



PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO

# ADVERTISER

YOUR COMMUNITY VOICE!

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

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## It's a big 100 milestone

Preps across Phillip Island and in San Remo celebrated their first one days at school last week, with dress-ups, parades and 100-themed activities. Cowes Primary School Prep Harvey M cut a fine figure at the school's celebrations. See more 100 days photos on page 23.

## Inaugural speech delivered

### POLITICS

Mary Aldred, the newly elected member for Monash delivered her maiden speech to Parliament last Wednesday, after being formally sworn in on July 22.

Speaking to the Advertiser the next day, Ms Aldred said it was a "great honour" to share her own story, what motivated her to run for office and to speak about the Monash electorate.

During her speech (see separate story), she acknowledged her late father Ken, a former MP, the influence of her mother Margie and the support of her family, describing them as "my everything".

She also acknowledged the

decades long contribution of former member Russell Broadbent, and paid tribute to the electorate's namesake Sir John Monash.

Describing her electorate, she said: "People in Monash give back, put in and help out. They look you in the face when you walk down the street, whether you're a friend or a stranger. We don't ask for special treatment – just a fair go, reward for effort and a better tomorrow for the next generation."

"I am proud to come from a region that grows, makes and manufactures things. Victoria succeeds when our region thrives," Ms Aldred said.

She also listed the challenges

facing the electorate, including coastal inundation on Phillip Island and at Inverloch, saying a national framework was needed "to address coastal inundation across Australia".

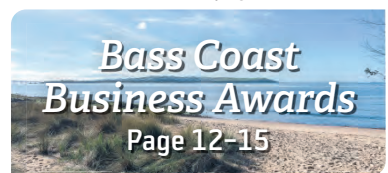
Infrastructure was also on the agenda, saying "In regions like mine, roads and infrastructure still lag generations behind," and reiterated her support for small and family businesses. "Australian small-business people have never worked longer days for less reward or faced more risk and red tape."

Ms Aldred quickly followed up her maiden speech the next day with her first question for the Prime Minister, on energy

and the ongoing impact of cost of living, an issue she said was continually raised with her.

She was on her feet again the next day, on Thursday delivering her first 90-second statement, on "the importance of banking in regional communities", due to her concern over the continued reduction in "bricks and mortar banking" in the area, in particular the recent decision

Continued page 8



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Wed/Aug6	Thu/Aug7	Fri/Aug8	Sat/Aug9	Sun/Aug10	Mon/Aug11	Tue/Aug12
SHOWER OR TWO	PARTLY CLOUDY	MOSTLY SUNNY	MOSTLY SUNNY	MOSTLY SUNNY	MOSTLY SUNNY	SHOWER OR TWO
10 12	9 12	8 13	7 14	8 15	9 16	11 14

# Children bring songs and smiles

## COMMUNITY

Children from Island Kids Early Learning Centre made their second visit to Melaleuca Aged Care last month, bringing warmth and joy to the residents.

“The children arrived with smiles and songs, filling the space with cheerful music that lit up the faces of the residents,” a spokesperson for Island Kids said.

“The room became a hub of creativity as the children and residents worked side by side drawing to create masterpieces.

“As they chatted and played, the kinder kids listened with curiosity, and the residents responded with affection and wisdom,” the spokesperson said.

“It was more than a visit; it was a celebration of kindness and the simple power of being together.”



Children from Island Kids Early Learning Centre made their second visit to Melaleuca Aged Care last month, bringing warmth and joy to the residents.

## Legacy birthday celebration

Past South Gippsland Legacy president Legatee Russell Spencer watches on as Diane Holtrop (left) and Mareen Matthews cut the cake at the Phillip Island/San Remo Legacy Widows’ Club’s 39th birthday on Monday.

Diane is club treasurer and Mareen is secretary. The gathering at the Cowes RSL was small but full of good cheer. Best wishes were extended to club president Marian Brennan who was unable to attend.



## POLICE BRIEFS

### Ventnor accident

On Monday July 28 around 4pm, a car hit a pole travelling along Back Beach Road, near the Penguin Parade.

The driver sustained non-life-threatening injuries and was taken to hospital for observation.

The collision is being investigated by Senior Constable Williams from the Bass Coast Highway Patrol, and at this stage it is unclear what caused the collision.

Due to the damage to the pole, electricity to the surrounding area was cut for several hours as crews worked to repair the pole. AusNet said they received a call from emergency services just after 4pm and a crew was dispatched immediately. At 4.51pm the power was switched off to repair the fault, which affected 4100 customers. The majority of customers had power restored within five minutes, however 27 customers were without power until 5.18pm, while an additional 59 customers didn’t have power restored until just before 11.30pm.

### Road incident

On Tuesday July 29, at approximately 4.12pm, a woman in her 40s with a young female passenger were driving along the Phillip Island Road towards San Remo. Just near the entrance to the Hot Springs, the woman’s car (a white Rav4) was hit from behind by a vehicle described as an older model blue/grey hatchback.

Police said the unknown offending vehicle turned onto Churchill Road before conducting a U-turn and turning right onto Phillip Island Road heading back towards Cowes, driving erratically.

Police are appealing for any witnesses and or vehicle dash cam footage that may assist with their enquiries. Members of the public can contact Senior Constable Watson at San Remo Police on 03 5678 5500.

### Vehicle impounded

On the weekend at Cape Woolamai, police stopped a 45-year-old male from Ventnor who was driving without a licence. His vehicle was promptly impounded for 30 days (at a cost of \$1375).

### Vehicles stolen

A blue Mazda 6 wagon was stolen from School Avenue in Newhaven on the weekend, around 2am on Sunday morning. The Bass Coast Criminal Investigation Unit are investigating the matter. Anyone with CCTV footage or information should contact local police.

This was one of several vehicle thefts from the island over the weekend, with reports that other vehicles have since been recovered, including one dumped at Kilcunda.

Report a crime or suspicious activity online at [www.crimestoppersvic.com.au/](http://www.crimestoppersvic.com.au/) or call 1800 333 000.

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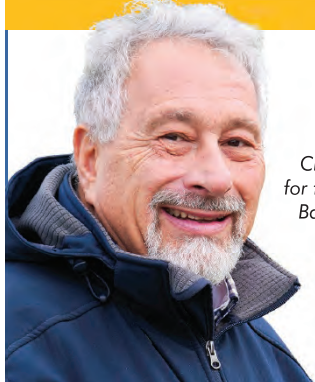


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Don’t hesitate to contact me, I am here to help.



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# Hub poses “unacceptable” risk to bay: PICS

## WIND TURBINE HUB

The environmental impact of the proposed wind turbine hub on Western Port has been “downplayed”, and is likely to result in “unacceptable” loss of globally significant habitat, according to the Phillip Island Conservation Society (PICS).

The PICS submission to the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) referral states while “a swift transition to renewable energy” was urgent and important, it must be done with careful planning to avoid unacceptable environmental impacts.

The Port of Hastings (PoH) is seeking approvals on behalf of the State Government for a revised Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal (VRET) project.

If approved, dredging in the bay will take place for about five months 24/7 with dredged material taken to a land reclamation site, with potential for further dredging for the berth pocket and quay wall.

There would be an extra 130 ships per year, with VRET construction starting in 2027, operational by the end of the decade, with a 50-year design life and unlikely to be decommissioned.

The PICS submission states the revised VRET fails to properly assess many cumulative, long-term environmental impacts, leaving “significant uncertainties”.

“The VRET’s extensive reclamation, dredging, artificial hardening of the coastline, and indefinite operational life will have unacceptable, permanent and irreversible effects on the Western Port Ramsar wetland ecological character.”

It explains while PoH states 0.03 per cent of the bay’s globally-significant habitat would be lost, this “downplays the absolute scale of loss of areas of Ramsar wetland, and this loss remains unacceptable”.

“PICS is concerned the Ramsar habitat to be lost is of significant quality.”

If approved, the VRET would see destruction or permanent modification of more than 45ha of Ramsar wetland, 12ha of mudflat, about 10ha of seagrass, also potentially reducing seagrass productivity for up to 2km north and 2km south of the



If the VRET is approved, dredging of Western Port will take place in the purple area, 24/7 for five months. “This area, already highly disturbed, is resilient and can recover from managed disturbances,” according to the Port of Hastings. Western Port is one of only five UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in Australia and a designated Ramsar wetland.

dredging area.

PICS is “deeply concerned about the impact of increased vessel traffic, which is not quantified”, including increased erosion and impact on ecosystem health.

“PICS questions how PoH can state it is ‘confident’ the ecological character of the Western Port Ramsar wetland can be maintained.”

Commonwealth guidelines state a development will have a significant impact if it destroys or substantially modifies a wetland, and so the VRET “puts the integrity of Australia’s Ramsar protections to the test”.

The submission states the Victorian Government has failed to provide analysis on other potential sites that “may avoid or further minimise environmental harm”

## Dredging

The Preserve Western Port Action Group (PWPAG)’s submission states they are opposed to the proposed VRET in “an Australian and internationally recognised Ramsar wetland”.

“This fact alone should be sufficient to prevent the VRET being located at the PoH,” the submission states. PWPAG state dredging posed an “unacceptable” risk to the bay’s fragile environment, with sediment decreasing seagrass productivity.

“Major dredging occurred around the Port of Hastings in 1971. The impacts were visible in Western Port for decades and conditions have only recently returned to pre-1971 dredging conditions.”

Details: [www.renewableenergyterminal.com.au](http://www.renewableenergyterminal.com.au)

# Hub impacts will be small, localised: Port

## WIND TURBINE HUB

Significant impacts on endangered migratory species are not expected as a result of the proposed wind turbine hub in Western Port, according to specialists employed by the Port of Hastings.

An online forum – part of a series run by the Port of Hastings (PoH) – last month focused on environmental studies and was told underwater noise from construction had the potential to adversely impact fish species and marine mammals but mitigation measures “are expected to prevent significant impacts”.

Studies on fish in the bay found plumes can impact fish gills and their ability to capture food, with sediment a stressor for fish larvae.

The PoH is seeking approvals on behalf of the State Government for a revised Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal

(VRET) project.

If approved, dredging in the bay will take place for about five months 24/7 with dredged material taken to a land reclamation site, with potential for further dredging.

There would be an extra 130 ships per year, with VRET construction starting in 2027, operational by the end of the decade, with a 50-year design life and unlikely to be decommissioned.

Marine scientist Peter Crockett said they had undertaken preliminary assessments with more work to be done “to understand potential impacts”, including from dredge induced sediment plumes impact on seagrasses.

Early findings indicated there would be no direct loss of salt-marsh, but localised loss of mudflats and seagrasses as a result of reclamation, about 0.03 per cent of the total Ramsar-listed area.

“Nevertheless that is a signifi-

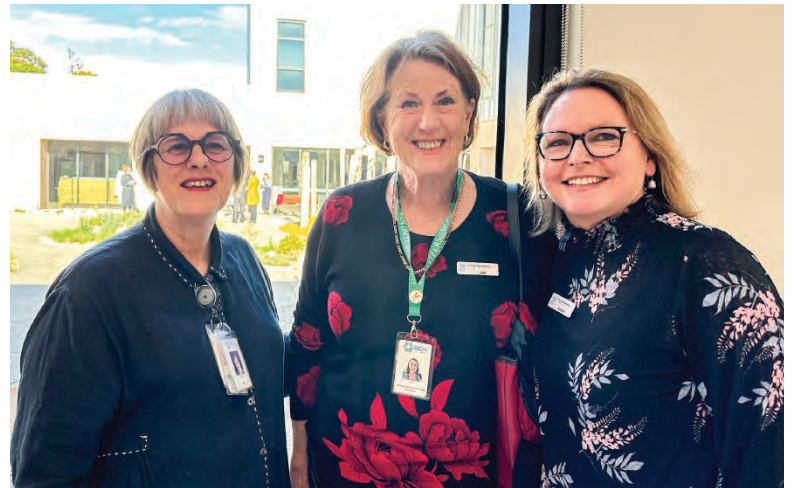
cant impact the project needs to consider,” he said.

Mr Crockett said plumes would affect water quality but it was “expected to return to background levels up to a month after dredging ends”.

Preliminary impact assessments on waterbirds found disturbance and loss of habitat from dredging and reclamation was “unlikely to have a significant direct effect”, with impacts localised and minor and broader impacts “unlikely”.

VRET project manager Peter Watt told the meeting dredging operations “absolutely will have an impact”.

“This project is not zero impact. However preliminary impact assessments are showing those impacts are small and localised and won’t have an unacceptable impact on the ecological character of the Ramsar wetland,” he said.



Linda Goltz at the opening of the new Urgent Care Centre in the Community Hospital in June, with Lyn Wadeson and Kirsten Weinzierl (BCH Executive Director).



