with 580 cases reported last financial year, and 26 of these occurring in the Gippsland region.

This trend is continuing, with 15 incidents reported by Gippsland paramedics from July to November.

Gippsland Regional Director Ross Salathiel said there had been some horrific behaviour experienced by paramedics recently.

"In the last month, one of our crews had a frightening experience where they were followed and at times tailgated by a suspicious vehicle in the early hours of the morning," Mr Salathiel said.

As the festive season approaches, respect towards all emergency service workers should be paramount.

Surfing Australia announces a major shakeup of its 2024 Surfing Australia Junior Series

SURFING Australia is thrilled to announce a major shakeup of its 2024 Surfing Australia Junior Series incorporating National Junior Rankings, with the highest rankings points ever awarded to a Surfing Australia event, more live broadcasts and an exciting new seeding process.

In a major boost to the junior pathway, 2024 will also introduce a rolling seeding system. Under this system, an athlete's seed will be determined on a list of their best three results from a rolling 12-month period. For instance, if an event takes place in April, a surfer's seeding will consider results from April of the previous year to March of the current year. This rolling seeding will be live and updated after each event and will serve as a valuable tool for event promoters in establishing heat draw seedings, without affecting National Junior Rankings.

Surfing Australia Event Specialist, Rohan Fell said: "We've been working closely with our state branches, serving as our event partners, as well as with LiveHeats to create the best pathway Australian junior surfers have ever experienced. The new series will offer more opportunities for junior surfers to compete by introducing new events and expanding the formats of existing events to meet the growing demand we're witnessing nationwide. Additionally, our third-party event promoters play a vital role in connecting this pathway from



Surfing Australia announces a major shakeup of its 2024 Surfing Australia Junior Series. Image: Noah Clifford / Surfing Australia

participation events through to the nation's premier surfing events."

The major updates for the 2024 Surfing Australia Junior Series include:

- 2024 Australian Junior Surfing Titles
- Elevated to 12,000 ranking points (up from 10,000)
- Taj Small Fries
- Elevated to 10,000 points (up from 6,500)
- More 10,000 rated events across Australia than ever before
- Taj Small Fries – WA, January 2024
- Sunshine Coast Junior Pro -

- QLD, April 2024
- Billabong Occy Grom Comp - QLD, June/July 2024
- Skullcandy Oz Grom Open - NSW, July 2024
- Phillip Island Junior Pro presented by Bass Coast Shire - VIC, October 2024
- South Australia and Tasmania - TBC 2025
- All 10,000 rated events will have a live broadcast showcasing Australia's best juniors
- All 10,000 rated events will have minimum two-person heats from the semi-finals
- All Woolworths Junior State Titles elevated to 7,500 ranking points (up from 5,500)

- U8's Mixed and U10's will no longer have ranking points associated to their divisions (effective January 1, 2024)
 - Under 12s divisions will be the first to start accumulating ranking points towards the Australian Junior Series
 - International competitors are still able to compete however, they will now be excluded from collecting ranking points
- The Surfing Australia Junior Series winner in the Under 16 and 18 Male and Female divisions will earn a spot on the Irukandjis team and represent Australia at the ISA World Junior Championships.

Boost for Top Pub Fishing Club

KORUMBURRA'S Top Pub Fishing Club members are celebrating a successful grant application, with the Victorian Government providing \$5,000 towards new uniforms and equipment.

"The Club's stoked and it's going to help us out immensely," president Matt Harland said.

Members will be looking their best and promoting the club in new club shirts, jumpers and hats sourced from a local supplier.

The grant will enable the purchase of fishing rods and tackle gear, ensuring those wanting to try out fishing can do so without needing their own equipment.

Funding will also go towards club marquees to provide shelter for members.

The Top Pub Fishing Club has existed for 13 years and used to run alongside the Korumburra Angling Club that disbanded a few years ago.

Top Pub Fishing Club members venture to several places, enjoying both saltwater and freshwater fishing.

For the last four years, the club has funded the stocking of Korumburra's Bellview Reservoir with trout, bass, silver perch and golden perch.

Only club members are allowed to access that locked fishing location, although a family fishing day will be scheduled there for early next year to give youngsters the chance to try out the sport.

Club secretary Kylie Ingram applied for the grant, clearly handling the responsibility with aplomb.

The funding is delivered through the Victorian Government's Stronger Fishing Clubs Grant Program, a \$1.2 million investment funded by fishing licence fees.

"We are supporting the work of angling clubs like Top Pub Fishing Club, which help attract newcomers to the hobby and are home to local experts who have decades of experience to share about fishing in the region," Upper House Member for Eastern Victoria, Tom McIntosh said.



While the friendly atmosphere will remain unchanged, Top Pub Fishing Club members will soon be resplendent in new uniforms thanks to a State Government grant.

Jet skiers urged to stay safe

JET skiers are being urged to 'cool your jets' this summer in a new behaviour change program tackling speeding jet skis.

The Safe Transport Victoria program – backed by a joint agency compliance operation – aims to change the behaviour of the small number of jet ski riders who don't follow the speed limits in place to protect swimmers and other recreational boaters.

The message is simple – cool your jets when riding a jet ski.

This means slowing down to five knots when within 50 metres of other jet skis, other vessels and swimmers.

A five-knot speed limit also exists close to the shoreline with rules for different types of waterways.

On coastal and enclosed waters the speed limit applies within 200 metres of the shore, on bayside beaches at the southern end of the Mornington Peninsula it's 500 metres, and on most inland waters it's 50 metres.

"Safe Transport Victoria's role is to support safe use of shared waterways for the benefit of all recreational users," Safe Transport Victoria interim director maritime safety Kate Maheras said.

"The 'Cool your Jets' program will help create a safer, more positive experience for everyone out on the water. Jet ski riders should cool their jets and ride safely when near other boaters, swimmers and the shoreline.

"It's easy to follow the five-knot rule – if there is a visible wake behind your jet ski, then you're going faster than five knots."

The joint agency operation by Safe Transport Victoria, Victoria Police and Parks Victoria will see compliance officers out on the water throughout this summer, making sure jet ski riders do the right thing.

"Parks Victoria is working with the Victorian Water Police and Safe Transport Victoria, monitoring and responding to illegal, poor and unsafe rider behaviours in the bays. Please be considerate of other waterway and beach users and stay safe," Parks Victoria district manager Graeme Davis said.

"Parks Victoria rangers will be on the water over summer to issue infringements to people behaving irresponsibly around other waterway users and marine mammals."

Boaters and jet skiers must know all the rules that apply to the waters they're on.

Grab a copy of the boating safety handbook at <https://safetransport.vic.gov.au/on-the-water/recreational-boating/>.

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 19
▲ 5.29am 1.66m
▼ 11.04am 0.53m
▲ 5.20pm 1.43m
▼ 11.11pm 0.31m

WEDNESDAY December 20
▲ 6.10am 1.61m
▼ 11.52am 0.47m
▲ 6.15pm 1.41m

THURSDAY December 21
▼ 12.00am 0.41m
▲ 6.52am 1.55m
▼ 12.42pm 0.42m
▲ 7.20pm 1.39m

FRIDAY December 22
▼ 12.50am 0.54m
▲ 7.36am 1.50m
▼ 1.34pm 0.38m
▲ 8.38pm 1.38m

SATURDAY December 23
▼ 1.44am 0.66m
▲ 8.24am 1.44m
▼ 2.30pm 0.35m
▲ 9.50pm 1.41m

SUNDAY December 24
▼ 2.43am 0.78m
▲ 9.18am 1.38m
▼ 3.30pm 0.33m
▲ 10.58pm 1.46m

MONDAY December 25
▼ 3.51am 0.85m
▲ 10.16am 1.34m
▼ 4.34pm 0.31m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au



One of the nine bridges, five large and four small, over the Albert River other creeks and roadways along the new section of the Great Southern Rail Trail, between Welshpool and Alberton (near Yarram) set to be open by Christmas.

Here's Australia's second longest rail trail

ALREADY one of Victoria's most scenic, the Great Southern Rail Trail is soon-to-be the state's longest with the completion of the missing link between Welshpool and Alberton by Christmas.

The total length of the trail through South Gippsland is 109km at the moment, but it will soon extend to 135km with the addition of the new 21km section, costing \$6 million in a joint venture between the Wellington and South Gippsland shires through funding from the Victorian Government's Regional Infrastructure Fund.

That will make it the second longest in the country, behind only the 161km Brisbane Valley Rail Trail

A feature of the new section, finally linking Nyora to Yarram, with spur trails out to the Long Jetty at Port Welshpool and the historic wharf at Port Albert, will be nine new rail trail bridges, five large and four small, which have consumed much of the project cost.

Last week, Wellington Shire welcomed the progress of works:

"Construction is progressing well on the Great Southern Rail Trail connecting Welshpool to Alberton.

"Despite recent rainfall and weather events causing some damage, such as erosion at specific trail points, the main bridges spanning Albert River remain fully operational.

"Contractors are working hard to complete the trail in December, barring any additional setbacks."

Champion of the rail trail, John Kennedy of the Bicycle Fitting Store in Korumburra, says the rail trail is one of the best things to ever happen in the area, bringing visitors to towns that rarely saw visitors and enhancing what's already on offer in places like Loch, Korumburra, Leongatha and Meeniyan along the way.

"What they've done at Meeniyan should be a lesson to us all, that you can build a unique attraction with commitment by the community, by business and the local council."

There is another exciting extension on the horizon, with the South Gippsland and Bass Coast shires pursuing funding for a new section connecting Nyora to Woolamai.

This 25-km leg would in turn connect the Great Southern Rail trail with the Bass Coast Rail Trail, offering more than 180km of continuous, relaxing rail trail riding – by then making it Australia's longest.

Racing at Stony Creek a win-win for community



Stony Creek Racing Club President John Schuijers was delighted to hand over some funding for the Meeniyan Primary School to principal Gene VanDerZalm during the week.

THE first race meeting of the Stony Creek season may be just around the corner but the club still had time this week to announce the introduction of an annual Community Grant Fund program.

Last week, Stony Creek Racing Club President John Schuijers met with one of the recipients, Meeniyan Primary School and Principal Gene VanDerZalm to discuss their plans.

The funding will be used to refurbish the science and art room, including new flooring and shelving to improve its functionality for students and staff.

"The Committee see the fund as a more meaningful way that the club can give back to the South Gippsland community through contributing to projects with direct benefits to local people," said John.

Historically, the race club has provided financial support to many local sporting and community groups via direct sponsorship or payment of race day wages to representatives of those groups.

Similarly, it has provided many other community organizations with the opportunity to raise funds for their organizations on race days, along with engaging local businesses for the provision of race club goods and services.

In addition to thoroughbred racing, the club sees race days as opportunities to bring the community together to catch up with family and friends over summer and the school holiday period to experience a variety of food, music and other

activities tailored for parents and children.

These opportunities also provide exposure for our sponsors and suppliers and now also for the Club to profile the recipients of the community fund and highlight the important role they play in the South Gippsland community.

The Stony Creek Racing Club kicks off the racing season with its first race meeting on Friday.

There will be a variety of entertainment experiences such as live music, food vans and children's activities including; Funky Farm wildlife shows, Kelly Sports supervised activities, Little Ryders pony rides and Airy Fairy facepainting.

The picturesque country racecourse, located on the South Gippsland Highway is a wonderful place for a family day out. Stony Creek races five times a year, with the feature event being the Ladbrokes Stony Creek cup on the Labor Day Weekend.

Upcoming race meetings at Stony Creek include:

- Friday 29 December Family Fun Day
 - Tuesday 9 January- Pink Roses Day
 - Thursday 18 January- School holidays race day
 - Tuesday 6th February- Publicans Day
 - Sunday 10th March – Ladbrokes Stony Creek Cup Day
- Tickets: Adults \$15, kids are free. All available at www.stonycreek.com.au or at the gate.

For more information contact 03 5664 0099 or enquiries@scrc.com.au

Riders get a new ramp at Woolamai

A CUSTOM made ramp for disabled horse riders was installed and opened at the Woolamai Centre last week.

Riding for the Disabled (RDA) group thanked the Bendigo Bank and Chairman in attendance, Peter Paul, for donating funds that saw their mission made possible.

The ramp is specially made to RDA specifications and it means that riders are able to mount or dismount from a horse far more safely.

Protection on the ramp also enables riders in wheelchairs better access and safer transfers.

"A lot of the disabled riders find it a bit harder, coordination wise. So, this enables the coach and maybe an assistant or a volunteer to assist the mounting of the horse as safely as possible," said President of RDA, Bruce Spiden.

RDA was established by Bruce about 18 months ago and they currently have six riders from Yooralla in Leongatha.

Next year they will be introducing riders from the Bass Coast Special School and will be looking to acquire new horses to accommodate the new riders.

