



PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO

ADVERTISER

YOUR COMMUNITY VOICE!

Wednesday, August 27, 2025

\$2.00 Incl. GST



Switched on! Neighbourhood batteries officially launched

There was a celebration in Shearwater Reserve in Cowes last week, when Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio officially launched six neighbourhood batteries. The batteries are designed to soak up excess solar energy during the day, and feed it back into the grid at peak times, improving the resilience of Phillip Island's electricity supply. Read more on page 11.

Winners and losers in 10-year funding plan

COUNCIL

Phillip Island's future sporting hub will be funded \$9.9 million over the next decade, a first step to the \$120-million-plus needed to rollout all sporting projects.

Bass Coast Shire councillors last week voted in support of the draft long term financial plan (LTFP), out for community comment until September 9, which is one of the most important council plans, detailing funding com-

mitments for the next 10 years.

The biggest project to receive funding was \$114.6 million for the redevelopment of the former Wonthaggi Secondary College into a cultural centre.

There was also \$41 million allocated for aquatics and leisure centres, but with the focus on Wonthaggi, with no specific funding for a Cowes pool.

Other major projects to receive funding in the LTFP over the next decade include:

- \$7 million for tracks and trails including \$1.4 million for Rhyll stage four and five and \$2 million for a Ventnor to Cowes trail;
- \$1.5 million for the implementation of the mountain bike strategy and \$1.7 million for skate park upgrades from 2026 to 2031 including \$250,000 next year for Ne-whaven Graydens Reserve and \$1.5 million for a sub-regional skate park at Wonthaggi;

- \$200,000 for a Phillip Island Transfer Station in 26/27;
- \$3 million for the San Remo structure plan (2031-2035) and \$1.5 million for the long-awaited Smiths Beach town plan including access paths, car park upgrades, deck and viewing platforms;
- \$3.5 million for a fourth bin for glass recycling;
- \$332,520 this year for disability beach access in Cowes;

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to Phillip Island, San Remo
and surrounds.



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 SHOWERS	 SHOWERS	 SHOWERS	 SHOWERS EASING	 SHOWER OR TWO	 SHOWER OR TWO	 SHOWER OR TWO
10 15	8 13	8 12	6 13	8 15	10 14	10 14



Gea Lovell, Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo President, is joined by Kerry Griffiths BCH Capital Works Clinical Liaison and Rotary member John Tennant, to cut the ribbon to officially open the Rotary Rehabilitation Courtyard at the Phillip Island Community Hospital in Cowes. Joining the celebrations are Rotarians, Bass Coast Health staff and builder Trevor Bowler from TS Constructions.

Rotary Rehabilitation Garden opens at Community Hospital

HEALTH

Bass Coast Health (BCH) and the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo officially opened the new Rotary Rehabilitation Courtyard at the Phillip Island Community Hospital in Cowes this month.

The courtyard, made possible by a five-year \$100,000 fundraising commitment from Rotary, will be used by patients recovering from surgery or major health events such as strokes, falls and fractures. It features a variety of surfaces, steps, ramps and textures to help patients rebuild confidence and mobility under the supervision of BCH physiotherapists and other community rehabilitation staff.

BCH Interim CEO Simone Alexander praised the Rotary Club for their unwavering support.

"This beautiful, purpose-built garden is a testament to what can be achieved through community partnership. It's already proving to be an invaluable part of our rehabilitation service, helping patients transition

from hospital to home safely and with confidence," she said.

Rotary Club President Gea Lovell said the club was thrilled to see the vision brought to life.

"This project has been years in the making and it's been inspiring to watch the community get behind it. The garden isn't just about physical recovery; it's a peaceful space that promotes healing, dignity, and hope for patients and their families," she said.

"We're proud to have sponsored this project and to support the incredible work being done here at Bass Coast Health. This garden is a beautiful example of what can happen when community, care and collaboration come together.

"We are thrilled to see this vision come to fruition – a lasting gift to our community."

Benefit

Designed by Island Landscape and Design, the courtyard incorporates gravel paths, paving, textured ramps, handrails and native plants, all tailored to support physical

and mental rehabilitation.

Bass Coast Health Physiotherapist Michelle McMahon explained how the space is already benefiting patients.

"Having an outdoor area where patients can practice navigating real-life terrain is a game-changer. We're seeing patients build strength and confidence much faster. It adds a whole new dimension to our rehabilitation programs," she said.

To date, the Rotary Club has raised more than \$60,000 through events such as the Putting on the Ritz dinner dance and ongoing proceeds from the Rotary Opportunity Shop in Thompson Avenue, Cowes.

Fundraising efforts will continue to maintain and enhance the courtyard for years to come.

The Rotary Rehabilitation Courtyard is now open for use by BCH patients and staff as part of services at the Phillip Island Community Hospital.

For more information about the Phillip Island Community Hospital, visit www.basscoasthealth.org.au/pich

POLICE BRIEFS

Attempted burglary

On August 17, around 1.30am, police said three unidentified males attempted to open the security door at a house in Bronzewing Drive in Cowes. The owner of the house was woken by a notification from a doorbell CCTV, which also videoed the offenders. Nothing was stolen or damaged and the men ran away when the owner woke up.

Police said the incident was a good reminder that all residents should secure their homes and vehicles at all times.

Criminal damage at Cowes Plaza

On August 22, police say an unknown offender (or offenders) damaged the walls, mirror, toilet, hand dryer and tiles in the toilets at Cowes Plaza. Damage included spray painted graffiti and physical force with an estimated damage bill of up to \$5000.

Cowes police are investigating the incident and have asked anyone with information to contact them on 03 5952 2037.

Plaque stolen

Sometime between August 1 and 19, a historic plaque at Old Bridge Drive in Newhaven was stolen. The plaque, which showed the location of the old San Remo bridge was made of steel and is approximately 70 x 40cm.

San Remo Police are seeking any information from the public in relation to the theft of this historically significant plaque. Call 03 5678 5500.

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Publication No. VBF 9005897

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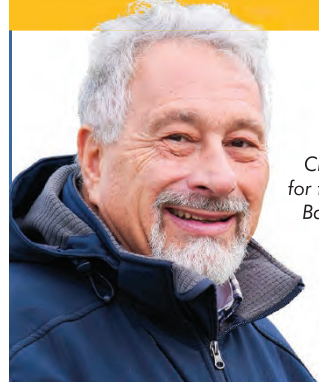


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Push for more policing of dogs

COUNCIL

A new dog park is planned for Phillip Island while there is a growing push for more officers to police dog-prohibited areas.

Bass Coast Shire councillors at the August meeting voted in support of the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029 (DAMP), which is open for community feedback until September 14, following initial public comment earlier this year.

The draft details a long list of plans, including a fenced dog park on Phillip Island by 2027 and one at Inverloch by 2026, with \$950,000 budgeted over the next decade for dog parks in the shire.

The DAMP emphasised the need for improved policing.

Initial community feedback showed “frequently noticed behaviours” including dogs off leash with their owners when they shouldn’t be, people not picking up their dog’s waste and barking dogs, with the community requesting increased patrols and enforcement and dog leash regulations that “better balance the needs of different user groups and protect wildlife”.

The DAMP states:

- there will be a review of the officer patrol roster to “resource appropriately” during peak periods including joint patrols with Nature Parks;
- opportunities to increase officer capacity to respond quickly to compliance issues will be investigated, such as dogs off lead;
- enforcement processes will be improved including dog barking, attacks, off leash and cat containment; and
- short stay accommodation properties and body corporates will be provided with information on preventing dog and cat nuisance.

“Although regular patrols are undertaken, community education and voluntary compliance are critical as only a small portion of public open space can be controlled at any one time,” the DAMP states.

Dog attacks

There are currently 17 registered declared dogs, which are dangerous, menacing or a restricted breed, in Bass Coast.

In 2024-25 there have been 128 dog attacks or rushes, compared to 144 four years ago.

However, infringements issued have significantly increased, with 185 in the past year compared to 73 in 2020-21, which could be due to Covid.

The draft DAMP aims to improve dog attack processes, with early reporting of minor incidents to prevent escalation and major incidents.

It will analyse dog attack data and target hot spots with more patrols, in addition to reviewing council procedures for dangerous dogs.

There are currently five full time officers who responded to 2366 animal man-



Councillors have supported the continuation of seven off leash dog beaches across the shire, and the planned two new dog parks, under the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029. Councillors have also called for more officers to police dog-prohibited areas and dog attacks.

agement requests in 24-25, with barking dogs the most frequent request, followed by found animal pick-ups and stray/lost animals, and animal nuisance.

The service runs 8.30am-5pm Monday to Friday, with a 24/7 phone message service for urgent requests.

The draft states it will ensure officers have the knowledge and skills to do their role and promote responsible pet ownership through effective communication and education such as QR codes on council signs.

Risk

Cr Tracey Bell said while pet ownership had mental, physical and social benefits, “we also need to protect our community and environment from nuisance and risk”.

“We need stronger compliance,” Cr Bell said, adding the dog population was growing faster than the human population.

“Let me be clear: calling for compliance doesn’t make me a ‘dog hater’. Most dog owners do the right thing.

“But we must legislate for those who don’t.”

She supported a dog park on Phillip Island but “we need agreement on where to put it – that might be the hardest part”.

Cr Tim O’Brien said it was important to “enforce the intent of the DAMP”.

“We do see too many dogs in sensitive areas running off leash, in San Remo disturbing wombats and near where I live disturbing plovers,” Cr O’Brien said, acknowledging cats were also roaming.

“But we all see it wherever we go

around the island, dogs running where they shouldn’t be.

“Behind this plan we need to ramp up our compliance and ensure people who are doing the wrong thing and (when) animals are where they’re not supposed to be, we use the bylaws powers to pull people into line.”

Cr Ronnie Bauer urged the final DAMP “to reflect the vast majority and not the small minority who would ruin it for everybody”.

Cr Jan Thompson supported the continuation of seven off leash dog beaches across the shire, and the planned two new dog parks.

“I think we may need more animal management officers but that’s something for the future,” Cr Thompson said.

Cr Jon Temby agreed a few regular people flouted rules who “cause problems for all owners if that is not adequately controlled”.

“That supports the idea of more officers policing,” he said.

“Wildlife don’t have advocates so we have to make sure we speak up and dogs and cats don’t interfere with wildlife.”

Consultation

Initial community consultation was held in May and June with more than 800 community members contributing.

The DAMP is required by Victorian law every four years and focuses on responsible pet ownership, compliance, and protection of the natural environment.

The current DAMP saw the rollout of

24/7 cat containment across Bass Coast, installation of dog waste dispensers at off-lead beaches, and an increase in the number of registered pets.

In Bass Coast dogs must always be on a leash in public places unless otherwise signed in a designated off leash area.

Details: engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/DAMP

Dogs and cats: fast facts

There are about 7915 dogs in Bass Coast for a current population of 43,557, while cat numbers have dropped to 1820.

In 2020-21 the human population was 37,445 and dogs numbered 7385, (cats 2004), according to the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029.

There have been 121 cats impounded in the past year, a decrease on the 176 four years ago; with 147 dogs impounded now compared to 160 previously.

After eight days being in the council’s pound, animals are transferred to shelters or the RSPCA. However, in 24-25 there have been 16 (11 per cent) dogs euthanised, an increase since 2020-21 when there were four dogs euthanised (two per cent).

Euthanising of cats has decreased from 26 this past year (21 per cent), compared to 33 previously (19 per cent). The DAMP aims to reduce euthanasia rates.



Bass Coast Mayor Rochelle Halstead said the council had worked with a 45-member community panel, pop-up events, surveys, focus groups and workshops to develop each of the eight draft plans.

Have a gripe? Have a say

COUNCIL

A document dump of eight draft plans “that will shape the region’s future” have been released for community consultation by Bass Coast Shire Council.

At last week’s August meeting, councillors voted in support of the eight plans, which are “the result of one of the most extensive community engagement processes council has ever undertaken”.

The Long Term Financial Plan (see separate stories) plots council’s financ-

es to 2035 and is open for feedback until September 9.

Other plans open until September 9 include the Annual Action Plan, Community Vision 2045, Council Plan 2025-2029 and the Asset Plan (see this and next week’s paper for further details).

The Domestic Animal Management Plan (see separate story) is open to the public for comment until September 14.

Also open until September 14 is the Healthy, Safe and Resilient Bass Coast Plan and the Disability Action Plan.

More details in next week’s paper.

Bass Coast Mayor Rochelle Halstead said the council had worked with a 45-member community panel, pop-up events, surveys, focus groups and workshops to develop each plan.

“This consultation is the final check-in – a chance to see how your feedback has been incorporated and to make sure we’ve captured what matters most before council considers adoption,” Cr Halstead said.

Details: engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/strategic-plans-final-review



The Wildlife Victoria team attended to 19 wildlife species in a seven-day period, with five per cent of the roadkill Eastern Barred Bandicoots, which are listed as endangered.

Most roadkill is unreported

WILDLIFE

The majority of wildlife roadkill on Phillip Island goes unreported by the public, a Victorian parliamentary inquiry into road strike has been told.

A study conducted by Wildlife Victoria on Phillip Island in 2023 “supported this assertion”.

“Phillip Island anecdotally experienced substantive wildlife road trauma, causing community unrest, local volunteer burnout and operational challenges for the Nature Park in responding to the issue,” Wildlife Victoria said.

Wildlife Victoria deployed two vehicles to the island for seven days in Easter 2023 – giving local volunteers a reprieve – conducting proactive patrols across the island at dawn, dusk and late night.

“Drivers were not actively calling for help when seeing deceased or injured wildlife with 73 of the 105 wildlife incidents attended to proactively found by the Wildlife Victoria team,” the submission said.

“Only 20 per cent of the wildlife attended to by the Wildlife Victoria team were called in by a member of public.”

No wildlife incidents were reported to the Wildlife Victoria team by drivers overnight, despite the dawn patrols finding 30 per cent of impacted wildlife had clearly suffered roadstrike injury between dusk and dawn.

The Wildlife Victoria team attended to 19 wildlife species, with five per cent

Eastern Barred Bandicoots, which are listed as endangered.

“All EBBs had been hit by vehicles, with one survivor dying despite veterinary attempts to save its life.”

Wildlife Victoria said the majority (69 per cent) of total cases attended to involved wildlife road strike.

“In most cases (72 per cent) the wildlife were already deceased. There were no wildlife survivors of wildlife road strike, with the Wildlife Victoria veterinarians needing to perform urgent roadside euthanasia.”

The organisation told the inquiry the approach to wildlife road strike was failing across the state, with unpaid wildlife charities, rescuers, veterinarians and carers carrying a “disproportionate burden”, and a national wildlife framework needed.

“The scale of wildlife road strike, and its continuing growth, requires both improvements in operational response, but also in proactive and early interventions, particularly around incorporating wildlife considerations into urban planning and road infrastructure, and driver education.”

“The scale, frequency, and severity of wildlife road strike in Victoria has reached a crisis point.

“Without immediate intervention, the current model which is heavily reliant on overburdened volunteers and under-resourced organisations will become unsustainable.”



Revegetation work at Scenic Estate. As part of Threatened Species Day on September 7, the community is invited to a free guided tour of the Scenic Estate Conservation Reserve, starting at 10am.

Keeping it wild this National Threatened Species Day

ENVIRONMENT

A decade of dedicated community care will be in the spotlight this National Threatened Species Day, with the community invited to join Phillip Island Nature Parks, Friends of Scenic Estate Reserve (FOSER) and the Bass Coast Shire Council for a free guided tour of the Scenic Estate Conservation Reserve.

Phillip Island is home to some of Australia’s most vulnerable wildlife, including the far Eastern curlew, fairy tern, hooded plover, Eastern barred bandicoot and flora like the endangered coastal tussock grasslands and threatened coastal moonah woodlands, all of which depend on healthy habitats to survive and thrive.

The tour will start at the Scenic Estate carpark on Phillip Island Road, Surf Beach from 10am on Sunday September 7. Participants will hear from local experts about threatened species recovery, biodiversity projects and how the community can help protect vulnerable flora and fauna.

