

PHILLIP ISLAND &amp; SAN REMO

## ADVERTISER

Your Community Voice!

Thursday, March 17, 2022

\$1.60 Incl. GST



Troy Joyner at home with his wife Shar and sons Hugo, Ziggy and Otis, after learning he had been recognised in The Australian Bravery Decorations list, with a Commendation for Brave Conduct and a Group Bravery Citation.

Troy Joyner and Fabio Contu were the unsung heroes on board Malaysian Airline Flight MH 128 back in 2017, when a passenger stormed toward the cockpit, threatening to blow up the plane.

The two friends were heading off for an Indonesian surfing holiday together and had been in the air less than ten minutes, when the drama unfolded.

They were the first to spring into action, in response to a cry for help from a stewardess, tackling the man to the floor and restraining him.

On Tuesday, Troy and Fabio's bravery was recognised in this year's Australian Bravery Decorations List.

The drama in the air that took place that night occurred as passengers were settling in for the night flight from Melbourne to Kuala Lumpur, and was terrifying for those on board.

Ten minutes into the ascent, a man stood up and started running towards the front of the plane, saying

he had a bomb and he was taking it to the pilot.

Initially Troy and Fabio sat stunned, as they heard the cabin crew speaking in a language they could not understand but with panic in their voice.

"A minute later, the man came running back towards us. Fab and I knew it was serious; we both feared for our lives," said Troy as he recounted the details to the Advertiser back in 2017.

"At that point a female stewardess told the bomber to stop and put herself in the aisle, blocking his path-way, and yelling out for help.

"We didn't need any more instructions.

"Fab and I jumped out of our seats. I grabbed him by the neck and put him in a choker hold. Fab was right behind me and grabbed him around the torso."

Fabio ripped a black device off from under the man's shirt and passed it to a nearby passenger and checked to make sure he wasn't holding a trigger mechanism.

Other passengers then leapt up to help secure the man, while the pilot turned the plane around and made an emergency landing back in Melbourne.

"Watching on, all I could think about was that I may never see my wife and two boys again. We thought we were going to die," Troy said.

"We didn't have time to think. We didn't need to talk to each other. We just did what we had to do," Fabio explained.

Troy and Fabio were showered with gratitude by the other passengers, once they eventually disembarked.

They did not see themselves as heroes at the time, "just blokes doing what needed to be done".

#### Lasting impact

Putting the stress and the trauma behind them, they went on to board the rescheduled flight, and continued on with their surfing trip.

While the threat was later uncovered as a hoax, at the time it was very real to everyone on board.

Troy's wife Shar was not surprised at the actions of her husband, who she describes as a very selfless and caring person, who would not hesitate to help anyone in trouble.

But she found it hard to come to grips with thoughts of what might have happened.

She said Troy was apprehensive about boarding another plane, immediately after what had happened.

He has flown a number of trips since the incident, but says he no longer sleeps well on a plane.

"I always have one eye open, just to keep an eye on things."

Fabio's partner Nina was also not remotely surprised that he acted as he did.

"He is a selfless and protective person. I am extremely proud of his actions," she said at the time.

The incident has also had an effect on Fabio.

He now scans the crowd in the waiting lounge at the airport when he flies ... which is something he did not do before.

But both men said this week that the effect is minor.

The bravery of Troy, a plumber who now works across at Hastings, commuting each day from San Remo, and Fabio, who is a Bass Coast Shire Roads Manager, has been formally recognised in this year's Australian Bravery Decorations List, which was announced on Tuesday.

Both men have received a Commendation for Brave Conduct and a Group Bravery Citation for their role in restraining the man.

Speaking to the Advertiser on Tuesday, Troy and Fabio said that it was both an honour and privilege to be recognised in this year's Australian Bravery Decorations list, and that to actually be presented with a national bravery award was very humbling.

But to be able to receive it alongside a best mate makes it that extra bit special, both said.

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# PHILLIP ISLAND

7 day weather forecast

Thu/Mar17	Fri/Mar18	Sat/Mar19	Sun/Mar20	Mon/Mar21	Tue/Mar22	Wed/Mar23
						
SHOWER OR TWO	SHOWER OR TWO	MOSTLY SUNNY	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	SHOWER OR TWO	SHOWER OR TWO
18 24	16 19	16 21	15 21	16 22	17 22	16 18



The proposal for a 46-room hotel with indoor pool, gym and dining rooms, 11 apartments and six new shops was rejected by council and will now go to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

## Rejected Cowes hotel development goes to VCAT

The developers of a proposed five-storey, \$12 million hotel in Cowes' main street are appealing at VCAT, after Bass Coast Shire councillors last year rejected the planning permit.

More than 20 objectors to the proposal last week received notification the developers were taking the shire to a compulsory conference on April 7.

If the matter is not settled it will then go to a hearing on July 20.

Objectors now must decide whether they want to pay a fee to appear as a party to the VCAT dispute.

Island Voice's Linda Marston said members would meet to decide whether to be a party.

"Island Voice is very disappointed to see this decision has gone before VCAT," Ms Marston said.

"We believe Bass Coast Shire councillors decision was correct and it was a good decision for the community.

"We are willing to represent the views of the overwhelming number of community members who voiced their objection to this development. No one we have spoken to supported it."

The proposal for 85 Thompson Avenue included 11 apartments, six retail shops at ground level, a hotel with a lobby, gym, and swimming pool.

The plan was for a 19-metre high building – three storeys higher than current planning laws allow.

It also sought to cut 46 car parks – a waiver on half the legally-required parking. A traffic assessment provided by developers measured 2016 traffic levels and found parking demand could be accommodated by nearby supermarkets, on-street car parking, and the transit centre car park.

Shire planning officers last December recommended councillors refuse the development because the five-storey height was a "strong contrast" to surrounding two-storey Thompson Avenue buildings and failed "to contribute to the creation of a coherent coastal village character".

"The proposal fundamentally fails to recognise the strong sense of place and identity of Cowes," shire planners said.

Councillors agreed the development was too high and would "unreasonably" put pressure on surrounding Cowes car parking.

Planners objected to the developers' traffic assessment and parking options, adding the hotel did not demonstrate environmental best practice.

## Basham trial underway

The jury in the Supreme Court trial for alleged murderer Adrian Basham will visit Phillip Island to view evidence.

This follows the first day of the trial yesterday, when Justice Lesley Ann Taylor provided opening remarks to the 12-member jury, explaining a visit to Phillip Island would be required to see "relevant places" related to evidence.

Counsel for the Crown Nnette Rogers made opening remarks, outlining the case against Mr Basham, who is accused of killing the mother of their three children, Samantha Fraser, 38, at her Cowes garage on July 23, 2018.

Ms Rogers told the court DNA evidence taken from the crime scene – including from the knot behind a hangman's noose – would be presented to the court in coming weeks.

She said the DNA profile was "100 billion times more likely" to be contributed from the accused than any other person.

She said multiple witnesses, including friends, family, police and health workers, would present evidence that the deceased was frightened of the accused, who she believed was tracking her movements via a location app prior to her death and that Mr Basham was "likely to become vindictive".

ly to become vindictive".

Ms Rogers said Ms Fraser had celebrated her birthday in the days before her death and had told her boyfriend that in 2017 on her birthday she had wanted to take her own life.

"When he (her boyfriend) asked how she would remember this birthday (2018) she had replied "a wonderful beginning of a new stage of life," Ms Rogers said.

Counsel for the accused Ashley Halphen said Mr Basham had pleaded not guilty to the single count of murder.

He said the defence was not disputing that Mr Basham was in Ms Fraser's garage on July 23, 2018 – in breach of an intervention order – and had inflicted "a number of non-fatal injuries on her body".

Mr Halphen said the defence was arguing that Ms Fraser was alive when Mr Basham left the garage, alleging she had instead suicided.

"The issue is whether Mr Basham's actions went further and beyond causing those injuries," he said.

"This trial is more a who done it more than anything else.

"He categorically denies killing Samantha Fraser."

Mr Halphen said Mr Basham

was not present on any of the occasions Ms Fraser had discussed their relationship with friends or health workers and so "was not in a position to respond to what was said".

Justice Taylor explained to the jury the law presumed Mr Basham was innocent unless and until he's proven guilty.

"The law does not require Mr Basham to demonstrate he's innocent," Justice Taylor said.

"The law requires the prosecution to prove he's guilty beyond reasonable doubt."

She explained the jury must find the accused guilty on four elements: the accused committed the act that caused the victim's death; that act was consciously, voluntarily and deliberately done; the act was committed while intending to kill the victim or cause serious injury; and the accused killed the victim without a lawful excuse such as self-defence.

R v Adrian Basham is being held in court 11 and all media have been requested to view proceedings online, because of Covid restrictions. Mr Basham cannot be viewed online.

Mr Basham is also facing another set of charges which cannot be reported due a suppression order.

## Bluebottle warning

Beach lovers have been warned to take care in the water and while out walking after reports of bluebottles around Phillip Island's coast.

Cowes resident Trish Cerini said she was walking on the sand in February when she walked on a suspected bluebottle, which left two puncture marks on her foot and she was raced to the Health Hub.

"The doctor saved my life by injecting me with the right injections," Trish said.

"I had a massive headache, ears swelled, body rash, heart raced and I became paralysed, I could not move. They couldn't find a pulse in my foot and started talking

sepsis. I am so appreciative of our island's hub.

"Toxicology at the Dandenong Hospital said they couldn't identify what it was other than something that has gone from the tropics to here.

"I wear thongs now on the beach ... be very careful as I could not see what bit me."

Last week a Surf Beach resident posted this picture on social media, while another commented they saw a dead bluebottle the previous week at Berrys Beach.

One resident said the jellyfish, also known as Portuguese man-of-war, arrive on the island with a prolonged easterly wind.

If stung by a bluebottle: Find a place to rest with someone who can watch over you; don't rub the stung area; wash off remaining tentacles with saltwater and rinse the stung area well.

If possible, immerse the stung area in hot water at a comfortable temperature, with research showing 40C will relieve pain after 10 minutes.

For most, the pain from a bluebottle sting will fade in one to two hours, however some beach goers can suffer anaphylactic shock from a bluebottle sting.

Call triple zero if symptoms persist or if allergic reaction begins.

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# Van plan canned

A proposed camping and caravan park at Forrest Caves has been rejected by VCAT, who found it would be at “odds” with Phillip Island’s “wild, back-to-nature experience”.

For six years the controversial park plan has been proposed for 8ha at 1285 Phillip Island Road, with a planning permit for a 266-site caravan park development originally lodged in 2016.

The latest plans for “Surf Park Phillip Island” proposed 177 camp sites – including 26 caravan sites, 37 large camp sites and 114 tent sites – as well as a reception building, two amenities blocks, and caretaker’s residence.

These plans received 59 objections and went to VCAT last October because the shire failed to make a decision on the application within the statutory timeframe, with councillors later rejecting the plans because the park would be “culpable” to build.

The Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal last Wednesday handed down its findings, saying the proposal was not acceptable because of its impacts on the environment.

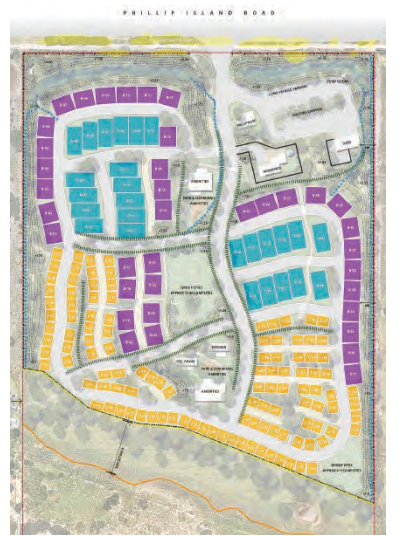
Senior VCAT member Laurie Hewet said the caravan park would be “an anomaly to what tourists and residents on Phillip Island would expect and seek to enjoy”.

“The effects of the proposal on landscape and environmental matters produce an accumulation of impacts, that by themselves, may not result in significant detriment, but cumulatively, create impacts that are not acceptable,” Mr Hewet said.

He said while the land, zoned farming, was already cleared for agriculture and any further vegetation removal would be small, this



VCAT has rejected a proposal to build a camping and caravan park on this land at Forrest Caves. While the land is already cleared for agriculture and any further vegetation removal would be small, the impacts of the proposal outweighed its benefits “from a net community benefit perspective” VCAT said.



The latest plans for the proposed 177 camp sites – including 26 caravan sites, 37 large camp sites and 114 tent sites – as well as a reception building, two amenities blocks, and caretakers residence.

was “one of a number of elements, that cumulatively demonstrate the impacts of the proposal begin to outweigh its benefits from a net community benefit perspective”.

Mr Hewet was concerned “state significant” views would be impacted, despite the developers proposing adding mounded land and more vegetation.

“The site is located on the narrowest part of Phillip Island where views to both Bass Strait and Western Port Bay are limited. Hence, these types of views and of this landscape character are highly valued.

“We find the presence of the camping and caravan park in the foreground of a view towards Western Port will diminish this experience

irrespective of proposed mounding and landscaping.”

Mr Hewet said the proposal would impact short-tailed shearwaters, but he was less concerned about hooded plovers and the eastern barred bandicoot.

#### Traffic, tourism

In their submissions, most objectors argued the proposed caravan park would invite serious traffic accidents.

In a surprise to those objectors, Mr Hewet did not agree, saying he was satisfied with evidence presented at the VCAT hearing that indicated the development would “not contribute unacceptably to increased traffic volumes and vehicle movements on Phillip Island Road”.

“Our decision to refuse the application is not predicated on our assessment of the proposal’s traffic impacts,” he said.

He agreed there was policy support for a caravan park to “address an identified short fall in short term accommodation on Phillip Island during the peak tourist season”, but those benefits “must be balanced against” environmental protection.

Mr Hewet agreed with Bass Coast Shire representatives that given Bass Coast’s declaration as a Distinctive Areas and Landscape (DAL) the development would “undermine” the landscape.

He did not agree with the developer’s argument that other non-urban developments such as the Cape Kitchen restaurant and new spa re-

sort under construction, the National Vietnam Veterans Museum and the Phillip Island airport already impacted on the landscape.

Seven objectors were part of the VCAT case, including the Phillip Island Conservation Society and the Bass Coast branch of the National Trust.

Many objectors last year argued Forrest Caves was a dangerous unpatrolled beach, with large rips that are “often not visible”, and “one of the most treacherous stretches of beach on the whole of Phillip Island”.

This issue was not addressed at VCAT.

There was just one submission last year in support of the park plan.



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Councillors say they accept the business case was flawed and a car ferry would require government subsidies. An artist's impression of the Cowes to Stony Point car ferry in the 2018 business case.

# MP, councillors respond to car ferry concerns

The State MP for Bass has acknowledged the business case for a car ferry needed to be "re-visited through a 2022 lens".

MP Jordan Crugnale was responding to concerns, detailed in the Advertiser last month, by the Phillip Island Conservation Society (PICS), who wrote a letter to the infrastructure and investment department director, the head of Infrastructure Victoria, Ms Crugnale and Bass Coast Shire CEO and councillors.

In the letter, PICS president Jeff Nottle urged the government not to simply accept the "flawed" 2018 business case.

"We write to ensure your department fully understands the lack of rigour in the business case it has chosen to carry forward," Mr Nottle wrote.

"The car ferry is most likely unviable regardless of whether the terminal is located at the site

proposed in the 2018 business case or at Cowes jetty."

Ms Crugnale responded saying the original business case was "pertinent at the time that it was done in 2018 and it's clear that things have changed in that time".

"The business case for connecting this community with the Mornington Peninsula, as well as a car ferry being an iconic touring route from the Great Ocean Road to Gippsland is something that should be re-visited through a 2022 lens," she replied.

As reported in the Advertiser, Bass Coast Shire will soon appoint a consultant to lead a new feasibility study, after the state government announced \$200,000 funding to investigate the Cowes jetty as a possible location for a car ferry terminal.

The shire said the new study would include fi-

nancial analysis, but be based on the 2018 business case, which advocated for a 205m-long terminal jetty; a 30-car capacity car ferry, a ticket price of \$60 per car, at a total cost of more than \$80 million.

The letter includes the 2018 PICS submission into the car ferry, offering economic analysis.

At the time PICS was not the only organisation to question figures in the business case, with the Nature Parks also writing the business case had over-stated the economic benefits.

## Councillor responses

Cr David Rooks responded to the PICS letter saying the car ferry had been a state government initiative "for many years now" and "there hasn't been strong community support over that period".

"I understand the community may be frus-

trated with another feasibility study," Cr Rooks said.

"I have read the PICS response to the 2018 business case and they make some strong points against it.

"Through the consultation process of this feasibility study, I have confidence in the community to determine if the 2018 business case is still relevant and if they support the car ferry terminal at the Cowes jetty."

Cr Rooks added the final outcome of the feasibility study would be presented to the state government for their further consideration.

Cr Ronnie Bauer said he "accepted the business case was flawed" and any car ferry would require government subsidies.

"It's like the Grand Prix. As long as money flows in from government it will work," Cr Bauer said.

"I accept the rebuttal of the business case by PICS but the car ferry is integral to the tourist strategy of the state so they will pursue it. The whole idea is it's a state-wide tourist strategy, the missing link."

Cr Bauer said it was also important to have emergency evacuation if the bridge was ever closed.

He added that he supported environmental studies, especially to ensure Cowes front beach "isn't washed away" and beaches either side weren't impacted.

Mayor Michael Whelan said he could not comment as an Island Ward councillor, given he was now mayor and representing the shire.

However, at the 2018 council meeting Cr Whelan voted against the motion to support "in principle" a car ferry, and investigate the Cowes jetty as a more suitable location.

At that time he received applause when arguing the "environment is the economy" and the business case failed to convince him of the economic benefits.

"I take the view that so many people love the island, but the island is not loved," he said.

"We have over-developed it ... Local council pays a high proportion of visitor costs but a high proportion of that benefits businesses outside the region and that is a fundamental structural problem."

## Council Update



### Renewable Energy Celebration and Drop-in Session

We're inviting the community to celebrate the completion of the solar energy project at the Coronet Bay Community Hall and participate in a renewable energy drop-in session. The session will give community groups, small businesses and individuals the opportunity to talk to representatives from Council, Gippsland Community Power Hub, Energy Innovation Co-operative, Totally Renewable Phillip Island, Climate Change Network and Island Energy, to learn more about available grants, renewable energy and sustainability

**When:** Tuesday, 29 March at 11.00am, drop in session from 11.30am

**Where:** Coronet Bay Community Hall, 39a Gellibrand Street, Coronet Bay.

For more information please contact our Cemeteries and Council Committees Officer on the numbers below.

### Have your say: Communications and Engagement Strategy

We're reviewing our Communications and Engagement Strategy and we want to hear from you. This review is your opportunity to tell us how you would like to hear from us, how often and the types of information we can provide to keep you updated. We also want to know what we need to do differently, or keep doing, when it comes to engagement. You can fill out our survey online at [www.engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au](http://www.engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au) or paper copies are available at any of our Customer Service Centres. We're also holding pop-up sessions where you can come and have a chat on:

**Thursday, 17 March**

- Inverloch: Inverloch Community Hub, 16 A'Beckett St, 9.30am to 11.30am
- Wonthaggi: Apex Park, Graham Street, 1.00pm to 3.00pm

**Friday, 18 March**

- Inverloch Expo: Inverloch Community Hub, 16 A'Beckett Street, 4.00pm to 7.00pm

**Tuesday, 22 March**

- Kilcunda: 3535 Bass Highway (Kilcunda General Store) from 10.00am to 2.00pm

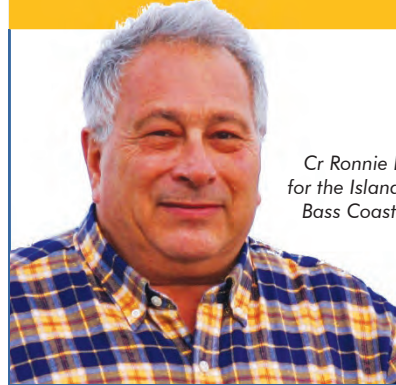
### Road closures Cowes: Thursday 16 March

Changed traffic conditions will be in place in Cowes for the Shannon's Motorsport Street Party on Thursday, 17 March:

- The Esplanade will be closed between Warley and Bass Avenues from 3.00pm until 8.30pm
- Thompson Avenue will be closed between Chapel Street and The Esplanade from 3.00pm to 8.30pm
- The event will begin at 5.30pm

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A.F.D.A.



# Not a roadside attraction

Roadside maintenance on Phillip Island is lacking, according to one local resident.

Brian Arnold said he has been complaining for years about the state of roadsides across the island, without success.

Now that the council is reviewing its Road Management Plan, Brian wants things to change.

He's particularly concerned about the roadsides on the Rhyll-Newhaven and Cowes-Rhyll roads.

Although there have been reviews of the speed limit on those roads, including research on wildlife road-kill, Brian doesn't believe speed is the issue.

"They don't keep the grass cut on the side of the road," he said.

"The animals have got no hope. Speed isn't what is killing them, people can't see them."

He said dead trees have been left hanging on the edge of the road for up to two years.

"There's one section on the Rhyll-Newhaven Road where there are limbs hanging everywhere.

"No one comes along and picks them up. They shouldn't need a review to deal with this. It's just common sense. Leaving the branches there is dangerous."

Brian is also calling on the Cowes-Rhyll Road to be widened, to improve the safety for bike riders.

## Tourism

He said the lack of roadside maintenance is at odds with council saying Phillip Island is a major tourist attraction.

"We're supposed to be one of the biggest tourist attractions in Australia," he said.

"There's a difference between being natural and being safe and presented in a tidy manner."

Brian wrote to council just before



Resident Brian Arnold said dead trees have been left hanging on the edge of the Rhyll-Newhaven Road for up to two years. "Leaving the branches there is dangerous."

Christmas again raising his concerns about trees hanging over the roadsides.

"They got back to me and said yes, they'd been reviewing them.

"They do what they call 'habitat the trees', which means leaving the trees and some branches for the small critters, but no foliage.

"They should pull them down and get rid of them."