"We will surely but slowly but surely grow the riding for disabled for this Bass Coast region," said Bruce.



Yooralla riders with RDA volunteers are standing on the new ramp that was made possible with funds from Bendigo Bank.



2023 premiers: Pies, back from left, Dean Wylie, Jack Legione, captain Laila Kane-DiPaola. Jade Ray-Angarane, Hayden Wallis, Sarah Blundell, Chloe Cengia, (Crane arms) Wayne Luke, front runners up: Brightside, Lisa Board, Jason Zammitt, Carly Zammitt, Janelle Evans, Olivia Watson, Josh Truman, Gavin Board and Hope Downsett. Absent: Pies' Gemma Thomas.

Netballers compete in grand finals

WONTHAGGI and District Netball Association concluded its competitions last week. First off the rank was the 17th Annual Charity Mixed Netball Comp.

The grand final was held on Sunday, December 3.

The Pies took on Brightside and it was a great game to watch with many stunning intercepts and goals.

It was played in the best spirit of the game, friendly and fun.

The Pies led by three goals at quarter time, then eight goals at half time.

Brightside won the last quarter by two goals, but on the siren it was Pies 32 to Brightside 19.

Congratulations to all teams participating.

Chloe Cengia won the top female and runners up was awarded equally to Olivia Watson, Heidi Farr and Kira Durling.

Best and fairest male went to Josh Truman and runner up was awarded to Tom Nixon, accepted by fellow Bass Coast Blowins team member Sarah Cantwell.

There were a few beginner players who mastered the game in the end – it was an enjoyable short season.

The Pies are holding the HK Memorial Shield, which is a fun thing to read, with some players parents on it, or their own names on it yet again.

Money raised will go to a local charity to be announced after the next meeting.

It is now a question of whether there is a mixed team out there that could beat the Pies?

Wonthaggi and District Netball Association (WDNA) finished the Indoor Night Women's Season with the grand finals on Monday, December 4.

Section 1 saw Sapphires play Marvels, who had drawn with Gazelles the week before.

Sapphires came out on a mission and took it away in the first quarter.

Marvels then settled and played a great third quarter, lifting to their usual calibre of



The U13s grand finalists were Panthers (red shirts) Isabella, Paige, Luca, Elenor, Lexie, Millie, Olivia and Swifters Asha, Bonnie, Sadie, Kienna, Kealey, Frankie, Jess, Scarlett, Renie and Maya.

play with one goal difference in that quarter.

All in all, it was still a fast game with great netball skills being displayed, accurate goals and starring intercepts.

Best and Fairest Section 1 was awarded to Ellie Bates and runner up was Zoe Verboon. In hot pursuit was Kiara Brusmarello. Well deserved girls. Congratulations.

Section 2: All teams were quite even and it ended up being played off by the third and fourth finishing teams, so you never know and you never give up. Congratulations to all teams, but especially the grand finalists.

This game was a very well contested game, with both teams combining well together and getting the scores on the board.

The Jaquars have been improving for the last couple of years, gaining confidence and now have some finals experience.

Keep up the good work. At half time there was only one goal the difference.

However, The Club kept its cool and threw some extra beautiful goals.

Final siren: The Club 29 to The Jaquars 23.

Section 2 best and fairest winner was Alyce Wylie, and Lara Mullins from Titans was the runner up.

Congratulations girls, and well done to Holly Forsyth and Sarah Blundell, who just missed out.

WDNA ran a short season of mixed junior games for U13s and U11 with no finals.

It was wonderful to see the improvement just from playing regularly.

Seven teams entered the U13 mixed short season.

Panthers in red t shirts were the team to beat over the eight weeks.

The Panthers 31 defeated The Swifters 25.

Congratulations to both teams on being 2023 grand finalists and to Panthers on their disciplined game.

Congratulations to all the other teams as it was well agreed you all improved out of sight.

Stick with it, it only gets better.

WDNA would like to thank all teams that participated and all players for actively playing, encouraging other

beginners and having some fun whilst all improving.

Thanks to Ange, Ellen and Krystal for making it happen and all the umpires, coaches and parents.

WDNA would like to thank all the helpers, scorers, committee members, umpires and team captains for their contribution – a big thank you.

The most important announcement is WDNA is very excited to announce it will have the opportunity to play in the Wonthaggi Secondary College, Community 3 court indoor stadium in February.

This will be a fantastic opportunity to play on compliant courts, let alone playing in a modern beautiful facility that it is.

WDNA would like to encourage all players and clubs to enter and join us.

The competition will now be played on a Tuesday night.

It would be a great way to develop younger players in a game situation, or for friends to have a bit of fun and exercise.

Stay tuned as entries will open soon for the early February competition.

How Power Coach Jarryd has overachieved again

THEY always said Jarryd Blair defied his diminutive size, in AFL terms, to earn his place in the 2010 Collingwood premiership team.

Now the former Magpie and present-day Wonthaggi Power coach with his wife Jessica has overachieved again, this time welcoming twins, Jimmy and Bohdi, in recent days to join their other two boys Ziggy and Gus.

It's been a big year for the Blairs and with four children under five, it's going to be even bigger in 2024, if the Power are to go one better and finally win the Gippsland League premiership.

The club recently published its "Team of the Year for 2042" made up of the Powers' 2023 arrivals... hopefully it's not left up to them to break through.

Wonthaggi Power has its annual general meeting on Tuesday, December 19 (tonight) in the clubrooms starting at 7pm.

South Gippsland Bridge results

15/12 at Inverloch Xmas Party: 9 tables North/South winners of the master points in a closely fought contest

- 1st Philip & Nev Chapman on 58.93
- 2nd John Currier & John Sutton 57.44
- 3rd Alan Johnston & Clive Hope 54.76
- 4th Greg Nicholson & Caroline Shaw 51.79

E/W winners:

- 1st Marie Sands & Bronwyn Sund 55.35
- 2nd Faye Rowlands & Deb Anglim 54.76
- 3rd Julie Perriam & Anne Gibson 54.23
- 4th Ruth Harvey & Susan Edwards 53.17

12/12 at Wonthaggi RSL:

- 1st Faye Rowlands & Richard Poole with an impressive 63.70
- 2nd John French & Deb Anglim 61.48
- 3rd Nev & Phillip Chapman 55.93
- 4th Alan Johnston & John Sutton 54.07

More Christmas celebrations to come

Tuesday December 19 at Wonthaggi RSL- special afternoon tea provided.

Reminder to all players that they may bring a can or packet donation to the RSL Christmas Hamper.

Thursday December 21 at Wonthaggi Workmens Club

Lunch after supervised play. Please ensure you have let Susan know if you are planning to stay for lunch.



The Section 1 best and fairest was awarded to Ellie Bates and runner up was Zoe Verboon. In hot pursuit was Kiara Brusamarello (not pictured).



Female best and fairest Chloe Cengia, equal runner up best and fairest Olivia Watson, male best and fairest Josh Truman, and equal runner up best and fairest Kira Durling. Absent: equal runner up best and fairest Heidi Farr and male runner up best and fairest Tom Dixon.



Leongatha Bowls Club Champions Jenny Miller and Paul Michael.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Pairs Champions Aldo Sartori and Bryan Donohue.



The Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls winners were Linda Newman, Pat Smith and Thelma Kavanagh.



Jeanette Chalmers and Rosa James at the Leongatha Bowls Club Christmas dinner.



Inverloch Bowling Club's social bowls winners were Rob Howard, John Duthie (skip), David Turnbull and Jeff Curwood.

INVERLOCH

THURSDAY social bowls: Thirty-one bowlers played off for Thursday's honours.

Two games of 10 ends were played. Runners up for the day was the team of Bill Selby (skip), Joyce Arnold and Peter Gentsch with two wins and 32 points. Eventual winners on two games and 33 points was the team of John Duthie (skip), Rob Howard, David Turnbull and Jeff Curwood.

Midweek Pennant: Round seven: Division 1: Inverloch 64 Leongatha 55. Division 2: Inverloch 61 Wonthaggi 63. Division 3: Inverloch (4) 40 Fish Creek 48; Inverloch (3) 32 Foster 50.

Weekend Pennant: Round nine: Division 1: Inverloch 53 Korumburra 54. Division 2: Inverloch 70 Wonthaggi 57. Division 3: Inverloch 63 Mirboo North 62. Division 4: Inverloch 47 Phillip Island 64.

KORUMBURRA

IT was another busy week at the club with midweek pennant and Christmas parties, as well as Saturday Pennant.

In midweek, Division 1 hosted Phillip Island. Jo Lomagno had a 26 to 14 shot win, Judith Nicholl won 24 to 22 and unfortunately Jenny McVeigh lost 14 shots to 20.

In Division 3, Korumburra travelled to Loch.

Cheryl Moore got up 26 to 17, but Lena went down 14 shots to 18 – still a good win overall.

In Saturday Pennant, Division 1 hosted Inverloch.

Rob Cosson got up 18 shots to nine and Robin Provan won 23 shots to 21, however Peter Spark lost 13 shots to 23 an overall one-shot win.

Division 2 hosted Loch and were no match for them.

Peter Hearn lost 18 shots to 25, Jim Garnham lost 13 shots to 21 while Rob Sund lost eight shots to 28 – not a good day. Division 4 hosted Tarwin Lower with all three rinks having good wins.

Hayden Rees won 23 shots to 14, Alan Cherrett won 27 shots to 22 and George Hams won 18 shots to 13 – a good overall win.

After the bowls, the club enjoyed a pizza night.

LEONGATHA

ROUND seven of the Midweek Pennant Division 1 competition was played at Inverloch.

Carol Hughes skip (Inverloch) was defeated by Marj Pearson skip (Leongatha) 13/25 shots.

Anne Tschiderer skip (Inverloch) defeated Rosa James skip (Leongatha) 29/9 shots.

Diane Coleman skip (Inverloch) defeated Jenny Miller skip (Leongatha) 22/21 shots.

Round nine of the Saturday Pennant Competition was played on Saturday in very windy conditions.

The Leongatha Division 1 side

was subjected to an annihilation by Mirboo North who won on all three rinks with an overall score of 85/53 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows: Michael Coram skip (Mirboo North) defeated Paul Michael skip (Leongatha) 32/19 shots.

Josh Taylor skip (Mirboo North) defeated John Hall skip (Leongatha) 28/21 shots.

Patrick Lewis skip (Mirboo North) defeated Anthony Collier skip (Leongatha) 25/13 shots.

The Leongatha Division 2 side played host to the Fish Creek Club and won overall 66/59 shots.

An interesting battle between the Symmons brothers Ron and Bill was witnessed.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

Ron Symmons skip (Leongatha) defeated Bill Symmons skip (Fish Creek) 21/18 shots.

Rod Jackson skip (Leongatha) defeated Robert Mortlock skip (Fish Creek) 25/20 shots.

Vito Serafino skip (Leongatha) came from well back to just lose against David Christie skip (Fish Creek) 20/21 shots.

The Leongatha Division 4 side welcomed the Port Welshpool Club, which is struggling for members but managed to be competitive and that was so by winning on two of three rinks with an overall score of 69/54 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

John White skip (Leongatha) defeated John Roberts skip (Port Welshpool) 27/17 shots.

Susan Wakefield skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Errol Gregory (Port Welshpool) 30/11 shots.

Janice Sing skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Margaret McDonald (Port Welshpool) 16/22 shots.

It was noted that the Bankers event was operating on Saturday with prospective bowlers being shown the etiquette of lawn bowls and enjoying their participation in the game.

Hopefully the club membership will increase substantially thanks to the training team who have volunteered their services.

The club will have a break over the Christmas and New Year celebration period and the first major event in the New Year will be the open pairs on January 14.

Midweek Pennant restarts on January 16 and the Saturday pennant will restart with round 10 on January 20.

Leongatha Bowls Club's Christmas dinner was held on Sunday, December 17.

More than 50 people were in attendance.

This event was catered by Brent Sinclair Catering.

The two-course meal was enjoyed by everyone.

The Christmas hamper raffle was drawn.

First place went to Jo Runciman and second to Sarah Doolan (Dot

Shandley's granddaughter).

Leongatha Bowls Club wishes The Sentinel Times staff and readers a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

MIDWEEK BOWLS

WHAT a day it was on Thursday – what a year it has been.

Thirty-eight bowlers turned up for the final games of 2023 to Lang Lang Bowls Club.

They were greeted by Marianne as usual, who always does a great job in looking after everyone.

Peter, Pauline and John signed everyone in and arranged the teams while they mingled and chatted about all things in general.

They then took to the green to fight it out for team of the day.

However, it was going to be slightly different.

Yes, there was the usual laughter and the usual sledging of friends.

But, unknown to most, there was never going to be just one team win.