The 28-hectare Scenic Estate Conservation Reserve is home to endangered coastal grasslands and six species of threatened birds. Overlooking a world heritage RAMSAR wetland, it provides critical habitat for native wildlife and is a favourite spot for birdwatchers and nature lovers.

Formed in 2014, FOSE has worked closely with the Nature Parks, Bass Coast Shire Council, Parks Victoria and the State Government to protect and restore the site. In July 2015, the reserve was officially opened to the public, offering visitors the chance to explore and connect with this unique environment.

Community Impact Manager at the Nature Parks, Kate Adams said National Threatened Species Day was an opportunity to celebrate progress while recognising the ongoing need for action.

“Scenic Estate is a living example of what can be achieved when communi-



Phillip Island is home to some of Australia’s most vulnerable wildlife, including the far Eastern curlew.



Fairy Tern chick, a vulnerable species that makes its home on Phillip Island. Photo: Harriet Fallaw

ty and conservation unite. Every day is threatened species day on Milawul, and we can all play a part in helping keep our environment wild so more animals and plants can thrive,” Ms Adams said.

Event date: Sunday September 7, 10am – 12pm. Location: Scenic Estate Carpark, Phillip Island Road, Surf Beach

What to bring: Walking shoes, water, weather-appropriate clothing

/Sponsored article/

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Join us to celebrate National Threatened Species Day

Sunday 7 September 2025

10.00 am – 12.00 pm

Learn about the valuable work being done by Friends of Scenic Estate Reserve, Phillip Island Nature Parks and the Bass Coast Shire Council.

Find out how you can help to support threatened plants and animals on Phillip Island (Milawul)

Program includes:

- Guided tour
- Information resources
- Morning tea

Join us at the Scenic Estate carpark, Phillip Island Rd, Surf Beach

RSVP by 3 September to: community@penguins.org.au

J05031AA

Our roadkill rate “extraordinarily high”: inquiry

WILDLIFE

Phillip Island roads have “unacceptably high” roadkill counts, a Victorian parliamentary inquiry into wildlife road strike was told last week.

The inquiry has received many submissions from Phillip Island residents, including a group of farmers, highlighting a divide among locals, with some wanting a reduction in speed limits to reduce collisions and roadkill, while others are calling for a reduction or cull in wildlife (see separate story).

The inquiry comes as Bass Coast Shire councillors at last week’s meeting voted in support of the draft long term financial plan, which allocates \$300,000 in 26/27 for stage two of the Phillip Island speed review.

The draft is out for community comment until September 9, and follows the stage one speed review, which saw the 2021 roll-out of speed reductions on many island roads from 100km/hr to 80km/hr.

Stage two is expected to focus on reducing speed limits on unsealed roads, as well as the Cowes-Rhyll Road.

The inquiry last week heard from Victoria University environmental science lecturer Dr Christine Connelly, who studied wildlife roadkill in a 3.6km section of the Cowes-Rhyll Road with Nature Parks, the council and a Cowes citizen scientist, from 2019 to 2021.

“The roadkill rate on Cowes-Rhyll Road is extraordinarily high, causing significant community concern regarding wildlife deaths,” Dr Connelly told the inquiry.

She said the study showed 1127 roadkill instances, comprising 24 species, over three years, equating to a death rate of 8.24 per km per month.

“Our study recorded extraordinarily high rates of roadkill. A previous census on Phillip Island recorded roadkill rates of 1.59 per km per month in the



Citizen scientist and Cowes resident Ron Day last week appeared before a Victorian parliamentary inquiry, calling for a trial of dynamic signage on the Cowes-Rhyll Road, “to simultaneously switch at predetermined light levels for a dawn to dusk speed”, such as 70km/hr, and dusk to dawn 50km/hr.

1990s, increasing to 2.39 per km per month in 2014.

“In comparison, our study recorded a much higher roadkill rate.”

Dr Connelly called for urgent management intervention to reduce road strike, recommending trials across Victoria to explore the effect of reduced vehicle speeds on wildlife vehicle strikes.

“Staggering”

The inquiry also last week heard from citizen scientist Ron Day, who carried out the roadkill count and has this year resumed the count on the same section of road.

From January to June, a “staggering” 224 roadkills have been recorded, across 19 species.

Ron told the inquiry between November 2019 and January 2020 there were 188,496 cars on the Cowes-Rhyll Road, many exceeding the 80km/hr speed limit.

“Ask yourself what hope for example, does a slow-moving echidna or longneck turtle (and there are many in this area) have of safely crossing this road during daylight hours with this volume of speeding motorists, not to mention or overlook the night time nocturnally active wildlife, blinded, confused, and

often frozen in position on the road by approaching blinding headlights,” Ron said.

He said reducing the speed limit from 80km to 50km would add about a minute to travel times and many studies had proven reduced speed reduced roadkill and improved driver safety.

“The lower speeds provide more “reaction time” for both the driver and animal to safely avoid an impact,” Ron said.

He called for dynamic signage to be installed on the Cowes-Rhyll Road, “to simultaneously switch at predetermined light levels for a dawn to dusk speed”, such as 70km/hr, and

dusk to dawn 50km/hr.

“Due to wildlife presence and given that nearly half of motorists ignore the 80km/h speed limit, driving at night on this road is extremely risky for vehicle and occupants, I urge the committee to consider recommending a trial for dynamic signage on this road.

“The implementation of dynamic signage could set a new benchmark for innovative road safety measures in areas with high wildlife activity.

“This trial could serve as a precedent for other regions facing similar challenges.”

The Phillip Island Conservation Society made a submission to the inquiry stating while they supported forms of population control for wallabies, possums and Cape Barren geese on Phillip Island, “tolerating road carnage as a default way to achieve a reduction in animal numbers is unacceptable on animal welfare, road safety and public relations grounds”.

“Road authorities which mandate speed limits and roadside warning signs must consider the need to reduce wildlife road strike when determining speed limits on Phillip Island,” the PICS submission states.

“The Cowes-Rhyll Road urgently needs attention.”

A Surf Beach resident gave a submission to the inquiry calling for a dedicated wildlife sanctuary for injured animals and birds on the island.

“The attitude on Phillip Island is that we have too many wallabies, possums and Cape Barren geese so there’s no care factor,” said the resident.

The stage two speed review will focus on high-speed unsealed gravel roads, which currently have a default speed limit of 100km/hr, such as Harbison, McFees, Pyramid Rock and Watts roads and Veterans Drive.

Details: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/wildliferoadstrike
engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/long-term-financial-plan

Farmers call for wildlife population controls

ENVIRONMENT

A group of Phillip Island farmers has called for wildlife population controls to decrease roadkill, public safety risks and agricultural damage.

The three farmers have made submissions to a Victorian parliamentary inquiry into wildlife road strike, with local residents last week appearing before the inquiry (see separate story).

The inquiry has highlighted a division among locals, with some wanting a reduction in speed limits to reduce roadkill, in contrast to the farmers who say since fox eradication on Phillip Island “we have observed a significant and sustained population boom in species” especially wallabies, Cape Barren geese, purple hens, rabbits and possums.

“Without a natural apex predator to maintain ecological balance, these animals are now at unsustainable levels,” the farmers’ submissions state.

This overpopulation is causing agricultural damage, with wallabies “making it nearly impossible to establish summer crops or regenerate autumn pasture, direct-



The farmers called on a Victorian parliamentary inquiry to recommend region-specific wildlife population control strategies. “Measures must go beyond signage and speed limits, focusing instead on long-term ecological and safety outcomes for both wildlife and the community.”

ly affecting farm productivity”.

One farmer said of more than 6000 trees planted, less than a quarter survived, “largely due to the animal population eating them or plucking them out of the ground”, at a cost of \$10 per plant.

“We both grew up on the island. We both do not recall seeing a wallaby during the day as we do

now, let alone hundreds of them of an evening,” the farmer said.

Competition for food sources, especially in summer, is causing animals to forage on road verges, which “directly increases the risk of vehicle collisions”.

“Speed limit reductions have proven ineffective in reducing wildlife strikes.

“Our experience shows the core issue lies in the sheer number of animals rather than vehicle speed.

“The root cause of the current situation is the unchecked population growth of certain native species, which has gone unaddressed for over 15 years.”

The farmers called on the inquiry to recommend region-specific wildlife population control strategies.

“Measures must go beyond signage and speed limits, focusing instead on long-term ecological and safety outcomes for both wildlife and the community.”

The Phillip Island Conservation Society made a submission to the inquiry stating while they supported forms of population control for wallabies, possums and Cape Barren geese on Phillip Island, “tolerating road carnage as a default way to achieve a reduction in animal numbers is unacceptable on animal welfare, road safety and public relations grounds”.

Cull

As reported earlier this year, the number of legal, lethal wild-

life permits issued for Phillip Island has dropped, with about 1100 animals in total culled across four species from 30 permits.

According to the Conservation Regulator, Authority to Control Wildlife (ATCWs) permits issued on Phillip Island for 2024 were considerably lower than the previous year, when the total culs were more than 1420 across six species from 43 permits.

In total there were 14 permits issued to cull 741 geese, compared to 573 the year before.

There were 11 ATCWs issued for 290 black wallabies (in 2023 there were 415).

Four permits were issued for 60 brushtail (322 in 2023) and one permit for 10 ringtail possums.

In 2021 Phillip Island Nature Parks, Bass Coast Shire Council, farmers and the State Government released the Wildlife Plan, which annually details measures aimed at balancing populations of geese, wallabies and possums. For a list of submissions, go to: parliament.vic.gov.au/wildliferoadstrike



Following lobbying during this year's budget, the Phillip Island Sporting Precinct was allocated \$440,000, for planning stage one, which will include detailed designs for a fenced off leash dog park, a football/cricket oval, four netball courts, pathways and parking. The original masterplan for the site said \$120 million was needed for 35 projects to be developed over 25-plus years. Council's new 10-year financial plan allocates \$9.9 million to the site.

Winners and losers in 10-year funding plan

From page 1
• \$4 million at \$400,000 a year for the next 10 years for climate change action; and
• \$850,000 for the integrated transport strategy.

Sport
The LTFP states the Phillip Island Sporting Precinct will be funded from a loan of \$5.2 million, \$2 million from grants and the balance of \$2.74 million from council's reserves.
When the masterplan for the sports hub – on the corner of Phillip Island and Ventnor roads in Cowes – was released in 2023 it detailed 35 projects to be rolled out over more than two decades at a cost of about \$120 million.
The master plan proposed much-needed football and cricket ovals, soccer pitches, multipurpose sports fields, netball and tennis courts, athletics facilities, an aquatic centre, skate park, and fenced off-leash dog park on the 32.6-hectare site in three stages.
• short term: one to 10 years totalling \$6.3 million (including: the dog park \$605,000, sealed carpark \$1.8 million);
• medium term: 11 to 20 years totalling \$38.1 million (including: oval \$2 million, four netball courts \$1.5 million, playground \$350,000, pavilion \$15 million); and
• long term: 21+ years totalling \$70.8 million (including: oval \$2 million, pool \$52 million, soccer pitch \$1.5 million, multi-purpose sports fields \$2 million).
Following lobbying during this year's budget, the precinct was allocated \$440,000, with an extra \$190,000 for planning

stage one including a functional layout plan, 3D modelling and stormwater management.
This will be followed with detailed designs for a fenced off leash dog park, a football/cricket oval, four netball courts, pathways and parking.
Pool
The LTFP states Wonthaggi's Aquatics and Leisure Centre is 45 years old, with funding to build a 25-metre competition pool, sauna, spa, gym, café and offices, funded through state and federal grants.
"Should this (the grants) not eventuate, the project will be deferred," the LTFP states.
At the council meeting, Cr Ronnie Bauer said a line entry on page 41 of the LTFP was for aquatics and leisure centres "plural".
"Though the emphasis is on Wonthaggi, the Cowes aquatic centre at the Cowes recreation reserve is still in the long-term plan," Cr Bauer said, later telling the Advertiser he fought for a line item – of unspecified funding – so "council can advocate to the Federal and State Governments for funding for a pool at the sporting precinct".
Cr Bauer criticised the LTFP as being "a continuation of the plan from the last council with minor changes".
"It shows a continued support for our environment and community projects," he said.
Cr Tracey Bell said the LTFP was a "roadmap for the next decade".
"It balances ambition with responsibility. It supports key projects ... while consolidating

resources and encouraging more shared use of facilities to get more bang for buck," she said.
Plans
Councillors at the August meeting also voted to release other key draft plans for community consultation, which work in parallel to the LTFP.
They include the Annual Action Plan, Community Vision 2045, and Council Plan 2025-2029, all of which reflect the priorities identified in community consultation in July and August last year, and from a 45-member community panel earlier this year.
These processes highlighted 11 priorities: Natural environment and protection, youth, council communication, housing and services, a need to generate non-ratepayer additional revenue, recognising Bunurong culture, parking and traffic infrastructure, use of existing assets, events and eco-tourism.
Cr Bell said the draft plans reflect community expectations.
"Engagement came up as one of the community priorities in the deliberative engagement so the community wants to be asked," she said.
Cr Jon Temby attended engagement sessions and said the "environment came up as strongest".
Cr Meg Edwards said nine councillors were voted in on "various values" and "the community expects that of us".
Details: engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/long-term-financial-plan
engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/cowesrr



Critics say council's 10-year financial plan is a "magic pudding plan", with high spending but no details on cost cutting. The plan forecasts the garbage charge for ratepayers will "increase significantly".

Waste costs to skyrocket, deficits forecast

COUNCIL
Garbage charges on rates bills are expected to skyrocket in coming years, projected to increase by 5.5 per cent per year.
Bass Coast Shire councillors last week voted in support of the draft long term financial plan (LTFP), out for community comment until September 9, which details the next decade of council budgets.
While costs across the board will rise, including for employee costs of \$39 million, waste charges are among the highest and "expected to increase significantly" when the current waste contract is re-tendered in 2027, the LTFP states.
The plan states rates will rise according to the rate cap, estimated to be 2.5 per cent per year, making up about 80 per cent of revenue.
Council will continue to borrow heavily, but below 60 per cent of rates revenue and only for large capital works projects, with a capital works budget this year of \$31.5 million.
Modelling ensures council will not be in "a high-risk financial position", with projected annual operating surpluses and deficits ranging between \$2.8 million deficit and \$28.1 million surplus with a 10-year average of \$7.9 million, but a projected annual underlying average deficit of \$8.1 million.
The LTFP states waste charges will increase because of new government charges, environment monitoring requirements and legally council is required to rehabilitate old landfill sites.
The fourth purple bin for glass

recycling will also be rolled out in 2027 at a cost of \$3.5 million.
"The cost of the various waste contracts is expected to increase significantly when these are re-tendered in 2027," the LTFP states.
"This is due to imbalances in the market due to a lack of supplier depth and barriers to entry for new providers. Cost increases are expected to be substantially higher than inflation for Council's kerbside collection service and the transfer station operating costs."
Cr Ronnie Bauer said he supported council officers lobbying against the purple bin rollout, with Cr Bauer arguing the \$3.5 million should instead be diverted to the upcoming waste contract to get weekly red bin collections in the peak summer period.
Cowes resident and council observer Jeff Floyd said the LTFP could "only be described as a heads-in-the-sand magic pudding plan".
"Major cost pressures in waste management, big funding gaps for key infrastructure, \$20 million plus in new loans for sports facilities, \$9 million more in loans for the Cowes streetscape, rate capping an ongoing reality, waste management costs to increase at more than double inflation, staff costs to increase year after year above inflation," said Jeff, who has a new book to be released this month about improving the public service.
"Yet there is no mention of real cost-downs, including staff reductions."
Details: engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/long-term-financial-plan

Dust suppressant removal paused

ROADS
Community engagement about the planned removal of dust suppressant from streets in Cowes west and Rhyll looks set to be paused.
As reported earlier this year, Bass Coast Shire Council planned to remove dust suppressant seal on roads in Cowes west – Outlook, Scenic and Bayview drives, Park Lane and Maxwell Street – as well as Reid Street in Rhyll.
The removal was then paused until April 2026.
But last week residents received notification from the council that community en-

gagement on the issue was paused.
According to impacted residents, they were told because councillors were "faced with the challenge of weighing up a wide range of potential projects" under the long term financial plan (LTFP), council was pausing "any potential community engagement concerning road seal removal upgrades until council has further investigated the LTFP".
Councillors last week voted in support of the draft LTFP, out for community comment until September 9, which is one of the most important council plans, detailing funding com-



Community engagement about the planned removal of dust suppressant from streets in Cowes west and Rhyll has been paused.