Linda Goltz cuts the cake recognising her 38 years of service and farewell from full-time work with Bass Coast Health. She celebrated the occasion with colleagues.

# After 38 years caring for the community, Linda is clocking off

## HEALTH

Newhaven’s Linda Goltz has retired from full time work at Bass Coast Health (BCH), after 38 years with the organisation and its predecessors.

In that time, she’s helped bring babies into the world, cared for the elderly and been there for the community in emergencies.

Most recently, Linda served as Nurse Unit Manager of the Urgent Care Centre at Cowes, enjoying the last few weeks in the new centre within the Phillip Island Community Hospital.

“It’s been a long 38 years but it’s gone so fast. Nursing has kept me stimulated and I’ve always kept learning,” she said.

“I’ve admired the growth and development of BCH, and the services we’re offering from Cowes are just brilliant for the community.”

Before Linda joined Wonthaggi and District Hospital – as the organisation was then known – 38 years ago, she had trained at Royal Melbourne Hospital, worked in maternity at the former Queen Victoria Hospital in the Melbourne CBD and also in maternity at Monash Hospital at Clayton.

Her first role at Wonthaggi was as a midwife but in a reflection of staff in country hospitals being required to be multi-skilled, she also worked in the surgical ward.

After finishing post-graduate studies in family and community nursing, Linda undertook outreach work with the maternal and child health team and became team leader, which also entailed overseeing the drug and alcohol service. Linda combined that role with working as a midwife and a health service coordinator, the latter a role

she worked in on and off for 15 years.

Working in the Emergency Department inspired Linda to complete a Master’s degree in Advanced Nursing Practice in Emergency, before her career took another trajectory: transforming Armitage House from an aged care facility to a rehabilitation unit.

Her next few years were spent as nurse unit manager of the maternity, and maternal and child health teams.

In 2019, Linda helped to open the 24/7 Minor Injury and Illness Clinic at the Phillip Island Health Hub at Cowes while the Urgent Care Centre was built.

After a stint managing the Emergency Department at Wonthaggi for eight months during the Covid pandemic, Linda returned to Cowes as nurse unit manager of the urgent care centre – a role she held until her retirement.

Her passion for learning and study throughout her career inspired her to offer this tip to young healthcare workers.

“Knowledge makes you versatile. You have to keep educating yourself and keep contemporary because it’s changing all the time.”

“Working in a rural health service, if you have the energy and the capacity to keep educating yourself, it gives you choices.”

Patients can still expect to see Linda in scrubs at the Urgent Care Centre as she will help out from time to time, while she pursues her interest in textiles spinning and weaving.

The Phillip Island community will continue to be in skilled hands when they come to the Urgent Care Centre, with Fiona Mills taking over the role of Nurse Unit Manager.





For the first time VCAT is heavily relying on Phillip Island now being a Declared Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL), meaning the landscape and environment “are important to the people of Victoria and require an enhanced level of protection and management”.

# Ventnor neighbour loses VCAT objection

## PLANNING

An objector has lost a VCAT case opposing the development of accommodation on a Ventnor clifftop, an area now considered of state significance.

In the case *Hazelden v Bass Coast SC*, the Hazelden family took neighbours from Five Acres accommodation on McHaffies Lane Ventnor to VCAT.

The two-hectare property, zoned farming, currently includes two buildings described as dwellings and three described as cabins, with a separate permit for a shed to be used as a function centre.

Last year Bass Coast Shire Council planners approved an amendment to a 2018 permit allowing Five Acres to develop an additional cabin.

The Hazeldens, who live about 240 metres from the group accommodation, opposed the amendment, arguing the additional cabin will exacerbate issues including overdevelopment of the land for non-farming purposes, traffic, light and smoke pollution, noise and visual impact.

However senior VCAT member Alison Glynn approved the permit, with slight amendments, saying one additional cabin between existing cabins was “acceptable”.

“The existing use of the land as a two-hectare site for agricultural purposes is already limited by its size and the existing approved group accommodation use,”

Ms Glynn said.

“In context of the distance between the proposed new cabin and the (Hazelden’s) dwelling ... I am satisfied any additional noise, light glare or smoke from its fire-place would be small and within context of a rural environment where some noise, artificial light and smoke is to be expected.

“Additional traffic will be sporadic ... I find the proposed location of the additional cabin is acceptable.”

Ms Glynn said all of Bass Coast Shire was a declared distinctive area and landscape (DAL), meaning the landscape and environment “are important to the people of Victoria and require an enhanced level of protection and management”.

Furthermore, 46 McHaffies Lane has further protection, classified as “Phillip Island Western and Southern Coast”, although she added the DAL was yet to be gazetted by the Victorian Government or adopted into the Bass Coast Shire planning scheme.

She concluded the cabins were “discrete” from the public view.

“I am therefore satisfied the additional cabin does not offend the objective to ‘protect and enhance’ the declared area’s significant landscapes.”

Ms Glynn acknowledged there was a lack of clarity in the 2018 permit on the exact use of buildings, but this was beyond the scope of this VCAT case.

# Men’s Shed provide a pantry

## COMMUNITY

The Phillip Island Early Learning Centre (ELC) in Cowes has proudly unveiled a brand-new, custom-built, all-weather pantry – designed and constructed by the Phillip Island Men’s Shed.

This purpose-built pantry now sits proudly in the foyer of the ELC, offering an easily accessible, weatherproof space to support families in difficult times.

The initiative to supply food, fruit and other essentials has been running at the centre for the past seven years, and has been generously supported by local supermarkets, staff, and ELC parents.

Even the children at the centre have had a hand in helping stock the pantry, regularly contributing produce grown in the ELC garden, which they help to care for.

When Centre Director Lynne Clements reached out to the Men’s Shed earlier this year for help in replacing the original pantry, she never anticipated such an outstanding result.

“The Men’s Shed has been amazing,” Lynne said. “We cannot thank them enough. The project turned out to be bigger than I imagined. The pantry is large, with plenty of room to display and



At the unveiling last week of the new ELC pantry are (from left): Men’s Shed member Garry Thorne, who led the construction project; Andy Daniels, a supporter of the ELC Pantry for the last seven years; Kate Lynch, ELC educator and Lynne Clements, ELC Director. Back: Michael Clements and Mark Saunders, from the Men’s Shed.

store all manner of goods, and the use of weather-proof material in its construction means it can be placed in a very accessible location.”

Lynne thanked Mitre 10 Cape View in Cowes for the donation of materials; and the Phillip Island RSL, local supermarkets and other donors for their invaluable ongoing contributions.

Fresh bread, fruit, and a range of grocery items are available on a daily basis, continuing the pantry’s mission of helping local families.

Opening hours are from 8.30am to 4.30pm on weekdays.

Garry Thorne, who led the build, and Michael

Clements and Mark Saunders, said the Men’s Shed members were proud to be involved in such an important community initiative.

“We’re grateful to be part of a community that identifies needs and brings people and resources together,” they said.

“It’s rewarding to be able to help meet those needs. A big thank you to the Early Learning Centre, and everyone involved in enabling this incredible program to continue over the years.”

The new pantry stands as a testament to what community spirit can achieve – combining practical support, generosity, and a shared commitment to caring for others.



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At the consultation session at the Penguin Parade (from left): Linda Cuttriss, Jarvis Weston (PINP) and Peter and Kerrin Buckney.

## Community passion for Summerland future on display

### CONSULTATION

Community members have shared their long-term vision for the future of the Summerland Peninsula at two consultation sessions held by the Phillip Island Nature Parks.

The sessions attracted a good turnout, with issues examined including how to balance the commercial aspects of tourism with the natural environment, revegetation, walking tracks, how to best manage traffic in the area and the future of the Nobbies building.

Residents also said there was not enough information for visitors explaining the history and significance of the site, calling for more signage and better use of technology, including the use of QR Codes and apps.

At the session on July 29 at the Penguin Parade, one attendee told the Advertiser there was almost universal agreement that the current Nobbies building was not suitable for the location.

Alternative suggestions for the area included cameras in penguin burrows, a camera at the blowhole and designated walking tracks and boardwalks, like those in Mt Kosciusz-



Phillip Island Nature Parks' Jarvis Weston (left) and Rodney Branch (third left), with Peppi and Jim Mortimer, Angela Crossley, Patricia Beale and Geoff Taylor, at the Summerland Peninsula consultation session at North Pier last week.

ko National Park.

Jarvis Weston, the Nature Park's General Manager for Infrastructure and Planning, said he was pleased with the turnout to both forums, and with the comprehensive ideas and suggestions made.

"We have had a fantastic turn out with a range of views, thoughts and ideas expressed," he said.

A further drop-in session is scheduled for this weekend, Saturday, August 9 from 12.30pm to 2.30pm at the Penguin Parade Visitor Centre.

You can also fill in an online survey at [www.penguins.org.au](http://www.penguins.org.au) or email your thoughts and ideas to [community@penguins.org.au](mailto:community@penguins.org.au).

"This round of consultation will wrap up on Friday August 15," Jarvis said.

"After this point all information received will be synthesised and we will begin the design development process. We will test some of the design principles before developing the draft master plan for comment and feedback."

The draft master plan for the Summerland Peninsula is due to be completed by October.

## Another council meeting, another road scheme

### ROADS

Another small-scale special charge scheme has been approved for Sunderland Bay.

Bass Coast Shire councillors at the July meeting approved a road scheme for The Esplanade between Sunderland Bay Road and Zephyr Court.

The scheme was requested by landowners in a petition to the March 2024 council meeting, with the total estimated cost of the scheme \$1.8 million.

The maximum total amount that can be charged to all landowners is \$499,128, with the estimated cost per landowner to be between \$11,938 and \$28,897.

In May councillors voted to progress a road and drainage upgrade project along The Esplanade between Sunderland Bay Road and Batman Street, Surf Beach.

At the July meeting, there were again more questions by residents on the continued roll out of small-scale schemes.

Louise Lyell commented figures used in calculations were "all totally at the discretion of the relevant council with no specific details other than a formula given in the Act".

"Who is the independent governing body that oversees that criteria and calculations used are correct?" Louise asked.

Council CEO Greg Box responded there was no requirement for an independent body to oversee the way council apportioned costs.

"Council has cost apportionment and associated documents legally reviewed to ensure the wording and calculations are consistent, fair and reasonable and ultimately defensible if challenged," Mr Box said.

Louise also asked

about the \$1.2 million council contribution to a special scheme for 17 houses. "Considering that council finances are under strain, is this allocation of funds considered money wisely spent for the greater community?" she said.

Mr Box replied the investment was consistent with the council's Urban Road and Drainage Improvement Policy and the current Long Term Financial Plan.

"Consideration is given not only to the landowners' property frontage, but also to the community benefit provided by the infrastructure," Mr Box said.

"Where the community benefit is high, Council will provide a higher funding contribution to the project."

For all public questions at the July meeting go to: [basscoast.vic.gov.au/about-council/council-meetings](http://basscoast.vic.gov.au/about-council/council-meetings)

## More ways to have your say on the Summerland Peninsula

### CONSULTATION

Phillip Island Nature Parks has thanked the community for sharing their ideas about the long-term future vision for the Summerland Peninsula including a reimagined Nobbies precinct.

The Nature Parks held seven consultation sessions last week for locals, community groups and key stakeholders across Phillip Island (Milawul) and the Bass Coast.

General Manager for Infrastructure and Planning at the Nature Parks, Jarvis Weston said it was a fantastic turn out with over 80 people attending the consultation sessions and expressing a range of views,

thoughts, and ideas.

"It is so valuable to hear from locals and communities to ensure we find the right balance between ecotourism and protecting the significant environmental and cultural values of the Summerland Peninsula."

"The shared respect and responsibility for the conservation values of the peninsula was evident throughout the consultation process."

Following requests from the community for a weekend session, the Nature Parks has announced an additional drop-in session for Saturday August 9 from 12.30pm to 2.30pm at the Penguin Parade Visitor Centre Education Space.

There is also an online survey available to com-

plete by Friday August 15, when this round of consultation will close.

The Nature Parks will then collate information received and begin the design development process, testing principles with key stakeholders, before a draft master plan is developed and released for community feedback later this year.

You can have your say on the future of the Summerland Peninsula in the following ways:

Attend a drop-in session at the Penguin Parade Visitor Centre on Saturday August 9 from 12.30pm to 2.30pm.

Complete the survey at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/summerland](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/summerland)

Email [community@penguins.org.au](mailto:community@penguins.org.au)

/Sponsored article/



Dugald Cameron and Braxton Laine at the Summerland Peninsula consultation on July 29. A further session at the Penguin Parade Visitor Centre is on this weekend, August 9 from 12.30pm until 2.30pm.

