

HOW WE'RE LOSING THE GROWTH RACE

It's good enough for Transport Victoria to schedule upcoming bridge works at night, but not so contractors erecting banners on the Philip Island Bridge last Thursday ahead of the Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix this weekend. The brief disruption again highlighted how aging local infrastructure isn't keeping pace with growth, the increase in visitor numbers or major events. See story page 3.



TORPEDOED!

- Phillip Island dropped from pool strategy

BASS Coast Shire Councillors will be asked this Wednesday, October 15, to vote on officially dropping Phillip Island from its two-pool strategy.

They've picked a funny place to do it. This week's monthly council meeting will be held in the \$34 million Berninnet Cultural Centre in Cowes, the project that took over Phillip Island's number one project priority status, under a previous council, from the proposed Cowes aquatic centre.

If the vote goes through, as it is likely to do, the Island's pool project will be banished to the never-never.

But you could see that coming. While the Phillip Island Aquatics and Leisure Centre project still gets a mention in the shire's Long Term Financial Plan 2025-35, also to be tabled at this week's council meeting for adoption, under

"future years" beyond 2035, with a nominal figure of \$40 million beside it, it was already on the outer.

Phillip Island Ward Councillor Ron Bauer acknowledges this but maintains the council will continue to advocate for the island aquatic centre. His Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead agrees, but the report doesn't support their view.

"That's why I insisted that it continue to get a mention in the Long Term Financial Plan. Who knows, if Federal politics tightens up at the next election, it's the sort of project that could get commitments from both sides," said Cr Bauer.

Mayor Cr Halstead said the shire's call for \$90 million for two pools was simply falling on deaf ears.

"Government isn't looking at funding as many aquatic centres because of running costs and we've also got the situation at

Wonthaggi where we're dealing with a failing piece of infrastructure," said Cr Halstead.

"We don't want to be spending \$10 million on a pool that's past its use-by date," she said.

"But the reality is councils are trying to replace important infrastructure with one hand tied behind their backs, while the government maintains its rate cap in the face of rising costs.

"Our shire needs a facility, and the existing one is in Wonthaggi, but short of spending \$10 million to keep the old one going, we believe we've got a very good case for funding, and the State Government has just got to stump up."

Cr Halstead said the shire was looking to change its advocacy strategy by making Wonthaggi the priority, but it doesn't mean they've dropped Phillip Island.

Continued page 3

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The good news is bridge works will be at night

WE GOT another look at what happens when there's a disruption to traffic on the Phillip Island Bridge last Thursday. While contractors were erecting banners for the Bass Coast Shire Council under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Australian Grand Prix Corporation, traffic was banked up for kilometres on both sides of the bridge for several hours. According to feedback on social media, it added 16 minutes to your trip, with traffic management personnel keeping one lane open alternatively. A spokesperson for the shire claimed "traffic was unfortunately delayed approximately five minutes," but those caught in the snarl reported much longer delays. "The wind on Thursday as well as the additional works on the bridge had an impact on how quickly this was able to be completed," said the shire. Some suggested the work could have been carried out at night or in the early morning when traffic was light, others were tolerant about preparations for the hosting the GP this Friday, Saturday and Sunday. While local businesspeople and tradesmen bemoaned regular traffic delays getting on and

off the Island, it also delayed the funeral cortege for Jon Trig, who was buried at San Remo last Thursday following his funeral at Cowes making mourners an hour late for the wake back at the Phillip Island RSL. However, according to Transport Victoria, additional inspection and assessment works, ahead of major bridge rehabilitation work, will commence after the GP from 8pm, Monday, October 20 and are expected to be completed by early November. "We are installing additional sensors to the San Remo/ Phillip Island bridge as part of our bridge inspection works," said Transport Victoria. "These works will take place mostly at night to minimise disruption to traffic." The works involve the use of a Bridge Inspection Unit to access the sides and underneath the bridge. "Our bridge inspection works, including underwater checks, were completed in late November 2024 and sensors installed in March 2025. Sensors allow real-time monitoring, reducing the frequency of on-site inspections and traffic disruption." Lane closures and a 40km/h speed limit will be in place from 8pm to 6am.



The erection of Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix banners, by the Bass Coast Shire Council last Thursday, again exposed access problems getting on and off Phillip Island.

Police can't identify Wonthaggi shooter

WHEN a 42-year-old father of two was shot in the back in a residential street in Wonthaggi in January this year, it appeared to many people to be a serious escalation in local crime. The incident took place while a young girl was reportedly sleeping inside, with other neighbours disturbed when several cars were damaged as the offenders made their escape. The local man was airlifted to Melbourne with non-life-threatening injuries, where he was operated on, under general anaesthetic, to remove shotgun pellets from his shoulder and to fix a broken nose. The two men, charged in relation to the incident, a 24-year-old and a 28-year-old, both of Wonthaggi North, appeared by video link from prison at a committal hearing in the Melbourne Magistrates' Court last week, each facing a long list of charges. At a committal hearing, the magistrate has to decide if there is enough evidence to support a conviction on the charges and for the matter to be committed to a higher court for trial, or he might decide there is insufficient evidence, and the accused may be discharged. It is by no means clear what course of action Magistrate Nick Goodenough will favour when the matter returns to court on Friday, November 7 for closing statements and possible applications for bail for the two accused men. During the hearing last Wednesday, October 8, the court heard from police informant in the case, Detective Senior Constable Thomas Francavilla of the Armed Crime Squad. Under questioning by criminal law expert Ran Zaydan, on behalf of one of the men allegedly involved in the incident, Detective Francavilla acknowledged that while police had secured a lot of CCTV footage from around the time of the incident, in the early hours of Sunday, January 12, none of it identified her client at the scene. He also agreed that while ammunition, a black balaclava, and a slam-gun, among other items, including drugs, were seized at the accused man's address; a dirt bike he was allegedly riding, a backpack seen in video footage and a balaclava he was allegedly wearing had also not been recovered. Nor had the weapon allegedly used in the shooting. The detective did say, however, that the accused man was caught on video sitting on the bike "immediately prior" some distance away. Grace Morgan, ranked as one of Victoria's best junior counsels, didn't put any questions to Detective Francavilla, but claimed during some preliminary bail discussions that there was no evidence to say who discharged the weapon. "In fact, there is a body of circumstantial evidence which supports that he didn't," she said of her client. The detective repeated what he had said earlier, to a similar question from Ms Zaydan. "I can't say definitively who discharged the firearm at [the victim]."

Torpedoed: Phillip Island dropped from pool strategy

From page 1 But the report to be tabled at this week's council meeting indicates council will not continue advocating for two aquatic centres. "Advocacy feedback has indicated that the two-pool concurrent delivery strategy is unlikely to attract external funding, necessitating a shift towards sequencing pool delivery to enhance funding opportunities. The amended Bass Coast Aquatic Strategy 2015 and revised Bass Coast Aquatic and Leisure Centre Concept Plan (Redevelopment Option) have been developed to position Council for success in future funding advocacy." Labor Senator for Victoria, Michelle Ananda-Rajah, who visited Bass Coast recently, and was taken on a Cook's tour of the shire's advocacy project sites, was shocked at the projected cost of the two aquatic centre facilities. The two-pool strategy wasn't working. The report to be tabled with the amended Bass Coast Shire Aquatic Strategy also identifies the more pressing problem, the state of the "only aquatic centre serving the Bass Coast Shire" at Wonthaggi. According to the Facility Asset Management Plan (FAMP), several building components are nearing the end of their useful life, "with substantial renewals anticipated in the next 10 years". "An estimated financial investment of \$10 million is needed to sustain existing service provision; this allocation does not address upgrades or changes to the level or type of service offered to the community." Cr Halstead was asked when council would have to start spending substantial funds to save the old pool but said she hoped it wouldn't come to that. As well as keeping the old

pool going in the interim, Council is proposing to spend more than \$40 million on a new pool complex by 2031, starting with an initial \$1 million over the next two years to develop a new design. "It is proposed to fund this major project from a loan of \$15.75 million and \$15.75 million from government grants (State and/or Commonwealth) with an initial investment of \$1 million from Council reserves to fund the detailed design," according to the LTFF. An expected steep-increase in the population of Wonthaggi, predicted at 17.21 per cent between 2025 and 2035, on the back of developments like the Wonthaggi North East residential precinct, is enabling 5000 new homes and approximately 12,000 more residents in the town in the next decade. The shire desperately needs to provide for that population growth. But, as secretary-treasurer of the Phillip Island Aquatic Centre Fund for the last 14 years, Peter McMahon said, the shire might be throwing out its best chance of attracting funding by ditching the Phillip Island aquatics project. "There's no doubt that the numbers stack up better on Phillip Island than they do at Wonthaggi, not only locals who have to travel to Wonthaggi to train and learn to swim, but the visitors as well. Traffic data will tell you that but that's another problem," said Mr McMahon. "They may be throwing away their best chance of getting government funding by going all-in on Wonthaggi," he said. Mr McMahon said the development of an aquatic centre at Phillip Island was a key part of the provision of proper sporting facilities, anticipating that the AFL would be one of the key organisations pushing for more playing fields on the Island.

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CONTENTS

Entertainment	34-36
Real Estate	38-39
Puzzles	40
Farming	41-43
Trades & Services	44-45
Classifieds	46-48

FEATURES

Eat Drink Play Gippsland	18-19
Funeral Planning	24-27
Health and Wellness	28-30

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6 Day
Weather
Forecast

SOUTH
GIPPSLAND

TUE | Oct 14

Partly cloudy.

Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: NW 15-25km/h

7° 17°

WED | Oct 15

Sunny.

Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light

9° 18°

THUR | Oct 16

Shower or two.

Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: N-NW 20-30km/h

9° 27°

FRI | Oct 17

Shower or two.

Wind AM: W-SW 25-35km/h
Wind PM: W-SW 25-35km/h

10° 16°

SAT | Oct 18

Cloudy.

Wind AM: W 15-20km/h
Wind PM: W 15-20km/h

9° 17°

SUN | Oct 19

Shower or two.

Wind AM: N 15-25km/h
Wind PM: W-NW 20-30km/h

9° 23°

IN BRIEF

Works underway at
the Penguin Parade

THERE will be interrupted daytime access to the Penguin Parade car park, boardwalks and Summerland Beach from Monday, October 13, to Thursday, October 16, between 7am and 4.30pm.

The limited access is due to planned works on the boardwalk redevelopment.

Please follow the directions of staff who will be on site.

A helicopter will be operating in the area during this period to lift materials into place with all works overseen by qualified wildlife officers and guided by sensitive methodology to ensure the surrounding wildlife and habitat is protected.

The Penguin Parade Visitor Centre will be open to the public from 5pm.

There is no impact on the nightly Penguin Parade.

Public amenities on Summerland Peninsula are available at Shellys Beach and Flynns Beach.

Visitors can still access the other attractions including the Koala Conservation Reserve – 10am to 5.30pm – and Churchill Island – 10am to 5pm.

Please note, the Nobbies Centre, café, toilets car park and boardwalks are closed.

Bookings for the Penguin Parade can be made online at penguins.org.au.

More information about the Penguin Parade Boardwalk and Stand Redevelopment Project is available at penguins.org.au/about/our-community/projects-and-maintenance.

Police appeal for
footage after
motorcyclist airlifted

POLICE are investigating and have appealed for witnesses with CCTV and dashcam footage after a motorcycle collided with a vehicle turning right along Bass Highway on Saturday afternoon, around 2.45pm.

It's understood the driver of a vehicle had slowed and was

turning right onto Bambrook Road in Inverloch, when a motorcycle, also travelling in an easterly direction and allegedly travelling at speed, attempted to overtake multiple vehicles and collided with the turning vehicle.

Three passengers in the vehicle were uninjured, with police, fire brigades, SES and paramedics all present at the scene.

The motorcycle rider was airlifted to hospital, as a precaution, due to the impact and is understood not to have life-threatening injuries.

Anybody with any dashcam footage is being urged to contact Bass Coast Highway Patrol - Snr Constable Jones on 5671 4100.

Get bushfire ready
during green waste
disposal period

THE fee-free green waste period is on again.

From Saturday, November 1 to Sunday, November 23, domestic loads of green waste will be accepted free of charge at any of Bass Coast Shire Council's waste facilities to encourage preparation for the fire season.

Council's waste facilities are located in Grantville, Wonthaggi, Inverloch and Cowes.

With the first weekend of the disposal period coinciding with the Melbourne Cup weekend and council's waste facilities remaining open on Melbourne Cup Day, high demand may lead to queues and delays, particularly on this first weekend. Disposing of your green waste in the middle of the fee-free period may help you avoid delays, so plan ahead.

Those visiting Cowes Recycling Bank should note that large trucks and trailers (over 8' x 5') are not accepted and will be redirected to Grantville Transfer Station during the fee-free green waste period.

Weed species including blackberry, English ivy, agapanthus, mirror bush and plants that cannot be mulched, such as

palm fronds, are not accepted as green waste at any of the locations, however, these can go in your kerbside Organics (green lid) bin at any time.

For more information on what's accepted, locations, and hours of council's waste facilities, visit basscoast.vic.gov.au/greenwaste.

Clothes damaged after
youth set fire in Big W

TWO youth were arrested on Tuesday, October 7, a short time after a small fire broke out at Wonthaggi Big W.

It's understood the fire was small in nature in the kids clothing section and was extinguished through the use of handheld fire extinguishers by one of the Big W employees.

Incident Controller from Wonthaggi Fire Brigade Jamie Moresco credited the quick actions of the Big W team in suppressing the fire with fire extinguishers on scene, before local fire brigades from Wonthaggi, Inverloch and Dalyston arrived with firefighters ensuring the scene was safe, utilising further fire extinguishers.

Three bays of clothing in the children's section were damaged, one directly from the impact of the fire and the other two due to extinguishers.

"The fire at our Wonthaggi store was extinguished by a BIG W employee, and all customers and staff members were safely evacuated from the store. We're thankful that no one was injured, and are grateful to the police and fire brigade who attended and assisted," a spokesperson for Big W stated on Tuesday evening.

Members of the public who were shopping at the time were safely evacuated from the store and followed instructions by the team.

Tenby Point man charged
after \$15M drug bust

EIGHT people have been arrested, five of whom have been charged, after police disman-

tled a sophisticated cannabis crop in Melbourne's south-east, with thousands of plants seized worth \$15 million.

One of those arrested is a 26-year-old man from Tenby Point.

Officers from the Springvale Divisional Response Unit were assisted by multiple units and executed simultaneous search warrants at a home in Keysborough, and a property in Devon Meadows on Tuesday morning, October 7.

At the 20-acre property, it will be alleged, eight suspects fled when police arrived, however, all were arrested at the scene shortly after.

Five of them have been charged, including the Tenby Point man.

All five were charged with cultivating a large commercial quantity of cannabis. They appeared in Melbourne Magistrates' Court on Wednesday, October 8, where they were further remanded in custody to reappear at a later date.

The Tenby Point man was also charged with possessing a drug of dependence.

A two-day search of the property revealed the true extent of the alleged illicit crop, with police dismantling the sophisticated set-up that was growing in gardening igloos.

Approximately 4500 plants of varying maturity were removed from the property, with an estimated potential street value, according to police, of approximately \$15M. The plants will be destroyed following forensic examination by a botanist.

Police also seized a firearm, and quantities of amphetamines, cocaine, ammunition and cash from the property.

Three men aged 32, 37 and 41 were released on intent to summons for cultivating a large commercial quantity of cannabis, while a man and woman, both aged 33, were spoken to and released pending enquiries.

Further charges are expected.



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Millions lost on delayed coastal erosion works at Inverloch, they say

TENS of millions of dollars have been wasted through delays to coastal erosion works at Inverloch, according to recently released Freedom of Information (FOI) documents.

Nationals' Member for Eastern Victoria, Melina Bath MP, said critical works on the Inverloch surf beach remain at a standstill despite the State Government receiving a \$3.3 million grant from the Federal Government three years ago.

"The Allan Labor government has concealed the extent of the worsening erosion crisis," said Ms Bath.

"With each tide and storm event the risk increases.

"The Inverloch Lifesaving Club and nearby homes are under imminent threat."

Revelations contained in FOI documents obtained by Ms Bath show government hazard mapping as early as 2022 identified the possibility for disaster from major erosion or inundation events within two years.

The documents showed there was a need for on-ground works to commence as soon as possible with the government's own economic modelling showing an alleged cover-up of between \$42 million and \$558 million in damages and value lost.

"Coastal erosion works were identified as a priority in 2022," said Ms Bath.

"Despite knowing the dire consequences and not protecting Inverloch's coastline and community, the Allan government is complicit in causing mental anguish for residents.

"The beach is eroding, dunes are vanishing, and the lifesaving club is under threat while Labor refuses to prioritise the works."

In an email sent recently to Inverloch residents, Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale MP claimed the project at Inverloch would begin after the peak summer holiday period.

"Repairs and an extension to the geotextile container wall will be done by Bass Coast Shire prior to Christmas funded by the State Government," said Ms Crugnale.

"As we all know this large-scale engineering project was



Nationals' Member for Eastern Victoria, Melina Bath MP and Glenn Arnold, president of the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club, are frustrated by the lack of progress on the worsening erosion crisis along the Inverloch surf beach.

scheduled for this spring, however, the timing of on-ground works has been influenced by contractor vessel and machinery availability."

President of the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club, Glenn Arnold, has been frustrated by the delays.

"We were told something would be done in winter, but still nothing has been done.

"We've now been told the sandbags will be complete by Christmas.

"The geotextile bags will be extended at either end of the lifesaving club.

"Thousands of dollars have been wasted," he said.

Melina Bath has accused the State Government of a serious lack of transparency.

"Labor's so-called community consultation was clearly engineered to align with a pre-set decision. The Allan government's secrecy and refusal to release the final Cape to Cape Plan speaks volumes.

"Every day these critical works are delayed the

Allan government is recklessly rolling the dice, risking essential infrastructure, and putting the town on the line.

"The community has been lied to," she said.

According to Ms Bath, the initial repair bill was estimated at \$6 million with a sense of urgency, but years later the Cape to Cape Resilience Plan is still pending.

"The community has had meetings, petitions and rallies signifying the urgency of the project, but the community has been told to wait until February 2026," she said.

"The community has been betrayed by the government.

"In 2022, the government said there was a risk to infrastructure both public and private, and a danger to the beachscape and loss of economic revenue to the town.

"Over the last three years, the lowest estimate of the cost to the community is \$42 million, notwithstanding the emotional and mental health cost to residents not knowing."

Glenn Arnold said this in-

cluded young families just starting their mortgage journey and retirees with all their money tied up in residential properties.

"It didn't need to be anywhere near that," said Mr Arnold.

"There's a level of frustration and fear. Public forums and public groups have come together and got nowhere."

"The Minister for Environment has to wear the blame," said Ms Bath.

"This should have been resolved years ago.

"The damage is now significantly worse and will cost significantly more."

"It's duplicitous," said Ms Bath.

With between 300 and 350 juniors expected on the beach for the nippers program over summer, Mr Arnold is concerned about heavy machinery raising safety issues.

"It's disingenuous," according to Mr Arnold.

The Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club continues to grow and now boasts 1200 members.

The crime or the time: How fair was Erin Patterson's sentence

THE Department of Public Prosecutions has beaten Leongatha triple murderer Erin Patterson to the punch.

While Ms Patterson is still expected to seek leave to appeal her conviction, on three counts of murder and one of attempted murder, the Acting Director of Public Prosecutions, Diana Piekusis KC, has already issued Ms Patterson with a Notice of Appeal to the Court of Appeal in respect of the sentence passed on her on Monday, September 8, 2025 in the Supreme Court in Melbourne, specifically the non-parole period of 33 years.

The grounds for appeal are as follows:

1. The sentencing judge erred in finding that there was a 'substantial chance' the respondent would be held in

'solitary confinement for years to come' when such a finding was not open on the evidence, and that finding infected his assessment of the respondent's likely future conditions in custody and his decision to fix a non-parole period.

2. The sentence imposed on the offender is manifestly inadequate, in that: (a.) It was inappropriate for the sentencing judge to fix a non-parole period; or (b.) The non-parole period of 33 years is manifestly inadequate.

Ms Piekusis said the DPP considered that there was an error in the sentence imposed and that a different sentence should be imposed, satisfied that an appeal should be brought in the public interest.

It was acknowledged by the trial judge, Justice Beale, at

the time of sentencing, that fixing or not fixing a non-parole period was the main dispute he needed to determine.

"Sentencing case law establishes that, as a general rule, harsher than normal conditions of imprisonment will warrant mitigation of penalty. There is nothing about your conduct whilst in custody which might cast doubt on the application of that general rule: as Ms Hosking (Corrections Officer) indicated, you are in a management unit to protect you from other prisoners, not vice versa. Nor do you have any relevant criminal history," said Justice Beale on September 8.

"In their written submissions, the prosecution conceded that your conditions of imprisonment are more

burdensome than for a mainstream prisoner and that they are likely to remain so for the foreseeable future.

"You have effectively been held in continuous solitary confinement for the last 15 months and, at the very least, there is a substantial chance that, for your protection, you will continue to be held in solitary confinement for years to come."

It was for this reason that Justice Beale handed down a non-parole period of 33 years while saying that "fixing a non-parole period is not to undervalue the horrendous nature of your offending".

No date has been set for the appeal by the DPP, nor has Ms Patterson lodged her application seeking leave to appeal her conviction.

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It's challenging but future looks bright, says Mayor Halstead

AT TWO meetings of the Bass Coast Shire Council this month, the council has released a plethora of financial and planning reports describing how things are going financially and what happens next.

Last week, it was the Council Vision 2045, Council Plan 2025-29, Annual Action Plan 2025-26, Quarterly Performance Report (end June 2025) and Annual Financial Report and Performance Statement 2024-25.

This Wednesday, council will table its Annual Plan 2024-25, Long Term Financial Plan 2025-35, Asset Plan, Health Safety and Resilience Plan, Disability Action Plan, Domestic Animal Plan 2026-29, Road Management Plan and updated Aquatic Centre Strategy.

At the risk of being blinded by science, if not the avalanche of paperwork, the Sentinel-Times put some questions to the Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead about the shape of the shire's finances.

• What is your assessment of the overall financial health of the Bass Coast Shire Council?

Response: The sustainability of local government has been challenged for many years now. Especially when rate caps set by the Minister do not keep in line with CPI and cost shifting continues to haunt our budgets. However, at financial year-end, four of seven financial ratios are within the low-risk categories set by VAGO. This includes Liquidity and Indebtedness, both performing better than budget and indicating council remains able to meet its financial obligations. Our team have worked hard to find a balance between community demand and fiscal financial management, and it hasn't been easy but nor are household budgets in the current Victorian financial climate.

• The Council's adjusted underlying net result for the year ending June 30, 2025 (which excludes capital grants and contributions) is a \$6.8 million deficit compared to a budgeted underlying deficit of \$100,000. Is this a fair indication of how council's financial position has deteriorated during the past 12 months?

Response: Local government is not there to make money, it's there to provide support and build resilient communities through provision of infrastructure and services. Not including capital grants and contributions, it does show how fine our budget cuts to the bone without them,

and why our team advocacy is vital. Let's flip the script and recognise what a great job our teams have done attracting grants to Bass Coast! With that said, for 2024-25, the result has been impacted by a higher depreciation expenditure (non-cash), and the cemeteries service transfer, a once-off payment reflecting council's continuous evaluation of the services and associated levels provided.

• In an overview of 2025 (page 19 annual report) it says "the Bass Coast Shire's balance sheet remains strong with over \$1 billion in Property, Plant and Infrastructure assets and relatively low levels of debt" but headwinds include: "the rate cap is not keeping pace with inflationary pressures" and "Councils operating costs have increased, particularly those linked to CPI and depreciation". Are you concerned that the Council is increasingly less able to meet customer expectations for works and services under the present funding arrangements?

Response: Council is very asset rich, but remembering assets also require maintenance and, in some cases, complete renewal. This brings ongoing costs and need for capital grants. As our community grows so too will our operating cost, our service cost and investment costs. With a strong balance sheet and low debt level, Council has ensured access to alternative funding sources to maintain service levels in line with the community's expectations, whilst continuing to manage and respond these cost pressures. Is it challenging, yes, but with a good team and a committed elected council, both of which Bass Coast have, I am confident in the future.

• Are you happy that one of council's 'Strategic Indicators' for success in its new Council Plan 2025-29 is that Council's Capital Works Program is 80 per cent completed? Given that any project which makes it on to the annual program is a top priority project, shouldn't the measure for success be 100 per cent?

Response: Delivering 100 per cent is always preferable but there are many varying factors as to why capital works can be held up. I am proud of our teams who continue to push the envelope with an ambitious capital works program and year on year are delivering in an incredibly challenging local government environment.

Rochelle Halstead honoured with MAV service award

BASS Coast Shire Council are today celebrating Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead, who was last week recognised with a 10-Year Service Award from the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV). The honour acknowledges her decade of dedicated service to local government and her enduring commitment to the communities she has represented.

Cr Halstead's career in local government spans many years and reflects her strong sense of civic duty, leadership and community connection. Her public service journey began with her election to Frankston City Council in 2003, where she also served as Mayor.

Since being elected to Bass Coast Shire Council in 2020, Cr Halstead has represented the Western Port Ward with passion and integrity, according to the Council. She served as Deputy Mayor in both 2023 and 2024, before being re-elected at the 2024 local government election for a further four-year term.

In addition to her role as Mayor, Cr Halstead was elected earlier this year as the Regional Board



Bass Coast Shire Mayor Rochelle Halstead pictured at last week's award ceremony with Deputy Mayor Brett Tessari.

Director for the MAV representing Gippsland, where she continues to advocate strongly for the needs of regional and rural councils.

Reflecting on the milestone, Mayor Halstead said her greatest motivation has always been the people she serves.

"Representing this community

is both an honour and a privilege. Every conversation, every project, every decision is about making Bass Coast an even better place to live, work and visit. I'm constantly inspired by the passion and care our residents have for this region, and it's what drives me every day to do my very best on their behalf."

Planter boxes arrive on McBride

PLANTER boxes along Wonthaggi's McBride Avenue, to contain Australian Native plants, will be installed over two to three days, with work having begun last weekend and continuing this weekend and possibly the one after; mostly happening on Sundays to minimise disruption.

Plants will start going into planter boxes this Sunday.

Whilst works are certainly well underway on Graham Street,

there is no confirmation yet of when planting of Crepe Myrtles will begin in the new tree pits.

The contractor will maintain the new plants over the first 12 months before maintenance responsibility is handed over to council.

RIGHT New planter boxes arrived on the weekend along McBride Avenue, with plants expected this coming weekend. B37_4125



Too much stormwater for Cape Paterson

A WARNING posted on social media at the weekend for Cape Paterson Bay Beach users that the toilet block was flooded when the town's stormwater drainage system couldn't handle heavy rain has highlighted a more serious issue.

According to the message, the stormwater outlet pipe to the sea has been blocked with sand and weed since flooding in 2019.

The Bass Coast Shire Council has been notified about the problem with Bunurong Ward Councillor Meg Edwards acknowledging the problem when responding to the post.



A reported blockage to stormwater outfall pipe at Cape Paterson left the Bay Beach Toilet Block flooded at the weekend but has identified a problem that needs to be addressed.

Danny O'BRIEN_{MP}

State Member for Gippsland South

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JA-25614



Cr Tim O'Brien and Cr Ron Bauer spoke strongly against reinstating The Lord's Prayer at Bass Coast Council meetings. B16_4125



Lord's Prayer petitioner Karen Thorp received a vote of support from Cr Meg Edwards but failed in her bid to have The Lord's Prayer reinstated at Bass Coast Council meetings. B17_4125

The Lord's Prayer a bridge too far for Bass Coast Council

ADDRESSING the monthly meeting of Bass Coast Council, Wonthaggi resident Karen Thorp broke with recent tradition and recited The Lord's Prayer in council chambers.

On behalf of the 194 people who signed a petition seeking reinstatement of The Lord's Prayer to council proceedings, Mrs Thorp spoke passionately about her beliefs.

"It's a very simple prayer," said Mrs Thorp.

"It is for everyone, it's seeking blessing, it's seeking wisdom from God, and it's offering forgiveness, also acknowledging the source of our moral law."

"Our Father, who art in heaven," began Mrs Thorp.

At the completion of the prayer Mrs Thorp said the peti-

tion from citizens of Bass Coast Shire drew attention to the error of removing The Lord's Prayer from the order of business at council meetings in 2014.

The petitioners requested that The Lord's Prayer be reinstated as a reading at the commencement of proceedings of Bass Coast Council as soon as possible.

"The merit of saying The Lord's Prayer is the action of publicly acknowledging the responsibility one has to the people they are serving," said Mrs Thorp.

Acknowledging Mrs Thorp's words in support of the petition Cr Ron Bauer said he could not state strongly enough how against the petition he was.

"This is a multi-cultural

country. There are 1500 religions or belief systems on the planet. Each one as relevant as the next, including atheism."

"I do not see why we should privilege one over the other," said Cr Bauer.

"Let's leave prayers and praying in the church and concentrate on the business of council in council," he said.

Cr Tim O'Brien was also opposed to the petition.

"Australia is a secular country, and at the last census only 43 per cent of Australians identified themselves as Christians, we've got multiple religions being practised."

Cr O'Brien said he had no doubt the petitioners were sincere.

"But using The Lord's Prayer to publicly acknowledge the

responsibility one has to the people they are serving is eye-wash," he said.

"It feels to me like it is just making mischief."

Cr Meg Edwards called for a division when it came to a vote on the petition.

Voting in favour of continuing the current practice of opening council meetings with a councillor statement were Cr Temby, Cr Tessari, Cr Halstead, Cr Bauer, Cr Morgan, Cr O'Brien, Cr Bell and Cr Thompson, Cr Meg Edwards disagreed with a dissenting vote.

Disappointed, Karen Thorp said the mischievousness was in 2014 when Bass Coast Shire Council removed The Lord's Prayer from the order of business without community consultation.

Duo arrested after burglary spree

POLICE have arrested two people following a series of alleged commercial burglaries across the Bass Coast, where almost \$100k worth of cigarettes and alcohol were allegedly stolen.

It's alleged the duo targeted multiple service stations and grocery stores between Monday, October 6 and Wednesday, October 8, using a stolen vehicle to commit the alleged offences.

The alleged thefts occurred at:

- A supermarket in Inverloch – cigarettes and alcohol valued at approximately \$60,000
- A general store in Tarwin Lower – alcohol valued at approximately \$5,000
- A service station in Fish Creek – cigarettes valued at approximately \$10,000
- A general store in Mirboo North – cigarettes and alcohol valued at approximately \$5000
- A bottle shop in Inverloch – alcohol valued at approximately \$12,000

Following an investigation by Bass Coast Crime Investigation Unit detectives, with support from Leongatha, Korumburra and Wonthaggi uniform members, two people were arrested last week including:

- A 22-year-old Leongatha man was charged with handle stolen goods, possess cocaine, possess controlled weapon, possess proceeds of crime. He was bailed to appear at Korumburra Magistrates Court on December 11, 2025.
- A 16-year-old boy from the Bass Coast area was charged with theft of motor vehicle, theft, drive disqualified, handle stolen goods. He was bailed to appear at a children's court at a later date.

Police have also recovered a stolen vehicle which was allegedly used during the incidents. All allegedly stolen items have since been seized by police and returned to the affected stores.

"Police have seized all of the allegedly stolen items and delivered them back to the affected stores – a great outcome for local business owners who've been through a tough week," said Detective Inspector Leigh Balthazaar, investigation and response manager.



Tarwin Lower FESTIVAL

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ME0668



Changed traffic conditions

Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix 2025

Expect delays to and from Phillip Island from Thursday 16 to Monday 20 October.

Traffic restrictions will apply on several roads. Please follow signs and drive to the conditions.

Thursday 16 October – The Homecoming Ride will see hundreds of motorcyclists travel from San Remo to the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit. Expect delays on key routes.

Saturday 18 October – The Phillip Island Community GP Ride will bring riders from Caldermeade to Phillip Island. Be aware of increased traffic.

Sunday 19 October – The **blue line** road marking system will be in place to help vehicles leave Phillip Island safely and efficiently. It divides the Melbourne-bound lane into two by utilising the emergency lane.

Keep an eye out for changed traffic conditions, plan ahead and allow extra travel time.



Plan ahead,
Scan or visit
transport.vic.gov.au

DTP1065/25



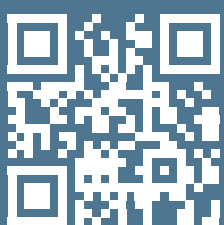
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Victoria has tough new bail laws

These laws are aimed at reducing the risk of reoffending, by making it harder to get bail if you're accused of a violent crime.

There are also new offences if you break your bail conditions or commit a crime while on bail.



Scan to learn more about
Victoria's new bail laws



Authorised by the Victorian Government,
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Labor’s state-of-the-art firefighting fleet grounded before fire season

THE grounding of Forest Fire Management Victoria’s entire fleet of 290 Mercedes G-Wagens and 59 Unimogs has crippled fire season planning just weeks before the declared fire danger period for South Gippsland and Bass Coast.

A contingency fleet of Land-cruiser vehicles, fire tankers and bulldozers will be called into service after structural issues were detected in the UniMogs and cracking in the chassis of G-Wagens.

As a result, the entire G-Wagen and Unimog fleet has been pulled off the road indefinitely, amid serious safety concerns just weeks before the fire season.

Launched in 2017 under Labor’s \$32 million state-of-the-art upgrade, the G-Wagens and Unimogs were touted as world-class firefighting assets for rapid response and access to remote terrain.

Leader of The Nationals and Shadow Minister for Emergency Services, Danny O’Brien, called on Premier Allan to reveal how many vehicles are affected, and what contingencies are in place to protect communities.

“Labor promised Victorians a state-of-the-art firefighting fleet, but eight years later has delivered a world-class failure. Victorians deserve answers on how this failure was allowed to happen and what steps will be taken to ensure community safety.”



Leader of The Nationals and Shadow Minister for Emergency Services Danny O’Brien, pictured at the Not in Our Name rally in Wonthaggi. B12_3425

Shadow Minister for Public Land Management Melina Bath slammed the Allan Labor Government for leaving regional Victoria dangerously exposed ahead of a high-risk fire season.

“Grounding Victoria’s front-line fleet weeks before fire season is an unacceptable failure given nearly 40 per cent of the state is public land,” said Ms Bath.

“Labor’s flawed bushfire policy, Safer Together has delivered just 1.6 per cent of land treated for fuel reduction annually since 2015, and the government routinely fails to

meet its own fuel-driven risk targets.

“At a time when we need every piece of equipment and personnel working to reduce risk, it is our CFA volunteers who are being asked to carry the load with ageing equipment and limited resources.”

The CFA said its members are ready to protect the Victorian community this coming fire season and have been working closely with its Victorian emergency service partners.

“CFA is closely monitoring many bushland areas across the state, in particular West

and East Gippsland, due to underlying rainfall deficits in these areas,” a CFA spokesperson said after the FFMVic announcement last week.

“Due to the current dry conditions and high fuel loads, if an ignition occurred on a hot, windy day, fire could carry readily.

“Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) has been keeping CFA informed of the progress of the current fleet repairs and have assisted FFMV with the provision of fire vehicles that were due to go to disposal. “

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) said it has been keeping CFA informed of the progress of the current fleet repairs and have capacity for the immediate risk outlook.

“The safety of our firefighters is paramount, that’s why regular safety inspections of vehicles and equipment are so important, a Victorian Government spokesperson stated on Friday.

“FFMVic has brought online additional vehicles to continue undertaking critical bushfire season preparations and respond to bushfire emergencies.

“These repairs are being fast-tracked over the next two months.”

FFMVic is also working on agreements to secure additional emergency response vehicles from other states if required.



An Ambulance Victoria helicopter lands at the Wonthaggi Hospital shortly after 8pm last Friday night to transfer a local man after he reportedly “fell on a steak knife” at a social gathering at home.

‘Stabbing’ incident an accident, they say

WHEN an Ambulance Victoria helicopter flew in low over Wonthaggi last Friday night, shortly after 8pm, and police confirmed reports of a ‘stabbing incident’, local residents feared the worst.

However, while police investigations are ongoing, witnesses to the incident have told police it was an accident.

“Investigations are ongoing, but the 40-year-old Wonthaggi male involved was heavily intoxicated at the time, as too were those in the house,” said Sergeant Ryan Burns.

“He’s stripped off his shirt and reportedly fell on a steak knife or similar.

“They’ve reported it as an accident, but police are continuing to investigate the incident.”

He was airlifted to Melbourne with a serious but non-life-threatening injury and is reported to be recovering in hospital.

The incident happened shortly before 8pm last Friday, October 10.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or file a confidential report online at crimestoppersvic.com.au

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South Gippsland
Shire Council

South Gippsland Shire Council News

Coffee with a Councillor in Venus Bay

This is an opportunity to speak directly with your local government representatives about your community. It's a chance to share your thoughts, raise concerns and help to shape the future of South Gippsland.

The event will also provide a chance to offer feedback on several key engagement opportunities.

We invite you to join in respectful conversations about your vision for South Gippsland's future.

Councillors, in turn, welcome the opportunity to share their ideas and to discuss some of the challenges we face together as a community.

Your feedback plays an important role in guiding how Council invests in our Shire, helping us maintain a safe, strong and connected South Gippsland.

Come along for a nice, hot cuppa and a chat with other locals who are passionate about seeing our region thrive.

DETAILS

Date: Wednesday 22 October

Where: Venus Bay Community Centre

When: 12.30pm to 1.00pm

Note: Councillors will also be attending the community lunch from 12.00pm to 12.30pm

Leongatha Railway Precinct Closure

Eat Drink Play
GIPPSLAND
18 October 2025

To allow for event set up, access to the Leongatha Railway Precinct will be restricted from the following dates until 7.00am Sunday 19 October.

- Tuesday 14 October – closure of bottom carpark (behind Bair Street) from 8.00pm.
- Thursday 16 October – closure of entire site (including pedestrian bridge and GSRT) from 8.00pm.

Updates and more information can be found at: www.gsrt.com.au

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 15 October at 2.00pm.

Details will be available on Council's website: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/councilmeetings

To watch the meeting live or when it suits you, visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a new job? We might have the perfect position for you!