## Review

Bass Coast Shire Council is currently reviewing its Road Manage-

ment Plan, with feedback open until March 25.

The plan sets out the standards by which council maintains public roads and footpaths, including roadside vegetation, as well as stating the intervals needed between inspections and what is considered a hazard.

"The purpose of the review is to ensure our service levels are appropriate and in line with community expectations," the council states on its website.

"Tell us what you would like to see - new standards, current standards

maintained or changes to current standards."

Island Voice said while response times for investigating and repairing local roads seems reasonable on paper, the state of local roads told another story.

"The simple fact that council roads are becoming increasingly pot-holed or have been repaired so often they look like quilts, indicates either the response timeframes or the repairs conducted are inadequate," Linda Marston from Island Voice said.

"Island Voice believes that council should re-evaluate the whole process of road and pathway maintenance in Bass Coast.

"There is no indication there is any recording and analysis of the frequency of defects being reported on certain roads.

"Based on personal experience, I can say many repairs to dirt roads last until the first rain, or a heavy truck passes over them, which can be as soon as one day after repairs.

"We wonder how can this be more cost effective than spray sealing a surface?"

Island Voice has questioned the standard of current repair work, saying it required monitoring to accurately assess if it was suitable.

"Without such monitoring how can council ensure that repairs are of an appropriate standard and last a reasonable period of time?"

Linda said Island Voice was also concerned if the program provided value for money for ratepayers, and if the "Class 3 Shire Blend" of crushed rock used on unsealed roads was creating more dust issues for residents.

It is calling for fire prevention works on roadside vegetation be included in the plan, as it "presents a significant risk if they are not undertaken when required, especially as roads provide the only viable evacuation routes off of Phillip Island".

To read more about the review or make a submission, go to [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/services/roads-footpaths/road-management-plan-2017-review](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/services/roads-footpaths/road-management-plan-2017-review).

Submissions close March 25.

The review does not cover standards for road constructions. Major and arterial roads (such as Phillip Island Road) are managed by the Department of Transport and are not covered by the plan.



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**When** Tuesday April 5th, 2022 **Where** Phillip Island Bowls Club, Cowes

**Time** 6.00pm to 7.00pm **RSVP** By Friday April 1st; email: [admin@srdfs.com.au](mailto:admin@srdfs.com.au) or pop in to your local branch at San Remo, Cowes or Grantville.

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Further to feedback gathered last year, Westernport Water is holding two online forums on April 4 and 7 to get customer views on options and projects to address what customers identified as the most important issues.

# Customers to help shape water plans and prices

By Westernport Water

Water quality, climate change and affordable prices are the top issues customers want us to focus on according to customer feedback collected as part of our water price review consultation.

From September to December 2021, more than one thousand people shared their views about water quality, wastewater services, water prices and what they expect from their water provider.

"Customers have been pretty clear about their priority areas for Westernport Water," said Westernport Water's Managing Director, Dona Tantirimudalige.

"We understand these concerns and we have built out targeted proposals to address the improvements customers are seeking."

Customer insights revealed a strong desire for improvements to drinking water taste, more affordable bills and action on climate change.

With these topics in mind, we're inviting customers to get involved in the next phase of our engagement process by participating in one of two online customer forums happening in April.

"Our customer forums are an opportunity for customers to be part of our planning and decision-making process," Ms Tantirimudalige said.

"We encourage people of all ages

and backgrounds to get involved. Whether you own your home, run a business, rent or have a holiday home, your opinion is important.

"You don't need any special knowledge or expertise to get involved – just a voice and a willingness to participate."

Each forum will delve into a particular topic where we'll present information and then seek customer views on options and projects to address what customers told us was important during initial consultation.

The forums are an opportunity for customers to influence the services, projects and prices for the five years from 2023 to 2028 and are open to anyone who lives, works or owns property in Westernport Water's service area.

The three-hour forums will be held online and everyone who participates will be paid for their time in the form of a \$100 credit on their water bill or a family pass to Phillip Island Nature Parks.

Dates and times:  
• Monday, April 4, 6.30pm – 9.30pm  
• Thursday, April 7, 9.30am – 12.30pm

To register your interest in being part of our forums, please visit [westernportwater.com.au/haveyoursay](https://www.westernportwater.com.au/haveyoursay) or call our Customer Service Team.

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# Prep Students Choose Tap

Starting Prep is always an exciting time for students.

Westernport Water loves to make this special first day even better by ensuring everyone gets a free reusable Choose Tap water bottle.

This year, every Prep student from Newhaven College, Cowes, Newhaven, San Remo, Bass Valley, Powlett River, The Village School and Our Lady Star of the Sea primary schools received one of 435 reusable water bottles, helping them to stay hydrated throughout the school day.

That's almost 1500 students that have received a bottle from Westernport Water since the Prep Water Bottle Initiative began in 2017.

"The Prep Water Bottle Initiative has become a valued tradition and education opportunity for both our staff and our local primary schools," said Westernport Water's Managing Director Dona Tantirimudalige.

"We've received great feedback about the initiative from both teachers and students. We're told the students love filling their bottles up and teachers notice the difference when their students are well hydrated."

The initiative promotes the environmental, monetary and health benefits of drinking tap water, by encouraging people to choose tap water over sugary drinks or pre-packaged single use alternatives.

Studies show that a two per cent drop in body water can cause a 13 per cent decrease in concentration, so keeping kids hydrated throughout the day is imperative for their learning and overall health.

"We want to encourage healthy habits amongst children as early as possible. Tap water is good for



Over at Newhaven Primary - Fisher, Harry, Poppy C and Poppy H received their water bottles, as part of the Westernport Water Prep Water Bottle Initiative.



The Prep class at Our Lady Star of the Sea with their water bottles. Almost 1500 bottles have been distributed since the Westernport Water Prep Water Bottle Initiative began in 2017

your health, it's environmentally friendly and much cheaper than the bottled alternative," Ms Tantirimudalige said.

"By partnering with local schools and giving prep students a water bottle to keep in their classroom or school bag, we hope to give them the best start possible for their new school journey."

With 16 per cent of Gippsland adults now consuming sugary

drinks on a daily basis and over 25 per cent of Australian children being either overweight or obese, it's imperative to educate students on the health benefits of drinking tap water.

Westernport Water said there was a need for water to be available in convenient and easy to access locations and is continuing to install water fountains in each community so that everyone can get a drink when they need it.

To find a list of Permanent Water Refill Stations and their locations so you can stay hydrated on the go, search for Choose Tap page on [www.westernportwater.com.au](https://www.westernportwater.com.au)

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At Cowes Primary, Lizzie, Chloe and Isla were thrilled with their water bottles. Almost 1500 bottles have been distributed since the Westernport Water Prep Water Bottle Initiative began in 2017.



Newhaven College students Kiela and Heath with their free water bottle from Westernport Water, as part of its Prep Water Bottle Initiative.

## Get paid\* to share your views about your water services.

You don't need any special knowledge or expertise to get involved, just a voice and a willingness to participate.

### Online Customer Forums:

- Monday 4 April, 6.30pm–9.30pm (Climate Change focus)
- Thursday 7 April, 9.30am–12.30pm (Water Quality & Taste focus)

### Register by 31 March:

Online - [westernportwater.com.au/haveyoursay](https://www.westernportwater.com.au/haveyoursay)  
Call - 1300 720 711  
Questions - [communications@westernportwater.com.au](mailto:communications@westernportwater.com.au)

\* Participants can choose between a bill credit or a Phillip Island Nature Parks Family Pass.



Share your thoughts about the services and projects you want us to deliver, and the prices you pay.

JOIN OUR CUSTOMER FORUMS





Bill Binks with his painting "Adagio Mahler's 5th, featured as part of the PICES Hoard Pop Up Exhibition.



Celebrating the launch of Hoard, a Pop Up exhibition on the construction site of the new Cultural Centre. Front (from left): Artists Josephine Allen, Marlene Abela, Carolyn Jane and Lois Green, with Sandra Peeters (PICES) and Hannah Eisen (BCSC). Back (from left): Marian Quigley, Warren Nichols (curator), Andrew Kaspers, Susan Hall, Lana de Jager, Mark Schaller and Bill Binks.

# The art of construction

For the last two years, PICES (Phillip Island Contemporary Exhibition Space Inc) has presented highly successful pop-up art exhibitions over the summer holidays.

Its latest venture is an exhibition with a twist.

"Hoard" features the work of 28 local artists, displayed on the hoarding (temporary fencing) around the construction site of the new Cultural Centre, which will ultimately be the home of a new gallery for Phillip Island.

PICES aim is to secure a high-standard, professional exhibition space

in Cowes for local artists, and is one of many arts groups that have been involved in the consultation for the design of the new Cultural Centre.

Working with Bass Coast Shire Council in the interim to provide another exhibition opportunity for local artists was a natural fit.

Sandra Peeters from PICES said when the council approached them to put together the exhibition they jumped at the chance.

Over 70 artists who had taken part in the PICES Pop Up Exhibitions were invited to take part.

Sandra said 41 responded and

then she, curator Warren Nichols and internationally recognised glass artist Dr Tony Hanning (and former director of the Latrobe Regional Art Gallery) went through a painstaking selection process.

"The artists were invited to submit one image suitable for the project," Sandra explained.

"Each of us selected our favourites, then got together and agreed on the final 28."

She said the artwork on display was representative of the quality of work that would eventually be shown at the Cultural Centre gallery

when it opened.

The exhibition features two rounds, with each being displayed for six months: the first from now until September, with the second running from October until April 2023.

The exhibition consists of 14 high resolution photos that have been digitally printed and mounted direct onto the hoarding around the Cultural Centre construction site.

Local firm Archisign printed the artwork with a matte anti-graffiti laminate to protect it, and each artwork is mounted in a series of frames, alongside plaques with the

artist's name and artwork details.

All the artists have been paid for taking part.

Round one artists: Ian Pascoe, Carolyn Jane, Owen Rye, Bill Binks, Mae Adams, Mick Turner, John Mutsaers, Michelangelo Russo and Jennifer Jabu, Lynda Horsborough, Susan Hall, Lois Green, Jolande Anastasi, Wendy Habraken-Flack and Andrew Kasper.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the artists or artwork featured in the Hoard exhibition should visit PICES at [pices.com.au](http://pices.com.au) or email [pices3922@gmail.com](mailto:pices3922@gmail.com).



## The lucky ones get caught.

Right now, Victoria Police are out in force catching drivers doing the wrong thing. Catching these drivers helps protect them from harming themselves and other road users. Please drive safely, for everyone.







## Novavax Covid vaccine is here

Bass Coast Health now has the Novavax vaccine available and say it's critically important to get vaccinated or receive your booster as soon as possible.

Omicron Covid case numbers in Bass Coast dropped at the end of February but have started to climb back up in the past week.

Bass Coast Health CEO Jan Child stressed the importance of remaining ready for the next Covid variant and the next influx of cases, saying it was the experts view that it is a case of when, not if.

"To protect our community as we head towards the winter months, and in particular focus on protecting the more vulnerable members of our community, we urge all community members to make sure they have had three doses of vaccination," Ms Child said.

BCH is now offering the Novavax Covid vaccine at the Wonthaggi Town Hall to people aged 18 and over, to further increase vaccination rates in the community.

"I strongly encourage anyone who is yet to be vaccinated against COVID-19 to please do so.

"Vaccination is your best defence against falling seriously ill. It also minimises the likelihood of passing Covid on to others," Ms Child said.

"People need to understand that vaccination helps us individually, but also helps to reduce transmission across



Isabella Kirk received her Pfizer booster from Immunisation Nurse Sandra Dentry at Wonthaggi Town Hall.

households and communities. In particular, it may help ensure those who are more vulnerable due to suppressed immune systems, do not get exposed or sick."

Novavax and Moderna are only available from the Community Vaccination Clinic at the Wonthaggi Town Hall on Wednesday afternoons, 1pm-5pm.

According to the Australian Department of Health, two large clinical trials showed that Novavax is effective in preventing COVID-19 in people aged 18

years and older.

People who had two doses of Novavax were approximately 90 per cent less likely to get symptomatic COVID-19 than people who did not get the vaccine. It was equally effective in people over the age of 65 years, as well as people with some stable pre-existing medical conditions.

Protection against COVID-19 starts from about two-three weeks after the first dose.

Novavax is not currently registered for use as a booster vaccine.

For more information about whether Novavax is suitable for you, please consult the immunisers at the town hall or your General Practitioner.

If you are 16 years or older, you can receive a booster if it has been three months or more since your second dose.

People aged 16 and over can have a booster dose of Pfizer. People aged 18 and over can have a booster dose of Pfizer or Moderna. Booster doses are not currently recommended for younger people.

BCH has an outreach vaccination clinic at Newhaven College on Saturday March 19, from 2-4pm at the school at 1770 Phillip Island Road, Phillip Island.

Vaccinations are also available from General Practitioners and select pharmacies.

Since May 2021, BCH immunisers have given nearly 45,000 COVID vaccinations.

## Please continue to be tested

Following a busy long weekend Bass Coast Health is urging people with Covid symptoms to continue to get tested to help contain the spread of the virus in the community.

Symptoms include a runny nose, sore throat, dry cough or fever.

In the first instance, Bass Coast Health (BCH) is urging people to have a Rapid Antigen Test.

BCH is giving Rapid Antigen Tests to eligible people from an annex at the Phillip Island Health Hub from 9.30am-11.30am, Mondays and Thursdays only.

BCH is also offering rapid tests for eligible people from the triage tent at the testing site in Watt Street, Wonthaggi (former secondary college site), as well as PCR testing. The site is open 9am - 1pm Mondays to Saturdays (closed Sundays).

To be eligible for Rapid Antigen Tests, people need to have Covid symptoms; or be a confirmed contact of someone with Covid and require a rapid test on day one and day six; or be another contact such as a work, social or education contact, or a member of a high-risk industry surveillance group.

BCH received approval to distribute packs of five Rapid Antigen Tests to eligible members of the public.

Rapid tests are now considered official results and positive results need to be reported to the Department of Health by calling the Coronavirus Victoria Hotline on 1800 675 398 or online at [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/report](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/report)

If you have symptoms a RAT test is an acceptable confirmation test and a PCR is not required.

If you have no symptoms but are a confirmed household contact or a household-like contact or other contact, BCH can provide you with your RATs and has stated staff will of course assist anyone who prefers to have a PCR.



'Step Outside. Move Your Way'

## Step outside during Autumn.

There is something for everyone to explore when you step outside and autumn is a wonderful time to explore the beautiful nature that surrounds Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

As the leaves start to change make the most of this stunning season by taking a walk along our spectacular coastline or beaches, check out one of our cascading waterfalls, stroll amongst the trees and forests or cycle along the Great Southern or Bass Coast Rail Trails.

It's important to make moving part of your everyday, even more so through autumn as the days get shorter. Find the type of movement that fits into your life and the time that works best for you. Walk to work, or part of the way, or the local shops rather than taking the car. The walk home and carrying your shopping bags can have really great health benefits, even in short bursts.

For inspiration visit: [www.southcoastpcp.org.au/what-we-do/step-outside-move-your-way](http://www.southcoastpcp.org.au/what-we-do/step-outside-move-your-way). A webpage highlighting over 60 local tracks and trails including those suitable for beginners and more experienced walkers. The webpage also lists local opportunities for people to join walking groups or other activity groups with over 40 groups listed.

Visit <https://www.southcoastpcp.org.au/> or scan the QR Code



## Two extra chances for you to get a COVID vaccination



**Saturday, March 19, 2 - 4pm**

Newhaven College, 1770 Phillip Island Rd, Phillip Island

**Tuesday, March 22, 3 - 5pm**

San Remo Recreation Centre, 1A Wynne Road, San Remo

**NO APPOINTMENT REQUIRED**

Offering first and second doses and boosters for all eligible people

**In an emergency please call 000.**

**Contact Wonthaggi Hospital on 5671 3333.**

For general queries email

[publicrelations@basscoasthealth.org.au](mailto:publicrelations@basscoasthealth.org.au)







## Escaping your comfort zone

Richelle Olsen started Escaping Your Comfort Zone in 2016 to support women and non-binary people to take on the outdoors, no matter their size, age, or fitness level.

The group's mission is to demonstrate you don't have to have a certain body type to be adventurous.

The group's motto is "The outdoors doesn't care about your size, your speed or your fitness, and neither do we!"

"When you go to a gym, quite often people feel scrutinised. They feel judged. They feel like they don't fit in because they don't have a certain body type," Ms Olsen says.

Escaping Your Comfort Zone (EY CZ) strongly believes "the outdoors belongs to everyone" and is all about making the outdoors as inclusive as possible.

"It doesn't matter how fit you are, how much you huff and puff ... because you're out here in it. We are all red faced, huffing and puffing together."

Escaping Your Comfort Zone encourages members to go at their own pace, with plenty of stops along the trail, and the group moves at the speed of the slowest hiker, so no-one gets left behind.

"It doesn't have to be far, or fast, to be an amazing adventure."

Gippsland Volunteer Leader Jess Edwards, joined during the pandemic as a member and was quickly promoted to a volunteer leader late in 2021.

Jess grew up camping, hiking, and spending time outdoors but after being diagnosed with fibromyalgia when she was 21, she found being active more difficult.

"Over the years I've struggled with weight gain and feeling like I didn't deserve to take up space outdoors," Jess said.

She then joined the EY CZ.

"When I found EY CZ all that changed. I



EY CZ Participants known as escapees, on the Bass Coast Rail Trail at Kilcunda at an event in February 2022.

found a community of like-minded people that recognise that the outdoors is for everyone.

"I found a sense of belonging, that connection that I'd missed for so long."

Jess stated that she's "made some really good friends through EY CZ and now we catch up outside of EY CZ events as well".

Jess is particularly excited about leading the upcoming Gippsland Getting Started in Adventure Program, supported by VicHealth.

The programs are for people who feel like they don't quite fit into mainstream hiking and adventure groups.

"We want to show you that the outdoors be-

longs to everyone, regardless of what social media tells us.

"We welcome you as you are."

EY CZ currently has around five active Gippsland Leaders, with events all over including South Gippsland, West Gippsland, Central and East Gippsland.

Melissa Barnes is a Gippsland Volunteer Leader from Warragul.

"I've had fantastic adventures and trips since becoming involved with EY CZ," Mel said.

"It's such a supportive, welcoming group and I love that no one is left behind."

The motto "the outdoors doesn't care about



Volunteer Leader Jess Edwards with fellow escapee Justine Streager at a recent EY CZ event at Phillip Island Nature Reserve.

your size and neither do we" has never rang truer.

Mel loves the opportunities that EY CZ brings.

"It's so important to show that people of any size and fitness levels can have fun and adventures while enjoying the outdoors and getting to explore the beautiful places we live in."

Ms Olsen says it's important the group caters to those new to exercise, because not every sport group is beginner friendly.

Escaping Your Comfort Zone is supported by VicHealth, is an active This Girl Can supporter, conducts Proud2Play diversity training for leaders, and is a Bushwalking Victoria Club.

The group was also the winner of the VicSport Outdoor Recreation Initiative of the year in 2019.

For more information on Escaping Your Comfort Zone, visit [www.escapingyourcomfortzone.com/](http://www.escapingyourcomfortzone.com/) or email [richelle@escapingyourcomfortzone.com](mailto:richelle@escapingyourcomfortzone.com)

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# New accommodation tailors to inclusive market

Lisa McLure may run a personal training studio in Smiths Beach, but she knows all too well the difficulties people with disabilities face, including those in wheelchairs.

"My step mum (Sharen) is in a wheelchair, after becoming a paraplegic following a car accident about 30 years ago," Lisa said.

"I've seen the problems she has navigating even the most basic things like accommodation or carparks.

"Motels will say they have disabled accommodation, which means you can get in the door, but the bedroom won't be purpose-built, not wide enough, or there will be a small step."

So Lisa and her husband Tim this year launched a new inclusive accommodation business, The Bungalow at Smiths Beach.

Sharen and Lisa's dad stay in The Bungalow when they visit and have road-tested the facilities, giving it the thumbs up.

"The Bungalow" is a one- or two-person, pet-friendly studio apartment, 200 metres from Smiths Beach.

The accommodation is on ground level, with a spacious



A new inclusive accommodation business, The Bungalow at Smiths Beach, has been launched this year.

and wide room, including a fully accessible bathroom, a kitchenette, and free Wi-Fi.

Benches are low and cup-

boards accessed from a seated position.

Even the queen-size bed was picked out by Sharen be-



The accommodation has been road-tested by Lisa McLure's step-mum, who became a paraplegic following a car accident about 30 years ago

cause "it needs to be the right height and not too soft".

"Sharen says a lot of places she stays in can feel really

sterile so we've made it warm and cosy, very homely," said

Lisa, who lives above the accommodation and can lend a

hand if guests need anything.

Lisa said other accommodation on the island tailored for this market included Ripples n Tonic on 15 acres at Ventnor, as well as Rollers Retreat at Rhyll.

"There could be more on the island, there's a definite market for it and we saw a need for accommodation for couples or singles."

Lisa said the studio was built by the previous owner as fully-accessible accommodation and she added they also take able-bodied couples or singles in the spacious accommodation.

She said travelling with Sharen, even around Phillip Island, it was apparent how difficult it was to navigate.

"Disabled parks are often taken and so Sharen often has to just come home if she can't get out of the car. Many car parks are often not wide enough or on a slope or there's a step.

"We still have a long way to go to create facilities people in wheelchairs can use."

The Bungalow at Smiths Beach is available at [Airbnb.com.au](https://www.airbnb.com.au), [rollersretreat.com.au](https://www.rollersretreat.com.au), [ripplesntonic.com.au](https://www.ripplesntonic.com.au) and [www.ripplesntonic.com.au](https://www.ripplesntonic.com.au)

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## Newhaven College

### 2023 Academic Scholarships

Newhaven College is offering Academic Scholarships for applicants entering Year 7 in 2023. Tests will be held at the College Saturday, 26 March 2022.