They were extremely happy, come lunch break, to be the recipients of a wonderful lunch compliments of the C.O.M. following such a good year.

At this point, they have to thank Helen, Chloe and Jill for such a magnificent lunch – it was a lovely treat.

They also want to thank the committee once again for arranging the lunch as well as the wonderful free raffle that was held during lunch, it was a pleasure to see so many happy winners.

Out they went following lunch to fight it out again for another 12 ends.

Following the second game, they were once again the recipients of an unexpected afternoon snack from Helen, Chloe and Jill, with hot party pies, sausage rolls, sandwiches and so many wonderful desserts, too many to name.

There was no team winner, they were all winners.

So, unlike every other week, there is no winning team, no runners-up and no best one game.

Thank you also to those who helped to make today such a success behind the scenes – thank you Bev, Vicki and Vern.

South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group will be back early in the new year to once again take up bowls and fight it out over and over again.

To all players, committee members, volunteers and helpers, have a very merry Christmas as well as a prosperous and safe New Year.

To all pennant players, the group hopes you have a good weekend of playing in your final game(s) of 2023.

See you next year.

WONTHAGGI

IT was another busy week at the club, starting on Sunday with a Christmas lunch, together with a visit from Santa and one of his helpers.

Continued page 57

From page 56

Sixty people enjoyed a lovely meal catered for by The Wonthaggi Club.

Tuesday saw Division 1 travel to the lovely village of Foster to do battle against the top team.

There were mixed results for all three rinks with one having a good win, another not having a good day, with the other having a win in a close game to secure a win overall.

The final scores Wonthaggi 61 Foster 59.

Division 2, also on the road, travelled to Inverloch looking for a win to keep in touch with the top four.

In a close match one rink had a draw, another a loss and the other a good win to secure a win for the team on the day.

The final scores Wonthaggi 63 Inverloch 61.

Barefoot Bowls again went off well with fine mild weather being the key.

Wednesday social bowls was a washout with a number of storms plus a lot of lightning.

Thursday saw a good number of bowlers turn out for a game of bowls plus a lunch to round off the season.

Thursday social bowls will start again next year on January 11.

There is a photo of the group on the website.

Friday saw the final of the men's pairs between Rod Beech, Michael Raman, Aldo Sartori and Bryan Donohue played over 18 ends.

The match was decided on the second last bowl of the match.

The winners were Bryan and Aldo in a great display of bowls by both pairs.

Saturday Pennant saw Division 1 travel to Corinella on a fine day with a breeze to keep them on their toes.

Two rinks had good wins with the other, after being well down all day, fought back to record a narrow loss.

The final scores Wonthaggi 70 Corinella 55.

Division 2 travelled to Inverloch, also on a fine day with a breeze.

Two rinks had good wins with the other not having a good day.

The final scores Wonthaggi 57 Inverloch 70.

Division 3 played host to Phillip Island at home and once again the year from hell struck with another loss under five shots. All rinks had a steady day.

The final scores Wonthaggi 50 Phillip Island 51.

Division 4 played host to Meeniyan on a good day for bowls.

Looking to keep their place in the top four all rinks played well to record a solid win.

The final scores Wonthaggi 66 Meeniyan 52.

Bowls this week: Tuesday Pennant with Barefoot Bowls from 5pm, Wednesday social bowls at 1pm and Friday coaching at 10am.

Have a good week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

THIS week was the final week of bowling for the year. Bowlers will return on January 9.

Tuesday was a normal bowling day with 24.

The winners with an amazing plus 29 were Linda Newman, Thelma Kavanagh and Pat Smith.

Runners up on plus 14 were Judy Sweetnam, Jeannie Slocombe and Bill Feathertson.

The bowlers had a fun day on Friday, finishing with an incredible afternoon tea. The committee would like to wish everybody a safe and happy Christmas and new year.

The bowlers would also like to thank the staff of the Sentinel Times for their support over the previous year and wish them a very happy Christmas and new year.



Claudia and coaches Caiden and Dylan - who said there's been some up and downs on swimmers' times but mostly it's been an improvement.



Rahni and Olivia celebrate at the Victorian State Long Course Championship.

SGB Swimmers attend Victoria State Long Course Championships

THIRTY-three South Gippsland Bass swimmers represented the club at the Victorian State Long Course Championship at MSAC over December 16-20, the largest team the club has ever sent.

The event, which was held in March for the past few years has returned to its original month of December, a time when almost all the swimmers had finished school for the year and allowed them to race without missing class.

The squad were extremely competitive with a number of swimmers not only making finals, but several swimmers have come home with medals after just two days of racing. Other swimmers

have achieved personal bests, a great effort given some only swam their qualifying times two weeks ago.

Coach Dylan was pleased with the results so far, "There's been some up and downs on their times but mostly it's been an improvement. For some who only just qualified a fortnight ago, to swim around that time again is really good. They are working on their race goals and giving it their all to achieve it. To already have several of them come home with medals has been wonderful."

In a sport of milliseconds, a tenth of a second can be the difference between a swim in the

final or being the emergency, as several swimmers found out, but given the large number of visitors from outside Victoria attending, they can be proud of their ranking.

The team: Bec Barclay, Billy Boyd, Maddi Boyd, Max Brocklesby, Rex Brocklesby, Gemma Cook, Claudia Croatto, Asha Chalmers, Molly Dettbarn, Billy Fisher, Maggie Fisher, Cormac Flynn, Lachie Grimes, Olivia Holmes, Josh Hunt, Sienna Hunt, Holly Hurst, Mostyn Lumsden, Issy Lynch, Rahni Matheson, Sienna Matheson, Harper McRae, Hugh Munro, Trinity O'Keefe, Cooper Quaife, Gypsy Quaife,

Miah Roberts, Zac Sherar, Will Simmons, Aidan Smyth, Lara Smyth, Jarrah Tagell, Mason Wiggins.

Racing continues until Wednesday December 20.

Finalists after days one and two were:

Rahni Matheson 15yr 2nd 100m Breaststroke. Sienna Matheson, 17yr 2nd 100m Breaststroke. Olivia Holmes, 14yr 8th 200 Freestyle, 3rd 100m Backstroke. Miah Roberts, 14yr 4th 100m Backstroke. Claudia Croatto, 14yr 3rd 200m Breaststroke. Zac Sherar, 15yr 7th 400m Freestyle. Gemma Cook, 2nd 50m Breaststroke, 50m Backstroke.

Achievements celebrated by underwater hockey club

THE 2023 Wonthaggi Under Water Hockey Club held its annual end of year presentation night on Saturday, December 16.

This year, the committee decided to do something different by including a round of Splatball at Bass Coast Paintball followed by a barbecue dinner onsite.

In 2023 the club has had a huge influx of new players.

The Wonthaggi Under Water Hockey Club (WUWHC) has enjoyed a lot of success in both state and interstate competitions including a number of WUWHC players being selected for the Victorian State and Australian teams.

With that in mind, it was an incredibly difficult task to choose the award winners and all those that received a trophy can be proud of what they have achieved in the club this year.

Awards:

Most improved U19: Caden Milnes and Maddi Maund. Most improved U15: Tamsyn Walsh and Cathal O Flynn. Most improved Junior: Noah Martin and Alyssa Walters- Dunlop Game night. Best and Fairest: a three-way split on equal points Amy Pearce, Mardi Strachan and Devlin Rowe. Coach's Award U19: Hamish Scothern. Coach's Award U15: Daniel Pearce. Coach's Award Junior: Levi Moren. Most determined player: Julia Spencer. Steve Dunn Perpetual Trophy- Club Person of the Year: Jacqui Walsh.



The 2023 Wonthaggi Under Water Hockey Club award winners.



David Pearce putting with fellow player Geoff Cohen at Red Rocks Golf Course on Phillip Island.

Tee off for a cancer free future

RED Rocks golfers took part in ‘The Longest Day’ golf marathon last week – testing their skill, strength, and stamina on the course to raise awareness and funds for the Cancer Council’s research, prevention and support services.

Players Geoff Cohen and David Pearce were supported by the Aussie Golf Ranch - donating their green fees to the great cause. The pair challenged themselves – completing 72 holes, consisting of 8x9 holes with Geoff sharing that Red Rocks course is a nice easy walk and as a nine-hole course its best for such a day.

“We completed the 72 holes in 10 hours,

teeing off at 8.00am and finishing up at 6:00pm (taking out half an hour for lunch) we were a little weary, but proud of ourselves for the achievement,” said Geoff.

“We’d like to thank the club for their support in the challenge. So many of us are touched by cancer in some way and we took on this challenge for those we know who have suffered with cancer over the years.

“We contributed to the \$20,000 that was raised on ‘The Longest Day’,” said Geoff.

All the funds raised help programs and research that will lead to a cancer free future.



Grade winners in Korumburra's Fun Christmas Special event were Lyn Leppin, Diarne Maskell and Heather Grist.

Christmas Special for Korumburra Golfers

THE ‘CHRISTMAS Special’ golf game was a big hit and we thank our Women’s Captain, Merrissa Cosson for creating this fun version of golf. No handicapping was involved as the usual rules were very much altered. It was also the Captain’s v President’s (Lyn McIvor) Day with teams selected randomly and Merrissa’s group winning the title.

The A Grade winner was Heather Grist, 49 pts with Sherrin Solly next best, 48 pts. Diarne Maskell won B Grade, 50 pts, and runner-up was Gail Beer, 47 pts.

Lyn Leppin won C Grade, 54 pts with Pam Eyers runner-up, on a c/b, with 48 pts.

BDTL went to Karen Sorrell, 48 pts, Kerri Besley, 47 pts, and Lorraine Knox and Deb Wrigley, both on 46 pts.

NTP’s were also different from the usual rules or distance. 1st, Lyn McIvor, 7th, Viv Enbom, 10th Lyn Perks, 13th Jenny Blackmore, 14th to the 4th, Sherrin Solly.

The minor trophies were presented and thanks to the club for sponsoring these awards.

Most Consistent- Kerri Besley

Mud Masters (June- Sept) – Aliesha Wrigley

Eclectic Summer Wed, Grades; A - Merrissa Cosson, B - Diarne Maskell,

C - Pam Eyers

Eclectic Summer Sat; A - Aliesha Wrigley, B - Deb Wrigley

Eclectic Winter Wed – A - Lyn McIvor, B - Julie Hillberg, C - Pam Eyers. Eclectic Winter Sat – Aliesha

Gobbles (chip-ins)– Wed - Diarne Maskell (9), Sat -Deb Wrigley (9)

Birdies- Wed – Merrissa, Sat - Merrissa

Last Thursday week the Twilight winners were Viv Enbom and Bob Stiff, 24 pts on a c/b from Collette Pearl and Steve McNamara.

Thursdays Twilight winners were Viv and Jaarl Enbom, 27 pts, on a c/b from Julie Cole and Joseph Salvatore. Joseph was also NTP on the 13th green.

Saturday’s RB Monthly Medal was won by Aliesha Wrigley (23) with 70 net and therefore Aliesha was the recipient of the Luscious Café voucher. Runner-up, after the c/b was Judy Webb (25), 70 net. BDTL went to Jenny Blackmore (27), 73 net. NTP’s were Sherrin Solly, 1st (Kelly’s Bakery voucher) and Jenny was closest on the 13th.

Wishing all those involved with Korumburra Golf Club, our sponsors, the broader community and our golfing friends in the district, a relaxing time over the holiday period and hope 2024 brings wonderful times.

FOSTER Ladies

THERE was an excellent roll up for the Foster ladies’ Christmas breakup.

As per tradition, nine-holes of par were played with a secret draw for partners.

The winners were Kylie Collins and Josie Parisi with 34 points.

BDTL went to Dianne Walker, who had quite a day out, and Anne Garrow who also had a nice NTP on the fourth.

Di Walker was NTP on the second.

Trophies for the year’s events were also presented, and the golfers were very appreciative of everyone who supported the club throughout the year.

Thank all the trophy donors for not just the monthly events but the yearly events also.

The Helene Elmore Trophy - Best Gross Score six out of 10 medal days – March to December.

A Grade: Barb Warren

B Grade: Kaylene Morris. Donor: Helen Fulton.

Best net score six out of 10 medal days – March to December: Di Walker.

Donor: Beth Curram.

Putting –medal days five best rounds: Geraldine Sinclair.

Donor: Anne Heywood.

Par aggregate: Elisa Nudelman.

Donors: Rae Knee and Jan Best.

Stableford –best six rounds: Beth Curram.

Donor: Judith Bacon.

Norma McGrath Eclectic: A Grade: Beth Curram.

B Grade: Di Walker.

C Grade: Josie Parisi.

Donor: Athol McGrath.

Birdies: A Grade: Barb Warren.

B Grade: Josie Parisi.

3’s: A Grade: Beth Curram and Barb Warren.

B Grade: Josie Parisi.