Phillip Island  
**NATURE  
PARKS**

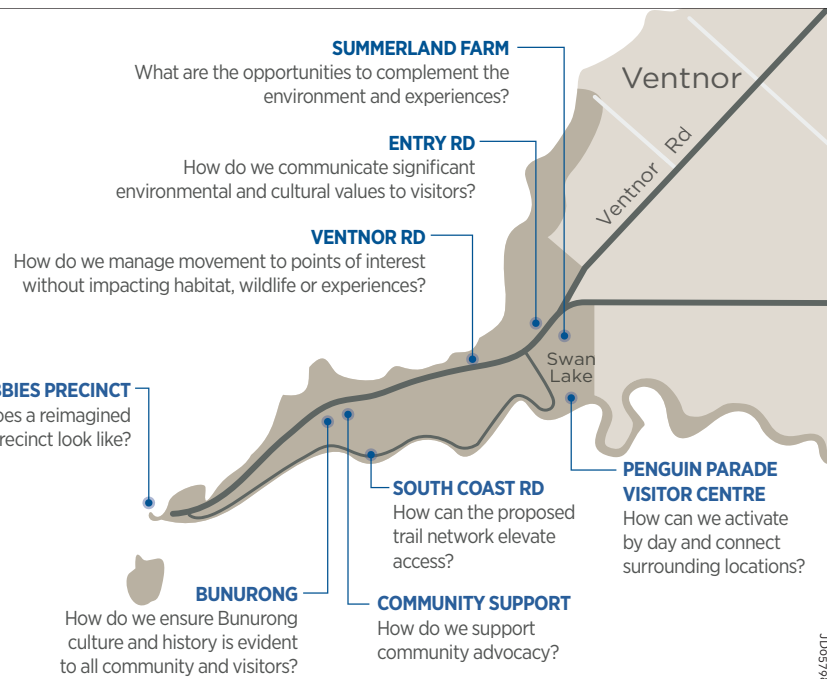
## SUMMERLAND PENINSULA MASTER PLAN

We want to hear from our local community about shared aspirations for the future of the Summerland Peninsula, which will help inform the *Summerland Peninsula Master Plan*.

As part of this, we will be seeking input for a reimagined Nobbies precinct to help guide a detailed design phase.

### HAVE YOUR SAY IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- Email your thoughts and ideas to [community@penguins.org.au](mailto:community@penguins.org.au)
- Attend a community drop-in session on Sat 9 Aug, 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm at the Penguin Parade Visitor Centre Education Space 3
- Scan the QR code to complete the online survey





# Shore Break: breaking mental health barriers

## ENTERTAINMENT

Chris Pitman's riveting solo play "Shore Break" held the audience spellbound at Berninneit last Wednesday evening.

The play was introduced by Cr Tim O'Brien, who spoke of his career specialising in workplace mental health.

Cr O'Brien said unfortunately Australia "was blighted" by depression and suicide, ranking in the top 10 globally, and that the number of lives lost each year to suicide was twice the road toll.

He also said rates of depression and suicide increased the further you moved from the city.

"Perhaps we need to re-examine the notion that bush people are great at looking out for each other. Use tonight as the opportunity to open up the discussion," he urged. "Mental ill health can touch any of us."

Running for 75 minutes, Chris' powerful performance tackled questions of connection, masculinity, mental health ... and love of the ocean.

The monologue is delivered by an older surfer, in a tent by the ocean, on the edge of a desert. It covers growing up with an alcoholic and distant father, and a mother who made jokes to help skate across the difficulties of life, from his first trip to the beach, his instant love of the ocean, learning to hold his breath, friends made and love lost. Over the performance, it is gradually revealed what led him to this place.

At times brutal and confronting, it was also tender and hilarious, with many in the audience chuckling along with Chris' descriptions of high school teacher Budgie in too tight pants, or a mother wracked with emphysema ... who was "kicking the bucket" just a little further down the road.

### Panel

The performance was followed by a panel featuring Chris alongside surfer Ross Clarke-Jones and Beyond Blue Ambassador



Paul Milne, David Burrows and Ross Clarke-Jones at the performance of "Shore Break" at Berninneit last week. More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)

Paul Milne, who talked openly about how men deal with their emotions, and mental health challenges, which can leave you disconnected from your own life, much like the protagonist in Shore Break.

Chris said seeing men camping out on rugged coastlines, searching for surf made him want to tell their story. "They seemed like forgotten people." He was surprised how much the story resonated with others.

Surfer Ross Clarke-Jones shared his own journey and challenges after an injury during a reality TV show in 2019 left him unable to surf. "It destroyed my identity. If I can't surf, I can't do anything."

Moving to the island that year, he then confronted Covid lockdowns and described himself as "crying on the floor". "What am I going to do? I had no trade, or profession."

He credits his wife with helping him turn things around - when she bought him a dog, George. Then he described working alongside local tradies who were renovating his house, which saw a whole new

world open up.

He now works with his friend Stu at Vortex Bathrooms and said the structure of work, learning new skills and that sense of achievement, has transformed his life.

"He has taught me everything. I have got a full life ... an even better life."

Chris described surfing as the "ultimate meditation ... you spend a lot of time sitting and waiting", and the ocean "is so much bigger than us", while Ross regaled the audience with a story of a wipe out that tore off his boardshorts, leaving him nude in the surf surrounded by cameras and drones.

Between the laughs and the insights, the three men emphasised the importance of talking, and dispelling the stigma around mental health, with Ross saying it was "long overdue", and conversations needed to happen "more often, out in the open with honesty and compassion."

"There's no point waiting for the 'what ifs,'" said Paul.

"Encourage people to talk. Speak up. Don't be afraid to ask, are you okay?"



Cr Jon Temby and Cr Tim O'Brien. Opening the show, Cr O'Brien urged people to use the night as "the opportunity to open up the discussion".


After the panel, the audience were invited to enjoy pizza in the great hall at Berninneit, and talk with Chris, Ross and Paul, and each other.

The local focus on mental health continues, with a sports trivia quiz and mental health awareness night on August 16, presented by the Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary at the clubrooms of the Phillip Island Football Netball Club.

Tickets are \$25 and all funds raised will help purchase equipment for the new community hospital. To book your tickets go to: [events.humanitix.com/celebrate-tradies-month2025](http://events.humanitix.com/celebrate-tradies-month2025)

### If you or someone you know needs help:

Call Lifeline Australia on 13 11 14, for 24/7 crisis support, Lifeline Text is also available from 12pm to midnight by texting 0477 13 11 14. Call Beyond Blue on 1300 22 4636 or visit [www.beyondblue.org.au/](http://www.beyondblue.org.au/) For local services, visit [gippslandmental-health.org.au](http://gippslandmental-health.org.au)



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## Living Lightly Bass Coast

### August Events | Practical Workshops Across Bass Coast

Energy Evolution	
<b>All Electric Homes</b> Sunday, 10 August – 4pm The Cape Community Farm	<b>  Free</b>
Future Foods	
<b>Fermenting and Preserving</b> Saturday, 16 August – 10am Garden Group of Wonthaggi Men's Shed	<b>  Free</b>
Garden Gems	
<b>Natural Pest Management</b> Sunday, 24 August – 10am PICAL Community Garden Cowes	<b>  Free</b>
Circular Solutions	
<b>Sharing, Reusing and Repairing at Home</b> Saturday, 30 August – 10am Phillip Island Community Orchard	<b>  Free</b>



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\*Dates and locations may be subject to change.  
Visit [thecap.com.au](http://thecap.com.au) for the most up-to-date information.





The Bass Coast Jobs and Careers Expos return, with Phillip Island scheduled for September 5 at Berninneit in Cowes. The expo provides direct pathways into a range of industries and provides hands-on support for job seekers.

## Career expo returns

### EMPLOYMENT

The Bass Coast Jobs & Careers Expo returns to Cowes on September 5, with another event hosted in Wonthaggi on August 7.

Now in its fourth year, Bass Coast Shire Council said the expos have become a vital connection point between local job seekers and employers, providing direct pathways into a wide range of industries, including tourism, healthcare, construction, education, mining, hospitality, conservation, and more.

Delivered by council in partnership with Workforce Australia and the Victorian Government's Skills and Jobs Centre, "the free expos offer something for everyone, whether you're looking for your first job, a new direction, or additional work," council said.

"You can also chat to local training providers and support services about career pathways, traineeships and apprenticeships."

A physical Jobs Board will also be on display, featuring current vacancies from local employers, including those who may not be exhibiting on the day, so you can explore even more job options and find the right fit.

Bass Coast Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead, encouraged the community to take full advantage of what's on offer.

"We've heard amazing sto-

ries of people walking into these expos unsure of what to expect, and walking out with their dream job," Cr Halstead said.

"That's what this is all about: opening doors and giving you the chance to show up, have a conversation, and discover what's possible. If you've ever thought about working locally, this is the perfect place to meet some of Bass Coast's best employers and take that first step."

Both the Wonthaggi and Phillip Island expos will feature hands-on support from the Gippsland Skills and Jobs Centre, offering free one-on-one advice to help polish your resume, improve your interview skills, and put your best foot forward.

The Phillip Island Expo will also include an extra opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs, with the Business Victoria Small Business Bus on site.

Drop by for a free consultation and expert advice on what it takes to start and grow your own business, the perfect first step for anyone thinking about launching a new venture.

Details:

Wonthaggi Jobs & Careers Expo, Thursday, August 7.

Wonthaggi Town Hall, Bailieu Street East, 9.30am – 1.30pm

Phillip Island Jobs & Careers Expo, Friday, September 5.

Berninneit, 91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes, 9.30am – 1.30pm.



Year 6 students enjoyed creating special care packages for PICAL to share with the community. Back from left: Grace Bailey, Amelia Russo, Siyansa Polwattage Perera, Louis Brodie. Front from left: Hunter Latham, James Evans and Jett Fawaz.

## "Christmas in July" at PICAL

### COMMUNITY

There was a little extra warmth at the Phillip Island Community and Adult Learning Centre (PICAL) this winter, thanks to the generosity of local families and the big-hearted students at Newhaven College.

More than 100 gift packs have been donated by the school's year five and six students, each filled with small, thoughtful items – everything from toiletries to treats. Each pack also includes a handwritten message from the student or family who made it, offering encouragement, kindness or just a cheerful note to brighten someone's day.

It was all part of a Social and Emotional (SEL) Program at the school, around empathy, kindness and community. And now, these beautifully made packs are finding their way to others in the community through PICAL.

"This is what PICAL is all

about," said David Rooks, Centre Manager.

"We're a community centre that exists because of the people around us. Everything we do is possible because people care – and this is a perfect example of that in action."

From July 21 to 25 anyone who dropped into PICAL could take home a gift pack from the tables set up in the foyer, a small act of kindness in a community that looks out for one another.

Some of the messages with the gift packs are simple; "Hi, I hope you have a great day", "You are brave, strong and happy." Others are more playful, "Live your life freely and care less".

The idea to turn this into a "Christmas in July" event came from a conversation at PICAL between staff and volunteers, who saw the opportunity to spread some joy during the colder months.

PICAL is proud to be the bridge that connects this gesture of kindness to the wider community.

"When the community works together, great things happen. This is just one of those lovely reminders that we're all connected," David added.

Middle School Teacher, Donna Driscoll is proud of the SEL Program for years five and six.

"The generosity of the year five and six families and the care each student put into creating each individual gift package was heartwarming."

"Acts like these not only bring comfort to those receiving the gifts but also instil a lasting sense of empathy and connection in the students who prepared them."

PICAL would like to thank every student, parent and teacher involved – and every person who supports the centre all year round.

## Aged Care reform delayed; seniors still waiting for real support

### COMMUNITY

The Federal Government's new Aged Care Act will now come into effect on November 1, four months later than originally planned.

And that is creating more pain for locals trying to secure home care packages.

Earlier this year, local residents shared their stories of battling "the most confusing system you could possibly believe" trying to secure home care assistance.

One resident said after an almost year long assessment and waiting process, his package was withdrawn three months later, after he could not find a provider.

He contacted multiple providers, only to be told there was no care available.

In April, a spokesperson for the Department of Health and Aged Care told the Advertiser "the current home care system isn't working".

Commenting on the experience of local residents, the spokesperson said, "unfortunately probably what they've

discovered the hard way, is they've fallen down the cracks".

At the time, the residents were told the new measures by the Federal Government, due to start on July 1, would create a new, more sustainable Support at Home program.

With the timeline now pushed back, the residents remain in limbo.

### Disheartened

One resident (83) said he was disheartened by the experience of trying to negotiate the current system.

After a formal assessment, he was approved for two hours of home help each week – basic cleaning support to assist with daily living.