Towards a better Bass Coast

Bass Coast Shire Council has released key draft plans that will guide our region's future.

These plans have been shaped by the community through Shire-wide engagement and the work of a 45-member Community Panel. Now it's time for the final check-in – to make sure your voice has been heard before Council adopts them.

Together, the draft plans set the direction for the next 4 years and beyond, considering our economy, environment, community wellbeing and future growth.

The draft plans are:

- **Community Vision 2045** – long-term aspirations for the next 20 years
- **Council Plan 2025–2029** – objectives to guide Council's work for the next 4 years
- **Annual Action Plan 2025–2026** – immediate actions for the next 12 months
- **Long Term Financial Plan 2025–2035** – how Council will sustainably manage its finances over the next decade
- **Asset Plan 2025–2035** – how Council will manage \$1.47 billion in assets such as roads, parks and pathways
- **Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025–2029** – responsible pet ownership, dogs in public places, and protecting our environment
- **Healthy, Safe and Resilient Bass Coast Plan 2025–2029** – priorities for health and wellbeing across all ages
- **Disability Action Plan 2025–2029** – actions to reduce barriers and promote inclusion

This is your opportunity to shape the future of Bass Coast.

Visit engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au to review the draft plans.



"Beautification" of Thompson Avenue to start

PLANNING

The \$9.7 million, two-year overhaul of Cowes main street will start at the end of September, with a builder now appointed.

Bass Coast Shire councillors at the August meeting acknowledged concerns about loss of parking, and inconvenience during construction, but said the "tired" and "tacky" section of Thompson Avenue would finally be "beautified".

Councillors last week voted both on the awarding of stage one of the Cowes streetscape master plan to Fulton Hogan Construction, after receiving \$8 million funding from the Federal Government in 2024.

The draft long term financial plan, which last week councillors also voted on, has allocated \$1.6 million to the project from borrowings via the Treasury Victoria.

The total stage one budget includes construction costs, project management and design consultancy, phased across two years: 25-26: \$3.6 million and 26-27: \$5.9 million.

Works will be at The Esplanade (between Bass Avenue and Warley Avenue) and Thompson Avenue north (from Chapel Street to The Esplanade).

When finished there will be one-way traffic on Thompson Avenue (from Chapel Street) and The Esplanade.

There will be a reduction in car parking, with Thompson Avenue between the Esplanade and Chapel Street to have 36 car spaces – down from the current 53 – including a mix of parallel

and angled.

Along The Esplanade, car spaces will reduce from 10 to six.

The project will see increased retail, outdoor dining, landscaping – including garden beds, sections of instant turf, additional tree planting, stone pavers, hardwood decks and pavement – and improved pedestrian access.

"Benefits of the project include tying into the privately owned Isle of Wight project," council officers said.

"This project will optimise traffic management and pedestrian safety while increasing outdoor dining.

"It will reinvigorate the character of Cowes, allowing for and supporting further commercial activity creating a destination that appeals year-round."

"Tacky"

Cr Tracey Bell said the \$8 million Federal Government funding would "make downtown Cowes the beachside mecca it deserves to be".

"Currently Thompson Avenue is a mish-mash of buildings, cars dominate, and plastic junk shops spill out over the footpath," Cr Bell said.

"Frankly, it looks tacky. When I visit other tourist towns in regional Victoria (Daylesford, Timboon for example), I feel some connection with the surrounding environment, a beautiful main street, without losing the amenity to residents.

"Cowes has a stunning view of the ocean as one drives down Thompson Avenue towards The Esplanade and we are not mak-



The works to overhaul Cowes main street includes Thompson Avenue north (between Chapel Street and The Esplanade) and The Esplanade (between Warley Avenue and Bass Avenue).

ing the most of it."

Cr Bell said she understood concerns about losing car parks, but the project would discourage reliance on cars, explaining there was an increase in disabled parking spots.

"Visitors who are enjoying their holiday in Cowes will be able to wander our main street safely, comfortably and meander through our local businesses at leisure."

Cr Tim O'Brien said he hoped the "beautification" of the main street would improve the "visual clutter" of shop signage and council would work with businesses on this problem.

Cr Brett Tessari said the main street of Cowes "looks very, very tired".

"No doubt we'll hear on Facebook about some of the concerns people have while under construction, but think forward a few years and it will be spectacular," he said.

Cr Jon Temby said because the Federal Government had funded the project he would vote in support of the tender, but if council had funded it he would have "reallocated" that money to other projects.

"The staging of it to minimise disruption to the commercial sites is really good," Cr Temby said.

"Yes, it will be a hassle, but it's minimised."

Cr Jan Thompson said she supported Olive Justice Place toilets being brought forward to stage one.

History

In 2024, the Federal Government announced \$8 million funding to the Cowes streetscape masterplan.

The funding was in response to the council's 2024 Federal Advocacy Priorities report, which requested \$25 million total investment for the Cowes streetscape masterplan, also listing \$12 million investment to deliver stage one and two of the project.

However at the 2024 council elections, all the Island Ward councillors were critical of the Cowes streetscape masterplan, saying any available funding should instead go as a priority to the proposed sports hub on the corner of Phillip Island and Ventnor roads.

Stage two of the project is to "reimagine" Thompson Avenue north, "where outdoor dining and trading and open space facilitate a people focused town centre".

Stage three to six requires detailed design before construction for Thompson Avenue South, Chapel Street, Church Street, Bass Avenue and Olive Justice Place can take place.

Of the project total cost for stage one, \$675,000 was funded in the 24-25 financial year with the remaining \$8.9 million included in the draft long term financial plan 2025-35.

BASS COAST

JOBS & CAREERS EXPO

2025

Phillip Island

Friday, 5 September

9.30am - 1.30pm

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The ideal holiday getaway

There is nothing to bring when you book your holiday at this Surf Beach cottage. This modern cottage beautifully renovated inside and out has it all: a new outdoor spa tub, outdoor shower, under-cover dining area, BBQ and a bungalow or kids retreat.

There is plenty of space for the family pet as well in the secure backyard (pets welcome). Inside is a dream kitchen with all new appliances, dishwasher, microwave, induction cooktop, electric oven, dining table, lounge room with reverse cycle air conditioning and an imitation log fire (electric).

There's also free Wi-Fi, porta cot and highchair and hairdryer supplied, with parking in the driveway for five cars. With three bedrooms plus an extra sofa bed in the bungalow with a TV, it can sleep a total of 10 guests.

All linen and towels supplied.
Bedroom 1: 1 x King bed with ceiling fan
Bedroom 2: 1 x Queen bed with ceiling fan
Bedroom 3: 1 x Single and 1 x Tri bunk
Bedroom (bungalow): Sofa Bed
Bookings: First National Phillip Island 03 5952 3922.



The dream kitchen has all new appliances: dishwasher, microwave, induction cooktop, and electric oven.



This modern cottage at Surf Beach, beautifully renovated inside and out, has it all, including reverse cycle air conditioning and an imitation log fire (electric).



The backyard includes an undercover dining area and BBQ, as well as a bungalow or kids retreat.



This modern holiday cottage also includes a new outdoor spa tub and outdoor shower, with a secure backyard for the family pet.

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Switched on! Neighbourhood batteries officially launch

ENERGY

Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio visited Cowes on Friday to officially launch six of the seven neighbourhood batteries erected across the island.

The official event was at Shearwater Reserve, in Seagrass Avenue in Cowes, with the other batteries located at Kembbla Road, Goodwood Drive, Katherine Circuit in Cowes, Hallway Drive in Wimbledon Heights and the council depot in Settlement Road.

The final battery, at Berninnet, is expected to be switched on in December this year, or early in 2026.

The Minister said the batteries would provide a combined 900kw/1845kWh of energy storage capacity.

The first six batteries are designed to soak up excess solar energy during the day, and feed it back into the grid at peak times. They will not be able to power the grid in the event of a power failure.

Minister D'Ambrosio said she was delighted to launch the project, which is a partnership between the government, Mondo Energy, Bass Coast Shire Council and Totally Renewable Phillip Island (TRPI).

"These batteries will soak up cheap renewable energy during the day when it is plentiful, and discharge it into the grid when it is needed most," the Minister said.

"These together will help to lower energy bills and allow more rooftops solar to be fed into the grid, and make electricity more resilient to extreme



Minister Lily D'Ambrosio cuts the ribbon to launch the new neighbourhood batteries, with Jordan Crugnale MP, Simon Helps (TRPI) and Jon D'Sylva (AusNet) looking on.

weather events.

"The project will also contribute seven per cent of the income each year, to a community fund for 15 years.

"There will be a process established for the community to come forward with ideas of the types of projects that could be supported through this fund, which is very exciting," the Minister said.

Jon D'Sylva, AusNet's Chief Development Officer, described the project as a "lighthouse for the rest of the state" that hopefully could be replicated in other areas as communities transition to net zero.

"It's a fantastic initiative to be part of. It supports our priorities and the community's priorities in reducing emissions and providing energy resilience."

He thanked the local groups involved, including TRPI and Bass Coast Shire Council, with

its Climate Action Plan and carbon neutral targets.

"Extreme weather events are already impacting our coastal towns. The need for climate resilience is real and it's immediate," Mr De Silva said, noting that in the past five years the electricity network had faced challenges from huge bushfires, storms and other issues.

"These investments at a local level are fundamental to our ongoing energy resilience."

TRPI

Simon Helps, the current Chair of TRPI said the group was really motivated to move "Phillip Island to be 100 per cent renewable" and praised the working relationships that delivered the batteries.

He described the island as "an interesting community" for the project.

"There's a lot of houses on the



Current TRPI Chair Simon Helps (right) with former chairs Moragh Mackay and Mary Whelan at the launch of the new neighbourhood batteries, part of TRPI's goal to make the island "100 per cent renewable".

island with nobody in them, because they are holiday homes, or temporary accommodation.

"For every occupied family home on the island, there is a home with a solar system on the roof," he said.

"Now not every home that's occupied has a solar system, but in essence, there's a more than one to one ratio.

"The challenge is, a lot of those homes aren't occupied that have solar on the roof, so there's nobody utilising that energy.

"These community batteries are located in areas where there's a lot of surplus renewables, to soak that up and push it back into the network."

Local Member Jordan Crugnale said the batteries would deliver long-lasting benefits for the community, praising the partnerships that helped deliver the project.

But she said, "the catalyst has come from the community itself and the journey to make Phillip Island totally renewable".

The final battery at Berninnet in Cowes has one notable difference to the other neighbourhood batteries launched last week.

Unlike the other six batteries, it will be "behind the meter", which means it will be able to generate power when the grid is down, providing an emergency centre for charging devices during power outages.

The neighbourhood batteries are a joint project of Mondo Energy, Bass Coast Shire Council and TRPI, with support from the Phillip Island Business Network, the Energy Innovation Cooperative, the Gippsland Climate Change Network, Phillip Island Nature Parks and Westernport Water.

Public Notice

Consultation for Review of the Bass Gas Offshore Operations EP



Beach Energy (Beach) supplies natural gas from offshore Victoria to the local market through existing infrastructure.

In accordance with regulatory requirements, Beach is planning and consulting for the 5-year review of the Bass Gas Offshore Operation Environment Plan (EP) to cover ongoing production operations.

Bass Gas Operations produces natural gas and condensate from the Yolla gas field in the Bass Strait. The gas field is serviced by the Yolla-A Offshore Platform (**Yolla Platform**), and an approximately 147 km subsea pipeline that transports the gas and liquids from the platform to the Victorian mainland near Kilcunda.

Commercial production of gas from the Yolla field started in June 2006 and may extend to 2030.

The revised EP includes the operation of the offshore wells, Yolla Platform and pipeline in the Bass Strait in commonwealth and state waters, and the ongoing maintenance and inspections to ensure safe ongoing field operations.

Community information sessions

Beach is committed to working with local communities, ensuring people are informed about our projects and can provide feedback. Stakeholder consultation is an important part of our planning as it helps identify local concerns and ensures management of potential impacts.

Consultation on the review of the Bass Gas Offshore Operation EP is open from **Monday 14 July 2025** until close of business **Friday 10 October 2025**.

For information regarding consultation, please see NOSPEMA's Brochure titled 'Consultation on offshore petroleum environment plans', at **consultation.nopsema.gov.au**.

For further project information scan the QR code or visit **engage.beach.com.au**.



READ MORE

We welcome your questions, please contact:

P 1800 797 011

E community@beachenergy.com.au
beachenergy.com.au

Consultation dates and information

Online consultation hub

engage.beachenergy.com.au

Engage Beach, includes information in different formats including maps; diagrams; questions and answers; and detailed information sheets.

Online information sessions (webinars)

Please email community@beachenergy.com.au to register your interest in attending a webinar.

Tuesday 9 September | 2.15pm to 3pm | AEST | Open Session

Tuesday 9 September | 7pm to 7.45pm | AEST | Dedicated First Nations Session

Wednesday 10 September | 2.15pm to 3pm | AEST | Dedicated First Nations Session

Wednesday 10 September | 7pm to 7.45pm | AEST | Open Session

BASS COAST BUSINESS AWARDS 2025

Best in the business

AWARDS

Churchill Island's popular music festival Ocean Sounds scooped the Bass Coast Business Awards, winning the award for Event Excellence, being inducted into the Hall of Fame and voted Business of the Year.

Five other Phillip Island or San Remo businesses were among the 13 lucky winners announced at a gala dinner at Silverwater Resort last Friday night.

Congratulations to Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment, Phillip Island Sauna, Anchor Belle Holiday Park and

Foodies on Phillip Island on their awards. Made up of judged awards and People's Choice, Bass Coast Shire Council said this year's awards were strongly supported by the business and broader community.

Council said this year the People's Choice awards attracted almost 2000 votes across seven categories, recognising 149 different businesses.

The judged categories attracted 46 entries across industries such as tourism, construction, hospitality, events, home-based ventures and more. Judges commended businesses not just for their performance, but also for their care for customers, com-

munity, and sustainability.

The Hills Are Alive Group, who present Ocean Sounds were inducted into the prestigious Hall of Fame after winning the Event Excellence category three years in a row.

Bass Coast Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead, said the awards revealed the stories and personalities that shape Bass Coast's business communities.

"We celebrated the incredible talent and passion that makes Bass Coast such a fantastic place to do business. Every story we've heard shows what's possible when hard work meets heart," Cr Halstead said.

"My hope is that every business, big or small, feels encouraged to share their story next year, because events like these not only celebrate achievement; they lift

our whole business community."

The coveted Business of the Year award went to The Hills Are Alive Group (Ocean Sounds 2025), recognised by the judging panel for their strong vision, impressive results and commitment to innovation. Judges praised their highly detailed submission, backed by clear data and sustainability efforts, and their ability to deliver a major event with a small but dedicated team.

This year's judging panel, consisted of: Chris Francis, Sustainability Victoria; Jennifer Carroll, TheGoTo Solutions; Kim Storey, Destination Phillip Island; Melissa Cashman, Phillip Island Nature Parks; Nicole Harman, Harman Wines; Rebecca Massaro, Interchange Gippsland and Terry Robinson, Destination Gippsland.



Local businesses came together last Friday to celebrate the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards, with 46 entries in the judged categories and almost 2000 votes cast in the People's Choice awards.

We are delighted to announce that Anchor Belle Holiday Park has taken home the People's Choice Award in the Accommodation & Tourism sector for the third consecutive year!