Gobblers: Di Walker.

Sponsor: Barb Warren.

Most improved: Kylie Collins.

Val Williams trophy and most consistent: Beth Curram.

Thank you to Chantelle and her team for a delicious lunch, and, as usual the ladies excelled with a scrumptious afternoon tea.

All the best for the summer golf and see you all next year.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, December 12.

Stableford: 29 players.

A Grade: Jacob Wrigley (9) 40 points.

B Grade: Pete Wallace (20) 38 points.

NTPs: first Mick Belvedere and 13th Ian Gibson.

Thursday, December 14: Stableford: 16 players.

Winner: Jake Fowles (24) 40 C/B.

NTPs: first Steve Rose, seventh Neil Spargo, 10th Chris Clements and 13th Joh Kerr.

Saturday, December 16: Monthly Medal: 50 players.

Sponsor: Ian Cash and

Inlet Hotel.

Monthly Medal Winner: Jack Clink (30) 59 net.

A Grade: Greg Jones (14) 67 net.

B Grade: Mick Belvedere (19) 68 net.

C Grade: Jack Clink (30) 59 net.

Scratch winner: Steve Rose (10) 78 C/B.

NTPs: first Ross Crawford, seventh Greg Jones, 10th Marty De Leeuw and 13th Malcolm Garnham.

LANG LANG

RESULTS:

Tuesday Stableford – field of 66.

Division 1: Winner: Michael Fahey 39 points. Second place: Robbie Maskiell 37 points.

Division 2: Winner: Charlie Love 42 points. Second place: Tony Goldring 41 points.

Ball rundown to 35 points.

Nearest the pins: Fifth: Tim Purdy. Ninth: Guy Jones. 12th: Peter Sellers. 15th: Phil Mott.

Wednesday Ladies’ Par (nine holes):

Winner: Gillian Nowell +1. Runner up: Paula Sweeney 0.

Nearest the pins: Fifth: Paula Sweeney.

Thursday Stableford/ 4BBB – field of 68.

4BBB: Winners: Michael Herman and David Fahey 47 points. Runners up: Scott Mahony and Gary Callahan 45 points.

Stableford: Winner: David Fahey 40 points. Runner up: Roger Parker 39 points.

Ball rundown to 33 points.

Nearest the pin: Fifth: Lionel Mahony. Ninth: Stephen Rawlings. 12th: Michael Herman. 15th: Nik Hock.

Saturday Stableford: field of 172.

Division 1: Winner: Matthew Skinner 40 points. Runner Up: Tony Andrews 39 points. Third: Gary Sosenko 37 points.

Division 2: Winner: David O'Donnell with 41 points. Runner up: Ben Hall with 39 points. Third: Rob Volk with 38 points.

Division 3: Winner: Craig Arnott with 39 points. Runner up: Jodie Mays with 37 points by countback. Third: Andrew Poxon.

Ball rundown to 33 points.

Nearest the pins: Third hole second shot (0-18): Michael Johansson. Third hole second shot (19+): Craig Arnott. Fifth (0-18): Reg Whitehead. Fifth (19+): Darren Chatfield. Ninth (0-18): Steve Jones. Ninth (19+): Gary Burgess. 12th (0-18): Wayne Kennedy. 12th (19+): Nicole Ellen. 15th (0-18): Theo Vassiliadis. 15th (19+): Willie Raynes.

Sunday Stableford:

Winner: Frank DePasquale 40 points. Runner up: Joshua Browne 34 points.

Ball rundown to 31 points.

Friday night was the twilight social night with many coming along to enjoy golf,

music, dinner and drinks out on the deck. The major prize of \$250, which was sponsored by the club’s friends at the Community Bank Lang Lang, was won by Steve Walsh, who also took out the major prize in the raffle.

Well done to Steve, who was a very excited winner.

The next social night will be on Australia Day Eve, Thursday, January 25.

The club will have competitions running each day over the Christmas and New Year period, apart from Christmas Day with the course being closed.

It is generally a busy time of year, so bookings are highly recommended.

The club looks forward to seeing everyone over the festive season.

Wishing all members and guests a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

LEONGATHA

THE board, staff and members of the Leongatha Golf Club extend to all readers of The South Gippsland Sentinel Times the very best wishes for the 2023 Christmas season and a safe and prosperous 2024.

Tuesday, December 12: Stableford.

Seventy-three members/ guests played in Tuesday’s Stableford round, reaping excellent results from outstanding course conditions.

A Grade winner: John Ryan (11) with 42 points.

A Grade runner up: Christopher Leaver (11) with 39 points.

B Grade winner: Michael Hill (22) with 39 points on a countback.

B Grade runner up: Leo De Bondt (23) with 39 points.

C Grade winner: Michael Delaney (28) with 40 points on a countback.

C Grade runner up: Liam Keating (25) with 40 points.

NTP fifth second shot: Rod MacKenzie.

NTP 14th: Ian Miller at .44m.

NTP 16th: Ian Barlow at .89m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Ian Miller, Anthony Seabrook, Michael Street, and Ian Barlow.

Thursday, December 14: Mulligans Day – 4BBB Stableford event.

One of the highest fields for the season of 113 members/guests played in this 4BBB Stableford event.

A big thanks to those local members who generously sponsored the day.

A Grade winners:

1. Philip Edwards and Gary McGrath with 50 points on a countback.

2. Mark Billows and Dylan Clark with 50 points.

3. Malcolm Ginn and Elliot Gin with 49 points on a countback.

NTP fifth second shot: Ken Smirk.

NTP 14th: Darren Fletcher at 1.10m.

Continued page 59



Leongatha Golf Club runners up Marie Sands, Wendy Parker, Nan Meagher and Glenys Day, with sponsor from Bliss in Inverloch Liz Chandler, and winners Lynda Bassett, Jenny Fraser, Wendy Brown and Delia Perry.

From page 58
NTP 16th: Greg Ellt at 1.24m.
Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Ken Smirk, Sean Munley, Paul Deery and Steve Fisher.
Saturday, December 16: Stableford.
Another excellent field of 90 members/guests played in sublime conditions with some great scores for Saturday's Stableford event.
A Grade winner: Christopher Leaver (10) with 39 points. A Grade runner up: Alan Starkey (13) with 38 points.
B Grade winner: Gordon Morrison (14) with 39 points. B Grade runner up: John Feddersen (23) with 37 points.
C Grade winner: Connor Hosking (22) with 39 points. C Grade runner up: Jon Smith (20) with 38 points.
D Grade winner: Martin Fuller (23) with 37 points on a countback. D Grade runner up: Phil Strike (23) with 37 points on a countback.
Congratulations to Conor Hosking for an Eagle on the third.
NTP 14th: Conor Hosking at .81m. NTP 16th: Trevor Rickard at 2.05m.
Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Stuart Smith, Nicholas Byrne, Antony Roberts and Barry Attwood.

Ladies

TO celebrate the end of the year, the women played a 12-hole Ambrose, which turned out to be just the right amount of golf for the very hot day.
Bliss in Inverloch, a local clothing company, sponsored the day with very generous in-house vouchers.
Many of the women decked themselves out in Christmas 'bling' stored away since last year.
The winning team included Wendy Brown, Delia Perry, Lynda Bassett and Jenny Fraser with 57.125.
Just 1.5 shots behind were Marie Sands, Glenys Day, Nan Meagher and Wendy Parker.
The ball down the liners were Trish Miller, Paula Cross, Nola Kim and Ann Blundy 58.8, Jan Brownlie, Alison Strong, Else Gedye and Marg Griffiths 60.8, and finally Lianne Anderson, Shirley Welsford, Joc Howson and Glenyce McRobert 60.9.
Nearest the pin on the 16th was Wendy Parker and Marie Sands was the closest on the 14th.

MEENIYAN Ladies

THE Christmas break up lunch was held on Wednesday, December 13.
Golfers played a shortened

nine-hole course, playing Stableford using three clubs only and with no flags in the holes.
Some took their putter and others used their woods to putt with.
There were some great scores handed in –not sure why 14 clubs are carried on a normal round.
The main annual trophies handed out were the Star Medal winner Faye LePage, and The Lorraine Eddy Singles winner Tanya Thorson.
It had been noted recently that Meeniyen Golf Club doesn't have a trophy for the Club Lady Champion, so the ladies (on the quiet) went ahead and organized a lovely trophy to honour club legend Dot Christie who has won the championship 45 times.
The trophy was then presented by Dot to the inaugural winner Andrea Thorson.
These two ladies are such inspirational players, and everyone feels very proud that they belong at Meeniyen Golf Club.

MIRBOO NORTH

THURSDAY, December 14: Stableford.
A Grade: T. Whitelaw, (10) 35 points. B Grade: C. James, (23) 37 points.
DTL: M. Richter, 35. N. Rutledge and T Bradshaw 34.
NTP: fourth P. Woodall, sixth P. Cummaudo, 13th P. Woodall and 16th G. Renwick.
Birdies: fourth P. Woodall, sixth P. Cummaudo, and 13th P. Woodall, and N. Rutledge.
Saturday, December 16: Stableford, A Grade: T. Whitelaw (10) 36 points c/b. B Grade: S. Beitz, (18) 40points. C Grade: D. Martini (23) 35points.
DTL: G. Dawson 38, B. Bradshaw 36, G. McLure, N. Baker 35, N. Rutledge 34, T. Bradshaw, and P. Draper 33 c/b.
NTP: fourth R. Jenkins, sixth G. Shandley, 13th S. Beitz, and 16th C. McKay.
Birdies: fourth P. Draper, R. Jenkins S. McKenzie, S. Duffield, sixth J. Hughes, J. Hornibrook, 13th M. Atkins, S. Beitz, and 16th C. McKay.
Jabba Jabba Shield Challenge: Mirboo North 31.4 defeated Garfield 29.1.

PHILLIP ISLAND

TUESDAY, December 12: Men's Stroke Midweek Monthly Medal 18-hole:
Overall winner: Steve Keily (34) 64.
A Grade winners: A-1 Christian Lloyd (11) 70 C/B and A-2 Mark Dykes (9) 70 C/B.
B Grade winners: B-1 Garry Thompson (22) 68 and B-2 Ricky Males (21) 70.
C Grade winners: C-1 Steve

Keily (34) 64 and C-2 Ian Brown (36) 65.
BDL to 73 C/B
NTP: fifth Neil Williams, seventh Ricky Males, 10th Tim Duff and 17th Anthony Shannon.
Men's nine-hole Stableford.
Winners: Basil Moloney (12) 20 points C/B Graham Robinson (27) 20 points.
BDL to 17 points.
Wednesday, December 13: Women's Stableford 18-hole:
A Grade winner: Helen Coghlan (16) 37 points C/B.
B Grade winner: Sue Brown (26) 40 points.
C Grade winner: Maureen Elard (42) 41 points.
BDL to 36 points.
NTP: fifth Emma Hall, seventh Judy Griffin, 10th Helen Coghlan and 17th Emma Hall.
Women's nine-hole Stableford:
Winner: Lorraine Brown (39) 18 points.
BDL to 16 points C/B.
Thursday, December 14: Open Comp Stableford 18H
Overall winner: Chris McKinney (18) 44 points.
A Grade winners: A-1 Daniel Pearce (6) 40 points C/B and A-2 Scott Lethbridge (4) 40 points.
B Grade winners: B-1 Chris McKinney (18) 44 points and B-2 Fred Panozzo (15) 36 points C/B.
C Grade winners: C-1 Garry Thompson (21) 39 points and C-2 Peter Gray (23) 38 points.
BDL to 34 points C/B.
Great score: Daniel Pearce Eagle on the 11th.
NTP: fifth Chris Sanderson, seventh Dan McConnon, 10th Dan McConnon and 17th Neil Williams.
Open nine-hole Stableford:
Overall winners: Rob Davison (12) 19 points C/B Robert Leak (31) 19 points.
BDL to 16 points.
Saturday, December 16: Men's 18-hole Stableford.
Overall winner: Barry Grazules (10) 43 points.
A Grade winners: A-1 Barry Grazules (10) 43 points and A-2 Morgan Ward (11) 40 points.
B Grade winners: B-1 Daryl Vernon (16) 41 points and B-2 Greg Holland (18) 40 points C/B.
C Grade winners: C-1 Rick Zolcinski (25) 41 points C/B and C-2 Peter Rymer (21) 41 points.
BDL to 35 points C/B.
NTP: fifth Mark Dickson, seventh Jason King, 10th Heath Grace and 17th Andrew Hewett.
Men's nine-hole Stableford.
Overall winner: Patrick Owens (16) 18 points.
BDL to 15 points C/B.
Women's 18-hole Stableford.
A Grade winners: A-1 Marlene Gibson (28) 40 points and A-2 Jeanette Diss (20) 39 points.
BDL to 34 points C/B.
NTP: fifth Emma Hall, seventh



Dot Christie presented the inaugural Club Ladies' Champion trophy to Andrea Thorson at Meeniyen Golf Club.