Check out our current vacant positions here: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions

COMMUNITY IMMUNISATION SESSIONS

Date: Thursday 21 October

Where: Karmai Community Children's Centre, 22 Princes Street, Korumburra

When: 10.00am to 12.00pm

To find a session in October that suits you and to book, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/immunisation

SUBSCRIBE TO **IN THE KNOW**

Sign up to Council's fortnightly newsletter to stay up to date with the latest news, events, community consultations and grants. To subscribe, visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/intheknow

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION FOR PRE-PREP

Four-Year-Old-Kindergarten is becoming Pre-Prep with families able to access up to 20 hours of Pre-Prep from 2027.

Council is inviting parents, carers of young children, and people planning for a family to share their thoughts on the upcoming transition via an online survey and upcoming focus group sessions.

To view the focus group details and share your thoughts, visit: www.yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha
03 5662 9200

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Have your say on domestic animal management in South Gippsland

ANIMAL lovers and others are set to have a further say on the latest Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) for South Gippsland Shire, its aim being to strike a balance between pet welfare and protection of the community and environment from nuisance dogs and cats.

With the current DAMP expiring at the end of this year, council has prepared a draft DAMP for 2026-2029.

Should councillors vote in support of a recommendation before them on Wednesday, a period of public feedback on the draft DAMP will open on Friday, October 17, running until Tuesday, November 4.

Consultation informing the creation of the draft DAMP called for off-leash dog parks and improved beach access for dogs, while some focused on the need to address the issue of roaming cats and dogs.

Dog aggression and dogs harassing or attacking livestock, and domestic animal impact on native wildlife were among key concerns raised.

As well as guiding responsible pet ownership, the DAMP is intended to detail the training provided to council's Authorised Officers and help implement measures to minimise nuisance caused by cats and dogs and identify dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs and ensure they are managed appropriately.

Should councillors vote as suggested, community members can have their say from Friday by visiting [yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au](https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

RIGHT: Cr Hersey and his dog Pickle are encouraging South Gippsland residents to have their say on the future of domestic animal management in the shire.



‘Summerfield Oval’ to be a fitting tribute to Allen

ALLEN Summerfield's vast contribution to the Korumburra community and local sport will be recognised at Korumburra Recreation Reserve by naming the field ‘Summerfield Oval’.

In announcing ‘Cobra’ Summerfield's 2023 passing in a Facebook post, Korumburra Cricket Club's Darren Scott described him as a “club legend”, saying that while his contribution to the club will be irreplaceable, most importantly, he was a great person.

Paying tribute to ‘Cobra’, Michael Giles of the Sentinel-Times spoke of the tragedy of the accident that left talented cricketer Summerfield confined to a wheelchair for the

rest of his life.

“It was a long time before Cobra could re-emerge after the tragedy of that incident, to put his life back into some sort of order after battling through the aftermath and the mental scars, but re-emerge he did, to devote his life to the Korumburra Cricket Club, and them to him,” Giles wrote.

“He's left an enormous legacy, which is there for all to see, not just in the improved facilities at the Korumburra Recreation Reserve, including a superb turf wicket, but also in the standing of the club, restored as one of the leading organisations in the LDCA and country cricket.”

South Gippsland Shire councillors appear certain to vote in support of the ‘Summerfield Oval’ name on Wednesday, having previously unanimously backed opening the proposal to public consultation, with all feedback received being supportive.

Should councillors vote as expected, the name ‘Summerfield Oval’ will be registered with Geographic Names Victoria for final consideration and approval.

Korumburra Recreation Reserve Committee was a driving force in the move to honour Summerfield.

“The committee considers the naming of the oval within the reserve as a great

recognition to the work Allen undertook in maintaining and developing the recreation reserve and its facilities,” the Committee's chairperson Glen Barrett wrote in a letter of support.

In his capacity as president of Korumburra Cricket Club, Barrett stated that, “The oval was where Allen plied his craft as a cricketer to dominate the local cricketing competition.”

Barrett also noted that Summerfield was instrumental in driving the development of the turf pitch at Korumburra Recreation Reserve and making the reserve a premier cricket venue in the district.

Council question confusion in South Gippsland Shire

PUBLIC questions in South Gippsland Shire council meetings are intended to now be restricted to ones relating to topics in the council meeting agenda, and may be read out by the questioner when that person is present at the relevant council meeting.

However, it is unclear when questions will be read out if the questioner is not present at the meeting.

Public question guidelines are included in council's Draft Governance Rules 2025, on which community members are expected to have their say between Thursday, October 16

and Friday, November 21, with councillors voting on Wednesday on a recommendation to open consultation on the document.

It is difficult to reconcile two apparently contradictory points in the guidelines.

“There is no requirement for a questioner to be present at the council meeting in order to have their question(s) and the response read out,” it is stated.

“If the questioner is not present at the council meeting, the Chair or a member of council staff or councillor nominated by the Chair may read to those present at the meeting a question which

has been submitted.”

However, it is also noted that, “The Chair may refrain from reading a question or having a question read if the person who submitted the question is not present in the gallery at the time of the meeting when the question is due to be read.”

The purpose of public question time, from council's perspective, is outlined in the draft document.

“It is not designed to take the place of contacting a councillor or councillors directly to discuss a matter, or to replace contacting council's customer services for assistance; rather, it is

designed to allow for clarification of issues or matters contained within the council meeting agenda,” it is stated.

It is specified that questions must be submitted either electronically or in hard copy form to the Leongatha council office at least 48 hours prior to the start of the council meeting to be answered at that meeting.

Questions must meet specified requirements to be considered.

Questioners granted permission to read out their question or questions, must not raise any additional questions or alter the previously submitted questions.

New Foster Skatepark seems destined for Showgrounds

FOSTER Showgrounds is the probable home of the town's planned new skatepark, despite the concerns of those at Foster & District Agricultural & Pastoral Society about the facility's potential impact on the annual Agricultural Show.

A period of community consultation on the exact location within the Showgrounds is likely.

This Wednesday, South Gippsland Shire councillors will vote on a recommendation to endorse Foster Showgrounds as the chosen

skatepark site and undertake stakeholder consultation to determine the final location within the Showgrounds.

While Foster Station hasn't been entirely ruled out, council stresses that would come at a significantly increased cost due to the lack of supporting infrastructure, estimated at \$500,000.

An extended pedestrian link to the CBD, public toilets, services (sewer, water and electricity), street furniture, lighting and formalised parking just some of the infrastructure required.

Existing infrastructure at Foster Showgrounds includes toilets, rubbish bins, drink fountains, shelter and seating areas.

While council acknowledges the concerns of those at Foster & District Agricultural & Pastoral Society, it points out that it is only one of the user groups at the Foster Showgrounds and that its views may not be representative of the broader community.

In its October council meeting agenda, council makes its view on the skatepark matter clear.

“Although recommencing another community consultation process is an option, regardless of the results, the Foster Showgrounds would remain the standout location for a new skatepark,” it states.

Skatepark design works are currently being undertaken, with council estimating construction costs in the vicinity of \$500,000, the project potentially supported through a combination of grant funding and Capital Renewal in future years.

Mayor's Message



Cr John Schelling

HELLO South Gippsland,

MAVlab Awards Night

Last week I had the pleasure of heading to Melbourne for the MAVlab Innovation Awards, where I proudly supported Christian Stefani – Director Strategy and Partnerships – as one of only three finalists. While he didn't take home the top prize, we are incredibly proud of his achievements and the innovative work he continues to deliver for South Gippsland Shire Council.

MAV State Council

Meanwhile, Councillors Gilligan and Hersey, along with our CEO Allison Jones, represented South Gippsland at the MAV State Council. They put forward two important motions – one regarding the voluntary handback and transfer of Crown land assets, and another addressing Coastal Hazard Overlays. These opportunities allow Council to actively advocate for issues that affect not only our region, but also other local government areas facing similar challenges.

October Council Meeting

This week we're gearing up for our October Council Meeting (Wednesday, October 15), and it's a big one. We'll be discussing the Annual Report, the Domestic Animal Management Plan, several new strategies, and much more. I encourage everyone to tune in, either via livestream at www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live or in person at the Council Chambers on Michael Place, Leongatha.

Coffee with a Councillor

Looking ahead, I invite you to join myself and fellow Councillors at the Venus Bay Community Centre next Wednesday, October 22, from 12.30pm to 1pm. Come along for a cuppa and a chat – this is a great opportunity to share your thoughts and feedback on several key engagement initiatives and help shape the future of South Gippsland.

South Gippsland Family Fun Day

A couple of weekends ago we celebrated the South Gippsland Family Fun Day at the Meeniyan Recreation Reserve, and what a day it was! The weather was great, and I'd like to extend a big thank you to our local AFL guests – Tom Hanily (Sydney Swans), Wil Dawson (North Melbourne), and Jack Hutchinson (West Coast Eagles) – for representing both the league and our region so wonderfully.

Works in Korumburra

Last week, we also marked the opening of the new pedestrian link in Korumburra. This new footpath connects the upper section of Commercial Street to Little Commercial Street, improving access to carparking and the Korumburra Hub. There's a lot happening in Korumburra right now, including the completion of the civil works in the Railway Precinct and the construction of the new skatepark, which is on track to be finished by the end of the year.

Trivia Night

Over the weekend, I joined Councillor Rae and Councillor Hersey at the Bena Trivia Night. It was a fantastic evening spent with our local community – thank you to everyone who came along.

Counting down to Eat Drink Play Gippsland

And finally, one last plug for Eat Drink Play Gippsland! If you haven't grabbed your tickets yet, now's the time. This inaugural event promises to be a celebration of local food, drink, and entertainment – and it's a great way to support our local economy and connect with community.

Jimmy to lead community ride

ANNOUNCED last week, Jimmy Hackett from Phillip Island will be leading this year's Phillip Island Community GP Run along the driveway and to the gates at Caldermeade. Though slightly too young to participate in the full ride himself, the youngster is thrilled to be involved on his bike.



"I'm very excited," Jimmy said to the Sentinel-Times over the weekend, ahead of this weekend's MotoGP at Phillip Island.

Striking up a conversation with anyone and loving to chat about his motorbike, it's understood that a chance encounter with Run organisers Sam and Jason at Woolworths led to the opportunity.

"We are very excited for him," Jo Hackett (Jimmy's mum) stated.

"He's an independent little go-getter, and we're happy he gets to have this amazing opportunity. We love the GP weekend, and Jimmy's always enjoyed waving to all the riders as they return from the track over the weekend.

"Unfortunately, we'll miss a lot of the action this year as we're taking Jimmy to see Nitro Circus Saturday after the GP run."

Instead, Jimmy's hoping to catch the MotoGP on Friday, and says he "likes every motorbike rider", from MotoGP to Superbikes. Though not counting the days until he can get his licence ("too many!"), Jimmy's keen to race at least once and try some tricks when he's a little older.

"Thanks to everyone for letting me be included," Jimmy concluded.

Enjoy the moment, Jimmy!

Phillip Island is the place to be with the return of the MotoGP



On Friday, Ducati Lenovo announced Michele Pirro will step into the hot seat as Marc Marquez recovers in Madrid after an injury sidelined him for the Phillip Island round. The Italian is no stranger to the circuit and will race in his 70th GP in the premier class aboard the Desmosedici GP.



Aussie Jack Miller has changed from KTM to Pramac Yamaha and will use all his local knowledge to keep the Ducatis honest. Photo: Peter Cleeland.

PHILLIP Island is revving up the MotoGP™ this weekend, October 17 to 19, at the iconic Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit.

The MotoGP™ Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix 2025 will once again bring tens of thousands of fans to the island for three exhilarating days of racing, live music, and family-friendly entertainment. Highlights include the local favourite Community Day, where Bass Coast residents can enjoy free entry, and the Cowes Entertainment Precinct, transforming Thompson Avenue into a hub of music and fun.

Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead is looking forward to the event, as the biggest sporting event in regional Victoria, the MotoGP™ is expected to attract up to 100,000 attendees over the three days.

"Phillip Island is the place to be in October, and the MotoGP is the headline event of Bass Coast Shire Council's events program. The event injects millions into our economy, supports local jobs and hospitality, and showcases Phillip Island on the international stage," Cr Halstead said.

"Phillip Island has proudly hosted the Australian MotoGP for nearly 30 years at the world-famous Grand Prix Circuit, and the celebrations spill into Cowes with our family-friendly street party. Last year, the Cowes MotoGP™ Entertainment Precinct drew over 6000 people, and this year we're ready to make it even bigger."

"And with the \$8 million

Federal Government investment into the upcoming Cowes streetscape works, Phillip Island is being firmly placed on the map as a destination where world-class events meet world-class spaces."

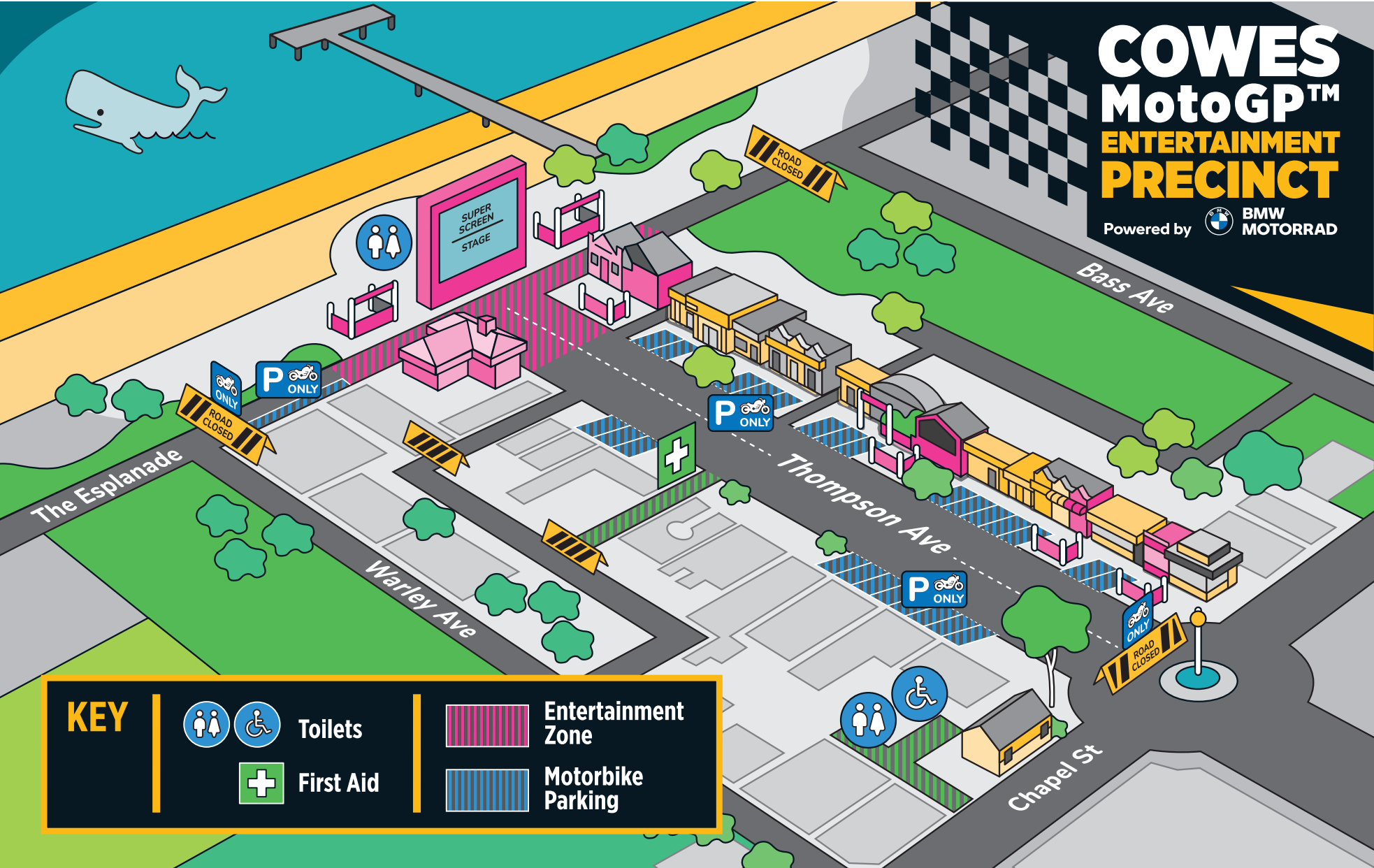
A community day will be held again on Friday, October 17, offering free general admission tickets to Bass Coast residents. To receive a complimentary ticket, present your proof of residency at any gate on the day or avoid the queues by collecting your tickets in advance from Gate 1 on Thursday, October 16.

Thompson Avenue in Cowes will remain the entertainment hub and will be filled with live music and entertainment with the BMW Superscreen showing race footage, rider interviews and movies throughout the weekend to keep the party going. Highlights include performances from Nashville's World on Tour, Rehash Cover Band, and Oz Rock Express.

Road closures will be in effect from Thursday, October 16, at 7am to Monday, October 20, at midday, with Thompson Avenue closed from Chapel Street to The Esplanade and The Esplanade closed from Warley Avenue to Bass Avenue.

Only motorcycle parking will be available along Thompson Avenue, creating a family-friendly MotoGP™ experience in Cowes.

For more information on road closures or to enter the draw for free tickets, visit basscoast.vic.gov.au/motogp.



basscoast.vic.gov.au/motogp



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Help shape the future of climate action in Bass Coast

BASS Coast Shire Council is inviting the community to take part in an interactive Climate Action Plan Review Workshop at Berninneit in Cowes on Saturday, October 25, from 10.30am to 3pm. The workshop is part of the mid-term review of Council's Climate Action Plan 2020-2030, offering locals the chance to reflect on what's been achieved so far, share lived experiences, and help set the priorities for the next five years of climate action across the region. Council's Manager Sustainable Environment, Simon Woodland, said the event is about harnessing the collective knowledge and energy of the community to guide the next stage.

"Bass Coast has a strong history of community-led climate action," Simon said. "This workshop is an opportunity for residents, businesses and community groups to share what matters most to them - what's working, where we can do better, and how we can continue to make meaningful progress together." Facilitated by a climate expert, the workshop will include group discussions, creative thinking, and opportunities to explore key themes such as energy transition, sustainable transport, waste and the circular economy, land and nature, resilience, equity and climate justice, and local leadership.

Participants will also have the opportunity to help prioritise which actions and focus areas matter most for Bass Coast's future, helping Council refine the plan to ensure it reflects community aspirations and remains achievable, effective, and bold. Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead encouraged the people of Bass Coast to get involved and be part of the conversation. "The first five years of our Climate Action Plan have seen incredible progress driven by community partnerships and local leadership," Cr Halstead said. "Now we want to hear directly from our residents and businesses about where we should focus our energy next, so that Bass Coast can continue leading the way on climate action." The workshop will be an engaging, hands-on session - with opportunities to collaborate, share stories, and connect with others who care deeply about the future of the region. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. If you can't make it to the workshop, you can still have your say by completing the online survey at: engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/climate-change-action-plan-mid-term-review. Places for the workshop are limited, and registration is essential: trybooking.com/events/landing/1446190.

Gardivalia ready to blossom

GREAT news! Gardivalia will open on Saturday and Sunday, October 25 and 26. Wander through 16 beautiful gardens across Baw Baw Shire. Walk through 'Tall Timbers' in Piedmont (only open Sunday), an expansive garden in a natural bush setting, with many exotic trees and shrubs around a creek, cascade and pond. Last chance to see this garden. Up at Icy Creek, you will find 'Meander', showcasing rare trees and shrubs against a backdrop of large eucalypts and mountains. Kitchen garden and woodland paths. Experience beautiful views of Blue Rock Lake from 'Lakeview' at Willow Grove, with old machinery displayed, roses, a watering pond, camellias, an enclosed small orchard and many deciduous trees.

'Dot's Garden' at Hill End now has 58 small garden beds and many amazing sculptures. Willow trees, crepe myrtles, roses, elms, magnolias and more. Visit the 'Old Neerim Schoolhouse' in Neerim, established in 1902, rich in local history with expansive gardens, abundant produce and stunning views. 'Laurie Collins Sculpture Garden' at Jindivick has over 60 metal sculptures among garden beds, as well as 'Red Tree Gallery'. In Drouin, visit 'Lois' Garden'. For those who want to know more about succulents and cacti, this is for you. Mosaics, sculptured decorations and creatures. Visit 'My Ross' at Brandy Creek. Created since 2021 with pathways, rock walls, roses, border plantings, a small lake and stunning north views.



'Meander' at Icy Creek, where rare trees and shrubs sit beneath towering eucalypts with mountain views.

Walk around 'Wrens Wood' in Warragul, four acres with oaks, gums, maples, buddlejas, rhododendrons, camellias, fruit and nut trees, a vegetable and berry garden, vines and ferns and many orchids. 'Rustic Charm' in Warragul has a rustic, eclectic mixture of plants, crafts, arts and mosaics on display. Especially for those wondering what to do with a small space. 'Fiona's Garden' in Warragul has compost-making demonstrations at 11am. A show garden, permaculture, vegetable and orchard. Bee hives and berries. The 'Warragul Community Garden' (open Sunday), where people share gardening experiences, grows produce, flowers, fruit and herbs with beehives and a cubby house.

In Nilma North, visit 'Carlisle' and 'Darley Grange'. 'Carlisle' is a colourful country garden with unusual and cleverly made water features, vibrant roses, seasonal perennials and stunning views. 'Darley Grange' specialises in 80 different stunning bearded irises and many orchids. In Darnum, you will find 'Gumview', an informal garden with many beautiful magnolias, camellias, maples, peonies, a clivia collection and many bulbs. In Trafalgar 'Bellissimi Alberi' (open Sunday), will bring all your senses alive with forest pansies, birches, magnolias, azaleas, roses, and pathways leading to lush flower beds. Programs will be available throughout the Baw Baw Shire. For more information, visit the website gardivalia.com.au.

Climate Change Workshop

Saturday, 25 October
10:30am - 3:00pm
Berninneit
91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes

We want to hear from you!

- What actions have you taken in your home, business or organisation to address climate change?
- Do you have feedback on Council's actions or any new suggestions?

Join us for an in-depth workshop. Lunch provided
Reserve your place at basscoast.vic.gov.au/climateworkshop

Can't make it? We still want to hear from you!
Visit basscoast.vic.gov.au/climate to find the survey.



GARDIVALIA Festival OF Gardens

Great News!
Gardivalia will OPEN on Saturday & Sunday, Oct 25 & 26

For more information visit www.gardivalia.com.au

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Bass Coast EV targets set up to fail

THE failure of Bass Coast Shire to get anywhere near its performance target of switching half of its council fleet to electric vehicles has raised serious concerns over the Bass Coast Climate Change Action Plan.

The latest quarterly performance report released by Bass Coast Shire revealed a major setback in its plan to transition 50 per cent of the council fleet to electric vehicles.

Of the 21 actions flagged in the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan, 19 were reported to be complete, with two outstanding items not completed due to external factors.

Council's plan to incorporate the Bass Coast Housing Strategy and Neighbourhood Character Study into the Bass Coast Planning Scheme was delayed due to State Government changes to Victoria's planning system.

Council's target for moving its vehicle fleet to electric vehicles, to reduce emissions and support Council's Climate Action Plan was only 60 per cent complete.

Council was told the vehicle fleet target is unattainable because while electric vehicles are available for deployment as tools of trade utility vehicles, none of the Australian market entrants meet the mandatory five star ANCAP safety rating.

The Bass Coast Climate Change Action Plan for 2020-30 has recognised the role of both council and the community in a collective response to reduce emissions and build community resilience against the local impacts of climate change.

Council's 10-year Electric Vehicle (EV) Transition Plan was designed to allow a phased transition to a carbon-neutral fleet, including passenger vehicles, light commercial vehicles and alternative transport opportunities.

The Climate Change Action Plan will be reviewed within a 10-year timeframe.

Green light for Esso ORC at Barry Beach

ESSO has received regulatory approval for stage one of its Onshore Reception Centre (ORC) at the Barry Beach Marine Terminal and is now undertaking planning and technical studies for future stages.

Detailed planning activities will be undertaken by Esso and environmental studies to assess the potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the ORC.

Subsea drilling at the Kipper platforms and a drilling campaign from the Marlin complex will now both be completed by 2025, along with jack-up rig activities.

Gippsland Basin geophysical and geo-technical investigations will continue across multiple license areas to provide information on plug and abandonment activities, decommissioning, and development and maintenance around existing facilities.

Stage two of transportation and offloading operations will include transportation of structures through Victorian state waters and the subsequent offload and set-down of the decommissioned rigs at Barry Beach Marine Terminal.

Esso is currently developing a Bass Strait Producing Environment Plan, which will detail the risks and impacts associated with the operation and maintenance of producing infrastructure.

A Bass Strait Non-Producing Environment Plan is also being developed, which will detail the risks and impacts associated with non-producing infrastructure in the 'Cessation of Production' or 'Stasis Mode'.

Plans are being progressed to remove pipelines from the Bass Strait seabed, including shallow buried umbilicals and flexible flowlines in Commonwealth waters.

Community members and stakeholders have been invited to attend Esso community consultation sessions from 5pm to 7pm at the Foster War Memorial Arts Centre, 79 Main Street, Foster on Tuesday, November 11, and 5pm to 7pm at the Leongatha RSL, Corner Smith Street and Michael Place Leongatha on Wednesday, November 12.



Friends of the State Coal Mine committee and Parks Victoria team members with Parks Victoria Chief Executive Officer Lee Miezis and Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale MP at a Parks Victoria update on upgrade works for the State Coal Mine.

State Coal Mine upgrade works about to start

THE much-loved State Coal Mine in Wonthaggi is about to get a \$1.5 million shot in the arm with work about to start on the long-awaited \$1.5 million upgrade.

Former coalminers Dan Carr, Reg Wilson and Friends of the State Coal Mine, including George Scott OAM, welcomed the encouraging development.

Parks Victoria CEO Lee Miezis said the upgrade to the main heading shaft at the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine should be completed by April next year.

"Groundwork is expected to start in the next few weeks," said Mr Miezis.

"The contracts for the main heading shaft have been awarded and design work on the drift cart is proceeding.

"We will talk through the designs for the drift cart again later this year."

Shotcrete is to be used in

the main heading shaft to make the tunnel safer, along with rock and cable bolts.

Parks Victoria is now in the process of finalising permits from Heritage Victoria.

"Heritage permits are needed so we do not lose what is special about this site.

"The drift cart needs to be re-engineered to meet modern safety standards."

The mine's tracks, timber sleepers, and ballast for the drift car will be replaced with new concrete sleepers, improved drainage, and a maintenance inspection pit.

Speaking more widely of the work of Parks Victoria, Mr Miezis promised more boots on the ground, and more partnering with local communities.

"It's back to basics," Mr Miezis said.

"We want more people outdoors enjoying our parks.

"To show what makes our

parks so special, including the State Coal Mine."

Mr Miezis said there would be half-price camping this summer in most popular parks, while other State Parks will continue to be free.

Mr Miezis said a top priority was to make sure Parks Victoria rangers can do their job.

"They're the heart and soul of Parks Victoria, and my role is to make it easier for them."

President of the Friends of the State Coal Mine, Garry Wilson, said Parks Victoria had given a solid commitment to get the work done.

"We are being kept informed, and timelines have been set.

"It should have been earlier, but the CEO apologised for the time lag.

"The drift car has no money at this stage."

Members of Friends of the State Coal Mine said they

were disappointed the winch on the existing drift car could not be used because of safety concerns.

"We're looking forward to getting people down the mine with disabilities and large groups of schoolchildren in the drift car once it is operational," said Mr Wilson.

"The new skips, when they're done, will be able to help people with medical conditions if needed."

The Wonthaggi State Coal Mine Cafe is open daily from 9am to 4pm with the State Coal Mine itself open from 10am to 4pm daily. For more information on the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine or to make a booking for an underground tour go to parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/parks/state-coal-mine-heritage-area/things-to-do/state-coal-mine

Friends of the State Coal Mine can be found on Facebook or Instagram.

A beautiful vision for Bass Coast, but nothing for young people

A COMMUNITY engagement process to create a new vision for the Bass Coast with workshops, pop-ups, surveys and focus groups has left young people out in the cold.

Bass Coast Shire Council set its strategic direction for the next four years through the adoption of a refreshed 2045 Community Vision incorporating Council's Plan for 2025-2029 and an Annual Action Plan for 2025-2026.

While the community vision shows strong support for farmers and coastal woodlands, any projects for local youth in the near future are thin on the ground.

The Council Action Plan and Vision is built around the four strategic objectives of naturally beautiful, thriving places, vibrant communities and visionary leadership.

'From its flowing hills to its coastal woodlands and wild unspoiled coastlines, the Bass Coast is a source of celebration for all who live in and visit the region.'

Highlights for the first year include delivering the Wonthaggi closed landfill capping project, retrofitting community facilities for clean energy, continuing the Cowes Streetscape Project to support local businesses and improve town amenity, implementing the Healthy, Safe and Resilient Bass Coast Plan and preparing a partnership framework for the former Wonthaggi School site.

Programs for young people are mentioned fleetingly but lack substantial detail.

Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead said the plans would guide decision-making

for years to come and acknowledged the community's vital role in shaping them.

"Community feedback shaped everything from the recognition of coastal woodlands to stronger support for agriculture and a focus on local business and housing.

"These plans belong to the community as much as they do to council," said Mayor Cr Halstead.

"As we look ahead, I encourage everyone to follow our progress, learn more about how council works, and stay engaged in the strategies and projects still to come. This is only the beginning of the journey."

Over the next four years, Mayor Halstead said the focus would be on putting the plans into practice and ensuring decisions continue to move towards a better Bass Coast.

Council's focus for the next four years will be on enhancing biodiversity and natural asset protection, increasing energy, disaster and climate resilience, optimising water management, strengthening waste management and supporting a circular economy.

The primary vision for young people is better access to jobs and training.

Support for young people to live, learn, and connect locally is mentioned several times, but nowhere in the next four years has council provided an action plan to improve the lives of young people apart from multigenerational, fit-for-purpose open spaces, tracks and trails, playgrounds, wetlands and public amenities.

For more information, go to engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/community-vision-2045.

Speak up for what you believe, vale Jon Trigt

THIS is the first time the Sentinel-Times has published this photo of the late Jon Trigt of Phillip Island being escorted from the September 2023 Bass Coast Shire Council meeting by police.

We didn't print the photo at the time because the 'punishment' of having your picture in the local paper, being carted away by police, didn't seem to fit Jon's 'crime' of interjecting with "shame, shame, shame" after the council narrowly voted to advocate for a yes vote in 'The Voice' referendum.

We needn't have worried. As we discovered at his funeral, in St John Uniting Church in Cowes on Thursday, it was one of Jon's proudest moments.

As too was the incident in December that year when Jon made a stand against the hare-brained scheme of having just nine chairs for the community in the council chamber, with most people being forced outside, to watch a screen in the foyer.

The council quickly did away with those arrangements as a result.

Jon refused to heed former Mayor Cr Michael Whelan's directive that he depart the chamber of his own volition, but he still managed to make another point on the way out, with the message on his wind-cheater "Every question matters Mayor".

Jon explained the reason for his outburst in one of his many letters to the Sentinel-Times: "Bass Coast ratepayers, are quite capable of making up their own minds, remember they voted you in. For the record, I will be voting YES... While we continue to see the Mayor, Cr Michael Whelan omit to read out eight questions, submitted by ratepayers at this council meeting September 20."

Celebrant at Jon's well-attended funeral on Thursday, Lisa-Anne Prendergast, summed up the contributions during the service made by Jon's son and daughter, Adrian and Judith, and his four grandchildren.



Turns out it was one of the late Jon Trigt's proudest moments, the day he was escorted from the public gallery by police at the September 2023 meeting of the Bass Coast Shire Council, after being booted out by the former Mayor Cr Michael Whelan for saying "shame, shame, shame" when council voted to advocate for a 'Yes' vote in The Voice Referendum. Jon later revealed he was voting 'Yes' anyway, but didn't need to be told what to do by the council.

"As we take a moment to reflect on the stories and the memories that have been shared today, a clear picture of Jon comes into focus of a man who is pragmatic and straight to the point, with a streak of humour that was as dry as it was unintentional.

"He was unpretentious, quietly determined and always guided by a firm sense of what was right, even if it meant challenging the system or the council along the way.

"Jon lived by his own compass. He valued hard work, honesty and a good argument backed by facts. He believed in fairness and had no time for wasting money or words or opportunity. Beneath that nonsense exterior was a generous heart, a curious mind and a deep pride in his family and his community."

More details online at sgst.com.au

Jon Trigt was born Jan Van Trigt on January 31, 1941,

the oldest of three children to Jan and Francis Van Trigt in Eindhoven, Holland where he lived before emigrating to Australia with his family in January 1954, living initially, as 320,000 other new arrivals did, at the Bonegilla Migrant Camp in Wodonga, before moving to Richmond.

He left school at age 14 but trained as an instrument maker at Kodak, ultimately working extensively in the mining industry as an engineer, around Australia, and also overseas including in New Zealand, where he met his wife Teresa, a local nurse, PNG, and Iran, with his work often taking him away from home in Warrandyte and his family for up to 12 months at a time.

The couple bought a block of land on Phillip Island in the 1980s with the intention of retiring here, after which Jon also immersed himself in the local community, culminating in a determined run for

council in 2024 with the slogan: "We deserve better, and together we can do better".

As an indication that his passion and persistence made its mark, Jon Trigt was accorded a fine tribute at last week's council meeting in a glowing eulogy by fellow traveller, Cr Ron Bauer, in the presence of Jon's son Adrian, who joined the Mayor and Councillors at the meeting and afterwards for a cup of tea.

Cr Bauer remarked on Jon's willingness to hold council to account and his keen interest in local affairs, not only willing to "talk the talk but also walk the walk" after deciding to stand for council in 2024.

"We stopped seeing him at council meetings when his diabetes and cancer became too much... somehow council meetings will never be the same," said Cr Bauer.

It was a welcome gesture that Jon's son Adrian remarked on at the funeral service.



Alan and Fran Blandford from Cowes with Senior Constable Megan Krause enjoying Coffee with a Cop at Bunnings in Wonthaggi. B23_4125

Curbing youth crime with proactive policing

NOT feeling safe in your own home is now the single biggest issue raised with police at local Coffee with a Cop sessions on the Bass Coast.

Leading Senior Constable Nick Carlson and Senior Constable Megan Krause from the Wonthaggi Proactive Policing Unit attended the first Coffee with a Cop at Bunnings.

"Machetes and the newly introduced ban on machetes are of particular concern, particularly for farmers," said Leading Senior Constable Carlson.

"Farmers want to know what to do with machetes and firearms."

Machetes can be disposed of in safe disposal bins located outside select police stations across the state, including Wonthaggi during the current machete amnesty.

Firearms can be surrendered to police or to registered firearms dealers.

With the recent surge in youth crime showing no signs of abating Leading Senior Constable Carlson reminded local residents to keep car windows and doors locked at all times, and check that doors and windows are locked at home before going to bed.

Sensor lights and cameras can make you feel safer and are helpful for police.

Having spent a number of years in the Bass Coast Proactive Policing Unit (PPU), Leading Senior Constable Carlson said part of the job is managing youth offenders.

"It's a problem for both boys and girls most often around the age of 14," said Nick.

"We need to stop this behaviour."

Leading Senior Constable Carlson said he feared for the safety of the community.

"Kids in stolen cars often film what they are doing to post on social media or steal cars for adult crime gangs."

'Shift the mindset and change the story'. It's an approach based on adventure therapy, according to the Proactive Policing Unit. "It's about getting out into the bush."

Police hope to start the program in Wonthaggi next year, targeting 12 to 15-year-olds.

Anyone wanting more information about the adventure therapy program, or to enquire about young offenders, risk-taking or young people disengaging from school, ask for Nick or Megan at the Proactive Policing Unit at the Wonthaggi Police Station.

Remembering the life of a Chisholm TAFE pioneer

CHISHOLM Institute of TAFE has joined the broader education community in honouring the life and legacy of Virginia Simmons AO, a visionary leader who oversaw the ongoing development of Wonthaggi TAFE.

The first woman to become director of a TAFE institute, Virginia Simmons was appointed CEO of Chisholm TAFE in 2001, just three years after the current Wonthaggi campus was established.

As the longest-serving female CEO of a Victorian TAFE Institute, Virginia led both the Chisholm and Kangan Institutes with distinction, transforming them into inclusive, future-focused institutions that empowered thousands of learners.

Virginia served on numerous economic and education boards, including the Victorian Qualifications Authority (VQA) and International Training Australia (ITA), further shaping policy and

practice at the highest levels.

Contributing to international education development across China, Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific, Virginia helped build skills and industry growth in emerging economies. She worked with a wide range of international agencies, including AusAID, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) of the World Bank, SEAMEO and IDP Education Australia.

At the heart of Virginia's leadership was a deep belief in the power of education to change lives.

One of her proudest achievements was the establishment of the Caroline Chisholm Education Foundation, which continues to support learners facing financial hardship.

Virginia's leadership style was marked by strategic vision, integrity and compassion. She mentored countless professionals across the sector, many of whom now hold senior leadership roles.

Her colleagues remember her as an inspiring mentor and a deeply principled leader.

In a career marked by distinction and dedication, Virginia Simmons AO received some of Australia's highest honours for her contributions to education. She was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 2010.

In 2008, she was awarded the Sir James Darling Medal for outstanding contribution to education and in 2011 she was inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women.

To celebrate her enduring impact, Chisholm Institute established the Virginia Simmons Outstanding Contribution Award in 2024, recognising exceptional leadership and commitment to educational excellence within the vocational sector.

Virginia Simmons AO passed away on September 16, 2025.

Reflecting on her legacy, current Chisholm TAFE CEO



Virginia Simmons AO served as CEO of Chisholm Institute of TAFE for nine years.

Stephen Varty said Virginia Simmons was a force for good in education.

"Her legacy is not just in the institutions she led, but in the lives she changed and the leaders she inspired.

"Her vision and values continue to shape the work of the Chisholm Institute today."

From the paddock to the party



Soul powerhouse Emma Donovan will headline the Eat Drink Play evening program.



The Melbourne Ska Orchestra will bring it home at night with their trademark high-energy performance.



Gurneys Cider adds a crisp, refreshing touch to the Eat Drink Play tasting trail.



Sip, swirl and savour Xavier Wines as they bring their bold Gippsland flavours to Eat Drink Play.

GET YOUR
TICKETS HERE!



Eat Drink Play Gippsland is on this weekend

FROM the wild west to the lush east, and every town, bay, and hill in between, Gippsland has always had something worth celebrating. This October, it all comes together in one vibrant day (and night) of flavour, rhythm, and connection as Eat Drink Play Gippsland transforms Leongatha's Railway Precinct into the region's biggest culinary block party, and it's all happening this Saturday!