**Applications are now open and close 18 March 2022.**



**For information and to apply, visit [www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au/enrolments/scholarships](https://www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au/enrolments/scholarships)**

All enquiries regarding scholarships should be directed to our registrar Belinda Manning, 1770 Phillip Island Road, Phillip Island.  
P: 5956 7505 E: [belinda.manning@newhavencol.vic.edu.au](mailto:belinda.manning@newhavencol.vic.edu.au)

## Avoid Cowes east during construction

A traffic management plan detailing how tonnes of massive rocks will be safely carted to Cowes east beach has been released by Bass Coast Shire.

Signs will be erected detailing the plan for inbound trucks through Gordon Street, Broughton Avenue, Perry Street and Rose Avenue.

Outbound trucks will then head out from Stradbroke Avenue to Broughton Avenue and Gordon Street, none of which have footpaths.

The trucks will haul materials for construction of a 360-metre rock wall between Rose Avenue and Coghlan Road.

A pathway will be built at the rear of the eight-metre-deep wall to connect Cowes with Silverleaves in a coastal walk, while the wall will protect the foreshore from erosion.

Beach goers have been urged to avoid Cowes east beach while construction is underway.

Originally the shire said the wall would be finished at the end of this year, but they have now revised that to the end of July, weather dependent.

Stage one last year saw the construction of eight timber groynes and the total project costs with the rockwall is \$3.35 million.

The shire said in the past decade erosion in Cowes east had increased and existing structures were now degraded.

The shire said the crest height of the seawall will be built to accommodate the 2070 projected sea level rises combined with a storm tide and a one in 100 Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) wind and wave event.

Cowes East Foreshore Preventative Action Group (CEFPAG) chair Ken Hailey urged beach goers to avoid the area.

"Residents and visitors should take extreme care during the next few months, and



Trucks will haul tonnes of rocks for construction of a 360-metre rock wall between Rose Avenue and Coghlan Road.

any beach users are encouraged for their own safety to avoid the Rose Avenue beach access if possible," he said.

Ken said residents understand the short-term pain was worth the long-term gain with six years of lobbying finally resulting in the works to stop erosion.

"We recognise the temporary inconveniences, but fully believe these are substantially outweighed by the long-term benefits of the project," he said.

"It's a necessary evil to get it completed."

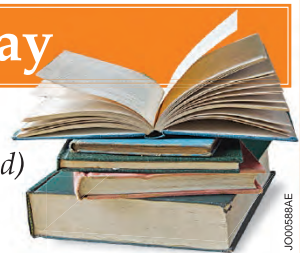
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# Make sure your business sticks out

Aussie Custom Stickers is focused on small business and all their sticker needs.

When Helen Knudsen and her family moved to Cowes in December last year, they brought their successful sticker business with them.

Established in 2019 and specialising in vinyl stickers, Helen said Aussie Custom Stickers can print every type of sticker, with detailers and car mechanics some of the company's main clients.

"We print bumper stickers, or stickers to hand out to customers or even the double-sided service stickers that go on your windshield to remind you when the next service is due," Helen explained.

"Our vinyl stickers are high quality, weatherproof, and UV rated so they don't fade in the sun.

"Our laminated vinyl stickers will last at least seven years."

Helen said as a family-run small business, they appreciate the needs of small businesses and can print any quantity.

"Our most popular quantity is 100 stickers, but we can tailor it for the client's needs.

"We are very flexible and work with our clients."

With clients from across Australia, Aussie Custom Stickers has already produced bumper stickers and labels for candles and shower gels for local clients.

But whether you need labels for packaging, product labels, shop-front stickers or vinyl name tags, Helen said they can help.

"People can go to our website, or Facebook page, send us a message and we'll provide a quote," Helen said.

"You can supply artwork or we can do the design and layout for

you.

"If you're unsure, I can make suggestions on the best type of sticker for your needs.

"Please just give me a call, or contact me via the website."

And you don't have to be a business to order.

"We print vinyl stickers for kids' lunchboxes and school things – and they're dishwasher and microwave proof," Helen said.

Sticker options range from a maximum size of 1300mm x 700mm to 10mm and can be customised and cut to shape.

Stickers are printed on vinyl, with regular or laminated (weather-proof) option.

For more details, go to [aussiecustomstickers.com.au](http://aussiecustomstickers.com.au), visit their Facebook page or email [sales@aussiecustomstickers.com.au](mailto:sales@aussiecustomstickers.com.au)

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Helen Knudsen moved her family and business to Cowes last year. Aussie Custom Stickers appreciate "the needs of small businesses" and can print every type of sticker, in any quantity.



Bass Coast Shire Council has finally confirmed \$1.85 million funding has been received to seal Shetland Heights Road in San Remo.

## Funding confirmed for Shetland Heights Road upgrade

Bass Coast Shire Council has finally confirmed \$1.85 million funding has been received to seal Shetland Heights Road in San Remo.

In February, the council's website was updated to say the road would be sealed.

However the website did not include a timeline or budget for the project, or explain why the project would no longer be a Special Charge Scheme.

There was also no explanation of how much funding

was received from the Federal government or when the funding was applied for.

The Advertiser's requests for more details on the funding for the project were not responded to.

However on Tuesday the council confirmed that the \$1.85 million project to seal the road between Penniwells Drive and Potters Hill Road was made possible by funding from Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure

Program.

Council said the design process, including costings, will be completed in the coming months, then construction will begin.

Work is expected to be completed by June 30, 2023.

The project will include the installation of new pavement and sealing of the road, a new concrete footpath as well as the installation of kerb and channel at selected locations and associated drainage.



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Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra.





# Who runs our council?

By Peter McMahon, Phillip Island Aquatic Centre Fund Inc

I felt the PIACF Inc. should keep our community updated, after our recent proposal to Council to consider a different approach to building and operating the Phillip Island Aquatic Centre.

We requested a meeting with all councillors, via the Councillor Engagement Officer, to fully articulate the proposal, answer any questions that they may have and how the proposal could build two pools in the Shire without incurring the type of ongoing costs to Council that are typical for such projects.

We felt it was important to ensure councillors understood how the ability of the community to access the facilities would be protected, even when training camps for third party groups such as triathletes, football club and surf life saving were taking place.

This proposal also fulfils one of council's directives that there needs to be a clear difference between the two pools.

We received the following response, without having an opportunity to meet with our elected councillors to outline our proposal.

This is the email response, from one of the Council Managers, to our request to meet with the councillor's:

*"As previously mentioned over the next six to 12 months council will continue our discussion with advisors and ministers in our advocacy push. Council have determined to stay the course and, as such, will continue with the current advocacy and planning of the aquatics project. Given this, we believe that at this stage there is no need to meet with the president and yourself to go over the report. We can assure you that work on the aquatics project has not stopped and we will continue to pursue funding and opportunities."*

I find this of particular interest given council's response to the article in the Advertiser (February 25) which stated: "A shire spokesperson said they had carried out community consultation on their feasibility study last year. However, we are always open to receiving new ideas on how to make our community facilities as good and as cost effective."

But by March 8 it seems that they are not open to new ideas at all.

It is also worthwhile noting that this decision by the officers has been made before a proper or ordinary Council meeting was undertaken, or the opportunity to talk to councillors provided.

So we have to ask "who represents us?" and "Is it

appropriate that council employees decide who can and can't, present information to our elected councillors?"

Surely if an alternative idea is suggested that identifies a different method of construction and operation that would fulfil the community's needs and save ratepayers money, it is worth further investigation.

It is my understanding, and my great concern, that our councillors have not been shown the results of the feasibility studies carried out last year.

Surely council officers should be providing information to councillors for them to discuss and evaluate, not censoring what they see.

How can councillors be expected to make considered and informed decisions?

Anybody wishing to have a soft copy of our proposal which is supplied free of charge is invited to contact Peter McMahon [pmc99110@bigpond.net.au](mailto:pmc99110@bigpond.net.au).

I also make the offer to all councillors to meet privately to have a full and open discussion of the merits of our proposal.

**Editor's note:** The Phillip Island Aquatic Leisure Centre Feasibility Study – final report – was presented for adoption at Council's meeting this week, Wednesday, March 16.



Plans for an upgrade to the car park at the Cowes boat ramp are currently available on Council's website, with feedback open until April 8.

## Plans for Cowes boat ramp car park upgrade

Bass Coast Shire Council is finalising plans for an upgrade of the eastern car park at the Cowes boat ramp facility.

The plans are open to feedback from the community until April 8.

The project includes sealing the existing crushed rock car park with an asphalt surface, line marking of car/trailer and single car parking spaces, drainage improvements and landscaping.

The aim is to reduce congestion in peak periods and improving public safety.

Bass Coast Shire Mayor, Cr Michael Whelan said traffic congestion during peak periods has been a problem for many years at the Cowes boat ramp.

"This congestion increases the time it takes people to launch and retrieve their boats.

"The project will also improve public safety, improve drainage and the quality of water which enters the marine environment and reduce maintenance costs across the life of the car park."

The \$675,000 construction

project is fully funded by Council, with works expected to begin in May.

Construction plans can be found at [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/coweseastcarpark](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/coweseastcarpark).

Feedback on the plans can be provided in writing via email to [CoastAndBushlandManagementTeam@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:CoastAndBushlandManagementTeam@basscoast.vic.gov.au) or mailed PO Box 118 Wonthaggi, 3995 by Friday, April 8.

For further information on this project, or to obtain a hard copy of the plans, please contact Council's Coast and Bushland Team.

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# Local agency finalists in Real Estate awards

Cape Woolamai locals and owners of real estate agency- One Agency Country to Coast, Anthony Clark and Jaclyn Clark, alongside their business partners, Dean and Natalie Macfarlane, recently attended the Real Estate Business Awards in Sydney.

Their agency was a finalist in the prestigious national awards for the category of New Office of the Year 2022.

One Agency Country to Coast was the dream of Anthony and Dean's, which came to fruition in 2019.

After years of working in the real estate industry, they thought they could make a difference for their vendors, their community, their families, and their future team members.

One Agency Country to Coast does not have your traditional brick and mortar office with the shop front. They work from home, and travel to their clients providing a much more flexible arrangement for the client and the agent.

This structure also keeps expenses down, enabling them to charge a lower commission and provide an excellent standard of service.

The team at One Agency Country to Coast are very proud of their motto, Low Commission - Great Service.

They pride themselves on being able to offer low commissions to their vendors, saving them significant amounts of money, whilst still providing high-quality service. Between February 2021 and March 2022, they have sold 281 properties and saved their vendors \$1,499,785.90 in commission; this is based on their rate versus a two per



The team from One Agency Country to Coast at the Real Estate Business Awards in Sydney, where they were finalists in the New Office of the Year category.

cent comparison rate.

They truly are a team, there is no competition between the agents, they all celebrate one another's wins.

Kim Durrant, Phil Gallagher, John

Patterson, and Simone Bowers are

part of the incredible team at One Agency Country to Coast; all experienced, licenced agents, who are all award-winning agents in their own

right.

One Agency Country to Coast has put a lot of time and effort into marketing, researching how vendors want to see their properties promot-

ed, how purchasers are finding properties, and in general promoting the brand.

This has taken it from an unknown brand in the area to one of the highest performing agencies in Gippsland based on sales and is now ranked fifth in Gippsland on the REA agency list for highest sales.

Being named as a finalist in New Office of the Year Award for 2022 was formal recognition that the business structure, marketing, values and its amazing team are clearly making a difference in the real estate industry.

One Agency Country to Coast has more than 3000 followers across Facebook and Instagram and its website includes a video showcasing the large area the agents cover. A monthly blog covers an array of topics from what to look for in an agent, buying a home, the process of buying and selling, the terminology used in real estate sales as well as a collaboration with Reno Rookies on renovation advice. You can view this blog on the website [www.oneagencycountrytocoast.com.au](http://www.oneagencycountrytocoast.com.au).

The team has also collaborated with Landcare Bass Coast for gardening inspiration that is suited to the local flora and fauna and One Agency Country to Coast provided sponsorship assisting them in the purchase of a new trailer. The agency has also sponsored the Nilma-Darnum Netball Club, Phillip Island Net-Set-Go and the Neerim-Neerim South Football and Netball club.

We can't wait to see what 2022 brings!

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In coming years expect more stringent planning rules on everything from building heights to the materials and colours you can choose for your new home.

# New controls will protect the island’s character

“Urban creep” and the “suburbanisation of new residential estates” are the major threats to Phillip Island’s loved character.

That’s the findings in one of the supporting documents to the state government’s draft Bass Coast Statement of Planning Policy (SPP), currently out for community feedback until April 29.

As detailed in last week’s Advertiser, the island’s town boundaries will be locked in under the proposed new planning policy, while San Remo’s will expand (see separate story).

There will also be a series of beefed-up landscape planning controls to protect state or regionally significant areas, including the coast and hinterland between Cape Woolamai and Ventnor, as well as the Rhyll Inlet, and areas north of Cowes-Rhyll Road to Newhaven.

The SPP has more than 10 supporting documents – and thousands of pages – including the Bass Coast Township Character Report, which defines the attributes that make up our homes, streets and towns.

The report says the main threats to local character are urban growth or urban creep over distinctive landscapes that threatens the separation between townships and the “suburbanisation of new residential estates and subdivision, experienced as smaller, narrower lots, the increased density of development”, as well as more formal street spaces.

It says in Cowes new housing developments in recent years have replicated “designs more closely associated with metropolitan growth areas”.

“These subdivisions respond to a perceived housing market but sit increasingly awkwardly in the context and character of established coastal communities,” the report says.

It adds that three-storey apartments are increasingly a new real estate market.

“If the low-rise scale of the valued character is to be protected, care and control should be exercised in determining where these more intense and intrusive forms of development are appropriate.”

The report recommends protections should include long-term town boundaries, as well as protection of significant views and landscapes.

It recommends controls on how small a lot size can be.

The report says Bass Coast Shire’s planned Housing Strategy and Neighbourhood Character Assessment for each township will provide more details on lot sizes, house siting,

building heights, and even materials and colours used in homes.

## What do we love?

Community consultation in 2019 around Bass Coast showed residents saw the most common threats to be over development, removal of trees, too much inappropriate housing and subdivisions, and extending housing outside existing town boundaries.

“The small township character of the settlements was most valued amongst the participants, described as relaxed and providing a village feel,” the report says.

The report says on Phillip Island, towns have a “strong” relationship with the water.

“Fishing, boats and sailing, the surf, the beach, exploring or passive enjoyment of scenic coastal, holiday and other forms of water recreation are to be found in different combinations in the DNA of almost all Bass Coast’s towns, villages and hamlets,” it states.

“The water and the coastal landscapes and ecology are embedded in the economy of the region.”

While character can be “highly subjective” neighbourhood character relates to such issues as the street network, lot sizes, design, and landscaping, while township character is about what creates a unique sense of place.

In 2019 the State Government declared Bass Coast a Distinctive Area and Landscapes (DAL) to guide future land use, with the SPP the latest and last part of the DAL, which will, after consultation, be enshrined in law.

## Shire response

CEO Ali Wastie said the shire’s response to the SPP would be presented at a future council meeting.

“The proposed Housing Strategy and the proposed Neighbourhood Character Study will provide certainty about the level of housing change required to accommodate the projected population growth within the established residential areas of our existing settlement boundaries,” Ms Wastie said, adding there would be extensive community consultation on the studies.

“Importantly, it will also recommend ways to ensure the housing change respects the preferred neighbourhood character.”

To see how the proposed town boundaries may affect your property, go to the interactive mapping tool ([mapshare.vic.gov.au/vicplan/](http://mapshare.vic.gov.au/vicplan/)).



Town boundaries are a focus of the state government’s draft Bass Coast Statement of Planning Policy (SPP), which is currently out for comment. Photo courtesy of Phillip Island Helicopters.

# Town boundaries: the detail explained

## Cowes and Silverleaves

It is proposed to exclude from the town boundary the farming zone land at the north-east corner of Coghlan Road and Cowes-Rhyll Road (the Cowes Golf Club and Lechte land).

The planning panel that considered this land for inclusion within the boundary several years ago, found the land should be excluded from the boundary if development of the golf club did not eventuate.

“It has not eventuated, and the area is of high environmental significance,” the SPP states.

Equally, Saltwater Creek to the west is an important green break between Ventnor and Cowes and should be protected.

“Encroaching on this area will adversely affect a significant biolink and environmental values.

“The important role of Ventnor Road as the point of arrival and the southern boundary of urban Cowes cannot be over-stated.”

Land along the Cowes and Silverleaves coast includes areas under five metres, which makes it vulnerable to rising sea levels and flooding: particularly in Silverleaves.

“In addition, storm surge mapping indicates that most of Silverleaves and the Cowes east foreshore will be affected by storm surges by 2100.”

## San Remo

It is proposed to include in the town boundary up to the eastern extent at

425 Phillip Island Road.

“This would contribute an additional 65 ha of potential urban land, support San Remo’s role as a district town and locate the new Bass Coast College site set to open in 2022 within the boundary,” the SPP says.

“The ultimate township boundary will be Punchbowl Road.

“Given the current and anticipated rate of growth it is not unreasonable to foresee the existing zoned land to be absorbed quickly placing pressure for additional growth.”

The report says any development in this area “will need to be sensitively planned and designed to fit in with the surrounding landscape” including the George Bass Coastal Walk.

The SPP says an east expansion would move the focus away from San Remo’s town centre, so any development must “be planned carefully to maintain the role and character of the established strip”.

Any further development beyond this would see “the loss of productive agricultural land, encroachment on the green break and impacts on the significant character of the landscape”.

## Newhaven

It is proposed to exclude the farming zone land to the west of the established residential area, near Churchill Island and the chocolate factory.

This land, as well as the land sur-

rounding it, is of landscape and environmental significance and is subject to environmental risks including inundation and bushfire.

## Cape Woolamai

The Phillip Island Airport site is located in a landscape of state significance and will remain outside the settlement boundary.

The SPP says the existing town boundary helps protect the important coastal hinterland break between Cape Woolamai and the settlement of Surf Beach from urban expansion. Sea-level-rise mapping predicts storm surges will affect Cape Woolamai’s coastal reserves and reach the settlement by 2100, with the eastern coastline already subject to erosion.

## Grantville

It is proposed to exclude the Grantville South area from the settlement boundary, to protect the landscape and environment next to the the Western Port Ramsar site and to mitigate environmental risks including inundation and coastal erosion.

“Excluding Grantville South from the long-term settlement boundary will result in the loss of approximately 98ha of land from the settlement, which will reduce urban land supply.

“However, the protection of the significant attributes is of higher importance in this location than the loss of urban land.”

# Environmental threats spotlighted, not necessarily protected

Nationally significant threatened animal species may live in areas across Phillip Island, which need to be protected through planning controls.

Meanwhile climate change poses a major threat to Phillip Island’s tourist attractions.

Those are the findings in supporting documents of the state government’s draft Bass Coast Statement of Planning Policy (SPP), currently out for community feedback until April 29.

However, commentators say their preliminary reading of the massive SPP document indicates while environmental concerns were highlighted, any “suggested” planning controls were not binding under planning rules.

Bass Coast Environmental Opportunities and Constraints Assessment, one of the SPP’s documents, examines the ecology of three study areas in the shire – Cape Woolamai, Newhaven and Grantville – and suggests what needs to be protected from future development.

The assessment found species such as the orange-bellied parrot, growling grass frog, and swamp antechinus were “likely to occur and make significant use” of these areas.

Eco Logical Australia (ELA) was engaged by the government to undertake the environmental study, examining areas including the Phillip Island Coastal Reserve adjacent to Phillip Island Road, Newhaven Swamp and the Cape Woolamai State Faunal Reserve.

It recommends that if urban development occurred around these environmentally sensitive areas there should be controls including buffer zones and a detailed ecological assessment.

It also recommends domestic animal control in new settlement areas to reduce the risk of injury and death



Nationally significant threatened animal species such as the orange-bellied parrot, growling grass frog, and swamp antechinus were “likely to occur and make significant use” of Cape Woolamai (pictured), Newhaven and Grantville.

to native fauna.

“This may include prohibiting pet ownership, cat and dog curfews between dusk and dawn and on-leash areas for dogs on beaches,” the assessment states.

Island Voice’s Linda Marston said her early reading of the thousands of pages in the draft SPP was that not all recommendations were mandatory.

“At this point it’s disappointing only the objectives in the draft are binding and the strategies are not,” she said, referring to the SPP’s supporting documents.

## Climate change

The draft SPP details a range of other environmental issues, including climate change.

In coming years, the area is forecast to experience higher average temperatures, more extreme heat events, less rainfall, longer droughts, more frequent extreme storm and flood events and rising sea levels, which will increase coastal erosion and decrease water security.

It states increasing numbers of tourists combined with climate change will put greater demands on

infrastructure and greater pressure on the environment “and the lifestyle that attracts visitors to the region”.

“The declared area’s coastal assets and attractions (such as the Phillip Island Penguin Parade) are major tourism drawcards that are threatened by climate change impacts: rising sea levels and extreme storm events in particular,” the SPP states.

However, the draft only offers suggested planning controls.

“To protect the local economy, management of these assets and attractions must include rehabilitating habitat, revegetating, controlling weeds, monitoring the health of wetlands and managing bushfire risk,” it states.

“Encourage tourism and commercial development to include net-zero carbon infrastructure (such as electric vehicle charging stations).”

By 2070, the vision for the Bass Coast is to have net-zero emissions, extensive revegetation, public transport investment, water conservation and adaptation to climate change.

“Settlement planning should direct development away from high-risk areas and include bushfire protection measures to reduce risks.”



# Enviro groups scathing of new planning policy

Environment groups have given a damning analysis of the state government's proposed new planning policy.

Save Western Port Woodlands, which has been fighting the growing sand mining industry in Grantville's woodlands for three decades, said they were "stunned" the draft Bass Coast Distinctive Areas and Landscape (DAL) policy "entirely overlooked the biodiversity hotspot".

SWPW spokesman Gerard Drew said the SPP classified the area for sand mining.

"The draft policy seems to regard a landscape as only a collection of viewing points. It fails to understand the beauty of the landscape comes from complex life and forces that shape them," Mr Drew said.

"The woodlands were noted for the ability of vegetation to hide the ugliness of sand extraction, rather than recognising the web of life within them.