Matt Thompson (left) from Lang Lang Golf Club presented winner of the Bendigo Bank \$250 Shoot-out Steve Walsh (middle), with his prize with club captain Shaun Mays (right).

Angela Olarenschaw, 10th Lesley Meadowcroft and 17th Vicki Roff-Smith.
Sunday, December 17: Open 18-hole Stableford.
Overall winners: Ricky Males (20) 37 points C/B and Brady Ross (13) 37 points C/B.
BDL to 37 points.
Open nine-hole Stableford.
Overall winner: Belinda Beckham (46) 14 points C/B.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: December 14, SR. 71.
Competition: Stableford 18-hole.
Winner: Graeme Crawford 36.
Runner up: Jonathon Elliot 36.
BDTL to 34 C/B.
Ball sweep: Frank Huber 36, Philip McCrimmon 34, Peter Young 34, Bruce Betts 34 and Bob Cornelis 34 C/b.
Results: December 14, SR. 36.
Competition: Stableford back nine-hole.
Winner: Norm Burne 21
BDTL to 19 C/B.
Ball sweep: Blake Cornelis 21, Ray Hender 20, John Davis 20, Paul Cornelis 19 and Mick Bourke 19 C/B.
Results: December 16.
Competition: Stableford 18-hole.
Winner: A: Craig Charles 37. B: Secondo Tiziani 37. C: Phil Studham 41.
BDTL to 34 C/B.
Ball sweep: Ben Clark 40, Alan

Jones 39, Gary Lock 38, Kevin Bayley 37, Alan Cubbon 36, Dean Winning 36, Russell Parker 35, John Walsh 35, Inoke Baudromo 35 and Ken Cuman 34 C/B.
NTP: Ben White second, Peter Dell fourth, Inoke Baudromo propin eighth, John Walsh 13th and Frank Huber 17th money hole.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY saw the ladies finish their schedule for 2023 with a fun day of Ambrose between the humidity, rain, thunder, but luckily no lightning made an appearance.
There were lots of red, green, tinsel and colourful clothes.
A wonderful Christmas meal was enjoyed by all after the game.
The winners were the Three A's – Anne Poulton, Anne Tschiderer, Andrea Grenville –with 65.16.
Thank you to Donna Brosnan and her business Latitude Trading for sponsoring the lovely winning prizes.
Second place went to Jenny McRae, Karen Sheerin, Sharyn Williams and Anne Walker 65.25.
Third place went to Chris Yann, Yvonne Everitt and Kaylene Hodgetts 65.83.
NTP on second was Andrea Grenville, fourth Geraldine Prentice, eighth Kaylene Hodgetts, 13th Catherine Bolding and 17th Jenny McRae.

Kookas find a way

OVER 60s

A ROAD trip to the East Donny Devils found the rampaging Over 60's Kookas missing a few super cricketers.

The Devils won the toss and chose to willow wield.

Master blaster Loos 1/29 and Ol Grayza Wighty 1/16 struggled a wee bit against a bristling Devils batting pair.

Neil "Super Calfs" White got a much needed wicket.

Skipper Mitch kept it tighter than a South Gippland Council Meeting, 0/16.

Enter the spin twins. Burkey the Wild Man of Borneo struck with 2/24 and the Golden Voiced Crooner Geoff Birnie 2/18 brought the Kookas back from the brink.

Leongatha and District Cricket Association life member Thomo Thomas and Peter Perfect Little tidied up, holding the Devilish Devils to 6/165, a challenging total.

Warwick Hammer Hayes - well hammered them for 18no., Ol Grayza Wigby supported him with 10no.

Enter Peter Pulverizing Little for a rapid fire 24no. and Prez White, a Breezy 15no.

Then it was crushing time with Burkey Blitzkrieg Burkle slamming five Sixes to blast 41no.

The Kookas chased down the total with four overs to spare, amassing 1/166.

It was another spine-tingling victory.

The Young Over 60's now have their Christmas rest and are then ready to continue their fun, frivolity and stellar cricket into 2024.

The club wishes all wonderful partners, supporters and South Gippians a very happy Christmas and a superb 2024.

A special shoutout to The Sentinel Times, which does such a fine job of promoting the team and many others in the wonderful region. HO HO HO!

Kilcunda Bass trounce Glen Alvie



Paul Hammer hits out with a full-blooded drive on his way to a well-made 44. Ns095123



Heads down! Hammer ducks a close one. Ns085123

C GRADE

IT was a tough day for Glen Alvie, with a losing streak beginning with the toss.

Kilcunda-Bass took control after electing to bat first.

Paul Cornelis and Paul Hammer combined well to add 39 and 44 runs respectively.

Glen Alvie gained a second wind when a catch by Ian Thorn dismissed Gregory Miller for a duck, but Kilcunda-Bass was not to be outdone and continued to steadily increase its account.

Kilcunda-Bass set the challenge at 8/157.

Heidi Driscoll worked hard to keep Glen Alvie's hopes alive, taking 3/20.

Kilcunda-Bass had its revenge by taking three ducks throughout the innings, dismissing Thorn, Cooper Stewart and Jarvis Hynes.

Ryan Luke opened the batting for Glen Alvie and added 18 runs, but that was to be the highlight for the battling away side.

Alister McBride caused havoc for Glen Alvie's batting line up, taking 3/11.

Glen Alvie scraped together a final score of 8/71.

Nyora outplay Korumburra

NYORA surpassed Korumburra's total in Saturday's round seven clash.

Korumburra won the toss and went into bat but experienced a sluggish start.

Batsman Noah Belvedere opened the account and contributed 15 runs before he was bowled by Nyora's Tyler Perkins.

Perkins and Kyle Maclure put the pressure on the Cobras, taking 2/22 each.

The Cobras pushed back with a fill in contributing 52 not out, allowing the total to reach 7/125.

Batsman Ben Pugh happily met the challenge, establishing Nyora's hold on the match with 55 of 47 balls before he was bowled by Christopher Mileto.

Mileto wasn't letting Nyora have it easily, dismissing three of Korumburra's lineup.

A further 21 runs from Keith Linford ensured Nyora was able to confidently chase Korumburra's final score.

Nyora won the day 4/130.

MDU hold back the Cougars

KOONWARRA/LRSL struggled against a competitive MDU side.

The Cougars won the toss and chose to send MDU to bat first.

Wayne Cocksedge and John Phillips produced a respectable 31 and 32 runs for MDU, with Glen Cocksedge later contributing 21 not out.

Wicket taking was shared between Britney Thomas, Brodie Cary and Alvis Piksons and Tyson Lund. MDU was left to defend 4/143, which it was able to do with ease.

Koonwarra/LRSL started well with opening batsman Shane Paterson contributing 24 off 36 balls before a catch by Dylan Zuidema sent him back to the bench.

This was to be the Cougars' top score, with a golden duck suffered by Glenn Matthies and Cary at the hands of Daniel Field.

Ashley Boxall and Teagan Hughes were also sent off for a duck after facing three and four balls respectively.

Field commanded the win with an impressive 5/18. Riley Prosser and Glen Cocksedge were also multiple wicket takers. Koonwarra/LRSL was sent home with a final score 10/70.

Town victorious over competitive Inverloch

LEONGATHA Town managed to topple Inverloch's score on Saturday.

The opening partnership of Inverloch captain Warren Stewart and Greg Eddy ensured the Stingrays were off to an impressive start, making 60 and 50 respectively.

Lochlan May dismissed Eddy, but Inverloch was sitting nicely at 1/104. Max Carter was the star of the show for Town, taking 4/35.

Wayne Chapman later made 25 not out, allowing Inverloch to reach a highly competitive 5/170.

Nigel Hodges opened well with 28 runs, but it was May's 79 runs that sealed the deal for Town. Cameron Butler put an end to May's run, but the damage had been done.

Butler took 2/37 and Jay Mottram Carter took 2/36.

Town claimed victory with a score of 6/179.

C GRADE

Nyora 4/130 d Korumburra 7/127
Korumburra - 1st INNINGS: N Belvedere 15, P Edwards 1, C Mileto 4, J Foster 10, Fill-in 52*, O Maskell 1, G Barrett 12, R Butler 1, J Townley 11*
Bowling: K Maclure 2/22, L Brock 0/5, T Perkins 2/22, J Knox 1/22, B Pugh 1/33, W Dixon 1/20
Nyora - 1st INNINGS: B Pugh 55, L Brock 12, C Knox 18*, K Linford 21, J Knox 0*, W Dixon 2, K Maclure 10*
Bowling: RButler 1/24, H Jefferis 0/15, N Belvedere 0/18, G Barrett 0/19, O Maskell 0/21, Fill-in 0/16, C Mileto 3/11

Kilcunda-Bass 9/158 d Glen Alvie 8/71
Kilcunda-Bass - 1st INNINGS: K McLean 7, P Cornelis 31, P Hammer 44, G Miller 0, S Tapscott 17, T Stacey 8, O Shumack 12, A Blackney 1, A McBride 16*, J Reilly 8, S Oates 1*
Bowling: W Bridle 2/24, D Hynes 0/14, P Loos 0/33, J Hynes 0/15, H Driscoll 3/20, V Kumar Gopal 1/15, C Stewart 0/18, O Luff 2/16
Glen Alvie - 1st INNINGS: R Luke 18, D McGuirk 4, V Kumar Gopal 4, I Thorn 0, C Stewart 0, D Hynes 17, J Hynes 0, W Bridle 2, O Luff 9*, H Driscoll 5*
Bowling: A McBride 3/11, T Stacey 0/15, A Blackney 0/13, S Tapscott 2/2, P Hammer 2/14, N Miller 0/9, C Reilly 0/6

MDU 4/143 d Koowarra L/RSL 70
MDU - 1st INNINGS: T Bright 11, W Cocksedge 31, J Phillips 32, D Thomas 12, G Cocksedge 29*, D Zuidema 1*
Bowling: S Paterson 0/19, B Thomas 1/19, R Collins 0/12, B Cary 1/16, A Piksons 1/20, Kevin Thorne 0/16, S Chadwick 0/19, T Lund 1/11
Koonwarra LRSL - 1st INNINGS: S Paterson 24, A Stanley 8, G Matthies 0, B Cary 0, K Thorne 16, A Boxall 0, S Chadwick 3, A Piksons 9, R Collins 1, T Hughes 0, B Thomas 0*
Bowling: K Brown 1/16, D Zuidema 0/8, D Feild 5/18, J Phillips 0/6, R Prosser 2/13, G Cocksedge 2/5

Town 6/179 d Inverloch 5/170
Inverloch - 1st INNINGS: W Stewart 60, G Eddy 50, D Harris 10, W Chapman 25*, P Harmer 0, M Woods 5, W Barker 2*
Bowling: C Dowling 0/32, T Strybosch 0/16, H Livingstone 0/41, Y Ratnaike 0/15, L May 1/28, M Carter 4/35
Town - 1st INNINGS: N Hodges 28, R Edwards 13, T Cashin 11, L May 79, M Carter 9, T Strybosch 13, Y Ratnaike 10*, P Carter 0*
Bowling: W Barker 1/29, C Butler 2/37, W Chapman 0/26, M Dugard 1/24, P Harmer 0/18, J Mottram Carter 2/36

All skills on display as the Under 11s take the centre stage

William Buckley bowling at the Koonwarra / LRSL v OMK game.

Wade Arnup batting at Koonwarra for the Koonwarra / LRSL v OMK game.

Samuel Christensen shows great technique at Koonwarra.

Phillip Island does just enough against Korumburra

B GRADE, DIVISION 1

After sending Korumburra in, Phillip Island achieved the 143-run target set by the Cobras, the Sharks scraping home by a couple of wickets.

Korumburra left too much to its captain Shane Dole, who starred with bat and ball, his score of 90 accounting for 63 percent of the Cobras' total, with Matthew Allen (22) the only other Korumburra batsman to reach double figures.

Skipper Andrew Finlayson (11 not out) and Timothy Niven (10 not out) guided Phillip Island to victory after it lost its eighth wicket with 17 runs still required, Thomas Blackwell's 48 having set the platform for success and Kohen Beaumont (24) also handy.

Phillip Island's disciplined bowling proved decisive, the Sharks conceding just four wides and not a single no ball, helping restrict Korumburra to a manageable total, Heath Womersley snavelling 4/34 and Niven 2/13 off their full allowance of overs.

In contrast, the Korumburra attack gave away 10 wides and five no balls, although finishing with some impressive bowling figures, Dole the top performer grabbing 4/21 off eight overs, George Edwards 2/24 from six overs and Scott Head 1/18 off his full allotment.