Since 1960, our family-run park has welcomed visitors to Phillip Island, and this award highlights our ongoing dedication to creating memorable stays and delivering genuine hospitality.

We are so grateful to our fantastic team whose hard work makes this possible, and to our guests and community for your continued support and votes. We'd also like to congratulate all the nominees and winners across both the People's Choice & Judged awards- Together, we celebrate what makes our region so special.

WINNER

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD - ACCOMMODATION & TOURISM

We're absolutely honoured to be a WINNER in this year's Bass Coast Business Awards taking home two awards - Access, Equality & Inclusion and Business Innovation!

Our mission has always been to make breastfeeding support accessible, compassionate, and empowering for all families in our community. These awards are a reflection of that vision. A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful families, supporters, and community - your trust in our services makes achievements like this possible.

It's an honour to be recognised among so many incredible local businesses who are making a difference in Bass Coast.

Congratulations to all the winners and finalists!"

WINNER

JUDGED AWARDS - ACCESS, EQUALITY & INCLUSION AND BUSINESS INNOVATION!

BASS COAST BUSINESS AWARDS 2025



Congratulations all winners and runners-up:

Judged Awards

Access, Equity and Inclusion sponsored by Phillip Island RSL

- Empowered Lactation Consulting – Winner
- Southcoast Psychology – Runner Up

Business Innovation sponsored by nbn Local Gippsland

- Empowered Lactation Consulting – Winner
- Inverloch Bike Hire – Runner Up

Environmental Sustainability sponsored by Harman Wines

- Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre – Winner
- San Remo Fishermen’s Co-op – Runner Up

Event Excellence sponsored by Watersure

- Ocean Sounds 2025 (The Hills Are Alive Group) – Winner (Hall of Fame)
- Inverloch Running Festival – Runner Up

Marketing and Communications sponsored by Destination Phillip Island

- Coast to Coast Conveyancing – Winner
- Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre – Runner Up

New Business sponsored by Phillip Island Business Network

- Phillip Island Sauna – Winner
- Mates Gin Distillery Pty Ltd – Runner Up

People’s Choice Awards

Accommodation and Tourism Attraction sponsored by Telstra

- Anchor Belle Holiday Park – Winner
- Wildlife Coast Cruises – Runner Up

Food and Beverage sponsored by Telstra

- Harman Wines – Winner
- Hotel Phillip Island – Runner Up

Hair and Beauty sponsored by Dead4eva Designs

- Urban Hair – Winner
- Studio 13 – Runner Up

Health and Lifestyle sponsored by Interchange Gippsland

- Phillip Island Sauna – Winner
- Bass Coast Support Work Services – Runner Up

Online, Mobile and Home-Based Business sponsored by Mac&Ernie

- Foodies on Phillip Island – Winner
- Made. By Bronte – Runner Up

Retail and Services sponsored by Maru Koala and Animal Park

- Dalyston General Store – Winner
- Bass Coast Boat & Caravan Storage – Runner Up

Trade sponsored by Bass Coast Shire Council

- McKenzie Motors and Machinery – Winner
- ESI Solutions Pty Ltd – Runner Up



Ocean Sounds took out the award for Event Excellence and the Business of the Year at this year’s Bass Coast Business Awards.



J058900AB

This award is a testament to the power of love, harvesting the rich connections between local communities, regional produce, and culture, through the joy of food.

Foodies on Phillip Island was established in 2022 and is dedicated to bringing the Bass Coast food scene to life with a creative and passionate approach. Highlighting seasonal produce, local food purveyors, growers, and events via digital media, creative storytelling, and photography. With my international culinary background, I love working together with local businesses and helping them thrive. Congratulations to all the finalists across all categories and to everyone who voted. Thank you to the Bass Coast Shire and the abundance of quality food. Kara Williams



COAST TO COAST CONVEYANCING

J058902AA



Coast to Coast Conveyancing is beyond excited to announce that we have been named Winner of the Judged Awards – Marketing and Communications, at the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards!

We are so grateful for this recognition. As a local conveyancing firm, we pride ourselves on making the buying and selling process as smooth and stress-free as possible for our clients. To have our work acknowledged in this way is a huge honour and a celebration of the passion and care our team brings to every file.

A big thank you to the Bass Coast Shire, the sponsors, and of course, our wonderful clients and community who continue to support us – we couldn’t do this without you.

If you’re buying or selling property and need trusted, friendly conveyancing support, get in touch with us at Coast to Coast Conveyancing at office@coast2coast.net.au We’d love to help.

WINNER

JUDGED AWARDS
- MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

WINNER

JUDGED AWARDS
- ONLINE, MOBILE & HOME BASED BUSINESS

BOOK WEEK

Books come to life

It was an incredible day at Cowes Primary School last Friday as the school celebrated Book Week.

The excitement was contagious, and the creativity on display through the wonderful costumes filled the school with colour, energy, and joy.

The costume bar was certainly raised again this year, and everyone should be really proud of their efforts. A special mention to Zuri in Year 4 for her outstanding spider costume, and to the Year 1 staff for their brilliant group effort, "Hello, I am a Sloth."

This year, the Book Week celebrations concluded with the grand reveal of the Masked Readers. In the lead-up, the Masked Readers entertained the school during assemblies by sharing snippets from the CBCA shortlisted books, all while keeping their identities cleverly disguised. Even the readers themselves didn't know who else was behind the masks until the final reveal.

"Our library captains, Indigo and Liliana, did a fantastic job hosting the Book Week Assembly and building the suspense as each Masked Reader was unveiled," a school spokesperson said.

"A huge shout-out to Ms Matthews, Ms Rochford, Lana and Allison for stepping into the spotlight as our Masked Readers – you were thoroughly entertaining and had the students hooked."

"Thank you again to everyone for the creativity, enthusiasm, and support that made Book Week such a special celebration. The students had a fantastic day and we are already looking forward to what next year will bring."



Hello, I am Sloth. Year 1 staff at Cowes Primary got into the spirit of Book Week.



The Mad Hatter – Tessa (Year 2), at Cowes Primary School's Book Week.



A special mention to Zuri in Year 4 for her outstanding spider costume.

Newhaven College Book Week!

The theme for Book Week 2025 is 'Book an Adventure', encouraging children to explore new worlds through stories.

Students from the Junior and Middle Schools brought the theme to life in the annual Book Week parade, cheered on by teachers, parents, guardians and younger siblings.

"The Middle and Junior School Captains did an amazing job managing the proceedings," a College spokesperson said.

"The parade was filled with colour and creativity, with costumes that captured the spirit of favourite books and characters."

Book Week provides an opportunity to cultivate a lifelong love of reading, allowing students to express their creativity and connect with literature in a fun and memorable way.



Prep student Olive Goessens' fish costume stole the show, with her two pre-school siblings also coming along in smaller fish costumes.



Year 5 students Indigo Northover and Charli Pope got into the spirit of the Newhaven College Book Week parade.



Coming as her hero Amelia Earhart, Newhaven College Year 2 student Saylor McHenry flew through the Book Week parade with ease.



Junior S Class with teachers Melissa S and Alice at the Our Lady Star of the Sea Book Week.



Students of Our Lady Star of the Sea's Junior M Class embraced the Book Week dress up challenge.



Teachers at San Remo Primary dressed as Alice in Wonderland characters for this year's Book Week.



Mason from Grade 5 at San Remo Primary impressed with his costume as Minotaur from Greek Mythology.



Bronte in Grade 2 at San Remo Primary, came as Hermione from the Harry Potter novels



Grade 5/6 girls, Zeally, Holly, Lucille, Sasha, Bella and Emily at the San Remo Primary Book Week.

Lots more photos from all schools at pisra.com.au



Rhyll resident Lynda Clarke has raised over \$2400 for the Cancer Council's Daffodil Day, taking the plunge into icy waters last week. Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography

Lynda's incredible icy plunge

FUNDRAISER

Rhyll resident Lynda Clarke has raised over \$2400 for the Cancer Council's Daffodil Day, after taking the plunge into icy waters last week.

Lynda's plunge was captured by local photographer Nici Cahill, as she emerged with a triumphant "I did it".

Wearing her special daffodil bathing cap, Lynda headed into the water at the

Cowes Foreshore.

"It was freezing. It was fun," she said. "And it was for a really important cause."

Lynda said she was encouraged to take up the challenge by a group of "awesome dippers, known as Submerge" who regularly enjoy a predawn dip.

She is extremely appreciative of everyone who donated and cheered her on.

"You're all legends," Lynda said.



The Bass Coast Strollers are a community-based walking group affiliated with Bushwalking Victoria, and are ready to welcome people to join their walks on a Monday morning which cover eight to 10 km.

Give bushwalking a try

COMMUNITY

September is Try Bushwalking month, where Bushwalking Victoria encourages people to be outside and walk with others.

The Bass Coast Strollers are a community-based walking group affiliated with Bushwalking Victoria, and are ready to welcome people keen to explore our fantastic area. Walks are on a Monday morning and cover eight to 10 km. A recent outing was from Smiths Beach to Rhyll.

"It was a lovely day to be outside," a spokesperson for the group said.

"We strolled on paths and a gravel road to Oswin Roberts Reserve, then through to the boardwalk on the Rhyll Inlet side of the island, up over Conser-

vation Hill and into Rhyll."

The Strollers have been hiking the trails and beaches for over 25 years. Participants come from all across the region (including Corinella, Cape Paterson, Phillip Island and Wonthaggi).

"No two walks are ever quite the same as the scenery and participants constantly varies.

"Our equipment is simply a day pack (with nibbles, water etc) and shoes with a good grip. There is always chatter and laughter and photo stops," the group spokesperson said.

"Want to try a walk or three with us? Why wait; let us know you are coming."

Upcoming locations are on the website www.basscoaststrollers.org

Empowering women to prioritise health and wellbeing

COMMUNITY

Gippsland Women's Health and Phillip Island Community and Adult Learning Centre (PICAL) are partnering for Women's Health Week 2025, to present a free community event in Cowes on Friday September 5.

Local women will be provided opportunities to increase their confidence in prioritising their own health and wellbeing.

Women from across the region are invited to come together to connect, learn and celebrate the importance of looking after themselves physically, mentally and emotionally.

Guest speakers will include:

- Dr Carmen Brown – Magnolia Women's Health
- Kristine Miles – Women's Health Physiotherapist, Balance Health
- Michelle Jobson – Go Girls Foundation

Set to share professional advice and real-life experiences, the guest speakers will cover topics including perimenopause, menopause, physical wellbeing and the importance of community connection through programs like Go Girls.

Aligned with the theme of Women's Health Week 2025, 'Say Yes to You,' the event will support women



Gippsland Women's Health and PICAL are partnering for Women's Health Week 2025, to present a free community event in Cowes on Friday September 5.

to put themselves first and explore local services and support networks available to them.

Kate Graham, CEO Gippsland Women's Health, says the event demonstrates the power of local organisations coming together to support women within their own community.

"When women are supported and have access to good healthcare and wellbeing initiatives, it benefits them and the whole community."

"This event is about starting conversations, breaking down barriers and giving women in Gippsland the opportunity to come together and prior-

itise their own health and wellbeing needs," she said.

"This partnership between Gippsland Women's Health and PICAL shows that together we're committed to making sure local women feel informed, connected and are able to access the care and support they need. It's also a step forward in building stronger, healthier communities across the region."

Event details:

Date: Friday, September 5

Time: 6pm to 8pm

Location: PICAL, 16 Warley Avenue, Cowes

Cost: Free (light supper provided)

Bookings essential (via events.humanitix.com): // ap1.hubs.ly/y0bPhp0

Dine Out for Refugees

Saturday 13 Sept 2025 at 7.00pm

Rhyll Mechanics Institute Hall
54 Loch Road Rhyll

\$43 donation per person. BYO drinks



Phillip Island Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR) will host a dinner to raise money for refugee support

We will hear stories "From Syria via Lebanon to Australia."

Artist Josephine Allen has donated a painting for our Special Effort

And the evening will feature music by Marty Box

Bring family and friends and make up a table

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/DECZB>

Enquiries: Gabrielle 0410 441 540 or email: gabesmahony4@gmail.com



Sharon King, Kerry Morrison and Susie Neal, part of a group of Phillip Island women who are swimming every day this month, to raise money for the Cancer Council's Daffodil Day fundraiser.

Daily dips for Daffodil Day

FUNDRAISER

A group of Phillip Island women are taking an ocean dip every day in August, to raise money for the Cancer Council's Daffodil Day fundraiser.

Led by Susie Neal, the group of eight women "made a pact" to take the plunge every day in August.

The Daffodil Day fundraiser doesn't specify how many times someone has to "take the cold plunge" for cancer research, but there are few fundraisers who set themselves the task of taking to the ocean for 31 days in a row.

Each member of the group has swum every day in August, and where their schedules allow, the women swim together. Susie, who cold water swims all year around, said everyone involved in the fundraiser is a member of the Millowl Sea Dragons, a group of regular cold-water swimmers.

She says heading into the cold water is "very addictive".

"No matter how cold it is, you feel a million dollars afterwards."

As a myotherapist, she's also a fan of the therapeutic benefits of cold-water swimming, which she says can reduce inflammation and soreness, as well as restoring balance to the nervous system and building resilience.

Last week, on August 21, the group met up for a special swim.

"Last Thursday (August 21) was the recognised donation day, so we made sure we all swam together that day – and shared some cake and champagne," Susie said.

If you'd like to support this month-long fundraising effort, you can find a link to the donation page on Susie Neal's Facebook page.

Alternatively go to daffodilday.com.au and search for Susie Neal

Mark Howard launches new album

MUSIC

Acclaimed Phillip Island singer-songwriter Mark Howard returns with a new album "Deep Dark Blue".

As part of an Australian tour to launch the album, Mark is playing at Archies Creek Hotel on September 6.

Special guest for the show is Todd Cook and tickets are now available via the Archies Creek Hotel website.

The new album draws listeners into a world of raw emotion, and striking storytelling. It's a journey through self-discovery and healing, shaped by the highs and lows of life on the road and the urge to keep creating.



Acclaimed Phillip Island singer-songwriter Mark Howard returns with a new album "Deep Dark Blue", with an album launch at Archies Creek Hotel on September 6.

Following the success of his debut record "Passing Strangers", Mark toured across Australia, New Zealand, and the UK. Those experiences, and the momentum they created, set the stage for the new record. Mark describes the album as an intense journey, wrestling with the things we keep hidden and what happens when we finally face them.

The first single from the album was praised as "another sublime offering from one of Gippsland's finest" (Nic V, South Coast FM), "captivating and beautifully executed" (Central Music, Brazil), and "full of sincerity, tenderness, and deep personal pain" (Indie & Folk Mood, Ukraine). His music has resonated globally, played in over 45 countries.

The release also saw him chart #3 on the AMRAP regional charts, reaching over 60 local radio stations in Australia.

Working with producer Dave Prideaux, Mark pushed his sound into new territory. The album features hypnotic harmonies from Maddy May and Brooke Taylor, the groove-driven backbone of Graham King

on drums, and mastering by Andy Stewart (Paul Kelly, Gotye, C.W. Stoneking). The result is a record that is bigger, more layered, and definitely his own.

Mark's signature blend of coastal grit, vulnerability, and restless energy shines through and the album invites listeners to sit with the things that scare them, to wade into the deep, and to find hope and understanding on the other side.

As well as the Archies Creek album launch, you can catch Mark at the TIDAL Seafood Festival in San Remo on September 21.

After his Australian tour, Mark is heading to Japan, playing seven shows in September and October.

Book your tickets for the September 6 album launch at www.archiescreekhotel.com.au/

GIG GUIDE

31/8 ANDY MCGARVIE - 5PM

6/9 MOJO DREAMING - 7.30PM
7/9 THE LAING BROTHERS - 5PM

13/9 OLLIE AND SCUZZI - 7.30PM
14/9 TROY WILSON - 5PM

20/09 FRENZAL RHOMB 'A MAN'S (STILL) NOT A CAMEL' 25TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR - 9PM \$53+BF
21/09 PINNACLES - 5PM

26/09 KATHLEEN HALLORAN - \$20+BF
27/06 AFL GRAND FINAL
28/09 NICK CARVER - 5PM

4/10 THE BEATLES LEGACY SHOW - \$20+BF

PLUS:
WEDNESDAY NIGHT
\$17 PARMA NIGHT
THURSDAY NIGHT
\$20 BURGER NIGHT
FRIDAY NIGHT
MEAT RAFFLE
SUNDAY
\$25 ROASTS

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The photos will be published in our Father's Day feature on September 3, with the winner drawn on Thursday, September 4.