"The beauty is lost once they are emptied of that complex life."

He said SWPW would lodge a submission to the draft and hoped the final SPP addressed "the clear conflict between sand extraction and conservation".

Mr Drew said the woodlands were the largest remnant of native bushland in the region, stretching from Lang Lang to Grantville on the eastern shore of Western Port Bay.

A recent report by the Victorian National Parks Association (VNPA) showed the corridor was home to a wide range of threatened wildlife including orchids, reptiles, trees, frogs, fungi, birds and animals.

VNPA spokesperson Jordan Crook said the report highlighted the environmental value of the former Holden Proving Ground and the threat posed by continued sand mining throughout the woodlands.

"The failure to recognise the importance of the Western Port Woodlands is a tragedy," Mr Crook said.

"The Gippsland Plain bioregion is one of the most cleared areas in the state and every piece of bushland should be protected and respected.

"The DAL process seems to have failed before it's even started with such a huge oversight."

They called on the community to submit a

response to the Bass Coast DAL draft policy, "making it clear the environmental and cultural values of the Western Port Woodlands must be recognised and protected with planning controls".

## Government response

The DAL's draft Statement of Planning Policy (SPP) states Grantville's sand resources were of "strategic importance".

"These resources safeguard the economic security and future growth of metropolitan Melbourne, including the delivery of key public infrastructure projects and the construction industry."

While draft SPP identifies extractive industry interest areas (EIAs), this did not mean the area would be mined, with any

proposed new quarry requiring a planning permit and Earth Resources Regulator works approval process, which "would address any proposed vegetation removal".

"Remnant native vegetation is scarce in the declared area, so proponents of new industries (including extraction) should be encouraged to locate in areas of lesser environmental significance," the policy states, adding mines should adhere to best practice to avoid impacts.

Mr Drew said this was a "motherhood statement" and "sounded nice" but actually offering no protection to the woodlands.

"Sand mining may be a temporary land use but it just happens to permanently destroy the land it's on," he said.



Sand mines are increasing in size at the back of Grantville and will continue to do so under the state government's DAL. Conservationists say the government's new planning policy offers "motherhood statements" that "sound nice" but offer no protection to the woodlands.

## Locals sceptical, confused about DAL

Initial social media comments suggest local residents are confused or cynical about the Distinctive Area and Landscapes (DAL).

Most households in Bass Coast received a letter drop from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning explaining the DAL and the release this month of the draft Statement of Planning Policy (SPP) (see separate stories).

While the SPP will be enshrined in law, locking in town boundaries and protecting landscapes with beefed up overlays, some weren't buying it.

Grazynna Mackiewicz commented DELWP was "going to develop and do whatever they want to do".

"They are required by legislation to "consult with their community" but there is nothing anywhere to require them to listen to anything the community objects to," she said.

Mark Turner suggested Phillip Island was already overdeveloped.

Alby MacDonald said given the Bass Coast DAL can only be changed through a vote in both houses of State Parliament, "lucky Matthew Guy didn't get his way in Ventnor", referring to the controversial Cadogan development.

Paul Zennaro said the thousands of pages in the SPP were "impenetrable".

"The only reason you would use (that many) pages to say not much, is if you didn't want people to read them. This is a hoodwink," Paul wrote.

Ewton Alli agreed: "I read the documents because apparently it affects my address but I still have no idea what I've read", to which Josie Riley said "same - got it in the mail yesterday and had no idea".

Others were concerned about the projected need for 11,000 new homes in Bass Coast by 2036, arguing better infrastructure was needed, with Steve Couchy saying developers needed to finish projects and "not half finish them like Panorama Estate".

Beverley Graf commented "developers just take the money and run with no accountability for the mess they leave behind".

"It's a similar scenario in an estate in Cowes where it has been left an eyesore for years, with no end in sight."

John Peters summed it up: "The coastal area is getting an overlay. The proposed township boundary is remaining as it is today."



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Former Newhaven College student Meg Hines with former principal (and current CUC board member) Gea Lovell. In her speech, Meg used a story Mrs Lovell told the students about a master archer, to explain how the centre had helped her take aim and achieve her education goals.

## University Centre celebrates one year milestone

The Bass Coast Country University Centre celebrated its first birthday last week.

Supporters including board members, councillors, representatives from the Bass Coast Community Foundation, council officers and students gathered to mark the event.

The centre, the first of its kind in Victoria, offers students enrolled at university access to computers with dual screens, high speed internet, printers, tutorial rooms and a Learnings Skills advisor, Cr Aidan Windle.

Centre manager, Andrea Evans-McCall introduced an array of guest speakers, who spoke on the topic of education aspirations.

The Centre chair, Martin Keogh thanked the Federal government for its support for the concept of country university centres (CUC), which he said were "a real boon for rural Australia".

Federal Member of Monash Russell Broadbent was an apology at the event.

Martin also thanked the Bass Coast Shire Council.

"We can't gather and talk about CUC without acknowledging the wonderful support of Bass Coast Shire Council," Martin said.

"They played an enormous role in ensuring the success and opening of the centre."

Martin also said the work of centre manager Andrea Evans-McCall had been extraordinary.

"The board of directors is thrilled we appointed someone of the calibre of Andrea."

He applauded Andrea's work to guide the student through the Covid pandemic with "compassion, empathy and care".

Martin said during its first year, the centre had seen enrolments rise from 58 to 109, and supported 13 students to graduate and achieve their education goals.

The largest age cohort of students was under 25s, with 70 per cent of students studying undergraduate courses.

Health (33 per cent) and Education (32 per cent) made up the majority of students using the centre facilities.

"These are people educated in the community who will go on to serve the community," Martin said.

"This is what CUC's are all about; doing away with barriers that stop people accessing higher education."

Other guest speakers included students Ben Corcoran and Meg Hines.

Ben was the first student to register with the centre, and spoke of the barriers he faced as a regional person with a disability wanting to access higher education. He now has a BA in Political

Science from Victoria University and a Graduate Certificate from Charles Stuart University.

Former Newhaven College student Meg Hines, currently studying a BA in Environmental Science at Monash, said the CUC had allowed her to stay connected with her family and community while pursuing her higher education goals.

"CUC gives us all a leg up," Meg said.

"I want to say thank you, because it's life-changing for students like us."

Other speakers included Bass Coast Mayor, Cr Michael Whelan who spoke passionately about the importance of education and how vital it was to overcome the barriers that people faced.

"I had Gough to help me. Free education is a great thing," Cr Whelan said.

"CUC is opening up opportunities over the tyranny of distance that prevented people going on to further education."

South Gippsland Mayor, Cr Moira Davies, herself a teacher for 30 years, said "education is power".

"When we are little, we have incredible aspirations, but as we get older, we are limited by life and responsibilities.

"A facility like this makes it possible for people to come back to education at different stages of life."

The chair of the Bass Coast Community Foundation, Phil Friedlos said the foundation shares a key aim with the centre.

"One of our priorities is to increase the aspiration of young people for knowledge, skills and learning."

Nicole Griffin from the Federation University Innovation Centre talked about her own education journey, leaving a country town to study at university.

"If I had something like CUC, I would have stayed. People who went off to university never returned and that had an incredible impact on the town."

She described the centre as an "excellent example of innovation", helping to keep talent in the region.

Director Don Paproth had the current events in Ukraine on his mind, describing education as vital in order for people to understand the world they live in.

"You need to understand the lessons of history to avoid the mistakes of history," he said.

To find out more about the Bass Coast Country Universities Centre, visit [www.cucbasscoast.edu.au](http://www.cucbasscoast.edu.au) or call Andrea Evans-McCall on 0418 515 328.



Board members Danny Luna and Don Paproth at the first birthday celebrations at the Bass Coast Country Universities Centre.



The first student to sign up at the centre, Ben Corcoran with Jess Harle, at the centre's birthday celebrations.



Catherine Basterfield (PINP), Sanny Conning, Emma Brabham (BCH), Dona Tantirimudalige (WPW), Ali Wastie (BCSC), Jan Child (BCH), Dr Niki Vincent (Public Sector Gender Equality Commissioner), Rebecca Slavin and Cr Leticia Laing.

## Celebrating women in Bass Coast

Bass Coast Shire Council, Bass Coast Health, Phillip Island Nature Parks and Westernport Water partnered to host an International Women's Day event at the Phillip Island Winery last week.

International Women's Day, held on March 8 is a global day celebrating the social economic, cultural and political achievements of women, and council said the local event was focused on resilience, re-invention and reconnection.

The event featured a Keynote address from Public Sector Gender Equality Commissioner Dr Niki Vincent.

It also featured a community panel with four Bass Coast women: small business owner Rebecca Slavin, Phillip Island Nature Parks People and Culture Manager Melissa Nolet, Bass Coast Health Manager Community Nursing Emma Grabham and LGBTIQ+ Community Elder Sally Conning.

Bass Coast Shire CEO Ali Wastie said International Women's Day is a day for inspiration and change.

"We are really proud of the work that we are doing to improve gender equality within our organisation, including the introduction of 12 months paid superannua-

tion to mothers following the birth of a child, providing 16 weeks paid parental leave for men and women and compelling sporting organisations to provide equal prize money to their male and female competitors when their event is held on Council property," Ms Wastie said.

"We have the opportunity and responsibility, to address systemic gender inequality through policy change, programs, service delivery and advocacy."

Westernport Water Managing Director Dona Tantirimudalige, who was the MC for the event, said: "Bias and gender stereotypes impact us all. Let's keep working together to break the bias, and do not let gendered expectations stop us from thriving."

Phillip Island Nature Parks Chief Executive Catherine Basterfield said the organisation was a proud supporter of gender equality, with an equal number of female and male employees among their team, including many female scientists, expert researchers and rangers.

"Every role is open to everyone with the necessary passion and skills."

"It is a privilege to lead an organisation where girls and

young women around Victoria and Australia can all aspire to come and work with Nature Parks as we protect and promote our amazing animals and environment."

In her keynote address, Dr Vincent said that International Women's Day provided the ideal backdrop to celebrate all the work organisations are doing to deliver on their obligations and their commitment to gender equality, as part of the Gender Equality Act that was introduced almost 12 months ago.

"Being recognised as a workplace that values gender equality will attract and retain talented staff in an increasingly competitive market," Dr Vincent said.

"As we transition from a work-from-home environment employees are reconsidering their relationship with work. Rather than a return to normal, we have the opportunity for a re-invention."

"No longer is nine to five, Monday to Friday considered the norm and smart employers know that flexible working arrangements, job-sharing and part-time work helps mothers, fathers and other carers to balance work with family responsibilities," Dr Vincent concluded.



Staff from Westernport Water at the IWD function at Phillip Island Winery: Meg Humphrys, Alana Russell, Tamika Johnston, Susan O'Sullivan, Susan Stephens and Viona Veitch.





Everyone attending the Phillip Island 101km<sup>2</sup> campaign launch donned a T-shirt adorned with the new campaign logo.



Georgia Bisset from Wildlife Cruises with Snapper House BnB owner Lynda Clark.

# Tourism 101: campaign to help region's recovery

A new campaign designed to attract visitors and highlight the experiences available across Phillip Island was launched last week.

The launch at Isola Di Capri was attended by members and stakeholders of the local tourism industry.

The Phillip Island 101 km<sup>2</sup> campaign aims to highlight the range of quality travel experiences across the region, and features the Payne family from Cape Woolamai.

It will include a TV commercial and social media adverts.

The soundtrack to the campaign is by local artist Steph Strings of San Remo, who entertained guests at the launch.

Phillip Island 101 km<sup>2</sup> introduces potential visitors to the concept of exploring the Island's many experiences across the region

from San Remo to The Nobbies.

The ad features a voice over that says: "Here on Victoria's Phillip Island, the question isn't where do you start ... but, why does it have to end? 101 square kilometres of amazing experiences is waiting."

Destination Phillip Island (DPI) will roll out various inspiring stories and digital pieces to share the amazing experiences of Phillip Island.

## Launch and campaign

Research and development of the campaign took place over the past six months, while Covid restrictions were still in place, with filming and production in late December 2021.

The Australian Government's Recovery for Regional Tourism program provided grant funding for the campaign, which will target

interstate and Victorian markets.

Melbourne-based campaign agency Hardhat created and produced the campaign, with Betty Wants In delivering the digital assets, working alongside DPI staff, led by Arnika Martin.

Various local experiences and venues were included in the campaign shoot.

At the launch, Chris Ince from Hardhat presented an overview of the development and research for the campaign and the creative process.

The campaign will run interstate from mid-March until the end of September.

Supporting the campaign for winter will be a voucher incentive program for interstate visitors also supported by the Federal government.

For more, go to [visitphillipisland.com.au/](http://visitphillipisland.com.au/) destination-phillipisland



Fergus Cameron and Nicole Edwards from the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit. Nicole, Tourism Manager at the circuit, described the Phillip Island 101km<sup>2</sup> campaign as perfect.



Elizabeth Dixon from MAS National with Deb O'Brien from Phillip Island Helicopters.



Glenn Holland from the Phillip Island Information Centre, Pauleen Boulton, formerly of DPI and newly appointed Business Development Officer at the South Gippsland Shire Council, Michael Wells from Ripples and Tonic with Tina Orr, DPI PR Manager.



Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit's Dave Bennett (right) and Luke Sibson (left) with Nature Parks' Melissa Cashman.



San Remo's Steph Strings provided the soundtrack for the new campaign and performed for guests at the launch last week.



Lucy Couper from the Phillip Island Information Centre with Emilie Cutler and Jenni McMillan from Bass Coast Shire Council.



# WONTHAGGI UNION COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

## What's On This Week?

### Wed 16 Mar

10.00am Best Sellers [M] 1h42m  
12.15pm Belfast [M] 1h38m  
2.30pm Spencer [M] 1h56m  
5.00pm Death on the Nile [M] 2h07m



### Fri 18 Mar

7.30pm  
Mother & Son - Live Theatre  
[www.trybooking.com/BIKGR](http://www.trybooking.com/BIKGR)

### Sat 19 Mar

5.00pm Care Love Dance school performance

## COMING SOON



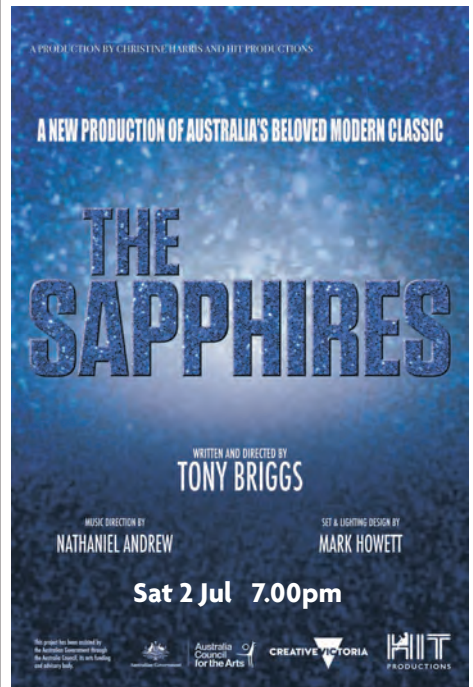
**Greener Pastures** Fri 25 Mar 6.00pm  
Documentary & Panel Discussion

## Bass Coast Shorts

Fri 8 Apr  
Sat 9 Apr



**A Taste of Ireland** Sun 10 Apr 7.30pm



**Circling Time**  
Songs & Stories by Kutcha Edwards  
Sun 10 Jul 8.00pm



**Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre**  
96 Graham St, Wonthaggi 3995  
find us on Facebook  
[www.wonthaggiartscentre.com.au](http://www.wonthaggiartscentre.com.au)  
phone: 03 5671 2470

# THE PULSE

Events, entertainment and community news



On March 20, the Phillip Island Jazz Club presents Jazz Running Wild at the Phillip Island Bowling Club, starting at 2pm.

## Jazz Running Wild

On March 20, the Phillip Island Jazz Club presents Jazz Running Wild at the Phillip Island Bowling Club, starting at 2pm. Jazz Running Wild is a project group of the Australian Jazz Museum, for under 25s. They are a skilled bunch of young musicians and the future of jazz belongs to them. Jazz Running Wild will excite you as they perform a great selection of traditional and modern jazz standards. Musical Director Graeme Pender indicates that they are in good form following appearances at the Australian Jazz Convention in Albury last December, and more recently at Ringwood Lake with many people dancing to their music. The new venue for the Jazz Club is Phillip Island Bowling Club, at 40 Dunsmore Road in Cowes. "This is a great opportunity to not only encourage future jazz musicians but to indicate to Phillip Island Bowling Club that we are a group of music lovers who continue to be able to pursue that love at the great facilities of the Club," a Jazz Club spokesperson said. For more information please contact Robin on 0432 814 407 or Jill on 0417 416 300. Show commences at 2.00pm. "Let's see big numbers in attendance to encourage and support the star musicians of the future."

## Meet the candidates

The Phillip Island Conservation Society (PICS) will be holding a Meet the Candidates forum for the candidates contesting the Federal election to be held in May.

The event will be on Friday evening, April 29 at the St Philip's Hall in Cowes. Details of the event, including which candidates are attending will be available closer to the day.



Don't miss the Bass CWA Creative Arts Exhibition at the public hall in Loch on April 4 and 5.

## Creative Arts from CWA Bass

The Bass CWA group is hosting their 67th Creative Arts Exhibition in April. The exhibition on Saturday April 9 and Sunday April 10 will be held at the public hall in Loch. Displays include members' cooking, preserves, needlework, knitting, crochet, flora and photography. With cooking and craft dem-

onstrations, raffles and trading table there is something for all the family. The exhibition is open from 10am - 4pm on Saturday and 9.30am - 3.30pm on Sunday. Admission is \$5 adults, children with adults free. For more information, contact Kaye Illingworth 0459 776 668.



## Phillip Island Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR) group

is holding a major fundraiser for the  
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC) called

## FEAST FOR FREEDOM

We will use recipes from refugees who have been assisted by ASRC and provide a delicious dinner at the Rhyll Mechanics Institute Hall on April 2nd at 7.00 pm. Donation is \$43 per person. Your donation will help provide, for example, safe housing, hot meals and help fund a mental health social worker to support refugees who are struggling to provide for their families.

Also talks, door prizes and a raffle of a painting by Margaret Lacey.

Bring family and friends and make a table.  
You will be supporting people seeking asylum.

All donations will raise funds for the  
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre.

Book with trybooking.

Enquiries to Gabrielle 0410 441 540 or  
[gabesmahony4@gmail.com](mailto:gabesmahony4@gmail.com).

## Support for Ukraine

Volunteers from the Phillip Island World Vision Club have raised over \$5000 for the Ukraine Appeal over the long weekend.

Club President Lynne Kharanda praised the dedicated work of the volunteer collectors and the generosity of both locals and visitors.

"It is satisfying to know that this money will be immediately available to fund World Vision's work to ease suffering in the Ukraine and for refugees on its borders."

Teams collected in both Cowes and San Remo

"Our wholehearted thanks to our teams - Linda and Tony Andrews, Nance Gooderham and Ruth Partridge, Edith Fletcher and Gail Browne and Krishna and John Methven," said Lynne.

"Our volunteers say they enjoyed meeting people, and were warmed by the generosity of locals and visitors alike.

"Thanks also to those of you who let your family, friends and visitors know about our collection points. We are very grateful, too, to the businesses who hosted us: Coles in Cowes, and the Spicy Duck and IGA in San Remo."

The volunteers collected \$5200 with an additional donation of \$500 made direct into the club's bank account.

The appeal still continues, and anyone wishing to donate can do so via the club's bank Account: World Vision Australia - Phillip Island Club. Bendigo Bank: BSB 633000. Account:189180375.

Please leave your name and the word 'Ukraine' so that John Hendrie, Club Treasurer, can identify the deposit. A receipt is available by request from [john@hendrie.com.au](mailto:john@hendrie.com.au).

Anyone needing further information can contact Lynne by email on [lynne4club@outlook.com](mailto:lynne4club@outlook.com).

"I encourage you to check World Vision's website [www.worldvision.com.au/global-issues/world-emergencies/ukraine-appeal](http://www.worldvision.com.au/global-issues/world-emergencies/ukraine-appeal) for more details about the important work we are, in our own small way, supporting," Lynne said.



# Free film event for Seniors Festival

Bass Coast Shire Council, in partnership with the Victorian Seniors Festival, is hosting a free Seniors Festival film and lunch event in Wonthaggi on Tuesday, March 22.

Seniors Festival events are held across Victoria to honour senior community members and to encourage them to get out and about by participating in free or low cost activities.

The event includes a film screening at the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre, as well as a lunch at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, free for Victorian Seniors Card holders.

If you don't have a Seniors Card or you're a senior who would like to attend with a friend or relative who doesn't have a card, there are also paid tickets available for this event.

The morning session starts at 10.30am and features the film 'Belfast'. The afternoon session starts at 2pm and will feature the film 'Death on the Nile'.

Lunch can be enjoyed anytime between 12pm and 2pm at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, just across the road from the theatre.

Tickets are limited, so bookings are essential for all attendees through [www.trybooking.com/871280](http://www.trybooking.com/871280) or by calling the Arts Centre on (03) 5671 2470.

Transport assistance to and from the event is available free of charge for Seniors Card holders and their companion/s from a number of central locations across Bass Coast.

To request this assistance please contact Council's Social and Community Planning Team.



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THE ADVERTISER, THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022 19



# Petition seeks to pave a path

An online petition calling for a path between Cowes and Ventnor has been signed by up to 200 people. The petition, on [change.org](http://change.org), was started at the beginning of the month and will run for another fortnight before being presented to Bass Coast Shire Council.

It calls for a shared path for pedestrians and cyclists between the two towns and was started by long-term local and dedicated cyclist Owen Bentley with his friend Lisa Bendtsen.

Owen said a path between Cowes and Ventnor had been flagged by the shire several years ago, but “then buried”, adding it was more urgent now than ever.

“There’s no off-road path the whole way, with many parts of the route requiring cyclists to mix with traffic,” he said.

“Church Street is a nightmare because of the amount of cars and there’s no shoulder.”

He envisaged the path would be about eight kilometres long and three metres wide, running ideally along the coastline, but more realistically along Ventnor Road.