He was told the cost would be \$175 per week out of pocket, while the provider would receive an additional \$360 per week from the government to "manage" the package – a total of \$535 per week for two hours of cleaning.

"I could hire someone privately for a fraction of that cost," he said.

"Even the person trying to



The new federal Aged Care Act will now come into effect on November 1, rather than July as originally promised, creating more pain for locals trying to secure home care packages. Photo: Getty Images, Unsplash.

sign me up agreed the system doesn't make sense. But that's just how it works, apparently."

The government has promoted home care packages as a key part of its strategy to help older Australians "age in place" and remain in their homes longer. However, means testing – especially for those who own prop-

erty or have savings – continues to limit access or drive-up costs, even for modest support.

"I've worked hard all my life, saved, paid taxes, raised a family, and contributed to my community," the man said.

"And now I'm told that's the reason I have to pay more for a bit of help at home."

The Department of Health and Aged Care says the decision to delay the start of the new Act was made in consultation with the sector and will allow more time to educate clients, support staff, and ensure providers are ready.

It said the Act is designed to centre aged care around the rights of older people, improve access to information, simplify care assessments, and bring greater transparency to service costs.

It also promises to make service agreements, care plans, and pricing easier to understand – a welcome change for many older people who say the current system is confusing and overly bureaucratic.

While aged care providers have welcomed the additional time to prepare, the lived experience of many older Australians paints a more urgent picture.

"The help exists in theory," the local man said.

"But in practice, it feels like you're being pushed away if you're not desperate or willing to pay through the nose."



# Inaugural speech delivered

From page 1

by Bendigo Bank to close its Korumburra branch. "I don't want to see more reductions in Monash."

With the latest sitting round over, Ms Aldred headed home, due to return to Canberra in late August.

Back in Monash, she intends to continue holding "mobile offices" across the electorate, saying the initiative had been very popular with constituents.

"It's really important to continue these. Not everyone can leave where they live to come to me to discuss issues; I want to go to them."

Also on her agenda is civics in schools, and after meeting with the Speaker of the House of Representatives, she's returning to Monash with a replica mace and kits to distribute to students.

"I'm keen to visit schools and discuss the parliamentary system, and why it's important to take an interest. Hopefully that might even inspire some of them to serve their community."

She intends to continue meeting with local community and sporting groups, and reiterated her support for the Phillip Island Recreation Reserve.



The new MP for Monash, Mary Aldred, delivering her maiden speech to parliament last Wednesday.

ation Reserve.

"I met with Catherine King, the Infrastructure Minister, to discuss the issues important to Monash, and I will follow that up with a letter," she said.

"I will keep pushing the Recreation Reserve as hard as I possibly can."

## Parliament

After a busy first session, Ms Aldred said she had enjoyed her time in the parliament, commenting on the "overwhelmingly generous response" to her first speech, from people on both sides of parliament.

"I was raised in a family

that believed what you put out is what you get back, and that means being respectful and courteous to colleagues on all sides of the house," she said.

"Sometimes differences of opinion are good and important. There should be a contest of ideas, which results in a better outcome, but it should be respectful debate."

In her own words, she hasn't wasted any time getting started, already appointed to several committees, including the Communications, Sport and Arts Committee and the Audit and Public Accounts Committee.

"There will be a lot of work in a very constructive, collegiate manner. I am motivated every morning I'm here. It is such a privilege and a thrill."

The new Monash MP was one of just a handful of newly elected Liberal members, with the Opposition holding just 43 seats in the new parliament.

Despite relentless media coverage of the discord between the National and Liberal parties, especially over NetZero, Ms Aldred said she's focused on what she wants to achieve for Monash.

"In the Liberal Party we are able to voice our opinion on behalf of our community, without fear of expulsion, unlike the Labor Party," she said.

"It allows for robust debate and contested ideas."

"I'm here to do a job, and I'm taking my time to prepare my thoughts on energy – which is a complex policy – on sustainability and Net Zero."

"I will listen to the views of the local community and prepare my thoughts in an evidence-based, thorough manner that best represents the people of Monash."

## Aldred speech highlights

The new member for Monash, Mary Aldred delivered her inaugural speech to parliament last Tuesday, July 29.

Key features of the speech include:

- Acknowledgement of her late father Ken, a former MP, who made his first speech in parliament 50 years ago, and the influence of her mother Margie. "While people are sometimes quick to associate my interest in politics with following in my dad's footsteps, they forget to acknowledge my mum's influence, too."
- Acknowledgement of former MP Russell Broadbent, his decades of service and their long association.
- A description of the Monash electorate and its people ... Gippslanders, farmers, veterans, tradies and teachers. "I am proud to come from a region that grows, makes and manufactures things. Victoria succeeds when our region thrives." She also acknowledged the advice and friendship of Aunty Cheryl Drayton, a Gunaikurnai elder from Drouin.
- A tribute to Sir John Monash, saying Australia owed him a debt of gratitude, including for his work with the State Electricity Commission in the Latrobe Valley. She said the latent antisemitism of his time could not dim his achievements, but it was "tragically ironic" that now Melbourne and Victoria were "in the grips of the oldest hatred time", reiterating her support for the Jewish community.
- A list of thank you's to the key people who supported her campaign locally, as well as support from fellow politicians including Wayne Farnham (Victorian Senator), her "patron senator Jane Hume", the Hon Judith Troeth, and new leader Sussan Ley. She especially thanked her mother and siblings and extended family.
- Outlining the key priorities for Monash: A new West Gippsland Hospital; addressing coastal inundation, particularly at Inverloch and Phillip Island; improved infrastructure and roads; support for veterans; increased assistance for small business; supporting farmers and timber towns.
- Her desire to work collaboratively with all her colleagues on both sides of the parliament. "... My parents instilled in me a clear understanding that political opponents are not enemies, that while we have different, sometimes markedly opposite views on policy, we all love Australia, and that there are good people on both sides." She also expressed concern that "as a country we are losing the ability to respectfully disagree with one another on big national issues".
- An outline of her experience before entering politics: roles on community boards (for hospitals and aged care, Lifeline, tertiary education and sporting organisations); Founding CEO of Committee for Gippsland; a career in technology and cyber security.
- Describing the Liberal Party as "a large family – loud, boisterous with bold arguments and real contests that those outside the family may not always understand but they're always for each other when it counts".
- Outlining her core beliefs as "a Liberal whose instincts will always stretch to the empowerment of the individual", protecting rights of religion, the right "to love the person you choose", curbing government overreach, and leading on the economy "with a focus on growth and productivity." She also stated she believed the country was "losing its way" and that there needs to be "some tough national conversations".

Ms Aldred concluded her speech with a promise to the people of Monash.

"I recognise that each day I spend in this place is a day closer to when I will leave. I plan to make each day count by advancing the cause for which I am here, a passionate belief in the purpose and potential of the people of Monash. To my electorate, I asked for your trust and confidence. You have given me the opportunity of a lifetime. I will work my heart out for you."

You can read the full transcript in the Hansard section of [www.aph.gov.au](http://www.aph.gov.au)

# Rescue tower repair underway

## INFRASTRUCTURE

This week, work has begun to repair the Smiths Beach Rescue Base, managed by the Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club (WBSLSC).

The project includes repairing the corroded steel on the rescue base structure.

Club President, Jason Close said during the work, the stair and landing adjacent to the tower will be closed.

However the timber accessibility ramp will remain open, aside from a one-to-three-day closure in mid-August.

"Access to Smith's Beach will remain open at all times via the western access stairs," Jason said.

"Contractors will do their best to minimise inconvenience to beachgoers during the works."

He said the club was very grateful for the support of members of the local community, the Smiths Beachcombers Association, Phillip Island and San Remo Rotary, the Victorian State Government's Tiny Towns Grants Program, the Victorian Emergency Services Equipment Program, local member Jordan Crugnale MP and Phillip Island Nature Parks.

The State Government contributed \$133,960 (through two separate grants), with Rotary donating \$20,000.

"We are looking forward to the rescue base being ready for the summer life saving season and also to the improvements to the landing, staircase and ramp progressing," Jason said.

The project is due to be completed by mid-September.



Work begins this week on repairs to the Smiths Beach Rescue Base, ensuring the vital life saving facility will be available for the upcoming summer season.

Phillip Island Nature Parks will then begin separate upgrade work on the accessibility ramp (late 2025) and stair and landing (2026).

This work is funded by a State Government grant of \$90,000

## Repairs

Over the past 18 months, WBSLSC sought funding to ensure the safety of the rescue base structure, which was built only seven years ago.

The club said the metal staircase at the base, which provided lifesavers and lifeguards with fast and direct access to the beach, had be-

come increasingly corroded.

In March 2024, it announced that unless money could be found for repairs, the staircase would have to close, followed by the tower in coming seasons.

It raised around \$25,000 towards the repairs with the remainder of the money coming from government grants and donations from community groups.

The tower is a vital part of the WBSLSC summer patrols, with over 11,000 people visiting Smiths Beach during patrol hours each summer.

In recent years, the club

has recorded thousands of preventative actions – proactive steps taken to avoid rescues, including directing swimmers back between the flags.

The base is also equipped with a solar panel and battery, part-funded by Westernport Water, which ensure radios – crucial for communication and co-ordination of rescues and beach safety – can be charged.

The base includes a first aid room and a fresh water tap, both essential assets for lifesavers and lifeguards when treating members of the public.



Island  
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Advertising Feature

YOUR PHILLIP ISLAND AND SAN REMO PROPERTY GUIDE

# Create your own getaway

Escape to the ultimate seaside lifestyle on Phillip Island's prestigious Hilary Court. This magnificent half-acre block of land offers a rare opportunity to build your dream home in a private and exclusive setting.

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Located in the heart of Ventnor, this property is just a short stroll from the stunning swimming beaches of Red Rocks and Grossard Point, and countless walking tracks of Ventnor Bushland Reserve.

For the outdoor enthusiast, the adjacent Phillip Island Pony Club and Ventnor Golf Course offer endless opportunities for recreation and leisure. Meanwhile, the charming town of Cowes is just a five-minute drive away, providing easy access to shopping, dining, and entertainment.

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**Address:** 6A Hilary Close, Ventnor  
**Price:** \$635,000  
**Contact:** First National Phillip Island, 03 5952 3922



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pint size  
PROPERTY STYLING





Eighteen Newhaven College Year 10 students embarked on the Borneo World Challenge program, assisting local environmental groups, while enriching their own cultural experience.

# Students volunteer in Borneo

## EDUCATION

Over the school holidays, an intrepid group of 18 Year 10 Newhaven College students volunteered their time by engaging in conservation work in the Kinabatangan River area of Borneo.

The group was accompanied by teachers Fiona Smart and David Prideaux. The College partnered with World Challenge, an organisation that provides experiences for participants while making a positive impact in international communities. World Challenge trips are student led, where student teams are put in charge of the budget, decide where to eat, organise daily activities, run daily meetings and make sure everyone is safe and accounted for.

The trip began with the first five days in Kota Kinabalu, where the students became familiar with the city and its landmarks, went stand-up paddleboarding, and spent a day snorkelling, experiencing coral reefs, sea turtles, and even saw a shark.

The project work was to help the local area of the Kinabatangan River to plant grasses and trees and clean up the river. The students worked extremely hard in the heat and humidity to make a real difference.

The trip ended with a visit to the Orangutan and Sun Bear Conservation areas, which was an incredible experience. With the money raised, they sponsored Agop, an orphaned orangutan and Fulong, a sun bear, for three years.

“It was so encouraging to see many of our young people take up the opportunity to travel to Borneo as volunteers during their holidays,” Principal Tony Corr said of the trip.

“It is a testament to these students that they would make this commitment. The work they do whilst overseas is beneficial to the community they visit, but it was also a wonderful learning and life experience for the stu-



Newhaven College Year 10 student, Miller Walker and her fellow students embraced the local culture while experiencing tea picking. The cultural exchange was as valuable to the students as the conservation work they carried out.



Newhaven College student Jemima Fraser and her fellow World Challenge participants worked hard in the Malaysian heat to plant thousands of saplings and root stock plants for revegetation projects.

dents who participated.”

The team included Piper O’Brien, Aisha Hibbert, Jemima Fraser, Milla Walker, Brianna Turton, Jack McCrimmon, Evie McClimont, Lewis Sumaru, Ethan Rhee, Ashley Weisse, Harvey Kirk, Inez Parmington, Genevieve Titmarsh, Archer Cameron, Cormac Flynn, Maxwell Jess, Zoe Paterson and Sam Scott.

Student Maxwell Jess said she was initially sceptical about going, but soon changed her mind.

“I’m so glad I went. I made friends and memories that will last a lifetime. We experienced so many cool things that you wouldn’t see or learn with your family.”