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EDUCATION CHOICES

Advertising Feature



An astounding 50 staff, who work at Newhaven College have their children enrolled at the school in 2025. This accounts for 33 per cent of all staff at the College, and 83 students ranging from Prep to Year 12.

Newhaven College – where staff are family

Why so many Newhaven College staff choose the College for their own children's education

Families trust in the nurturing and inspiring learning environment at Newhaven College – a trust so strong that, in 2025, 33 per cent of the College's staff have chosen to enrol their own children at the school. Fifty staff members are parents to 83 students, representing every year level from Prep to Year 12 and evenly distributed across all sub-schools.

This statistic speaks volumes. It's a strong endorsement not just of the College's reputation in the community, but how much staff value the school.

They believe in it so much, they choose it for their own kids.

Year 1 Teacher Sarah Pedersen and her husband, Cameron, a Senior School Teacher, currently have three of their four daughters at the College.

"Having our girls at Newhaven College, where we also teach, has been an incredibly rewarding experience. We love how the school genuinely values community, and how our daughters are supported and inspired through the many opportunities, both in and beyond the classroom", says Sarah.

"We're really looking forward to next year, knowing all four of our girls (our youngest coming in Prep) will continue to receive the very best that Newhaven College has to offer. It's a student-centred school we're proud to be part of."

From the Junior School through to the Senior years, Newhaven College offers a well-rounded, values-driven education. The strength of its pastoral care program ensures every student is seen and supported, with a strong focus on wellbeing and personal growth. That's a quality

that resonates deeply with staff, many of whom work closely with the people delivering this care.

"I love working at Newhaven College," says College Counsellor Emma Gale, whose husband Lachlan is a Middle School Teacher.

"The staff are brilliant, and we are a real community. You know people care and are there for you. I want that for my children as well, which is why I send them to our school. We love all being at the same beautiful site, and I'm excited about all the opportunities provided here for them."

Beyond the classroom, students have access to a rich range of academic pathways, sporting opportunities, visual and performing arts programs and outdoor learning experiences. From the House events to the life-shaping experiences of school camps and expeditions, the College creates opportunities for every student to thrive.

With 56 years of teaching at Newhaven College between them, Geoff and Lauren White have enjoyed having all three of their boys at the school.

"It is a privilege to be able to teach where our boys have gone to school. It has been great watching them participate in sports days, music performances and assembly presentations. It has also given us greater insight into the beautiful environment and opportunities they have experienced," Geoff says.

When staff are happy to work, grow and raise their families in the same place, you know something special is happening. At Newhaven College, the trust that underpins every student-teacher relationship is echoed in the choices made by those who know the school best. And that speaks louder than any brochure ever could.

To learn more about Newhaven College or for more information, visit the Newhaven College website: 'Book A Tour', or contact admissions@newhavencol.vic.edu.au



Rees Quilford and partner Amy Barry-Macaulay at the RMIT University doctoral graduation ceremony. Rees' story highlights how CUC Bass Coast supports students across the full spectrum of higher education, from undergraduate study right through to a PhD.

A lifelong learning journey

Country Universities Centre (CUC) Bass Coast is proud to celebrate the achievements of local scholar, Dr Rees Quilford, who recently completed his PhD in Media and Communications, after a decade-long journey of persistence and intellectual curiosity.

Growing up in Wonthaggi and a former student at Wonthaggi Secondary College, Rees is an example of what's possible when students from regional communities are supported to pursue their passion.

Rees' educational journey has taken him far beyond the Bass Coast, but it has also brought him back home for his PhD – a creative practice research project rooted in the region.

"Even though I've spent much of my career in Melbourne, the focus of my PhD was always the Bass Coast," said Rees.

"It explored our connections to place, and how our communities, personal histories, and the land are deeply intertwined.

"One of the real values of a place like the CUC is that it provides choice and support for students to pursue their higher education journey from the region, without having to necessarily move away from home," he said.

Rees currently works as Associate Director in the Future Students Division at the University of Melbourne, overseeing recruitment and admissions for the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music. Prior to that, he worked across multiple roles in universities, government, not-for-profits and consulting, with a focus on strategic communications and engagement.

His PhD, undertaken through RMIT, took him

about ten years. Amidst life, loss, the pandemic and becoming a father, Rees remained committed to completing the research. And while his professional life is based in the city, his PhD was grounded in the Bass Coast and supported locally through CUC Bass Coast.

"There were times when I was almost full-time in the centre, especially in the latter part as it provided a separation from home and a dedicated space to focus. There's also a great community of interesting, engaged, and likeminded people."

Rees' story highlights how CUC Bass Coast supports students across the full spectrum of higher education, from undergraduate study right through to a PhD.

"One of the advantages metro students often have is being able to live at home while they study, if they choose to. A place like CUC gives students a choice and the opportunity to grow through higher education, without necessarily needing to leave the community."

CUC Bass Coast Centre Manager Sarah Bourke said Rees embodies what's possible when regional students are empowered and supported.

"Rees' story shows that learning doesn't have to stop after high school or an undergraduate degree. It also speaks to the broader mission of the CUC, which is to make higher education more accessible and viable for regional students, across all stages of life.

"Whether you're just starting out or pursuing a PhD, we're here to support you," she said.

For more information, please call the team on 0472 741 451 or visit www.cucbasscoast.edu.au



"Newhaven College is a student-centred school we're proud to be part of," say parents and teachers Sarah and Cameron Pedersen.

Knowing where opportunities lie

Families trust in the nurturing and inspiring learning environment at Newhaven College – a trust so strong that, in 2025, more than 30% of our staff have chosen to enrol their own children here.

With students from Prep to Year 12, our staff have complete confidence in their colleagues to deliver the highest standard of education, supported by exceptional pastoral care and a rich array of co-curricular opportunities. For parents, this trust in our teaching and support staff is of paramount importance. So, the insider knowledge our staff hold is a powerful endorsement – and well worth listening to.

To find out more contact our Admissions Team on 03 5956 7505 or email admissions@newhavencol.vic.edu.au



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2026

EDUCATION CHOICES

Advertising Feature



Committed to education

Bass Coast College (BCC) is the heart of public secondary education in the Bass Coast, and student numbers continue to grow, with enrolments tipping over 1700 in 2025. The college remains focused on fostering excellence in learning and wellbeing through a holistic approach to education.

The college is committed to creating a positive, inclusive and engaging environment where every student feels supported to thrive academically, socially and emotionally. To achieve this, the staff and teachers are implementing several key initiatives throughout 2025.

At the end of 2024, dedicated staff began training in the Berry Street Education Model, a framework designed to enhance student engagement and wellbeing by addressing the complex needs of learners. This model equips teachers with practical strategies to build stronger relationships, promote self-regulation, and create safe, predictable learning environments. This work complements the School Wide Positive Behaviour Supports that Bass Coast College have been working on over the last 12 months.

"We look forward to seeing the positive impact this approach will have on our



Bass Coast College Students on a camping trip at Wilson Prom. The college remains focused on fostering excellence in learning and wellbeing through a holistic approach to education.

classrooms and broader school community," said Principal Leith Cummins.

"In addition to these wellbeing-focused initiatives, our staff remain committed to delivering a dynamic and engaging curriculum that caters to the diverse needs of all learners."

Bass Coast College is continuing to build on the fantastic VCE results from last year and expand the VCE VM offerings and VET opportunities.

This year, we are supporting students in an extensive senior school program with 39 VCE subjects running and nine VET studies delivered on Campus, with Plumbing, Health Services, and Hospitality introduced this year due to the growing demand.

To support this work, we have strategically built

strong leadership teams to work with students, staff and the community.

The College is proud of the achievements and the significant success achieved by staff and students in recent years. Growing student population, new campuses, and the addition of many high-quality staff have been rewarding, but throughout it, all, the key focus has been on BCC's academic and holistic support of its students. This remains our clear focus, and we are particularly well placed for this with this high-quality support team available for students and families.

To enrol at Bass Coast College, contact the general office of the campus your child will be attending. For further information, visit www.basscoast.vic.edu.au



Bodie and his nan at Grandparents Day at Newhaven Primary School.

Newhaven Primary School – education choices

Our students continue to thrive and achieve excellent NAPLAN results in Year Three and Year Five. Staff at Newhaven Primary School (NSP) are committed to each child striving to be the best they can. With an emphasis on ensuring each student commences each day knowing they are in a caring and supportive environment. We love our kids at NPS.

The school has taken part in the student leadership program, Kids as Catalyst, connecting our students to the wider community. Last year the Roadkill group created artwork to be displayed around Phillip Island to make motorists aware of the wild-

life that is being killed by motorists.

Over the past few years, the school has upgraded the running track and resurfaced the play area around the outdoor basketball court, making it an inviting space to play or sit and relax.

Our students have a voice in what happens at their school through Junior School Council (JSC). The JSC worked with the Phillip Island Rotary Club to build a Gaga ball pit that the students enjoy each day, and the community can use on the weekend. The JSC also presented plans to School Council to install a trampoline, researching the cost and location of it.

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Studying this year?

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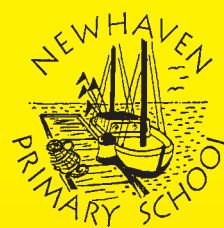


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Newhaven Primary School

Your local neighbourhood School



PLAYGROUP MEETS EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING & KINDERGARTEN ONSITE FOR 3- AND 4-YEAR-OLDS.

At Newhaven Primary School the following programs and facilities are offered:

- Dedicated and caring staff
- Modern, well maintained classrooms with the latest technology
- Excellent NAPLAN results in numeracy and Literacy
- P-6 Specialist subjects offered: Stem, Art, Japanese, PE
- Kids as Catalyst student leadership program
- Prep transition program and Buddy program
- Open space playground and new play equipment for all students to play and smile
- Breakfast Club every morning
- Individual i-pads from grade 3-6
- Swimming Program, camps and excursions
- Student Wellbeing co-ordinator
- Principal Ms Sharyne Munday



12-22 School Avenue, Newhaven
Ph: 5956 7326
newhaven.ps@education.vic.gov.au

TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF OUR SCHOOL
www.facebook.com/newhavenprimarieschool/videos/307483457029512



The school offers a curriculum “relevant to student aspirations”, said Mary MacKillop Catholic College Principal John Freeman.



The school offers students the chance to participate in sport through its involvement in School Sports Victoria, and the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of academic competitions.

Join Mary MacKillop’s community

Leongatha’s Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College is in the process of enrolling new Year 7 students for 2026, with close to 100 already enrolled.

Positive word of mouth and tours of the school have encouraged more families to become part of its community.

Current Year 12 students are about to complete their 13 years of primary and secondary education, with the school celebrating their achievements.

“Many students have already secured employment, further education opportunities, or placements, while the rest are diligent-

ly preparing for their upcoming VCE exams, and we wish them all the best and hope they achieve the results they are aiming for,” Principal John Freeman said.

“We are proud to witness our students achieve some of the best results in the area.”

Mr Freeman explained that pupils are supported through a structured program that works collaboratively with them and their families, guiding to ensure subject choices align with each student’s short- and long-term academic and career goals.

“Whilst we are not a large secondary school, we endeavour

to offer a curriculum relevant to student aspirations that allows them to engage in a six-year learning journey at the college,” Mr Freeman said.

The school also forges positive relationships with employers and other education providers, helping create career and study opportunities for its students.

Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College offers a range of options to develop each young person in its charge holistically. That includes:

- An accelerated VCE program in place for high-achieving academic students, enabling

- them to commence VCE subjects in Year 10.
- A vibrant VCE Vocational Major program, along with Vocational Education and Training (VET) options, are offered to students.
- On-site VET options, in areas such as building and construction, information technology, music industry, textiles, and sport and recreation, enhance both employment and further study opportunities.

The school offers students the chance to participate in sport through its involvement in School Sports Victoria, and

the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of academic competitions.

Co-curricular opportunities such as performing arts, including music eisteddfods, public speaking, and Tournament of Minds, are also available. Additionally, the college emphasises helping those in need, with students and staff raising awareness and funds for important causes.

The school recently held its Walkathon event, raising funds for its chosen charities: MacKillop Today, Trinity Families, Catholic Care Victoria, and The Movember Foundation.



Grade 5 Discovery Days 2025

Monday 20th October
Grade 5 Students from St Joseph’s Wonthaggi and Star of the Sea Cowes

Information will be provided directly to schools

Thursday 23rd October
Grade 5 Students from St John’s Koo Wee Rup and Government Schools

Visit our website for more information and to register

Monday 27th October
Grade 5 Students from St Joseph’s Korumburra and St Laurence O’Toole Leongatha

Information will be provided directly to schools



Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College

For further information or to register please visit our website or contact the College:
03 5662 4255
enrolments@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au

JD05850AA

BASS COAST COLLEGE

"Achieving success in a caring and creative environment"

Bass Coast College proudly continuing the 100 year tradition as the area's government secondary school presence. We remain committed to providing outstanding support for the young people of the Bass Coast area.

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03 5610 2020

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Options Years 7-10
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WONTHAGGI CAMPUS

Years 10-12
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BASS COAST COLLEGE

BASS COAST COLLEGE
www.basscoast.vic.edu.au

College Principal
Leith Cummins



Dion, Tilli, Ryan and Savannah enjoy Our Lady Star of the Sea's outdoor learning spaces and playgrounds.



Caden at the school's garden – a flourishing space that offers hands-on opportunities to study science and environmental stewardship.

Our Lady Star of the Sea: Growing with heart and purpose

In January 2018, the doors of the first Catholic school on Phillip Island opened to just 18 eager students. Fast forward to today, and Our Lady Star of the Sea in Cowes is thriving – with 113 students and a vibrant, close-knit community where every child and family is known, welcomed and valued.

Our school is more than just a

place of learning – it's a place of discovery. With flexible indoor and outdoor learning spaces, a dynamic discovery centre and library, four playgrounds, a bird hide, a covered basketball court, and a synthetic oval with three running tracks, students are encouraged to explore, create and grow in every direction.

Sustainability is woven into

the fabric of our school. Our flourishing gardens and green spaces offer hands-on opportunities to study science and environmental stewardship. Students actively participate in planting and maintaining our gardens, learning firsthand how small actions can make a big impact. With solar panels, battery storage and water tanks, we're

proud to be reducing our carbon footprint and inspiring future changemakers. But what truly sets Our Lady Star of the Sea apart is our people. Our dedicated staff foster a safe, supportive and engaging environment where every student is challenged to reach their full potential. Specialist programs in science, art, physi-

cal education, Auslan, digital technology, drama, and music ensure a rich and well-rounded education, grounded in high expectations and mutual trust. Enrolments for 2026 are now open. To book a school tour, call us at 03 5951 1700 or visit olssc-cowes.catholic.edu.au. Come and see how we're growing – together.

Our Lady Star of the Sea

Catholic Primary School – Cowes



Courage, Compassion & Creativity

We believe in providing a welcoming, friendly and safe environment where everyone is respected and treated fairly and justly. Taking pride in environmental sustainability, the surrounding wetlands and “green areas” on the school site will engage students in authentic studies within a natural environment.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2026 ARE NOW OPEN.
Please contact us for further information on 5951 1700



A rich and varied experience

San Remo Primary School takes pride in offering its students as many rich and varied learning experiences as possible, and this term, despite it being a short one, Acting Principal, Lauren Hamer says, "We are truly excelling in this area."

"We have an exciting calendar ahead, including our school disco run by our wonderful Fundraising Committee, our Whole School Drumming Concert, Book Week celebrations, Science Week activities, special days promoting inclusivity and kindness such as Bullying No Way, and a STEM Together Expo."