Owen is one of the original members of Phillip Island Cyclists, which has 700 members and sees rides around the island on weekends – and in summer during the week – of about 50km.

“The group is more about road riding. We do some trails and tracks so the path would be for all the public to enjoy.

“I’m a big supporter of active transport, that we should make it easy for people to ride or walk if they can.

“Most people are happy to ride five to 10km if you give them a safe place to ride where they’re not hassled by traffic, or hassle traffic.”

Those who have signed the petition already agree with Owen.

Andrew Degorski wrote: “I’m signing because I do not feel safe



Phillip Island Cyclists member Owen Bentley has started a petition calling for a path between Cowes and Ventnor.

riding between Ventnor and Cowes, especially with children”.

Rohan Bowers said roads were too narrow to ride for adults and kids “and it’s busy all year round on them now”.

Julia Mascitelli agreed.

“I don’t feel safe riding on the

roads during peak tourist times. The island is becoming busier and busier and this bike path would provide another option for cyclists who feel unsafe sharing roads with motorists.”

[www.change.org/p/bass-coast-shire-council-build-a-path-from-ventnor-to-cowes](http://www.change.org/p/bass-coast-shire-council-build-a-path-from-ventnor-to-cowes)



## That’s one hearty tomato!

Mario Crisafulli has again claimed his title as the king of local tomato growers, harvesting around 100 kilos of tomatoes this year.

This is a regular occurrence for the passionate home gardener, who regularly reports a crop of this size.

This year his largest tomato – an Oxheart – weighed in at 820 grams.

Mario said the Oxheart has a thinner skin, lots of pips and a sweet flavour, and assured us his tomatoes taste better than any you will buy from a store.

If not shared with friends and family, or eaten fresh off the vine, Mario cooks up his harvest into a tomato sauce, to be enjoyed all year round.

# We are the champions! Bass Coast Victoria’s best recyclers

Bass Coast Shire residents take a bow. You are the best recyclers in the state, according to a recent Sustainability Victoria report.

The latest Local Government Waste Services Report shows that Victoria produced a record breaking 2.37 million tonnes of waste in 2019-20, an 8.1 per cent increase on the previous year.

While Victorians generated more household waste than ever before, 45 per cent of that waste was diverted

from landfill through recycling and organics collections. In Bass Coast, 75.8 per cent of kerbside waste was diverted from landfill – the best result of any Victorian council area.

“This is the third year in a row that Bass Coast has held the number one spot, clearly demonstrating our community’s determination to keep waste out of landfill,” Bass Coast Shire Mayor, Cr Michael Whelan said.

“The Bass Coast community deserves to be acknowledged and cel-

ebrated for their brilliant recycling efforts. Here in Bass Coast, we are committed to living in harmony with our environment while we prepare for future challenges and changes.

“We declared a climate emergency back in 2019 and we’re proud to be leading the way in recycling and resource recovery,” Cr Whelan concluded.

To see the full Sustainability Victoria report, visit [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/wastewinners](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/wastewinners).



Westernport Water’s Hydration Station was a welcome sight for Little Penguin Dash and Cowes Classic competitors, providing much needed hydration at the finish line.

## Community support from Westernport Water

Five community organisations have been supported in the latest round of the Westernport Water Community Support program, sharing in \$11,000.

The recipients, which will share in \$11,000 of funding are: Newhaven Primary School, San Remo Pre-school, Phillip Island Community and Learn-

ing Centre (PICAL), The San Remo Channel Challenge and the Cowes Classic/Little Penguin Dash.

If your community group, sporting club or not-for-profit organisation is looking for support for a project or event, applications for the 2022/23 Community Support program open in June 2022.

# Do rate caps cost jobs?

Most ratepayers welcomed a state government cap on rates which has seen rate increases capped at between two and 2.5 per cent since 2016.

However a report from the Australia Institute’s Centre for Future Works claims the rate capping policy has cost thousands of jobs and reduced the scope and quality of council services.

The report, commissioned by the Australian Services Union, found setting rates with a blunt instrument such as a cap damages local workforces, with detrimental effects on essential community services.

It claims the rate cap has cost up to 42 jobs in Bass Coast Shire, and a further 34 in South Gippsland.

Across the six Gippsland shires, it claims 333 jobs have been lost.

The report finds that despite Victoria recording population growth of over 20 per cent in the past decade, there were about 3000 fewer local government workers in 2019/20 than eight years prior, and rate capping has cost up to 7425 jobs in the public

and private sectors, reducing GDP by up to \$890 million in 2021/22.

Local government revenue from other sources, including user fees and fines, is now growing at more than twice the rate than before the cap was introduced.

Report author and economist Dan Nahum said there is no evidence that rate caps make local councils ‘more efficient’. Instead, they simply take money out of much-needed council services and rob local communities of employment opportunities.

“Far from protecting ratepayers and residents, rate caps hurt them. Rate caps compromise service delivery, negatively impact employment and wages amongst residents employed in the local government sector, result in higher fees collected through other revenue tools, and reduce local government expenditures flowing back into the private sector.” Mr Nahum said.

### Local snapshot

According to the staff figures in



A report from the Australia Institute’s Centre for Future Works claims the rate capping policy has cost thousands of jobs and reduced the scope and quality of council services.

Bass Coast Shire Council’s Annual Reports, there were 33 less full-time equivalent positions at the council in 2020/21 compared to 2016/17 (285.22 versus 318.47).

Staff figures were at the lowest

in 2019/20, with 62.82 less full-time equivalent positions than in 2016/17 (255.65 versus 318.47).

Full-time equivalent figures reflect the number of positions, not the actual number of staff. In the 2015/16

Annual Report, council stated there were 397 people employed to work in the 318.47 (FTE) positions. Later reports did not provide figures on the actual number of staff employed.

Bass Coast Shire’s overall revenue grew by \$23.83 million between 2016/17 and 2020/21, but the percentage of the overall budget made up from rates and charges remained virtually unchanged (62 per cent compared to 62.08 per cent).

The percentage of revenue raised by statutory fees and fines, and user fees dropped over the same period, in contrast to the report’s claim that user fees and fines were growing more than twice as fast as before the cap was introduced.

In dollar value, in 2020/21, \$6.15 million of the council budget came from statutory fees, fines and user fees, compared to \$6.75 million in 2016/17.

The percentage of revenue raised from grants also decreased from 19 per cent in 2016/17 to 14.31 per cent in 2020/21.





Summer Crestani, Ella Marshall and Amelia Battersby, Year 10 students from Newhaven College took part in a five-day wilderness trek in Victorian alpine areas.

## Hiking the high country

Earlier this month, 57 Newhaven College Year 10 students travelled to Howqua (near Mansfield) for a five-day wilderness trek through iconic Victorian alpine areas including Sheeppark Flat, Fry's Hut, Tunnel Bend, Tobacco Flat and Running Creek.

In partnership with The Outdoor Education Group, the College said the hike was designed to present a significant personal challenge, slow the pace of life, remove the distraction of social media, and focus on the development of community.

"As well as developing lightweight camping skills, students had the opportunity to foster a positive understanding of themselves and others,

recognise their own strengths and those of others through the lens of personal challenges," a College spokesperson said.

"They learnt to identify their character strengths and the positive effect they experience when they use them, and how to develop a growth mindset and build resilience."

The hike is a new undertaking for all Year 10 students at the College.

"Whilst some found the trek challenging, the overwhelming feedback was that it was an invaluable experience.

"Resilience, teamwork, leadership skills and the appreciation of our natural world are just some of the benefits our Year 10 students gained."

## Village students get hands on with new language

Phillip Island Village School first offered Auslan as a LOTE option in 2021, when Joanna Bovell, who has a diploma in Auslan and Deaf Studies, started working as an Assistant Mentor at the school.

Students of all ages enthusiastically signed up to Auslan sessions, and have enjoyed the fun and interactive lessons.

In Cycle 1, students focused on new vocabulary including transport, directions, and time.

Joanna used a range of engaging games and activities to review the vocabulary, finger spelling and numbers that students had learned last year.

She also introduced students to the history of deaf people in Australia and how Auslan developed from other signed languages overseas.

In Cycle 2, students will be taking a close look at the importance of 'HOLME' in Auslan, which means breaking each sign down into: Handshape, Orientation, Location, Movement and Expression.

By examining the signs in this way, the students will be able to improve their signing as they will have a better idea of the importance of each feature of a sign.

They will be playing more games and learning songs in Auslan.



Village School students Jay, Cedric, Jack and Noah listening to Joanna Bovell explain some signs, as part of the school's Auslan LOTE program.



Savannah and Olive learn the Auslan sign for 'happy'. The Village School offers Auslan as a LOTE option.



Luke Hill, a trawler and gillnetter from San Remo, Victoria, has placed one of the bins on his vessel Metis.

## Helping save the seals

A simple idea aimed at saving seals from becoming tangled in trawl netting at Phillip Island has already reduced the amount of waste that fishing boats lose in the ocean.

Phillip Island Nature Parks partnered with the South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association (SETFIA) and RMIT University Behavioural Scientists on the 'Bins on Boats' project – which has more than doubled the amount of rubbish returning to shore on fishing vessels from an average of 31 litres to 66 litres per vessel.

The researchers are optimistic the project has already contributed to a reduction in seals entangled in trawl net fragments at Seal Rocks.

From 2017-2020, the number of trawl net entanglements recorded at Seal Rocks has decreased from seven in 2017, to four in 2018 and 2019, and two in 2020.

"Initially we thought it would take years to see the impact of the trial, but early signs are positive and the benefits are clear, with commercial fishing vessels doubling the amount of rubbish they bring back to shore," Nature Parks marine scientist Rebecca McIntosh said.

The researchers found there was a lack of appropriate bins onboard commercial fishing vessels and investigations of fragments taken from seals suggested that cut trawl

netting was being accidentally blown or washed overboard in the rough sea conditions.

The idea was simple: better bins, and more of them.

With funding from the Victorian Government, specially designed wheelie bins with wind-proof lids were offered to fishing operators who use a variety of fishing gear at the port of Lakes Entrance, San Remo, Portland and other ports in Victoria.

"It has only been about three years of the bins being fully used, so we will want to see the results in another year or two before we're fully confident, but the signs are really promising," Dr McIntosh said.

"We have potentially reduced trawl net entanglement of seals in the Bass Strait simply through the use of purpose-built bins."

Plastic in the ocean comes from a variety of sources and most originates from land. It is wide-ranging and moves around with the currents. Entanglement in both commercial trawl net fragments, recreational fishing line and other waste has been an ongoing source of harm for Australian fur seals.

From 2017-2020, there were 17 entanglements in trawl netting, 27 in recreational fishing line and 35 in other rubbish such as balloon ribbons, plastic rings and cap bands.

However, the fishing industry wanted to play its part in reducing entanglements.

SETFIA Executive Officer, Simon Boag, said the commercial fishing industry was proud to design, source and distribute bins for the Bins on Boats initiative.

"We are working with our fishers and Phillip Island Nature Parks because sustainable fishing practices, such as correct waste disposal, protect our future," he said.

In a unique collaboration, RMIT Behavioural Scientists Alex Kusanoff and Sarah Bekessy played a key role to address the human behaviour side of the project, including surveying vessel crews and specially designing the labelling on the bins.

"All conservation problems are ultimately about human behaviour, so there is great potential for applying behavioural science to help solve conservation problems," Dr Kusanoff said.

"However, this is still rather rare, so it's wonderful to work with agencies who are willing to try new approaches and to experiment with different management interventions."

The Bins on Boats study has been published in the international Conservation Science and Practice while a report and fact sheet are also available online.

## Funding for tireless wildlife carer

The invaluable and tireless work of a wildlife carer, Colleen Gilbee has been recognised through the Victorian Government's Wildlife Rehabilitator Grants.

Colleen Gilbee runs The Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Shelter Bass Coast servicing the San Remo and Phillip Island area and has been awarded a grant of \$2,997.59.

State MP for Bass, Jordan Crugnale announced the funding earlier this month, and presented Colleen with a "Community Gem" award for her wildlife work.

"The Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Shelter does an amazing job in protecting our local wildlife," Ms Crugnale said.

"Ms Gilbee has been doing this rescue work for over 20 years which is a testament to her dedication and care for animals, their wellbeing and survival."

Funding from the Wildlife Rehabilitator Grants program supports authorised wildlife shelter operators, foster carers and key wildlife organisations and can be used for a variety of purposes including training, equipment, cages, enclosures, food, petrol, medical supplies and other similar purposes.



State Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale MP with Community Gem 2021 Colleen Gilbee, gifting a beautiful hamper packed full of local Bass Coast produce.

Ms Crugnale said she also wanted to acknowledge the work for Wildlife Victoria.

"They are always looking for volunteers in rescue and transport, foster carers and shelters and education."

"Bass Coast have only a few carers and very few rescue volunteers."

Wildlife Victoria is running a Gippsland training course on April 23 and details on how to register, along with fact sheets, education materials, including information of how to do a pouch search and the number to call for assistance can all be found at [www.wildlifevictoria.org.au/get-involved/volunteer](http://www.wildlifevictoria.org.au/get-involved/volunteer).



## Sub sighted at Silverleaves

There was a mystery guest at Silverleaves on Wednesday morning. A local resident spotted this submarine that surfaced in the waters off Cowes, just before 8am.

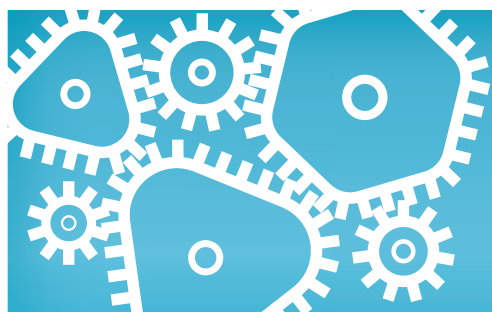
"We watched it coming west from Cowes, then it did a U-turn and stopped in front of Silverleaves," they said.

Crew could be seen on top of the sub, which stayed in place for around 10 minutes, before moving on.

The Defence Department has been contacted for comment.

A video of the submarine is available at [www.pisra.com.au/sub-surfaces-near-silverleaves](http://www.pisra.com.au/sub-surfaces-near-silverleaves).





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A: 155 Thompson Avenue, Cowes  
T: 5952 1488  
**south coast furnishings**  
SOUTH COAST FLOORING XTRA  
W: southcoastfurnishings.com.au  
E: sales@southcoastfurnishings.com.au

## BUILDER

EXTENSION & RENOVATION  
SPECIALIST  
KITCHENS, BATHROOMS  
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OVER 35 YEARS  
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Glen Marshall  
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• ALL MAKES AND MODELS  
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UNWANTED CARS  
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**FREE 7 DAYS A WEEK**  
**CALL SHANE**  
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**FREE CAR REMOVAL**  
**WE PAY YOU\***  
BUYERS OF SCRAP METAL, BINS PROVIDED  
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• Extreme heat extraction – Rapid Dry  
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• Linen service  
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**'THE DRIVEWAY SPECIALISTS'**  
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• Exposed Aggregate  
• Slabs & Foundations  
• Driveways & Paths  
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Service & Repairs  
• Short & Long term hire available with mechanic onsite for service & repairs  
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Excavation, landscaping and property maintenance  
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JD00056AA

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**WRIGHTON GAS SUPPLIES**  
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For all household gas supplies  
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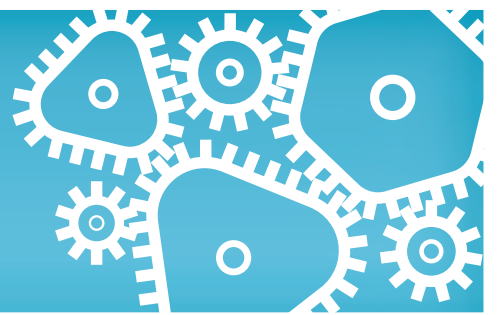
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**GLASS WORKS**  
'when quality counts'  
■ Reglazing ■ Showers ■ Mirrors  
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# Business Guide

LOCAL TRADES AND SERVICES



## GUTTER CLEANING

**GUTTER-VAC**  
Clean. Safe...Easy

Vacuum gutter cleaning,  
gutter guard, solar panel cleaning,  
ceiling cavities cleaning.

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7 days

plumbing & gasfitting

- Roofing - Gas - Water - Hot Water - Pumps
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Lic No 40950

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NO JOB TOO SMALL

- Qualified
- Tree Maintenance
- Tree Removal
- Fruit Tree Pruning
- Storm Damage
- Lawn Mowing
- Garden Maintenance
- FREE QUOTES

Call Shaun **0423 910 554**

## LANDSCAPING

**L&S LANDSCAPE SOLUTIONS**

Our landscaping designs are practical,  
innovative and sustainable.

We provide punctual,  
reliable service, every time.

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laurencemarr@gmail.com

• FREE APPRAISALS • OBLIGATION FREE QUOTES  
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## PLUMBING

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All types of plumbing  
24 HOUR SERVICE Lic # 48411

- Gas • Hot water units
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- A local, reliable business

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**Sewing and  
Alterations**

- Handmade sewing creations
- Mending and alterations
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## TREE SERVICES

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TREE  
SERVICES**  
Specialising in tree  
Pruning & Removal

Competitive rates Firewood  
Total tree removal Storm cleanup  
Mulch sales Lot clearing  
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Call now for a free quote  
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Island Premium Laundry offer all  
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We also wash doonas, pillow top protectors.

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**Dave Costello**

For all your lawnmowing,  
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Call for a free quote  
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Fast Response at an honest price

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Fully Licenced & insured. All work guaranteed Lic. No. 119269C

- NO CALL OUT FEE
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- Hot water systems replaced
- Vanities & water
- Filters installed
- Gas fitting
- General plumbing

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STEEL**

Steel fabrication • Stainless/Aluminium fabrication  
Steel sales cut to order • Sheetmetal fabrication  
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14-16 The Concourse, Cowes 5952 1432  
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## TREE SERVICES

**SOUTHERN ARBORISTS  
Art & Science.  
Professional Tree Services**

Nicholas Harrison – Arborist  
Ass. Dip. App. Sci. (VCAH Burnley 88)  
soararsc@gmail.com  
Phillip Island Mobile 0490 859 721

- Free quotes - Fully insured - Full clean-up -  
Specialist in pruning and tree preservation

Hedges, Firewood, Stumps, Fire Safe

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Mowing**  
Need it Done?  
Jim's the One

Call 131 546

- ✓ FREE QUOTES
- ✓ Fully insured
- ✓ Police checked
- ✓ OH&S compliant
- ✓ All work guaranteed

**RISK FREE**

Lawn mowing, gardening, pruning,  
hedging, rubbish removal, gutter cleaning,  
weeding, mulching, odd jobs

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Pool Service

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## STORAGE

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Boxes & Packaging  
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24hr / 7 day access

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4 Industrial Way, Cowes 3922  
Alt Ph: 5952 1432 Fax: 5952 5690  
Email: storage@islandsteel.com.au  
Web: www.islandstorage.com.au

## WINDOW CLEANING

**WINDOW  
CLEANING**

0409 946 839

Glassed Out Window Cleaning

Fully insured

## PEST CONTROL

**PHILLIP ISLAND PEST CONTROL**  
OFFERING FIVE STAR FRIENDLY SERVICE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**COMPETITIVE PRICES**  
Mobile: 0419 543 637

Treatment of all pests

- Termites • Rodents • Fleas • Bees
- Cockroaches • Spiders • Wasps
- Soil treatments • Red Stop Barriers Installed

23 years experience  
ALL WORK GUARANTEED

## POOLING

• Pool Maintenance

• Tiling & Coping Repairs

• Equipment Replacement

• Renovations

## TILING

**Tiling**

**Bathroom repairs**

**Leaking showers**

**Re-grouting**

30 yrs experience and no jobs too small.

Rob Davies – 0418 522 044

## WINDOW CLEANING

We promise sparkling  
windows every time!

Discounts  
apply for  
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**PREMIER WINDOW  
CLEANING**

Residential & commercial work  
Call Maria 0422 258 948  
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## PLASTERING

**Wp  
WONTHAGGI plaster**  
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T: 5672 1535 F: 5672 3786  
42 INVERLOCH ROAD, WONTHAGGI  
wonthaggiplaster.com.au

CEMENTEL GYPROCK CSR NATIONAL MASONRY EARTHWOOL

## RESTUMPING

**KEANE & SON**  
House Restumping & Levelling

Paul Keane  
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keanesrestumping@outlook.com  
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## TIMBER & TANKS

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TIMBERS**

WE KNOW  
TIMBER, HARDWARE,  
RURAL SUPPLIES  
& BUILDING MATERIALS

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## ADVERTISING

To advertise in the  
**Business Guide**

CONTACT JANE ON 5952 3201  
OR EMAIL ADS@PISRA.COM.AU





## DEATHS

**SHAW, Robert John:**  
(Bob or Robbie)  
20/6/1937 – 9/3/2022  
Loved husband of Christine for 62 years.  
Adored Dad of Karen, Sandy, Helen & Paul.  
Cherished Pa to Shaun, Kasey & Ben, Kim, Josh & Jaewon, Jess, Alex, Nathan, Noah & Emily.  
Loving Great Pa of Harrison, Lorelei & Lincoln.  
Forever in our hearts and will be sadly missed  
xxx



**GERLACH, John (Jo) Colin:**  
Passed away peacefully on 6th March 2022  
16/04/1953 - 06/03/2022  
Much loved brother of Anne, Linda and Mark.  
Brother in law of John, Jim and Ann.  
John will be missed by all and Suzi, his beloved Blue Heeler.  
You are gone from our sight but not from our hearts and memories.  
Handley & Anderson

## FUNERALS

**GERLACH:**  
The Funeral Service for Mr. John (Jo) Colin Gerlach will be held at St. John's Uniting Church, Chapel Street, Cowes on WEDNESDAY (Mar. 23, 2022) at 11.00am.  
A private cremation will follow.  
**SHAW:**  
A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. Robert John Shaw will be held at the San Remo Bowls Club, 1A Wynne Avenue, San Remo on FRIDAY (Mar. 18, 2022) at 2.00pm.  
A private family burial will precede this service. Bob's memorial service will be live streamed. Please go to [www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au](http://www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au) for details.