The one-day festival, inspired by the hugely popular Eat Drink Gippsland Guide, will showcase the makers, growers, brewers, and musicians who bring Gippsland to life. It's a full-sensory journey, from paddock to party, from plate to stage, blending the region's best food, drink, and live entertainment into one unforgettable experience.

And this year, getting there is easier than ever. A new festival bus service will run from Traralgon, Warragul, San Remo, and Yarram straight to Leongatha, with return trips at 4.30pm and 10pm. It's a safe, social, and sustainable way to make the most of the day with no designated driver required.

From local tunes to big chats

What makes Gippsland food and wine taste so good? Sure, it's about the produce and the people, but it's also about the soundtrack.

This year's lineup celebrates local talent and the diversity of Gippsland's soundscape, bringing together everything from folk and blues to brass and big-band energy. Expect a full day of toe-tapping tunes from some of the region's most exciting acts:

- Misty Harlowe – A regional Victorian Americana songstress with heart, swagger, and soul, Misty brings Nashville flair and fearless storytelling to the stage.
- Jungle Jim Smith – A one-man blues powerhouse, armed with a three-string cigar-box guitar and shed-built foot drums, serving up dirty blues and swampy rock'n'roll.
- Janie Gordon – The Leongatha local with the golden voice, known from The Voice Australia and festival stages across the country.
- Ozone Street – A Bass Coast blues-rock four-piece delivering blistering riffs and dance-floor energy.
- The Strzelecki Stringbusters – Fourteen musicians strong, this beloved local collective brings joyful, foot-stomping string-band energy straight from the hills.
- InvY Horn Jam – A roaming brass and percussion street band bringing bursts of joy, rhythm, and community spirit wherever they go.

By the time the evening session kicks in, the Railway Precinct will transform into a night-time music hub, buzzing with energy, light, and laughter as festivalgoers dance the night away under the Gippsland stars.

A taste of Gippsland all in one place

Across the precinct, the region's best eateries and producers will be serving up signature dishes and local delicacies. From Hogget Kitchen's paddock-to-plate flavours and Trulli's woodfired classics to Tinamba Hotel, Messmates, Sodafish, and Mahob at Moos, every stall will showcase the creativity and craft that define Gippsland dining.

Cheesemakers, bakers, and sweet treat specialists like Loch Cheese

Merchant, Prom Country Cheese, Remi and Florence Bakehouse, and Holy Smokes Queen will tempt taste buds all day long.

And yes, families are more than welcome. The Leongatha Rail Precinct's playground will be the centrepiece of the family fun zone, complete with face painting, mini golf, and easy eats for little foodies. Sodafish will serve catch of the day souvlaki and Bass Strait ceviche, Trulli will whip up artisanal paninis and signature tiramisu, and Remi & Florence Bakehouse have dessert handled. Did we mention Cuvee Chocolate and Gippsland Jersey will be on hand too? Kid-friendly drinks will also be on offer, because no one should miss out on the fun.

Raise a glass to Gippsland

Of course, no celebration of Gippsland would be complete without its incredible drinks. From the vineyards to the valleys, the breweries to the distilleries, this region knows how to craft something special.

You'll find local pours from Fleet Wines, The Gippsland Wine Co, Dirty Three, The Gurdies, Bass River Winery, The Gurdies, The Wine Farm, Caledonai Australis, Lithostylis, Corner Inlet Winery, Silverwater Vineyard, and Triffids. Further afield, indulge in Bandicoot Run, Entropy, Patrick Sullivan, William Downie, Seaview Ridge, Cannibal Creek, Blackcoat, Krooked Row, Lightfoot, Xavier Wines, Narkoojee, Carrajung Estate, Blue Gables, Glenmaggie, Wyanga Park, and Nicholson River Winery, each telling a unique story of soil, climate, and passion.

The Drink Bit zone will shine a spotlight on Gippsland's small-batch beverage scene, including Loch Brewery & Distillery, Infusa Distillery, Mates Gin, Natural Distilling Co., and South Gippsland Gin Co.

Gurney's Cidery will be pouring heritage apple ciders from their Wilsons Prom orchards, while craft beer fans can taste creations from Sailors Grave, Good Land Brewing, and Maffco Brewery and Taphouse.

The inside word on wine and food

Food and drink always taste better when you know the story behind them, and at Eat Drink Play, you'll hear those stories straight from the source. Two dedicated stages – Eat and Drink – will host a full program of chats with the people shaping Gippsland's food and wine future.

Wine writer Max Allen will lead the Wine Stage, from 12.30pm (and on the hour), you can join in on fast, friendly conversations with local winemakers about what makes Gippsland's bottles so distinct. From brooding Pinots to bright, zippy Chardonnays, every glass has its own tale, and no two are ever the same in a region as vast as Gippsland.

Meanwhile, restaurant critic Kara Monssen will host the Eat Stage, diving into behind-the-scenes stories and quizzing the chefs and food innovators.

Whether you're coming for the wine, the food, the music, or just a great day out with friends, Eat Drink Play Gippsland has it all, a true celebration of everything that makes this region extraordinary.

Taste, toast, and celebrate Gippsland this Saturday.

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Eat Drink Play
GIPPSLAND
18 October 2025

FROM Paddock to Party

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SATURDAY

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Mafish Hogget Prom Court Gippsland Jersey Holy Smokes Queen
Loch Ch Merchant Wagon Bay Remi & Florence Bakehouse
ahh
DRINKS Fleet The Little Lylis Caledonia Australis
Gippsland Co Corner In Bay Blackcoat
Patrick S... oojee... raj... Blue... Kroon... Glenmaggie
The Gurdies Silver... ers... is... Cann... William Downie
Xavier Goodridge Lig... no... Ri... Blackcoat Wyanga Park
DRINKS Gurneys Cider Loch Bre... Grave Brewing
Mates Gin Distillery Maffco Brewery Infu... sti... Na... l Dist... Co
MUSIC Jungle Jim Smith Janie Gordon Ozone... eki... ste
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PICAL volunteer Grace Wilkinson helps Julie Azzopardi apply in person for the State Government's \$100 Power Saving Bonus.

Helping locals access Power Saving Bonus

ELIGIBLE Victorian concession card holders can now apply for the State Government's \$100 Power Saving Bonus with the support of Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL).

The program provides a one-off \$100 payment to help concession households with the rising cost of electricity. Applications are now open, and locals are invited to apply in person through PICAL, a participating community organisation.

To qualify, households must have a recent residential electricity bill and must hold one of the following concession cards:

- Health Care Card
- Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Gold Card

Only one payment is available per household.

Local resident Julie Azzopardi, who recently applied through PICAL, said the process was simple.

"The volunteers at PICAL made it so easy for me to access the Power Saving Bonus. All I needed to do was book an appointment and bring in a recent electricity bill. Within a short time, it was sorted, and I know the \$100 will really help with my upcoming bills," said Julie.

A number of PICAL volunteers are now trained and ready to help eligible locals access the scheme. PICAL is taking bookings for Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, mornings (9am to 12pm) and Fridays. To make an appointment, call 5952 1131 or visit PICAL at 16 Warley Avenue, Cowes. Walk-ins are also welcome.

David Rooks, centre manager, explains, "At PICAL, we're always here to help. By offering this free service, we hope to make it easier for eligible households to claim the Power Saving Bonus and ease the pressure of rising energy costs."

For more information about the Power Saving Bonus, visit compare.energy.vic.gov.au.

TAFE Gippsland partners with Marinus Link

A NEW formal partnership between Marinus Link and TAFE Gippsland is likely to include tailored training at all Gippsland TAFE campuses possibly including Leongatha. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the two organisations to provide high-quality training opportunities for local students entering the clean energy sector.

TAFE Gippsland CEO Laura Macpherson said industry insights and expertise provided by Marinus Link would be instrumental in TAFE Gippsland's work in designing course content for training in the clean energy sector of the future.

"The Marinus Link project is an important project for Gippsland's clean energy future, and TAFE Gippsland is proud to be a key partner in its success," she said. "We've formalised a new partnership with Marinus Link by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to ensure the project has the skilled workforce it needs. This collaboration will create high-quality training opportunities giving local people the chance to build rewarding careers and play a direct role in our region's energy transition."

Ms Macpherson said by working together TAFE Gippsland and Marinus Link would not just be delivering a major infrastructure project.

"We're investing in our community and empowering the next generation of energy professionals."

Spring at The Cape Community Farm

TO CELEBRATE spring, The Cape Community Farm is hosting a Plant Sale on Saturday, October 25, from 10am to 2pm. All are invited for a great family day out at 'The Farm'.

On offer will be a huge array of vegetable seedlings, annual flowers, and a wide selection of local native landscape plants for sale. Adrian, our community farmer, will be on-site with guidance on planting, plant selection and seasonal tips to set you up for a productive, abundant growing season. Also, on the day, there will be farm tours guided by passionate farm members, hands-on and interactive kids' activities, BBQ, and refreshments available for purchase.

You'll have an opportunity to learn about some of the key features of The Farm and how it has been set up to be a highly productive growing space.

One of these is the Food-cube wicking garden bed. Adrian explains that "The wicking garden beds are essentially water tanks and garden in one. They capture rain and deliver water as plants need it, maintaining ideal soil moisture levels at all times and encouraging rapid and healthy growth. Typical yields are between 10-20 kilograms per m2, depending on how a plot is managed throughout the year".

Enjoying the support of over 80 members, 'The Farm' provides a community hub nestled in the heart of The Cape at Cape Paterson. It is a great place for the local community to gather, learn, share skills and access fresh, organically grown vegetables. The



The Cape Community Farm trainee, Yonah Windle, with freshly harvested produce.

Cape Community Farm also gives back to the local community with regular donations to Mitchell House in Wonthaggi, contributing to the weekly community lunch program and to the Free Food verandah.

Please park in the car park on Sunlight Boulevard, Cape Paterson and walk down the hill. The Community Farm is located adjacent to the playground. Local pedestrian access is also available via the Coral Street lane. We are a Land for Wildlife property, and all dogs must remain on lead.

For more information: farmer @capecommunityfarm.org.au or visit capecommunityfarm.org.au. We look forward to seeing you at The Cape Community Farm's Spring Open Day on Saturday, October 25.



Permaculture teacher Rick Coleman with workshop participants.

Learn how to save energy and money at Myli Wonthaggi

IF YOU think you're paying too much for electricity, why not drop into Myli Wonthaggi on Wednesday, October 15 at 2pm for some helpful hints on saving energy.

John Godfrey from the Bass Coast Climate Action Network will have some low-cost energy tips, which will save you money by spending very little.

"Small steps add up over time," said John.

"Focus on one thing, get it done and then move on, learn from others."

According to Choice Australia, you have to keep switching between plans at least once or twice a year to keep paying low prices for energy.

Modern air conditioning split systems should be used for heating.

"They're much more efficient than other forms of heating," said Mr Godfrey.

"Clean the filters at least once a year with a vacuum or wipe down with a damp cloth."

To prevent warm air from getting cold against the windows, place cardboard, a towel or corflute across the curtain rail to block or slow the air flowing down.

It's best if your curtains extend to the floor and either side of the window if possible.

Bubble wrap can also be used on windows. Mist water onto the glass first to hold the bubble wrap in place and then lay the flat side of the bubble



Sabine Aeschlimann (Myli) with John Godfrey and Jesicca Harrison from the Bass Coast Climate Action Network with helpful tips on saving energy. B18_4125

wrap out from the window and tape the top edge before rolling it out onto the window.

Use painter's tape to tape the bubble wrap onto the painted surrounds.

Drafts can also come into your house through gaps and cracks around doors, windows, exhaust fans and fireplaces. To draft-proof your home, you will first need to find the drafts by looking for obvious gaps, or by borrowing a thermal camera from the library.

"Look for visible light under and around doors and windows," advised John.

"Listen for rattles or whistling, feel for moving air around doors, windows, fireplaces, air outlets, vents, stairways, floorboards, exposed rafters and beams, built-in heaters, air conditioners, architraves and skirting boards.

"Lastly, look for movement in the curtains, then seal the gaps."

Other low-cost ways to keep warm include maximising sunlight by opening curtains on sunny days to let the heat in and closing the curtains at night.

"Wear warm clothes inside.

A snuggle rug is a great addition to the couch."

Bass Coast Council and the Bass Coast Climate Change Action Network will present a free information session, Save Energy, Save Money at the Wonthaggi Library on Wednesday, October 15 between 2pm and 3pm.

The workshop will also provide advice on how to claim your \$100 Power Saving Bonus, which is available to all Victorians with a concession card and an electricity account.

Look for eventbrite.com.au/d/australia--wonthaggi/save-energy-save-money.

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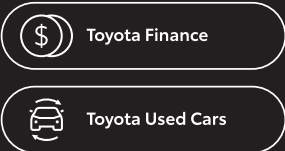
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OH WHAT A FEELING

SAN REMO, COWES AND GRANTVILLE COMMUNITY BANK GRANTS



Director Bruce Procter and the Bass Coast Breakers who received \$5000, for their annual sponsorship supporting women's football.



Grantville team member Kelly with Jessica and Rowanne from Eggrin Waterline Playgroup. \$2525 for establishing the Waterline Community Playgroup at The Gurdies Winery.



Bass Valley Community Group with Kim, \$3765, for critical gutter repairs on their 100-year-old community house buildings.



Corinella District Community Centre, with senior bank manager Michael Scott, received \$2072, for community cabinets at Corinella, providing secure lockable storage for community groups.



San Remo, Cowes & Grantville Community Bank chair Kelvin Simpson, past chair/director Peter Paul, Simone Alexander Interim CEO BCH, John Matthews deputy chair and Kristen Yates-Matthews director partnerships and engagement, BCH with the largest ever local donation of \$250,000 to the Phillip Island Community Hospital oncology department.

San Remo, Cowes, Grantville Community Banks give back over \$433,000

THE power of community was on full display at the San Remo, Cowes and Grantville Community Bank Grants Night, where an eye-watering \$433,337.99 was awarded to community groups across Phillip Island, San Remo, Grantville, Corinella, Kilcunda, Bass and The Gurdies. The event was superbly catered by Dalyston Football Netball Club and held there too.

“Over the past 22 years, we have given back more

than \$6 million in grants to local organisations.” Chair Kelvin Simpson told the packed room.

“Tonight is another example of the best of community banking; this extraordinary achievement is only possible thanks to the ongoing support of our wonderful customers, our brilliant staff and shareholders.”

Eighty per cent of profits generated from the three banks stay in the region and are reinvested back into

local clubs, groups and initiatives via grants and sponsorships. The 2025 grants will support a diverse range of projects – from vital equipment for emergency services, to upgrades at community halls, to programs that nurture local sport, arts and culture.

The night was a wonderful reminder that when people choose to bank locally, their community directly benefits.

The following grants were also received:

Bass Coast L2P, \$5000, for additional professional driving lessons to improve learner driver safety and readiness.

Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo, \$5000, for support towards ‘Robart Renewal,’ replacing and upgrading their community BBQ trailer.

Phillip Island Fire Brigade, \$9900, for ‘Tough Grounds Build Tougher Firefighters,’ developing a dedicated training ground at the station.



ASPIR with the Cowes team, who were presented with a cheque for \$1800, for the annual ASPIR Melbourne Cup Art Show.



Kim Grinham with Steven from Kilcunda Community Association Inc., who received Kilcunda \$10,889.99 for the replacement of air conditioners at the Kilcunda Community Hall.

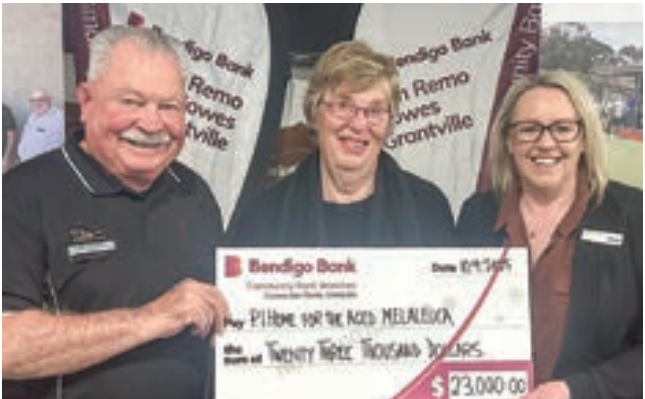


Bass Coast Historical Car Club received a cheque for \$318 for posters to promote their annual ‘Show and Shine’ vintage and classic car event.

SAN REMO, COWES AND GRANTVILLE COMMUNITY BANK GRANTS



The Grantville team with Corinella CFA, who received \$3678, for laptops to support the brigade's operations and training.



John with Joy and Kerry from Phillip Island Home for the Aged Melaleuca, \$23,000, for Station 1. Station 1 will be utilised as a self-service kitchen and hot beverage station for residents to give them more control and agency over their dining options outside of scheduled kitchen hours. It will include tea/coffee, breakfast items, juice, sandwiches, fruit, cheese and biscuits as well as seasonal offerings like hot soup and the option to reheat pre-prepared meals. This station will be multi-levelled for both wheelchair and standing access and designed ergonomically with appliances.



Madison with Kilcunda Fire Brigade's Daniel and Neil. Kilcunda Fire Brigade, \$1155, for a portable light tower and battery-operated reticulating saw to support incident response.



Director Luke with Grantville Recreation Reserve Hall's Helen, \$2087, for the replacement of two old BBQs to support the reinstated Grantville Market and fundraising for local sports clubs.



Cowes Manager Tanya with James and Glenys from Anglican Parish of Bass/Phillip Island, \$25,000, for refurbishment of the Parish Hall complex – specifically to support the refurbishment of the floor, install air conditioning, upgrade the lighting throughout the complex, replace and repair doors and cracks in masonry, extend the verandah area and upgrade the sound system.



Director Peter Paul with Phillip Island Bowls Club's Chris and Wayne, \$37,900 for restroom and toilet renovations to update 35-year-old facilities and support community use.



Lisa and Peter from Landcare with Em; \$10,000, for establishing a Community Training Nursery at the River Garden in Bass.



San Remo Bowls Club with senior manager Michael Scott. San Remo Bowls Club, \$35,000 for refurbishment of their clubrooms to maintain a safe, welcoming community facility.



Rob and Janice from KernArt with Cowes staff member Win, received \$500 for their November Art Show.

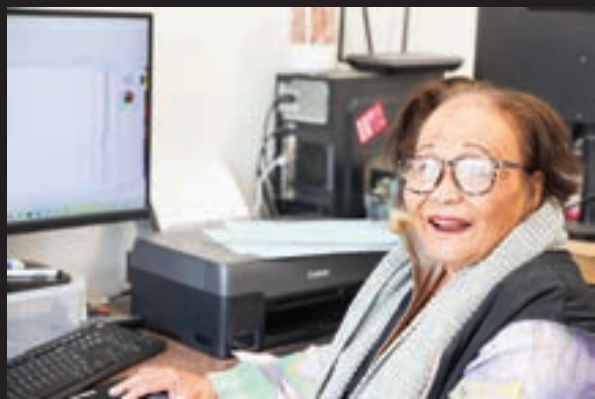


Woolamai Beach SLSC president Jason, San Remo team member Keith and Fiona from Woolamai Beach SLSC. Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club received \$4048 for two publicly accessible defibrillators at the Woolamai Beach clubhouse and Smiths Beach, placed in a secure, weatherproof cabinet mounted externally, allowing round-the-clock public access in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest.



Phillip Island Historical Society with Shay, \$2000 for two new laptops to support their digitisation and archiving project.

Funeral Planning



Rose Wakley from Wakley Sculptor P/L. and Monumental Masons provides Bass Coast and South Gippsland with polished new granite monuments, monument renovations, additional inscriptions and pre-need monuments located at 18 Inverloch Road, Wonthaggi, enquire online at barrywakleysculptor.com.au, email info@barrywakleysculptor.com or phone 5657 3341. B09_4025



Looking to leave a special gift for a loved one but can't make it yourself? Flower Fixation has you covered with its thoughtful graveside service. Whether it's Mother's Day, Father's Day, Christmas or any special date in between, Alli can craft a bespoke floral arrangement to honour their memory and deliver it. She also provides complete funeral service arrangements. Visit flowerfixation.com.au for area coverage.



For Patricia Khune, being a funeral celebrant is deeply meaningful work. "It's incredibly rewarding, being able to spend a week with a family – you form a bond that lasts beyond [that point in time]." Patricia understands that grief looks different for everyone, and as a celebrant she offers guidance, compassion and a friendly face during an emotional time. Photo: Morgan Fisher Photography.



Inverloch Cemetery Trust Assistant Secretary Lynn Behmer and Secretary Terrie Seymour at the Inverloch Cemetery. W01_4125

The hands and hearts behind Inverloch Cemetery

DID you know that the Inverloch Cemetery is managed by the Inverloch Cemetery Trust?

The Inverloch Cemetery Trust is made up of community volunteers appointed by the Governor In Council, Victoria.

All Trust members work diligently together, with commitment to ensure the cemetery is and remains a peaceful and respectful place for our community families, friends and future generations to visit and pay their respects to their loved ones.

What we do: liaison with funeral directors, families and guardians; management of cemetery records and finances; maintenance of the buildings, gardens, lawns and grounds; safeguarding the local heritage; and making provisions and plans for the Cemetery's future development.

We have set a high standard and are often complimented on the way the Cemetery grounds are maintained.

At Inverloch Cemetery, we offer grave burial sites, sites for cremated ashes in the lawn, garden and niche wall. Cemeteries are more than burial/resting sites; they are repositories of our local history and culture. It's both a necessary and important community asset and service.

Our secretary, Terrie Seymour, joined the Trust in April 2024 after retiring from the paid workforce.

"I wanted to do something to use my skills for the benefit of my local community," Terrie said.

"I saw the advertisement and thought, well, that sounds interesting, so I spoke with Frank, the Chairperson, made an application, had an interview, and the rest is history. I'm really enjoying learning and contributing to an important community service essential to our local community. I see it as a privilege to be part of making sure our 'passed community and friends of Inverloch' are provided with a respectful resting place now and into the future."

Lynn Behmer joined the Trust earlier this year.

"After making the decision to scale back to a part-time job, I felt that I wanted to find something where I could give back to my community, utilising the skills I have," Lynn explained.

"I saw an advertisement for new trust members that piqued my curiosity. I spoke to the secretary about what was involved and, with increasing interest, met with the secretary and Chair for an interview over a coffee and promptly submitted my formal application. I am really enjoying my learning journey and working with such a dedicated team, passionate about serving this need in our community."

Lynn has now taken on the assistant secretary role, which supports the secretary and treasurer.

The Inverloch Cemetery Trust members believe it is important to be able to provide the community with an affordable final resting place, whilst maintaining its financial

viability to continue to preserve our environment where families and friends can honour their loved ones. As volunteer members of the Cemetery Trust, the cemetery fees are how we are able to sustain this special and important community space. We are currently in the planning stages of the development and expansion of the Inverloch Cemetery.

Volunteering for a cemetery trust is a powerful and tangible experience. It's one that reminds us of the importance of connection – to history, to community, and to each other. It's an opportunity to contribute to your community, while gaining knowledge, experiences and memories that will stay with you for a lifetime.

If you've been looking for a meaningful way to contribute to your community, consider becoming part of this vital and rewarding community service. We are seeking new trust members with experience or knowledge in financial management, bookkeeping, administration, horticulture, social media, history, marketing and communications, or if you have other skills outside those listed above, please let us know how you might be able to contribute to your local cemetery.

To gain a better understanding of how the Cemetery operates and help you decide if this is something you would like to volunteer for, why don't you send us an email with your contact details and we will get back to you. Enquiries to Inverlochcemetery.org.

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"Memorials of Distinction"

Funeral Planning

Peace of Mind with Handley and Anderson

NESTLED on 17 acres along the Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Handley and Anderson Funeral Directors have created a practical and comforting space for families at their most difficult times. The gardens are carefully maintained, and the chapel, with seating for 200 and standing room beyond, offers a calm setting no matter the weather. The chapel comes equipped with modern recording and livestreaming, ensuring loved ones near and far can share in the service.

Director Sharon Anderson says the chapel service is the most popular choice. Families often appreciate the ability to gather in a controlled environment, incorporate a photo presentation, and then follow with a burial or cremation. For those preferring smaller gatherings, the viewing and lounge rooms allow for intimate goodbyes. The grounds also provide ample parking, with space for up to 150 cars across sealed and overflow areas.

No two lives are the same, and the team takes pride in helping families create a service that reflects the individual. Music and photos are chosen by loved ones, celebrants and ministers work alongside families to prepare eulogies and readings, and personal touches such as a guard of honour remind the community of the mark a person has left.



Set on 17 acres, Handley and Anderson's Wonthaggi facility combines modern services with a peaceful country setting.

Anderson notes a rise in no-service cremations in recent years. In these cases, families may choose to gather afterwards for a more informal memorial. The pandemic also accelerated the use of livestreaming, which has become a mainstay. Almost every funeral now includes this option, giving people unable to attend a chance to take part in real time. Many families also value having a recording to revisit later, when the rush of emotions has eased.

For those first difficult days, the funeral directors step in to take away as much stress as possible. Once the family

decides between burial or cremation, religious or non-religious, the staff organise everything from booking the time to ordering flowers, preparing music and creating slide-shows. Even notifying Centrelink is taken care of.

Beyond the immediate service, Handley and Anderson highlight the importance of planning ahead. Pre-arranged funerals allow people to set down their wishes in advance, saving families from stressful decision-making. These can be completed at home or in the office and come at no cost. For those wanting to go further, a

pre-paid plan secures the service financially and provides peace of mind. Funds are capital guaranteed, tax exempt, and excluded from Centrelink asset tests. Funeral bonds offer another option, allowing regular contributions that accumulate until they are needed.

Anderson believes these options remove uncertainty and provide comfort for families.

"Every life is unique, and every service should reflect that," she said. It is a simple truth, but one that Handley and Anderson continue to live by, ensuring compassion and care remain at the centre of every farewell.

Helping your loved ones with clarity

WHILE our local funeral homes are here to guide you through every step of the process, it can be incredibly helpful to have key information prepared in advance. Whether you're ready to plan your own funeral or simply want to leave a few wishes behind, having these details easily accessible can ease the burden on your family or executor.

Essential Information:

- Full legal name
- Residential address
- Date and place of birth
- Occupation
- Date and place of marriage
- Spouse's full name
- Children's names and dates of birth

Questions to Consider:

- Burial or cremation?
- Preferred final resting place?
- Location of the funeral service?
- Who should officiate the service?
- Choice of coffin or casket
- Jewellery or personal items to be buried with
- Preferred attire for burial
- Specific flowers for arrangements or sprays
- Donations or special requests
- Photos to be displayed or included
- Scriptures, poems, or readings
- Hymns or music selections
- Pallbearers – who would you like to carry the casket?

And remember, if you have a pre-arranged funeral, make sure relevant family or executors have this information, so they know exactly who to contact.

Memories are lasting.

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Honouring 50 years, embracing the future

MILKINS Funerals in Wonthaggi may be under new management, but its heart remains the same – carrying forward the legacy created by Jenny and Harold Milkins more than 50 years ago.

Although the reception doors are temporarily closed while refurbishments are completed, the phone is always answered – day or night. A new receptionist will soon welcome families in person, while a dedicated team with more than 60 years of combined experience continues the work behind the scenes.

“Milkins has always been a family-owned business, and our promise is to continue that same legacy that Harold and Jenny built over many years,” explained manager Gary Drinken.

Jenny herself remains closely involved.

“I speak with her regularly,” Gary said.

“She’s kept in the loop with the refurbishments and everything that’s happening. That’s been just as important to us as it is to her.”

A fresh look while staying true

The recent refurbishments have transformed the chapel, which now seats 70 people, with room for overflow, along with a new viewing area and reception space.

With the support of larger funeral homes behind them, Milkins can offer the care and



Gary Drinken and Jenny Milkins in a viewing room at Milkins Funerals. W06_4125

services expected of a bigger provider, while staying local, personal, and familiar.

“Because when you’re saying goodbye to a loved one,” Gary said, “it’s the trusted faces beside you that bring comfort.”

Care that puts families first

“Funeral services are a celebration of life, but they’re also a time for family and friends to come together and support each other in their grief,” Gary explained.

“When families share what their loved one enjoyed, memories surface and the service often comes together naturally – creating

something just as meaningful for those arranging it as for those attending.”

Alongside coordinating services, burials, and cremations, Milkins assists with pre-arrangements.

“The most important part of pre-arranging a funeral is choosing someone you trust – someone who will honour your wishes with care,” Gary said.

Milkins also offers funeral bonds, ensuring wishes are recorded and costs secured at today’s prices, and has qualified embalmers available to assist with repatriations, whether

returning loved ones to Victoria or sending them interstate or overseas.

“We are here to assist at any hour,” Gary added.

“Our team is always available to answer questions and guide families, even when coroners are involved.”

Local faces, local care

Having begun his career at the ground level, Gary has worked across every aspect of the industry. That experience, he says, makes him value community trust above all else.

“It’s incredibly important we

give back to the community and remain local for local people. That’s why the community will start seeing familiar local faces at Milkins as we grow the team.”

While the industry sees more families choosing direct cremations or burials, followed later by memorial gatherings, Milkins continues to offer a full range of options, guiding families with compassion and care.

Looking ahead

A new website is currently in development, featuring a complete range of caskets and coffins, helpful resources, and online death and funeral notices – giving families one place to find the support they need.

“It’s a privilege to walk alongside families during one of the hardest times in their lives,” Gary said.

“Our team is here to ease the worry of arranging a service.

“We are here to listen, to guide, and to support you – ensuring each decision is informed and right for you and your loved one. Serving our community in this way is a true privilege.”

As part of that commitment, Milkins will soon host a Community Open Day, inviting the public to see the refurbishments, meet the team, and ask questions. Above all, it will be a chance to reconnect with a funeral home that has been at the heart of Wonthaggi for over half a century.

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Funeral Planning

Harwood Funerals offers flexibility, caring and affordability

HARWOOD Funerals was established in 2016 during a discussion around a kitchen table in Belgrave.

Nine years later, the company has three offices, Korumburra, Pakenham and Traralgon, with fully operational mortuary facilities at Traralgon and Pakenham, and 13 staff.

Today, they care for approximately 300 funerals a year; however, managing director Julie Harwood is close to funeral number 10,000.

She worked as a funeral director for a large corporate funeral company, starting in 1994, at locations all over Melbourne.

From 2013, she worked freelance helping small family companies when they needed a weekend off, someone to answer their phones, or extra hands on deck, due to illness or annual leave.

Julie and her husband Steve decided to start their own family funeral business and settle in Gippsland.

It was important to remain family owned and operated, therefore entirely independent of the corporate sector, where originally-family owned funeral companies had been purchased by financiers, and often kept their original company name but started charging corporate prices, confusing many grieving and vulnerable families.

Julie and Steve realised that



Director Julie Harwood with funeral directors Tammie Sterrick and Dianne Crawford, are some of the friendly and understanding team at Harwood Funerals. A01_4125

to gain trust and professional respect in Gippsland, they needed to employ local people and subsequently have brought employment to the area.

"Dianne Crawford is our lady on the ground at Korumburra and has worked as part of the Harwood team in various capacities for approximately four

years," Julie said, explaining that Dianne can advise on at-need funeral arrangements and pre-planned funerals.

"She brings local knowledge, compassion and warmth to her role," Julie said.

Anyone is welcome to pop into the Korumburra office, meet Dianne and check out the

wonderful mural featuring the days of old Korumburra.

The Harwood team are predominantly women, all mothers, daughters, sisters.

"We understand family dynamics and the myriad of different circumstances that can occur when someone dies; put simply, we get it," Julie said.

"We see our role as 'non-sales', unlike the corporate funeral companies, where everyone gets a sales commission.

"Our people are here to give you information, explain your options and help you make an informed decision."

You won't be left feeling you are subsidising the lifestyles of those at Harwood Funerals, with the team taking a deliberately low-key approach, not driving fancy cars and only wearing corporate suits for funerals.

All prices are carefully packaged to make decisions easier for client families.

Being a family business, there's plenty of flexibility in terms of the type of funeral service people want.

"If you want Dad to be taken away on his old grey Fergie, a funeral at home on hay bales, a funeral on the beach or in the bush – Mum in her tutu in a cardboard box decorated by the Grandies, we can do anything you can think of – as long as it's legal," Julie said.

Harwood Funerals' fees are the same 24/7 – 365 days a year, with Julie explaining, "You shouldn't pay extra if you need us at 3am."

"Give us a call, our friendly team will help, or simply just listen," she said.

Contact the team on 0405 669 532 or at harwoodfunerals.com.au.

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- Pre-Paid Funeral plans can be paid off over 12, 24 or 36 months, with a 30% deposit up front.
- Planning ahead greatly reduces the emotional and financial burden on your family.
- Get it fixed. Get on with living. Planning ahead makes sense.



Harwood Funerals, family owned and operated, are now servicing Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

For assistance on pre-paying your funeral or planning a funeral for a loved one contact **Julie Harwood 0405 669 532**

13 Commercial Street, Korumburra | www.harwoodfunerals.com.au



Honouring service, community and legacy as memorial walk prepares for opening

SOUTH Gippsland is preparing to mark an important chapter in its history with the opening of the WWII and History of the Hospital Memorial Walk at Leongatha Memorial Hospital on Monday, October 20.

Developed in partnership with the Leongatha RSL and the Leongatha and District Historical Society, the Memorial Walk will be a permanent indoor installation that honours both those who served abroad and those who carried the work of care at home.

The walk will feature the names, units, and stories of servicemen and women from the former Woorayl Shire, alongside the story of how the region rallied to build the Woorayl District Memorial Hospital in response to community needs. It connects sacrifice and service, showing how remembrance and healthcare have always been interwoven in South Gippsland.

From the Bellingham brothers, who were killed alongside their cousin Albert Kuhne at Gasmata Beach, to Fish Creek nurse Rosetta Wight, who died while serving in Singapore, the Memorial Walk preserves the memory of individuals whose absence was felt in every paddock, pub, and classroom. Alongside them are the stories of doctors, nurses, and auxiliaries who carried the weight of care locally; figures such as Dr Alec Bennett, Matron Jean MacRae, and the Lyrebird Auxiliary, who helped sustain health services for generations.

The Memorial Walk will officially open on Monday, October 20, at 1.30 pm, exactly 77 years to the day since the public meeting at Memorial Hall that first proposed building a hospital for Woorayl Shire.

Kate Ginnivan, transformation and community engagement lead at Gippsland Southern Health Service (GSHS), said the project has been shaped by community input and represents a bridge between past and future.

"As we step into the next chapter as part of Bayside Health from January 1, it is vital that we honour the people and stories that brought us here," Ms Ginnivan said.

"The Memorial Walk is not just history on a wall, but a living reminder that care, service, and resilience are the threads that have always bound our community together."

Community members are invited to attend the opening ceremony and walk among the stories.

Attendance is free, with registrations encouraged via TryBooking to assist with catering: trybooking.com/DGAKW.

"The Memorial Walk stands as a tribute to the past, a recognition of the present, and a promise to carry forward the legacy of service and care for future generations," Ms Ginnivan said.

More accessible and affordable healthcare in Leongatha at Z Medicals

AS Z Medicals approaches its first anniversary of providing essential healthcare services in regional Victoria, the clinic is set to expand by adding 10 new consulting rooms that will facilitate Allied Health as well as GPs to meet the growing needs of the community.

Principal practitioner Dr Faizal Aliyar recognised the significant gap in access to General Practitioners (GPs) in the area, leading to the clinic's establishment on November 18 last year.

In an interview with receptionist Naomi Truscott, she expressed that patients often faced waiting times of four to six weeks to see a doctor.

"It is our goal to make healthcare more accessible and affordable."

In addition to general medical services, Z Medicals offers minor procedural care, including skin biopsies and immunisations, travel vaccines, mental health and women's health, while still maintaining a full



Dr Piotr Lemieszek, Dr Faizal Aliyar, Naomi Truscott, and Dr Amali Weerakkody are proud to grow alongside the Leongatha and district community as they continue their dedicated service. C01_4125

bulk-billing practice for eligible Medicare cardholders.

"For many families, having affordable healthcare is vital, and we pride ourselves on being an accredited practice that serves everyone in our community," said Naomi.

Z Medicals has three GPs dedicated to delivering high-quality care, including

Dr Faizal Aliyar, Dr Piotr Lemieszek and Dr Amali Weerakkody. "All three of our GPs are available for appointments Monday to Friday, with same-day appointments frequently available, eliminating those excessive wait times," Naomi explained.

The Australian Clinical Labs pathology service is available

Monday to Friday from 9am to 1pm.

"There is no need for an appointment for pathology."

Z Medicals is located at 43 McCartin Street, Leongatha. Book online via Hot Doc or call 5640 2828. For after-hours and emergency care, visit Gippsland Southern Health Services.

Bass Coast Health celebrates its exceptional Allied Health team

BASS Coast Health (BCH) is proud to celebrate the outstanding contributions of its Allied Health professionals on Allied Health Professions Day today, October 14. Their expertise supports patients and the community across Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

BCH's Allied Health team spans physiotherapy, podiatry, occupational therapy, speech pathology, dietetics, social work and allied health assistants – a group dedicated to helping patients regain independence and wellbeing every day. The health service recently welcomed Daniel Baker as its new Allied Health Director, who will lead and support this passionate group of professionals.

"Our Allied Health staff are crucial in supporting quality of life for consumers of all age groups," Daniel said.

"They are involved in all aspects of care, including preventative care, capability development, rehabilitation and palliation. This can include supporting a stroke patient through rehabilitation or working with a child to develop vital skills. Their impact is life-changing, and I am honoured to lead such a passionate and skilled team."

BCH Allied Health professionals work in partnership with clinical teams across inpatient, outpatient and community services. Their work takes place at BCH's Wonthaggi and Phillip Island sites, including the state-of-the-art expanded Wonthaggi Hospital and the Phillip Island Community Hospital at Cowes, in the consulting suites, gymnasium and new Rotary Rehabilitation Courtyard. The courtyard enables outdoor rehabilitation



Allied Health Assistant Donna Martin and Occupational Therapist Abbie Eastick help Armitage patient Jennifer Pettigrew.

sessions in settings that reflect scenarios patients would encounter in society, such as stairs, uneven surfaces and sand.

In addition to offering diverse clinical experiences, BCH provides Allied Health staff with access to professional development through its Learning and Development team.