As part of the school-wide Positive Behaviour Supports, San Remo Primary have reintroduced Peer Mediators to help supervise and support play around their brand-new Gaga Pit.

"These student leaders ensure everyone plays fairly, follows the rules, and respects the equipment," says Lauren.

"Our positive behaviour expectations are shining both in classrooms and the playground, with students showing a strong understanding of processes, procedures, and teamwork." Positive reinforcement in every classroom helps to create a culture of respect and cooperation.

The implementation of the University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI) program in junior school aligns seamlessly with the Victorian Curriculum's



San Remo Primary School's Grade 6 Peer Mediator, Lucy, supervising students around the new Gaga Pit.

commitment to evidence-based, structured synthetic phonics instruction.

This daily approach ensures that all students receive consistent, explicit, and systematic teaching in foundational reading skills, laying a strong literacy base from the early years.

"Our previous phonics program had already yielded excellent results, as highlighted by our strong NAPLAN performance, and the adoption of UFLI builds on this success by providing a refined and research-backed structure," Tracey Wilson, Literacy Coordinator and Prep Teacher explains.

"Our junior school staff have

demonstrated a strong commitment to professional growth by visiting other schools, conducting in-depth research, and seeking advice from paraprofessionals to ensure best practice. By adopting UFLI, we are equipping our students with the tools they need to become confident and capable readers, while fostering a culture of continual improvement and collaboration among educators.

"We were also fortunate to welcome our new Koori Education Support Officer, Sonya Hunt, who shared the importance of gathering as a tribe and sharing stories. Students worked with Sonya to create

Yarning Sticks for their classroom Circle Times, bringing culture and connection into the learning space, not just outside."

STEM

The San Remo Primary students thrive in their dynamic STEM program, where they dive into exciting activities across Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

"Last week, we celebrated Science Week with hands-on food experiments led by one of our talented scientist parents, Gabrielle Enness, sparking curiosity and discovery," says Lauren.

"We also hosted STEM Together, a lively STEM Expo

where families visited the school to explore the amazing projects their children have been working on and even got to try out some of our interactive STEM resources firsthand. It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate learning and inspire a passion for STEM within our school community."

As part of the Grade 5/6 Inquiry Learning program, students are engaging in a unit of work titled San Remo: Sand, Sea and Sustainability. This unit explores the unique marine and coastal environment of the area, with a current focus on the positive and negative impacts of human activity.

Recently, students ventured out on the bay to survey local marine and bird life, while also observing San Remo's housing and landforms. They also had the opportunity to meet Samuel, who is sailing from Sydney to Tasmania in his recycled yacht, to learn first-hand about the impact of pollution on marine life.

"The unit will conclude with a student-led campaign promoting local beach protection, giving our young learners the chance to turn their knowledge into real-world action."

San Remo Primary School is hosting an open week for prospective families and 2026 preps, running from September 8 – 12. Families are encouraged to book an appointment for a school tour.



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- A stimulating and supportive learning environment catering to all students.
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- Dedicated and well resourced Inclusion and Wellbeing program.
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2026

Prep Enrolments NOW OPEN!

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Book an appointment for a school tour during our Open Week, September 8-12.**

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Learning, wellbeing and community at Cowes Primary School

Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you'll make. Whether your little one is yet to start kinder or is currently enrolled elsewhere, it's never too late to explore your options. We invite you to visit Cowes Primary School and see firsthand how we support our students to thrive in every aspect of their education.

At Cowes Primary School, we strive to support every child in reaching their full potential. Our teachers and education support staff go above and beyond to ensure that each student receives the attention they need, both academically and in their overall wellbeing. We work hard to build the knowledge and skills of our staff, knowing that investing in our people has a direct, positive influence on the outcomes of our students.

At Cowes Primary School, we value deep cultural connections – from our global partnership in the ASEAN-Australia BRIDGE School Partnerships Program with Southeast Asia, to our strong relationships with local First Nations people, ensuring students learn about and value the rich history and culture of our area.

Opportunities beyond the classroom

Being a larger school isn't something to worry about – it's something to celebrate. It means we have plenty of space, plenty of



Cowes Primary student Teddy (Prep) sharing his hard work.

resources, and plenty of opportunities for our students to thrive. Our size allows us to offer a diverse specialist subject program, taught by highly skilled and passionate teachers, providing exciting learning well beyond literacy and numeracy – whether it's music, art, science, physical education, or Japanese language.

The yard can be an exciting place but for students who prefer something different during break times, our popular Lunch



Cowes Primary student William working hard on his clay creation.

Clubs offer a variety of engaging activities indoors – another way we ensure every child feels included, connected, and happy at school.

Supporting the whole child: wellbeing at Cowes PS

It's not just academic achievement that sets Cowes Primary School apart. Our dedicated and caring staff are the heart of our school, working tirelessly to provide care and support to all students. We believe that the well-

being of our students is just as important as their academic success, and our team is committed to creating a nurturing and inclusive environment where everyone feels safe, supported and respected.

We are proud to be part of the Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHIPS) initiative. As part of this program, Cowes Primary School employs a full-time Wellbeing Teacher, who provides targeted wellbeing support across all year levels.

Academic success

We are committed to helping students succeed in all areas of their education. This dedication has recently been highlighted by outstanding NAPLAN results, where 81 per cent of Year 3 students and 77 per cent of our Year 5 students achieved strong or exceeding outcomes in reading. Our teachers plan collaboratively to explicitly teach all students using research-backed strategies, maximising the success of every learner.

Facilities

We are fortunate to have great facilities and this year alone, we've taken play to the next level with the installation of two brand-new playgrounds, giving students even more opportunities to climb, swing, explore and connect with friends. Our School Council has also invested significantly in our pool with the addition of heat pumps, transforming early-morning swims on cooler days into warm, welcoming experiences. Students have loved the change, with many saying the warmer water makes swimming "way more fun" – whatever the weather.

We'd love to show you around our school and answer any questions you might have. School tours are always welcome.

To book a tour, please contact our office at 03 5952 2132. Come and see why Cowes Primary School is the right choice for your child's future.

Are you contemplating where to send your child to school in the next few years?

We invite all prospective families to join us for a...

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- Hear about our approach to literacy, numeracy and wellbeing success
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If you are interested in booking a school tour, please contact the office on 5952 2132.

FOR ENQUIRIES: PRINCIPAL: Rodney McKenzie PHONE: 5952 2132
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A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. Michael McCabe will be held at the San Remo Bowls Club, 1A Wynne Road, San Remo on FRIDAY (Aug. 29, 2025) commencing at 1:00pm.

A private family burial will be held.

For live-streaming go to www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au

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No show at tax meeting

Once again Bunurong Ward Councillor Meg Edwards has demonstrated that she is the only current elected Bass Coast Shire Councillor who chooses to stand at the head of the community rather than to stand at the rear of the bureaucrats.

Meg convened last week's Not in Our Name rally at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, to voice community opposition to the Spring Streets brand new ESVF tax.

It's unsurprising that, despite having been invited to address the meeting, our local MP Jordan Crugnale failed to make an appearance.

Instead, the meeting was left to be addressed by Opposition MPs including the Shadow Minister for Local Government Bev McArthur.

This rally attracted a large number of community members from across the shire.

Even councillors from South Gippsland, Baw Baw, Cardinia, and even as far as Shepparton, made the effort to attend this important community meeting.

But, notable for their absence were our other eight Bass Coast Councillors.

And their absence was clearly remarked on by community members in attendance.

Despite having previously

opposed this new unfair tax within the confines of their bureaucratic McBride bubble, the missing eight were nowhere to be seen.

And apparently none of them even offered the courtesy of an apology for not being able to attend. How rude and disingenuous of them. Go figure.

Kevin Griffin, Wonthaggi

No to cypress

Who will care for our cypress avenue was the question last week (page 3, Advertiser August 20), and while I appreciate all those that work in community groups in this case I really hope for a different outcome. My answer would be hopefully no one.

I have always found the cypress trees either side of the high street imposing, dark and out of place. A reminder of a time when us colonisers were imposing ourselves on everything to state our case for this being home. Maybe we could let the trees and our need to dominate the landscape slip away and in its place let something else grow.

How about an avenue of Manna gums; of shade and dappled sunlight and the smell of eucalyptus. Food for thought and koalas, that would be fun.

Nic Frances Gilley, Newhaven



New member for Monash, Mary Aldred, with a constituent when her mobile office visited Cowes last week. Ms Aldred said issues raised included the NDIS funding and aged care.

Mary listens to Cowes' concerns

POLITICS

Last Wednesday (August 20), the mobile office of Mary Aldred, the new member for Monash, visited Cowes.

Local residents were able to book in meetings with the MP, at The Waterboy Café. Ms Aldred said she spent the day catching up with constituents in Cowes, Wonthaggi and Inverloch.

She said issues raised included NDIS funding, aged

care, as well as a range of other matters.

"We intend to make our mobile office a regular event in the region," Ms Aldred said.

"It is an opportunity for people to sit down, have a coffee and share their story and concerns. We are in the Bass Coast regularly, but often with a range of commitments to get to. Having this opportunity for the residents to sit down and chat with me is really important."

SOUTH GIPPSLAND ORCHID SOCIETY INC

35TH ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW

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Saturday 13th September 9.30-4.00pm

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club
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ADMISSION \$5.00 (cash sales only)

Plant Sales • Orchid Supplies • Repotting Demonstrations

For Further info call Julie Kilgour 0409 964 476
or Julie Dunn 0419 139 233.



Sophie McKenzie and coach Dylan Muir prepare for Sophie to swim her second finals at the recent State Open Championships.

State Open Championships success for SGB swimmers

SWIMMING

It was a big weekend at MSAC for the South Gippsland Bass swimmers at the State Open Championships.

Lachie Patterson, Sophie McKenzie, Trinity O'Keefe, Cormac Flynn and Molly Dettburn all competed under the watchful eyes of Coach Dylan Muir.

The event had swimmers competing in open events, so anyone with the qualifying time could swim, regardless of age.

This meant the SGB swim-

mers rubbed shoulders with several of the Australian Dolphins in the heats.

The swimmers competed in heats in the morning with several swimmers managing to get PBs.

Sophie McKenzie made two finals, coming 10th in 50m Breaststroke and 8th in 100m Breaststroke.

Sophie managed to swim several times that will see her return to MSAC in October to swim in the National Open Championships.

Midweek at Lang Lang

BOWLS

Another brilliant day as the Mid-week bowlers met at Lang Lang to once again fight it out for supremacy.

The team was welcomed to the club by Bev and John while Vern arranged the teams. Once the teams were selected everyone was straight out to the green to get to work.

The green was in excellent condition as is normally the case at Lang Lang. Plenty of happy players judging by the laughter across the greens, with lots of friendly banter among all the great bowling from all the rinks.

One or two wrong bias bowls only helping to fill our RCH tin.

But as always there were winners and those who did not quite make it across the line.

Winners on a score of 37: Peter Taylor (L), Derek Fenn (3) and

Phil Wright (S).

Runners up on a score of 36: Diane Kessen (L), Max Summers (S), Robyn Coulson (3) and Dave Martin (2).

Best One game on a score of 19: Al Weeden (L), Mary Pagett (3), Enid Johnston (2) and Vern Elliott (S).

Many thanks to David for preparing the green, also to Marianne for all her hard work behind the bar. Also, to Marianne, Diane and Laurie for their work in the kitchen as well as cleaning up both inside and out following the game. This week the team will be meeting at Loch to once again fight it out for team of the week.

Please be on site by 10am to allow time to prepare the teams.

Unfortunately, with numbers generally reaching capacity we will have to be strict on a 10am cut off time. Until then, have fun and stay safe.



Congratulations to the outright winner of the Phillip Island Bowling Club 242 competition David Saric.

Winter 242 competition

BOWLS

Another successful season of Phillip Island Bowling Club winter 242 competition was completed on August 23 with four bowlers in contention for the winner's prize. Congratulations to our winners on the day Brian Arnold and David Saric.

As with any competition there can only be one winner and after some close games third and second place were tied – congratulations to Alan Beddows and Steve Farrelly.

Congratulations to the outright winner of the Phillip Island Bowling Club 242 competition, David Saric.



Members of Woolamai Beach SLSC attended the Victorian Life Savers State Awards earlier this month. Front row: Mick Sullivan, Zoe Scott, Ellie Ryan and Jasmine Kuerschner. Back Row: Kadek Humphris, Bonny Dickie, Erin Close, Jason Close, Jordan Kuerschner, Christos Argyropoulos and Lachlan Casey.

Woolamai Beach SLSC shines at state awards night

LIFESAVING

Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club was well represented at the recent Life Saving Victoria Awards of Excellence.

Life Saving Victoria's annual Awards of Excellence evening celebrates the best in Victorian lifesaving by recognising the outstanding achievements and contributions by lifesavers and clubs statewide.

The awards recognises volunteers who have excelled in all facets of lifesaving including emergency response, training, education, Nippers, sport, officiating, aquatic facilities, and Club administration.

President's Certificate

This year, Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club's Mick and Dan Sullivan received the President's Certificate in recognition of their outstanding contributions to world-class water safety services.

For 15 years Mick and Dan have co-ordinated and delivered Life Saving Victoria's annual Advanced Life Saving Certificate course.

Twin brothers Mick and Dan have gained nearly every award possible in their long careers in surf life saving, including nu-

merous state awards and have trained generations of lifeguards.

Along with Mark Scotland from Anglesea SLSC, they were presented with their award by Susan Wolff, President of Life Saving Victoria.

Life Saver of the Year

Following his first season as Club Captain/Director of Life Saving Services, Jordan Kuerschner was a finalist in the Victorian Life Saver of the Year Award.

While the award went to Sas McNamara of Portsea Surf Life Saving Club, Jordan has shown again that he is up there with the best in the state.

In his role Jordan has led, inspired, selected and trained the club's patrol leadership teams. He is also a certified trainer who has trained and developed many of the club's patrolling members.

Over the past two seasons, Jordan has achieved 300 voluntary patrolling hours. This consists of 230 patrol hours and 70 jetski service hours.

"Our club is very proud of Jordan," said Woolamai Beach SLSC President, Jason Close.

"He is one of the club's most valuable members and lifesavers; a leader, mentor, trainer, competi-

tor and makes significant contributions to all aspects of surf life saving.

"Jordan is to be commended for his enormous contribution to life saving and the community."

Victorian Education Instructor of the Year

For the second year in a row, San Remo's Bonny Dickie was named as a finalist for the Victorian Education Instructor of the Year award.

Bonny won the award last year and has demonstrated an amazing consistency to continue to uphold such high standards.

Starting as a Nipper in 2007-08, Bonny has worked her way up through the club over many years of patrolling, gaining qualifications and training to become one of the state's top educators.

Bonny puts in countless hours volunteering, training and mentoring lifesavers and other trainers. Bonny also works for Life Saving Victoria delivering training to school groups and fits all of this in around her professional career as a nurse.

Read full report at:
pisra.com.au/sport

Star of the Sea on the national stage

AEROBICS

The Our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School aerobics team travelled to Hobart to compete at the School Aerobics National Championships on Sunday, August 16.

The team of seven girls earned their place on the national stage after progressing through both the divisional and state rounds earlier this year. Performing with enthusiasm, precision, confidence, and energy, the students proudly represented their school in front of competitors from across the country.

Teachers and coaches Lisa Bennett and Jacinda Tillotson, were beyond proud of their team's success and the commitment, hard work and steady improvement throughout the year.

"We are so proud of how far the girls have come," said Ms. Bennett.

"They've shown resilience, dedication, and a true team spirit."

The school aerobics program, which began at Star of the Sea in 2024, has already grown in leaps and bounds. With strong support from staff, families, and the wider community, the program has provided opportunities for students to develop new skills, grow in confidence, and experience the thrill of



The school and coaches said they were proud of the team's success and commitment. The aerobics program began in 2024, and the school is the first in the region to offer aerobics.

performance and teamwork.

Principal Catherine Blackford has been a strong supporter of the initiative.