OMK sets too many for MDU

Half centuries by captain Kris Kerr (51 not out) and Barry Wyatt (52) and 45 from Luke Jones helped set up a commanding total of 208 for Outtrim Moyarra Kongwak after it chose to bat against visitor Meeniyen Dumbalk United. Pressure was on MDU from the start of its innings, needing 5.22 per over, and that task quickly became more daunting as opener Gary Webster departed for a duck and number three batsman Steve Arnup made just a single.

Tyrone Zukovskis did his best to get the Demons back in the hunt, the opener scoring 46 at better than a run-a-ball, but his skipper Craig Hooper's 24 was the next best contribution.

Ben Maguire had a great afternoon with the ball for OMK taking a miserly and destructive 4/8 off eight overs, Shane Taylor (2/31) the Diggers' other multiple wicket taker.

Earlier, Hooper topped the MDU bowling with 3/39, Zukovskis chiming in with a neat 1/16 from four overs and sending OMK opener Adam Busana on his way for 19.

Josh Williams helps Leongatha Town to victory over Imperials

Leongatha Town set a challenging but gettable target of 185 for Imperials, Scorpion Josh Williams proving instrumental in defending the total with 4/32 that included removing set Imperials openers Gary Sauvarin (27) and skipper Kristian Gray (66).

Nobody else got going with the willow for Imperials, the side knocked over 43 runs short of Leongatha Town's total.

Earlier, the strong Scorpions batting effort was a team one, with half the lineup making 20



Phillip Island's Sachin Sirirathnage notched up a few runs but struggled against Kilcunda Bass. Ns165123

or better, topped by captain Luke Ashton's 39.

Cameron Bruce did best with the ball for Imperials, finishing with 3/38 from his maximum allotment.

Inverloch overpowers Koonwarra L/RSL

While Anthony Hunt (32) contributed well opening the batting, nobody else could get going after Koonwarra Leongatha RSL chose to bat at home, a disciplined team bowling effort from Inverloch restricting the Cougars to a meagre 97 all out.

Andot Mankhong achieved the important dismissal of Hunt, finishing with 2/7, his teammate John Richardson (2/16) also wreaking havoc on the Cougars' top order and Cooper Newman grabbed 3/22 proving destructive further down the Cougars' batting lineup.

Inverloch captain Brett Debono (45 not out) and Riley Harris (42) scored at a good clip opening the batting, with just 11 runs needed when Harris fell.

The Stingrays suffered no further loss and reached the target in only the 23rd over, William Cashin taking the only wicket for the Cougars and conceding 21 off just over four overs.

B GRADE, DIVISION 2

Glen Alvie works hard to surpass Korumburra

Glen Alvie beat Korumburra by five wickets, batsmen from both sides finding the going tough with Glen Alvie skipper and opener Steven Smith the game's highest scorer with 25.

Korumburra's Thomas Sorrell was next best with the willow, reaching 23 before Smith ran him out after having himself been dismissed in the same fashion.

A commanding bowling performance set up the Glen Alvie victory with no weak links in the side's attack.

Barely had Korumburra chosen to bat at Glen Alvie Recreation Reserve when Zack Scholz struck twice, removing Peter Churchill and Matt Patten and

reducing the Cobras to 2/5.

Scholz never eased the pressure, ending up with 4/12 off eight overs.

Lachlan McRae and Archie Moore were the other wicket takers for Glen Alvie, each getting one breakthrough and going for just a couple of runs an over.

While nobody managed more than a single wicket for Korumburra, most of the Cobra bowlers were tough to score against, Darren Scott conceding only 9 off his full allotment of overs and dismissing Glen Alvie number three Darcy Hale.

Shaun McKinnon (1/13), Sorrell (1/18), and Kyle Dorman (1/15) were others to impress with the ball for Korumburra but there ultimately weren't enough runs to defend.

OMK defends solid total to beat Nerrena

Russ White's commanding 93 off 122 balls helped ensure Outtrim Moyarra Kongwak's decision to bat was a good one, the club president getting support from Sam Matthews (44 not out) to ensure Nerrena had to chase a solid score.

While the Redcaps started well in pursuit of 175 runs, nobody could build on the foundation laid by Nerrena skipper Brian Gannon (33) and opening partner Ben Croatto (32).

You couldn't keep White out of the game as he built on his already impressive batting exploits by dismissing Gannon and finishing with 2/18 off eight overs.

Mitchell Sawyers (2/14) and George Lomagno (2/27) were also important in helping OMK achieve a 39-run win.

Earlier, Daniel Grigg, Croatto, Patrick Johnston and Charlie Dougherty each got one wicket for Nerrena, albeit a couple of that quartet were expensive.

Phillip Island's Daniel McCausland stars

Phillip Island's Daniel McCausland was a wrecking ball, sending five Kilcunda Bass batsmen on their way in his seven overs and allowing just 25 runs

to be taken from his bowling.

He claimed the prized scalp of Kilcunda Bass opener Brett Joseph for 60 having already taken the catch to dismiss Joseph's opening partner Scott Williams on 19.

McCausland continued to pile on the pain for Kilcunda Bass, slicing though its top and middle order despite determined resistance from Darcy Clay who made 23.

Justin Tran was Phillip Island's other multiple wicket taker with 2/9 in a little more than five overs.

Phillip Island opener John Manning's rapid 62 put the side in a strong position after electing to bat, McCausland making 26 and Andrew Tolley an unbeaten 25 to help their side set Kilcunda Bass 166 for victory.

Clay snavelled 4/25 and Ben Rookees 3/18 for Kilcunda Bass, helping ensure Phillip Island didn't always have the game on its terms.

Foster outguns Wonthaggi Club

Foster's top three batsmen performed strongly after Wonthaggi Club chose to bowl, Richard Johnston making a pacy 65, his opening partner and vice captain Brandon Busuttill a patient 29 and Shaun Chaseling a slightly better than a run-a-ball 23.

While nobody else did a lot with the bat for the Tigers, they finished with a competitive 144 all out, ultimately proving enough as Club fell 41 runs short of that mark.

Chris Fraser (4/18) and Justin Lici (3/35) were the main wicket takers for Club.

Starting its chase with reason to be confident, Wonthaggi experienced early mishaps when opening batsmen Liam Sawyer and Lici failed to trouble the scorers, Richard Johnston accounting for the pair and completing eight overs for a return of 3/9. Foster skipper Mitchell Allott grabbed 3/16.

Club was never able to steady after its early mishaps, all out for just 103.

B GRADE DIVISION 1

OMK 9/208 d MDU 139
OMK - 1st INNINGS: A Busana 19, L Jones 45, J Hayes 12, N Wylie 0, B Wyatt 52, K Kerr 51*, S Taylor 3, R Quaife 5, N Auddino 6, H James 0, B Maguire 0*
Bowling: B Cantwell 2/59, A Richardson 0/38, T Zukovskis 1/16, C Hooper 3/39, S Arnup 1/20, K Sinclair 0/24, C Schwennessen 1/9
MDU - 1st INNINGS: G Webster 0, T Zukovskis 46, S Arnup 1, W Prosser 19, C Hooper 24, M Olden 14, K Sinclair 7, A Dyke 4*, B Cantwell 7, A Richardson 2, C Schwennessen 5
Bowling: H James 1/20, S Taylor 2/31, N Auddino 1/34, B Wyatt1/19, A Busana 1/10, B Maguire 4/8, N Wylie 0/14

Phillip Island 8/144 d Korumburra 8/142
Korumburra - 1st INNINGS: T M Allen 8, J Wrigley 3, M Allen 22, S Dole 90, P Beadel 5, P Richards 6, Fill-in 0*, S Head 1, A Damon 0, Jayden Douglas 1*
Bowling: T Niven 2/13, H Arceo 1/22, J Williams 0/48, M Parsons 1/23, H Womersley 4/34
Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS: C Epifano 2, H Womersley 15, T Blackwell 48, K Beaumont 24, H Peppard 6, M Arceo 10, J Williams 0, M Parsons 0, A Finlayson 11*, T Niven 10*
Bowling: S Head 1/18, J Douglas 0/19, A Damon 1/13, J Wrigley 0/30, S Dole 4/21, P Beadel 0/16, G Edwards 2/24

Town 8/184 d Imperials 141
Town - 1st INNINGS: M Hardy 0, E Smith 20, L Ashton 39, A Fixter 21, C Bruce 11, J Williams 22, F McLennan 28, L Hickey 15, N Fixter 15*, D Goss 0*
Bowling: J Jeffery 1/28, J Forrester 1/29, J Ballagh 1/40, C Bruce 3/38, K Gray 2/44
Imperials - 1st INNINGS: K Gray 66, G Sauvarin 27, R McLennan 1, J Ballagh 0, J Forrester 12, C Honeysett 10, F Botha 6, F Materia 1, C Bruce 7, Cl Reid 0, J Jeffery 2*
Bowling: L Hickey 0/19, F McLennan 1/20, L Gill 0/17, E Smith 0/15, A Fixter 1/24, J Williams 4/32, C Bruce 2/11

Inverloch 1/99 d Koonwarra LRSL 97
Koonwarra LRSL - 1st INNINGS: A Hunt 32, W Cashin 4, K Scrimshaw 6, H Scrimshaw 5, N Grimes 0, B Anderson 17, L Read 9, P Buckley 4, A Drury 6, T Collins 4, B Smith 0*
Bowling: J Richardson 2/16, I Seuren 0/21, C O'Flynn 1/20, J Bowring 1/8, A Mankhong 2/7, C Newman 3/22
Inverloch - 1st INNINGS: RHarris 42, B Debono 45*, A Mankhong 1*
Bowling: B Smith 0/19, P Buckley 0/13, L Read 0/11, T Collins 0/18, W Cashin 1/21, R King 0/16

B GRADE DIVISION 2

OMK 4/174 d Nerrena 9/135
OMK - 1st INNINGS: R White 93, T Walker 2, J Greenwood 9, B Hayes 13, S Matthews 44*, M Nicholas 2*
Bowling: C Dougherty 1/45, DGrigg 1/7, B Croatto 1/19, P Johnston 1/42, C Baudinette 0/33, J Donohue 0/13, C Marinou 0/3, R Jeffers 0/6
Nerrena - 1st INNINGS: B Croatto 32, B Gannon 33, AHarrison 7, C Dougherty 2, R Jeffers 6, C Baudinette 11, B Trotman 9, C Marinou 8, E Berryman 17*, P Johnston 0, J Donohue 0*
Bowling: M Whiteside 0/25, J Greenwood 1/25, R White 2/18, G Lomagno 2/27, M Sawyers 2/14, M Whiteside 1/11, J Myers 1/0, T Walker 0/11

Glen Alvie 5/83 d Korumburra 9/82
Korumburra - 1st INNINGS: P Churchill 1, C Turton 6, M Patten 0, D Scott 16, K Dorman 0, T Sorrell 23, T Morrison 11, J Dunn 1, J McNeil 7, S McKinnon 3*, Fill-in 1*
Bowling: Z Scholz 4/12, J Brown 0/10, L McRae 1/16, A Moore 1/15, G Hynes 0/14, N Thatcher 0/10
Glen Alvie - 1st INNINGS: S Smith 25, A Moore 9, D Hale 5, D Tiziani 14, H Smith 2, Z Scholz 12*, A Donohue 4*
Bowling: DScott 1/9, T Sorrell 1/18, S McKinnon 1/13, P Churchill 0/18, K Dorman 1/15, J Dunn 0/3, C Turton 0/5

Phillip Island 10/165 d K-Bass 10/136
Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS: J Manning 62, O Duggan 2, T Asurumuni 1, S Angelo 18, D McCausland 26, S Sirirathnage 11, D Fusinato 1, Ay Tolley 25*, T Allan 0, M Cleary 12, D Fusinato 1
Bowling: B Rookees 3/18, D Clay 4/25, B Waldron 0/32, R Duff 1/37, D Ferguson 0/11, J Havetta 2/41
Kilcunda-Bass - 1st INNINGS: B Joseph 60, S Williams 19, D Clay 23, A Bedford 0, R Blackney 5, R Gardiner 0, D Ferguson 13, B Waldron 2, J Havetta 3*, R Duff 1, B Rookees 5
Bowling: J Tran 2/9, S Angelo 0/21, T Allan 1/25, M Cleary 0/34, D McCausland 6/25, A Tolley 0/19

Foster 10/144 d Club 10/103
Foster - 1st INNINGS: R Johnston 65, B Busuttill 29, S Chaseling 23, M Allott 0, A Pattie 1, B Gay 7, J Gubanovic 1, S Webber 10*, J Anderson 4, L Moon 2*, B Cripps 0
Bowling: A Babu 0/28, L McRae 0/19, JLicis 3/35, L Ton 0/9, S Liddle 1/20, M Chisholm 0/15, C Fraser 4/18
Club - 1st INNINGS: L Sawyer 0, J Licis 0, C Fraser 24, M Chisholm 10, Fill-in 18, C Prosser 5, A Quilty 1, S Liddle 21, A Babu 1, L Ton 9, L McRae 3*
Bowling: R, Johnston 3/9, J Gubanovic 1/21, S Chaseling 1/11, A Pattie 1/19, B Cripps 1/17, M Allott 3/16, Lance Moon 0/6