"Our staff are committed not only to excellent patient care, but also to supporting each other as colleagues," Daniel said.

"It's a workplace where collaboration, growth and compassion come together."

BCH often recruits Allied Health professionals who are seeking meaningful work in a dynamic and supportive environment. To explore current opportunities, visit seek.com.au/companies/bass-coast-health-795696/jobs.



Podiatrist Rebecca Ringrose and podiatrist Sally Wells consult with patient Kim Watts.

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Eye-opening PARTY program brings trauma reality to Foster students

THE Foster Secondary Year 11 students participated in a PARTY program that teaches teens about the reality of trauma-related death and injury in a hospital-simulated environment.

The Prevent Alcohol and Risk-related Trauma in Youth – or PARTY is a one-day hospital simulation program pitched to kids 15 and over run by Latrobe Regional Health and held at the South Gippsland Hospital.

The program has received funding from The Community Bank Foster and Toora, which enabled it to be delivered free of charge for 2025.

The young people get to spend a day at the South Gippsland Hospital learning what happens in the emergency department, Intensive Care Unit and rehabilitation unit, hearing from a range of emergency and health workers.

The program gives youth a blunt and no-holds-barred account of trauma and often preventable consequences of risk-taking behaviours. This includes drink driving, wearing seatbelts, unsafe partying,



Mia Piasente, Kayleigh Lyons, Andrew Simmons (co PARTY coordinator), Emily Rodgers and Janet May (co PARTY coordinator)

fighting, or even “death by selfies”. It aims to teach kids about taking calculated risks, making safe choices, how to look out for mates, and the importance of calling 000.

LRH Clinical Nurse Specialist and co-PARTY coordinator Janet May said young people in regional Victoria are over-represented in trauma statistics.

“The impacts in smaller regional communities are huge. We aim to teach

teenagers who are about to start driving and hit the party scenes, that it can happen to them, and the flow on effect to their families, friends and community is huge. If we can save one life, it's worth it,” she said.

The program delivers heartbreaking personal accounts from trauma survivors and the impact on their families and communities.

Local community emergency services (CFA Fish

Creek Rescue, CFA Toora, Bass Coast Pro-Active Police Unit, and Foster Ambulance) all attended for the day and presented to students the impacts of road trauma and making good choices.

Olivia Hughes, year 11 student, said, “that hearing from a real-life trauma survivor Jacob Fry and hearing how it impacted him physically and emotionally, was confronting”.

Shane Warne Legacy Health Check is back in Leongatha

FROM October 13 to 27, the Shane Warne Legacy Health Check is available at Leongatha RSL during opening hours.

Following a tremendous response to the free Health Checks in May of this year, the Leongatha RSL have once again sponsored these important health checks as part of the Club's Community Connection Program.

The checks are free of charge and will take about four minutes to complete.

The checks cover such things as blood pressure, heart rate, body fat percentage, height, weight and BMI. The Health Check console then produces a report based on the information gathered to give you a snapshot of your current health situation.

“We were very surprised and excited by the number of people that took up the Health Check opportunity in May,” said Greg Nugent, General Manager of Leongatha RSL, “so much so that we have decided to place the machine in the Club so that people who missed out before can take advantage of the opportunity this time. It is also a great opportunity for people who

previously took the test to recheck on how things are going with the overall heart health.”

A snapshot of Leongatha's heart health after the machines' first visit, where 55 per cent of participants were female and 45 per cent male, with a median age of 60.

Key findings included:

- High blood pressure: 23.7 per cent
- BMI over 30: 41.2 per cent
- Smokers: 7.7 per cent
- Predicted type 2 diabetes cases (next 5 years): 15 individuals (6.1 per cent)
- GP follow-up recommended: 90 participants
- No blood pressure check in the past year: 128 individuals

The availability of this machine to the Leongatha and surrounds community is in line with Leongatha RSL's Community Connections program, and they look forward to residents, young and old, taking advantage of the service. The previous results showed a number of interesting results across all demographics, so even if you call in to check your current status for peace of mind, it will be four minutes well spent.

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Forecasting boost ahead of thunderstorm asthma season

FAMILIES around Gippsland can find some relief this thunderstorm asthma season, with a new automated pollen counter in place at Federation University in Churchill.

The new Churchill automated pollen counter is one of six across the state, providing data on the enhanced grass pollen and epidemic thunderstorm asthma risk throughout Gippsland.

The system combines weather data alongside the grass pollen counts to determine the risk of an epidemic asthma thunderstorm. During Victoria's grass pollen season, October 1 until December 31, alerts on the risk of an asthmatic thunderstorm asthma will be issued daily via the VicEmergency app.

The purpose of this system is to help families, communities, health and emergency services to be better prepared and lower the chance of health risks during asthmatic season.

This modernised network has been made possible by the funding provided by Australian Government's Disaster Ready Fund and the Victorian Government.

"In the past, we were relying on day-old data and manual counting methods. With automation, we can now monitor pollen in a timelier way, giving a clearer picture of risk," said Dr Edwin Lampugnani, AirHealth Chief Executive Officer, whose team is operating these pollen counters.

Detrimental asthmatic thunderstorms can be triggered by the high grass pollen levels. As strong winds make pollen burst and the tiny pollen particles get carried for long distances and can be inhaled into the lungs.

Severe asthma symptoms can be a health risk to those 25 per cent of Australians who suffer from hay fever. Gippsland's Region Public Health Director Dr Alyce Wilson urges people at risk to stay up to date with the pollen forecasts.

"I encourage everyone to check the epidemic thunderstorm asthma forecast daily on the VicEmergency website or app and set up a watch so they can receive alerts and up to date advice and warnings."

Ten people lost their lives during the 2016 epidemic thunderstorm asthma event that spanned across Victoria, with more than 3500 emergency departments involved.

"People should also avoid exposure to storms, especially the wind gusts that come before them. During these periods they should go indoors, close windows and doors, and turn off air conditioners that draw in air from outside.

"People should also follow their asthma action plans or hay fever treatment plans, use preventive medication as directed, and make sure they know asthma first aid."

Visit emergency.vic.gov.au or download the VicEmergency App and set up a Watch Zone to receive advice and alerts in your area.



Chief Executive Officer Louise Sparkes joined members of the Woorayl Probus Club to discuss the next steps as it prepares to join the new Bayside Health network in early 2026.

GSHS strengthens local care, close to home

GIPPSLAND Southern Health Service (GSHS) Chief Executive Officer Louise Sparkes joined members of the Woorayl Probus Club this week to share updates on the organisation's achievements, priorities, and next steps as it prepares to join the new Bayside Health network in early 2026.

Addressing a full room, Ms Sparkes outlined the strong performance and progress made across both Leongatha and Korumburra sites over the past year.

"Our hospitals are community-built and community-driven," she said.

"Every improvement we make is about ensuring people in South Gippsland can access the care they need,

close to home."

The presentation highlighted the 57 per cent growth in Urgent Care Centre presentations at Leongatha Memorial Hospital over the past year, a clear indication that more residents are choosing local care over travelling further afield.

Services such as breast screening and cardiac CT now support faster diagnosis and treatment, with results closely integrated into inpatient and community care. Meanwhile, aged care facilities like Koorooman House have completed major capital works and care redesign, led by a newly appointed Nurse Unit Manager and Director of Nursing focused on care of older people and a warm, community atmosphere.

The revitalised Volunteer Program, led by Vicki Riley, now brings together 35 active volunteers across residential aged care, pet therapy, transport, and gardening. A new partnership with Leongatha Secondary College has even seen students and volunteers work side by side on the Maternity Garden project – bridging generations and building community pride.

"Volunteers are the quiet strength of our health service," Ms Sparkes said, encouraging more community members to get involved with the support of Vicki to onboard and provide ongoing support.

When the floor opened for questions, Probus members shared heartfelt reflections

on their own experiences with GSHS.

One member said, "Both my husband and I received emergency care at Leongatha and couldn't speak more highly of the staff; they were so caring and reassuring."

Another added, "The reception staff are exceptional. We're so grateful for the access to these services locally. They really matter to us."

Ms Sparkes concluded by reaffirming that the upcoming merger with Bayside Health is designed to strengthen, not replace, local care. "This is about collaboration, not competition," she said.

"Our aim is simple – equitable access to quality health-care for every person in our community."

Phillip Island Rotarians advance Timor-Leste Clean Water Project

By Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo

MEMBERS of the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo have returned from a humanitarian trip to Timor-Leste, where they worked with Disaster Aid Australia and Rotary Projects Timor-Leste East to expand a life-changing clean water program.

During the visit, the volunteers helped install and audit ultra-filtration clean water systems in schools and communities and met with Timor-Leste's Minister for Education. That high-level meeting is expected to yield a joint commitment to roll out these safe water units across government schools, greatly widening the project's reach.

Over the past eight years, the Rotary-led initiative has installed 34 ultra-filtration systems across Timor-Leste, now providing access to safe drinking water for an estimated 44,000 students.

Recent audits confirmed that all units are in excellent working condition – notably, even the first system deployed in the country about eight years ago remains fully functional. This durability is a testament to the technology's robustness and the Rotary team's diligent maintenance efforts.

These ultra-filtration systems are innovative, gravity-fed water filters that use advanced membranes to remove



Duncan Hedditch, Brother Adriano (Director, Don Bosco Technical School), Her Excellency Ms Dulce Soares (Minister for Education for Timor Leste), Max Bird and Brian Ashworth.

99.99999 per cent of waterborne contaminants. Each unit can purify up to 10,000 litres of water a day without needing electricity or chemicals, enough to meet the daily needs of a school or village. This access to clean water has sharply reduced waterborne illnesses and improved day-to-day life and school attendance for students, who can now drink safely on site rather than fetching or boiling water.

Importantly, ready access to plentiful drinking water has another direct impact on classroom performance, as students are less likely to fall asleep in class due to dehydration in Timor's very hot tropical climate. The shift also

brings environmental benefits by curbing reliance on purchased water in disposable plastic bottles, or using wood fires to boil water, reducing both plastic pollution and deforestation.

The local Rotary contingent's meeting with the education minister is aimed at extending the clean water program into many more state-run schools, potentially benefiting thousands more children soon.

This project highlights what a small community-driven team can accomplish on the global stage. The Phillip Island and San Remo Rotarians – all volunteers – together with many Rotary clubs around Australia, have poured time

and resources into improving lives abroad, in partnership with Timorese communities.

"It's a fantastic project – simple, sustainable technology that's truly life-changing," said Rotary Phillip Island and San Remo spokesperson Duncan Hedditch.

"Once a system is installed, the local community maintains it, and it just keeps giving clean water year after year."

The club's ongoing commitment, from fundraising at home to hands-on work in the field, reflects Rotary's ethos of "Service Above Self" and the power of a local initiative making a worldwide impact.

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Rotary District Governor Paul Behm presented a Paul Harris Fellow Award with Sapphire to Carron Bourke of the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo.

Rotary Honours Carron Bourke with Paul Harris Sapphire Award

IN A ceremony on Monday, October 6, Rotary District Governor Paul Behm presented a Paul Harris Fellow Award with Sapphire to Carron Bourke of the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo. The honour was bestowed in recognition of his outstanding community service, celebrating his dedication to local volunteer projects and charitable initiatives.

Rotary officials note that the Paul Harris Fellow recognition is one of the organisation's highest honours, used to acknowledge individuals for significant contributions to making the world a better place.

"As Rotarians, we live by the motto 'Service Above Self,' and Carron truly embodies that spirit," club president Gea Lovell said during the presentation.

She praised Carron's years of service, adding that "his dedication to helping others has made a significant impact on our community."

Carron has been a member of Rotary for over 30 years, and club members say he has been a driving force behind numerous local projects – from fundraising for community facilities to supporting youth programs – always willing to roll up his sleeves for those in need.

The Paul Harris Fellow Award was established in honour of Rotary's founder, Paul Harris, and is traditionally accompanied by a pin and certificate. A sapphire inset on the pin signifies an additional level of distinction: in Carron's case, it denotes that he has been recognised as a Paul Harris Fellow more than once.

Supporting children during Anti-Poverty Week

MEMBERS of Inverloch and Wonthaggi VIEW Clubs are calling on the community to give generously this Anti-Poverty Week and sponsor a child or donate to the national children's education charity The Smith Family, supporting this year's theme to end child poverty in Australia.

Inverloch and Wonthaggi VIEW Clubs help 15 – soon to be 17 – primary and secondary children through the Smith Family's Learning for Life education support program, which provides families with long term educational, financial and personal assistance so that children have all the essentials needed to make the most of their education.

With one in six children in Australia growing up in poverty, there has never been a more important time to support a child with their education, particularly as families make impossible choices between how to spend limited resources.

This could be prioritising rent over sending their child on a school excursion or being able to afford schoolbooks or essential digital learning tools. No child should have to miss out on the essentials for their education.

While fundraising plays a vital role in helping children in need, the clubs also encourage women of all ages to donate their time and skills by joining a VIEW Club.

Recently, members in the local area have been participating in fundraising while also enjoying many social events, including their monthly lunch meetings, a fashion parade, a cake stall, a Bunnings barbecue, a soup and slice lunch, a garden party, and regular morning teas and happy hours.

The secret world of Freemasonry a myth

By Bruce Wardley

AS SOCIETY changes the essence of Freemasonry remains the same, according to the Woolamai Daylight Masonic Lodge based in Wonthaggi.

How old is your grandmother was once a question attributed to Freemasons seeking to identify another Freemason. The answer for Wonthaggi would have been 661, which is the official number of the Powlett Lodge at 17 Edgar Street in Wonthaggi or 277 for the Woolamai Daylight Lodge.

"It was never a secret," according to Freemason Ken Barnes.

The exclusive use of a handshake or Freemason's hand grip, however, remains a tightly guarded secret and is still used by Freemasons to identify each other worldwide.

With historical origins going back to medieval stonemason guilds, Freemasonry has evolved to a worldwide fraternity active in every civilised society.

Freemasonry boasts 7000 members statewide, including several hundred Gippsland members in 24 Freemasons Lodges extending from Koo Wee Rup to Orbost.

Among Gippsland's first Masonic Lodges was the Walhalla Freemasons Lodge, number 69, dating back to 1876, and Sale Freemasons Lodge, number 51, established in 1924.

According to Ken Barnes, Freemasonry is an invaluable fraternity of men, although there are also women's Freemason Lodges in Melbourne.

"We look for men of mature age with good report and highest morals," said Ken.

"The selection process remains rigorous and new members are always welcome.

"We accept men of any race, religion, colour or creed."

New members are recruited in one of two ways: either by personal introduction by another member or a friend

who can vouch for the new member, or by an application online through Freemasons Victoria.

"Four references are required in addition to a police check," said Mr Barnes.

Meetings are held once a month in a formal meeting space with wardens and junior wardens assembled around symbolic squares and compasses, the squares representing good and bad, and the compasses symbolising moral boundaries.

Together, the symbols are said to be a reminder for Masons to lead a balanced life.

Visitors from other Lodges are welcome at meetings. The work of a meeting can involve introducing a new member, or a lecture from a member of the Lodge or visiting speaker.

Local Freemasons have always been active in charity work, including assisting with the recent purchase of a learner driver car for the Bass Coast L2P program.

Powlett Lodge also raised \$50,000 for Armitage House at Wonthaggi Hospital.

Ken Barnes said Freemasons Victoria is one of the state's largest fundraisers and raised over \$130,000 for young people experiencing homelessness through 'Sleep at the G'.

"Freemasonry is a worldwide fraternity of men who believe in the principles of equality and charitable acts. It is one of the few remaining organisations that honour and respect religious, cultural and political diversity.

"It offers good men an opportunity to contribute to their local communities, join a network of like-minded individuals, and improve themselves in the process."

Anyone interested in becoming a Freemason can ring the secretary of the Woolamai Daylight Lodge, Peter Thick on 0429 851 004 or go to freemasonsvic.net.au/join-freemasonry.



Ceremonial closing procession of a Freemasons' meeting led by Graeme Parry, Worshipful Master Woolamai Daylight Lodge and Tony Heppleston, Worshipful Master Phillip Island. B07_4125



Graeme Parry, Worshipful Master of the Woolamai Daylight Lodge, and Tony Heppleston, Worshipful Master of the Phillip Island Lodge, are happy to welcome new members to Freemasonry. B05_4125



Freemason Ken Barnes holds a rough ashlar, the symbolic representation of a man's unrefined, imperfect state at the beginning of his spiritual and moral journey through life, and Freemason Michael Saunders holds a perfect ashlar symbolising a Freemason who has worked to achieve a purposeful, principled and righteous life. B08_4125



Six of this year's Greenhills Benevolent Society Incorporated scholarship recipients, from left, Lara Standish, Sage Anderson, Justine Olsen, Patrick Morris, Noah Furness, and Deb Watson. Alex Henshall and Camryn Olsen, who were unable to attend.

Greenhills Benevolent scholarships announced

THE Greenhills Benevolent Society Incorporated held a Morning Tea on Saturday, September 7, for the successful recipients of the 2025 tertiary and apprenticeship

scholarships. Six recipients and their families attended the Poowong Uniting Church Hall for a presentation.

Scholarships were awarded to Lara Standish, Sage

Anderson, Justine Olsen, Patrick Morris, Noah Furness, Deb Watson, Alex Henshall, Camryn Olsen, Ebony Beecroft, Sterling Holman, Eydie Johnson, Keeley Johnson,

Megan Le Serve, Livinia Mandemaker, Bailey Nettle, and Bailey Peacock.

Organisers would like to thank all those who participated.

Wildlife corridors were already saved

IT'S a pity the Sentinel-Times has run the line put by SWW (Save Westernport Woodlands), which has little, if any, community backing. The Grantville community devoted several years in the 1990s ensuring the protection of vital wildlife corridors.

Their efforts resulted in the Regional Sand Extraction Strategy, Lang Lang to Grantville, which specifies areas for protection. The document is available for all to read.

Phil Westwood, Grantville

You can say 'I told you so'

THE decision to direct all funds towards the Wonthaggi Aquatic Centre does not solve an important issue; Cowes residents travel over 20 minutes to an aquatic centre, and for the population, is the second top of the list for this issue in Australia by population size (Royal Life Saving Australia 'State of Australian Aquatic Facilities 2025' report).

The council agenda states: "An independent review of the Bass Coast Aquatic Centre Concept Masterplan and Feasibility Study was completed and provides a rescope concept master plan for the redevelopment of the existing facility. Findings of the review indicate that:

(1.) The adopted master plan costs have increased 100 per cent since 2021, making the current concept master plan unaffordable."

Someone in the council needs to explain that statement as it makes no sense. Construction for commercial projects costs do not double in less than five years. Someone has got their sums wrong there.

It should be noted that private swim school operators are reporting a reduction in build costs over the same period. It would be prudent to check the track record of companies who are providing these estimates as to whether they can control costs and have a track record on completing projects on time.

"Additionally, the current economic environment creates funding challenges for the existing Bass Coast Aquatic Centre concept masterplan."

In plain English, the council does not have enough money to complete this project.

More councils are discovering the worth of 'peer reviews' for aquatic centre new builds and upgrades. This is vital for regional councils who may only have one aquatic centre. Larger councils own up to 22 aquatic centres, so comparing centres against others they own is standard practice.

Peer reviewing is the process of a second design team reviewing the work of the designer who the council has engaged. Engaging a design team does not guarantee a optimal result.

And feel free to add in "I told you so" re not having the money to build a pool on the Island. Big dreams with no budget equals disappointment all round.

At least the council have the courtesy of telling everyone what they intend to do with ratepayers' money.

Derek Harbison, Newhaven

(An Energy Efficiency Consultant, Mr Harbison is proposing to gather a group of investors interested in developing a privately-funded aquatic centre on Phillip Island).

Keep watch this summer

AS THE warmer months approach, Royal Life Saving Australia is urging all backyard pool owners to check their pool fences and gates as a matter of urgency. It is vital to save lives.

Children under five are very curious, quick, and fearless. Their love of water puts them at a very serious risk of drowning. Each year in Australia, we lose on average 19 young children to drowning, with half of these tragedies occurring in backyard swimming pools. The majority are aged just one year old. The risk of drowning triples at this age when children become more mobile. We should all be deeply concerned.

For every child who dies, around eight more are hospitalised following a non-fatal drowning incident, this is over 150 children

Vox Pop

Have you reduced how often you are going out to eat?



Tenielle Richards

Leongatha

"Yes, everything has become expensive, but I try to eat local and support local where I can."



Steve Beetham

Tarwin Lower

"No, I eat out a couple of times a week. I wish there was more choice."



Josephine Britton

Wonthaggi

"Yes, maybe once a month, it's getting tough financially."



Mark Trewin

Wonthaggi

"No, once a week we like to go out for lunch in a local café to support local business."

under five every year. Some of these children will experience long-term health outcomes. This is extremely alarming.

While active supervision is always the best protection, no parent or caregiver can watch a child every second of the day. A functioning, compliant pool fence and self-closing, self-latching gate provides a vital extra layer of protection. Royal Life Saving's free Home Pool Safety Checklist can easily be downloaded at royallifesaving.com.au/keepwatch.

Pool owners should always check that wet weather hasn't loosened fence posts, gates are working and close properly, toys are packed away, and portable pools are emptied when not in use. Just as important, brushing up on CPR skills ahead of summer could well save a life. Keep Watch and protect the littlest members of your family.

Justin Scarr, Chief Executive Officer, Royal Life Saving Australia

Maybe it's time to increase the size of the Army Reserve?

I WAS serving in the Army Reserve when the old Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979. The Prime Minister at the time, Malcolm Fraser, prudently responded by increasing the size of the Army Reserve.

It takes time to grow the Army, and the time to do it is before the need for such forces becomes critical.

Reserve forces being part-time are a cheaper and less threatening way of developing and signalling strategic intent. Indeed, prior to both WWI and WWII, the part-time militia was the mainstay of Australia's ground forces.

It is fair to say that the benign Australian security environment of the unipolar moment that Australia is used to is passing, and Australia now faces a more uncertain threat environment. Expanding Australia's Army Reserve doesn't mean Australia thinks war is imminent, just that it is better to have a stronger Army and not need it, than thinking things will be just fine and then later on finding they are not. The Cold War ended without me ever having been deployed on an active war front, in part because Malcolm Fraser's expansion of the Reserve signalled that Australia was indeed, if pushed, prepared to defend itself.

Kevin Walsh RFD, Major RAINF (Ret'd), Cape Paterson

No to the lord's prayer

IN THE September 30 edition, it was reported that there was a petition of some 200 signatories to incorporate the Lord's prayer into the start of Council meetings.

It is my opinion this petition should be rejected. The population of Bass Coast Shire is 43,000 plus and the majority do not claim to be Christian. The signatories of 200 are 0.46 per cent of this population.

It is my firm opinion that Government in our multicultural Australia should be secular.

David Turnbull, address supplied

Time to refocus on housing

Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

THE Bass Coast Shire Council's Annual Report, to be tabled for adoption at this week's council meeting, is reporting success with one of council's key performance indicators, increasing the amount of new social and affordable housing facilitated within Bass Coast in the past year.

It's good to hear.

In answer to a recent Community Question from local resident, Fred Morris, about the number of social and affordable housing contracts signed by council in the past three years, after the State Government provided \$25 million to Bass Coast, the shire's CEO Greg Box rightly pointed out that the council doesn't get that money, nor does it built social housing itself.

But it can do plenty to make housing approval, in general, easier and also to support the process of opening up new social and affordable housing in particular.

"The program is entirely managed by Homes Victoria. Council facilitates social housing outcomes through advocacy, leveraging the Planning Scheme, and contribution of Council land," said Mr Box on behalf of the council.

"Bass Coast has signed contracts to contribute land for two funded social housing developments. Council works closely with community stakeholders, Community Housing Providers and the Victorian Government to maximise investment through the Big Housing Build. At present, 12 homes have been completed with 56 more under-way, representing a total investment of \$37.5 million."

It's a good start, but there's still much to do.

According to the shire's 'Engage Bass Coast' website, this area is experiencing a crisis in housing affordability and availability with tight vacancy rates placing significant pressure on local communities.

This will only increase over the summer months.

"Our residents experience both mortgage and rental stress at rates higher than the Gippsland and Regional Victoria average, with more than a third of renters in stress. The affordability crisis is starkly illustrated by the fact that, in the 12 months to June 2023, only 1.2 per cent of all housing sold was affordable to low-income households, compared to almost 10 per cent in June 2020.

"There are currently 672 households in our shire with an unmet need for affordable housing, and over 1100 people on the Victorian Housing Register waitlist seeking housing in Bass Coast. Council's Affordable Housing Strategy provides a platform for partnerships with State and Federal Government to boost supply of social and affordable housing."

So more, much more needs to be done, and while a lot of council's oxygen in recent months has been devoted to planning initiatives, which is fair enough, it's time to refocus on one of the key problems facing this community, an issue that is one of the main contributors to stress, dislocation and ultimately a driver of crime.

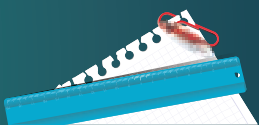
On that score, it's good to see the extensive focus given to the availability and affordability of housing in the shire's new 'Healthy, Safe and Resilient Bass Coast' plan, also being tabled for adoption at this week's council meeting.

"Partnerships strengthen our collective ability to address the full spectrum of health and wellbeing, housing, infrastructure, social connection, education, economic opportunity, and the environment. A strong example is our Housing Strategy, developed through collaboration with those who bring expertise in housing, infrastructure and community support... this collaborative approach reflects our commitment to understanding the ways that health, housing, education, income, culture and environment intersect," says the plan in part.

OK, so we understand the problem and have made some inroads into addressing it but it's time to set aside the outside noise and make a real impact on housing in Bass Coast over the next 12 months by adjusting policy settings, activating those partnerships and advocacy efforts, encouraging those with approvals to get on with it, and generally making it easier for those who want to build.

And let's see some regular, comprehensive reporting about what the shire and the sector is doing, and what they're building... "if you don't measure it, you can't manage it!"

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



Chloe Wade, a finalist in this year's Victorian Education Excellence Awards

OUTSTANDING teachers and schools are being celebrated for their innovation and excellence, with finalists being announced for this year's Victorian Education Excellence Awards.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll congratulated the 41 finalists across 14 award categories, which recognise inspirational teachers, principals, and education support staff making a difference to the lives of students in Victorian government schools.

One of this year's finalists includes Chloe Wade, a teacher from Welshpool and District Primary School, who has improved student literacy and numeracy using data-driven and evidence-based practices. She also supports staff with disability inclusion, helping them to develop and refine individual learning plans for students with disability.

This is Chloe's fifth year in teaching after graduating from Federation University, and the award nomination is for the Early Education Career – recognising new teachers and their outstanding efforts.

When Chloe first started teaching, the school had begun a new phonics program in 2021 called Sounds Right. The program involved training for staff and has shown significant progress in student literacy.

Chloe is a Prep/Grade One teacher and said it's the teaching of all the sounds, and how to use those sounds to decode words. Chloe is also a mentor to two other teachers in grades two, three and four, five and six.

"I've helped these teachers implement the program, and we've seen great results," she said.

"As you move through higher



Chloe Wade with Welshpool students celebrating her nomination. C04_4125

levels, the phonics program is obviously more challenging, for example, we're teaching three sounds; for instance, a trigraph together to make one sound," she said.

"Since implementing this program, we've continued to develop it, and it helps massively with spelling. The students are learning the sounds and then learning to write them, so this skill transfers across into their writing as well."

With the numeracy program, Chloe said Welshpool and District Primary School has implemented a whole-school maths program.

"We have all the students together as a whole, and then

we group them by their abilities. We then work across the school with all the different year levels.

"This was implemented as when we returned from COVID, we noticed many gaps in the students' learning, and since implementing it, we've seen phenomenal growth across all levels."

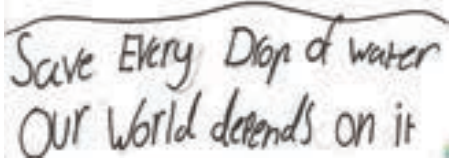
Judging panels for the education awards will determine the winners of each category, who will be announced at a ceremony on Friday, October 24, a week before World Teachers' Day.

The awards also support the continued professional development of staff, with

professional learning grants of \$20,000 available for each individual award winner, and \$25,000 for each team award.

The winner of the Lindsay Thompson Award for Excellence in Education – which honours Victoria's longest serving education minister and former Premier – receives a further professional learning grant of \$20,000.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll said Victorian Education Excellence Awards finalists have gone above and beyond, and represent just a small fraction of Victoria's outstanding teaching workforce that delivers world-class education.



Students make a splash ahead of National Water Week

NATIONAL Water Week is almost here, in fact, the Sentinel-Times is bringing a feature to the paper next week in celebration, but in the meantime, we thought we'd give our readers a taste of some of the fantastic artwork that has been submitted by students from across the catchment.

This year students from Welshpool and District Primary School, Toora Primary School, Fish Creek Primary School, St Laurence O'Toole Primary School, Leongatha Primary School, and St Joseph's Primary School, Wonthaggi have been hard at work creating their masterpieces and we cannot wait to not only find out the winners, but see the works of art.

So South Gippslanders as we work together on water issues and future solutions this Water Week become a Water Hero and save every drop.

Newhaven College students embrace culture on Japan tour

NEWHAVEN College has had a long-running association with Ibaraki Christian Junior High School in Honshu, Japan. Starting in 2000, the program has flourished ever since. Fifteen enthusiastic Year 10 and Year 11 students took the opportunity to visit Japan for two weeks in September. The College's annual tour to Japan offers students the chance to immerse themselves in Japanese culture while broadening their language skills.

On arrival at the school in Ibaraki, the students were introduced to their host families, who welcomed them into their homes. Students became engaged with the Japanese way of life quickly, while visiting onsen (hot springs), local sites and sampling traditional cuisine.

At school, Newhaven College students became involved in classes, assisting with English lessons and making new friendships.

One of the participants, Scarlet Jongejan, said of the experience, "My homestay family was so warm and welcoming, easing all my nerves from day one, and creating an incredible bond. We

were fully immersed in Japanese life, connecting with our sister school students and taking part in traditional Japanese activities. It was an experience I'm sure none of us will ever forget."

The students were accompanied by Newhaven College teachers, Ms Mitsuko Horiguchi, Mrs Ruth Turton and Mr Lachlan Gale.

Ms Horiguchi has been coordinating the tours for over 20 years. She said of this current group, "It was a joy to travel with such an enthusiastic and respectful group of students. We hope they carry the friendships and lessons from this journey with them and continue to embrace opportunities to explore the world beyond the classroom."

The exchange program has created valuable experiences, connecting students from different cultures and building lasting friendships through shared understanding. For Newhaven College students learning Japanese, it was the perfect chance to use their language skills in real-life settings.



A group of 15 Year 10 and 11 Newhaven College students, and three teachers, ventured to Japan for the College's exchange program.



Baked Ricotta

By Meg Viney

WHEN I worked at a gallery and we had openings on Sunday afternoons, we would often do a baked ricotta – usually still warm from the oven, served with baguettes. Very simple.

Depending on how many you are serving, you can buy a whole 259 gm ricotta or a large one – even a chunk will do if the numbers are small.

You will need olive oil, pepper, fresh herbs (e.g. lemon and/or silver thyme and rosemary), black olives, and sun-dried tomato strips, which are a great addition.

Oil an oven pan, place the ricotta on the oil and sprinkle all the ingredients you like over and around, then top with pepper and some more oil (sun-dried tomato or olive oil).

Bake at 180°C for 20 minutes, with the oven grill for the last 10 to 15 minutes to get a golden top.

Pete Mitchell and Tristan Ross live at The Inlet



Musicians Pete Mitchell and Tristan Ross are sure to delight audience on October 26 when they take to the stage at The Inlet Hotel, Inverloch for a special performance for the Veteran Advocacy Centre, Boronia.

AN AFTERNOON of exceptional live music is coming to Inverloch later this month, and it's for an important cause. On Saturday, October 26 at 2pm, The Inlet Hotel will host Pete Mitchell and Tristan Ross for a special performance in support of the Veteran Advocacy Centre, Boronia, raising awareness around veteran suicide, homelessness, and addiction.

The event aims to bring the community together through the power of music, helping shine a light on the challenges faced by many veterans after their service. Funds raised will go toward ongoing advocacy, welfare and outreach programs that provide vital support for those who have served.

Melbourne-based saxophonist and (sometimes) guitarist, Pete Mitchell has spent more than 20 years performing professionally across Australia and around the world. His impressive career includes touring and recording with the ARIA award-winning Melbourne Ska

Orchestra, performing on international stages including Glastonbury, Edinburgh, and the Montréal Jazz Festival, where crowds have reached up to 60,000 people.

Pete has also shared the stage with some of the biggest names in music. He has performed with Michael Bubl  at the Logie Awards, appeared alongside John Butler, and toured with Australian rock favourites Chocolate Starfish, performing the full INXS "Kick" album live. His versatility spans genres, from jazz and funk to ska, soul, pop, and rock, and his passion for live performance shines through every note.

Alongside him at The Inlet will be regular Inlet favourite Tristan Ross, adding his own distinctive sound and stage presence to what promises to be a dynamic, high-energy show.

Whether you're a music lover, a supporter of veterans, or simply looking for a great afternoon out, this is an event not to miss. Entry by donation.

TRISTAN J ROSS
PETE MITCHELL

THE INLET HOTEL INVERLOCH
SUNDAY OCTOBER 26TH 2PM

RAISING AWARENESS TO VETERAN SUICIDE, HOMELESSNESS & ADDICTION

Veteran Advocacy Centre, Boronia

Entry by donation and is tax deductible.
Inlet Hotel, booking Ph - 03 56741481.
Special Guest - 11 year old child prodigy Stephan Lawrence.

STAND-UP COMEDY
Night

CHRIS WAINHOUSE
BRETT HUNTER | OCK | NICK TRAPANI

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Comedy kings head to Korumburra

BRETT Hunter's career as a stand-up comedian has taken him all over the world. But there's nothing quite like the vibe of performing in an Australian country town.

"I travel a lot for comedy. The thing I like the most about going to the country is that I find the people are more laid back. They're just up for a good time," said Hunter, as he prepares to head to South Gippsland this month for a one-night-only stand-up comedy show at Korumburra's Austral Hotel.

Hunter – who hails from Werribee in Melbourne's west – is part of a stellar line-up on October 18 featuring Chris Wainhouse as the headline act, along with Steve Ock and Nick Trapani.

Hunter is all about finding humour in real-life stories. Take, for example, a recent conversation he had with his mum about dating. Hunter mentioned 'friends with

benefits.' His mum thought he was talking about the Centrelink variety.

It's since been incorporated into his comedy routine.

"Everything that happens in my life, I take to the stage," said Hunter.

Trapani – a favourite on the Melbourne comedy circuit – also loves the country audience connection. In his experience, people in regional areas tend to be more "up for a laugh," no matter what the topic.

"They're excited to be part of the show," said Trapani, who's known for his penchant for tackling the darker side of life.

"I've performed in Leongatha and it was an amazing time. I'm definitely looking forward to coming back to the area."

As for what the 18+ audience can expect, Trapani said, "We're all about sort of pushing the boundaries of the norm and having a lot of fun with everyone."



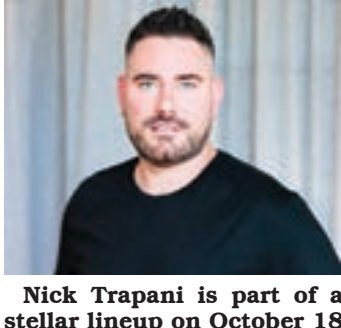
Steve Ock is accompanying Chris Wainhouse at the Korumburra Austral Hotel.



Brett Hunter is performing a one-night-only show at Korumburra's Austral Hotel.



Chris Wainhouse is headlining on October 18.



Nick Trapani is part of a stellar lineup on October 18 at a one-night-only stand-up comedy show.

Studios throw open their doors for 10th Open Studios Latrobe Tour

ART studios are open over the weekend of October 25 and 26. The towns included in this year's driving tour are Moe, Newborough, Morwell, Traralgon, Glengarry North, Yinnar and Boolarra.

This will be the tenth Open Studios Latrobe run by the community group Moartz, with 19 visual artists displaying and demonstrating their work.

See plenty of hands-on action with some new artists involved this year in Traralgon and Glengarry, and some old favourites at Newborough, Moe and Boolarra. The individual artists work in a wide variety of mediums, including printmaking, airbrush, watercolour, acrylics, textiles, drawing, pottery and more.

The artist-run space ARC Yinnar will have seven artists demonstrating different techniques, including Alvin Bishop-Edwards starting a portrait painting, and the Inkpot Alchemists demonstrating with inks made

from plants in the Gathered Threads textile exhibition in the main gallery. The Matchbox Gallery in Yinnar will have plenty on show as well, with stained glass, paintings and drawings.

Visitors can start their self-guided tour with the aid of the printed poster/map available from local shops and any of the studios. Tickets are available at any of the listed studios and you can visit as many as you wish over the two days between 10am – 4pm. Just \$5 will get you a ticket for the whole weekend (children are free) and a copy of the poster map.

An online version of the information poster and map can also be found at moartz.com/events-news.

If you need more information, contact Sharon Anderson and Jenny Peterson at openstudiosmoartz@gmail.com.

Stay up to date on Instagram: openstudioslatrobe and Facebook: Open Studios Latrobe 2025.



Boolarra artist Jenny Peterson in her studio, preparing for Open Studios Latrobe. Photo: Damian Andrews.

What's happening around town

The Great Witch Hunt Event

Throughout October
visitgrantville.com.au

Cowes MotoGP Entertainment

October 16 – 19, Various times
Free
The Esplanade/Thompson Ave, Cowes

Digital Essentials

October 17 – December 12,
9.45am – 12.45pm.
\$50 (\$20 concession)
Milpara Community House

Digital Literacy for Adults

October 17 – December 12,
1.15pm – 4.15pm
\$50 (\$20 concession)
Milpara Community House

Open Studio Art Trail

Final weekend, October 18-19
South Gippsland
Visit Art Connect South Gippsland
for all the details

Inverloch Farmers Market

October 18, 8am – 1pm
The Glade

Prom Country Farmers Market

October 18, 8am – 12 noon
FWMA Hall, Foster

Eat Drink Play Gippsland

October 18, 11am – 10pm
Leongatha Railway Precinct

Venus Bay Trivia Night Fundraiser

October 18, doors 6pm
Venus Bay Angling Club

Rail Trail Community Market

October 19, 8.30am – 1pm
Leongatha Railway Precinct

Computers, Basics and Beyond

8 weeks, starting October 20,
1pm – 4pm
\$120 (\$100 concession)
Bass Coast Adult Learning

CPR update

Tuesday, October 21,
6.30pm – 9.30pm
\$70 (\$60 concession)
Bass Coast Adult Learning

High Tech – High Tea

October 22, 2pm – 4pm
Free
Milpara Community House

Living Sustainably

Saturdays, October 25 – December
13, 10am – 1pm
Free
Bass Coast Adult Learning

OPEN STUDIOS LATROBE 2025

Self-guided Tour of
Artist Studios in
Latrobe Valley

October 25 and 26
10am – 4pm

www.moartz.com/events-news
openstudiosmoartz@gmail.com

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John Cranko and the Stuttgart Ballet grace The Union's screen

CINEMA and dance fans in Bass Coast will soon have the chance to see the story of the gifted and charismatic choreographer John Cranko on the big screen.