Handley & Anderson  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

## FOR SALE

**TRAILER**  
Steel 6' x 4' tilting tray.  
\$300.  
5952 1979.

## GARAGE SALES

**COWES:**  
28 Monash Ave,  
Saturday 19th March  
from 9am – 2pm.

**NEWHAVEN:**  
5 Wendell Ct,  
Sat 19th March 9am - 12pm. hardware cabinet, heaters, books, DVDs, nacs, tools etc.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

**Phillip Island Winery**  
Front of House / Bar / Wait staff.  
8-25 hours / week (dep on applicant).  
Exp preferred.  
Apply to [hello@phillipislandwinery.com.au](mailto:hello@phillipislandwinery.com.au).

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**Phillip Island RSL Community Men's Shed**  
REPAIRS AND RESTORATIONS  
From timber to metal – small to large projects  
Reasonable prices  
Open Tues Wed & Thurs  
9am to noon  
**Contact Terry on 0438 808 428**

J00006AA



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MSC7943

## SITUATIONS VACANT



Newhaven College is an independent co-educational school on Phillip Island offering quality education for students from Prep to Year 12.  
We are seeking to employ a  
**People & Culture Manager**  
In an ongoing part-time position.

For details on requirements, duties, and responsibilities, visit our website [www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au/about/work-at-newhaven](http://www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au/about/work-at-newhaven)

Applications close 4.00pm, Monday 28 March 2022 should be submitted to [katrina.lawrence@newhavencol.vic.edu.au](mailto:katrina.lawrence@newhavencol.vic.edu.au)

*Newhaven College is a child safe environment. Every child has a right to be safe, and at the College we have a zero tolerance for child safety risks (including child abuse and reportable conduct). As such, preferred applicants will be subject to child protection screening, background and reference checks, verification of identity checks and must adhere to the College's child safe practices, as outlined in the Child Protection Program policies available on the College website.*

J001378AB

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PHILLIP ISLAND DISTRICT DARTS LEAGUE IS HOLDING IT'S A.G.M.

On Monday the 21st March at 7.00pm.  
At 223 Settlement Rd. Cowes.  
**Enquires phone President, 0400 646 120 or Secretary, 0430 237 751.**

VW13543AA



### Newhaven College Reunion

Students and staff from the classes of  
**1992, 2002, 2012, 2017**

are invited to return to Newhaven College to celebrate their:  
5, 10, 20 & 30 year reunions.

**Saturday, 14 May 2022 (10am-1pm)**

To book your ticket visit:  
[www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au/about/events](http://www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au/about/events)

J001341AA

## SITUATIONS VACANT

### PHILLIP ISLAND ADVENTURE RESORT

Is seeking

### PROGRAM/ACTIVITY INSTRUCTOR CASUAL

We are looking for Casual (around 30+ hours per week during school terms) activity instructors who are committed, enthusiastic, and enjoy working with people in the outdoors. The successful applicants will be trained and responsible for running high and low element activities for our guests. The candidate will support and participate in a high-energy Programming Team by conducting activities, looking after groups and bringing a bright upbeat attitude to all they do. On-site training will be provided upon commencement.

If you are interested, please send your resume and cover letter to [Olivia@cyc.org.au](mailto:Olivia@cyc.org.au)

Successful applicants will be required to obtain an employment Working with Children Check, Evidence of up-to-date Covid Vaccination or Exemption.

Christian Youth Camps Ltd (CYC) is committed to promoting and protecting the best interests of children and has a zero-tolerance to child abuse.



J001377AA

## PUBLIC NOTICES



### NOTICE OF AGM

19 April 2022

(Tuesday)

7.00pm

ANZAC ROOM

All Members Welcome

(Members must be financial to attend)

J001381AA

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Community Support Program

Westernport Water is proud to announce that over \$11,000 will be distributed to 5 community organisations for round two of our 2021-22 Community Support Program.

### Congratulations to the recipients:

- Newhaven Primary School
- San Remo Pre-School
- Phillip Island Community & Learning Centre (PICAL)
- Channel Challenge
- Cowes Classic / Little Penguin Dash

Is your local community group, sporting club or not-for profit organisation looking for funding support for a project or event in the 2022-23 financial year? Applications open June 2022.



1300 720 711  
[westernportwater.com.au](http://westernportwater.com.au)

LK02201AA

### Thank you to all of the Community and visitors to the Island that came to our stall last Saturday.

We raised \$1041.85, which was so generous, and all proceeds will be sent to Red Cross Head Office for the QLD/NSW Floods and Ukraine Crisis Appeal. Tasha from Cowes won the Raffle and was very happy with her basket of goods.



**Australian Red Cross**

The Power of Humanity

**Phillip Island Branch**

[www.redcross.org.au](http://www.redcross.org.au)

LK02203AA



# CLASSIFIEDS Seek, buy and sell

## SITUATIONS VACANT

Phillip Island  
**NATURE  
PARKS**

### VACANCIES

The Nature Parks is an inspiring workplace and, as the largest employer on Phillip Island, offers a range of career opportunities. Our people are enthusiastic, committed, and professional in what they do.

We are seeking the following roles to join our organisation

#### Cleaner / Maintenance Full Time Fixed Term (6 months)

Provides a high standard of cleanliness and presentation for our visitors by undertaking cleaning and maintenance duties.

#### Admissions Team Leader Part Time

Provides support and guidance to the Commercial team to deliver exceptional, authentic, and inspiring experiences through customer service excellence.

#### Commercial Sales and Service – Admissions and Retail Part Time and Casual

These roles deliver exceptional and authentic customer service excellence to our visitors.

For further information on these positions and how to apply visit our website:

[www.penguins.org.au/about/employment/current-vacancies/](http://www.penguins.org.au/about/employment/current-vacancies/)

JO01379AA

## SITUATIONS VACANT

### SITUATION VACANT

#### Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit

#### FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT Permanent Full Time Position

We are seeking a highly motivated individual to join our Finance Team.

The role will be responsible for all facets of the Accounts Receivable function of the business (in a job-sharing arrangement 2.5 days per week). The role will also include support to the business for HR administrative processes and reporting.

The successful applicant will possess good time management, high attention to detail and competency with spreadsheets.

This is a permanent full-time position that requires some weekend and after-hours work.

For position description and closing date please visit our website: [www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au](http://www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au)  
Please email resume and cover letter to [cassie.stoppa@phillipislandcircuit.com.au](mailto:cassie.stoppa@phillipislandcircuit.com.au)



Tel: 5952 2710  
[www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au](http://www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au)  
[info@phillipislandcircuit.com.au](mailto:info@phillipislandcircuit.com.au)



The Phillip Island RSL is searching for genuine people to fill the below positions.

We are seeking enthusiastic and motivated individuals who are looking for stable employment. If you are interested in making hospitality a career or just after some casual hours we encourage you to apply for one of our available positions. Training will be provided, you will require a Responsible Service of Alcohol certificate for some positions, Gaming and TAB accreditations an advantage but can be obtained during employment for the successful person.

#### Positions available:

#### Venue – Duty Manager x 2

– Salary based position  
Experience required  
\$65k – \$70k plus super

#### Senior Sous Chef

– Salary based position  
\$75k – \$80k plus super

#### Bistro Supervisor/Team Leader

– Salary based position  
Experience required  
1 x Full Time  
\$55k – \$60k plus super  
1 x Part Time

Pro rata \$55k – \$60k plus super

#### Front Reception/ Concierge

Part Time positions available  
– up to 50hpw to fill

#### Gaming/Bar Staff

Full Time, Part Time and  
Casual hours – RSA minimum  
requirement

#### Bar/TAB Staff

Full Time, Part Time and  
Casual hours – RSA minimum  
requirement

#### Bistro Staff

Part Time and casual hours

All positions are required to work across 7 days including Public Holidays.  
If you are interested in working in hospitality and fit one of the above positions or require a position description email [info@pirsl.com.au](mailto:info@pirsl.com.au), please lodge a cover letter with your resume stating the position you are applying for or drop into the RSL.

JO01346AA



### PCA positions available (Must have experience)

Banfields Aged Care is part of a family-owned Australian Aged Care Group Pty Ltd (AACG), which prides itself on imagination and innovation in caring for the aged.

We are located at 192 Thompson Avenue, Cowes, Phillip Island a short stroll into town for the local beach and shops.

Set amongst beautiful landscaped grounds. Banfields Aged care is a 90-bed residential care facility which provides an extensive range of services.

As a PCA, your responsibilities will be to provide nursing care as directed by a Registered Nurse.

Casual and permanent part-time contracts are available for these positions.

Applicants must have a positive and professional work ethic with dedication and commitment to high quality care.

#### Essential criteria:

- Certificate III or IV in Aged Care.
- Current National Police Check.
- Demonstrated knowledge/ability in providing safe quality personal care to consumers and ensuring the rights of consumers are respected.
- Compassionate and empathetic person.
- Excellent communication skills - both written and verbal.
- Efficient time management skills.
- Must have flexible availability and be reliable.
- Ability to travel to Cowes on Phillip Island.
- Current evidence of influenza vaccination.
- Both COVID-19 Vaccinations.
- Current Victorian Drivers Licence.

#### What you can expect from us:

- A friendly, social & collaborative team
- A workplace that supports and values their staff
- Support from management and ongoing development and education opportunities

#### Desirable:

- Previous experience in Residential Aged Care.

\*\*We are a non-smoking facility.\*\*

If you believe you have the qualities and skills we are looking for please call: the Acting Director of Care, Elizabeth May on (03) 5951 2500 or forward your resume to [emay@banfields.com.au](mailto:emay@banfields.com.au)

JA20228

# Water Careers

Join a safety focused,  
leading employer.

We are looking for  
**three experienced  
and dynamic people**  
to join our diverse and  
inclusive workforce.

### Manager Water & Wastewater Treatment

(Full time, ongoing. Senior  
Executive Officer position)

Manage water resource,  
catchment management,  
product quality, integrated  
water planning and dam safety.

### Senior Engineer Asset Strategy, Planning & Performance

(Full time, ongoing. Senior  
Executive Officer position)

Lead the development of  
long term asset management  
strategies, plans, reporting and  
improving asset performance.

### Engineer, Asset Strategy, Planning & Performance

(Full time, ongoing. Band 5)

Assist in developing long term  
asset management strategies,  
plans, reporting and improving  
asset performance.

Applications close 6 April 2022

[www.westernportwater.com.au](http://www.westernportwater.com.au)  
or call 1300 720 711



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or device, go to [www.pisra.com.au](http://www.pisra.com.au)

PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO  
**ADVERTISER**



### ESU Young Leader Bursary 2021

The English-Speaking Union (Victoria Branch) Young Leader Bursary is now open for applications. This bursary provides up to \$3000 to enable the successful applicant to undertake a development program or an experiential leadership course. Applications close on Friday, April 30. (Melbourne time). Full details and the online application form are available at [esuvic.org.au/content/young-leader-bursary-o](http://esuvic.org.au/content/young-leader-bursary-o).

### Looking for a break?

The latest round of the Victorian Travel Voucher Scheme opens on Wednesday March 23. The 140,000 vouchers will be offered on a first-come-first-served basis and will close once the allocation has been exhausted. Successful applicants must spend a minimum of \$400 and stay for at least two-nights in paid accommodation such as hotels and motels, serviced apartments, caravan parks, camping sites, farm stays and private holiday rentals. Vouchers will be valid for travel between April 8 and May 27. To apply, go to [vic.gov.au/business-stimulus-package](http://vic.gov.au/business-stimulus-package).

### More support for small business mental health

The Mental Wellbeing of Business Communities Grants Program will provide up to 200 member-based business communities with a \$15,000 grant for training and tailored support to manage stress and anxiety. Eligible business communities include chambers of commerce, business councils, industry associations and trader groups, with the program set to have flow-on effects for the tens of thousands of Victorian small businesses they support. Grant recipients will nominate representatives to receive 10 hours of free mental health and well-being training plus an additional 12 hours of expert masterclasses which will help them design a care plan for their members. [www.business.vic.gov.au](http://www.business.vic.gov.au).

### Digital connection

Around 120 tourism businesses across Gippsland are receiving digital skills training and mentoring as part of the government's Regional Digital Fund. The program is designed to build digital technology infrastructure, skills and capability in regional areas. For more information [www.rdv.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/regional-digital-fund](http://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/regional-digital-fund)

### Blood donors sought for new COVID-19 research

A government sponsored project is looking for volunteers to provide blood samples in between their vaccine doses. The biobank is a \$5 million project that will provide critical insights into the effectiveness of vaccines, long-term effects of COVID-19 while also helping experts prepare for new strains of coronavirus. Any Victorian who is due to receive their third dose is eligible and donors to the biobank will provide five blood samples over a two-year period including, shortly before and soon after their third dose, then at regular intervals through to 2024. Researchers are seeking up to 1500 donors and are after a strong cross section of the population. Interested volunteers can find out more information and register to donate to the biobank via [vc2.org.au](http://vc2.org.au).

### Helping single parents back into the workforce

The government has expanded its wage subsidy scheme also designed to address workforce shortages across Victoria. Eligible businesses can receive up to \$20,000 if they hire an unemployed or underemployed single parent. The Fund is available to businesses with an annual payroll of under \$40 million offering secure full-time or part-time roles. Positions must run for at least 12 months and pay fair wages at or above the award or site rate.

### How sport can reduce violence against women

Applications are open for the Preventing Violence Through Sport grants program. Grants of up to \$200,000 will be available to support new and existing partnerships for clubs, leagues and associations to deliver violence prevention initiatives for players, coaches and volunteers. Applications close on Friday, April 29. [sport.vic.gov.au](http://sport.vic.gov.au).

### Solar training for women

Women can receive subsidised apprenticeships, professional mentoring, and access to ongoing education to lift the number of women participating in the renewables industry through the Growing our Clean Energy Workforce package. For further information visit: [solar.vic.gov.au/training-workforce-development](http://solar.vic.gov.au/training-workforce-development)

# Operation Agapanthus

A keen team of Save Western Port Woodlanders tackled an agapanthus infestation on the northern edge of the Gurdies Nature Conservation Reserve earlier this month. Armed with secateurs, they removed 10 large bags of seeds, preventing the further incursion of the dreaded garden escapee. The crew were mostly locals but Lisa Lawrence made the trip all the way from Thornbury to join in the fun. With the world in turmoil, there was general agreement that blitzing the aggies in good company was a therapeutic way to spend a Sunday morning. Agapanthus is classified as an environmental weed in Bass Coast, due to its invasive nature, which threatens the values of natural

ecosystems, invading native plant communities, resulting in a reduction of plant diversity and loss of habitat for animals and birds. Information on environmental weeds, including a list of common weeds in Gippsland and how to dispose of weeds is available at [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/services/environment/weeds-pests](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/services/environment/weeds-pests)



Agapanthus crew. From left, Liz McDonald, Sue Linley, Ron Hughes, Lisa Lawrence, Lyn Niddrie, Meryl Tobin, Catherine Watson, Ruth De Souza and Danny Butt. Photo: Geoff Ellis.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tell us your views with a Letter to the Editor (350 word limit). Email to [advertiser@pisra.com.au](mailto:advertiser@pisra.com.au), or submit online at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)

### Parking sensors bleed the community

So, it looks like nothing will stop this CEO installing these parking sensors – despite most of the community protesting. My wife has a disabled sticker on her car. There have been several times (mainly in Thompson Ave) that the disabled sites have been take up (and in several cases by thoughtless people not displaying a valid sticker). On those occasions we have parked in a “normal” parking spot, rather than wait for a disabled site to be vacant. My question therefore is – how will these sensors know that we have a valid sticker and should not be fined? Perhaps Ms Wastie can use her million-dollar limit to come up with a suitable answer! Perhaps a little man will appear in the sensor and tell us! This is just another revenue raising exercise making this CEO looking good – this is one of her KRA's – to bleed the community! Gary Simmons, Cowes

### One community celebrates while another is speechless

I refer to the article in the Advertiser on February 23 about the wonderful news on the sealing of Shetland Heights Road, for which I am truly delighted for the community's good fortune. But I am bewildered that a road of about 30 properties mostly on large acreage, and whose buildings are significantly offset from the road, has unexpectedly been catapulted from below the Top 20 list of council's Urban Upgrade Priority Program in 2013, to now at the top. As recently as last September, residents were told that “any upgrade would need to be part of a Special Charge Scheme that could be as far as four years away”. Not only will it be sealed as soon as practicable, but it appears that the property owners may not have to pay at all, or very little, with funding being provided by the federal

government, council and developer contributions. How do you reconcile the communities of Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay who have patiently been waiting at the top of the list for the past three to four years. The community consultation process only commenced last November and if successful, road works won't commence for four to six years with each property owner paying about \$20,000. Meanwhile hundreds of residences have to cope with the same traffic hazards and intolerable dust conditions that Shetland Heights residents have been campaigning against. No doubt that the new school brought about this result. But why are children that come and go from school, treated with the esteem not considered deserving of school children of all ages that ride and walk to the beach throughout the year unlike the children who will be using the new college only five days a week and 40 weeks of the year. And unlike Shetlands Heights Road which has recently had a temporary footpath constructed with a generous offset from the road, none of the busy key collector roads in Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay have any footpaths to protect the numerous pedestrians from traffic, or from the chocking dust. Lou Pecora, Surf Beach

**Figures don't add up**

Re “Housing Development : where will it go?” (Advertiser, March 9). The figures for the hierarchy of settlements are strange to say the least. A quick look at the ABS figures contradicts those in the article. Here are two examples of the anomalies: Newhaven does not have a population of 2000 plus; it is closer to 500 and has little space for growth. Cape Woolamai has a population in excess of 1650 and not 500-1000 as per the article. In fact the population of Cape Woolamai may still be greater than that of San Remo, though the latter will eventually be larger given the

development happening there. Jim Murphy, Cape Woolamai

**Editor's note:** The figures quoted in the article are from the draft Statement of Planning Policy prepared as part of the DAL. We should have made it clear that in the SPP hierarchy, Newhaven is listed with San Remo as a district town (a substantial and diverse population of 2000 – 10,000).

### Dust coating every surface

I live in Batman Street, Surf Beach, where, as part of the ongoing road strategy by the shire dust suppressant has been removed from the road. As a result we are all experiencing a major dust problem, especially when we have an easterly which seems quite often these days or when the heavy traffic is going back and forth to Surfies Point. Not just a small amount of dust, but a coating of dust over every exposed surface. The shire has put up signs to no avail, mostly ignored by drivers. We have raised the height of our fence, and covered the side facing the road with shade cloth, hoping to mitigate the dust. One would think there might be a more efficient way to solve the problem, which will continue for the next four years or more until the Surf Beach roads are upgraded. Jan Fleming, Surf Beach

All letters are published at the discretion of the editor. Letters may be edited for length, grammar or legal reasons. Priority will be given to current local issues and events. All letters must include the author's full name and address (only the name and location will be printed).



# Schools bowled over!

Local primary schools battled it out at the Phillip Island Bowls Club last week. Cowes Primary School emerged victorious after a fun and competitive day of bowling, with its two teams heading for the regional finals this week, competing against other winners from across Gippsland.

Bowls Australia's Regional Bowls Manager Warren Griffin was on hand to cheer on the teams.

He told the Advertiser the regional finals will be held in Morwell this Friday, with the state finals to take place at Sunbury before the end of school term.

"It's great to see the green full today and there's some great and talented deliveries going on out there which is awesome," Warren said.

"From a bowls perspective, this is the type of stuff that helps to break the stereotype.

"Everyone knows what the stereotype is and it's really hard to convince people sometimes that bowls goes a long way beyond that.

"I mentioned to the students at the start of the day here that we selected a Jackeroos team to go to Birmingham for the Commonwealth Games which is not too far away from being announced.

"Most of the players on that team started playing between the ages of eight and 14, and that side will probably have an average age of late 20s.

"It's such a young team that will go over there and it's a fantastic opportunity. I explained to these boys and girls that it's a sport you can go and represent your country in.

"There's the World Bowls next year in Victoria and Queensland so there's plenty of opportunity."

Final results for the schools' bowls: 1st: Cowes PS1, 2nd: Cowes PS2, 3rd: Newhaven College2, 4th Newhaven College1, 5th San Remo PS.

More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)



San Remo Primary School bowls team (left to right): Top Row: Kienna, Kai, Lexi, Gus, Kai, Tessa. Middle: Avana, Lexi, Georgia, Talia. Front: Ruby T, Ruby A.



The winning Cowes Primary team will now compete at the regional final. Front: Gemma, Caleb, Archie, Maddi. Second row: Sam, Angus, Zane, Tierlin, Ruby, Jazz, Pheonix. Third Row: Felix, Ty, Brydon, Sam. Fourth Row: Noah, Jye, Rider, Tav, Adelle, Mia, Bella.



Cowes Primary School student Ruby in action

## Midweek bowls

Midweek bowls was played at Lang Lang this week and the winners were John Nicholson, David Talbot, Pauline McWilliams and Tony Morris.

Runners up were Dennis Talbot, Luke Monkton, Tony Heppleston and Peter Thorley.

One Game winners were Michael Dady, Laurie Bell, Peter Stansfield and Delia Cave.

Twenty-four bowlers played and the weather was perfect for our bowls and the green was running true and in good condition. It was a real pleasure to bowl.

As usual our members were in good spirits ready for a day of good fun good bowling and good company. Indeed, everyone enjoyed themselves.

Welcome back to Delia Haydn and Dennis who were doing some travelling.

It was a fierce battle for first place and the scores went as follows, winners 34 points, runners up 25 points and one game 22 points.

Thank you to our members who brought items in for the free raffle table, please continue to do so as it's a lot of fun and we really enjoy hearing our name called out.

We also have a money raffle and that is great fun too.

A big thank you to Alan Thomas of Lang Lang who makes us feel very welcome and looks after us so well and has been looking

after midweek for many years.

Next week we will be playing at Corinella, 10am at the club for a 10.30am start, please be on time to allow the organisers to start on time, BYO lunch.