Fellow student, Harvey Kirk agreed.

“It was truly humbling to experience another culture,” Harvey said.

“Seeing their strength and endurance under difficult circumstances opened our eyes to just how good we have it. The least we could do was lend a helping hand and bring home the invaluable lessons and values gained, like co-operation, curiosity and empathy.”

Accompanying teacher, David Prideaux, said students made the trip fun and entertaining

“I am lucky to be part of a school where teachers, parents and students are mutually respected and respectful.”

For more information about World Challenge, visit their website [world-challenge.com.au](http://world-challenge.com.au)

## • FINANCIAL LITERACY MADE SIMPLE

# Age Pension

## Getting it and Keeping

By David Caporale,  
Chief Investment Officer of RELIcapital

For many Australians heading into retirement, the Age Pension plays an important role in helping cover day-to-day living costs. But working out whether you’re eligible - and how much you’ll get - can be confusing.

Here’s a simple overview of how the Age Pension works and what to keep in mind if you’re planning to apply or already receiving it.

### How eligibility works

There are three basic requirements to qualify for the Age Pension:

1. **You must be over a certain age.** As of July 2025, the Age Pension age is 67.
2. **You must be an Australian resident,** usually for at least 10 years.
3. **You must meet income and asset test rules,** which look at what you earn and what you own.

The income test includes things like superannuation income, part-time work, or investment returns. The asset test looks at property (not including your home), investment assets, savings, vehicles, and other belongings of value.

Both tests have limits. If you’re under those limits, you may receive a **full pension**. If you’re above, you might still qualify for a **part pension**.

### Current Age Pension Rates and Thresholds (as of July 2025)

- **Maximum fortnightly pension\***  
\$1,149.00 (\$29,874 per year) - Single  
\$1,732.20 (\$45,037 per year) - Couple
- **Full pension asset test (homeowner)**  
Less than \$321,500 - Single  
Less than \$481,500 - Couple
- **Part pension asset cut-off (homeowner)**  
Up to \$704,500 - Single  
Up to \$1,059,000 - Couple
- **Full pension income test**  
Less than \$5,668 per year - Single  
Less than \$9,880 per year - Couple
- **Part pension income cut-off**  
Up to \$65,416 per year - Single  
Up to \$99,954 per year - Couple

\*Includes supplements. Note these thresholds change slightly each year, so it’s worth checking the latest figures online or with Services Australia.

### Don’t qualify? You may still get help

If you’re over Age Pension age but don’t qualify due to your income or assets, you might be eligible for the Commonwealth Seniors Health Card.

This card gives access to cheaper prescription medicines and may offer savings on medical services, electricity, gas, and rates — depending on where you live.

### Keeping the Age Pension

Once you’re on the pension, it’s not set-and-forget. You’ll need to keep Centrelink updated if your financial situation changes — for example, if you start a part-time job, receive an inheritance, or sell an asset.

Regular updates ensure you’re getting the right amount. If not, you might be overpaid — and required to pay it back later.

### Make it easier with online tools

There are free calculators and estimators available on the Services Australia website to help you work out what you’re entitled to. If you’d rather speak to someone, the **Financial Information Service** is a free government service that can help explain your options.

### The bottom line

The Age Pension provides a base level of income to help older Australians live with dignity in retirement. Knowing how it works - and keeping on top of any changes - helps you stay in control of your finances and avoid unnecessary stress.

Even if you don’t qualify now, your situation might change - so it’s always worth checking again down the track

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



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%  
p.a.\*

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\*Rate current 1 August 2025. There is a risk that investors may achieve lower than expected returns. RELI Capital investments are not bank deposits, and investors risk losing some or all of their money. Generally there is no right of early withdrawal prior to maturity of the investment term and there is a risk that redemption at maturity may be delayed. Before deciding to invest consider RELI Capital’s Product Disclosure Statement and Target Market Determination by visiting [relicapital.com.au](http://relicapital.com.au) or our office.



# ROADWORKS NOTICE



## Bass Highway (M420), Grantville Traffic Signals Installation

New traffic signals will be installed at the Dandy Premix Quarries intersection to reduce truck traffic through Grantville and improve safety for pedestrians and motorists using the Bass Highway.

Works commenced July 2025, approx. 4-month duration  
Lane closures, reduced speed limits, contra-flow traffic  
Deep Creek St and Bass Hwy Service Rd access impacted  
Two bus stops temporarily relocated

### COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION OF ROADWORKS

**Stage 1 Roadworks** confined to the existing quarry intersection commenced early July 2025.

**Stage 2 Roadworks** on the Bass Highway Northbound carriageway are scheduled to commence on 14 August and are expected to be completed by 19 September 2025.

The **Stage 2 Roadworks** require temporary closure of the Bass Highway Northbound carriageway and the introduction of contra-flow traffic to the Southbound carriageway.

The left lane of the Southbound carriageway will continue to be used for southbound traffic and the second lane for northbound traffic after diversion across the highway median to share the Southbound carriageway. During **Stage 2 Roadworks**, each of the two lanes of the Southbound carriageway will have traffic moving in the opposite direction.

During **Stage 2 Roadworks** there will be reduced speed limits through the Bass Highway construction zone with modified traffic layouts and traffic controls in place to assist motorists.

### ROADWORK TIMES AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Stage 2 Roadworks will generally be undertaken Monday to Saturday (6 days/week) between 7.00am and 7.00pm. Some short-term roadworks may be carried out overnight.

Traffic controls including Variable Message Signs (VMSs), Safety Barriers, Portable Traffic Lights, Traffic Controllers and Truck Mounted Attenuators (TMAs) will be in operation.

### ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

Deep Creek Street and the Bass Highway Service Road traffic will be temporarily impacted during Stage 2 roadworks.

**Deep Creek Street:** temporary use of Bonney Road for Bass Highway access and egress, including for Smith Street, Broome Court, Stewart Street, Malcolm Drive and Panoramic Drive traffic.

**Bass Highway Service Road (northbound, western side of Bass Highway):** temporary northbound egress to Bass Highway under traffic controller supervision. This will also impact on traffic from Blackwood Drive, Swan Street, Vision Lane and Lang Street using the



Map data: ©2024 Google, Imagery ©2024 Airbus

Bass Highway Service Road for northbound entry to Bass Highway.

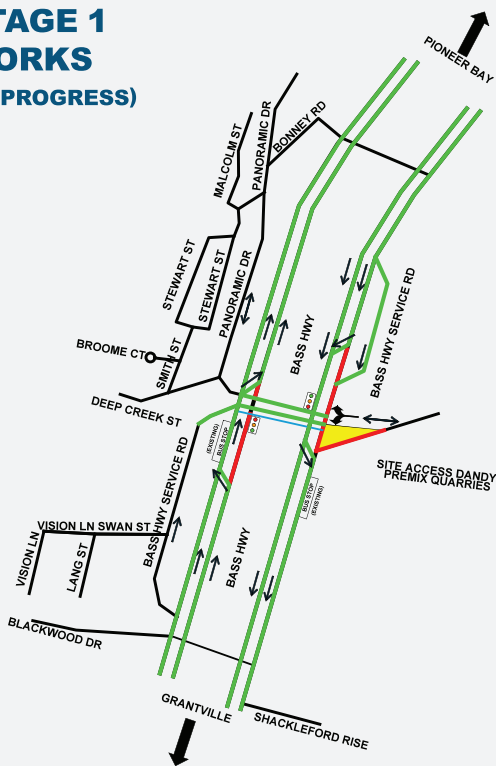
### BUS STOP - NORTHBOUND

The Bass HWY northbound bus stop located in the Stage 2 Roadworks construction zone will be temporarily relocated further north (approx. 120m) with signage, waiting area provision and pedestrian protection provided.

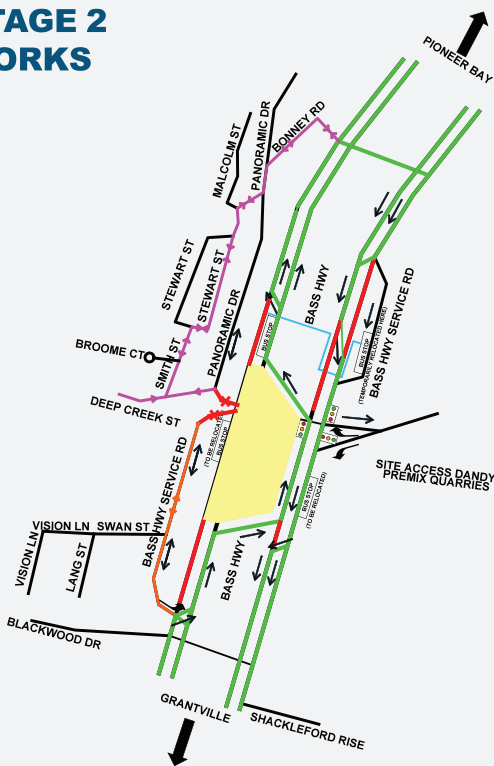
### PROJECT OUTCOMES

Installation of the Traffic Signals will enable trucks to turn right, northbound onto Bass Highway, resulting in a major reduction in quarry trucks through Grantville. The Traffic Signals will also improve Bus Stop pedestrian safety and assist safer Deep Creek Street traffic flows onto Bass Highway.

### STAGE 1 WORKS (IN PROGRESS)



### STAGE 2 WORKS



**Motorists are urged to obey speed limits and traffic controls during the roadworks. Your cooperation will greatly assist the safety of workers, pedestrians & other motorists.**

**Please contact us for further information or to share your feedback.**

#### Applicant

Dandy Premix Quarries Pty Ltd  
(Regional Group Australia)  
Garry Cranny, Sustainability Manager  
Email: gcranny@dandypremix.com  
Mob: 0419 587 440

#### Head Contractor

R&C Asphalt Paving Pty Ltd (Austek Roads)  
Simon Varghese, Construction Manager  
Email: simonv@rcasphalt.com.au  
Mob: 0427 480 668

### LEGEND

	ROAD CLOSURE		TRAFFIC SIGNAL
	LANE CLOSURE		SOUTHBOUND DETOUR
	PEDESTRIAN CROSSING		NORTHBOUND DETOUR
	WORK AREA		



# 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards

## Congratulations

to our local finalists!

The winners of the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards will be revealed at a special event on August 22 at Silverwater Resort in San Remo.

Eighteen finalists across the Judged and People's Choice award categories are Phillip Island and San Remo businesses.

Leading the charge is Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre, which is a finalist in the Access, Equity

and Inclusion category, as well as Environmental Sustainability and Marketing and Communications.

Made.By Bronte is a finalist in the New Business and the Marketing and Communications categories, as well as being a finalist in the People's Choice Online, Mobile and Home-based Business category.

Things are definitely heat-

ing up for Phillip Island Sauna, finalists in the New Business category and in the People's Choice for Health and Lifestyle.

Congratulations also to our other finalists: San Remo Fisherman's Co-op, Ocean Sounds 2025, Anchor Belle Holiday Park, Wildlife Coast Cruises, Beachside Bakehouse, Hotel, H Bombs Barbershop, Studio 13, Foodies on Phillip Island and San Remo Butchers.

### Judged

The judged categories are assessed by a panel of independent judges who volunteer their time to judge the submissions.

This year's Judged Awards attracted 46 entries. Business Innovation proved to be the most popular category, followed closely by New Business.

In the People's Choice Awards, nearly 2000 votes were cast across the seven categories,

recognising 149 different businesses.

Food and Beverage was the most popular People's Choice category, with the highest number of business nominations and almost a quarter of all votes.

A small number of tickets are still available to the gala dinner where the winners will be announced on Friday August 22, at Silverwater Resort in San Remo.

### Judged Awards – finalists

#### Access, Equity and Inclusion:

Empowered Lactation Consulting  
Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre  
Southcoast Psychology

#### Business Innovation:

Empowered Lactation Consulting  
Inverloch Bike Hire  
Trent Allen Building Pty Ltd

#### Environmental Sustainability:

Hycon Homes Pty Ltd  
Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre  
San Remo Fisherman's Co-op

### Event Excellence:

Bass Coast Yoga Festival  
Inverloch Running Festival  
Ocean Sounds 2025 (The Hills Are Alive Group)

### Marketing and Communications:

Coast to Coast Conveyancing  
Made. By Bronte  
Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre

### New Business:

Made. By Bronte  
Mates Gin Distillery Pty Ltd  
Phillip Island Sauna

### People's Choice Awards – finalists

#### Accommodation and Tourism Attraction:

Anchor Belle Holiday Park  
Maru Koala and Animal Park  
Wildlife Coast Cruises

#### Food and Beverage:

Beachside Bakehouse  
Harman Wines  
Hotel Phillip Island

#### Hair and Beauty:

H Bombs Barbershop  
Studio 13  
Urban Hair

### Health and Lifestyle:

Bass Coast Support Work Services  
Phillip Island Sauna  
Voyage Fitness Wonthaggi

### Online, Mobile and Home-Based Business:

Empowered Lactation Consulting  
Foodies on Phillip Island  
Made. By Bronte

### Retail and Services:

Bass Coast Boat & Caravan Storage  
Dalyston General Store  
San Remo Butchers

### Trade:

Bass Coast Carpentry and Maintenance  
ESI Solutions  
McKenzie Motors and Machinery



The dream of owning a bakery became a reality six years ago, and since then we've been baking up a storm.