Directed by Joachim A Lang, John Cranko stars Sam Riley in a performance praised for its moving portrayal of the visionary choreographer.

After moving to London, the South African-born Cranko rose to prominence at great speed. At age 23, he was resident choreographer for Sadler's Wells Theatre Ballet (later the Royal Ballet). The film delves into Cranko's life, particularly focusing on his pivotal move from London to Stuttgart in 1960. Facing legal issues in the UK at the time due to his homosexuality, (entrapment by undercover police), Cranko found a new artistic home in Germany and rapidly revitalised the Stuttgart Ballet with his dynamic energy and creative genius.

His creative imagination is portrayed in a cleverly organic way, as we see how Cranko's mind works. Whether in a rehearsal hall or sitting on a park bench, he constantly visualises dancers testing out notions.

A key narrative thread is the creation and impact of his now-iconic production of Romeo and Juliet. The movie recounts how this production became a sensational success, elevating the Stuttgart Ballet to international prominence and leading to invitations to perform at prestigious venues globally.

The biopic explores not only Cranko's remarkable artistic achievements but also the personal complexities he faced. It touches on his intense drive for perfection and the private struggles that were part of his life during his extraordinary career.

Adding powerful authenticity, the film features members of the current Stuttgart Ballet performing dance sequences. These are set to a rich score comprised of newly recorded excerpts from classical works by composers like Brahms, Britten, Verdi, Tchaikovsky, and Prokofiev, performed by the Stuttgart State Opera Orchestra.

The cast also includes Elisa Badenes, Max Schimmelpfennig, Hanns Zischler, and Lucas Gregorowicz. The dancing throughout is superb from the entire dancing cast.

Screening at 10.30am, on Sunday, October 19, at The Union Theatre, 96 Graham Street, Wonthaggi. BCFFG members' entry free, with general public welcome at usual box office prices.

To find out more, visit the website: basscoastfinefilmgroup.weebly.com/current-season, and follow the links to the film.

The Bass Coast Fine Film Group is proudly sponsored by the Bass Coast Shire.

'Budget Battlers' works its magic again in Mirboo North

BUDGET Battlers and its band of volunteers returned to Mirboo North, this time to realise the renovation dreams of local Mark 'Richo' Richardson, who passed away in July, and help his adult children Andrew, Danielle and Roxi in the process by getting the house ready for sale.

Stars of The Block, Jess Eva and Norm Hogan host 'Budget Battlers', the Channel 9 show now into its second season, the 'Budget Battlers' team transforming everyday homes owned by deserving Aussies, doing so on a budget of just \$10,000.

'Budget Battlers' was previously in Mirboo North to lend a hand to local Sandra after her house was severely impacted by the February 2024 storm, forcing her to live in her shed.

"It's light to the situation (following the loss of Richo) and a great gift to Andrew, Danielle and Roxi," Heidi Burggraaff said of the contribution of all those who helped in 'Budget Battlers' return to Mirboo North, Heidi being the daughter of Tina Moncur, who is also Roxi's mum.

Host Jess explained that Richo had ties to the volunteers who helped with last year's project, and those making the program form lasting bonds with people in the communities they visit.

"So, when we heard there was someone in Mirboo North that needed a hand again, it wasn't even a question that we were going back," she said.

Sentinel-Times paid a visit on Friday week, with the 'Budget Battlers' team hopeful the project could be finished that evening despite wet weather adding to the challenges, with Andrew, Danielle and Roxi set to see the big reveal on Saturday.

Jess's co-host, Norm Hogan, outlined what the team had achieved since starting on Tuesday.

"We've done a full strip out



Norm Hogan and Jess Eva host 'Budget Battlers' in Mirboo North. A06_4025



Tim Moncur in action for 'Budget Battlers'. A07_4025

of the bathroom and retiled that, with a new shower, bath and vanity; the back entry, laundry and toilet were started but nowhere near finished, so we finished all of that for them, we've laid floor right through the whole house, and carpeted all the bedrooms," he said.

The house has been painted, its tattered gutters replaced and the shed's roof and walls reclad, along with

the installation of solar panels, an inverter and battery.

"This show is completely volunteer-driven; unlike other shows, no one here is paid, no one's here because they're on a wage", Jess said, explaining that 'Budget Battlers' is a great platform to demonstrate that if everyone works together, they can make a difference.

Tarwin Lower's Mark Lawton and Leigh Wright

of Meeniyan are among the 'Budget Battlers' team, being experienced carpenters and having long been friends with Tim Moncur, Tina's brother and part of the team.

Jess noted there's been outstanding community support in Mirboo North.

"Everyone that we've asked has just jumped on board and chipped in," Norm added.

On Friday afternoon, there was still some painting to be finished, along with grouting the tiles.

The second series of 'Budget Battlers' kicks off on October 22, and Sentinel-Times will advise when the show's latest visit to Mirboo North will be screened, that being one of six episodes.

Producer Kerrie Kerr expressed her appreciation of all the volunteers and sponsors who enable 'Budget Battlers' to accomplish its ambitious projects, and noting those who travel from various parts of Australia to help in the locations the show visits, spending considerable time away from family.

Meeniyan ready to host Marty Gras celebration



Meeniyan Marty Gras committee and friends with Marty Gras Mascots out the front of the Meeniyan Town Hall. Photo: Sarah Banks.

SOUTH Gippsland's vibrant town of Meeniyan is set to once again host the region's most anticipated annual fundraising party, the Meeniyan Marty Gras.

It is set to kick off at 7pm on Saturday, October 25, at the Meeniyan Town Hall.

The event – a celebration of diversity, no matter what your orientation – is held to raise much-needed funds for two important organisations. Opportunities of Development thru Art (ODA) in Cambodia and Gippsland Pride Initiative Inc.

Guests are encouraged to dress in their most outrageous and colourful outfits, cheekily embracing the theme behind Marty Gras' name-sake Sydney event, all to raise funds for a good cause.

Bass Coast Fine Film Group

**10.30am SUNDAY 19TH OCTOBER
JOHN CRANKO**

Spectacular biopic that charts the meteoric rise of dancer and choreographer, John Cranko. In 1960, up-and-coming Cranko has left London for Stuttgart to revitalise the city's ballet company.

General public welcome. Members Free Entry!

**@ THE UNION THEATRE
96 Graham Street, Wonthaggi.**

Check the website for more info:
basscoastfinefilmgroup.weebly.com



David Hewlett and Senior Constable Megan Krause enjoy a coffee at Bunnings Coffee with a Cop session in Wonthaggi. B22_4125



Leading Senior Constable Nick Carlson with Martin Frost of Wattlebank at Coffee with a Cop at the Bunnings store in Wonthaggi. B24_4125



Strzelecki Lions Tim Wettenhall and David Taylor had processed a handful of Christmas cake and pudding sales before lunchtime on Sunday at the Loch Summer Market. C10_4125



Strzelecki Lion Maurice Schwennesen was busy at the gates in Loch as the summer markets recommenced. C11_4125



Vicki Pitman, John Pitman and Ella Van Leeuwen from Black Dog Ride at Biketoberfest 2025. W11_4125



Viv Pepper from Shannon's Insurance was staying out of the wind at Biketoberfest in Leongatha. W12_4125



Lisa and Elaine from the YouTube Channel 'Hogs, Cogs and Two Aussie Flogs', supporting Biketoberfest. W13_4125



Fenella Schmidt and Allan Shiels enjoyed the festivities in Bair Street as Biketoberfest kicked off. W14_4125



Ross Millar and Dani Trimble, who drove from Melbourne on a 2021 Indian Roadmaster Jack Daniels Edition to be at Biketoberfest. W15_4125

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Coffee with a Cop, Biketoberfest and Loch Lions Summer Market.



Freemasons from the Widow's Sons Victoria Masonic Riders Association enjoyed Biketoberfest together in Leongatha on the weekend. W19_4125



Marius and Lorraine Van Delight roamed the streets of Leongatha as Biketoberfest took over. W23_4125



Shane Clee and Abhi bonded over their mutual love of motorbikes. W22_4125



Jeff Witbrenk and Gary West wandering down Bair Street during Biketoberfest. W21_4125



Senior Constable Matt Dengerink kept an eye on festivities at Biketoberfest, alongside Dimi from Warragul. W20_4125



David Sempel on his Harley Davidson bike at Biketoberfest 2025. W16_4125



Ken Smirk and Kate Danby sat amongst it in Bair Street as Biketoberfest rolled on. W17_4125



22 Platoon veterans raising awareness for mental health challenges faced by veterans. W18_4125

Sentinel-Times

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Charlotte Willis uses shades of blue. A03_3925

Art fun at Leongatha Library

TEENAGERS unleashed their creativity at Leongatha Library on Tuesday evening over the school holidays, enjoying a free Paint and Pizza session as part of Youth Fest 2025.

While guidance was available, participants had the freedom to paint whatever they liked, using supplied canvases, acrylic paints and acrylic paint pens.

Mionne Botha spoke about her coral reef design while it was still a work in progress.

“I’m just going with it,” she said of her approach when asked if she had already decided what else to add and how many more colours to incorporate.

She seemed pleased to have given the Paint and Pizza session a try.

Charlotte Willis was making good progress on her artwork, using shades of blue during the Sentinel-Times visit, and said the idea of painting with friends appealed.

Harry Creed and Olivia Evans each started out with a background colour, pink for Harry and blue for Olivia, with Olivia suggesting she would add flowers to her painting.

All the art materials and locally bought pizza were covered by Youth Fest funding, as were other Youth Fest activities in South Gippsland and Bass Coast Shires and elsewhere.

A sample painting and stencils were provided for those wanting inspiration, the social evening event being for those aged 12 to 18.

Youngsters weave their magic



Katelyn and her sister Charlotte enjoy their session with the Coal Creek Spinners.



Michaela with her finished weaving.



Bess with her completed weaving.

IT’S uncertain who had more fun during a recent Coal Creek Spinners’ school holiday workshop, kids quickly taking to the art of weaving, inspired by the expert and friendly guidance of the Spinners.

The booked-out, free event, open to children aged between five and 12, was sponsored by South Gippsland Shire Council.

All materials were supplied, with participants given a cardboard loom to take home.

During the session, they had a wide selection of yarn colours, being encouraged to take some yarn with them.

Along with 12 children and six members of the Coal Creek Spinners, some parents stayed and joined in.

President of the Coal Creek Spinners, Jo McLeay, said kids were pleased with what they produced using their newly acquired skills with a cardboard loom, the resultant book-marks, coasters and artistic weaving showing off their creativity.

She explained the process is not that difficult, and those running the session helped with some of the finer touches to achieve a neat finish.

Participants were proud to pose for photos with their work and remarked on how much they enjoyed the lesson.

The session proved so popular that there are plans for another in January.

Jo spoke of the joy the Spinners experienced in sharing their skills.

“We were absorbed the whole time with the kids’ enthusiasm, and it was fun to see what people could do and how they all used the same materials to make things that were unique to themselves,” she said.

Real Estate

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

AUCTION

Friday, October 31 at 12 noon onsite



103.21 ACRES
268 Leongatha South – Outtrim Road, Leongatha South

This is an outstanding and highly productive parcel of land in tightly held location close to Leongatha and Inverloch.

Prime Leongatha South, heavy carrying country.

Machinery and hay shed, water bore, dams, cattle yards & loading race and power to shed.

TERMS 10% DEPOSIT, BALANCE 30/45 DAYS



Andrew Newton 0402 940 320 **5662 0922**

Elders

Real Estate

UPCOMING AUCTION

470 CLEAR CREEK ROAD, MIRBOO



‘MIRBOO GRAZING’ – 95 ACRES

- 95 acres of undulating land offering a blend of productivity and lifestyle appeal
- Water security with two dams, including a reliable spring-fed dam
- Comfortable weekend bungalow ideal for getaways or temporary accommodation
- Practical improvements including steel stock yards and sundry shedding
- Well sheltered and attractively treed, providing shade and shelter for livestock

Inspection by private appointment only
AUCTION Saturday 25th October at 2pm
Location: Mirboo Recreation Reserve
19 Clear Creek Road, Mirboo
Terms: 10% on signing contract and balance in 30/60 days
Web ID: 300P134630
Address: 470 Clear Creek Road, Mirboo
Contact: Ben Townsend on 0400 594 487

Idyllic country living on 28 acres

SET amidst rolling hills with sweeping countryside views, this stunning 28-acre lifestyle property offers the perfect blend of modern comfort and rural charm.

Built by a respected local builder, the home showcases quality craftsmanship throughout.

Features include:

- Stunning open plan living/kitchen/dining area with an additional second living room
- High nine-foot ceilings
- A flexible floor plan with three generous bedrooms (all with built-in robes)
- An additional room as a fourth bedroom or a dedicated office space.
- The master bedroom boasts a recently renovated ensuite, for your own private retreat.
- A central bathroom and separate toilet provide added convenience for family living.
- The heart of the home is a modern kitchen featuring stone benchtops, an electric oven, and sleek cabinetry – perfect for the home cook
- A spacious European laundry

- Ducted vacuum system and electric hot water service
- Free-standing wood heater for cosy winter evenings
- Some double-glazed windows for all year-round comfort
- Undercover and fully enclosed alfresco area, perfect for entertaining
- Double lock-up garage
- Excellent 14.4m x 7.36m lock-up shed with concrete, power and an additional studio/workroom
- Vegetable garden
- A 44,000 litre water tank
- A large dam, shelter belts, and gently undulating land
- 4.5 KW Solar system
- Electric fencing is already in place for livestock
- A well-thought-out garden design that complements the natural surroundings and enhances the property's overall appeal

Whether you're looking to live off the land or simply unwind in peaceful surroundings, this property ticks all the boxes. Call Barry Redmond on 0477 622 292 to arrange an inspection today.



4

2

8

28 Acres*

975 Falls Road, **Fish Creek**
For Sale \$1,285,000 - \$1,385,000
Agent Nutrien Harcourts
Barry Redmond 0477 622 292
barry.redmond@nh.com.au
* Approximately



Leongatha

We make it possible

47 Bair Street (03) 5662 2292

nutrien.harcourts.net/au/office/leongatha



LEONGATHA

1

Modern and Charming!

- Renovated cottage-style home on approx. 644m².
- Spacious kitchen, wood fire & open plan living.
- Backyard entertaining area, shedding, rear lane access.

\$639,000



LEONGATHA

2

What a View!

- Quality built family home on a huge 1,007m² block.
- Modern design, spacious living, double lock up garage.
- Gorgeous north facing rural views, quiet court.

\$765,000



MARDAN

2

Lovely Lifestyle Property!

- Lovely renovated home on approx. 41 acres.
- Well appointed kitchen, good sized living areas.
- 5 main paddocks, shelter belts, good shedding.

\$1,280,000



Barry Redmond
Director / Estate Agent
0477 622 292



PORT FRANKLIN

5

Impeccably Presented!

- Immaculate 3 bed, 2 bath home on large 1,997m² block.
- Huge shed with rumpus, kitchenette, and alfresco area.
- Ideal for lifestyle or home business (STCA).

\$995,000



MOUNT ECCLES

1

Premium Dairy Farm

- Solid B/V home & 208 Acres of prime dairy farmland.
- Farming amenities including undercover stockyards.
- 42 fully fenced paddocks.

\$2,600,000



MIDDLE TARWIN

1

Approx. 133.6 acres

Outstanding Turnout Block on the Tarwin River

- 133.6 acres of flat, well-maintained farmland.
- Central dam, quality fencing, and heavy-duty stockyards.
- Ideal turnout block for cattle grazing or livestock.

\$11,500 Per Acre



Kellie Thomas
Licensed Estate Agent
0438 647 449



NERRENA

2

Lifestyle Dream on 1.6 Acres

- Renovated home on approx. 1.6 acres with rural views.
- Light-filled open-plan living and modern kitchen.
- Shedding, wood heating, RC, and just 10 mins to town.

\$795,000



MEENIYAN

10

Designer Living on 7 Acres

- Immaculate home on 7 acres with stunning rural views.
- Designer kitchen, multiple living areas, study, and pool.
- Expansive shedding, animal shelters, town & tank water.

\$1,675,000



DUMBALK

2

Peace & Tranquillity

- Spacious home on 1,185m² with stunning rural views.
- Flexible dual living or Guest/Air BnB.
- Double lock up garage with extra storage space.

\$660,000



Monique Wightman
Marketing & Administration
(03) 5662 2292



Skye Clothier
Sales Associate
(03) 5662 2292

CROSSWORD

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Chippy's work vehicle, backed into factory (8)
- 5 Counter-balance, at 2/1/46, against the States (6)
- 10 Dance into car, in a conga (7)
- 11 Completely, and pathetically, grey reaction (7)
- 12 Photos catch a time-out reshaping children's game (9)
- 13 A stroller, airing for pong (5)
- 14 Making good 17-across-and-oranges salad, avoiding 'gas' (9)
- 17 Corn kernels, in vegan terms: juicy, tasty protein (5)
- 18 Through and through, banks *are* Capital (5)
- 19 Super branch arms smuggler (9)
- 20 Mature Prine composition (5)
- 22 Trainee specialist about, meaning central nurse area dropping steady focus (9)
- 25 Threatening kingdom in ousting line (7)
- 26 Breakdance: unsubtle! (7)
- 27 Regard, with ease, the term 'now and then' (6)
- 28 A vessel, *Esso Royal*, operative during insurance claims (8)

DOWN

- 1 Heartily welcome in 'Bear and Hound' (5)
- 2 Plod's beat after tails on a pollie (5)
- 3 Privates covering for clumsy Colonel's hit nose (9)
- 4 Narrow escape, surprisingly without an effort: heartening (4,5)
- 6 Not even *Beagle's* oak was a *light* hardwood (5)
- 7 Wear thrown-out Iron Cross (finally gained one!) (9)

1		2		3		4			5	6		7		8
								9						
10								11						
12										13				
14		15						16		17				
18								19						
20				21		22						23		24
25								26						
27								28						

- 8 Reset messy trap for, say, Fleming's 'M' (9)
- 9 Bit 22-down, right? Not down instead? (4)
- 14 Prep use. Or, alternatively, find *new* use (9)
- 15 Subject to be avoided in hearing viewed on appeal (4,5)
- 16 Aussie birds in party circles (4-5)
- 17 Lowlifes pinch start-up funds (9)
- 21 Forest animal's head slipping snare (5)
- 22 Fiery response to 11-across? (4)
- 23 Peoples tears (5)
- 24 Jockey's condition (5)

STRAIGHT CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Chippy, fractious (8)
- 5 Numerical counter (6)
- 10 Type of dance (7)
- 11 Reaction to irritant (7)
- 12 A children's game (9)
- 13 Scent, pong (5)
- 14 Making good or 'new' again (9)
- 17 Corn for milling (5)
- 18 A capital city (in Australia) (5)
- 19 Arms smuggler (9)
- 20 Mature, blossom (5)
- 22 Trainee specialist doctor (9)
- 25 Threatening (7)
- 26 Subtle (7)
- 27 Regard, value (6)
- 28 Insurance claims operative (8)

DOWN

- 1 Hound, pup (5)
- 2 Plod, roam (5)
- 3 A minimal covering for 'privates' area (9)
- 4 Narrow escape (4,5)
- 6 A light hardwood (5)
- 7 Wear, rust (9)
- 8 Ian Fleming's 'M', for example (9)
- 9 Bit (also, go quickly) (4)
- 14 Find or make new use (for) (9)
- 15 A subject to avoid (for someone) (4,5)
- 16 Australian parrots (4-5)
- 17 Start-up funds (9)
- 21 Loop, snare (5)
- 22 Fiery response to 11-across (also, impulsive) (4)
- 23 Peoples; also, tears, goes fast (5)
- 24 Jockey; also, a contractual condition (5)

SOLUTION

O	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	W	E	R	S	T	S	
E	E	K	G	H	S	N	S							
C	N	U	N	U	N	S	N	O	N	I	W	O		
I	A	V	A	V	O									
R	E	G	I	S	T	R	A							
U														
R	E	N	N	E	R	G	H	A	T					
P	E	R	O	N	I	N	G							
S														
S														
W	M	O	R	S	C	O	C							
A	M	O	R	S	C	O	C							
P	E	T	R	A	N	T								

CODEWORD

No. 292

Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?

	17		7		16		5		9		12			
11	8	19	6	2	8		7	5	7	25	T	8	11	
	23		25	T		7		5		8		16		
20	6	11	14			15	25	T	8	7	11	21	8	12
			5			25	T		15		21		12	
7	16	16	21	2	8	11		5	7	26	G	8	19	
	14		14			11		5		25	T	8		
5	12	7	26	15		23	8	7	12	8	15	25	T	
	17		12		13		11		21					
24	6	8	7	15	21	8	12		10	21	25	T	18	
	19		9		8		14		21		8		11	
10	7	15	1	8	22		10	12	7	4	8		11	
	8		18		15		3		23		11			

1	14	
2	15	
3	16	
4	17	
5	18	
6	19	
7	20	
8	21	
9	22	
10	23	
11	24	
12	25	T
13	26	G

SUDOKU

No. 301

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3 x 3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.

	6	1		4		2		
			1		5			
	4		6		2			9
			2			9		8
	8	6		9		4	1	
5		4			8			
7			4		1		6	
			8		7			
		8		3		7	2	

	5				8	9		6
		9						
7		2			3			1
1	7			9	5			
				8				
				1	6			5
9			5				6	2
							4	
6		8	4					1

SOLUTIONS

EASY

1	2	7	6	3	9	8	5	4
2	7	5	9	4	6	1	3	8
3	6	8	1	5	2	4	9	7
4	3	2	7	6	4	8	1	5
5	9	4	7	1	8	6	2	3
6	5	9	6	3	2	7	4	1
7	8	1	4	2	5	3	6	9
8	6	3	5	9	7	1	8	4
9	4	1	8	2	3	6	5	7

MEDIUM

1	7	9	2	4	8	3	6	5
2	5	8	7	6	4	3	1	9
3	4	7	5	3	1	6	8	2
4	6	3	1	6	4	2	5	7
5	2	6	3	8	9	7	1	4
6	1	7	4	2	9	5	3	8
7	6	2	9	5	3	8	4	1
8	4	8	6	1	2	5	7	3
9	3	5	1	7	4	8	9	2

18 = Y, 19 = L, 20 = J, 21 = I, 22 = W, 23 = N, 24 = A, 25 = Q, 26 = T, 27 = G, 28 = M, 29 = F, 30 = S, 31 = R, 32 = D, 33 = V, 34 = Y, 35 = P, 36 = C, 37 = E, 38 = A, 39 = U, 40 = B, 41 = Z, 42 = S, 43 = K, 44 = X, 45 = H, 46 = I, 47 = M, 48 = T, 49 = N, 50 = G, 51 = O, 52 = L, 53 = P, 54 = R, 55 = E, 56 = S, 57 = I, 58 = A, 59 = G, 60 = Y, 61 = W, 62 = M, 63 = R, 64 = S, 65 = I, 66 = A, 67 = G, 68 = Y, 69 = E, 70 = T, 71 = C, 72 = E, 73 = T, 74 = S, 75 = W, 76 = M, 77 = R, 78 = S, 79 = I, 80 = A, 81 = G, 82 = Y, 83 = E, 84 = T, 85 = C, 86 = E, 87 = T, 88 = S, 89 = W, 90 = M, 91 = R, 92 = S, 93 = I, 94 = A, 95 = G, 96 = Y, 97 = E, 98 = T, 99 = C, 100 = E, 101 = T, 102 = S, 103 = W, 104 = M, 105 = R, 106 = S, 107 = I, 108 = A, 109 = G, 110 = Y, 111 = E, 112 = T, 113 = C, 114 = E, 115 = T, 116 = S, 117 = W, 118 = M, 119 = R, 120 = S, 121 = I, 122 = A, 123 = G, 124 = Y, 125 = E, 126 = T, 127 = C, 128 = E, 129 = T, 130 = S, 131 = W, 132 = M, 133 = R, 134 = S, 135 = I, 136 = A, 137 = G, 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Busy Store Sale sees strong prices as charity takes spotlight

THURSDAY'S Leongatha Store Sale was high on quality with the heifer section performing strongest.

Approximately 3800 cattle were available, SEJ's Jimmy Kyle describing it as "an exceptional yarding from start to finish".

That was attributable to annual consignments of large runs of cattle, particularly from East Gippsland, Jimmy pointing out there weren't many "bits and pieces" across the yarding, with mostly whole pens of high-quality cattle being sold, keeping the auction flowing.

He suggested the market overall may have eased a touch compared to recent weeks.

"Seasonal conditions, not so much in South Gippsland, but elsewhere in Victoria and NSW probably play a part on every market throughout every state," Jimmy said.

While it was mostly the usual buyers, there were a couple of new ones from Western Victoria.

Commission buyers Campbell Ross and Anthony Hullick were again busy.

SEJ attracted strong prices for various heifer breeds.

A pen of 13 Angus heifers from Woodside's M. Belcher went for \$4.84 a kilo, weighing an average of 326 kilos and selling for \$1580 each.

Twelve Angus heifers from C. Stafford in Nayook made \$4.63 per kilo, weighing an average of 360 kilos and attracting \$1670 a head.

Angus heifers from Argent & Walker in Glen Forbes also performed strongly, making up to \$4.60 a kilo, that being



Jimmy Kyle sells for SEJ on Thursday. A02_4125

for cattle weighing an average of 395 kilos.

Seven Charolais heifers from J & J Malberg, also in Glen Forbes, sold for \$1410 per head, weighing an average of 303 kilos, equating to \$4.65 per kilo.

Eight Red Angus heifers from Strzelecki Red in Yinnar South made \$4.54 per kilo, weighing an average of 385 kilos and selling for \$1750 each, while 18 Hereford heifers from L & S Marriott in Tarwin Lower went for \$1380 each, with a weight average of 310 kilos, making \$4.45 per kilo.

Like Jimmy of SEJ, Meat & Livestock Australia Market

Reporter Brendan Fletcher noted the improved overall quality at Thursday's Store Sale, reporting "more straight-bred cattle and fewer dairy cattle and their crosses".

"Results were very mixed with heavy Angus steers selling firm, while crossbred and coloured cattle with weight eased around \$100 a head; weaner steers eased around \$100 a head for most categories," Brendan said.

He also shared Jimmy's views on the performance of heifers.

"Heifers sold firm in some places and up to \$100 a head dearer, with most categories

in the black," Brendan said.

While there was plenty of Store Sale action, that wasn't the key event at Leongatha VLE on Thursday.

"The highlight for us was the charity auction we had for young Jenson Park, to see the community rally together and raise up to \$30,000 for a 10-month-old boy who's got a rare brain cancer," Jimmy remarked, SEJ having teamed up with Nutrien to conduct the auction.

Former Geelong footballer and now Nutrien livestock agent Tom Hawkins was there lending his support to the cause.

Keep soil in place when your paddocks are bare

by Kerri Goschnick, Land Management Extension Officer

MAINTENANCE is the key to reducing soil and sediment movement in paddocks.

While spring rain is valuable for pastures and replenishing farm dams, run off may also carry sediment into livestock dams, particularly where there is exposed soil in heavily grazed paddocks.

Hay bales or netting held together with steel posts or stakes to control sediment flow into dams can be a good starting point. Although the cost of hay and the hazard of steel posts should be considered. Coir logs are a potential alternative to hay bales.

Fibreglass posts and construction site hazard fencing (barrier mesh) are another, often safer option.

Using 20 metres of barrier mesh and four fibreglass posts upstream of a dam is both highly visible and relatively low cost, at around \$85 per site.

Aim for mesh openings that are no smaller than 100mm square.

Smaller openings will block up with debris too quickly and the fence will fail.

It is also important to remove stakes or mesh once the risk of sedimentation has reduced to avoid debris buildup.

Building earthen banks to protect areas from sedimentation usually requires survey design, knowledge of soil type and risks, suitable equipment, and expertise to successfully construct. A good understanding of catchment size and potential water volumes is necessary to avoid failure.

Road and track maintenance is also important.

Annual maintenance with a slight camber in the road surface to shed water to the side with the shortest distance possible will help to prevent wheel tracks from developing into drains and washing out the track surface. Culverts and side drains should also be cleaned annually to prevent blockages and water from being redirected to less suitable discharge areas.

Visit the Agriculture Victoria website for articles on soil retention and sediment movement on agricultural land following drought, fire, strong winds and rainfall events.

Grants of up to \$5000 are available for farmers to support investment in on-farm drought management activities and be better prepared for future droughts.

Eligible activities include water infrastructure upgrades such as pipes, tanks, troughs and dams, stock containment areas, gain and fodder storage, water carting, and pasture re-establishment.

Visit ruralfinance.com.au/grants/ to apply. Find more information about available drought support at agriculture.vic.gov.au/drought or call 136 186.



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Livestock Sales

KORUMBURRA		FOSTER	
David Ryan	0408 311 895	Dick Faulkner	0408 595 174
LEONGATHA		WONTHAGGI	
Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager	0408 176 063	Brian Vuillermin	0429 436 040
Jack Curtis	0427 762 670	Rob Ould - Livestock Manager	0408 595 183
WARRAGUL		David Holden	0428 749 390
Neil Darby - Livestock Manager	0418 595 265	Alan Bolding	0419 723 255
Terry Ahearn	0438 562 816	PAKENHAM	
Jordan Sim	0448 058 435	David Setches - Livestock Manager	0409 443 473
Mark Malacarne	0418 654 590	Glenn Barwick	0408 975 476
Georgie Snell	0417 100 657	Morgan Croucher	0457 001 877
		Tim Gibson	0420 306 599
		Imogen Price	0417 225 498

Real Estate Sales

KORUMBURRA		LEONGATHA		MELBOURNE LAND	
Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Andrew Newton	0402 940 320	Matt Koster	0474 781 711
WONTHAGGI		Peter Dwyer	0428 855 244	COWES	
Phillip Hanley	0417 140 508	Emily Hillberg	0422 622 299	Greg Price	0419 337 441
Cal Nation	0439 334 163	Tony Giles	0407 528 192	Brian Silver	0407 347 509
Mick Chambers	0418 349 783	Dan Huther	0418 334 801	Chase Watters	0423 272 819
GRANTVILLE		WARRAGUL		VENUS BAY	
Angus Hall	0466 326 487	Alan Steenholdt	0409 423 822	Daniel Lawrie	0417 631 252
INVERLOCH		PAKENHAM		Sue Lawrie	0419 885 489
Marni Lee Redmond	0403 525 413	Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	KOO WEE RUP	
BERWICK		LANG LANG		Tom Gibson	0438 574 472
Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Angus Hall	0466 326 487

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8-20 weeks pregnant 320kg-400kg
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Friesian x Jersey heifers
Unjoined 200kg
\$880 including GST

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160 TO 199	\$6.90
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MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

CLAAS Harvest Centre

Prices ease again for stores
By SGSAA

AGENTS yarded an excellent offering of 3800 head at this week's VLE Leongatha store sale with some outstanding annual drafts on show.

There was a good field of local agencies and graziers in attendance along with the regular feedlot and commission buyers, apart from Charlton feedlot.

Prices again eased another 10-20 cents for most categories following on from other sales around the state late last week which all showed a softer trend.

The exception of the day was some quality lines of Angus grown and weaner heifers which were firm.

The obvious highlight of the day was the charity auction for the Park family for little 10-month-old Jenson with the donated cattle and various auction items and cash donations raising an incredible \$32,000 for the cause on the day. Well done to all of the donors, bidders and buyers, absolutely amazing.

Leongatha Store Sale On Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025

Steers			
B & J Trail 13 Angus	553kg	\$4.95	\$2740
Condoluci Produce 16 Angus	529kg	\$5.06	\$2680
K & A Trewin 13 Angus	521kg	\$5.02	\$2620
Barlee 10 Angus	511kg	\$4.99	\$2550
B Garrett 15 Angus	508kg	\$5.09	\$2590
Castello Farms 15 Angus	507kg	\$5.20	\$2640
B Stewart 13 Angus	507kg	\$5.04	\$2560
O'Hara 10 Angus X	498kg	\$4.81	\$2400
Richardson Farm 14 Angus	495kg	\$4.94	\$2450
Hopfields 10 Shorthorn	493kg	\$4.74	\$2340
D Seabrook 15 Hereford	491kg	\$4.65	\$2290
N Stavrou 16 Angus	489kg	\$5.22	\$2560
Melaleuca Past 15 Angus	489kg	\$5.03	\$2460
G & M Tucket 10 Sp	483kg	\$4.30	\$2080
A Conisbee & Co 25 Angus	479kg	\$5.21	\$2500
G & G Martin 13 Angus	466kg	\$5.12	\$2390
P, C & J Green 21 Angus	463kg	\$4.30	\$1995
Homebush 14 Angus	461kg	\$5.08	\$2350
J & K Macaulay 20 Hereford	446kg	\$4.64	\$2070
Layton 17 Angus	445kg	\$4.87	\$2170
Liley 18 Angus	442kg	\$5.09	\$2250
Hopfields 21 Angus	441kg	\$5.11	\$2260
Bloomer 18 Angus	434kg	\$5.00	\$2170
A & R Bowman 13 Angus	433kg	\$4.84	\$2100
Bona Vista 21 Angus	432kg	\$5.17	\$2250
B & S Bates 16 Angus	431kg	\$5.12	\$2210
Mardan Lodge 17 Angus	426kg	\$5.04	\$2150
A Cannizzo 13 Angus	419kg	\$4.64	\$1950
M & M Riley 16 Angus	416kg	\$4.55	\$1900
Stafford 13 Angus	412kg	\$4.92	\$2030
Marajon Past 14 Angus	400kg	\$4.77	\$1910
Belcher 17 Angus	399kg	\$5.03	\$2010
Maxray 14 Angus	391kg	\$4.34	\$1700
C Wight 12 Angus	382kg	\$4.73	\$1810
Elm Valley 20 Angus	380kg	\$5.35	\$2040
G & G Thompson 18 Angus	377kg	\$5.16	\$1950
B O'Brien 19 Hereford	371kg	\$4.82	\$1790
Henderson Farms 14 Angus	365kg	\$5.14	\$1880
M & N Castello 28 Angus	362kg	\$5.51	\$2000
Malabar 13 Angus	356kg	\$4.83	\$1720
BFB Developments 16 Angus	347kg	\$4.77	\$1660
Harris 14 Angus	330kg	\$5.60	\$1850
Maxray 22 Angus	321kg	\$4.20	\$1350
Campbell 11 Angus	320kg	\$5.21	\$1670
R Haustorfer 15 Angus	311kg	\$5.57	\$1670
Blair Athol Livestock 19 Angus	304kg	\$5.42	\$1650
Jaroka 12 Euro X	297kg	\$5.21	\$1550
C Hole 12 Angus	282kg	\$5.27	\$1490
Snowy River 18 Angus	277kg	\$5.52	\$1530
G & P Giardina 15 Angus	270kg	\$5.43	\$1470
Von Pace 19 Angus	269kg	\$5.57	\$1500

Heifers			
Summers Farms 21 Angus	501kg	\$4.55	\$2280
R & J Davies 17 Angus	493kg	\$4.59	\$2270
D Jelbart 16 Angus	449kg	\$4.46	\$2010
BFN Developments 20 Angus	448kg	\$4.37	\$1960
Argent & Walker 12 Angus	442kg	\$4.52	\$2000
Bona Vista 19 Angus	417kg	\$4.67	\$1950
Castello Farms 10 Angus	412kg	\$4.58	\$1890
A & R Bowman 22 Angus	397kg	\$4.72	\$1880
A Conisbee & Co 20 Angus	389kg	\$4.79	\$1820
Conisbee & Co 20 Angus	366kg	\$4.77	\$1750
Merlewood Angus 13 Angus	363kg	\$4.73	\$1720
Stafford 12 Angus	361kg	\$4.63	\$1670
A Conisbee 20 Angus	350kg	\$4.79	\$1680
Aw & Cm O'mara 9 Angus	347kg	\$4.45	\$1550
G & B Morrison 20 Angus	333kg	\$4.64	\$1550
L Missen 12 Angus	328kg	\$4.74	\$1560
G & G Thompson 14 Angus	368kg	\$4.23	\$1560
Latrobe Park 22 Angus	359kg	\$4.75	\$1710
Lucas Farm 10 Angus	335kg	\$4.41	\$1480
Lazar 11 Angus	329kg	\$4.65	\$1530
Belcher 13 Angus	327kg	\$4.83	\$1580
Sj Conway 19 Angus	324kg	\$4.31	\$1400
M & N Castello 22 Angus	322kg	\$4.39	\$1420
Marriott 18 Hereford	310kg	\$4.45	\$1380
Jaroka 12 Angus	305kg	\$4.42	\$1350
Von Pace 26 Angus	287kg	\$4.55	\$1310

Spectacular auction raises vital support for local family



Berrys Creek locals and avid Geelong supporters Reg and Rose Richter came for a visit and to show their support, they were joined by former star Cats forward and now Nutrien stock agent Tom Hawkins.



Inverloch farmer and Geelong supporter Louise Brooks is happy to catch up with Tom Hawkins at Thursday's charity auction at the Leongatha saleyards.

SEJ Livestock & Real Estate and Nutrien Livestock banded together at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale, running a charity auction to raise funds for 10-month-old Jenson Park, who has been diagnosed with a rare brain cancer.

Jenson is the grandson of SEJ's Neil and Veronica Park and nephew to Ethan.

Jenson's parents, Lachy and Courtney Park, also have a three-year-old son, Jarrah.

During this difficult and challenging time, they have been lifted by the generosity, love and prayers of their family, friends and community.

\$30,000 was raised during the auction through the sale of kindly donated cattle, gift cards and services.