For more information or to register please contact Peter McWilliams on 5678 5974 or arrive early on the day of play.

Thank you to all our volunteers who help out at midweek. without you midweek would not be possible.

So come along and experience a great day of bowls and good company, everyone welcome.

See you on the green.



Winners of Midweek bowls played at Lang Lang were John Nicholson (S), David Talbot (3), Pauline McWilliams (2) and Tony Morris (L).

## Ten Pin bowling

### Current ladder

2s Company: 1st on 13pts- Strike Me Lucky, 2nd on 10pts Him & Her and 3rd on 8pts Palms.

ABL: 1st on 60.5pts Just Bowl Already, 2nd on 58pts Island Sector and 3rd on 56.5pts PinPals.

Business: 1st on 13pts Turkey Slappers, 2nd on 9pts 3 Stooges, 3rd on 7pts CTD Carpentry and 4th on 6pts Balls Deep.

Phantom: 1ST on 5pts Falcor, 2nd on 5pts Joyceegirl and 3rd on 4pts Rufus.

Top scorers this week.

Men: 227 Rob Wilkinson, 218 Justin Porthouse and 195 Raff Merante.

Woman: 171 Karen Klym, 161 Barbara Burns and 164 Tricia Niessink.

# Big cat race day is this Saturday

Phillip Island is set to host a sailing spectacle as the Cowes Yacht Club's 2022 Catamaran Challenge sets sail on Saturday, March 19.

The 70 km race where boats depart from Cowes and sail around French Island is expected to last five hours.

After months of preparation by the hard-working club committee, a large number of off the beach catamarans, from Victoria and interstate, have arrived to do battle for \$10,000 in prize money.

The race is due to start at 12 noon. Three different classes of catamarans will start five minutes apart, which should make it quite a spectacle.

The Cowes Yacht Club has invited members of the public to come and view the race start from upstairs at the club house, with snacks and coffee on sale.

Spectators will also be able to take in the action from various vantage points across the region, including the island's northern beaches, Rhyll, Corinella, Coronet Bay and locations on the other side of the bay.

The catamarans will depart from Cowes and make a lap around French Island before returning to Cowes for the finish line.

The final direction of the race will be decided on the day, however a club spokesperson said it was likely to be anti-clockwise.

"This is normally the best way to maximise the use of a stronger afternoon sea breeze for a faster sail down the chan-



This special start and finish bow has been donated to the Club by sponsor Purple Hen Wines. Around French Island event organiser from Cowes Yacht Club, Doug Telford with Purple Hen Wines owner Rick Lacey.

nel home past Hastings, Crib Point, Stony Point then Sandy Point, back to finish in front of the club," they said.

Safety in the event is paramount, and each boat has an individual tracker that will be followed by race control at Cowes.

There will also be many support boats on the water, to ensure the competitors go the right way.

The first boats are expected to finish around 5pm.

There will be a line honours finish, but the overall winner will be judged on handicap.

The club spokesperson said the handicap meant the event had a "level playing field".

"The overall winner will be the team that sailed the best, not the team with the fastest or more expensive boat.

"We wish all the competitor's good luck and great speed and now cannot wait to see who the winners will be.

"Will it be the one of the local teams using their knowledge of the region or will it be one of the interstate teams – only time will tell!"

### Neil Beddoe

A special trophy will be presented on the day honouring former life member of the Cowes Yacht Club, Neil Beddoe.

The Westernport Water Memorial Award will be presented in Neil's name to the first female crew to complete the race.

Neil was a former chair and member of Westernport Water's customer consultative committee for over 10 years.

Other major event sponsors include Australian Air Sararis, which is providing \$10,000 prize money, as well as Bass Coast Shire Council, Bendigo Bank, Phillip Island RSL, Purple Hen Wines, North Pier Hotel and Ronstan.

### Traffic

There will be road closures in Cowes between 8am and 8pm on The Esplanade and Osbourne Avenue between Walpole Street and Beach Street to allow for unloading and parking of boat trailers.

The Yacht Club has advised local residents via a letter drop, and residents will still have access to their properties via the Osbourne Avenue barriers, exiting at the Walpole Street end.

The road will be one way for the duration of the closure and professional traffic managers have been engaged to manage the process.

Motorists can expect some delays in the area.

**Australian Air Safaris**  
BY KIRKHOPE

**Around French Island Catamaran Challenge 2022**

**Cowes Yacht Club**  
EST. 1958

**\$10,000 PRIZE MONEY**

**70KM CATAMARAN CHALLENGE**  
**19TH MARCH 2022**

**VISIT: COWESYACHTCLUB.COM/AFI**

**\$100 ENTRY FEE, OPEN TO ALL OTB CATAMARANS WITH A YARDSTICK OF 83 OR LESS**

**NOTICE OF RACE AND TERMS OF CONDITIONS PLEASE SEE THE WEBSITE**





Coach Jill Grayden with PIPC Members Keely – Eliza – Chloe-Ella & Ruby

## Phillip Island Pony Club

On Sunday, March 6 Phillip Island Pony Club held their second home rally for the year at Graydens Road, Ventnor.

Whilst the sky was grey and gloomy the excitement of a day of friends and pony club fun was certainly shining through on all the kids' faces.

Coach Jill Grayden was in charge of dressage arena work for the day.

Some riders were able to benefit with having a one-on-one lesson as well as group dressage lessons over the day.

Jill's wealth of knowledge and her knack of being able to coach and communicate with the kids from complete beginners to the more experienced was extremely well received and appreciated by the all the riders.

As well the kids had fun on their ponies at the end of their lessons by playing their favourite game "Beep Beep".

Phillip Island Pony club president Felicity Kalstroom took control of show jumping for the day, and with such a diverse bunch of kids, ponies/horses and riding abilities, Felicity certainly had her work cut out for herself, especially in the morning with six riders in the arena.

Great job from all the kids in the morning session especially those whose horses weren't too keen on doing what they were told but the riders pushed them through to end on a great note.

After a great lunch break (thank you to everyone who contributed for the day) the more experienced jumpers Gabe, Meyenna and Giselle had their turn in the jumping arena with their horses Fly, Roxy and Blu with great fun and success.

Thank you to Tash Robinson and Wendy Christensen who ran the theory throughout the day for all the riders.

Phillip Island Pony Clubs – DC Amy Wooley was able to sign off on some certificates with a big congratulations to Eliza Poll on earning the Pony Club Australia Dstar Certificate and Ruby Carrol on receiving her D Certificate. Well done girls.

It was great to see so many riders



Gabe Smith on Sweetwood Valley Fire Fly representing Newhaven College at Inter School Show jumping

enjoying the day and a big welcome to new rider Lucy and her pretty pony Samson!

On Friday, February 18, Phillip Island Pony Club members, Meyenna Christensen and Gabe Smith represented Newhaven College in the Petstock Interschool Show jumping competition at Boneo Park.

Boneo Park is the premier equestrian facility in Victoria and hosts the Australian Show jumping Championships.

It was a 4.30 am wakeup call for the riders to get themselves and their horses to registrations.

Meyenna and horse Roxy rode in the Freshmans Division and for their first time competing at ISJ and had some great rounds as well as having the best time.

Gabe was in the Progressive Division of 85-95cm, and had two horses to ride in Blu and the new big handsome boy in "Sweetwood Valley Fire Fly" (affectionately known as Fly).

The round with Gabe and Blu was great but unfortunately they knocked a rail which took them out of placings.

Gabe and Fly were having their first competition together with them only teaming up in the past week, so it was quite impressive to see a great clear round and getting them into the

final jump off.

With both their confidence soaring Gabe and Fly picked up the speed and rode some great lines leading them to take out Reserve Champion – this team certainly looks like one to look out for in the future.

Congratulations also to Giselle and Gabe Smith who have been selected into the Prince Phillip National Mounted Games Victorian Development Squad after tryouts at Yarrambat Pony Club the past month.

The PIPC committee and members would also like to thank the Spencer Family for the donation of the long beach seat for the spectators and Mr Howard Jones for fixing the grandstand seating.

Also shout out to Bec and Tim Newman TNC Concreting for supplying the concrete pads for our new Eco tables.

Phillip Island Pony Club is a small, family orientated club located at Ventnor Rec Reserve in Lyall Street Ventnor.

Free horse manure is available near the horse pens, BYO bag or trailer please remember to shut the gate.

If you are interested in joining/sponsoring Phillip Island Pony Club or have any queries you can look us up on Facebook or email us [pipcsecretary1@gmail.com](mailto:pipcsecretary1@gmail.com).



## Phillip Island Pony club – Member of the month

Name: Ella Kalstroom

Age: 7

Horse: Snooks

Age: 15

Breed/Height: Shetland - 8hands

How old were you when you started riding? Four.

How long have you had your pony? I have borrowed him from Kerri for the

last two years.

When did you start at PIPC? When I was six.

What's your favourite discipline and why? Cross country because you get to go on trail rides in the bush and you never know what is coming next.

What's the best thing about PIPC? My favourite thing is the lovely instructors and all the nice friends I have made.

## Euchre Results

Ladies' winner: Marg Cahill – 7 wins.

Men's winner: Grant Wadeson – 6 wins. Encouragement award: Mary-Ann Uckerman.

Please contact Bob Hee for any further information on 0418 173 388.

## Phillip Island golf

### Tuesday, March 8: Men's Stroke

Division one winner: Paul Cashman (12) with 70 nett from Ron Davies (17) 71 nett.

Division two winner: Kelvin Gebert (33) with 64 nett from Dave Ablett (20) with 72 nett.

Nine-hole Stableford competition winner: Anthony Pullan (34) with 21 points from Mal MacArthur.

### Wednesday, March 9: Ladies Stableford and 2nd Round of Walton Knock-out

A Grade winner: Helen Coghlan (17) with 40 points.

B Grade winner: Sue Brown (23) with 37 points.

C Grade winner: Jane Sellenger (38) with 32 points.

NTP: 5th Viki Roff-Smith, 7th Micki Yamaguchi, 10th Liz Gleeson, 17th Vicki Roff-Smith and 12th Second shot Era Septiana.

Nine-hole winner: Barb Moloney (40) with 16 points from Norma Corr.

### Thursday, March 10: Open Stableford

Winner: Ugo Mascitelli (35) with 41 points from John Jackson (27) with 40 points.

Nine-hole winner: Bob Pascoe (12) with 20 points, r/up was Rob Davison.

### Saturday, March 12: Men's Stableford

Men's:

A Grade winner: Mark Jamieson (12) with 37 points on countback from Matt Brown (10).

B Grade winner: Matt Goss (17)

with 39 points from Steve Waters (17) with 37 points on countback.

C Grade winner: Bez Moustafa (25) with 41 points from Ian Berryman (27) with 39 points.

NTP: 5th Ron Owen, 7th Glen Marshall, 10th Alan Sherlock and 17th Ricky Jenkins.

The Ladies winner was Karen Green (213) with 42 Points from Ira Septiana (24) with 39 points.

NTP: 5th Deb Orr, 7th Ada Anglin, 10th Sheryl Smith and 17th Ira Septiana.

Nine-hole stableford winner: Steve Reiger with 17 points on countback.

Next Week's competition is Stensons Stableford.

### Sunday, March 13: Open Stableford

The winner was Mark Andrighetto (31) with 41 points from Heath Kolac (22) with 33 points on countback.

Nine-hole winner was Pam Rothfield (23) with 15 points on countback to Ray Jaanson.



Phillip Island golf club member Greg Williams is pictured celebrating his recent hole in one on the 5th.



## Happy birthday Pat

Pat Garry celebrated his 80th birthday with a round of golf and some delicious cake at the Phillip Island Golf Club last week.



## SGB's pool success continues at MSAC

The 'Holy Grail' of swimming in Victoria occurred on the March long weekend, with 23 swimmers flying the South Gippsland Bass (SGB) flag at the return of the Victorian Age Championship Long Course event at MSAC.

What a fantastic achievement for the 23 swimmers, aged between 12-18, who managed to qualify for State Championships. The club is so proud of you.

The swimmers managed to meet the tough qualifying times and compete over the five days in distances ranging from 50m to 400m in all strokes, against swimmers from 84 clubs throughout the state.

For several swimmers, this was their first big meet like this, due to Covid and to those in the 12 and 13 age groups.

It was a massive learning experience.

While not everyone made finals, for all swimmers a Personal Best was achieved in one, if not more events, with up to four or five and even eight seconds knocked off their best times which, for swimmers of this calibre, is a huge effort.

Those who represented South Gippsland Bass at the Victorian Age Championship Long Course 2022 are: Hayden Barnes, Billy Boyd, Maddison Boyd, Max Brocklesby, Asha Chalmers, Claudia Croatto, Olivia Holmes, Josh Hunt, Owen Jones, Milla Laub, Freya Liepa, Mosten Lumsden, Rahni Matheson, Sienna Matheson, Sophie McKenzie, Luke Muir, Skye Munro, Trinity O'Keefe, Cooper Quaife, Gypsy Quaife, Miah Roberts, Zac Sherar, and William Simmons.

### Opening day

Thursday saw 15 swimmers competing, with six returning for the finals that night.

The team left with three medals, two gold and a bronze and some happy swimmers experiencing a return to the big event stage.

Friday morning 14 swimmers entered, with five swimmers qualifying to compete in the finals at night. Aa gold and silver headed home with the SGB crew.

Saturday, day 3 of racing did not slow the SGB team.

12 swimmers dove into the pool, with five going on to race in the finals that night.

Silver and Bronze came home with the team and some fingernail touches from the medals for several others.

Sunday saw 17 swimmers at the pool, with it being a night for the women in the finals, with six of the girls making it, some in their first finals experience.

There were some very close races, and several races came down to the millisecond.

For those at home, we loved the smiling faces on the scenes as we cheered you along.

Silver was the only medal, but several two – four second PBS and 2 National Qualification times meant for a lot of celebration.



Dylan Muir (head coach), Luke Muir, Max Brocklesby, Skye Munro, Maddi Boyd and Billy Boyd.



Zac Sherar, Cooper Quaife, Sienna Matheson, Rahni Matheson, Olivia Holmes and Coach Dylan Muir.

Monday, the last day of the meet did not slow down the SGB crew, with 13 entering events and several making it to the finals.

The team wound up the meet in style with some fantastic swims and still smiling faces in the finals Monday night.

The event was broadcast on Swim TV, meaning family and friends at home, unable to make it down could watch and cheer their swimmers on.

We may not have been there on the sidelines but there were plenty of SGB families yelling at their TVs over the weekend.

Several swimmers managed to acquire national times and will be heading to Adelaide in April for the National Championships.

Well done to Trinity O'Keefe, Milla Laub, Rahni Matheson, Mostyn Lumsden, Sienna Matheson Sophie McKenzie and Skye Munro.

Olivia Holmes and Zac Sherar (who can't swim at national events until their 13th birthday) also managed a national time.

### Finalists

Max Brocklesby: 200m freestyle,

100m Butterfly.

Claudia Croatto: 7th 100 Breaststroke, 8th 200 Breaststroke.

Olivia Holmes: 3rd 200m Butterfly, 1st 100m Freestyle, 6th 100 Breaststroke, 3rd 50m Freestyle, 2nd 200m Individual Medley, 2nd 100m Backstroke, 100m Butterfly.

Milla Laub: 5th 50 Backstroke, 5th 100m Backstroke, 50m Butterfly, 50m Freestyle.

Rahni Matheson: 1st 100m Breaststroke, 2nd 50m Breaststroke, 1st 200 Breaststroke, 6th 200m IM, 100m Backstroke.

Sienna Matheson: 5th 200m Breaststroke, 8th 50m Breaststroke, 4th 100 Breaststroke.

Sophie McKenzie: 2nd 50m Breaststroke, 5th 100m Breaststroke, 7th 200m Breaststroke.

Luke Muir: 200m Backstroke 10th.

Trinity O'Keefe: 6th 200 Breaststroke, 5th 50 Breaststroke, 5th 100 Breaststroke.

Cooper Quaife: 8th 200m Butterfly.

Miah Roberts: 10th 100 Backstroke.

Zac Sherar: 7th 100m Breaststroke, 5th 200m Freestyle, 2nd 200 Breaststroke, 9th 400 Freestyle, 100m Freestyle.



Lily, second from left, competing for her university in Florida, where she is being coached on a scholarship. She is pictured with university team mates.

## Lily takes out USA swim gongs

Phillip Island's Lily Robinson has beaten the best of the United States elite swimmers to take out medals in a major competition.

Lily, 21, who grew up in Cowes and was a member of the Phillip Island Swim Club, was awarded a university sports scholarship to study at Florida's Keiser University and train under top coaches.

Earlier this month she competed in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics at the Columbus Aquatic Center in Georgia.

Lily won a silver in the 200-yard breaststroke and bronze in the 100-yard breaststroke.

According to the NAIA's media release, Lily was the national runner-up, while her team captured its first NAIA women's swimming national title.

More than 260 universities compete in NAIA sports across the USA.

Proud mum Jo Robinson – a former Women's National Basketball League player – shared the news on Facebook.

Sporting achievement runs in the family.

Dad Terry represented Victoria

in basketball and when the Advertiser spoke to Lily on the island last year, her brother Keith was planning to head to the US state of Kansas on a basketball scholarship, while Lily's two younger brothers Dale and Joel were also keen basketballers.

The Robinsons moved to Cowes when Lily was three, where they had a pool and she immediately learnt to swim.

"They put me in the water and let me float around so we think that had something to do with the fact that I'm the only swimmer in the family," Lily said.

At the age of 7 Lily joined the Phillip Island Swim Club, and at 11 the South Gippsland Bass Swim Club, also playing basketball and netball, but dedicated herself to swimming from 14 when she competed in her first nationals.

She would get out of bed at 5am each morning to make her swim coaching sessions at the Wonthaggi pool.

She said when she finishes in the US in 2024 she hopes to return home in time for the next Olympic trials, with 200m breaststroke her favourite event.

## Phillip Island Classic hosted some historic racing

Phillip Island hosted a festival of classic cars on the weekend.

More than 400 spectacular historic vehicles from the early 50s to the late 80s racing, lined up on the track.

Organised by the Victorian Historic Racing Register (VHRR), there were over 400 entries for the three-day event.

It was a welcome return to exciting racing in what is regarded as the largest historic racing event in the Southern Hemisphere with past and present champions of the sport.



Nick Bennett, with Ian Tate, was awarded the Sir Jack Brabham Drive of the Meeting trophy. Photo Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.



More than 400 spectacular historic vehicles from the early 50s to the late 80s racing, lined up on the track on the weekend. Photo Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.



Laurie Bennett, Ian Tate and Jan Taylor holding the trophy won by her son Nick Bennett. Nick and his father Laurie both competed, taking out first and third spots respectively. Photo Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.



# Grand day of finals for cricket club

Capping off a brilliant season, three senior teams from the Phillip Island Cricket Club are competing in Finals this weekend.

All five seniors teams made it through to the semi-finals, with A Grade, B1 and C2 Blue all progressing through to this week's Finals on Saturday, March 19.

A grade, lead by Max Royal will play Leongatha Town at Inverloch. The team will be playing for the chance to bring home Phillip Island's first A-grade flag in over 20 years.

B grade, lead by Steve McIntyre will face Koonwarra RSL Cricket Club at the east campus in Leongatha.

C2 Blue, lead by Mick Cleary faces Kilcunda Bass at the Wonthaggi Rec Reserve.

All games start at 11am and the club is hoping the local community will come to the games to support the teams.

The A-Grade match will be live streamed on Frogbox. The link will be on all the club's social media sites.

The Finals weekend marks the end of a successful year and a club spokesperson said they were aiming to bring home all three flags.

"This would cap off a brilliant year for the club."

Last weekend, the U15 teams won their Grand Final against Inverloch.



The winning B1 team who booked themselves a grand final spot along with A grade and C2 Blue cricket teams.

# Sensational season for Island cricketers

A1

After a dominant season the A1 boys came up against the old enemy Wonthaggi Club in what was set to be a huge semi-final played at the Inverloch turf wicket.

After winning yet another toss the Sharks decided to have a bat and were off to a shaky start after both openers in Cleeland and Richards were dismissed cheaply.

Mock and Rathnayake met at the crease and went about building a partnership with both of them carrying on their good form, before Mock chipped one to point and was dismissed for 32.

This bought Tom Keily to the crease and the big man showed everyone that he loves the big stage. In combination with a red-hot Rathnayake the two were able to regularly find the boundary keeping the Wonthaggi bowlers under pressure at all times.

Shiran was eventually dismissed for 59 and Kiely (65 off 69) together with some good lower order batting for Adam Miller (17 off 19) were able to drag the Sharks to 8 for 203 off their 50 overs.

After the extended break the Sharks struggled to make an impact early with the Wonthaggi openers setting themselves for the chase.

The game turned when evergreen Charith Keerthisinghe got the ball in his hand dismissing Dave Britt caught at point followed by the big wicket of Ryan Thomas trapped LBW.

The Sharks bowlers were able to keep constant pressure on the Wonthaggi batsmen who weren't going down without a fight but when the big quick Simon Kirton came back on to bowl the game changed.

When he trapped Wonthaggi captain James Sheerin plumb LBW in front of middle the Sharks were all but home.

Kirton finished with 4 for 29 off 8 and together with Keerthisinghe (2 for 34 off 9) and Max Royal (2 for 20 off 6) the Sharks were able to bowl their way to 54 run win, with Tom Keily named man of match post game.

The boys face Leongatha Town next week in the club's first ever appearance in an A1 grand final.

Go Sharks.

B1

Perfect conditions greeted both team on Saturday morning for the semi-final at Cowes.

Inverloch won the toss and elected to bat and the Sharks opened the bowling with Matt Dennerley and Tim Niven.

Both bowlers made scoring dif-

ficult for the experienced opening combination of Phillips and Debono.

Dennerley was able to remove Phillips with a ball that cannoned into the off stump to have the visitors 1-24.

They replaced experience with youth and Inverloch set about making sure they would bat out their overs and the runs dried up.

Tim Niven consistently landed the ball in good areas and eventually got one through the gate to dismiss Donohue for 2.

A terrific spell from Tim which saw him finish with the miserly figures of 1 for 10 off his ten overs.