We are so thankful to our customers, the locals, the regulars and to those who voted for us! From freshly baked bread daily, to hot pies or a deliciously creamy vanilla slice, we're all about providing high quality products, and service with a smile.

Thanks for trusting us with your baked goods.

Shop 1 / 129 Marine Parade, San Remo  
03 5678 5087



NOMINATION FOOD AND BEVERAGE



We're honoured to be nominated as a finalist in this year's Bass Coast Business Awards.

Since 1948, the San Remo Fisherman's Co-op has supported local fishers through a democratic co-operative model that reinvests profits into our people, services, and community. Alongside our well-known Fish & Chip restaurant, we proudly offer fresh, locally caught Australian seafood—sustainably sourced, fairly paid, and processed with a no-waste approach.

Guided by our love for the community, we're committed to continuing to serve and uphold the values that make the San Remo Fisherman's Co-op so special.

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated members and hardworking team—none of this would be possible without you.

srfco.com.au | 56785206  
facebook.com/SanRemoFishermansCoop/



NOMINATION ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



We are thrilled to be a finalist in this year's Bass Coast Business Awards.

Discover Mates Gin Distillery — where award-winning flavour meets purpose. Handcrafted on the Bass Coast of Victoria, our gins are made in small batches with care, creativity, and character. From our gold medal-winning Sweet Surrender to the bold Miner's Pick, every bottle supports something bigger — we donate 50% of profits to charities that uplift our community. Visit our unique distillery to taste our four medal winning gins.

13 Inverloch Rd, Wonthaggi VIC 3995  
info@matesgin.com.au  
www.matesgin.com.au



NOMINATION NEW BUSINESS



"It's the cherry on top of my amaretti biscuits to be nominated," Kara.

Foodies on Phillip Island is the 'recipe for success' when it comes to exploring the best of the Bass Coast's food scene.

A carefully curated and comprehensive food guide by Kara Williams, a seasoned foodie and local resident at the helm with the inside scoop on top eateries, community events, and local scenic places.

An invaluable reference for residents and visitors to the area that is packed with insider knowledge.

The acclaimed Instagram page Foodies on Phillip Island shares a unique perspective on food, photography, and digital media creation in the Bass Coast region.

With unparalleled experience as a private chef and event organizer in Italy, Kara is the 'secret

foodiesonphillip@gmail.com

ingredient' that makes Foodies on Phillip Island a must-have resource for anyone interested in regional and seasonal food.

Kara brings the same dedication and passion back home to the Bass Coast, with her commitment to work together with food businesses, farmers, and purveyors and celebrate the food in our region.



NOMINATION ONLINE, MOBILE AND HOME-BASED BUSINESS



Trent Allen Building Pty Ltd, based in Inverloch, is proud to be a finalist in the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards.

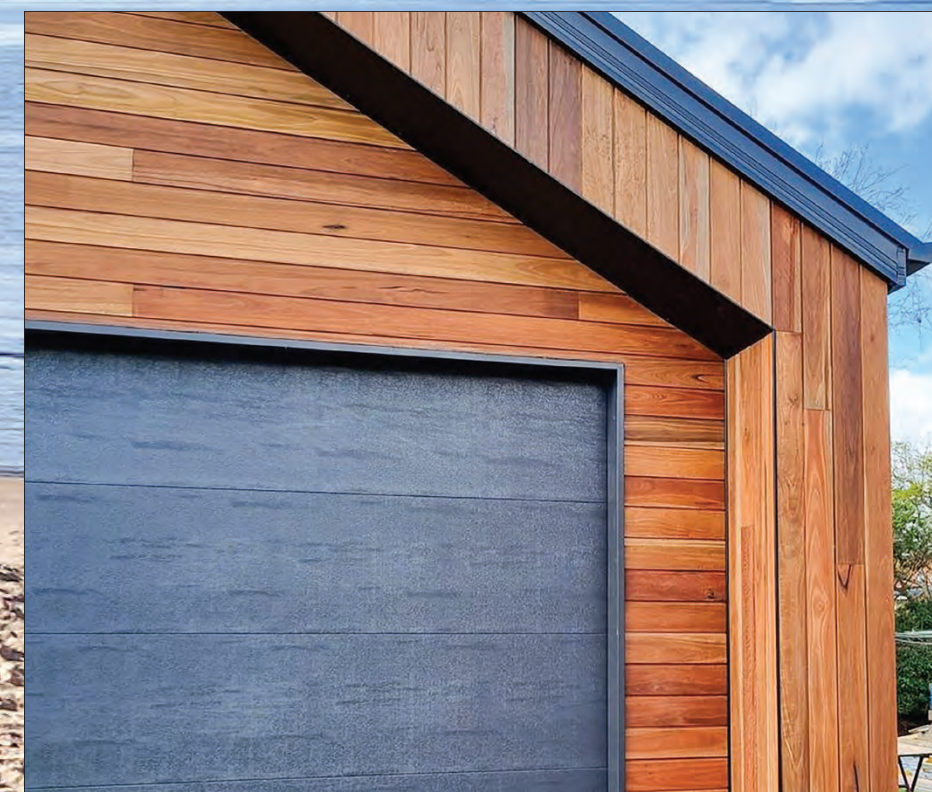
With over 30 years' experience, Master Builder Trent Allen and wife Caroline lead a skilled team delivering custom homes, knockdown-rebuilds, and extensions. Their seamless end-to-end service

includes in-house interior design. Renowned for quality, detail, and personalised service — Trent Allen Building makes the process easy. No stress, just stunning results.

Ph: 03 5674 3058  
www.trentallenbuilding.com.au  
@trent\_allen\_building  
Showroom: 60 Cashion Street, Inverloch



NOMINATION BUSINESS INNOVATION



Hycon Homes, specialists in high-performance homes using Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs), is proud to be nominated in the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards.

This recognition celebrates our dedication to sustainable building, quality craftsmanship, and local values.

Thank you to our clients and community for your ongoing support.

Hycon Homes Pty Ltd  
admin@hyconhomes.com.au  
www.hyconhomes.com.au  
David & Nicole Hynes  
0418 159 731



NOMINATION ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



2025 Bass Coast Business Awards  
*Congratulations*  
to our local finalists!



## BASS COAST BUSINESS AWARDS

We are beyond proud to be named a finalist in the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards! This recognition means the world to us. It celebrates the passion and dedication of our amazing team and the incredible support of our community. Being acknowledged across multiple categories reminds us why we do what we do — to create fun, inclusive, and welcoming experiences for all.



**Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre**  
93/97 Settlement Rd, Cowes VIC 3922

**NOMINATION**

ACCESS, EQUITY & INCLUSION - ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY - MARKETING & COMMUNICATION



## TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Picnic rugs, smiling friends, stunning local wines, gourmet food, the summer-sun softly setting over the ocean and some of Australia's most amazing live music. Returning for its 8th festival edition, Ocean Sounds is an annual family-friendly, music-lovers' all-day sunset concert that will take place on the beautiful Phillip Island on Sat 11th January 2025.

The Hills Are Alive Group are honoured to be a finalist in the 'Event Excellence' category of the Bass Coast Business Awards.

**NOMINATION**

**EVENT EXCELLENCE**



We are so thrilled and humbled to be made a finalist in the people's choice awards.

We thank everyone that has voted for us. We love our beautiful island and our place in it! If you haven't been in before, pop your head in the door and say Hi! Thanks again and look forward to seeing you and all those nominated in all categories at the awards night in August!

3, 130-132 Thompson Ave  
hbombsbarber@gmail.com



**NOMINATION**

**HAIR AND BEAUTY**



We are thrilled to be a finalist in this year's Bass Coast Business Awards.

Congratulations to all nominated businesses who have been named as a finalist! Bass Coast Boat and Caravan Storage offers safe, convenient, and affordable solutions for boat and caravan owners.

Committed to exceptional customer service, they gladly assist with all storage needs.

Bass Coast Boat & Caravan Storage  
Secure & Affordable Storage Solutions  
1835 Bass Hwy, Glen Forbes 3990  
Open from: 7am - 7pm  
Ph: 0484 144 948  
www.basscoastbcs.com.au



**NOMINATION**

**RETAIL AND SERVICES**



ESI Solutions is honoured to be nominated again for the 2025 People's Choice Awards - Trade Category in the Business in Bass Coast Awards.

This recognition means so much to our small team, who work hard every day to deliver quality electrical, solar and battery solutions across the region.

We're incredibly proud of our hard-working team - Andrew, Kurt, Harrison, Jay, and Casper - whose dedication, skill, and professionalism drive everything we do.

And to Kelly, the heart of our operations - keeping the team on track each day and making sure every

customer is looked after from first contact to final follow-up.

Thank you to our community for your ongoing support - it means the world to us.



**ESI SOLUTIONS**  
ELECTRICAL, SOLAR AND INSPECTIONS

(03) 5909 9890  
www.esisolutions.info

**NOMINATION**

**TRADE**



The team at Anchor Belle are Proud to be Third-Time Finalists!

We're honoured to be once again named a finalist in the Bass Coast Business Awards for Accommodation and Tourism - our third consecutive year.

This recognition means a great deal to our team and reminds us why we care so deeply about what we do. Creating a welcoming, comfortable environment for our guests is at the heart of everything we do, and it's incredibly rewarding to know our efforts have made a lasting impact.

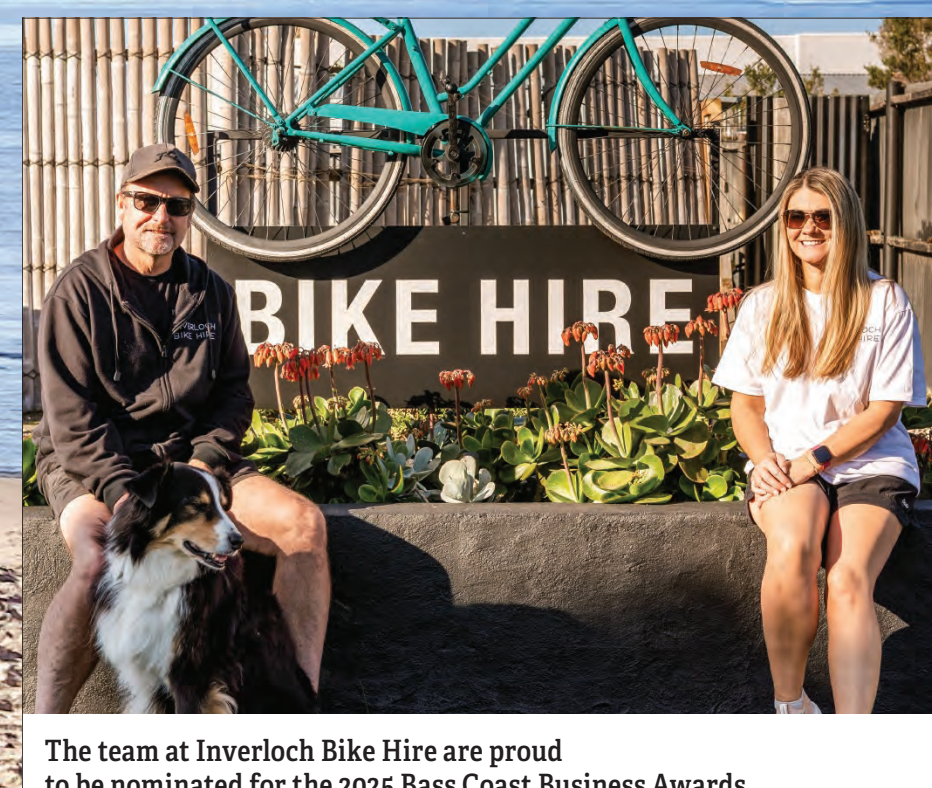
Thank you to everyone who voted and supported us. Best of luck to all fellow Bass Coast finalists - here's to a strong and successful future for all our local businesses!



272 Church St, Cowes  
(03) 5952 2258  
www.anchorbelle.com.au

**NOMINATION**

**ACCOMODATION & TOURISM ATTRACTION**



The team at Inverloch Bike Hire are proud to be nominated for the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards.