There was also a Geelong jumper signed by former Cat and now Nutrien stock agent Tom Hawkins, who was present on the day to show his support.

Funds will support the family so they can be by their son's side during treatment.

A warm welcome awaits at the Arawata Farmers Breakfast

LOCAL farmers and produce will be celebrated at Arawata Community Hall during the annual Arawata Farmers Breakfast on Saturday, October 18, with everyone welcome to attend regardless of whether they are farmers.

A scrumptious \$15 cooked breakfast featuring eggs, bacon, sausages and more, kicks off at 9am.

There'll be a local produce stall offering preserves, jams, chutneys, sauces, cut flowers, cupcakes and knitted items.

Breakfast and produce will be available until sold out.

There's a 9.30am auction of donated goods and vouchers.

EFTPOS payment is available.

The breakfast is a long-established tradition, this being the 42nd, and is the major fundraiser for the Arawata Community Hall Association, contributing to the hall's maintenance and upkeep.

Last year's event was a great success, prompting an even

more ambitious outlook this time.

"We had 95 people; it was our biggest ever, so we're looking to make it bigger this year," Arawata Community Hall Association president Craig Jackson said.

He explained that the annual event has remained true to its roots, with the original Arawata Farmers Breakfast having been organised by the hall committee of the day to bring people together and recognise the farming community, while also raising funds for the hall.

It is the hub of the Arawata community, hosting monthly dinners and some themed ones, trivia nights and a cricket match at the nearby school grounds.

"It brings out the best in the community," Craig said, encouraging people to experience that and help surpass last year's record turnout.

Arawata Hall is at 401 Fairbank Road.



Members of the Arawata Community Hall Association will again be showing their hospitality at this year's Arawata Farmers Breakfast.



Aussie Bird Count set to take flight this Spring

SPRING has arrived and so has Australia's favourite citizen science event.

A national celebration of the diverse birdlife - from magpies and fairy-wrens, curlews and honeyeaters - the 2025 Aussie Bird Count is taking flight for its 12th year, with registrations now open.

From October 20 to 26, BirdLife Australia is inviting people of all ages to take just 20 minutes out of their day to spot, identify and count the birds around them.

Last year, more than 57,000 participants submitted nearly

130,000 checklists and logged more than 4.1 million birds across the country using the free Aussie Bird Count app.

Bold, adaptable species, the Rainbow Lorikeet, Noisy Miner and Australian Magpie again topped the charts.

Will they swoop in for the top three once more in 2025?

You can go out and count as many times as you like during Bird Week, as long as each count lasts 20 minutes and is submitted separately.

With more than a decade of data, the Aussie Bird Count results can provide BirdLife

Australia with insights into trends in urban bird populations, contributing to a dataset that helps to guide future awareness campaigns, conservation priorities and community education.

Download the free Aussie Bird Count app or visit aussiebirdcount.org.au to register.

LEFT: The Rainbow Lorikeet was one of the top three most frequently sighted birds in the Aussie Bird Count last year. Photo: Andrew Silcocks.



Jordan Crugnale MP with BCLN Board members Simon Richardson, Paul Speirs, Dave Bateman EGM BCLN, Peter Nuttman, John Carney, Dani Carr BCLN Nursery assistant and Stevie Wynen BCLN Manager.

Melbourne Water grants enhance Landcare projects

MELBOURNE Water is proud to deliver over half a million dollars to support Landcare groups and networks restoring, enhancing and protecting our local environment.

In the 2025 funding round, 32 organisations will receive Landcare Grants of up to \$20,000 to improve biodiversity, restore habitats and promote community development, partnership and educational opportunities with grants totalling over \$145,000 awarded to environmental conservation groups across the Bass electorate. A further 83 groups will each receive a \$500 support grant to cover administration and running costs.

“At Melbourne Water, safeguarding our water, land and biodiversity is at the heart of who we are,” said Melbourne Water regional Landcare coordinator, Barry Kennedy.

“Protecting and revitalising our waterways, wetlands, parks and ranges is critical as they face increasing pressures from climate change and population growth.

“That’s why we’re proud to administer these grants on behalf of the Victorian Government to Landcare groups doing such vital work on the ground. From partnering on projects to providing support via grants and training, together we’re ensuring the health of the environment now and for generations to come.”

In 2025, \$514,750 has been allocated to groups across the Melbourne Water region to empower grassroots action and sustain vital environmental projects. Some of the successful organisations picking up the grants include Landcare groups, Landcare networks, registered Aboriginal parties, Friends of groups and committees of management.

This includes the Bass Valley Landcare Group, awarded \$20,000 to partner with landholders to fence and revegetate gullies and waterways with indigenous plants. Working with the Bass Valley Primary School and local volunteers, they will host planting days to create habitat for threatened species, including the swamp antechinus, southern toadlet and southern brown bandicoot.

Phillip Island Landcare Group was awarded \$20,000 for the seascape to landscape links and new directions, which will see them collaborate with landholders and the Bunurong Land Council to plant 3000 indigenous plants in endangered Swamp Scrub, install wallaby-proof fencing, and host a community planning session to guide future landscape restoration.

Bass Coast Landcare Group were awarded \$20,000 towards community learning – seed, collecting, sowing, growing and planting at Bass River Garden and Arboretum.

South Gippsland Landcare Network (SGLN) were successful in receiving \$20,000 for plants, bikes and bugs –

bringing Landcare to the people project. Kirby Leary of SGLN said plants, bikes and bugs are one of eight Victorian Landcare Grants received by groups within South Gippsland Landcare Network (SGLN) and the network itself.

“It aims to engage a diverse range of community members to interact and learn about the natural environment,” said Kirby.

“In addition, through this funding, SGLN will partner with BugBlitz and local primary schools to deliver events that will delight and inspire future Land carers through hands-on, field-based environmental education. This funding will also contribute to further planting and improvements to biodiversity on the Great South Rail Trail for the entire community to enjoy.”

Gippsland Threatened Species Action Group will enhance habitat for threatened species, including the Growling Grass Frog and Lace Monitor, by constructing and revegetating new wetlands and undertaking infill planting to strengthen existing woodland habitat.

South Gippsland Conservation Society, in partnership with Bunurong Land Council and BCLN, will create and restore 5.8 hectares of habitat to support Lace Goannas and Blue-winged Parrots, with strong community involvement through planting days.

Anderson Inlet Landcare Group will establish wildlife corridors and biolinks by planting 4500 native plants, erecting stock-proof fencing, and undertaking weed control across three key sites with their grant of \$20,000; while 3 Creeks Landcare Group will protect and restore four waterways by installing fencing and revegetating four hectares with 8700 indigenous plants, improving soil stability, water quality, and habitat for local wildlife.

“These grants recognise the incredible work of our local Landcare groups, who are restoring habitats and waterways through revegetation, habitat creation, weed control, and fencing,” Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale said.

“They’re also engaging and educating the community, building the skills we need to strengthen both our environment and the community connections that care for it.”

The Western Port Biosphere Reserve, Loch-Nyora Landcare Group, Poowong-Triholm Landcare Group, French Island Landcare Group Inc. and Powlett Project Landcare Group were all successful in receiving \$500 for administrative works.

Melbourne Water administers the Port Phillip and Westernport region program of Landcare Grants, funded by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) and delivered through Victoria’s ten catchment management authorities.

Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, October 6, 2025

Jersey & Jersey x	\$10 to \$35
Friesian Bulls	\$25 to \$90
Beef Bulls	\$38 to \$230
Beef Heifers	\$30 to \$190
Friesian Heifers	\$40 to \$80
Number of Calves:	311
Number purchased to rear:	132

Steer & Heifer Store Sale

Steers	\$160 to \$1110
Heifers	\$285 to \$760
Number:	151

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025 - Starting at 9am

PLEASE NOTE: 4PM WEDNESDAY CURFEW APPLIES

GROWN STEERS

A/c L & D Peters (ELDERS)
100 Hereford steers, 2 yo, East Gippsland bred

A/c IC & RA Ripper (ALEX SCOTT)
21 Angus steers
10 Angus/Hereford steers
6 Hereford steers
5 Charolais steers
18-20 mths, NE Accred, VB, GF & ABF

A/c Kyle Custom Building, Bena (ELDERS)
20 BB steers, 2 yo, East Gippsland Bred

A/c Meringo Pastoral, Omeo (ELDERS)
30 Angus steers 2 yo, EU Accred, NE Accred, GF, Connamarra blood

A/c J. Carney, Grantville (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus steers, 18 mths, GF & ABF

A/c B Carr, West Creek (ELDERS)
16 Angus steers, 2 yo, GF & ABF

A/c G King, Glengarry (ELDERS)
15 Angus steers, 18-20 mths, Leawood Angus blood

A/c “Everton Hill”, Ventnor (ALEX SCOTT)
12 Hereford steers, 18 mths, Newcomen & Ponderosa blood, Multimin & drenched, very quiet

A/c K.D Stothers, Stratford (ELDERS)
10 Angus steers, 18-24 mths, East Gippsland Bred

A/c B&T Dowling, Mirboo (ELDERS)
10 MG X steers, 2 yo, Woodburn blood, VB, GF & ABF

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c D & S Hourigan, Glengarry (ELDERS)
40 Angus heifers, 14-16 mths, Landfall Angus blood

A/c Fat Cow Farm, Ellaswood (ALEX SCOTT)
35 Pure Shorthorn heifers, April/May 2024 drop, by Eloora Shorthorn bulls selected for high growth, high fat and marbling, drenched Cydectin Platinum and Nitrofluke injectable.

A/c David Young (ELDERS)
30 Hereford heifers, 18 mths, NE Accred, Vetmec, 5in1, Wirruna blood

A/c Northside Pastoral, Inverloch (ALEX SCOTT)
25 Angus heifers 16 mths, By Bowman Bulls, VB, NE Accred, M, GF & ABF

A/c Pukinua Pty Ltd, Mirboo North (ELDERS)
10 Angus heifers, TeMania blood, 16 mths, VB, GF & ABF

A/c B&T Dowling, Mirboo (ELDERS)
10 MG X heifers, 2 yo, Woodburn blood, VB, GF & ABF

ANGUS WEANERS

A/c Breeder, “Yarrabubba”, Nar Nar Goon North (ALEX SCOTT)
80 Angus steers and heifers, 9-12 mths, By “Rosedale” and “Banquet” blood bulls, 5 in 1 inj.

A/c Meringo Pastoral, Omeo (ELDERS)
70 Angus steers, 12 mths, EU Accred, NE Accred, GF, Connamarra blood

A/c G & J Tuckett, Woodside (ELDERS)
50 Angus heifers
15 Angus steers
12 mths, Landfall blood, VB, NE Accred, GF & ABF

A/c Groves Estate, Jam Jerrup (ELDERS)
40 Angus mix sex weaners, 12 mths
20 Angus mix sex weaners, 6-7 mths
Banquet blood, VB, GF & ABF

A/c E & M White, Kilmany (ELDERS)
40 Angus steers, 12-14 mths, Pinora blood

A/c B & R Cashin, Stony Creek (ELDERS)
40 Angus mixed sex weaners, 12 mths, Battersby blood, weaned, VB, GF & ABF

A/c J Cavill, Hazelwood North (ELDERS)
40 Angus mixed sex weaners, 12 mths Dunoon blood, weaned, VB, GF & ABF, NE Accred

A/c KDPS Pastoral (ALEX SCOTT)
10 Angus steers
12 Angus heifers
all the boxes ticked

A/c Outlook Farm, Kilcunda (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus steers, 12-14 mths

A/c Hurley Family Angus, Dargo (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus steers, 10-12 mths, by stud Millah Murrah bulls, weaned on the 30/5/25, drenched Zeromec Gold 3/8/25 & Coopers Easy Dose, 3 x 5in1 and Multimin

A/c Bayview Farm, Woolamai (ALEX SCOTT)
15 Angus steers by Fernleigh bull, 10-12 mths

A/c Richards and Rae, Almurta (ALEX SCOTT)
15 Angus steers, 12 mths, by Coffin Creek Bulls, weaned

A/c Agridge Pty Ltd, Almurta (ALEX SCOTT)
15 Angus heifers, 13-15 mths, by Fernleigh bull

COLOURED WEANERS

A/c Glensheil (ELDERS)
50 Charolais steers, 12 mths, Rosedale blood

A/c P Miller, Almurta (ALEX SCOTT)
40 Charolais mixed sex weaners, 11-13 mths, by Violet Hill stud bulls, weaned, drenched and multimin

A/c J Langley Nominees, Inverloch (ELDERS)
20 Hereford steer weaners, 12 mths, South Kolora blood, VB, GF & ABF, weaned

A/c A Groves, Jam Jerrup (ELDERS)
17 Speck heifers, 12 mths, GF & ABF

XBRED & DAIRY

A/c S & T Robjant, Poowong (ELDERS)
5 AA/FF X steers, 2 yo, super quiet

A/c Dalton & Britt, Middle Tarwin (ELDERS)
12 Speck X steers, 12 mths

COWS & CALVES

A/c Oakbank Pastoral (ALEX SCOTT)
12x12 Angus cows, 5th calvers with June/July CAF & Re-dept to Angus bull Since 1/9 calves sired by Alkira Angus Bull, selling due to breed change

A/c D & E Perczyk, Hallston (ALEX SCOTT)
3 x 3, Charolais heifers and calves, heifers are sired by Rangan “LT Authority”, calves are 4-6 weeks old sired by stud Charolais Bull Rangan “Queenslander”. Calves marked, heifers drenched and B12 inj 23/9. Not Re joined.



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SOUTH GIPPSLAND ASSOCIATED AGENTS

Learn to grow multispecies pastures in South Gippsland



Jade Killoran with year two participants at the workshop and farm walk.

FARMERS in South Gippsland are invited to join South Gippsland Landcare Network's Multispecies Coaching program, with the third year about to start. Expressions of interest are currently being sought for new participants to join the over 50 farmers already involved.

The program includes two workshops (with farm visits) where multispecies specialist Jade Killoran will support farmers to develop a plan to trial multispecies on their farm.

The first will be held on Tuesday, October 28, in Meenyan, and the second in February/March 2026. There will also be three online meetings to compare results and ask further questions.

Participants will become part of a growing community of farmers from rounds one and two and will also be able to compare notes and support

each other via an online chat group.

Jade Killoran is a cover cropping researcher and specialist with 12 years of experience in the Victorian high rainfall zone. She'll cover what, when and why for multispecies forages (including what feed gap to cover), sourcing seed and paddock preparation, and plant role and function. Also, how to identify common multispecies, fertiliser and grazing basics for multispecies crops, tools for monitoring, and how to plan your own multispecies pastures.

Expressions of interest are due by Thursday, October 23. To express interest or for further information contact Cassie, cassie@sgln.net.au or 0448 739 559.

This project is funded by the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority through the Victorian Landcare Grants.

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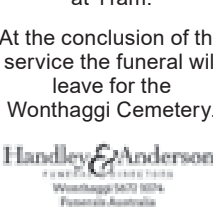


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DEATHS BEARDWOOD, Dawn: 13.06.1938 - 08.10.2025 Passed away peacefully at Wonthaggi. Beloved wife of Ian. Cherished mother of Brian and Robert, mother-in-law of Kate. Loved Nanna of Clara, Sylvie amd Stephen. A Life Well Lived. Forever Loved.	DEATHS DOWEL, Norman Sergius: 20.10.1934 - 12.10.2025. Passed away peacefully at Alchera House. Late of Kongwak. Son of Sergius and Maysie (both dec.) Brother and brother-in-law of Bev and Bill Bowcher (both dec.) Loved uncle of Allan, Marion and Robert and their families. - GONE FISHING - Please see Handley Funerals website for funeral details. 90 years and 357 days young. Loved uncle to Marion and John. Great uncle to Belinda and Tom, Ian and Narelle, Lauren and John and Peter. Great great uncle to Joel and Liam, Jackson and Natalie, Eden and Hugo. A page turned, a chapter completed, a life well lived, a rest well earned. Uncle Norm, always a constant at family gatherings. The room will be emptier without you. We will miss listening to your stories of years gone by. Always remembered. Love Belinda, Tom, Joel and Liam.	DEATHS DOWEL, Norman Sergius: Loved uncle of Robert and Narelle. Great uncle of Emily. Thank you for all your wise words of wisdom over many years. Time may pass and fade away, but memories of you will always stay. Forever in our hearts.	DEATHS  McQUEEN, Robin: 3103899 2 Recovery Unit Army. The President, Committee and members of the Korumburra RSL respectfully acknowledge the passing of our esteemed member Robin and offer condolences to his family.	DEATHS NELSON, Rodney Thomas: Passed away peacefully on Monday, October 6, at the age of 72. Loved brother of Kay. Brother-in-law to Werner. Uncle to Amanda, Donna, Kelly, Nelson and Liam. Great uncle to Addison, Lokky, Luca, Niko and Evelyn. You will be sadly missed. Now resting peacefully with mum and dad.	FUNERALS BEARDWOOD: The Funeral Service for Mrs. Dawn Beardwood will be held at Handley and Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Tuesday October 21, 2025, commencing at 11am. At the conclusion of the service the funeral will leave for the Wonthaggi Cemetery.  BOURKE: The Funeral Service for Alan John Bourke will be held at Handley and Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Friday, October 24, 2025, commencing at 2pm. A Private Cremation will follow.  HILL: A Service to celebrate the life of Mr. Robert James Hill, late of Warragul South and formerly of Poowong, will be held at the Nielsen Funeral Chapel, Korumburra Road, Warragul on Thursday, next week, October 23 at 1.30pm. At the conclusion of the Service the cortege will leave for the Warragul Cemetery, Victoria Street, Warragul.  JANS: The Funeral Service and Committal for Cremation for Mrs. Glenise Jans (nee Delphin) will be held at Handley Funeral Service Chapel, 24 Anderson Street, Leongatha Monday October 20, 2025, commencing at 11:30am. 	FUNERALS NELSON: A Memorial Service for Mr. Rodney Thomas Nelson will be held at the Handley Funeral Service Chapel, 24 Anderson Street, Leongatha Friday, October 17, 2025, commencing at 1pm.  SKILLERN: A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. Robert John Skillern will be held at Leongatha RSL, Cnr Smith St and Michael Pl on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, commencing at 1:30pm. Robert's service will be live streamed, to view the service please visit www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au.  SPEED: The Funeral Service for Mrs. Roberta (Bobbie) Myrle Speed will be held at Handley and Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Monday, October 20, 2025, commencing at 11am. A Private Cremation will follow. Bobbie's service will be live-streamed, go to www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au.  WHEATLEY: The Funeral Service for Mr. Geoffrey Wheatley will be held at The Grantville Hall, 1470 Bass Highway, Grantville on Wednesday October 22, 2025, commencing at 1pm. Following the service, the funeral will leave for the Grantville Cemetery. 	IN MEMORIAM PENDRY, LYNN: 20.02.1956 - 15.10.2024. A special person, a special someone I can't replace. This is a heartache no one can hear, your loving husband, John. RIP. TONELLO, Edith May: 13.10.2024 You are in our thoughts every day. We love and miss you dearly. Loved Mum, Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Love always, Jan, Vince and Family. TONELLO, Edith May: 13.10.2024 One year has passed without you. You are always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts. Missing you greatly Mum. Love always, Lee, Graeme, Rhys, Chelsey, Renee and partners. TONELLO, Edith May: 13.10.2024 A year has gone without you Mum. Though you are no longer with us, our treasured memories will live on in our hearts forever. Love you always, Michelle and Alistair. TONELLO, Edith May: 13.10.2024 One year without you has been so hard. Not a day goes past that we don't think of you and wish you were still here with us. We treasure all the wonderful times and memories we have. We love and miss you so very much Mum (Nana). Forever in our hearts Lisa, Chris and Leila. TONELLO, Edith May: 13.10.2024 It's been a year since we lost you Mum, but your love and memories live on. You are forever in my heart, and nothing is the same without you here. I love you and miss you dearly Mum. Your daughter, Linda May xxx TONELLO, Edith May: 13.10.2024 One year has passed since we lost our beautiful Mum and Nana. You were the heart of our family, and your memory lives on in all of us. Forever loved, forever missed. Mark, Esther, Alannah, Elise and Sophie xxxxx
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Sunday October 19,
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All past and present members and anyone who would like to celebrate with us are welcome.
Midday Austral Hotel Korumburra, purchase own lunch and drinks, partners welcome.
RSVP by October 15.
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Sue 0401 039 824

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Contact,
Steve 0418 303 652

MEETINGS

KORUMBURRA SENIOR CITIZENS
AGM
Thursday,
October 30
10am – 2pm
Scout Hall,
39 Queen Street,
Korumburra.
Voting and membership forms available.
All positions vacant,
\$10 memberships.
For prior forms, text Angie Bowen
0414 783 129 or email angie.3129@hotmail.com
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MEETINGS

JOIN OUR PROGRESSIVE SOCIETY



INVERLOCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.
Date to remember
AGM
Monday,
October 20
at 2.30pm
Inverloch Community Hub Meeting Room 1

SITUATIONS VACANT



Kickstart your career at Leongatha Secondary College

2026 Sport & Recreation Traineeship

For further information contact Georgie Kibble
5667 2200 or gkibble@leonsec.vic.edu.au
Applications close 15th November 2025.



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Volunteer Catering Administration Assistant
Ward Assist Volunteer
For more information call
Annie on 5683 9704
www.southgippslandhospital.com.au/volunteers

SITUATIONS VACANT



Newhaven College is an independent co-educational school on Phillip Island offering quality education for students from Prep to Year 12

Newhaven College is seeking applications to join our collaborative team in the following roles:

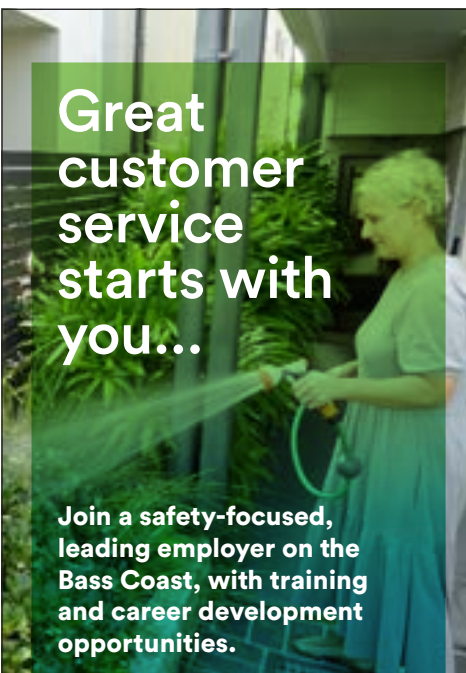
BRASS SPECIALIST WOODWIND SPECIALIST

Part-Time (0.4FTE). Fixed term 2026 with the possibility of ongoing.

These roles will guide the development of Brass and Woodwind in Middle School, and the Instrumental Tuition and Co-Curricular Music Programs. For more information and details on requirements, duties and responsibilities, visit our website or contact Director of Music, Matthew Goss via email: matthew.goss@newhavencol.vic.edu.au

Commencement 23 January 2026 for the academic year. Applications to be submitted to: recruitment@newhavencol.vic.edu.au

Applications close Friday 24 October, 2025 - 12pm



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Coordinate billing, debt recovery, customer support, and alternative payment solutions through the implementation and development of revenue strategies.

Applications close:
2 November 2025

For application details go to
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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

SITUATIONS VACANT

Custom Joinery

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Join us today!

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About the role

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- Read and follow detailed plans with accuracy
- Use a variety of tools and machinery
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About you

- Trade qualified with proven joinery experience
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What we offer

- Full time position (38 hours plus overtime)
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admin@rjcustomjoinery.com.au

Applicants must have full Australian working rights

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HM13040

AF0049

Woorayl Lodge

EXPRESSON OF INTEREST

Board Member

(Volunteer)

About Woorayl Lodge Inc

Woorayl Lodge Inc is a not-for-profit, community-owned aged care organisation located in Leongatha, serving South Gippsland. We provide residential aged care in 41 private rooms (each with ensuite) and support 29 independent living units.

We are governed by volunteer Board Members whose oversight and strategic guidance help ensure we deliver compassionate, high-quality, and sustainable care to our residents and community.

Opportunity

We are seeking expressions of interest from committed and experienced community leaders to join our Board. This is a voluntary governance role (unpaid), but one with meaningful influence and impact.

Who we are looking for

We welcome applicants with professional or lived experience in fields such as accounting, finance, business strategy, corporate governance, banking, risk management, health and aged care, law, or community engagement.

You should bring a genuine commitment to the mission of Woorayl Lodge, the ability to think strategically and ask constructive questions, and the time to contribute to monthly evening Board meetings in Leongatha, plus occasional committee work.

What you will contribute & gain

As a Board Member, you will help set organisational strategy, provide oversight of finance and risk, and champion Woorayl Lodge within the community. In return, you will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of aged care in South Gippsland, broaden your networks, and develop further governance and leadership skills.

How to express your interest

Please submit a short letter or email (1–2 pages) outlining:

- Your background and relevant experience
- Why you want to join the Board of Woorayl Lodge
- How you believe you can contribute to our mission and future direction

Send your expression of interest to

andrew.ross@woorayllodge.com.au and jaimee.brydon@woorayllodge.com.au

by 5:00pm Friday, October 24, 2025.

If you have questions or wish to discuss in confidence, please contact Andrew Ross (Co-CEO Corporate Services) or Jaimee Brydon (Co-CEO Clinical Care) on (03) 5662 2053.

Equal opportunity & community representation

We value diversity and encourage applications from individuals of all backgrounds, communities and experiences.

AF0046

HM13036

SITUATIONS VACANT

Ingenia Holidays

INVERLOCH

WE ARE HIRING!

- Guest Experience Officer
- Housekeeping Attendant
- Water Park Attendant

For more information and to apply please go to

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ROSE LODGE

COMMUNITY AGED CARE

Maintenance Attendant

Rose Lodge is a not-for-profit Aged Care facility located in Wonthaggi that is committed to providing high quality care and support to our residents. We believe that our dedication and compassionate staff are the key to our success.

We are always looking for talented and passionate individuals who are committed to making a positive difference in the lives of others and share our values which are: **Community, Respect, Wellbeing, Accountability and Partnership.**

Rose Lodge is currently seeking a Maintenance Attendant.

About you:

- General Maintenance skills
- Hands-on problem solver who works well independently
- Organised, adaptable & a great communicator
- Committed to safety and quality work

If you are interested or would like a copy of the Position Description.

Please email your resume and application letter to:

education@roselodge.com.au

VICTORIAN LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE

VLE

Livestock Drovers

Victorian Livestock Exchange is a leader in the livestock saleyard industry.

We have casual positions available for drovers to work at our Leongatha saleyard. Shifts are broadly as follows:
Tuesday - Prime Market from 8:15am
Wednesday - Store Market Pre-weigh from 7:45pm (A higher pay rate applies to Wednesday night shifts)
Thursday - Store Market from 9am

Drovers will be responsible for the movement of cattle throughout the saleyard facilities from weighing through to delivery. Cattle handling experience is essential to the role.

Queries about the position can be directed to the Livestock Manager, Tex on 0484 351 847.

Applications, including a cover letter, resume and at least two professional referees should be forwarded to

admin@vle.com.au

AF0048

HM13038

SITUATIONS VACANT

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.

Employment Opportunity

School Crossing Supervisor (Foster)

- Ongoing Part Time
- Monday to Friday, 8.15am to 9.00am and 3.15pm to 4.00pm
- Split shift for this position will be considered
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Enquiries to Sarah Male on 03 5662 9200.

Applications close when a suitable candidate is identified

For more information and to apply, please visit

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/employment

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR A PLANNING PERMIT

Will this planning application affect you?

The land affected by the application is located at:
1 The Crescent, INVERLOCH
The application is for a permit to:

- Remove restrictive covenant 1375247 from 1 The Crescent Inverloch

A permit is required under the following clauses of the planning scheme:
Clause 52.02 Easements, Restrictions and Reserves: Remove a restriction on title.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Application Number: PDPLANPER-2025/000139

Address: **1 The Crescent, INVERLOCH**

Applicant: Please note, in accordance with Planning and Environment Regulations 2015 the name of the applicant is required to be omitted if the applicant is an individual.

For further reference contact:

Nicholas

Phone number: 1300 BCOAST (226 278)

How can I make a submission?

Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions to the responsible authority. If you object, the responsible authority will tell you its decision. This application has not been decided and you can still make a submission before a decision has been made.

An objection must:

- be made to the responsible authority in writing by emailing basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au or posting it to: **Bass Coast Shire Council, P.O. Box 118, Wonthaggi VIC 3995;**
- include the reasons for the objection and;
- state how the objector would be affected.

The responsible authority must make a copy of every objection available for any person to inspect free of charge until the end of the period during which an application may be made for review of a decision on the application.

The responsible authority will not decide on the application before:

Thurs, Oct 30, 2025

Scan the QR code for more information for this application or visit

basscoast.vic.gov.au/planningads

BASS COAST

AF0052

HM13040

Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling

RESULTS:
2sCompany – week 10: first place King Pins on 20 points; second place Jail on 20 points; third place Him and Her on 18 points.
ABL – week 10: first place Fairlanes on 124.5 points; second place Just Bowl Already on 122 points; third place The Fireballs on 118 points.
Phantom – week eight: first place Herdy Gerdy on 210 points; second place Spin King on 205 points; third place Love Muscle on 168 points.
Business early – week one: first place NTC on 3 points; second place The Redundants on 2 points; third place Woolly Rollers on 2 points; fourth place Happy Hour on 2 points.
Business late – week one: first place S&R Clarke Auto on 3 points; second place The Ex Men on 2 points; third place The Barbarians on 1 point.
Top scores for this week across each league:
Men: Steve Clarke 200; Raff Merante 194; Jason Bence 182.
Women: Tricia Neissink 186; Mary Dardha 154; Katy Betts 149.

• FAITH FACTOR

I gotta have faith, faith, faith

By Janet Snashall-Woodhams, Ministry Team: Inverloch-Wonthaggi Uniting Church

GEORGE Michael had a number one hit in 1987 with the song Faith. Maybe, like many across the world, you have found yourself dancing or singing to it over the years.

Faith can be described as something you have a deep trust or confidence in, sometimes even in the face of uncertainty.

George Michael's song suggests that even in the face of romantic disappointment, he was always going to have faith that things would improve. Faith that gave resilience to hang on even in dark times.

So, I suppose the question is – What do you have faith in?

I encourage you to think about that for a second or two. In what do you have faith?

I have been asking this question of the folks around me lately. It was great to chat to them about where they place their trust and confidence. Being in church ministry, many conversations were about God, but family, football teams, fellow humans, and nature/pets also featured. I heard a lot about what they don't have faith in too!

When chatting to people faith often blends into belief. But they are quite different. Belief refers to accepting that something is true, often based on evidence or reasoning. We might not agree with the person's evidence or reasoning, but they are their beliefs nonetheless.

Often, looking at people's beliefs, we can get a glimpse of what they have faith in, or not.

Faith supports us in our everyday lives by providing a sense of purpose and resilience. Faith can motivate us to pursue goals, overcome challenges, and maintain hope in difficult times.

I have faith in a God of Love, and a bloke called Jesus who called me into a life of justice, mercy and love. Yes, I know God is a mystery and I don't have all the answers. But I do know when I live out my faith in the midst of family and community around me, I am not going it alone.

And to that I say – Amen! (so be it).

48 | TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2025 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES



Toby Reid, Jae Pritchett, Cherie Pritchett and Talya Lester were keeping busy selling Biketoberfest merchandise, and assisting attendees with any questions they had about the event. W09_4125

Bair Street Buzzing from Biketoberfest

LEONGATHA'S Bair Street was packed on Saturday, October 11, as the town once again hosted Biketoberfest Leongatha 2025, a celebration for motorbike lovers and petrolheads alike that continues to grow every year.

More than 2000 people turned out to enjoy the free, family-friendly event, which transformed Bair Street into a chrome and leather sea. Motorbikes of every shape and size lined the street, while live music, community stalls, and the scent of food from local cafés and food vans filled the air.

One of the highlights was the trials riding demonstrations, where professional riders thrilled the crowd with their daring stunts, leaping over cars, balancing on obstacles, and manoeuvring their bikes in ways that seemed to defy physics.

Committee member Cherie Pritchett said the event, which coincides with Motorcyclist Awareness Month, had reached new heights this year.

"This has been our best year ever," she said.

"We've had 430 motorbikes

come through, and we actually had to close Bair Street parking because we were at capacity. We've been close to that before, but this is the first time it's ever happened."

Ms Pritchett said Biketoberfest was about more than just the bikes.

"The purpose of the event is to raise awareness for motorbike safety and to raise money for mental health," she said.

"We work alongside Black Dog Ride, who do wonderful things for the community around mental health, and we try to raise money for them during the day."

Black Dog Ride is an Australia-wide initiative that promotes awareness of depression and suicide prevention, a cause that has resonated deeply within the riding community.

According to Ms Pritchett, community support has been a major part of Biketoberfest's success.

"The community support has been fantastic," she said.

"Everyone has been on board, and the event just keeps getting bigger and bigger."

The idea for the festival first came about during the COVID lockdowns, when organisers were looking for a way to reignite community life in Leongatha.

"They had just completed the refurbishment of Bair Street, so we thought why not hold an event here," Ms Pritchett said.

"Our aim was to fill up Bair Street with motorbikes, and we'd done that by 11am."

Among the many visitors who made the trip to Leongatha was Ross Millar, who rode down from Park Orchards in Melbourne's east on his 2021 Indian Roadmaster Jack Daniels Edition: one of only 107 ever made.

"It was social media that drew us here," he said.

"We read about Biketoberfest and all the different types of bikes, from Harleys to sports bikes. The highlight for me has been looking at all the bikes and talking to some great people."

As engines roared and music played through the afternoon, Biketoberfest once again cemented itself on Leongatha's community calendar.



Leongatha SES members Tahlia Ebery, Jayden Saario, Val Bremner, Chas Baillie and Bek Clarke at Biketoberfest 2025. W10_4125

SES joins Biketoberfest to boost local recruitment

AMONG the many community groups at Biketoberfest Leongatha 2025 was the Leongatha State Emergency Service, attending the event as an opportunity to boost recruitment and raise awareness ahead of the upcoming storm and bushfire season.

Leongatha SES section leader for events and presentation, Tahlia Ebery, said the team attended to connect with locals and encourage more people to get involved.

"It was for recruitment and also to spread awareness for storms, and also because bushfire season

is coming up," she said.

The unit has seen steady interest in recent months, with new members of all ages joining the ranks.

"It's been pretty good, we've had quite a few new members come in, both younger and older members which is good," Ms Ebery said.

"We are always looking at increasing our recruitment, especially our number of younger members."

Volunteers can join from the age of 15, with younger recruits trained as juniors before moving into full operational roles once they turn 18.

Ms Ebery said the Leongatha SES plays a vital role in responding to emergencies across the region.

"We do a lot of trees across roads, clearing areas for individuals who may not be able to do it themselves, respond to major storm damage, floods and landslides," she said.

"We're also accredited for road crash rescue and domestic rescue."

Anyone interested in joining the Leongatha SES can register through the SES website or attend the unit's weekly training sessions, held each Wednesday from 7pm.



Among those welcoming visitors to the Phillip Island Fire Station for their open day last Saturday were fire fighters Daniel Mirobito and Silvio Zanforlin and 2nd Lieutenant Joe Myall. P1brigade2_4125

Phillip Island firies impressed with record turnout

MORE than 200 people took the opportunity to 'Get Fire Ready' for summer by attending the Phillip Island Fire Brigade's open day last Saturday ahead of the onset of the Fire Danger Period for 2025.

Also, at Foster on Saturday, and Kongwak and Nerrena on Sunday, the message was the same, learning how to prepare your property, your home and your family for the fire season ahead while taking the opportunity to meet the staff and volunteers who help to keep us safe.

At their new Cowes fire station, the message was consistent from Captain Lino Drazzi, 1st Lieutenant Rhyce Davis and 2nd Lieutenant Joe Myall.

"The engagement we've had from the community today has been fantastic and a lot of that is due to the tremendous support from the other services; from Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria, SES, Phillip Island Nature Parks, and Phillip Island and San Remo Rotary on the barbecue," said Captain Lino Drazzi.

"Yes, very successful, the best we've had and not just coming and going. Due to the collaboration, we've had from the other services, with quality displays, information and activities, people have hung around as well as getting involved," said 1st Lieutenant Rhyce Davis.

"Whether it was Ambulance Victoria encouraging kids to participate in CPR, the interactive fire behaviour display, talks about planning to be fire ready, tours of the fire station, and kids' activities including fire-hose target practice, face painting and a lot more.

"There were a variety of ways to get the message across, but the commitment made by the other services to put on well-resourced displays and activities really made the day," said Rhyce.

"We did a fair bit of pre-publicity which was important but yes, the engagement we've had today indicates that more people are aware of the importance of preparing your home and your family for the upcoming fire season, you'd hope so anyway," said 2nd Lieutenant Joe Myall.

But as for using the day as a chance to recruit more fire-fighters, Captain Lino Drazzi said the Phillip Island Fire Brigade was in the enviable position of having a full book of volunteers.

"I think the SES was talking to people about volunteering, but we're in very good shape in that regard," said Lino.

Not so at other brigades. Many local fire brigades would love to hear from you if you have an interest in getting involved, not only in operational roles but in a range of positions, including fundraising and safety education.

Phillip Island posted the following message on social media:

"It was fantastic to see families, friends, and locals learning how to stay safe this summer and having a great time while doing it!

"From all of us at Phillip Island CFA, thank you for making our Open Day one to remember.

Remaining local 'Get Fire Ready' open days to follow include Mirboo North on Saturday, October 25, Kilcunda and Hallston on Sunday, October 26.



There were a lot of interactive activities for the families who attended the 'Get Fire Ready' for summer at the Phillip Island Fire Station last Saturday. P1brigade1_4125



Maxen Mills placed second in U15 Men at Round Two of the Joy Ride Rookie Cup at Mt Major.

Phillip Island Riders go full send at Round 2 of the Joy Ride Rookie Cup

PHILLIP Island's mountain bikers put in another strong showing at Round 2 of the Joy Ride Rookie Cup, held at Mt Major near Shepparton, in Victoria's premier junior downhill racing series.

The event drew some of the state's fastest junior gravity riders, with competitors tackling the steep and technical trail in sunny but windy conditions.

The standout performance came from Maxen Mills, who stormed to second place in the U15 Men's category with a time of 1:56.58, just 2.97 seconds off the win, placing him in elite company by smashing the two-minute barrier on this tough and technical course.