"Programs like school aerobics give our students the chance to challenge themselves, be part of a competitive team, and experience success through dedication and collaboration," she said.

This year, Our Lady Star of the Sea added a second junior-aged team who look forward to competing in the future. Both

groups are thriving on the physical, creative, and team-building aspects of the sport.

The school is the first in the region to offer aerobics and looks forward to seeing the program grow in the years ahead.

For the students, the trip to Hobart was more than just a competition - it was a celebration of teamwork, perseverance, and the support of their entire school community. The team consisted of Meila, Eve, Vivi, Ella, Milly, Isla and Cordelia.



Our A grade netball team came together in style to support the Shades of Pink fundraiser, picture L to R - Emma Hallas, Maya Huther, Ella Duggan, Charli Ross, Aisha Hibbert, Olivia Holmes, Lexi Walton, Charlie Mau, Hallie Mau, Maddy Taylor and Hollie Castagna. A bright splash of pink and plenty of team spirit to support a great cause, raising awareness and support for breast cancer.



B Grade netball team L to R - Anthea Bennett, Jarah White, Sophia Hungerford, Abbey McCaughan, Ellie Hennessy, Steph Lewry, Sophie Gysberts, Ruby Formosa and Meika White.



C Grade netball team L to R - Abby Papas, Matilda Walton, Lawri Piera, Emma Hallas, Beth Adams, Kelly Pethick, Raelene Humphrey, Kate Williams, Nikki Williams, Tori Cleeland and Abby Morgan.



D Grade netball team L to R - Cathy Felstead, Isla Walton, Ruby Anderson, Jazz Mau, Helene Mau, Chloe Moxey, Hollie Kee, Rose Van Rooy, Rachael Cameron, Maddy Egglestone, Meg Oudshoorn and Sarah Pederson.

Senior season wrap and Junior finals ahead

NETBALL

As the 2025 season comes to a close, the Phillip Island Football and Netball club want to congratulate and thank all the senior netballers for their effort, commitment and passion this year.

Each and every player has represented the club with pride both on and off the court.

A huge thank you to our Netball Co-ordinator, Anthea Bennett, for her tireless work behind the scenes in supporting all play-

ers, coaches and team managers throughout the season.

The club is also thrilled to announce that Head Coach Hollie Castagna has re-signed for 2026.

Hollie's leadership, dedication and knowledge of the game have been invaluable, and the club is excited to see her continue guiding the senior netball program into the future.

To the coaches, team managers, volunteers, players, families and supporters, thank you for everything you've given

this year.

Your commitment and passion are what makes the club so strong.

Well done to all the senior netballers on a fantastic 2025 season and can't wait to see what's ahead in 2026.

And finally, best of luck to the Junior netballers U11, U13, U15 and U17 girls, as they head into finals, the whole club is right behind you.

Go Bulldogs!

For all the full netball reports go to www.pisra.com.au



Congratulations to Charli Ross (left) and Sophia Hungerford on obtaining their C Grade umpiring badges. Both umpires play netball for Phillip Island and it's fantastic to see players transferring their skills over to becoming amazing umpires.

A proud weekend for Killy Bass

NETBALL

A Grade

A grade finished the season strong with a solid win over Garfield.

The girls started strong and set the pace from the get-go.

The attacking end connected beautifully, and the defence worked hard to stop their dominant goalers.

A great team effort and a great way to finish the season. **Best on:** Tamika.

B Grade

Last game for the season and what a good hit out it was.

The girls all rocked up ready to go, keeping it simple and all playing their role.

It was a super strong effort through the whole court with everyone contributing to the win.

Now to look forward to a home final this coming Saturday. **Best on Court:** Esther and Ciara.

C Grade

The Kilcunda Bass C Grade team faced off against Garfield



KB A Grade Emma Felsovary battles it out with Garfield for their last round of the season.

with determination and pride.

Although Bass came away with a loss, the girls played with heart and gave it their all, right until the final whistle.

They showed resilience and

great team spirit, refusing to drop their heads despite the scoreboard. It was a strong finish to the season, and the team should be proud of their efforts.



KB B Grade Allison Carter on the run.

D Grade

Killy Bass D Grade chance at finals came down to the last game, with a win giving us every opportunity, though the final say rested on another result.

Determined to control what they could, Killy Bass started strongly, converting the first centre pass and forcing a turnover. The opening quarter was tight, ending with a one-goal lead.

The second and third quarters followed the same pattern, with both teams showing grit and determination.

Garfield levelled the scores at the last break, but the final quarter was where the girls lifted.

Contesting every ball and taking their chances, Killy Bass pulled away to claim a three-goal win, 32-29, a strong improvement on their Round seven effort.

Although results elsewhere meant they missed finals by one game, the team can be proud of their resilience, commitment, and growth.

Best on court: Ro Grayson, Lynne Boag, Ryah Maund.

Well done girls on a great season full of growth, resilience and teamwork.

For U17, U15, U13 and U11 reports go to pisra.com.au/sport

Double header success for MTB Academy

MOUNTAIN BIKES

It was a huge weekend of racing for the Newhaven College Mountain Bike Academy, with a squad of 12 riders taking on back-to-back rounds of the AusCycling Interschool Series at the You Yangs (Round 4) on Saturday and Ballarat (Round 5) on Sunday.

Perfect winter sunshine greeted riders across both venues, creating ideal conditions for racing and showcasing the Academy's talent.

Will Walker produced a standout performance on Saturday, digging deep to secure a well-earned third place on the podium at the You Yangs, marking him as a rider to watch as the series continues.

"Miss Consistent" Lucy Thompson made her much-anticipated return to racing, and she didn't disappoint, stepping onto the podium twice across the weekend with impressive second place finishes in both rounds.

There was also a welcome return for Evelyn McCabe, who rode strongly at Ballarat on Sunday and claimed third place in her category, adding another podium to the team's tally.

The double-header weekend highlighted the depth of talent within the



Will Walker produced a standout performance on Saturday, digging deep to secure a well-earned third place on the podium at the You Yangs, marking him as a rider to watch as the series continues.

Newhaven College MTB Academy, with riders continuing to impress on the state stage.

Final rounds 6 and 7 will be held at Castlemaine September 6 and Bendigo September 7.



Left to right: Judy Nicoll, Denise Bray, Lillian Wagstaff (President) and Peter Mathews (winner) enjoying the Social Day at the Phillip Island Croquet Club.

Social day at Phillip Island

CROQUET

The kookaburras laughing in the ancient Blue Gums was not the only laughter coming from Blue Gum Reserve on a beautiful sunny day, Saturday August 23.

A social play day was arranged between Phillip Island and Wonthaggi Croquet Clubs.

Normally rivals on the court in the pen-

nant season, it was all about making new friends and enjoying the day.


With a complement of 16 players and several reserves, each player played four games. The winner was Peter Matthews from Phillip Island with four wins. Congratulations to Peter.

Lunch was organised by the social committee consisting of homemade soup and a sausage sizzle.

Members excelled as usual in supplying a delicious afternoon tea.

The club is hoping to arrange similar days with other croquet clubs in the Gippsland region soon.

If you are interested in giving Croquet a go, you are more than welcome to come to the club (in the Blue Gum Reserve) on Friday and Saturday mornings from 10am onwards. If you would like to contact the club, go to its Facebook page, email picroquet.sec@gmail.com or ring the secretary Claire on 0403 690 237.




DARTS

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New players welcome, all ages.

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Scott Lethbridge
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Email: scott@glpc.com.au

Join us for fun and excitement!

PICKLE BALL ON THE ISLAND

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30-11.30am. We encourage new players, they are welcome to come for 2 "come and try" sessions. A casual fee applies thereafter although most join the club (\$70/yr October-October; currently \$35 for membership till October 2025). We are able to give guidance, though no formal coaching available. Enquires rhylltennisclub@gmail.com



Phillip Island Breakers U12 Girls celebrating their top-of-the-table finish to the home-and-away season.

Junior teams finish strongly

SOCCER

U15 Girls

The U15 Girls played their final home game on Sunday against Leongatha Knights.

Despite being short on numbers, the Knights showed determination and spirit, echoed by their coach, Beth.

In Breakers' fashion, Lily T and Elisabeth volunteered to help the opposition.

Mia scored her first goal of the season, followed by Ebony (2), Amara (1) and another from Mia before halftime.

The second half saw more player swaps, with the Knights also finding the net.

Breakers goals came from Lily T (2), Amara, Ava and Hannah (2).

The team heads to Drouin Saturday, aiming to finish the season on top.

U14

Phillip Island's Under 14s secured a dominant 14-0 win over Lang Lang on the weekend, showcasing both skill and teamwork.

From the opening whistle, Phillip Island controlled possession with calm, disciplined play, moving the ball swiftly through midfield. Rubin and James were standouts up front, finishing with multiple goals thanks to strong service from their teammates.

The midfield worked tirelessly to create opportunities, while the backline remained alert, providing cover and pushing wide to maintain constant pressure.

Every player contributed, whether through defensive interceptions, quick transitions, or clever link-up play in attack.

The cohesion of this squad was evident, with communication and trust across the park ensuring Phillip Island always looked threatening.

To their credit, Lang Lang never dropped their heads.

The visitors lifted in the second half and produced some impressive defensive efforts that drew applause from both sets of supporters.

Their resilience and determination highlighted the character within their young group and provided a strong platform to build on for future games.

For Phillip Island, the result reinforces their attacking depth and commitment to structured, team-first football.

For Lang Lang, it was a tough outing but one that demonstrated grit, improvement and plenty of potential.

U12

In their final home-and-away game, the U12 Girls hosted second-placed Lang Lang



Izzy (right) taking on Tamsin (playing for the Knights) in the U15s Breakers match.

in what was expected to be a tight contest.

Both sides moved the ball confidently from defence to attack, but it was the Breakers who made their chances count.

Gabrielle Titmarsh opened the scoring, followed by a brilliant solo goal from Jose Trayford on her return after six weeks.

The standout of the first half was goalkeeper Chelsea Chambers, who pulled off three crucial saves and repeatedly shut down dangerous attacks.

With the defence holding strong, the forwards capitalised, adding goals through Kelsey Watson, Lilly Murphy and Gabrielle again.

The Breakers went into halftime with a commanding 5-0 lead.

The second half was more even, with Lang Lang pushing hard. Defenders Lot-

tie Bland and Aubrey Sherburn were reliable at the back, while younger players Olive Travakkoli, Reegan Welsh and Taylah Macdonald impressed with their vision and attacking runs.

Gabrielle broke the deadlock with another strong effort from midfield before Lang Lang responded with two late goals.

However, Lilly Murphy exploited the space, scoring twice more to complete her hat-trick and seal an 8-2 win.

The victory secures top spot for the Breakers, a fitting reward for their hard work and commitment.

Read the full report at:
pisra.com.au/sport

Soccer results

Round 17, Sunday August 24

Senior Men's: Phillip Island Breakers 6 d Lang Lang United 0.

Senior Women's: Phillip Island Breakers 3 d Lang Lang United 0.

Men's Reserves: Phillip Island Breakers 5 d Leongatha Knights White 1.

Under 15 Girls: Phillip Island Breakers 7 d

Leongatha Knights 1.

Under 14 Mixed: Phillip Island Penguins 6 d Lang Lang United 0. Leongatha Knights 5 d Phillip Island Stingrays 2.

Under 12 Girls: Phillip Island Breakers 8 d Lang Lang United 2.

Under 12A Mixed: Phillip Island Breakers 3 d Lang Lang United 0.

Under 12B Mixed: Drouin Dragons White 3 d Phillip Island Penguins 2. Phillip Island Stingrays 3 d Wonthaggi United 0.

Bulldogs U16 Girls shine in Grand Final at Traralgon

FOOTBALL

In glorious sunshine, the Phillip Island Bulldogs U16 Girls ran out for their Grand Final clash against Warragul Industrials.

While the result didn't swing their way, the Bulldogs' effort, teamwork and skill left no doubt that they belonged on the big stage.

From the first bounce, the girls gave their all.

Warragul made the early running, but Phillip Island dug deep, showing determination and spirit across the ground.

Every contest was hard fought, and the Bulldogs pushed right to the final siren, proving how much they had grown as a side throughout the season.

Much of that growth has been credited to coaches Diddy Cuthbertson and Justin Tilley, who guided the group with passion and belief.

Under their leadership, the girls developed their skills, game sense and resilience week after week and it showed in the way they handled the pressure of a Grand Final.

Leaders stood tall all day, captain Ruby Kent-Ford set the tone with her encouragement and energy, rallying her teammates at every break.

Gisele Smith and Lily O'Loughlin played tough determine football, Mia Ward and Sadie Davies worked tirelessly to keep the ball moving forward, while Lily (Elbow) Bow and Tess Ricardo provided strength and



16 girls in action in the grand final against Warragul, unfortunately they did not come away with the win but can definitely hold their heads up high - Well done girls. Photos courtesy of South Gippsland Sentinel Times.

composure in defence.

Up forward, Gemma Fischer and Olivia Holmes capitalised on their chances and gave the Bulldogs a spark.

Though the scoreboard read in Warragul's favour, every Bulldog played their role and showed the character that has defined their season.

The girls may not have taken home the premiership, but they earned the respect of all who watched them play.

Coach Cuthbertson summed it

up perfectly after the game.

"This team has improved out of sight this year. Every single girl has grown in confidence and skill, and today they played with real heart. We couldn't be prouder." Final Score: Warragul Industrials 3.7.25 def Phillip Island 1.9.17.

Best: Gisele Smith, Olivia Holmes, Lily (Elbow) Bow, Bethany Grenness, Gemma Fischer, Lilli O'Loughlin, Mackenzie Marr and Tess Ricardo.

Goals: Olivia Holmes.



Exciting times for the U12 Blues through to the Grand Final

FOOTBALL

U12 Blue

The Blues jumped at their second chance to come back fighting this week coming up against Inverloch at Leongatha in the preliminary final.

Despite showing nerves in the first quarter there were good passages of play with Louis Brodie tackling hard and moving the ball forward.

Jett Fawaz out marked his opponents and was unstoppable all game. The Blues were yet to score in the first quarter, down by a point at quarter break.

With the pressure on in the second quarter the Blues switched on with the help of Kash Scheibel firing up and a goal scored by Jobe Lock to get the momentum happening.

The ball was in the Blues' forward line the whole time and the Blues started playing their usual style of footy, up by three points at half time.

Third quarter the Blues played so well as a team, they stopped

Inverloch from scoring and kept up with the momentum.

Forward Rhylan Lucas was the focal point getting the Blues a much-needed goal and Noah Hollings was covering ground and tore away from the packs with his speed.

Fourth quarter the Blues finished off strongly with their Bulldog spirit. Cody Naismith was a powerhouse kicking a goal then to follow Reeve Dennis, Kash Scheibel and Jobe Lock scoring his second. Max Robinson was charging through the pack to clear the ball forward, and Cooper Bennett was impressive with plenty of possessions.

Doing it the hard way the Blues earnt their opportunity to play Leongatha next Sunday in the Grand Final at Korumburra at 10am. Coach Bianca and assistant coaches were proud of their team's effort and teamwork, bring on next week.

Best: Cody Naismith, Noah Hollings, Jett Fawaz, Louis Brodie, Rhylan Lucas and Cooper Bennett.



U14 Girls just miss out on the finals this year and look forward to the next season ahead.

Phillip Island fight hard in finals against Dalyston

FOOTBALL

On a sunny Sunday in Leongatha, the Phillip Island U14 girls took to the field for their highly anticipated final against Dalyston.

With determination and team spirit on full display, the girls gave it their all in what was one of their most hard-fought matches of the season.

Despite the tough contest, the Phillip Island team showed grit and effort from start to finish.

Every player worked hard

across the ground, demonstrating how much they had grown together throughout the season.

While the scoreboard didn't fall in their favour, the girls left the field proud, knowing they had given everything and enjoyed the journey as a team.

The season as a whole has been a memorable one, filled with improvement, friendships, and plenty of fun.