Inverloch Bike Hire offer locals and visitors alike, a family friendly, all ages and abilities, outdoor recreation option. As the only 'click & deliver' bike rental service in the region, Inverloch Bikes will deliver your rental bikes directly to your accommodation anywhere throughout Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

With a wide range of top quality bikes, including e-bikes, mountain bikes & gravel bikes, Inverloch Bike Hire also operate the regions only dedicated 'bike-packing' and shuttle service along the entire

length of the spectacular 131km Great South Rail Trail. From meals and accommodation, to bikes and bags, the team at Inverloch Bikes will work with you to prepare an itinerary to suit your individual needs, ability and budget.

As well as rentals, Inverloch Bikes also provides guests with sales, service and repairs, including a unique mobile mechanic service.

Congratulations and good luck to all nominees.



Inverloch Bike Hire Pty Ltd  
inverlochbikes@gmail.com  
0455 896 240

**NOMINATION**

**BUSINESS INNOVATION**





A Gathering for Gaza, to support peace for the Palestinian people, is scheduled for Saturday, August 9 near the Cowes Jetty, between 11am and 12noon.

## Gather for Gaza this Saturday

As the world's attention is focused on the unfolding humanitarian crisis in Gaza, another Gathering for Gaza is scheduled for Saturday, August 9 near the Cowes Jetty, between 11am and 12noon.

Since 2024, the Bass Coast for Palestine group has been holding regular gatherings, and this year has a schedule of gatherings every two weeks, alternating between Cowes and Wonthaggi.

"The gatherings are designed to help deepen understanding, build solidarity and explore

ways to support peace and justice for the Palestinian people," the group said.

"Your presence can make a meaningful impact."

Everyone is welcome to join the gathering in Cowes, to express support for a ceasefire, and to call for international aid organisations to be allowed into the area.

All events and updates are posted on Instagram and Facebook @basscoast4Palestine.

Upcoming events are scheduled for Cowes on September 6, October 4 and November 1.

## Art returns to Grenache: "Permanent Availability"

### EXHIBITION

Following the success of last year's "Body Parts" exhibition, Phillip Island Tattoo studio is holding a new exhibition – "Permanent Availability" – at Grenache Wine Bar in Cowes.

The exhibition will open on September 6, with a special launch party starting at 5pm, with the artwork on display for the rest of the month. Once again, Ian "Bugsy" Christensen is curating and the group show features a selection of 21 local and Australian tattooists and artists, working in an array of mediums.

While last year's exhibition was based on the human form, this year's exhibition gets its name from the permanence of tattoos. In another change, five of the pieces have been specifically created with the venue in mind, by Bugsy, Jack Montgomery, Eli Curry, Connor Cardus and Alexander MacKellar.

"We know the space better now," explained Bugsy.

"The bar is not well lit like an art gallery, but we know the mood of the bar and what will look good in those spaces."

Like last year, all the pieces on display will be for sale, and if the success of "Body Parts" is an indication, art lovers will need to be quick to snap up a piece of artwork.

For Bugsy, the exhibition is another opportunity to provide an outlet for local artists, most who pursue their art while working in other careers, and to showcase work that wouldn't normally get seen.

While many of the artists involved are tattooists, some, like Health Nock, have crossed over



After the success of last year's "Body Parts" exhibition, a new exhibition titled "Permanent Availability" launches at Grenache Wine Bar on September 6 and will be on display for the entire month.

to careers as a working artist.

"His paintings are not related at all to his original artform of tattooing," Bugsy said.

"He's just completed an artist's residency in Germany, and is a properly represented artist."

### Artistic outlet

The exhibition has also provided incentive for many of the artists involved, Bugsy included, to continue with their artistic pursuits.

"It used to be you could sit there and tattoo, and make a pretty good living," he said.

"Now people have moved into other art fields. Not necessarily just to supplement their incomes, but to keep their momentum, and become better, rounded artists."

"I know personally, I began painting and that's become a really significant part of my life."

Being able to focus on art outside of his tattoo studio represents

a new kind of freedom.

"Tattooing is more like applied art. You are working to someone else's brief."

"When you paint, you don't have to worry about any of that. With art, painting, photography, you are just doing your own thing."

He's hoping the local creative community will support the new exhibition, as they did with "Body Parts".

"Having a group show like this is awesome because each person can tell their friends."

"Last year's exhibition brought a lot of different people together."

"Permanent Ability" opens on September 6, with a launch from 5pm until late at Grenache Wine Bar, 55A Thompson Avenue in Cowes.

The free exhibition will be on display throughout September, and all artwork is for sale.

ISLAND VOICE PRESENTS

PHILLIP ISLAND

# Carols BY THE Bay

Thursday 11th December 2025

COWES FORESHORE

5pm Childrens Entertainment  
7:15pm Carols  
9:30pm Fireworks

Save the Date

*May we have wonderful weather...again!*

Proudly presented by  
Bass Coast Shire Council

## Get behind Growing Cambodia

### FUNDRAISER

The annual Growing Cambodia Trivia Night fundraiser is on again this year at Berninnet on Saturday October 11, from 6pm until 10.30pm.

The night promises to be another entertaining one with trivia questions and games, as well as a silent auction and a major raffle. There will also be music for singing and dancing.

Don't miss out on the best evening of entertainment while supporting an important cause. All profits for the night will go to the programs of Growing Cambodia which has been running for 12 years thanks in no small part to ongoing support from the island community.

Growing Cambodia's purpose is to offer rural Cambodians an opportunity to improve their quality of life through education and health and wellbeing support. Over 900 students are attending free English lessons at the schools established by Growing Cambodia in four rural villages. Lessons are conducted by local Cambodian teachers with help from volunteers.

Growing Cambodia also provides scholarships for students to attend public school if their families are unable to afford the mandatory uniforms to attend.

Students leaving the schools are also offered university sponsorships. Thanks to its Tertiary Patrons program, Growing Cambodia is currently supporting 23 university students.

Patrons are needed for the Class of 2026, those school leavers who are looking to start their courses in January 2026. Being a Tertiary Patron involves donating AUD\$1000 per annum over four years of a tertiary course. If you would like to become a Tertiary Patron, Growing Cambodia would love to hear from you.

Last year's Trivia Night raised over \$26,000 and organisers are hoping to pass that total with this year's event. Organisers are also looking for sponsors and donations to support the fundraiser.



The Annual Growing Cambodia Trivia Night is at Berninnet on October 11, from 6pm. Money raised from the night will help students learn computer skills, like this class at Oroluos School (computers donated by Independent Pharmacies of Australia).

Get your friends and family together, test your trivia skills and raise money for a fantastic cause.

Alternatively you can buy tickets for the major raffle (\$10 per ticket).

- First prize is a choice of one week's accommodation at Sand Dunes Resort Sunshine Coast or four nights' accommodation at Bimbadeen Farm Retreat Phillip Island, worth \$1500.
- Second prize is a bottle of Grange, worth \$850.
- Third prize is Gift Vouchers, worth \$150.

The winners will be drawn on the night and notified by phone. Tickets can be purchased from any Committee member or Trivia Night table captain.

To book a table of 10 (\$50 per person), email [enquiry@growingcambodia.org.au](mailto:enquiry@growingcambodia.org.au) or phone Steve on 0409 167 001 or Vicki on 0402 403 247.

If you can't make it but would like to make a donation, Growing Cambodia's bank details are BSB: 633 000 A/C: 150 148 583, or make a donation at [www.growing-cambodia.org.au/donate/](http://www.growing-cambodia.org.au/donate/)





Island Harmony Choir rehearses weekly at 1.30pm on Tuesdays at St John's Church, Cowes and is seeking new members.

## Calling those who like to sing

### COMMUNITY

Island Harmony Choir is seeking new members.

The choir has recently finished five concerts for local community groups, now on a break, explained the choir's Terry Norquay.

"But we will be resuming again at the beginning of August to prepare for performing at Churchill Island in September, our end of year concert in November, and for other Christmas events coming up in December," she said.

"We are an un-auditioned choir and many of our members are not musically trained, but can follow the music.

"The choir is about 30 strong but would love to have more singers join us."

Voices include soprano, alto, tenor and bass and music varies from classic to folk, opera to Broadway, gospel to bush band and the Beatles.

"So during rehearsals we thoroughly

go over each part so that everyone learns the notes," Terry said.

"We also have musicians numbered among our membership, and would welcome enquiries from other musicians who might like to join us, adding that extra richness to our sound.

"New members would be very welcome – and no auditions are required.

"If you like singing, can hold a tune, and enjoy the company of fellow singers, why not come along to one of our rehearsals. You can sit in and listen to what we are doing and see if the choir is something that you would like to be part of."

The choir rehearses weekly at 1.30pm on Tuesdays at St John's Church, Cowes.

There is an annual membership fee if you choose to join.

Details: Call Tony on 0418 134 709 or Noeline on 0402 389 737; or go to [www.islandharmonychoir.au](http://www.islandharmonychoir.au) or Facebook: Phillip Island Harmony Choir

## Join Alice on a rock and roll adventure

### ENTERTAINMENT

It's a rock and roll journey of a different kind when Bass Coast College present their 2025 production, "Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventure".

The show is on at the Union Theatre in Wonthaggi from August 7-9.

Students, staff, and family members are in final rehearsals for the production. The talented cast is made up of students from years 7 to 12, who are supported by an orchestra consisting of past and present students, parents

and staff.

The role of Alice is played by Annabelle Bremner, Chris McKenzie is the Cheshire Cat, Callum Stephens plays the March Hare, Ruby Barsony the Queen of Hearts and Zoe Carr the White Rabbit.

The search for one's authentic self is at the heart of "Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventure".

Lewis Carroll's beloved tale of self-actualisation is brought to life by the actors and musicians creating an eclectic, live rock soundtrack. Along the way, Alice faces chal-

lenges and fears, but she meets the ultimate test in the form of the Jabberwocky, an insidious monster made up of the dark thoughts and self-doubt that lurks inside us all.

In learning to believe in the impossible, Alice learns to believe in herself. With music ranging from classic rock to punk to ska and even a little bit of Bollywood, this show is rock concert meets live theatre and is not to be missed.

Get your tickets now at: [www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1417144](http://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1417144)



Chris McKenzie, the Cheshire Cat and Annabelle Bremner as Alice, in the Bass Coast College production of "Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventure", at the Union Theatre in Wonthaggi from August 7-9.



Celebrate Tradies Health Month



### SPORTS TRIVIA QUIZ & MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION SESSION

Phillip Island Football & Netball Club,  
Saturday 16 August 2025  
7pm-10pm (doors open at 6.30pm)

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

- Luke Ross - Registered Psychologist and Behavioural Expert
- Dr Krista Fisher - Young Men's Mental Health Research Fellow, Movember

**BOOK NOW!**

\* Raffle \* Sport Prizes \* Giveaways  
Bring your own nibbles. Bar available.

Tickets \$25. To book, scan the QR code or go to:  
<https://events.humanitix.com/celebrate-tradies-month2025>



All funds raised will help to purchase medical equipment for the Phillip Island Community Hospital



## GIG GUIDE

9/8 SHILO A NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE - \$35 + BF

10/8 MARK HOWARD - 5.00PM

17/8 CHARLIE BEDFORD - 5.00PM

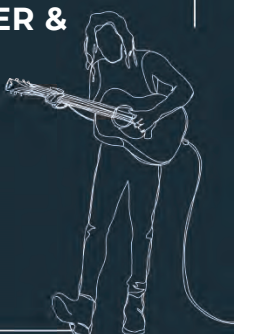
23/8 SCARECROW-THE MELLENCAMP SHOW-35 YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR - 9PM \$35+BF

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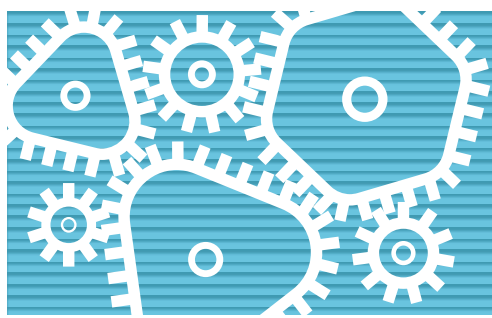


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DEATHS

**ABBEY (Williamson), Michele Jannene:**  
19.06.1955 – 23.07.2025

Much loved mother of Adrian and Abbey.

Loving grandmother to Tay, Sam, Jaz, Harry and Chloe.

Great grandmother to Hudson.

Will be dearly missed.

FUNERALS

**ABBEY**

The Funeral Service for Michele Jannene Abbey (Williamson) will be held at the Graveside, Phillip Island Cemetery, Coghlan Road, Cowes on WEDNESDAY (Aug. 13, 2025) commencing at 11:00am.