Other strong results from the Phillip Island Crew were Miller Micallef (2:10.72), Ry Sheers (2:20.53) and Hugo Wright (2:40.21) also recorded solid mid-pack results in a massive and competitive field of almost a hundred riders, with Zac Basterfield (2:53.07) and Bodhi Cooper (3:14.84) rounding out the Phillip Island contingent in U15 Men, all sending it down the course to the cheers of the Phillip Island supporters.

In the younger categories, Kody Sheers claimed an impressive third place in U11 Men with a 2:49.82, backing up his second place from round one at Mt Taylor and establishing himself as an up-and-coming youngster on the downhill scene. Will Walker (3:12.33) also put in a great effort and gained valuable experience in his first race on the downhill circuit.

The U13 Men's group saw Flynn Wright (2:45.01) and Eli Rogan (3:01.12) representing the Island with solid mid-field results against a large field of riders.

For the U17 Men, Zac Sund recorded a competitive 2:13.69, while Hamish Dakers-Hock and Ethan Tilley both showed strong pace before recording DNFs on race day after promising early qualifying runs.

Get well soon vibes go to Kody Lewis, who was injured in practice and didn't get to compete on Sunday. And Blade Rogan, who is recovering from an MTB accident in the lead up to the event.

Parents and supporters praised the growing Phillip Island downhill community, noting how quickly the young riders are adapting to the technical courses and faster competition.

With strong representation across all junior age groups, the Island's next generation of riders is clearly making its mark on Victoria's downhill scene.

The next round of the Joyride Rookie Cup is at Eildon on November 8 and 9.



South Gippsland Volleyball Club women's team claimed a silver medal in the Volleyball Victoria State League Division 3 competition.

Silver success for South Gippsland Volleyball Club at state competition

THE South Gippsland Volleyball Club women's team claimed a well-earned silver medal in the Volleyball Victoria State League Division 3 competition, capping off an incredible season of passion, perseverance and teamwork.

The State League season, which ran from April to August, saw the South Gippy side dominate from start to finish – dropping only two games across 16 fiercely competitive rounds to finish on top of the Division 3 ladder.

Led by Captain Tamara Miller and coached by Jessica Sanders, the team entered the finals with quiet confidence and plenty of momentum.

"With strong teamwork and

a focused strategy, we faced our challengers head-on and gave it our all on the court; we left nothing behind!" said Tamara.

In their first final, the team stormed to a 3-0 win over Monash University Grey, avenging one of their only losses from the regular season.

The semi-final against East-side Hawks proved tougher – particularly in the second set, which ended in a thrilling 26-24 victory, but South Gippsland once again prevailed in straight sets, earning their shot at gold.

With the South Gippy cheer squad in full voice, the women took to the court against home side Dandenong

in a tense and thrilling five-set Grand Final:

Set scores: 25-17, 11-25, 25-17, 16-25, 11-15.

After trading sets and leading 8-6 at the final change, South Gippsland looked poised to clinch the title, but Dandenong found another gear to snatch the decider by four points; a narrow finish that underscored just how evenly matched the two teams were.

Despite the heartbreak of missing gold, the result marks a historic achievement for the South Gippsland Volleyball Club, showcasing the region's emerging volleyball talent and the strength of its grassroots program.

The squad was a mix of

experience and fresh faces, with first-time State League players; Poppy Noble, Amelia Hams, Yasmin Gloria, Tara Moodie and Georgia Scarce joining seasoned campaigners Liselott Webster, Sarah Damon, Charlotte Smith, Lorraine Tangpos, Jessica Sanders and Tamara Miller.

Together, they brought heart, hustle and a fierce love of the game that carried them all the way to the championship court.

South Gippsland Volleyball Club continues to prove that passion for the sport runs deep in the region – and this silver medal shines bright as a testament to what teamwork, belief and community spirit can achieve.

SGB announce 2025/26 season captains

LEONGATHA Splash was busy on Sunday as the South Gippsland Bass Swim Club hosted GSI 3. The 130 swimmers from throughout Gippsland raced in a series of 50 and 100 metre races.

There were also a handful of under-eights having their first racing experience, competing in the 25 metre length. The centre was full of extended families making the most of being able to come and watch their nieces and nephews or grandchildren compete.

The event was the first home meet for the summer 25/26 season, with head coach Dylan announcing the

captains for the year ahead. The captains were chosen not just for being great swimmers, but as the role models they are for the younger swimmers.

The head captains for 25/26 are Lara Smyth, Asha Chalmers and Billy Fisher. The vice captains are Mostyn Lumsden and Hugh Munro.

The swimmers were well fuelled up for the meet, after having a day with nutritionist Ali Miles, a founder of the Fuel School who specialises in helping athletes with their dietary needs, including ensuring they have enough food and how to help improve performance with their food intake.



South Gippsland Bass (SGB) Swimming Club hosted the GSI 3, with 130 swimmers from across Gippsland racing in a series of 50m and 100m races.

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
October 14
▲ 6.04am 1.65m
▼ 11.25am 0.63m
▲ 5.38pm 1.49m
▼ 11.48pm 0.25m

WEDNESDAY
October 15
▲ 6.56am 1.55m
▼ 12.10pm 0.67m
▲ 6.28pm 1.42m

THURSDAY
October 16
▼ 12.37am 0.36m
▲ 7.54am 1.45m
▼ 1.00pm 0.70m
▲ 7.28pm 1.33m

FRIDAY
October 17
▼ 1.30am 0.47m
▲ 8.56am 1.37m
▼ 2.00pm 0.73m
▲ 8.48pm 1.26m

SATURDAY
October 18
▼ 2.32am 0.59m
▲ 9.58am 1.33m
▼ 3.22pm 0.73m
▲ 10.18pm 1.25m

SUNDAY
October 19
▼ 3.49am 0.67m
▲ 10.57am 1.32m
▼ 4.48pm 0.67m
▲ 11.35pm 1.30m

MONDAY
October 20
▼ 5.11am 0.71m
▲ 11.52am 1.33m
▼ 5.56pm 0.58m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au

Wonthaggi coast through Korumburra, but Meteors crash them down to Earth

CBL BASKETBALL returned to South Gippsland in Korumburra last weekend, as the Wonthaggi Coasters took on their next-door neighbours, the Korumburra Wildcats in their season opener on Saturday, October 4.

The crowd at Korumburra Indoor Recreation Centre saw Wonthaggi emerge with a comfortable 26-point victory; however, the result was not always a forgone conclusion.

At the end of the first quarter, only three points separated the teams, before Wonthaggi exploded in the second term, outscoring the Wildcats 29-14. The Coasters managed to keep this momentum rolling to the game's end, snagging a handy 88-62 win to start their season.

Unsurprisingly, Vincent Monaghan led the way after returning from his recent NBL1 season with the Frankston Blues. He finished the game with 25 points, which included an emphatic two-handed dunk that helped shift momentum midway through the game.

Zac Mabilia was also a standout for the Coasters on both ends, pouring in 19 points while running the team's offence. Jack Gaze impressed in his first game for Wonthaggi,

finishing with 15 points, while Trent Westaway had 14.

Wonthaggi's season opener provided a promising start, but the momentum didn't carry into their Sunday clash at home against Moe.

Led by NBL1 sharpshooter Austin Shelley, who piled on a seemingly effortless 28 points, the Meteors proved far too strong, scoring at will on their way to a commanding 42-point victory.

Despite another solid outing from Zac Mabilia, who finished with a team-high 13 points and again impressed with his defensive work, the Coasters had no answers for Moe's firepower, going down 100-58.

After a bye last weekend, Wonthaggi will now look to regroup in another double-header, facing Southern Peninsula on Saturday before backing it up against Traralgon on Sunday.

"The season is looking promising from last weekend. I believe we can make finals if we put in the work," Monaghan said after splitting the weekend.

The Coasters' women's side will also be hungry to rebound after a narrow 50-48 loss to Korumburra and a 69-46 defeat to Moe in their opening round.



Vincent Monaghan gets Wonthaggi's opening match started by winning the tip-off. He finished with 25 points against Korumburra. Photo: Basketball Victoria and Sharon Freeman.

Go Fives returns as Leongatha Knights gear up for summer

LEONGATHA Knights FC's popular summer Go Fives competitions are set to return in a few weeks, and registrations are filling up fast!

With over 260 players participating in seven competitions last year, the Knights are looking forward to welcoming everyone back to the pitch for small-sided soccer over the off-season.

Go Fives is a format that sees each team field one goalkeeper and four outfield players, all playing on a reduced-sized pitch with smaller goals. Teams can have up to three substitutions on the bench, with rolling substitutions allowed throughout the game.

This year, the Knights are offering competitions for U10S Mixed, U12 Mixed, U15 Mixed, Adult Mixed Social and Adult

Mixed Competitive. Along with three female-only options, a U15 Girls Competition and a Women's Competition. There will also be a "Come & Play" U12 Girls option that invites girls who are keen to have a kick to come along, no team required, just turn up and play!

Go Fives 2025 will kick off on Wednesday, October 22, and Thursday, October 23 and run for eight weeks. Team registrations are capped, so ensure you register your team ASAP.

For more information regarding Go Fives, head to Leongatha Knights FC's Facebook page or contact lkfc.juniordevelopment@gmail.com.

RIGHT: Leongatha Knights FC Go Fives competition is set to return on Wednesday, October 22 and 23.



Registrations open for the 27th annual Coronet Bay Fun Run & Walk

ON SUNDAY, November 2, at the Fred Gratton Reserve, the Coronet Bay Community Association will kick off the 27th annual Fun Run and Walk.

Coronet Bay Community Association secretary, John Kutniewski, said the registration and volunteer coordination begins at 9am, and the event will start at 10.30am.

"The race will start at the Frank Grant Reserve and cover a three-kilometre and five-kilometre course.

"This event has been on for nearly three decades in Coronet Bay, bringing in the township and others in the regional towns together for a fun family day event. The event had been coordinated by the late Ian Cole, who unfortunately passed away earlier this year," said John.

The Fun Run and Walk was



The annual Coronet Bay Fun Run and Walk will be held on Sunday, November 2.

started by local identity Laurie Black in 1997, who coordinated it for 16 years. David Mildenhall then ran the event in 2012 and 2013, before Ian Cole became the event coordinator for the next decade, from 2014 to 2024.

"This event is purely held together by volunteers," said John.

"And we are always looking

for more support to assist with traffic control, water stations, and manual registrations – although we do encourage everyone to pre-register.

"This year, the local Coronet Bay CFA volunteers will be in attendance, ensuring safety on the day and volunteering their time. Which again brings the community together, bringing a wider spirit and mutual

awareness of the CFA's commitment to the community."

Funding support comes from Bendigo Bank and the Bass Coast Council. John said that through this event from this year onwards, he hopes to raise awareness for pancreatic cancer – proudly supporting Dare to Hope.

Medallions will be awarded to the first three placings in each category. With the choice of six categories:

- 3km - Female 14 & Under, Male 14 & Under, Female Open, Male Open
- 5km - Female Open, Male Open

Pre-register at trybooking.com/DFBQY or be on-site at 9am.

To make a direct donation and raise awareness for pancreatic cancer, visit daretohope.com.au

WONTHAGGI TABLE TENNIS

RADAK defeated Butterfly three to two.

Butterflies can be dangerous.

Try swallowing African giant swallowtails and pretend all is okay.

Radak was wary after Butterfly's upset win last week.

Radak's Warren and Fred won the crucial doubles, devouring the dangerous David and Mick to keep their finals hopes alive. No stomach upsets reported.

Nittaku defeated Stiga four to one.

Nittaku fill-in Jack Duff led his adopted team to victory with textbook technique and a resurgent Jake.

Jack prevailed over Stiga's captain Tim in singles and doubles in possibly the matches of the season, trading lusty blows with hungry bear competitiveness.

It was great fun to watch.

Donic defeated Double Fish three to two.

Double Fish was downsized to Single Fish when Lee Lee went absentee.

Single Fish fell apart like Nana's old patchwork quilt, nostalgic but frayed.

After Donic's Charley embedded balls into all opposition during warm-up, she and trusty sideshow Michael proceeded to dismember Single Fish and his replacements with their typical shoot 'em up style. Andro had the bye.

Ladder: Double Fish 32; Stiga 28; Nittaku 28; Donic 20; Radak 12; Andro 12; Butterfly 8.

Leading players: David 16; Tim 15; Brad and Braden 14.

LEONGATHA SMALL BORE

2025: 20m Bench Pennant - Section B.

Round three: Leongatha A 599.29 defeated Brunswick 598.22.

Christopher Sargant 200.11; Bradley Hall 200.05; Peter Gallus 199.13; Kenneth Hart 199.07.

Ladder: Leongatha A 12; Oakleigh A 8; Hamilton A 8; Brunswick 4; BERC A 4; Frankston B 0.

2025: 20m Bench Pennant - Section G.

Round three: Leongatha B 593.15 bye.

Robert Spratt 198.07; John Cafarella 198.03; Jack Sargant 197.05.

Ladder: Sale D 12; Leongatha B 8; Sale C 8; Fairfield B 4; Frankston D 4.

2025: 20m Prone Pennant - Section H.

Round three: Portland 586.14 defeated Leongatha C 575.10.

William Ross C 195.04; Cameron Davidson C 191.05; Allan Ross C 189.01; Mathew Eldridge C 186.02.

Leongatha D 580.12 defeated Warburton C 559.06.

Leah Considine D 195.04; Hannah Hengstberger D 193.04; Brianna Kelly D 192.04; Iesha Considine D 189.01; Agan Hengstberger D x 192.05 (x - not nominated).

Ladder: Leongatha D 12; Shepparton 12; Portland 8; Leongatha C 4; Warburton C 0.

Gippsland Shield: 50 metres.

Held at Leongatha on October 5.

Traralgon won the round with 1401.8709 with Leongatha very close behind on 1401.1780.

Sale came third on 1400.0122.

Best shooters (scratch) on the day were: Darcie George (Traralgon) scoring a 193.004 in Prone; Alana Downie (Traralgon) scoring 199.011 in Bench Rest.

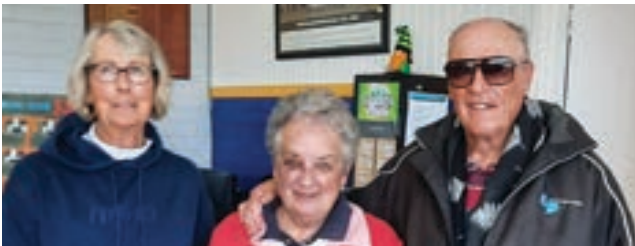
Best handicap winners on the day were: Darcie George (Traralgon) scoring 200.5417 in Prone; Brad Snowden (Sale) scoring 200.4706 in Bench Rest.

The club shoots on Friday nights at 8pm at the rifle club on the Leongatha Recreation Reserve.

Any inquiries, please call R. Spratt 5664 2358.



Pat Novak, Mandy Irvine and Linda Newman were Friday's winners at Breakaway Bowls.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Wednesday winners were Caroline Donohue, Lorraine Day and John Hill.

BREAKAWAY BOWLS

ANOTHER week of bowls was completed, and everyone had a lot of fun.

The Monday winners were Marj Ford, Helen Gladstone and Peter Grenville.

They won with a score of +23.

Friday's winners were Pat Novak, Mandy Irvine and Linda Newman.

They won with a score of +15

The bowlers would like to welcome Mandy Irvine to the club.

She has never bowled before and gets her photo in the paper first up.

FISH CREEK

MIDWEEK Pennant starts today (October 14) whilst Saturday Pennant begins this weekend.

Fish Creek is at home in all divisions, namely 2, 4 and 6.

Best of luck to all bowlers.

Most home games will see all teams together, so for local families and supporters it presents everyone with an opportunity to pop down to the bowls club for a relaxing afternoon to see some great bowls.

Last Saturday, the club had a practice match against Foster, which was a great hit out and played in good spirits.

Overall, Fish Creek won the shield.

The green is rolling very well at present with a big thanks to Rob Poletti, Scott Jennings and Ian Eddy for all the time and work they put in.

Don't forget the major sponsored Triples event by The Bendigo Bank will be held on Sunday, November 9.

Please see Bill or Hocko for entries.

FOSTER

IT WAS great to have a full field once again for the October Monthly Triples.

The sponsors for the day were Prom Meats and Oakley's White.

The club gives a big thank you to both for continuing their support.

A very pleasant day of bowls was had by all.

There were two four game winners vying for the main prize – with only one point in it.

The winners with +65 were the Foster team of Ian McLeod, Nancy Parry and Ray Prain.

Runners-up with +64 were the Foster team of Kelvin Park, Ian Park and Sue Waugh.

The best game wine prizes went to the Fish Creek team of Bill Symmons, Don Cripps and Mal Heywood.

The encouragement club drink voucher prizes went to the combo Yarram team of Ken Hansen, Mick Flanagan (Foster) and Pat Kiely.

The club looks forward to next



Glenda Binch, Jeannie Slocombe and Lia Smith shared a win at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls on Friday. Absent: Theo Scholey.



Ian McLeod, Nancy Parry and Ray Prain were the Monthly Triples winners at the Foster Bowls Club.

month's Triples being just as good.

Another two Pennant practice matches were played last week.

On Tuesday, Toora came across for a roll.

Each rink held its own, and Foster had a nice win overall.

Saturday saw Foster play its perpetual Pennant Practice Shield match against Fish Creek.

Weather conditions were a little testing with the wind, but the green ran well.

Fish Creek proved too strong this year, winning four out of five rinks, coming home victors to claim the shield back. Congratulations and well played by them.

President Mark handed over the shield to Bill.

The main Pennant season will be underway this week.

The club wishes everyone good bowling.

Pennants will begin on Tuesday, October 14, and Saturday, October 18.

The next Monthly Triples will be on Wednesday, October 15.

Start rolling at 9.30am.

The club is now planning a social lunch day on Friday, October 24.

Lunch will be at the Wooli Tavern at Cape Woolamai at 12.30pm.

If interested, please add your name to the list in the clubroom or contact Carol Thorn.

Melbourne Cup Day lunch will be on Tuesday, November 4.

More details to follow.

A reminder that community bowls starts on Wednesday, October 22.

LEONGATHA

LEONGATHA had an in-house practice bowls day on Tuesday, October 7.

This was the last game before what everyone has been waiting for on the calendar – the start of Pennant.

There was a good turnout in gorgeous weather.

You couldn't have asked for a better day to play bowls.

There were good vibes all round and all looks promising with everybody in good spirits.

Wednesday was the social day.

It was windy and a bit fresh.

Twenty-four players braved the cold to play two games of 12-end Triples.

The winners were Jannette, Russell and Marg.

Runners up were Ray, Nerryl and Susan.

On Saturday, Leongatha welcomed Korumburra for the last practice match in very windy conditions, but no rain, which was a bonus.

Great games were had all over each rink.

The club always has a good tussle with the close neighbours.

Division 1's first game is up against last year's runners-up in the Mirboo North young guns and on their home turf.

Now that will be a great game to watch.

Division 2 is at home to San Remo.

Division 5 will have a fair drive to San Remo – good luck to all teams.

Tuesday's Pennant starts today (October 24).

Division 1 to play Korumburra.

Division 4 to play Mirboo North.

Both games are at home.

Come down, have a look and show your support.

Good luck to both sides.

Don't forget the club games.

Put your names down early before the draws are made up.

Give it a go, it's all good experience.

October 30 is Leongatha's Invitation Fours Day.



Wednesday social bowls winners were Jannette Charmas, Russell Trotman and Marg Barter at the Leongatha Bowls Club.



Foster Bowls Club president Mark Taylor handed over the Shield to Bill Symmons from Fish Creek following the perpetual Pennant Practice Shield match.

These days are a lot of fun.

It's a nice way to relax, enjoy a meal and a game of bowls with your friends and meet other bowlers from different clubs.

Entries close on October 23.

Get in early to put your team in.

Go the Gatha.

MIDWEEK BOWLS

THE greens at Corinella were buzzing again as 52 bowlers gathered for another round of friendly competition.

Hosts Bev and John gave everyone a warm welcome, while Vern expertly organised the day's teams.

After the teams were set, everyone quickly moved out onto the green, which was, as usual, in excellent condition.

The air was filled with laughter and friendly chatter, a testament to the fun and great bowling happening across all the rinks.

A few 'wrong bias' bowls added to the fun and, more importantly, to the donations for the Royal Children's Hospital tin.

As the day wrapped up, the bowlers celebrated their winners.

The winners on a score of 34 were David Prosser (lead), Enid Johnston (second), Laurie Bell (third) and Steve Bray (skip).

Runners-up on a score of 28 were Neil Andreatta (third), Vern Elliott (skip), Bill Williams (second) and Tony Morris (lead).

Best one game winners on a score of 19 were Mark Hanrahan (skip), Amanda Bozelle (third) and Jim Nunan (lead).

A big thank you goes out to Steve and Phil for their hard work behind the bar, and to everyone who pitched in to clean the kitchen and hall at the end of the day – your help is always appreciated.

Get ready to bowl again next week when the club meets at San Remo to compete for team of the week.

Please be on-site by 10am sharp to allow enough time to organise the teams.

Since the numbers are consistently near capacity, the club must strictly enforce the 10am cut-off time.

Until then, have fun and stay safe.

WONTHAGGI

IT WAS another busy week with the countdown to the start of Pennant.

Wednesday saw a good number of bowlers on a fine but windy day for social bowls.

There was only one team that managed to win both of their matches – Caroline Donohue, Lorraine Day and John Hill, with a score of two wins and 29 points.

The runners-up were Aldo Sartori, Ken Webb and Paul Holmes

with a score of one win and a draw.

Thursday saw a happy group of bowlers use the west wall to bowl north-south to shelter from the gusty wind.

After two games they were able to retire to the clubhouse just as it started to rain.

Friday night was once again a success with a great vibe in the room.

The members' draw didn't go off, so next week's total will be \$170.

Paul Hill had a very good night, winning both the meat tray and a brekky pack.

Stan Noad collected the chicken tray, while Jeannie took home a brekky pack.

Other winners were Roger, Wally and Stan.

Once again, the meat and chicken trays and brekky packs were supplied by Wonthaggi Meat Supply.

Saturday saw 54 bowlers grace the greens for a practice match under Pennant conditions.

The day was played in windy and sometimes gusty conditions, but overall fine with a little sunshine.

Bowlers were pleased to get into the clubhouse to enjoy the sandwiches and nibbles the ladies had prepared.

The club is happy to report that the day was won by Wonthaggi.

Bowls this week: Tuesday – Midweek Pennant starts; Thursday – social bowls at 9.30 am and 1pm (note: Thursday, not Wednesday); Friday – coaching at 10am; Saturday – Pennant starts.

Don't forget Friday night with the members' draw now at \$170, plus meat trays and other prizes to be won.

Good luck to all the Pennant teams for the season, and a big welcome to the new bowlers.

Have a great week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

THIS week, the club had a total of 53 players, which was great to see.

Tuesday's winners on +14 (two games) were Jo McIntyre, Paul Holmes and Ian Bice.

Runners-up on a score of +11 (two games) were John Postlethwaite, Judy Sweetnam and Thelma Kavanagh.

Friday was another fun day with some close games.

The winners with +5 (one win and a draw) were Glenda Binch, Jeannie Slocombe, Lia Smith and Theo Scholey.

Runners up on +4 (one win and a draw) were Maggie Scapin, Fred Demenech, Helen Rook and Bill Featherstone.

Well done to all.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, October 7.
Stableford: 20 players.
Winner: A Grade Wayne Knights 41 points.
Winner: B Grade Peter Hislop 36 points.
NTPs: first Peter McMaster.
Thursday, October 9:
Stableford: three players.
Winner: A Grade Wayne Knights 36 points.
Saturday, October 11:
Sponsors: Wayne Knights and Robert Litchfield.
Two-Person Ambrose Guest Day: 38 players.
Winners: Mat Wrigley and Athol Worthy 61.75 net.
NTPs: first Brian Pope, seventh James Williams, 10th Grant Williams and 13th Jack Clink.

Ladies

KORUMBURRA enjoyed a three-four player Ambrose event last Wednesday. Well done to the winning team with a score of 67.16 net Lyn McIvor, Leanne Thomson, Julie Cole and Lorraine Knox.
Runner-up with a score of 68.16 was the team of Shelley Snooks, Karen Sorrell and Merrissa Cosson.
BDTL went to Julie Hillberg, Kerri Besley and Sherrin Solly with 69.16 net.
There was only one NTP on the first green, and this went to Kim Enbom.
On Saturday, the club welcomed guests to the two-person Ambrose day. Congratulations to winning pair Merissa Cosson and Shelley Snooks with a nice score of 66.75 net.
Runner-up was the team of Aliesha Wrigley and Gail Beer with 70.5 net.
BDTL went to Kerri Besley and Colette Pearl 74.5 net.
NTPs on the first and seventh greens Merrissa, and closest on the 13th was Gail – so close, nearly in the hole.
Thanks to all members for your patience over the past few weeks whilst the new Golf Connect system was being implemented.
The club is back up and running from now on with handicapping of golf events.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, October 7: Stableford.
Tuesday's Stableford round had 55 members/guests entering the competition.
Overall winner: Gary McGrath (18) with the high score of the day with 39 points.
A Grade winner: John Ryan (11) with 38 points.
A Grade runner-up: Gordon Morrison (15) with 36 points.
B Grade winner: Gary McGrath (18) with 39 points.
B Grade runner-up: Bernard Skerys (19) with 35 points.
NTP fifth second shot: Timothy McCarthy (21) at 4.00m.
NTP 14th: Russell Miller (24) at 2.40m.
NTP 16th: Nath Wardle (9) at 3.95m
Thursday, October 9: Stableford.
Thursday was a Stableford event played in fine weather with 78 members/guests hitting off with a shotgun start.
Overall winner: Jamie Grenville (13) with 34 points on a countback.
A Grade winner: Jamie Grenville (13) with 34 points on a countback. Runner-up: Malcolm Gin (11) with 33 points.
B Grade winner: Doug Clemann (16) with 34 points. Runner-up: John Simon (15) with 33 points on a countback.
C Grade winner: Russell Miller (24) with 34 points. Runner-up: Geoffrey McDonald (21) with 33 points on a countback.
NTP fifth second shot: Ken Smirk (15) at 1.98m.
NTP 14th: Gary McGrath (17) at

1.54m.
NTP 16th: Andrew McAllister (19) at 1.66m.
Saturday, October 11: Four Person Ambrose Event.
Saturday was a Four Person Ambrose Stroke event, with windy but clearer weather allowing for some excellent scoring.
A good number of 93 members/guests entered the competition.
Overall winners: Craig Hutchinson, Peter Read, Tony Morganti and Glenn Marsham with the low score of the day with a net of 56.
Overall runners-up: Mark Anderson, Paul Deery, Grant Richards and John Radford with a net score of 57.25.
NTP fifth second shot: Andrew Henley (14) at .20m.
NTP 14th: Ben Chapman (17) at 8.50m.
NTP 16th: Leanne Costello (40) at 3.53m.

Ladies

LEONGATHA'S Punjabi Pantry sponsored the Stableford event last week.
Both the winner and runner-up received very generous vouchers.
Most players found that they had two extra strokes added to their handicap after the recent Australia-wide readjustment. Some took advantage of it; others were not so fortunate.
Cheryl Borg won the day with 38 points.
She also won the raffle and the nearest the pin on the fifth – quite a day out.
Lyn Shaw came in as runner-up with 54 points.
Balls down the line went to 28 points: Karen Orford, Sue Bowler, Colleen Touzel, Helen Mackenzie, Sue Woods, Delia Perry and Fay Quilford.
Nearest the pin on the 16th was Delia Perry.

MEENIYAN

WITH the weather slowly improving, the ladies played a nine-hole two-person Ambrose before the annual general meeting. The winners were Dot Christie and Louise Vuillermin with 34.875 from Susan Straw and Nancye Hammett.
Susan Straw won the October Medal Day the week before with 77 net from Irene Holm 78 net.
Congratulations go to Sue Hoskin and Jo Graeme, who won the Bronze Section of Foursomes in the All Gippsland held at Yarram.
The leaders for 2026 will be president Heather Poletti and captain Susan Straw – wishing them and the incoming committee a successful 2026.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, October 7: Stableford.
A Grade: G. Shandley 39 points c/b.
B Grade: P. Cummaudo 36 points.
DTL: P. Woodall 39, G. Renwick, N. Whichello 34 and T. Whitelaw 33.
NTP: fourth P. Woodall, sixth S. Woodall, 13th M. Payne and 16th T. Whitelaw.
Birdies: fourth N. Baker, and sixth G. Shandley and S. Woodall. Eagles: N. Whichello 17th.
Saturday, October 11: Monthly Medal.
A Grade: T. Whitelaw 70 net.
B Grade: N. Baker 68 net.
DTL: J. Smeriglio 70, and G. Renwick, S. McInnes, Tom Traill and A. Leibe 72.
NTP: fourth D. Taylor, sixth N. Bickerton, 13th A. Collins and 16th G. Renwick.
Birdies: fourth N. Bickerton and 16th S. Beitz. Lowest putts: S. Woodall 24 putts.

SG WOMEN'S COUNTRY TEAMS

AN OPPORTUNITY opened up this year for golfers with handicaps over 12.
Many experienced players were

unavailable, opening up places for players up to 18 handicap.

The players relished the opportunity and under the guidance of Rebecca Brown practised regularly over the winter months to hone their skills and gain confidence, all the while building friendships within the group.
Merissa Cosson stepped up to be the number one player and captain of the team.

The team travelled to play Mildura Country Club, Redcliffs and Riverside – excellent golf courses in good condition.

The team came away after three days of stiff opposition knowing that it was close to beating each team and worthy representatives for South Gippsland.

Bring on 2026 in Ballarat.
Congratulations to the South Gippsland men's team under the guidance of Roy Fleming, who this year won its section and will move up to the top section for next year.

The South Gippsland Golf Inc board is offering an advanced golf clinic to these players with Melissa Taylor at Leongatha over the next few months.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: October 9.
Competition: Stableford 18-hole.
Winner: Keith Ridout 35.
Runner-up: Chris Wilkinson 33.
Ball sweep: Roger Kilpatrick 32; Martin Cox 30; Ian Johnson 29.
Results: October 9.
Competition: Stableford back nine-hole.
Winner: Bill Howard 17.
Ball DTL: Norm Burne 16.
Results: October 11.
Competition: 4BBB Par K.O.
Winners: Kevin Jamieson and Paul Brusamarello +7.
Runner-up: Rod McBride and Max Ahearne +7.
Ball sweep: Phillip Studham and John Geyer +6; Messy Chand and Rohan McRae +6; Mark Tiziani and Ray Hender +5; Peter Thompson and Gerald Mitchell +5; Steve Terrill and Eric Van Agtmaal +5.
NTPs: Rohan Todd second, not claimed fourth, Doug Putt pro pin eighth, Messy Chand 13th and Blake Cornelis money hole 17th.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY saw 22 players compete for the October Monthly Medal.
The day was glorious with blue skies and sun shining.
What a blessing.
The course is soft, which means a longer course for the golfers.
The winner of the Medal and B Grade was Layla Robertson 109 (29) 74 net.
A Grade's winner was Marg Johnson 93 (16) 77 net and C Grade's winner was Pam Hanley 117 (31) 86 net by countback from Heather Wintle.
Scratch: Marg Johnson 93.
Putting: Catherine Bolding 29.
NTP: second Marg Johnson, fourth and 17th Layla Robertson, and 13th Kaylene Hodgetts.
BDL: Yvonne Everitt 79, Lisa Brusamarello 79, Irene Walsh 81, Simone Lindsay 81 and Merryn Dear 81.

WOORAYL

THE October Monthly Medal was played on Wednesday, sponsored by Emma, Kathy and Kelvin Smith.
Thirteen ladies played in lovely conditions.
The A Grade winner was Anne Grist 80 points.
The B Grade winner and Monthly Medallist was Inge Giliam 77 points.
BDL: Ann Poole 80 points and Bev Bridge 81 points.
The putting was won by Barb James 29 putts.
NTP: Eighth Anne Grist, 11th Sharyn Rayson and 17th Inge Giliam.



Vicky Ramage (Phillip Island), Kylie Collins (Foster), Deb Orr (Phillip Island), Michelle Pardoe (Phillip Island), Kaye Dumbleton (Leongatha), Judy Davey (Lang Lang), Sue Hoskin (Meeniyang manager), Shelly Snooks (Korumburra) and Merissa Cosson (Korumburra captain) formed South Gippsland's representative team recently.



Korumburra's Wednesday winning Ambrose team Leanne Thomson, Lorraine Knox, Julie Cole and Lyn McIvor.



Korumburra's Saturday two person Ambrose winners were the women's team of Merrissa Cosson and Shelley Snooks and men's team of Athol Worthy and Mat Wrigley.



The winners of the Punjabi Pantry Stableford event at the Leongatha Golf Club were Cheryl Borg and Lyn Shaw.



Marg Johnson, Layla Robertson and Pam Hanley were Wonthaggi Golf Club's grade winners on Wednesday. Layla was also the winner of the October Monthly Medal.



Woorayl Golf Club's Monthly Medallist and B Grade winner Inge Giliam with A Grade winner Anne Grist.

PHILLIP ISLAND BRIDGE

IT WAS another stellar week at the Phillip Island Bridge Club, with Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour dominating the competition.

On Monday, the dynamic duo triumphed over five tables, scoring an impressive 67.13 per cent.

Their winning streak continued into Wednesday, where they claimed top honours across three tables, posting a solid 61.67 per cent.

Club attendance dipped midweek, as several members headed off for their annual pilgrimage to Rutherglen, where they spent a few days immersed in playing bridge.

Looking ahead, the club is eagerly preparing for its special introduction to bridge session, held in celebration of Seniors Week.

Scheduled for Wednesday, October 22, the event aims to welcome newcomers to the game, offering expert guidance from experienced members.

Anyone keen to join in is encouraged to reach out to Caroline on 0418 369 557.

ALLAMBEE MIRBOO AND DISTRICT TENNIS ASSOC.

SECTION 1 results: Westernport White 4.40 defeated Outtrim 4.32; Westernport Red 7.46 defeated Korumburra 1.29; Leongatha 5.38 defeated Koonwarra 3.32.

Ladder: Westernport White 16; Westernport Red 15; Leongatha 14; Outtrim 7; Koonwarra 7; Korumburra 1.

Section 2 results: Baromi 5.48 defeated Outtrim 3.37; Korumburra 5.42 defeated Leongatha 3.31.

Ladder: Leongatha 12; Outtrim 11; Korumburra 9; Baromi 8.

Very windy conditions this weekend made it difficult to have plenty of rallies.

Well done to Declan Russell on his first senior game, and managing to win two sets for Leongatha – one tiebreaker and a win with Pocko.

Westernport Red won well against Korumburra, with a tiebreaker in the men's to Westernport Red the closest set of the day. Westernport White and Outtrim had the match of the round, with White winning by just eight games.

Korumburra and Baromi both had good wins against Leongatha and Outtrim, respectively. Korumburra v Leongatha had well-contested men's sets – both 7/5.

RIVERSIDE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

RESULTS: Section 1 Doubles: Drouin Maroon 5 – 42 defeated by Neerim District 4 – 45; Warragul 2 – 31 def by Moe 7 – 54; Drouin Gold – bye.

Ladder: Moe 18; Neerim District 16; Drouin Maroon 10.5; Drouin Gold 7.5; Warragul 3.

Section 1/2 Singles: Warragul 3 – 29 defeated by Trafalgar Red 3 – 34; Drouin Maroon 0 – 18 defeated by Moe White 6 – 48; Moe Blue 1 – 20 defeated by Trafalgar White 5 – 45.

Ladder: Moe White 12; Trafalgar White 12; Trafalgar Red 7; Warragul 6; Drouin Maroon 6; Drouin Gold 6; Moe Blue 5.

Section 2 Doubles: Warragul 3 – 41 defeated Poowong 6 – 40; Drouin 4 - 34 defeated by Trafalgar 5 – 45; Neerim District 5 – 45 defeated Hallora 4 – 39.

Ladder: Neerim District 18; Warragul 16; Hallora 13; Trafalgar 7; Drouin 6; Poowong 6.



Marj Prendergast, Tom Lacey, Sue Priller, Neil Warburton at Lakes Entrance's Doubles Handicap tournament.

Wonthaggi Croquet Club represented in Lakes Entrance

TO CELEBRATE the end of the footy season, the club held a pre-grand final fun day of play on September 24.

The event included a barbecue lunch.

Most attending members came in some manner of footy colours of the club they support with one even sporting a Dutch soccer shirt. What does he know?

This wrapped up September with more on the way in the coming months.

Lakes Entrance held its Doubles Handicap tournament on the weekend of October 4 and 5, which had four Wonthaggi members competing and two more who travelled all the way on the Saturday to show their support.

In Section 1, Neil Warburton teaming up with Tom Lacey, finished runners-up, being beaten only on hoop difference, five games +5 as opposed to five games +17.

Also in Section 1, Marj Prendergast partnered Jan Norwood from Bairnsdale and finished with three wins.

Sue Priller partnered with Robin McKinnon from Leongatha in Section 2 and they also finished runners-up winning five games with the successful pair from Orbost taking out the prize by winning all of their seven games.

Well played all.

The fourth week of the penant season has just been finalised, and the table sees Drouin on top with three wins and one loss and Wonthaggi second from the bottom.

With Leongatha home games not yet recorded – some computer hitch – it may mean Wonthaggi will be relegated to last. With one lot of matches to go in this round and then the return matches, Wonthaggi will surely rally.

South Gippsland Bridge Club celebrate their 37th birthday



South Gippsland Bridge Club celebrated its 37th birthday on Friday.

A THREE-table turnout again on Monday was just enough to be able to proceed.

Clive Hope and Neville Chapman led with 60 per cent, Sean Munley and Bruce Higgs 53 per cent, Julie and Ian MacPhee 50 per cent.

Lois Dwyer and Alan Johnston led Tuesday's play in Wonthaggi with 60.94, Deb Anglin and John French 53.65, Faye Rowlands and Doug McIntosh 51.56, Ann Rinder and Neville Chapman 51.39 and Bron Sund and Michael Dooley with 51.04 per cent.

On Friday – happy birthday to the club – 40 people sat down to play bridge and share a delicious lunch in congenial company.

Jean Barbour and Greg Nicholson led N/S with 57.87 per cent, Deb Anglim and John French 55.56, Anne Somerville and Kathy Dowd 55.09, Alan Johnston and Clive Hope 53.70, and Sean Munley and Bruce Higgs 51.62 per cent.