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LEONGATHA & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

A1: Ron Abeysinghe (Town) 89* ; Josh Trease (Nerrena) 5/24

A2: Paul Le Page (MDU) 64 ; Todd Smith (Kilcunda-Bass) 4/24

B1: Shane Dole (Korumburra) 90 ; Shane Dole (Korumburra) 4/21

B2: Russ White (OMK) 93 ; Daniel McCausland (Phillip Island) 6/25

C: Lochlan May (Town) 79 ; Daniel Feild (MDU) 5/18

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Mock and Rathnayake were a powerful duo. Ns155123



OMK's Peter Dell adjusts his line, around the wicket, to challenge the Sharks' Daniel Mock. Ns115123

LADDERS RD 7

A GRADE, Division 1		
Phillip Island	66	2.243
Club	54	1.493
OMK	54	0.984
Town	54	0.962
Inverloch	42	1.072
Korumburra	42	0.663
Imperials	42	0.657
Nerrena	30	0.751

B GRADE, Division 1		
OMK	78	2.391
Phillip Island	78	1.456
Inverloch	66	1.528
Korumburra	42	1.271
Town	42	0.724
MDU	30	0.700
Koonwarra L/RSL	30	0.621
Imperials	18	0.431

A GRADE, Division 2		
Foster	78	2.054
Nyora	66	1.590
Glen Alvie	54	1.403
Koonwarra L/RSL	42	0.901
MDU	42	0.841
Kilcunda-Bass	42	0.824
Club	30	0.706
Nerrena	30	0.523

B GRADE, Division 2		
OMK	66	1.308
Kilcunda-Bass	54	1.344
Phillip Island	54	1.120
Nerrena	54	1.033
Club	42	1.347
Korumburra	42	0.687
Foster	42	0.686
Glen Alvie	30	0.689

C GRADE		
Nyora	60	1.832
Inverloch	48	1.292
Phillip Island	48	1.119
Town	48	0.679
Glen Alvie	42	0.741
Koonwarra L/RSL	42	0.458
MDU	36	3.155
Kilcunda-Bass	36	1.142
Korumburra	30	0.545

Phillip Island stays on top

A GRADE, DIVISION 1

PHILLIP Island secured its place at the top of the ladder with a win over third placed OMK.

Phillip Island went into bat first, and the dismissal of opening batsman Lachlan Cleeland at 1/2 saw the entry of Daniel Mock.

Mock took control of the innings, batting 66 off 77 balls before he was bowled LBW by Jake Cochrane.

Cochrane put the pressure on Phillip Island, bowling 3/22.

Batsman Shiran Rathnayake contributed 46 runs to the account, putting Phillip Island in a comfortable position at 5/154 before he was also bowled by Cochrane.

Phillip Island went into OMK's innings looking to defend 8/190.

OMK's opening partnership of Cochrane and Ethan Lamers had Phillip Island on the ropes, combining well to produce 46 and 41 runs respectively.

Cochrane was bowled by Rathnayake and Lamers was bowled by Max Royal.

Phillip Island bowler Zac Brown dominated the rest of the innings, claiming 4/28 and dismissing OMK's middle order.

Multiple wickets were also shared by Royal and Rathnayake to keep Phillip Island out in front.

OMK finished the innings at 10/178.

Nerrena outclasses Korumburra

Korumburra was unable to match the unstoppable force of Nerrena.

Nerrena made the decision to bat first and went on to put on an intimidating performance.

Jarrod Hoy and Tim Wightman secured the win for the Red Caps, making 52 and 53 runs respectively.



Calm and composed, Daniel Mock clips the ball towards square leg. Ns145123

Tom Crocker put an end to Wightman's reign at 4/158 and Jacob Whiteside managed to send Hoy back to the bench at 5/160.

Whiteside and Hemal Ratnayake were multiple wicket takers for Korumburra.

The standard was set at 5/193, and Nerrena was more than ready to defend its tally.

A slow innings for Korumburra finally resulted in a top score of 25 from Ratnayake.

Josh Trease wouldn't allow Korumburra to get a look in, taking an impressive 5/28.

Darcy Berryman also pressured Korumburra into conceding defeat, taking 2/15.

Nerrena claimed the victory as Korumburra finished the day with 10/81.

Town partnership too much for Inverloch

LEONGATHA Town launched a relentless campaign against Inverloch on Saturday to take a convincing win.

Town's partnership of Ron Abeysinghe and Amila Ratnaike would prove to be unbeatable.

Inverloch won the toss and went into bat first.

A steady start resulted in third batsman Andrew Donohue making 38 off 85 balls, which would prove to be the top score for the Stingrays.

Donohue was runout by Pamuditha Geemal Rajapakshage.

Jack Donohue contributed 27 runs to the tally before he was caught by Jesse Giardina.

Rajapakshage contained Inverloch's score by taking 3/19.

Inverloch finished its innings with 8/123.

Abeysinghe and Ratnaike dominated the scorecard with 89 and 26 runs not out respectively.

Harry Butcher managed to dismiss Darcy Hume, taking 1/28, and was Inverloch's only wicket taker.

Town's commanding win was claimed in 25.2 overs with a score of 1/124.

Imperials hold on to the win

THE Imperials battled it out to defeat Wonthaggi Club.

Club went into bat first and the runs trickled in with Alex Geyer top scoring with 30 off 28 balls.

Mitch Thomas and Ryan Thomas offered a further 22 and 21 runs respectively.

Lachie Wright kept the score in check by taking 3/10.

Tim Sauvarin was also a multiple wicket taker.

Club went into the changeover at 10/117.

Imperials opening batsman Luke Rogers set the pace and top scored with 35 runs before he was caught by Harry West with the score sitting at 4/80.

Mark Lafferty contributed 25 runs to the steady innings.

Ryan Thomas did what he could to slow the Imperials, taking 3/39.

Ryan Birkett also performed well, taking 2/33.

However, it wasn't enough to defend their score, and the Imperials ended the day with 7/121.

A GRADE DIVISION 1

Town 1/124 d Inverloch 8/123	
Inverloch – 1st INNINGS	
Jack Butcher c: J Giardina b: R Hume	2
Walter Taberner b: R Hume	17
Andrew Donohue run out: PG Rajapakshage	38
David Newman b: PG Rajapakshage	13
Jake Dennerley lbw: PG Rajapakshage	2
Rhys Newman c: J Giardina b: D Hume	2
Jack Donohue c: J Giardina b: J Hume	27
Lewis Rankin not out	7*
Callum Asbury lbw: PG Rajapakshage	1
Jesse Dugard not out	3*
Extras (8w, 1nb, 4lb)	13
Total 8 / 123 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: PG Rajapakshage 8-2-19-3, R Hume 8-1-26-2 (3w), A Ratnaike 5-3-2-0, J Hume 8-1-26-1 (1w, 1nb), R Abeyesinghe 1-0-7-0, D Hume 6-1-17-1 (2w), DLMP Gallage 4-0-22-0 (2w)	
Town – 1st INNINGS	
Ron Abeyesinghe not out	89*
Darcy Hume c&b: H Butcher	1
Amila Ratnaike not out	26*
Extras (6w, 1nb, 1lb)	8
Total 1 / 124 (25.2 Overs)	
Bowling: C Asbury 5-2-17-0, H Butcher 7-1-28-1 (2w), L Rankin 6-0-41-0 (2w, 1nb), A Donohue 5.2-0-25-0 (2w), J Dugard 2-0-12-0	

Imperials 7/121 d Club 117	
Club – 1st INNINGS	
Stewart Beaumont c&b: L Wright	2
Mitch Thomas c: A Curnow b: T Sauvarin	22
Alexander Geyer c: DW Arachchige b: J Ginnane	30
Ryan Thomas lbw: T Sauvarin	21
Joel Brann c: L Wright b: D Ginnane	17
Lochlan Mclean b: L Anderson	6
Jy Hull run out: L Anderson	1
Harry West run out: L Wright	4
James Sheerin b: L Wright	3
Ryan Birkett b: L Wright	0
Mark McCall not out	4*
Extras (5w, 2lb)	7
Total 10 / 117 (30.3 Overs)	
Bowling: L Wright 5.3-2-10-3, L Anderson 6-0-23-1 (1w), J Ginnane 4-0-27-1 (2w), T Sauvarin 8-0-26-2, D Ginnane 6-0-23-1 (1w), M Reidy 1-0-6-0 (1w)	
Imperials – 1st INNINGS	
Luke Rogers c: H West b: R Thomas	35
Damon Ginnane b: R Birkett	2
Timothy Sauvarin c: J Sheerin b: R Birkett	12
Mark Lafferty b: R Thomas	25
Jack Ginnane c: J Hull b: R Thomas	4
DW Arachchige st: J Hull b: J Sheerin	17
Samuel Vagg not out	10*
Alan Curnow lbw: J Brann	2
Lachie Wright not out	4*
Extras (3w, 5nb, 2lb)	10
Total 7 / 121 (25.1 Overs)	
Bowling: J Brann 6-1-36-1 (1w), R Birkett 6-0-33-2 (2nb), R Thomas 7-0-39-3 (2w, 3nb), J Sheerin 6.1-2-11-1	

Nerrena 5/193 d Korumburra 81	
Nerrena – 1st INNINGS	
Mitchell Clark c: R Rangana b: J Whiteside	8
Loc Roberts c: J Richards b: H Ratnayake	21
Jarrold Hoy b: J Whiteside	52
Hayden Funnell b: H Ratnayake	0
Timothy Wightman b: T Crocker	53
Josh Checkley not out	15*
Darcy Berryman not out	17*
Extras (26w, 1lb)	27
Total 5 / 193 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: J Whiteside 8-1-28-2 (1w), L Gooch 6-0-37-0 (2w), H McNeil 8-1-31-0 (2w), H Ratnayake 8-0-41-2 (11w), D Whelan 2-0-14-0 (7w), T Crocker 8-0-41-1 (3w)	
Korumburra – 1st INNINGS	
Tom Crocker c: H Funnell b: J Trease	4
Jason Richards lbw: A Gannon	2
Jacob Whiteside b: J Trease	7
Rumesh Rangana c: M Clark b: J Trease	14
Hemal Ratnayake c: J Hoy b: J Trease	25
Jye Celebrine lbw: J Trease	0
Zachary Barrett c: A Gannon b: D Berryman	10
Levi Gooch b: D Berryman	2
Harry McNeil c: M Clark b: T Gannon	3
Daniel Whelan not out	1*
Bryce Riddell b: J Hoy	3
Extras (10w)	10
Total 10 / 81 (26.1 Overs)	
Bowling: J Trease 8-0-24-5 (1w), A Gannon 4-0-27-1 (4w), T Wightman 4-0-8-0, T Gannon 5-0-6-1 (2w), D Berryman 5-1-15-2 (2w), J Hoy 0.1-0-1-1 (1w)	

Phillip Island 8/190 d OMK 178	
Phillip Island – 1st INNINGS	
Lachlan Cleeland c: C Quaife b: M Riaz	2
Brodie Johnston c: P Fermanis b: E Lamers	19
Daniel Mock lbw: J Cochrane	66
Shiran Rathnayake st: C Quaife b: J Cochrane	46
Eli Richards c: C Quaife b: J Lamers	19
Kurt Lane c: C Quaife b: J Cochrane	2
Thomas Niven not out	14*
Simon Kirtton c&b: M Riaz	0
Max Royal c: K Brann b: P Dell	11
Zac Brown not out	1*
Extras (4w, 2nb, 1lb, 3b)	10
Total 8 / 190 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: M Riaz 7-0-25-2 (2w), A Trotto 3-0-23-0, E Lamers 8-2-30-1, P Dell 6-1-38-1, J Cochrane 8-0-22-3 (1w), J Lamers 8-0-48-1 (1w, 2nb)	
OMK – 1st INNINGS	
Jake Cochrane c: B Johnston b: S Rathnayake	46
Ethan Lamers c: K Lane b: M Royal	41
Jacob Lamers c: E Richards b: S Rathnayake	2
Koby Brann c: S Rathnayake b: Z Brown	0
Mudassar Riaz c: ? b: Z Brown	24
Joel Cuman b: Z Brown	0
N Creed c: ? b: Niven	6
Paul Fermanis c: ? b: Z Brown	4
Clayton Quaife c: ? b: M Royal	28
Adam Trotto not out	22*
Peter Dell run out: L Cleeland, B Johnston	2
Extras (1w, 1nb, 1lb)	3
Total 10 / 178 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: S Kirtton 6-0-33-0, G McCausland 3-1-12-0, T Niven 8-1-34-1 (1nb), M Royal 7-0-43-2, S Rathnayake 8-2-27-2 (1w), Z Brown 8-1-28-4	



Kilcunda-Bass bowlers left nothing in the tank. Ns055123

Kilcunda-Bass up for the challenge

A GRADE, DIVISION 2

KILCUNDA-Bass played a strong all round game and claimed a win over Wont-haggi Club at the Bass Recreation Reserve.