The club would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to those who made it all possible: coach Rej

for his leadership and support, Emma for her tireless efforts behind the scenes, and Nadia for her constant encouragement and dedication.

The Phillip Island U14 girls can hold their heads high, not only for their performance in the final but also for the effort and enthusiasm they brought all year.

Their teamwork and spirit have set a strong foundation for the seasons ahead next year.

Final scores: Dalyston 6.6.42 def Phillip Island 1.2.8.



Killy Bass senior's player Timothy Gunn on the run.

Kilcunda Bass finals bound. Seniors through, Reserves grab a win

FOOTBALL

Seniors

A great win by the Seniors to lock in our spot in the finals.

Garfield didn't make it easy, but our boys pulled through.

Great performances by all the boys, we now focus on our first final against Phillip Island.

Final score: Killy Bass 69 defeated Garfield 58. Best on

ground: Nathan Foote.

Reserves

Finally, our twos boys have secured their third win of the year.

The team played really well, everyone played a good game and were very excited while they watched the Seniors secure a finals spot. Final Score: Killy Bass 58 defeated Garfield 30. Best on ground: Travis Stuckey.

TIDE GUIDE

Tidal predictions for Stony Point, Cowes -0.09 Newhaven -0.31 | HIGH TIDE IS MARKED IN BLACK. LOW TIDE IS MARKED IN RED.

WED 27 AUG	THU 28 AUG	FRI 29 AUG	SAT 30 AUG	SUN 31 AUG	MON 1 SEP	TUE 2 SEP
HIGH 3:35 am 2.77 m	HIGH 4:17 am 2.82 m	HIGH 4:54 am 2.83 m	HIGH 5:29 am 2.83 m	HIGH 6:02 am 2.82 m	HIGH 6:37 am 2.78 m	LOW 12:19 am 0.60 m
LOW 9:15 am 0.78 m	LOW 9:55 am 0.84 m	LOW 10:30 am 0.91 m	LOW 11:04 am 0.97 m	LOW 11:36 am 1.04 m	LOW 12:09 pm 1.12 m	HIGH 7:15 am 2.71 m
HIGH 3:52 pm 2.88 m	HIGH 4:21 pm 2.85 m	HIGH 4:46 pm 2.81 m	HIGH 5:12 pm 2.78 m	HIGH 5:39 pm 2.74 m	HIGH 6:08 pm 2.68 m	LOW 12:43 pm 1.21 m
LOW 9:40 pm 0.69 m	LOW 10:14 pm 0.62 m	LOW 10:45 pm 0.58 m	LOW 11:16 pm 0.56 m	LOW 11:47 pm 0.56 m		HIGH 6:40 pm 2.60 m

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Phillip Island Juniors 2025





PIFNC U10 RED 2025





Back Row - Quil Edwards, Mason O'Connor, Levi Naarden, Levi Dedrick, Sid Elliott, Harvey Ewbank.
Middle Row - Logan Moltzen, Nate Regnier, Darcy Wright, Wryker Briggs, Will Walker, Rusty Maier, Leo Bott, Sebastian Ferretto.
Front Row - Jethro Moltzen, Sebastian Lee, Blake Ramage, Julian Ryan, Ryden Summerfield, Harvey O'Brien, Bruce, Xander Janssen.
Coaching Team - Kim Regnier (Team Manager), Jordan Edwards (Assistant Coach), Steve Regnier (Coach), Joel Elliott, (Assistant Coach), Jake Wright (Assistant Coach), Adrian Maier (Assistant Coach).
Absent - Solomon Gregory, Jaxon Smith.



PIFNC U10 BLUE 2025





Back Row - Steve Lock (Coach), Kensani Gardner, Morrison Conway, Luca Tubino, Billy Kimber (Playing Assistant Coach), Max Svanosio, Lachlan Dallinger, Brendan Kimber (On Field Coach), David McLaren (On Field Coach).
Middle Row - Jeremy Heyes (Assistant Coach), Harper Dykes, Marlin Kershaw, Ryan McLaren, Hugo Joyner, Aidan Gooderham, Kody Sheers, Noah Whitehead, Ryan Wilson, Lisa Lucas (Team Manager).
Front Row - Lathan Lucas, Elijah Laughton-McConnon, Ruben Kimber, Harrison Heyes, Jordan Williams, Judd Lock, Kai Soussa.
Absent - Jay Pierre Monet Glasby.



PIFNC U12 RED 2025





Back Row - Rachael Cameron (TM), Stuart Walsh (Assist Coach), Jon Parry (Assist Coach), Thomas Grogan, Billy Easton, Olly Spottiswood, Joel Mead-Sanchez, Jasper Goodall, Braxton Willcocks, Jake Wright (Trainer), Jarrod Henzen (Runner), Michael Cleary (Coach).
2nd Row - Oliver Wright, Taj Henzen, Leith Cameron, Nicholas Ramage, Izaak Naarden, Archer. Summerfield, Logan Regnier, Eddie Maier, Tate Steward.
3rd Row - Max Parry, Fletcher Hennessy, Brock Larsson, Reef Elliott, Baylin Elliott, Ethan Cleary, Taj Ransom, Oscar Lamaro.
Front Row - Bohdan O'Connell, Alfie Trew, Sunny Woodrup, Tanner Lee, Archer Paxton.
Absent - Jai Smith and Ryan Brett.



PIFNC U12 BLUE 2025





Back Row - Josh Durdin (Assistant Coach), Ashton Hellmuth-Pask, Louis Brodie, Ray Wolfenden, Oliver Hellmuth-Pask, Max Robinson, Reeve Dennis, Brad Martindale (Assistant Coach).
Middle Row - Bianca Hellmuth-Pask (Coach), Jobe Lock, Rhylan Lucas, Kash Scheibel, Jackson Rodakis, Zed Findlay-Abicha, Pheonix Durdin, Nicolas Davidson, Oscar Innes, Zaine Liddell, Mel Naismith (Team Manager).
Front Row - Ottis Joyner, Kingston Boisvert, Cody Naismith, Sam Martindale, Jett Fawaz, Max Ward, Yadin Kershaw, Noah Hollings.
Front Floor - Lenny Cooper, Cooper Bennett, William Laughton-McConnon, Dash Janson
Absent - Remi Glasby, Dave Bennett (Assistant Coach).



PIFNC U14 RED 2025





Back Row - Xavier Holmes, Dexter Goodall, Roy Paterson, Liam Cleary, Ziggy Wagner, Zane Larsson (Captain), Jedah Chard-Richards.
Middle Row - Damien Holmes (Coach), James Patton (Assistant Coach), Kane Patton, Harvey Paterson, Jasper Reynolds-Mailo, Jaxon Summerfield, Jaxon Ramage, Kai Sturt, Jordan Edwards (Assistant Coach).
Front Row - Nash Hornsby Ramage, Sonny Williams, Denver Preddece Firth, Johnny Rizzo, Will Patton, Ryan Hain, Bowie Edwards.
Absent - Flynn Doig, Dom Gregory, Loklan Newstead.



PIFNC U14 BLUE 2025





Back Row - Kolby Carton, Taj Piera, Spencer Smith, Callum Chambers, Rocco Archer, Balin Riky.
Middle Row - Miller Sund, Brax Scheibel, Hugo Wright, Jarrah Rutherford, Aiden Smith, Kai Denblyden, Archie Robinson.
Front Row - Archie Dallinger, Ry Sheers, Jaxen Marshall, Max Carville, Tijian Coldora, Riley Whyte, Ari De Fazio, Flynn Riley
Ammy Sund (Team Manager), Lucas Piera (Coach), Chris Dallinger (Assistant Coach), Luke Marshall (Runner).
Absent - Robin Bodaan.



PIFNC U14 GIRLS 2025





Back Row - Ellie Hughes, Charlie Ambler, Kailey Hamill, Alice Martindale, Charlee Pedersen, Sera Szymanski, Evie Hollings, Jada Ronson.
Middle Row - Emma Stevens (Team Manager), Taeah Darling, Hailey Dunn, Ruby Pedersen, Madison King, Hazel Hadrian, Charlie Jolly Sommer Haire, Indiana Chihotski, Isla Bennett, Jeremy Van Strijp (Coach).
Front Row - Eliza Sannwald, Aria van Strijp, Violet Haigh, Heidi Szymanski, Zoe Swann, Willow Darling, Holly Inglis, Billie Forrester Geoghegan, Sage Reyerse, Evie Kimber.
Absent - Indi Keady, Amelia Mahon, Nyah Hornsby Ramage, Maya Gregory.



Kristien, Leah
and the whole Ray White team
wish all the Junior Footballers the
very best of luck in their
Footy Finals!

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Go Doggies!

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Phillip Island U12 Grand Final 2025



Good luck to all the teams from Alex Scott

ALEX SCOTT
AND STAFF

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30. Sam Martindale
Dynamic player who can create play and be defensive all over the ground.



1. Kash Scheibel (Captain)
Dynamic leader on the wing that drifts forward and scores.



5. Dash Janson
Amazing at supporting his teammates around the ground with strong shepherds.



4. Jett Fawaz (Captain)
Never say die attitude and just doesn't stop running. Great leader.



2. Yadin Kershaw
Great utility used all over the ground.



6. Cooper Bennett
Coop is all over the ground and never gives up.



3. Lenny Cooper
Pocket rocket both forward and back. Great ability to score.



9. Remi Glasby
Never stops trying and has been great in our forward line.



8. Reeve Dennis
Forward who gives his all and creates a contest.



10. Oliver Hellmuth-Pask (Captain)
The racehorse on the wing that no one can stop. Delivers the ball forward and leads the team.



14. Phoenix Durdin
Great in our backline providing stability and strength.



13. Jackson Rodakis
Whether back or forward Jacko provides great energy moving the ball forward.



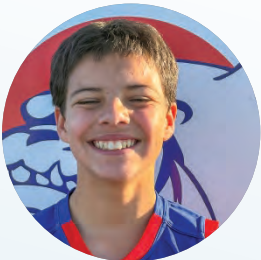
16. Kingston Boisvert
Great as our back or forward pocket providing great shepherds.



7. Ashton Hellmuth-Pask
Tall forward with great presence.



18. Oscar Innes
Creates play down forward and is able to score.



20. Zed Findlay
Great on our backline moving the ball forward.



19. Nick Davidson
Our forward pocket that provides support to his teammates.



25. Cody Naismith (Captain)
Our leader down back able to control the play and deny the opposition the ball.



22. Rhylan Lucas
Great mark down forward with a dynamic kick.



21. Max Robinson (Captain)
Solid leader in the middle that crashes through the packs.



23. Louis Brodie
Solid back and another ruck. Louis is able to contest all over the ground.



28. Noah Hollings
Amazing all over the ground and doesn't stop running.



26. Otis Joyner
Otis provides great shepherds and support down back.



27. Jobe Lock
Makes great space moving forward with the ability to score.



15. Ray Wolfenden
One of our rucks who has proven he can move down forward as well.



29. William Laughton-McConnon
Great forward, able to read the play and score.



11. Max Ward
Strong backliner that provides strong contest.



17. Zaine Liddell
Solid in the back denying the opposition the ball.



Brad Martindale
Assistant Coach.



Bianca Hellmuth-Pask
Coach.



Phillip Island U14 Grand Final 2025



Good luck to all the teams from Alex Scott

**ALEX SCOTT
AND STAFF**

Est. 1886



1. Archie Dallinger (Vice Captain)
Powerful swing man, potential match winner.



14. Aiden Smith
Tough reliable defender, never beaten.



2. Jaxen Marshall
Oozes class and skills. One to watch.



6. Ari De Fazio
Does whatever's required for his team.



24. Spencer Smith
Powerful forward, great mark.



8. Brax Scheibel (Vice Captain)
Tough tackle beast, great hands.



9. Jarrah Rutherford
X Factor. If focused can be the difference.



11. Kolby Carton
Incredible reader of the play. Our rock in defence.



5. Miller Sund
Clown off field, killer on it.



21. Callum Chambers
Strong and aggressive big man. Integral to team success.



4. Ry Sheers
Runs all day, tough team player.



10. Balin Riky (Captain)
Gut runner, skilled leader by example.



17. Hugo Wright
Strong and hugely improved, versatile player.



13. Max Carville
Skilful, team's best voice, loves a goal.



12. Riley Whyte
Little man but tough, with big heart.



16. Rocco Archer
Fast, tenacious competitor. Hard to beat.



7. Kai Denblyden
Lively forward, potential to be match winner.



18. Archie Robinson
Tough in and under ball winner.



15. Tijian Coldora
Lightning fast, skilful and strong.



3. Flynn Riley
Hardworking and skilful runner. Loves a goal.



19. Taj Piera
Versatile and skilful, great in the air.



Lucas Piera
Coach



Chris Dallinger
Assistant Coach





Congratulations to Jordy Patullo who capped off the day in style, celebrating his 100th senior game with a strong performance.

Full steam ahead for finals

FOOTBALL

The 2025 home-and-away season has come to a close, with all four Phillip Island Football teams showing strength and determination in their final round against Inverloch-Kongwak.

With all the sides heading into finals, confidence across the club is high.

This round also marked a special occasion, with the club proudly supporting the Shades of Pink Fundraiser for Breast Cancer, organised by Sarah Pedersen.

A fantastic function was held on the day at the club rooms to raise awareness and funds, with the full story to be featured in next week's paper.

In a great show of solidarity, all players took the field wearing pink socks, while the A Grade netballers donned striking pink dresses in support of the cause.

Seniors

The Seniors stormed into finals with a commanding 143-point victory, defeating Inverloch-Kongwak 29.14 (188) to 6.9 (45).

From the first bounce, the Bulldogs dominated with pace, pressure and precision. Billy Taylor was unstoppable up forward, kicking eight goals, while Cameron Pedersen added six and Brendan Kimber four.

Yianni Caffieri and Nick Anderson chipped in with



Cam Pedersen drives the ball forward in the Seniors' dominant final-round clash, proudly wearing pink socks in support of the Shades of Pink breast cancer lunch which raised over \$10,000.

three each, with further contributions across the board. Jordy Patullo capped off the day in style, celebrating his 100th senior game with a strong performance.

With momentum on their side, the Seniors now face Kilcunda Bass in an elimination final at Nar Nar Goon on Saturday, August 30.

Reserves

The Reserves finished their season in style with a 58-point win, holding Inverloch to just one goal for the match.

Phillip Island 10.7 (67) defeated Inverloch 1.3 (9),

thanks to relentless defensive pressure and a tireless mid-field effort.

Mikka Paulsen led the way, supported by Darcy Thompson, Joel Galvin, Travis Woodfield, Oliver Hibbert and Alexander Officer.

Up forward, Brady Ross kicked four, Woodfield three and Lucas Chihotski two.

They now meet Inverloch again in a sudden-death final on Sunday, August 31 at Bass Recreation Reserve, looking to replicate their dominance.

U18

The Thirds rounded out their

home-and-away season with a finals-like clash, going down 4.8 (32) to 7.5 (47).

While Inverloch claimed the win, Phillip Island took plenty of positives, including strong performances from Benjamin Chihotski, Jack Briggs, Noah Forrest Mabilia, Isaac Savona, Max Taylor and Jack Kennedy.

Goals came from Oliver Duggan and Max Taylor with two each. Despite the loss, the U18s finished the season as minor premiers and now turn to their semi-final against Inverloch on Saturday, September 6 at Western Park, Warragul.

U16

The U16s fought bravely in a tight contest, eventually falling short 6.7 (43) to 8.6 (54).

After a slow start, the Bulldogs roared back in the second quarter with four straight goals, trailing by just four points at halftime.

Strong defensive work from Joe Kelsey, Max Jess and Bud Marshall, along with midfield drive from Ry Scott, Hayden Power, Sam O'Garey and Ethan Rhee, kept the side in the hunt.

Up forward, Felix Bathgate (2), Caleb Cantwell, Levi Addison, Lewis DeFazio and Archie Williams all hit the scoreboard. Despite the 11-point loss, the boys take plenty of belief into next weekend's first final against Tooradin.

Read the full reports at www.pisra.com.au

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