Catherine Burton and Robyn Synan topped E/W with 58.8, Maree Sands and Maureen Stiles 57.18, Penny Lanser and Doug McIntosh 53.94, Julie Perriam and Bronwyn Sund 53.24, and Fred Meiseloach and Ann Marie Tytler 49.54 per cent.

The card tables were abandoned for a friendly nosh.

Anyone wanting to learn the game and join the club would be welcome to ring the president Mary Brewis on 0427 338 598 or the secretary Kathy Dowd on 0438 859 561.

Nyora Raceway double header to start off the season

THIS weekend, over Saturday, October 18 and Sunday, October 19, Nyora raceway hosts a double header, starting the new season with some of the local classes.

Starting off with the youngest competitors who are the next superstars, Nyora Raceway have the likes of local kids Cruz Abela, who lives in Nyora, competing against some of his mates, Kade Robertson, Nathan Miles, Jackson and Tyson Heaphy, as well as some kids from further out; these kids put on some good shows.

There is also another section with the upcoming kids who race in the smaller cars, including the VSC 1200 class. These kids also guarantee a good show with some family competition on the field; Eliza Taylor up against her cousins, Cruz and Ryder Taylor.

This season, there are a few kids from the other side of the city joining, who are the likes of Ruby, Roary and the newest driver to the class, Zeke "Rooster" Warren.

On the day, Nyora Raceway have other classes, including Open, Ladies and Junior Standard salons. On the night, Sports sedans have a good field so far with 14 cars and the current club champion, competing in the likes of Chris Aarts, who is back to defend his title, coming up against some strong competitors.

Racing starts at 4.30pm. Tickets are available at the gate or through Facebook.

Trish Dike of Nyora Raceway said they follow this meet up the next day with the youngest competitors in the sport.

"Including our very own quarter midget kids, ages start from five right up to 16, and racing starts at 11 am.

"Local boys, the O'Brien Boys competing in three different sections this year, and our very own littlest kid in the field, Dayne Reddecliffe, will debut his kart running for the first time in this class. Come on down and support the littlest kids. We have lots of fun to be had."

WONTHAGGI & DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION

AGM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 AT 6.15PM

Korumburra-Wonthaggi Road Courts Clubroom.

All positions declared vacant

Nomination forms

wdnawonthaggi@outlook.com

EVERYONE WELCOME

LEOGNATHA FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB PRESENTATION NIGHT



Senior award winners Travis Nash (most dedicated player), Nick Argento (best team man), Zavier Lamers (most promising senior player), Aaron Heppell (best and fairest), Trent McMicking (premiership coach), Luke Bowman (runner up best and fairest) and Hayden Lindsay (most improved). Kim Drew (most consistent) not pictured.



A Grade netball best and fairest Lauren Redpath, runner-up best and fairest Nicola Marriott and 'Rising Impact Award' winner Amy Scott.



Zavier Lamers was awarded the Peter Dixon Memorial Trophy for most promising senior player.



Travis Nash was presented with the Phil Riseley Memorial Award for most dedicated player.



B Grade netball most improved Ava Brown, best and fairest Laura Curtis, runner-up best and fairest and best in finals Emma Ton and 'Team Spirit Award' winner Lily Scott.



Development Squad award winners Tadgh Gannon (most improved), Luke Marshman (best and fairest), and Isaak Fox (most consistent). Not pictured are Brok Davidson (runner-up best and fairest and most valuable player), and Mitch de Kleuver (most determined).



Under 16 award winners Charlie Bickerton (runner up best and fairest), Sam Kreutzberger (most consistent), Eamon Reardon (most improved), Noah Bradley (best and fairest), Matt Patton (most determined) and Archie Mahoney (coach's award).



C Grade netball best team player Evie Dekker, runner-up best and fairest Sari Hickey, best and fairest Kate McCarthy, and best in finals Jude Reynolds.



Under 18s award winners Max Sheehan (most improved), Finn Donohue (best and fairest), Alby Logan (runner up best and fairest), Archie Fixter (most consistent), and Archie Gannon (coach's award). Rhett Hume (most determined) is not pictured.



Under 13 netball most improved and best in finals Indi Jacobsen, most consistent and best in finals Matilda Bester, best and fairest Finlay Bradley and runner-up best and fairest Kobie Effern.



Under 17s best in finals Gemma Meadley, coach's award recipient Mia Yates, runner-up best and fairest Hattie Jefferis and best and fairest and 'Rising Star' Tyla Peters. Danay Grabham Andrews (most improved) is not pictured.



Under 15s most disciplined Ainsley Logan, best and fairest Lacy Fennell, most improved Ellison Bickerton and runner-up best and fairest Billie Peterson.



Noah Bradley was named the 2025 Jimmy Coyle Club Champion, whilst the George Gould Award recipient for best club person, Debbie Vanstone was absent.

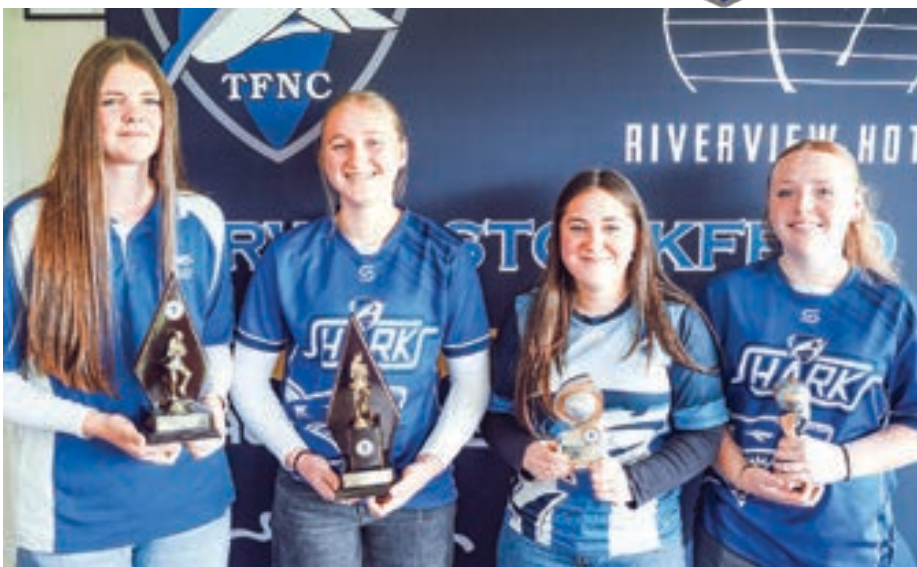


Most Dedicated Club person Elicia Garnham.

TARWIN FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB PRESENTATION NIGHT



Tarwin's U13 award winners Colbie Cottlie, Harriet Field (runner-up best and fairest), Mya Gerretzen (best and fairest, and best in finals) and Kiara Van Dillen (coach's trophy).



The U15s award winners at Tarwin were Holly McRae (runner-up best and fairest), Harper McRae (best and fairest), Pippa Finlay (players' player) and Mackinlee Gibson (coach's trophy).



The U16s award winners at Tarwin were Alec Francis (most determined), Jake Andronaco (runner-up best and fairest), Oscar Bright (best and fairest), Nick McRae (runner-up best and fairest), Shae Griffin (most improved) and Ethan Senior (most determined). Absent: Josh Chalmers (players' player) and Evan Bruning (most consistent).



Tarwin's award winners in the Reserves were Jordan Osborne (best in finals), Luke Keily (best and fairest), Nick McRae (runner-up best and fairest), Shae Griffin (most improved) and Ethan Senior (most determined). Absent: Josh Chalmers (players' player).



B Grade's award winners at Tarwin were Sally Wells (coach's trophy), Millie Billings (best and fairest) and Olivia Baker (runner-up best and fairest).



C Grade's award winner at Tarwin were Katrina Slidders (runner-up best and fairest), Jackie Kent (best and fairest) and Jazmine Tostovrsnik (coach's trophy).



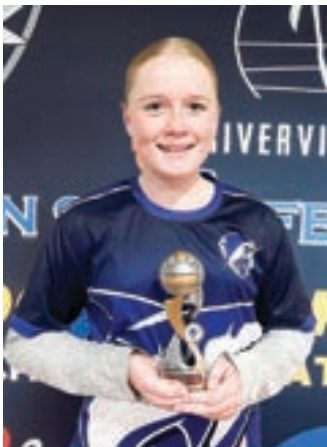
Monique Wilson (runner-up best and fairest), Kelly McRae (best and fairest) and Caroline Brown (most determined) were the D Grade award winners at Tarwin.



Tarwin's U17s award winners were Georgia Slidders (best and fairest), Casey Tumino (runner-up best and fairest) and Georgie Owen (coach's trophy).



The Stan Sell Memorial Best Club Person Award went to Damian Van Dillen at the Tarwin Football Netball Club.



Maeve Bowler received a coach's award. Maeve played in Tarwin's U13s team in the Leongatha and District Netball Association.



Tarwin Football Netball Club life member inductees Rebecca Owen and Brian Dacey.

TARWIN FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB PRESENTATION NIGHT



Tarwin Football Netball Club's Senior award winners were Callum Best (best first year player), Ben Chalmers (best and fairest), Dan Houston (best utility), Alex Chadwick (coach's trophy) and Troy Harley (leading goal kicker). Absent: Harrison Cumming (runner-up best and fairest).



The A Grade awards at the Tarwin Football Netball Club went to Bianca Phillips (breakthrough player), Kate McCracken (equal runner-up best and fairest), Amy Robertson (best and fairest), Laura Robins (equal runner-up best and fairest) and Imogen Law (coach's trophy).



Kevin McRae (most consistent), Archer Nye (most improved), Jarrah Causer (impact player), Harvey Williamson (coach's trophy) and Hudson Giroud (young leader award) were the U12 award winners at Tarwin.



Tarwin's U14s award winners were Levi Orgill (best and fairest), Aiden Launder (leading goal kicker), Reeve Meikle (best in finals), Aedan Parker (runner-up best and fairest), Arkie Cameron (most improved), Rafferty Dwyer (best utility) and Aedan McRae (most consistent).



Zac McRae (best team man), Indie Cameron (best and fairest), Alec Francis (runner-up best and fairest) and Cody Gerretzen (most courageous) were the Thirds award winners for Tarwin.



Karl, Jack, Jules and Alex Aeschlimann played together for the first time on Saturday.

Aeschlimanns unite for historic match at Scorpion Park

SCORPION PARK was awash with Aeschlimanns on Saturday as brothers Karl and Alex, along with their sons Jack and Jules, took the field together for the first time in Town's B Grade clash against Phillip Island.

Karl and Alex first fell in love with cricket in the Elliott family's Turner Street backyard.

"We were there constantly," recalls Karl. The rules were a little unorthodox – a wheelbarrow often filled in as a fielder.

They reckon it was around 1984 when they first played wheelbarrow-free cricket together for Leongatha Town in the under 16s.

Now in their 50s, Karl and Alex's illustrious careers at Town span more than four decades.

Life has taken them away from South Gippsland from time to time, but their

loyalty to Leongatha Town Cricket Club has never wavered.

Jack and Jules grew up spending their summers at the clubhouse, coming through the junior ranks at Town, with both dads stepping in as coaches along the way.

The younger Aeschlimanns described the experience of lining up alongside their dads as "salubrious."

In a nod to family tradition, the cousins were also spotted getting a little competitive down at the boundary – just like their fathers once did.

While the result on the scoreboard wasn't what Town had hoped for, the experience of sharing the field as a family was unforgettable.

The young Aeschlimanns reckon their dads have "at least another two games in them – so long as they don't get injured."

AROUND THE GROUNDS...

Sharks storm to victory

EXCELLENT batting by both teams meant Saturday's B2 match between The Imperials and Kilocunda-Bass came down to bowling prowess.

Playing at the Bass Recreation Reserve, the Imperials chose to bat first.

Andrew Meyer, Cameron Bruce, captain Samuel Vagg and Clint Honeysett each gave great performances, with Meyer recording the top score of 64 runs.

The Imperials knew it would come down to their bowling and fielding, but a 150-run partnership from Ray Gardiner and Adam Miller secured the win for the Sharks.

"It was a good game of cricket. Our 229 was a solid score, but it came down to a few crucial dropped catches," Imperials club president and B2 vice captain Kristian Gray said.

"We had four batsmen who all batted well. We took a few early wickets, so Kilocunda-Bass was behind on the run rate initially. Adam (Miller) got his eye in and showed that he's a handy player and Ray (Gardiner) stuck with him to get the runs they needed. We had our opportunities, but couldn't stop them in the end."

Miller was 129 not out and Gardiner made 70 runs before he was run out by Lachlan O'Connor.

The Imperials will play Glen Alvie next week, which is coming off a loss after a close contest with MDU.

This result suggests an equal competition may be the order of the season in B2.

The Imperials are also looking forward to the Woolworths Blast program starting this week.

The program will start at 4pm on Thursday, this week to be held at Leongatha's East Campus.

Club defeats the Stingrays

WONTHAGGI Club proved to be the stronger side in its battle with Inverloch in C2 on Saturday.

Dalyston Recreation Reserve hosted the match, and Club sent Inverloch out to bat first after winning the toss.

Inverloch's partnership of Dave Tessari

and Jordan Foote combined well to make 67 and 58, respectively.

Tessari was not out at the end of Inverloch's allotted overs.

For Club, Ryan McGuirk and Brendan Pentland bowled well.

Club's partnership of Jatin Shannon and Justin Lisis ensured the win, making 51 and 44 runs respectively.

"The game was played in good spirits with a good mix of youth and experienced players on the field," Club president Luke McGuirk said.

"Inverloch was well controlled and well captained by Warren Williams, but it was our partnership of Jatin and Justin that put us in a winning position."

Club will take on OMK next week and Inverloch is set to face Koonwarra L/RSL.

Rampaging Kookas take on Research Rhinos

ANOTHER season began last Sunday for the South Gippy Over 60s Kookaburras.

The Kookas road tripped it to Research. The Kookas took the willow first.

Vic Rep Peter Miller and his ol' mate Warwick Hayes opened up.

Haysey got a quickfire 11.

Tony Latham then joined Miller and both tore it up.

Miller was 33no off a lazy 27 balls and Latham was 33 off 25.

Gary Adams was once again sublime with 26no, and was well supported by Neale White 14no and Mike Newton 14no.

Off their 30 overs, the Kookas made 5/158. Ol' Grayza Wighty and Pieter Loos did their bit for women's cricket by both being dismissed by a very young looking over 60s gal called Sarah.

The Kookas then took the pink pill. All bowlers were somewhat rusty but finally contained the Rhinos to 2/158.

Best of the bowlers were Neale White 1/12 and Ol' Wighty 1/17.

Man of the match went to Tony Teflon Latham for his blistering 33no.

It was a great start to the Kookas.

A magnificent season of fun and "Mens Shed on Grass" will follow.

Hartley Wells

Betta

Leongatha

www.hartleywells.com

Phone: 5662 2930

LEONGATHA & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

A1: Mitch Thomas (Club) 118 ; Heath Womersley (Phillip Island) 3/16
A2: Rumesh Rangana (Korumburra) 76 ; Sam Bright (MDU) 4/26
B1: Stewart Beaumont (Club) 72* ; Cameron Baudinette (Nerrena) 3/7
B2: Adam Miller(K-Bass) 129* ; Jack Brown (Glen Alvie) 4/30
C1: Darren Curtis (Nerrena) 52 ; Raph Jefferis (Nerrena) 3/4
C2: Kent Andersen (Glen Alvie) 68 ; Jarvis Hynes (Glen Alvie) 3/33

Choices

The floor you've been searching for

BEAUMONT TILES

Looking good!

8-10 Koonwarra Rd, Leongatha. 5662 5030

Cnr Carneys Road & Bass Highway, Wonthaggi. 5672 2148

LADDERSRD 2

Team	Points	%	Team	Points	%
A GRADE, Division 1			A GRADE, Division 2		
OMK	24	1.118	Koonwarra L/RSL	24	2.539
Nerrena	12	10.408	Nyora	24	0.449
Club	12	1.091	Kilcunda Bass	12	0.893
Inverloch	12	1.064	Korumburra	12	0.890
Phillip Island	12	0.779	MDU	0	1.120
Imperials	0	0.766	Glen Alvie	0	0.919
Town	0	0.394	Foster	0	0.390

LADDERSRD 2

B GRADE, Division 1			B GRADE, Division 2		
Club	18	4.597	Nyora	18	3.375
Nerrena	18	4.051	Kilcunda Bass	18	0.803
Phillip Island	18	2.534	MDU	18	0.782
Town	6	0.394	Glen Alvie	6	1.277
Korumburra	6	0.246	Imperials	6	1.244
OMK	6	0.000	Koonwarra L/RSL	6	0.296
Inverloch	0	0.217			

LADDERSRD 2

C GRADE, Division 1			C GRADE, Division 2		
Kilcunda Bass	18	9.078	Glen Alvie	18	1.531
Nerrena	18	1.600	Club	18	1.006
OMK	12	1.941	Town	12	0.000
Korumburra	6	0.624	Inverloch	6	0.993
Club	6	0.515	Koonwarra L/RSL	6	0.653
Phillip Island	6	0.110	Nyora	6	0.000
MDU	6	0.000	OMK	6	0.000

NEXT WEEKEND'S GAMES & UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

ROUND 3 - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

A GRADE, Division 1

Town v OMK

Inverloch v Nerrena

P-Island v Imperials

Club - BYE

Scorpion Park 1

Inverloch FG

Cowes

Ken Scrimshaw

Ashleigh Stride

Shane Moore

A Grade, Division 2

K-Bass v Glen Alvie

Koon L/RSL v MDU

Foster v Korumburra

Nyora - BYE

Bass 1

Leongatha Turf

Foster GC

Graham Wightman

John Schelling

Ian Salmon

B GRADE, Division 1

Nerrena v Club

OMK v Town

K'burra v Inverloch

Phillip Island - BYE

Nerrena

Outtrim

Korumburra

Michael Thomas

Steve Williamson

Les White

B GRADE, Division 2

MDU v Nyora

Koon L/RSL v K-Bass

Glen Alvie v Imperials

Club - BYE

Meeniyen

Koonwarra

Glen Alvie

Geoff Birnie

Tyson Tootel

TBA

ROUND 3 - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

C GRADE, Division 1

P-Island v OMK

Nerrena v K-Bass

MDU v Korumburra

Club - BYE

Rhyll

Leongatha Vel.

Dumbalk

TBA

TBA

TBA

C GRADE, Division 2

Glen Alvie v Town

Inverloch v Koon L/RSL

OMK v Club

Nyora - BYE

Dalyston

McMahon

Digger Park

TBA

TBA

TBA

Subject to Confirmation.

Any prospective umpires can contact

Ash Stride 0432 350 944 or Ken Scrimshaw 0433 297 421



Ryan Wyatt at the Crease during OMK's innings against Wonthaggi Club on Saturday in C1. W31_4125

Diggers overpower Club

G GRADE, DIVISION 1

OMK secured a win over Wonthaggi Club in C1's first round of the 2025/26 season. Club won the toss and sent in OMK first. OMK put on an impressive 160 runs, which was led by Mat Walker with 41 runs off 35 balls. Club stepped up its bowling, led by captain Sam Liddle, and restricted the run rate in the bottom half of

the batting order. Wonthaggi was trying to chase down the runs, but it looked all over when OMK had it 4/9. Wonthaggi's middle order put a few runs on, with Matrix Chisholm adding 40 runs in an attempt to reach the target. Adam Fisher's bowling attack took down Club's middle order with two wickets and six runs. Owen Fitzpatrick and Dan Wylie took three each to secure the win

for OMK. OMK captain Jordan Myers said the goal for the C1 side is to ensure the guys are getting plenty of time out in the middle, and that there is consistency through the team's batting and bowling. Aside from a couple of new recruits and one departure, OMK is coming into this season's C1 competition with the same side that fell short in the last premiership game and is keen to go that extra step.

AROUND THE GROUNDS...

Town do battle with Phillip Island

LEONGATHA Town's A Grade travelled to Cowes on Saturday to take on Phillip Island. Island won the toss and chose to bowl first after losing an early wicket. Captain Jesse Giardina and number three bat Jack Hume put together a solid partnership and got the score over 50. After losing a clump of wickets, Madura Madusanka batted well with the lower order, making 50 runs and getting the score up to 140. Town was dismissed on 143. Heath Womersley was Phillip Island's top bowler, taking 3/16. Archie Fixter bowled a great spell of taking 1/7 off five overs, and Luke Ashton 3/37 off six overs, was the only other wicket taker. For Phillip Island, Kurt Lane got the ball rolling with 35 runs, and the

partnership of captain Daniel Mock and Tharidu Asurumuni were 38 not out and 36 not out respectively when the game was won. In B Grade, Town won the toss and chose to bat first with both openers getting a start before the top four was dismissed. Rory Gillette steadied the ship with 62, including four sixes before being dismissed. The lower order then got the score up to 145 off 38 overs. Bowling second, Town's Ryan Jorgensen took two early wickets and Beau Gillette taking two as well had the Sharks at 4/65 with the Sharks steadying and getting to 4/147 of 30 overs. C Grade won on forfeit. Stingrays challenge Club in A1 INVERLOCH was defeated by Wonthaggi Club at McMahon Reserve. Club won the toss and made a strong

start, led by Mitch Thomas with a commanding 118, supported by Alex Geyer (47) and Ryan Thomas (30). Inverloch's wicket takers were Lewis Rankin, Ron Abeysinghe, Rhys Newman and Ty Debono. Inverloch was ready to chase down the target but lost opening batsman Riley Harris for a duck. Brett Debono kept the momentum going with 61 runs and captain David Newman contributed 61 runs to produce a score that threatened Club. "We had a close loss by about nine runs in the end," Inverloch's Dave Newman said. "We were hoping to restrict them a little more with our bowling, but it was a good team performance with the bat. We are just coming up from A2 with a few young kids, so it's been good to give them this sort of experience. It doesn't get any easier for us. We have Nerrena next week, but we are looking forward to it."

Full return for Korumburra as all three grades hit the field

By Korumburra Cricket Club

COBRAS took the field for the first time this season with A Grade up against MDU, B and C Grade facing Nerrena, and in our junior ranks, the U17s taking on Inverloch while our U15 combined side with Nyora met Wonthaggi/Glen Alvie. We also proudly welcomed new players Rueben Foster, Liam Maskell, and Billy Dourley to the club for their first games, along with Flynn Belvedere, stepping up from the juniors for his senior debut.

A Grade – Korumburra 8/168 def. MDU 7/165: MDU batted first and got away to a strong start before we fought back well through the middle and late overs, restricting them to 7/165. Mitch Young was the pick of the bowlers with 3/43, while Jacob Whiteside, returning after a 12-month injury lay-off, impressed with 2/25. Aaron Damon and Harry McNeill each claimed a wicket.

Our openers came out firing after the break, putting on a superb 102-run opening stand. Caleb Turton, a rising young batsman at the top of the order, provided a steady anchor with 24 off 56 balls, allowing Rumesh Rangana to unleash a blistering 76 off just 52 balls. After a few quick wickets, Jason Richards steadied the ship with a composed 27 (40), supported by Mitch Young with 18. In the closing stages, new senior player Rueben Foster sealed the win in style, striking



Hudson Jefferis bats in B Grade for Korumburra. Photo: Linda Jefferis.

two boundaries to take the Cobras home at 8/168, with three overs to spare.

B Grade – Korumburra 8/77 lost to Nerrena 2/78: Batting first, we lost a couple of early wickets before Trevor Allen (14) and Shane (18) steadied the innings. Unfortunately, both retired hurt due to injury setbacks, leaving us under pressure. Debutant Liam Maskell showed great composure in his first senior game, battling hard for 14 off 65 balls, while Phil Richards supported well with 10 off 52, guiding us to 8/77 at the close.

With thanks to the Nerrena lads who helped us field a full side, we took to the field

with plenty of spirit. Nerrena started strongly, but a bowling change saw Owen Maskell and Noah Belvedere apply pressure and take a wicket each, thanks to tight, disciplined bowling. A big thank you to Symmo and Jacko from Nerrena for helping out in the field – true community spirit on show.

C Grade – Korumburra 10/84 lost to Nerrena 9/121: Bowling first, the Cobras made early inroads as Bryce Riddell and Tom Sorrell struck immediately, reducing Nerrena to 3/9. However, a strong middle-order partnership rescued their innings before we fought back late to restrict them to 121. Bryce Riddell was

outstanding with 3/9 off 7 overs, while young talent Flynn Belvedere, up from the U13s for his senior debut, impressed with 2/16 – congratulations, Flynn! Our chase was hampered by early wickets, with Rob Belvedere (20 off 80) and Rhys Butler (21 off 52) the only batsmen to find any rhythm. We were eventually dismissed for 84, but congratulations to Rhys on recording a personal best with the bat.

U17 – Korumburra 5/107 def. Inverloch 6/103 The U17: Cobras bowled first and were outstanding with the ball. Jayden Douglas led the way with 3/7, supported by a wicket each to George Edwards, William Dourley, and Billie Wrigley, keeping a strong Inverloch lineup to 6/103. In reply, Levi Gooch set the tone early with a powerful 28 off 29 balls, including three big sixes. Evan Belvedere then finished the job with a quickfire 29 off 22, featuring two fours and a six, steering the Cobras home in the final over.

U15 – Korumburra/Nyora 6/81 lost to Wonthaggi/Glen Alvie 2/106: A tough first-up game for our U15s saw us post 6/81 from our 20 overs. Tristan Dowel (15) and Elijah Le Serve (16) were the only batsmen to reach double figures. In the field, Tristan also picked up a wicket, while Flynn Belvedere effected a sharp run-out. A strong effort from the boys to kick off the season with plenty to build on.

AROUND THE GROUNDS...

Glen Alvie C grade off to flying start

IT WAS a strong weekend across the board for Glen Alvie Cricket Club, with both on-field results and off-field momentum building as the new season hits its stride.

In C Grade Division 2, Glen Alvie secured a memorable victory over Koonwarra Leon-gatha RSL, chasing down 145 to win by two wickets at home. “Kent Andersen’s innings was certainly a turning point for the club on Saturday. It was fantastic,” club president David Hynes said. “He came to fill in one game last season with his son and has played ever since. He’s been working hard, training hard, and he deserved to make the runs and win the game for us.”

Andersen was the standout with a match-winning 68 from 71 balls, anchoring the innings alongside captain Ian Thorn, who finished unbeaten on 49 not out. Earlier, young all-rounder Jarvis Hynes impressed with 3/33.

Ashley Boxall was the highest run taker for the visitors securing 47, followed by Brett Bishop on 37 before a lbw finished his innings.

In A Grade Division 2, Archie Moore notched up his maiden half-century, an encouraging sign for the promising youngster who is finding his feet at senior level against Nyora. “Archie’s gaining in confidence in the A Grade side, and

it’s great to see his hard work paying off,” Hynes added.

For Nyora, scoring the win with 9/178 in 37.4 overs, Jy Hull steered the batting side from early trouble with a classy 44 from 50 bowls.

Nyora’s Jona Watts had a great club debut with 0/28 off 8, and could have easily had a couple of wickets along with 25 with the bat, according to club secretary Adam White.

“Great lower order effort by Lochie Row, Jake Henry and Jaylen Waixel to secure the win when needing 40 for the last two wickets,” White added.

Off the field, excitement is growing as Glen Alvie’s women’s team prepares for its 25/26 season debut this Sunday.

“We’ve had really good numbers at training across the board, and it’s starting to pay off,” Hynes said.

“It was great on the weekend that everyone got to play in the first round and there were some close matches.”

Knox leads Nyora to strong B grade win

NYORA B Grade kicked off its 2025/26 season in style, claiming a convincing seven-wicket victory over Koonwarra Leon-gatha RSL at the Velodrome.

After the hosts elected to bat, Nyora’s bowlers shared the workload superbly to dismiss Koonwarra for 158 in the 40th over. Veteran Keith Maclure was the pick of the attack,

finishing with a miserly 3/12 off eight overs, tying down the middle order after Koonwarra made a fast start. Tyler Perkins (3/25) and Viraj Peiris (2/28) also kept the pressure on, while skipper Michael Lynch chimed in with 1/25.

In reply, Col Knox produced a match-defining knock, finishing unbeaten on 96 from 88 balls, including 16 fours and a six. He first combined with his son Jordan Knox for a special 74-run father-son stand, then steadied the innings with Lincoln Brock (22 not out) in an unbroken 85-run fourth wicket partnership, after loosing 3/1 in the middle overs.

Secretary Adam White said the Knox partnership was the turning point.

“Col and Jordy Knox with a father/son 74 run stand for the first wicket, Keith Maclure tied down the Koony batsmen with 3/12 off 8 after they got off to a flyer. Overall, a team effort with the ball,” he said.

Nyora’s B Grade heads to Meeniyan next week, while A and C grades have a bye.

“Looking forward to having U13s start up soon,” White concluded.

Koonwarra L/RSL claim second win in style

KOONWARRA L/RSL A Grade opened their second account with a commanding six-wicket victory over Foster at Mary MacKillop Oval in round

two of the LDCA Division 2 competition.

After losing the toss and being sent into the field, Koony’s bowlers took control early, restricting Foster to 121 all out in 36.5 overs. James Rushton led the charge with an impressive 3/16 off eight overs, supported by Tanuj Namalge (2/22) and Blake Smith (2/27). Captain Callum Buckland and Jason Kennedy chipped in with a wicket each, while sharp fielding, highlighted by a run out from Buckland, kept the pressure on throughout.

In their first hit-out of the season, following a round-one forfeit, Foster made a solid return, with Mitchell Jones setting the tone at the top of the order. His 39, featuring four boundaries, laid the platform before Mitch Allott steadied the innings, finishing unbeaten on 31, however, ultimately Foster was all out in 36.5 overs.

Chasing 122 for victory, Tanuj Namalge set the tone with a blistering 38 off 24 balls, including five boundaries and a six. After a small wobble, William Cashin (31 not out) and James Rushton (13 not out) guided the side home with composure, securing the win in just 19 overs.

Koonwarra L/RSL will look to build on the strong start, particularly with the ball, when they take on MDU next round, who, despite not yet recording a win, have posted some strong scores early in the season. Meanwhile, Foster will enjoy home ground advantage as they host Korumburra.

LDCA - ROUND 2 HIGHLIGHTS

A GRADE, DIVISION 1

OMK 171 d Imperials 151
OMK Batting: K Brann 45, P Fermanis 35
OMK Bowling: J Lamers 3/25, E Lamers 3/35
Imp. Batting: K McGrath 40, L Anderson 21*
Imp. Bowling: L Wright 2/14, K McGrath 2/27
Phillip Island 4/145 d Town 143
Town Batting: M Madusanka 50, J Hume 28
Town Bowling: L Ashton 3/37, A Fixter 1/7
PI Batting: D Mock 38*, T Asurumuni 36*
PI Bowling: H Womersley 3/16, T Niven 2/9
Club 4/247 d Inverloch 6/238
Club Batting: M Thomas 118, A Geyer 47
Club Bowling: F West 3/25, R Thomas 2/34
Inv. Batting: B Debono 63, D Newman 61
Inv. Bowling: R Abeyasinghe 1/27, T Debono 1/35
Nerrena – BYE

A GRADE, DIVISION 2

Nyora 9/178 d Glen Alvie 4/176
G-Alv. Batting: M Dakin 57*, A Moore 50
G-Alv. Bowling: B McRae 4/33, A Donohue 2/35
Nyora Batting: J Hull 44, J Watts 25
Nyora Bowling: R Cordeux 2/31, A Thompson 1/23
Korumburra 8/168 d MDU 7/165
MDU Batting: W Prosser 34, M McGrath 28
MDU Bowling: S Bright 4/26, SC Lakshan 2/23
K’burra Batting: R Rangana 76, J Richards 27*
K’burra Bowling: M Young 3/43, J Whiteside 2/25
Koon L/RSL 4/124 d Foster 121
Foster Batting: M Jones 39, M Allott 31*
Foster Bowling: L Rooker 2/41, A Pattie 1/34
Koon. Batting: T Namalge 38, W Cashin 31*
Koon. Bowling: J Rushton 3/16, T Namalge 2/22
Kilunda-Bass – BYE

B GRADE, DIVISION 1

Club 2/141 d Inverloch 9/138
Inv. Batting: S Hayes 34, D Harris 31
Inv. Bowling: J Richardson 1/18, M Marston 1/48
Club Batting: S Beaumont 72*, G Adams 46*
Club Bowling: B Evans 2/17, S Roche 2/21
Phillip Island 4/147 d Town 145
Town Batting: R Gilliatte 62, C Bruce 18
Town Bowling: R Jorgensen 1/11, B Gilliatte 2/24
PI Batting: D Holmes 51*, H Peppard 33
PI Bowling: J Allan 2/16, D Holmes 2/18
Nerrena 2/78 d Korumburra 8/77
K-burra Batting: S Dole 18, T Allen & L Maskell 14
K-burra Bowling: O Maskell 1/11, Fill-in 1/10
Ner. Batting: B Trotman 31, K Berryman 30
Ner. Bowling: C Baudinette 3/7, C Dougherty 1/5
OMK – BYE

B GRADE, DIVISION 2

MDU 9/162 d Glen Alvie 7/161
G-Alv. Batting: S Smith 39, G Moore 34
G-Alv. Bowling: J Brown 4/30, N Luff 2/24
MDU Batting: D Zuidema 67, Fill-in 50
MDU Bowling: K Sinclair 2/29, D Zuidema 1/6
K-Bass 5/230 d Imperials 4/229
Imp. Batting: S Vagg 67*, A Meyer 64
Imp. Bowling: L O’Connor 1/12, K Gray 1/17
K-Bass Batting: A Miller 129*, R Gardiner 70
K-Bass Bowling: A McBride 2/41, A Leighton 1/23
Nyora 3/160 d Koon L/RSL 158
Koon. Batting: B Anderson 59, K Thorne 28
Koon. Bowling: L Read 2/28, T Lund 1/17
Nyora Batting: C Knox 96*, J Knox 28
Nyora Bowling: K MacLure 3/12, T Perkins 3/25

C GRADE, DIVISION 1

Nerrena 9/121 d Korumburra 84
Ner. Batting: Darren Curtis 52, Fill-in 14
Ner. Bowling: Raph Jefferis 3/4, M Croatto 2/7
K’burra Batting: Fill-in 30, R Butler 21
K’burra Bowling: Fill-in 3/9, F Belvedere 2/16
K-Bass 1/116 d Phillip Island 9/115
PI Batting: M Cleary 50, J Parry 23
PI Bowling: C Chambers 1/24
K-Bass Batting: J Hockett 51*, J Dickson 25*
K-Bass Bowling: A Blackney 3/32, S Tapscott 2/16
OMK 8/160 d Club 103
OMK Batting: M Walker 41, J Greenwood 37
OMK Bowling: Fill-in 3/19, O Fitzpatrick 3/39
Club Batting: M Chisholm 40, T Dudack-Jacobs 36
Club Bowling: S Liddle 3/24, P Cornelis 2/24
MDU – BYE

C GRADE, DIVISION 2

Club 3/146 d Inverloch 3/145
Inv. Batting: D Tessari 67*, J Foote 58
Inv. Bowling: I Richardson 2/42, H Williams 1/8
Club Batting: J Shannon 51, J Lics 44
Club Bowling: R McGuirk 2/26, B Pentland 1/15
Glen Alvie 4/148 d Koon L/RSL 6/145
Koon. Batting: A Boxall 47, B Bishop 37
Koon. Bowling: S Paterson 1/9, S Chadwick 1/21
G-Alv. Batting: K Andersen 68, I Thorn 49*
G-Alv. Bowling: J Hynes 3/33, O Luff 1/11
Town d Nyora (forfeit)
Korumburra – BYE



Emergency landing halts game at Inverloch

A helicopter used Inverloch Recreation Reserve as an emergency landing space on Saturday afternoon, resulting in a match delay of one hour and 15 minutes. W26_4125

B GRADE, DIVISION 1

THERE was no shortage of drama at Inverloch Recreation Reserve on Saturday afternoon, as a helicopter made an unexpected appearance during the B Grade Division 1 match between Inverloch and Wonthaggi Club.

Early in the afternoon, play came to a halt when emergency services required the ground to act as a landing space for a helicopter airlifting a patient to hospital. Players and spectators watched as the helicopter touched down in the middle of the oval, forcing the match to be delayed for an hour and 15 minutes.

It added another layer of

disruption to what has already been a stop-start beginning to the cricket season, after wet weather caused all B and C Grade games to be cancelled the previous weekend. The interruption made it difficult for both sides to build any momentum, though it did not seem to trouble Wonthaggi Club for long once play resumed.

Batting first, Inverloch posted a total of 138 runs from their allotted 40 overs. Captain Shaun Hayes led from the front, scoring 34 runs from 53 balls, while opener David Harris contributed a well-made 31 before being caught by Club's captain, Sean Roche. Both batsmen found the boundary four times each.

The wickets for Club were

shared around evenly. Roche and Bryce Evans both claimed two each, while Mohamed Ashik Mohamed Nizar also picked up a pair. Chase Adams took one wicket to round out a tidy bowling display that limited Inverloch to a modest total.

When Wonthaggi Club came out to bat, they made relatively light work of the chase, cruising to victory in 25 overs. Stewart Beaumont was the standout performer, smashing 72 runs from 75 balls in a commanding display that included 10 shots that reached the boundary. He was well supported by Gavin Adams, who finished unbeaten on 46 from 49 balls. The pair's partnership guided Club to a

comfortable win, with both men remaining not out at the end.

The Stingrays' two wickets came courtesy of John Richardson and Matthew Marston.

Speaking after the match, Inverloch captain Shaun Hayes reflected on what has been a challenging start to the season.

"It's been really good, we've had a lot of kids there, which has been fantastic to see," Hayes said.

"At the start of the season, it can be harder finding players, but working on our kids each year has been fantastic; it's kept them around which helps us in these situations."

Asked about the unusual delay, Hayes said the break had more

of an impact mentally than physically.

"I was out there batting at that stage, and I suppose you start feeling good about yourself, then you have an extended break, and you have to get yourself back in," he said.

"Play was stopped for an hour and 15 minutes, so it's a massive break."

Despite the interruption and the early-season rust, Hayes said his side's focus remains on development and playing the right way.

"Obviously, finals are always great, that's always our aim, but overall, it's about helping our kids learn how to play the game properly and teaching them how to win properly too," he said.

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