Club won the toss and elected to bat.

A steady innings resulted in the top scores coming from Jack Sheerin and Luke McGuirk with 20 and 29 runs respectively.

Kilcunda-Bass bowler Todd Smith removed opening batsman David Britt early and went on to finish off the innings with three more wickets, including skittling Fraser West first ball.

Club went into Kilcunda-Bass’ innings ready to defend 10/127 but were in for a challenge.

Home-side batsmen Aaron Conron and Matthew Grayson had a successful partnership, with Conron leading the charge to make 54 runs off 69 balls before he was caught by Jai Williamson.

Grayson contributed 29 runs and was not out at the end of the innings.

Luke Anstey was Club’s top bowler for the day, taking 2/18, including dismissing captain Jaydan Tregear for a duck after facing two balls.

Kilcunda-Bass’ winning total was 3/129.

Foster rises to the top

FOSTER triumphed over Nerrena during Saturday’s match at the Foster Cricket Ground.

Nerrena won the toss and sent Foster out to bat first.

Opening batsman Jack Gay immediately set the pace of the match, contributing 42 runs before he was caught by Caine Salmon.

Nerrena was sitting on 4/105 before Gay was dismissed.

Ben East continued to uphold a standard for Foster, making 52 not out off 42 balls.

Nerrena bowler Damien Symmons made Foster work for it, claiming 3/10.

Nerrena went into its innings with the target of 7/190 in its sights.



Mitchell Davey is challenged by a rising delivery. Ns065123

However, a quiet innings from Nerrena allowed Foster to retain its place at the top of the table.

Kade Berryman and Symmons kept Nerrena competitive, making 36 and 33 runs respectively.

Brad Coates claimed 3/21, defending Foster’s score.

Nerrena ended the day with 7/135.

Cougars secure the victory

KOONWARRA/LRSL rose to the occasion and outplayed MDU on Saturday.

MDU captain Joel Sinclair held firm to make 31 runs, as Mitch McGrath and Matt Olden were sent on their way in quick succession.

Paul LePage entered the field with MDU sitting on a score of 2/6 and kept the side in the game.

LePage managed to contribute 64 runs before he was bowled by Nick Arnup.

Arnup was Koonwarra/LRSLs star bowler for the day, taking 2/23.

MDU had the task of defending 7/144 going into Koonwarra/LRSLs innings.

A solid innings from Amad Mujtaba and Isuru Darshana – who made 32 and 41 respectively – secured the game for the Cougars.

Jake Palmer attempted to sabotage the Cougars, taking 3/38, but the only other wicket was taken by Mitchell Hooper.

Koonwarra/LRSL won the

day with 4/147 off 22 overs.

Nyora outlast Glen Alvie

GLEN Alvie played a consistent innings but could not overcome Nyora.

Nyora chose to bowl after the toss and Glen Alvie’s opening batsman Matthew Donohue gave his team a comfortable start.

Donohue made 39 runs before a catch from Jake Henry sent him off the field.

Captain Stephen Kennedy had Glen Alvie back on course later in the innings when he made 44 runs retired, not out.

Wickets were shared amongst Nyora bowlers Aaron Kaddatz, Mitch Rowe, Aaron Thompson and Lochie Row.

Glen Alvie made a comfortable 4/145, but soon found it had a lot of work ahead.

Nyora captain Henry Dolphin stormed in to add 41 runs to the account, supported by fellow opening batsman Daniel Esler with 23 runs.

Glen Alvie’s Ben McRae claimed 2/24, dismissing Esler and Gavin Hackett before they could do too much damage.

However, Kaddatz pushed Nyora to the finish line with another 44 runs to remain not out at the end of the innings.

Nyora claimed the match with 5/151.

A GRADE DIVISION 2

Foster 7/190 d Nerrena 7/135	
Foster – 1st INNINGS	
Jack Gay c: C Salmon b: D Symmons	42
Josh Toner b: D Symmons	10
Mitchell Jones c: C Salmon b: M Croatto	29
Brad Coates c: Z Trease b: T Harris	3
Ben East not out	52*
Jack Weston c: C Salmon b: Damien Symmons	0
Jake Best b: Z Trease	26
Jake Staley run out: M Croatto	19
Tex Dyson not out	0*
Extras (6w, 1nb, 2lb)	9
Total 7 / 190 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: J Checkley 6-3-18-0, D Symmons 8-2-10-3, S Checkley 8-0-46-0, Z Trease 8-1-57-1 (2w), M Croatto 4-0-21-1 (3w, 1nb), T Harris 6-0-36-1 (1w)	
Nerrena – 1st INNINGS	
Caine Salmon b: J Gay	1
Kade Berryman c: M Jones b: B Coates	36
James Kelly c&b: J Weston	0
Joel Renden c: M Jones b: J Weston	8
Mitchell Croatto b: J Staley	8
Damien Symmons c: J Weston b: B Coates	33
Tyson Harris b: B Coates	13
Zack Trease not out	11*
Roy Checkley not out	7*
Extras (11w, 7lb)	18
Total 7 / 135 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: J Weston 8-1-21-2 (3w), B Coates 8-0-21-3 (2w), J Gay 6-1-12-1 (3w), J Staley 8-0-40-1 (1w), J Toner 1-0-5-0, E Smith 3-0-12-0, B East 1-0-6-0 (1w), J Best 2-0-7-0, T Dyson 1-0-2-0 (1w), M Johnston 1-0-2-0	

Kilcunda-Bass 3/129 d Club 127	
Club – 1st INNINGS	
David Britt c: M Grayson b: T Smith	6
Jason O’Reilly c: ? b: C Davidson	16
Mitchell Davey c: J Tregear b: R Duff	18
Jack Sheerin c: R Duff b: J Tregear	20
Jai Williamson c: P Palmer b: J Tregear	5
Luke Sibley run out: J Tregear	3
Heath Dobbie run out: R Duff	13
Luke McGuirk b: T Smith	29
Fraser West b: T Smith	0
Luke Anstey b: T Smith	1
Sean Roche not out	1*
Extras (11w, 4lb)	15
Total 10 / 127 (39.2 Overs)	
Bowling: T Smith 7.2-0-24-4 (3w), H Berry 8-2-29-0 (3w), C Davidson 4-0-11-1 (4w), R Duff 8-1-15-1 (1w), J Tregear 7-0-26-2, C Peckett 5-1-18-0	
Kilcunda-Bass – 1st INNINGS	
Cameron Davidson c: S Roche b: H Dobbie	19
Aaron Conron c: J Williamson b: L Anstey	54
Matthew Grayson not out	29*
Jaydan Tregear c: ? b: L Anstey	0
Ash Larcombe not out	9*
Extras (17w, 1lb)	18
Total 3 / 129 (26.3 Overs)	
Bowling: F West 5-1-23-0, J Williamson 4-0-13-0 (3w), H Dobbie 4-0-28-1 (10w), L McGuirk 2-0-18-0 (1w), S Roche 7-0-28-0 (2w), L Anstey 4.3-0-18-2 (1w)	

Koonwarra L/RSL 4/147 d MDU 7/144	
MDU – 1st INNINGS	
Joel Sinclair c: J Rushton b: N Arnup	31
Mitch McGrath b: J Thomas	0
Matt Olden c: N Trotto b: A Mujtaba	1
Paul Le Page b: N Arnup	64
Mitchell Hooper run out: J Thomas	1
Mark Cantwell b: J Kennedy	13
Scott Browne retired out	11
Troy Sinclair not out	11*
Sam Bright not out	3*
Extras (3w, 3nb, 3lb)	9
Total 7 / 144 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: J Thomas 6-1-14-1, N Arnup 8-1-23-2, A Mujtaba 2-0-2-1 (1w), M Cooke 8-0-16-0, N Trotto 6-0-29-0 (2w, 3nb), A Mehmood 2-0-12-0, J Kennedy 6-0-32-1	
Koonwarra L/RSL – 1st INNINGS	
Matt Cooke c: M McGrath b: J Palmer	17
Amad Mujtaba c: M Cantwell b: J Palmer	32
Isuru Darshana not out	41*
Azhar Mehmood c: P Le Page b: J Palmer	24
Callum Buckland c: T Sinclair b: M Hooper	0
Mitchell Scrimshaw not out	9*
Extras (15w, 3nb, 2lb, 4b)	24
Total 4 / 147 (22 Overs)	
Bowling: S Bright 6-2-33-0, Z Bright 2-0-18-0, J Palmer 8-0-38-3 (8w, 1nb), M McGrath 2-0-19-0, M Hooper 4-1-33-1 (3w, 1nb)	

Nyora 5/151 d Glen Alvie 4/145	
Glen Alvie – 1st INNINGS	
Matthew Donohue c: J Henry b: M Rowe	39
Scott Peatling c: J Hackett b: A Kaddatz	3
Matthew Dakin c: D Esler b: A Thompson	23
Stephen Kennedy retired not out	44*
Lachlan Harris c: H Dolphin b: L Row	17
Nathan Findlay not out	1*
Ben McRae not out	0*
Extras (15w, 1lb, 2b)	18
Total 4 / 145 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: A Kaddatz 8-3-27-1, M Rowe 8-1-26-1 (7w), H Dolphin 4-0-15-0 (3w), A Thompson 8-1-20-1 (1w), A Simmons 8-3-33-0 (1w), J Hackett 1-0-6-0 (1w), L Row 3-0-15-1 (2w)	
Nyora – 1st INNINGS	
Henry Dolphin c: M Donohue b: D Williams	41
Daniel Esler b: B McRae	23
Gavin Hackett c: L Harris b: B McRae	14
Jake Hackett c: D Williams b: L Harris	5
Aaron Kaddatz not out	44*
Jake Henry run out	4
Aaron Thompson not out	4*
Extras (14w, 1lb, 1b)	16
Total 5 / 151 (36.5 Overs)	
Bowling: Nathan Findlay 8-1-27-0 (3w), M Dakin 4-0-15-0 (2w), B McRae 8-1-24-2 (3w), D Williams 6-0-21-1 (2w), L Harris 6-0-36-1 (4w), S Kennedy 4.5-0-26-0	



Applause as Cobra leaves the field

The funeral procession for Korumburra Cricket Club legend, Allen 'Cobra' Summerfield, made a solemn lap of the hallowed turf at Korumburra, through a guard of honour of club mates, before receiving warm applause for a great innings he left the field.

THERE wasn't a dry eye in the place when the hearse carrying Korumburra Cricket Club legend Allen 'Cobra' Summerfield made a slow, ceremonial lap of the hallowed turf at the Korumburra Recreation Reserve last Tuesday.

And, as Cobra came off the ground, through a guard of honour of his cricket club-mates, there was warm applause for a truly great innings.

The stumps were in the ground, Cobra's cap was sitting on top, and a superb-looking turf wicket was all rolled out and ready for play.

The Korumburra cricketers

now, and through the years, had done him proud, and as they have for the past 36 years, since he had his life-changing accident, the townsfolk of Korumburra were right behind them and him in big numbers.

It has been a demonstration of community spirit, according to one of Cobra's mates, Joffa Holland, the like of which you only see in a close-knit country town.

There was also a liberal sprinkling of players and administrators from other clubs, some of whom notably played with Allen in representative teams or served with him during his long career in administration.

But the service, at the home of the Korumburra Cobras Cricket Club, just a short week after 66-year-old Cobra had passed away, was all about accentuating the positives of Cobra's life.

That was especially so in the comprehensive, insightful and often funny account from Cobra's inner circle provided by fellow-club legend, friend and teammate Darren Scott.

"He was a genius at getting grants for almost anything, so many grants, we started calling him Grant Summerfield. But that was just Cobb going above and beyond for his club again.

"It was for these reasons, as

you saw in the video just before, I nominated Cobb for the Australian Cricket Club Hero of the Year and he deservedly won it. He got to fly with Ruth to Sydney to receive his award in front of the Australian Cricketers and they got to acknowledge a real hero and a real role model."

After the service, the cortege left the reserve for an interment at the Korumburra Cemetery, followed by refreshments back at the clubrooms.

RIGHT: The turf wicket at Korumburra had been prepared for play, the stumps still set, bails tipped off and Cobra's hat left on top.



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