Geoff Odgers replaced Dennerley at the top end and continued to apply the pressure. He toiled away and was finally rewarded when he caught the outside edge of Harris's bat to remove him for a stubborn 12.

Liam Dayson bowled a good spell of leg spin to the left-handed batters and was unlucky not to get a few wickets.

Clint Wilson came on from the top end and quickly got amongst the wickets, removing Hislop and Richardson for 5 apiece.

At this point the Sharks were well on top with the score at 5/75 off 33 overs.

Now was the time that Inverloch's plan was shot into action.

With Debono proving to be a thorn in the side of the Sharks, they began to lift the run rate with some lusty hitting.

Together with McMillan the pair put on 80-odd as the Island bowlers started to take some stick.

Tom Niven worked hard up the hill but was bowling to two set batsmen who were chancing their arm.

Kurt Lane replaced Tom and varied his pace beautifully to make sure it was difficult to score, and he snuck one past McMillan (37) to clip the bail off the stumps.

Mujutba joined Debono and after a cautious start, freed the arms up and launched three sixes to get the score racing along.

Odgers and Dennerley both came back to finish their overs and were still able to extract some swing with the old ball. The dot balls they were able to bowl would turn out to be crucial in the game.

Lane bowled the last over of the innings and removed Debono (67) thanks to a great catch from Finlayson in the deep. A great knock from Debono that gave his team a real fighting chance.

Laney also bowled Mujutba (27) on the last ball of the innings to pick up three wickets.

In the end Inverloch had made a very respectable 196.

Steve McIntyre and Kurt Lane



B1 team man of the match Steve McIntyre, the team had a great win on the weekend and secured their place in the grand final.

opened the batting and the pair raced along to 39 before Lane (23) was bowled trying to launch one into the stratosphere. Kohen Beaumont came to the crease and looked solid until he flashed at one wide of the off stump and was out for 4.

With the score at 2 for 50 Tony Hornsby came the crease and with McIntyre soaked up a lot of the pressure being applied by Inverloch.

After 10 overs of not much scoring the pair began to pick up the run rate. The partnership (71) was moving along very nicely until both batsmen had brain snaps with Hornsby eventually run out for well compiled 37.

Dennerley strode out to join Macca and had to work hard to make some runs.

Things were getting tense, especially for the crowd watching and when Dennerley was out for 11 the Sharks needed 35 from the last seven overs.

With it increasingly difficult to find the boundary each run was very important.

Odgers clipped one for three off his first ball as Macca dug deep to cover the 66 yards with extremely tired legs.

Odgers was bowled shortly after that, and it would be Andrew Finlayson that would be the one that would need to step up in the final overs.

The two batsmen who would both be off 35 metres at the Stawell Gift dug deep with some telling twos and threes to get the Sharks needing 10 off the last two overs.

Six runs from the first three balls meant that the Sharks required four to win.

Well with one glorious straight drive from Finlayson, the Sharks had

secured a place in the grand final next week.

There were some strong performances by many of the Sharks, but none more so than from Macca. To carry his bat through the innings and guide his team to victory with 93 not out in a tricky run chase was incredible.

He remained composed and dug deep when his team need it.

Great knock to add to what has been a stellar year for the captain with the stick.

Good luck in the Grand Final next week and hopefully the silverware can come back to the Shark tank.

Inverloch- 8/196. Phillip Island 5/196.

B2

Semi-final – The Sharks travelled to Poowong with their strongest side all year.

Poowong won the toss and elected to bat first.

The Sharks got started with Cleary and Parsons both bowling tight. Soon Cleary had the first wicket to have Poowong 1/28. Angelo replaced Parsons and picked up the second wicket for the Sharks to have Poowong 2/34 in the 15 over.

Cleary was bowling well without luck, finished his 10 overs with 1/20. Dave Womersley came on and soon had a wicket to have Poowong 3/52.

Young Heath Womersley replaced Angelo got a wicket in his first over and soon picked up two more wickets in his next two overs, to swing the match in favour of the Sharks to have Poowong 6/69.

Heath finished with 3/12 off 7 overs.

The Sharks were able to wrap the Poowong innings up bowling them out for 117, it was a great bowling and fielding effort by the Sharks.

It was the Shark's turn to bat, chasing a small total which was going to be tough.

Keating and Blackwell opened up and got off to a good start, before Blackwell fell with the score on 21 and had soon slipped to 3/32 with Poowong getting two quick wickets.

Angelo joined Keating and hit some nice boundaries before Keating was run out for 25, leaving the Sharks 4/60, Angelo was out not long after with the Sharks slipping to 5/61.

The Sharks needing to build some partnership as they crept towards the total but just kept losing wickets as they slipped to 7/80.

With plenty of overs left the Sharks players kept fighting but couldn't get a solid partnership going and were bowled out short of Poowong's total, losing by 19 runs.

The Shark players can hold their heads up with the way they played

the game after a great year. Good luck to the other Shark teams playing in this week's Grand final.

C2

The C2 blues faced Leongatha Town at Rhyll in the semi-final on Saturday.

The blues won the toss and elected to bat.

In glorious autumn conditions Excell and Manning strolled to the crease.

The pair once again got off to a solid start putting on 44 before Excell was caught behind for 20. Francis (1) and Johnston (0) both departed quickly after and the blues had slipped to 3/46.

Patterson joined Manning and steadied the ship till Patterson was bowled just before the drinks break for 3, blues 4/81.

Captain Cleary joined Manning and the pair started scoring freely, putting on a 68-run stand.

The partnership was broken when Manning hit one back the bowler and was caught for a magnificent 78.

Tyce Kleverkamp joined Cleary and the runs continued to flow, Tyce made a quick 23, including an enormous six before he was caught.

Fall belted 24 off 10 balls before he was caught.

Parry smashed 16, also including a big six, before he was caught behind on the second last ball of the innings.

Max Arceo faced the last ball of the innings and ended on 0 not out.

Cleary ended up on 53 not out and the blues made an impressive 8/239.

The blues opened the bowling with Connor Macmillan and Tyce Kleverkamp.

C-mac got the key wicket of the town opener, clean bowling him.

Fall then snagged the next four wickets, with two catches to Arceo, one each to C-mac and Cleary.

Fall finished a great spell with 4/18. Town had slumped to 5/58.

Connor Macmillan took his second catch giving Francis his first wicket, Town 6/68.

The town skipper thundered to the crease and built a strong partnership giving Town a glimmer of hope.

Tyce Kleverkamp returned to the attack and got the breakthrough, smashing the stumps and the hopes of the batting side.

Johnston then cleaned up the last three wickets, bowling the Town skipper and catches to Connor Macmillan (his third catch of the day) and Excell.

Town was bowled out for 155.

It was a brilliant team performance by the C2 blues who march into the grand final next week.

The player of the match was awarded to Jonty Manning.



# Angling Club Fishing competition

Hakuna matata for anglers participating in the eighth Rhyll-Phillip Island Angling Club (RPIAC) angling competition for the 2021/2022 season.

With the Rhyll boat ramp closed for a major upgrade, over 35 millimetres of rain falling since Friday evening, and winds from all directions, it was still possible to participate in the scheduled competition.

Anglers launched boats from Newhaven, Cowes and Corinella, or tried land-based options, including surf beaches and jetties, to participate in the competition held on March 5 and 6.

Eerily, there were periods of calm and conducive conditions that enticed enthusiasts outdoors.

Unfortunately, if the timing was wrong the going got tough, particularly with the wind whipping-up whitecaps, threatening to develop sea legs and compromise stability.

Despite the challenges, many shrugged it off as an excuse to go fishing, try something new, and develop additional skills.

As the conclusion of the competition approached, anglers and supporters enjoyed the barbecue mastery of Len Petch, who tamed the flames to sizzle sausages on Sunday afternoon.

Again, with the support of volunteers and sponsors the event was a success.

Bakers Delight Cowes ensured that the sausages were blanketed in lovely white slices, and optional condiments were on hand for additional satisfaction.

A total of 25 fish and one shark were presented to the Weigh-in Master, Russ Gallagher, after angling members had another chance to claim a RPIAC Extraordinary Catch Incentive.

The cash incentives for eligible species, caught by members during competition weekends, remain banked with only two more competitions remaining.

None of these \$1000 first-to-catch prizes have been claimed this season despite many of the club's anglers trying to catch an eligible species that equals or exceeds the nominated weight: King George whiting (1000 grams), snapper (10 kg), Gummy shark (20 kg), mullet (25 kg) and kingfish (25 kg).

The attendees at the post-competition presentation congratulated Denver Firth after another tremendous effort in the Squidgie Mixed Bag Points competition, for participants aged nine and under.

Denver, the reigning Squidgie Club Champion, embraced the challenging conditions over the weekend and caught three fish worth 55 points to win one of the Phillip Island Marine vouchers for finishing in first place.

The Junior competition, for anglers aged 10 to 16, was again dominated by Isabella Bland, who started early on Saturday and enjoyed some of the best weather of the weekend.

Determined to perform in lacklustre conditions, Isabella weighed in a 660-gram snapper and a King George whiting worth 1092 points (390 grams) to win the Junior Weight and Junior Points competitions, respectively.

The Senior Heaviest Weight competitions were won by Steve Bland and Kate Jinette, who were very pleased after working hard all weekend, triumphant with a snapper each, weighing 1075 grams and 660 grams, respectively.

The Senior Points competitions were won by Duncan Firth and Carrienne Peatey, who had the best King George whiting of the weekend.

Duncan's whiting was worth an impressive 1862 points (665 grams), whilst Carrienne's scored 1162 points



Denver Firth (left) won a Phillip Island Marine Voucher, finishing first in the Squidgie Mixed Bag Points competition, with Weigh-in Master Russ Gallagher (right).



Steve Bland was very pleased to win the Senior Male Heaviest Weight competition with a 1075-gram snapper, enjoying the best, and battling the worst, weather of the weekend.



One land-based fishing option for the weekend was the Rhyll jetty, overlooking demolition of the Rhyll boat ramp.

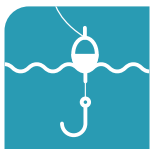
(415 grams), which was a very reasonable catch.

With the first shark to be weighed in on a competition weekend in 2022, Pat Gleeson delivered a gummy shark, weighing 3970 grams, to win the Senior Shark competition.

The Secret Weight prize was netted by Tenille Preddice, who weighed in a 345-gram King George whiting (secret weight 323 grams).

The RPIAC clubroom is located adjacent to the Rhyll boat ramp and is open to members and visitors on Fridays (from 5 pm) and competition weekends coinciding with weigh in.

The next angling competition is scheduled for the weekend of March 19 and 20. For further information about the club, events, competitions, and rules, please visit [www.rpiac.com](http://www.rpiac.com).



AROUND THE BAY  
WITH JIM'S BAIT AND TACKLE

## Good Friday Appeal Easter Fishing competition

We are starting to get plenty of entry forms back for our Good Friday Appeal Easter Fishing competition.

A quick tally over the weekend shows just over half the kids show bags are gone already, so be quick, so your kids don't miss out, as we only have 50 kid's bags.

Women in Rec Fishing Network (WIRF) has come on board as a sponsor this year, supplying 50 show bags for the first 50 adult ladies that enter.

Even if you are not fishing it's worth entering just to receive one of these show bags.

Don't forget the hourly giveaway random draws as well, which everyone that enters is included in, fishing or not.

So, if you were going to donate to the Good Friday Appeal why not enter to go into the draws?

The giveaways are not all fishing tackle. Local businesses like The Westernport Hotel, San Remo Co-op, and the Vietnam Vets Museum have all donated vouchers plus the major prize draw donated by Phillip Island Helicopters.

For those who haven't been a part of the comp before we try to design it around the family just having a bit of fun over the weekend while giving to a cause that helped plenty of local families. There are categories for adults, juniors and small fries for heaviest of nominated species as well as a mystery weight so everyone gets to weigh something in.

Thanks to Jason from Mr-Slugs we can also add the category of heaviest Tuna or Kingfish with the prize a boat wrap to the value of \$1800.

### Fishing report

It was described as a convoy of boats by several customers on Sunday morning all heading offshore to chase tuna.

Although there were a lot of boats out there over the weekend there were few frames at the boat ramp.

It was just bad luck with the timing of the moon over the long weekend which wasn't ideal for those wanting to land a tuna or two.

I don't think there's any need to panic just yet. After reading my diaries from last year we were still getting tuna reports well into April.

Having said that, tuna is that species of fish that are here one minute and gone the next. If you are still wanting to chase one, I would consider looking at late next week into next weekend which will be your best chance.

It wasn't all doom and gloom, and we did get several tuna reports over the last week with everyone saying they had to use every bit of their experience to get them to bite.

Gummies, flathead, cuta, pinkies and monster salmon were also reported from offshore with the flathead still continuing their trend of being a bit deeper than usual, 40m to 50m the best depth

and between the eastern entrance and Kilcunda bridge the best area.

Sizes have been good and quantity ok at times but a little moving needed back over a school to get your bag.

The pinkies and gummies were reported from the reefs around Kilcunda, Powllet and Coal Point with the cuta and salmon to almost 4kg travelling with the schools of bait and tuna.

Reports from in the bay are difficult at the moment with everyone offshore chasing the tuna and not as many as normal fishing in the bay.

Those who are fishing in the bay however are finding some quality fish and seems to be plenty of them.

The main species are calamari, whiting, snapper (pinkies) and gummies and while gummies are a little quieter the rest have been very good.

What we are finding from the reports is sizes are all over the place and very mixed, especially the whiting.

Pinkies are always that way but as several customers have told us it's just a little more noticeable, one minute you catch one that is barely 10cm long then a 45cm one jumps on.

The best place for the pinkies is around the corals in all corners and both deep or shallow.

A simple paternoster rig, size 2/0 to 4/0 hook and squid or pilchard for bait with enough lead to get to the bottom but be ready they will often hit it on the way down and if you don't see it, you will be fishing with bait less hooks wondering why you aren't getting any bites.

Whiting haven't been as easy as the pinkies but a bit of moving and you will finish up with a feed for the day.

From the reports I would start in the shallows for the middle of the tides and head to the deep for the changes.

The whiting has also been very mixed in size, and we're no longer getting the reports of a dozen or so high 30cm ones in a session. While several over 40cm showed up, the same bag contained them as small 30cm and everything in between.

If you are heading out for a fish in the bay just remember the Rhyll boat ramp is closed until September so things are a little busy at Newhaven and patience is needed.

While you are heading to your favourite spot don't forget to travel a bit slower, drop a lure or two in the water. You just don't know what you might pick up for bait.

We have had plenty of cuta and salmon reported with the salmon reaching over 2.5kg.

With so many tuna and kingfish around, mostly offshore, there has been a few reports of them spotted in the bay and even caught towards the entrances inside the bay as well, so while you have your salmon lures out it would pay to drop a skirt or hard body in also.

## TIDE GUIDE

Tidal predictions for Stony Point, Cowes -0.09 Newhaven -0.31 | HIGH TIDE IS MARKED IN BLACK

WED 16 MAR	THU 17 MAR	FRI 18 MAR	SAT 19 MAR	SUN 20 MAR	MON 21 MAR	TUE 22 MAR
LOW 4:45 am 1.41 m	HIGH 12:27 am 2.43 m	HIGH 1:31 am 2.51 m	HIGH 2:27 am 2.61 m	HIGH 3:14 am 2.70 m	HIGH 3:55 am 2.77 m	HIGH 4:33 am 2.80 m
HIGH 10:47 am 2.20 m	LOW 6:02 am 1.38 m	LOW 7:15 am 1.25 m	LOW 8:13 am 1.05 m	LOW 9:00 am 0.84 m	LOW 9:44 am 0.64 m	LOW 10:25 am 0.47 m
LOW 4:57 pm 0.96 m	HIGH 12:13 pm 2.21 m	HIGH 1:35 pm 2.34 m	HIGH 2:42 pm 2.53 m	HIGH 3:38 pm 2.73 m	HIGH 4:29 pm 2.90 m	HIGH 5:15 pm 3.02 m
	LOW 6:15 pm 0.98 m	LOW 7:28 pm 0.94 m	LOW 8:27 pm 0.88 m	LOW 9:18 pm 0.83 m	LOW 10:05 pm 0.80 m	LOW 10:50 pm 0.80 m

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Phillip Island's junior cricketers took out the 2021/22 Leongatha and District Association Under 15 premiership, defeating Inverloch. Celebrating a great win at the end of a hard-fought match are team members (from left). Back: Sienna Macmillan, Ollie Duggan, Ethan Rhee, Ollie Parsons, Conner Macmillan, Thomas Macmillan, Justin Tran, Harry Arceo and Jobe Williams. Front: George McCausland, Heath Womersley, Jake Hughes and Zac Hughes.

## Island Under 15s cricketers are premiers

A sterling performance saw Phillip Island win the Under 15s Leongatha and District Association cricket grand final.

The match was played at the Wonthaggi football ground on Sunday with umpires Geoff Birnie and Geoff Parkinson officiating.

Inverloch won the toss and batted first with Riley Harris and Archie Casey opening for Inverloch in the 20 over block allotted to their side.

But they struggled against the Phillip Island attack led by George McCausland and Heath Womersley, with George getting an early breakthrough bowling Archie for 2.

Riley was bowled for 8 by Justin Tran and when Jobe Williams had Rhys Newman caught for 9, the pressure on Inverloch was on.

Cooper Newman added 7 before he was caught and bowled

by Thomas Macmillan and just before the break Ty Debono was caught for one which saw Inverloch finish its innings at 5 for 50 at the end of the 20 overs.

Phillip Island opened their innings with Connor Macmillan and Ollie Duggan at the crease.

With Jesse Dugard and Rhys Newman taking the new ball for Inverloch, Ollie was caught behind for 7 off Jesse Dugard.

Heath Womersley was run out for one by Ty Debono.

At 27 runs Connor Macmillan was caught behind for 9 off Archie Casey and when George McCausland was bowled by Ty Debono Phillip Island was 4 for 40 at the end of their 20 over block.

After the lunch break Inverloch resumed their innings but they got off to a bad start when Mitchell Ward was caught without scoring off McCausland, Inverloch 6 for 51.

Jimmy O'Neill was bowled by McCausland without scoring, and Jordan Robbins was run out by McCausland without scoring.

Mia Dugard batted with her brother but was caught off Justin Tran without scoring and Holly Williams was bowled by Justin Tran without scoring.

Jesse Dugard remained 12 not out when Inverloch were all out for 60 off 28.3 overs.

With Phillip Island requiring 21 runs for victory, Inverloch needed to take six wickets.

Jesse Dugard and Rhys Newman worked hard in attack but batsmen Thomas Macmillan and Jobe Williams held them off and after 10 of their 20 overs they were chasing nine runs.

Jobe Williams was caught and bowled by Ty Debono for 15.

Justin Tran and Thomas Macmillan then went hard and made the necessary runs getting home

in the end with five wickets in tow.

Scott Checkley, representing the LDCA, who presented the premiership cup to the Phillip Island premiers, congratulated all players on a game well played; and commended both Clubs on their efforts and junior coaching, giving everyone every chance to improve their skills.

He congratulated Inverloch on their performance over the last two seasons.

"There is a lot of talent in these two teams, and they will play a big part in next year's LDCA Under 15 Country Week Side," he said.

Players were presented with premiership medallions by Scott.

Man of the match, judged by the umpires, was Phillip Island's George McCausland who finished the match with a 3 for 9 run out and nine runs.

## Island U 17s runners up in LDCA grand final

It was game on when the Under 17 match for the 2021/22 premiership between Phillip Island and Inverloch got underway on Sunday.

Inverloch captain Jack Butcher won the toss and opened the batting with Jasper Kruss.

Jasper was caught and bowled by Will Peppard without scoring, and shortly after Isaac Seuren was bowled by Tim Niven without scoring, with Inverloch 2/13.

Jake Dennerley then joined Jack and in a strong partnership added 53 runs before Jake was lbw to Daniel Caffieri for 17.

Jack was batting well in a captain's knock.

Rex Parini came in and scored 5 falling lbw to Jack Huther, with the score at 77.

Xavier Lindsay was bowled by Tim Niven for 7 but not before he had added a valuable partnership of 55 runs with Jack Butcher, taking the score to 5/132.

Callan O'Flynn was bowled out by Tim Niven facing his first ball.

Harry Butcher avoided the hat trick but was bowled on 158 without scoring by Will Peppard.

Jack Butcher reached his century off 154 balls in 160 minutes.

It was a fantastic hundred which put Inverloch in a strong position, 7/159 off their 50 Overs.

Zac Box and Keely Dennerley both remained 0 not out.

The bowling from Phillip Island was solid with Tim Niven 3 for 28, Will Peppard 2 for 9, Daniel Caffieri 1 for 11, and Jack Huther 1 for 32, the wicket takers.

### Island goes in

Phillip Island batted after lunch with Kohen Beaumont and Max Areco opening against Jake Dennerley and Isaac Seuren.

Isaac took the first wicket with Max caught for 3, 1/13.

Harry Peppard joined Kohen and they had added 31 before Xavier Lindsay had Harry caught for 14.

Kohen was then caught for 18 off Harry Butcher, at 3/48 the island looked in trouble.

Brady Ross and Tim Niven added 17 valuable runs before Brady was caught for 9 off Callan O'Flynn, followed by Zac Walker being run out by Isaac Seuren for 1.

With the Island 5/67 it was going to be tough to win.

Jake Dennerley with three

wickets and Isaac Seuren with one cleaned up Phillip Island's tail with the island all out 79 ... a loss by 80 runs.

Inverloch bowlers: Isaac Seuren 3 for 8 and Jake Dennerley 3 for 6 were the main wicket takers with singles to Xavier Lindsay, Callan O'Flynn and Harry Butcher.

Keely Dennerley bowled well with 6 overs for 13 runs.

The Phillip Island boys worked hard all season and finished on top but were unable to get on top of Inverloch's bowling on the day.

There is lot of talent in their side, and they will be thereabouts next season.

Jack Butcher with his 100 was judged Man of the Match by the umpires Neil Barnes and Darren Coyne.

**ALEX SCOTT  
AND STAFF**

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