Please wear a splash of colour in memory of Michele.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**ABBEY, Michele:**

My best friend, I will miss you so very much. You were passionate and loyal and generous but, most of all, it was your complete devotion to all animals that made you the special person you were. You rescued and cared for so many and never turned your back on those who needed protection and love.

I know your beloved dogs, Zeena and Precious, meant everything to you and it was they who stood by you and comforted you and were with you throughout and until the end – a true family.

Sadly, you have all gone before you should have.

You will always be held strong in my heart.

Love Sue

ISLAND CRAFT MARKET

The next market is on Sat, Aug 9 9am-2pm

Inquiries: Monica 0412 710 276

APC Australian Press Council

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tell us your views with a Letter to the Editor (350 word limit). Email to [advertiser@pisra.com.au](mailto:advertiser@pisra.com.au), or submit online at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)

**Shameful conduct**

At the July 16 BCSC meeting ratepayers submitted five separate questions explicitly requesting information about how BCSC's proposed governance changes to public question time (PQT) were of benefit to ratepayers and non-discriminatory. Ratepayers specifically asked council to outline the reasons and rationale behind this policy change, how the policy was not discriminatory, and how the changes would affect ratepayers. None of these matters were factually addressed in CEO Box's response, which didn't match the questions asked. Instead, his "answer" talked only about how ratepayers had been given one month to respond and that all responses would be considered. His answer was simply filibuster which avoided meaningful scrutiny, whilst not technically contravening the required procedures. Specific questions were asked, and a single inadequate and irrelevant answer was given. This is a practice all levels of government have become highly skilled in, and this kind of obfuscation appears to have become an increasingly standard operating procedure for BCSC in recent times.

In fact, for the last four or five years it has become obvious that some elements of BCSC have had an ongoing issue with the mere existence of PQT. In July 2022, former Crs Rooks and Laing, launched a failed motion to remove PQT from monthly council meetings entirely, alleging it to be "the most inefficient way to put questions to council." Then, in May 2023, former Mayor Cr Michael Whelan said council would no longer be answering questions about the Sunderland Bay-Surf Beach Special Charge Scheme, and subsequently refused to answer around 120 questions. This ran counter to BCSC's own rules of governance.

What is behind this continued attempt by BCSC to diminish PQT? Could it be that being expected to answer important and confronting questions is uncomfortable? Or perhaps matters are raised which council would prefer remain somewhat obscured? How long should ratepay-

ers tolerate this? We deserve better. Shameful conduct for a body constantly claiming honesty, openness and clarity in its dealings with its ratepayers.

Ross Bencraft, Surf Beach

**We are not Byron**

What a disappointment to read that real estate agent's are still desiring to rebrand Phillip Island as the new Byron Bay. To refresh the company image and messaging to better align with a new goal and market position to target a wealthy audience, of course they would. It's a win/win for them if they can market the island under that banner. There are high stakes and high commissions.

The real estate agents are also trying to 'cash in' on the Hemsworth name as a selling point because the family have property here on the island, but there is a saying in Byron Bay, 'The Hemsworth Effect'. The famous family has been touted as being one of the main reasons that Byron Bay is now one of the most expensive places to live. Their presence in Byron Bay has attracted many famous celebri-

ties and wherever there are celebrities, mega-mansions are built at the expense of the surrounding environment. Apart from the destruction of the environment caused by the massive footprint imposed by these structures, once built, all of a sudden the local shops, boutiques, cafes and restaurants have a reason for raising their prices exponentially to cater to the uber-rich at the expense of the locals. In fact, the knock-on effect for the locals to be able to afford to live in Byron Bay, is now the very reason why the locals have had to move somewhere else.

I spoke to many of the ex-lo-cals who used to live in Byron Bay, pushed out of the area to outlying regions which are more affordable. Having visited Byron Bay on several occasions, I noticed a huge change in the atmosphere which included the underlying anger and disappointment in having been forced out. The attempt to lure wealthier prospects to Philip Island would be at the expense of the locals and our way of life here. That's not something to look forward to.

Anne Schade, Cowes

Bass Strait gas plan open for feedback

ENVIRONMENT

Community consultation is currently underway on environmental impacts from an existing Bass Strait gas field, which includes Phillip Island's south coast.

Beach Energy is undertaking a five-year review of the Bass Gas Offshore Operations Environment Plan for ongoing production operations for the Yolla gas field in Bass Strait.

Commercial production of gas from the Yolla field started in 2006 and could extend to 2030, or finish earlier.

The gas field is serviced by the Yolla Platform, and a 147 km subsea pipeline that transports the gas and liquids under the surf zone, beach and coastal dunes near Kilcunda to the Lang Lang Gas Plant, where natural gas is processed before being distributed to the domestic east coast market.


The platform is connected to the Lang Lang Gas Plant via a satellite link, controlled remotely onshore without crew.

The pipeline and gas plant are not included in this environment plan.

However, according to Beach Energy, the planning area (see the yellow section in the map) is the broadest extent of the "environment that may be affected" (EMBA), subject to final approvals. In other words where operational activities could have a direct or indirect environmental impact.

Beach Energy states risks from operational activities includes water discharges and loss of containment of hydrocarbons or chemicals, but this was managed through equipment design, and maintenance programs.

There are no activities in marine parks, but the Yallock-Bulluk Marine National Park and Powlett River Mouth, are within the EMBA, and



The planning area (in yellow), which includes the south coast of Phillip Island, is the broadest extent of the environment that may be affected, subject to final approvals. In other words where operational activities from gas production could potentially have a direct or indirect environmental impact.

SHORT STACK

A QUICK ROUNDUP OF NEWS, VIEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Carers grants

Applications are open for the 2025 Connecting Carers in their Community program, with more than \$760,000 in funding available.

The program offers grants of up to \$25,000 and carer support groups, community health services, councils, neighbourhood houses and other grassroots organisations are encouraged to apply, especially those supporting carers in regional and rural areas.

Applications are open until August 18. For more information or to apply, visit [carersvictoria.org.au](http://carersvictoria.org.au) or [vaccho.org.au](http://vaccho.org.au).

Victorian Tree of the Year

Nominations for the 2025 Victorian Tree of the Year are now open.

To be eligible for the Victorian Tree of the Year, a nominated tree must be listed on the National Trusts of Australia Register of Significant Trees.

Nominations close Sunday August 31.

Nominate at: [www.nationaltrust.org.au/treeoftheyear](http://www.nationaltrust.org.au/treeoftheyear). Each submission should include details about the tree and a description of why it deserves the title of 2025 Victorian Tree of the Year.

A short list will be compiled, and public voting will take place online from September 23 to October 23.

Veterans support grants

Applications are open for two grant programs that honour veterans, support their welfare and strengthen community recognition of their contribution.

The Anzac Day Proceeds Fund offers grants of up to \$150,000 to organisations delivering welfare support to veterans across the state, and grants of up to \$50,000 to organisations delivering initiatives for veterans in a specific region or area.

The Victoria Remembers Grant Program offers grants of up to \$30,000 for projects that commemorate veterans and deepen public understanding of their service, including new memorials, significant anniversary events and public education campaigns.

Applications for both grant programs close on September 15. For details or to apply, visit [vic.gov.au/anzac-day-proceeds-fund](http://vic.gov.au/anzac-day-proceeds-fund) or [vic.gov.au/victoria-remembers-grant-program](http://vic.gov.au/victoria-remembers-grant-program)

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Notice of Precipe**

For the record Julie May Chatto (c) of Smiths Beach, Victoria, is permanently domiciled on the Land and Soil of Terra Australis. I am not a voluntary transactor in commerce, and the paramount security interest holder of all estates, property, assets and collateral, both registered and unregistered, and all associated copyright protected trade names. My lawful reconveyance to the Land and Soil jurisdiction of Terra Australis was recorded with Public Recording Number RPP44 63900 05100 36969 50602 on Proclamation Date 10th June 2025, and tacit agreement was established by my un rebutted Living Testimony in the Form of an Affidavit. All usufruct subjugation ties have been severed with the occupying corporate government of Australia. The corporate Australian kakistocracy and its affiliates are instructed to immediately cease and desist misaddressing Julie May Chatto in fraudulent debased Dog-Latin, GLOSSA and to cease and desist infringing upon my estate, property, assets, collateral and copyright protected trade names.





Some 100-year-old grandmas from Cowes Primary School Room 9 Preps: Evie, Mia, Caitlin, Olivia and Scarlett, celebrating 100 days of school.

## Preps celebrate first 100 days of school

### EDUCATION

Cowes Primary School Prep students reached a huge milestone on Friday August 1, marking 100 days of school.

The school celebrated with

a theme of 100 Days Brighter, with the children enjoying dressing up – some embracing the brighter theme, while others swapped 100 days for 100 years, dressing in grandparent outfits.



Cowes Primary School preps Audrey and Lenny were dapper 100-year-olds, celebrating their first 100 days of school. More photos at [pisra.com.au/education](http://pisra.com.au/education)



Preps at San Remo Primary School celebrated 100 days of school last week with dress-ups, a parade and plenty of 100-themed activities.

## San Remo Primary on parade

### EDUCATION

Preps at San Remo Primary marked their 100 days of school milestone with a dress-up and parade.

All the children were invited

to dress up – with some dressing up as 100-year-olds, while others embraced the 100-theme by including tally marks, buttons or baubles on their costumes.

After the parade, the 100-theme continued in the

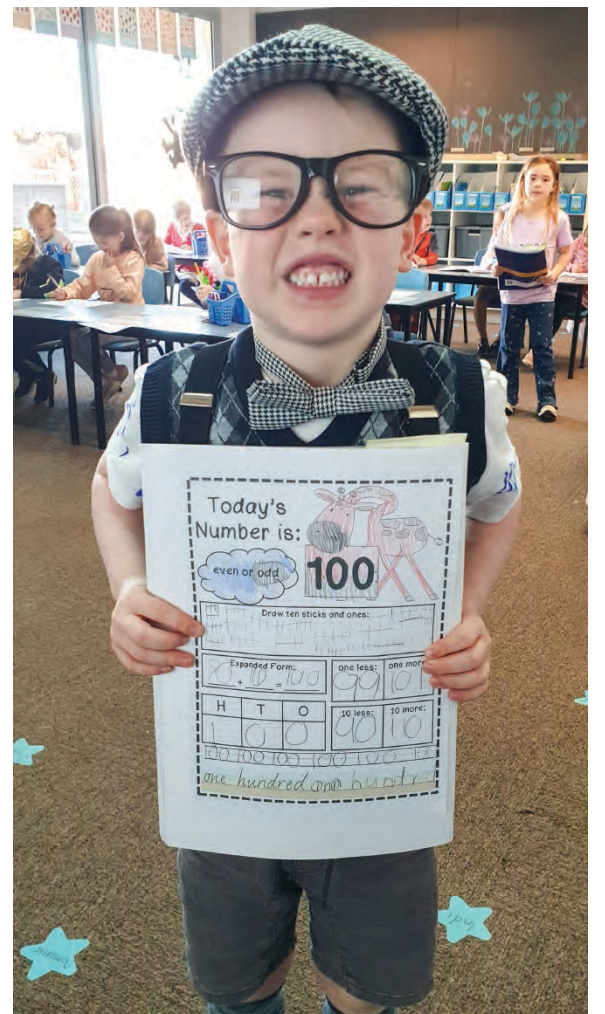
classroom, with students completing their 100th page of “Today’s number is ...”, creating a Snakes and Ladders game, as well as counting by tens to create delicious “froot loops” necklaces.



Showing off their 100 days of school outfits are Rune, Tahli and Eden at San Remo Primary’s 100 days of school celebrations.



Brooklyn leading the parade at San Remo Primary School’s 100 days of school celebrations last week.



Elliot was looking lively for a 100-year-old, in his outfit to celebrate 100 days of school at San Remo Primary.

## Eco-adventurer visits Star of the Sea

### EDUCATION

Students at Our Lady Star of the Sea in Cowes were inspired by a visit from eco-adventurer Samuel McLennan recently.

Currently moored in Rhyll aboard a remarkable boat crafted entirely from rubbish collected from oceans, waterways, and coastlines, Samuel took time out of his journey to visit the school.

A school spokesperson said Samuel’s message, “one of resilience, open-mindedness, and creative problem-solving, deeply resonated with students”.

His stories about his personal journey captivated his audience and “inspired thoughtful

questions, reflection, and a sense of possibility”.

“His visit challenged students to become responsible stewards of our planet, starting with small, meaningful changes in their own lives,” the spokesperson said.

“The impact of his message was powerfully underscored when, at the end of the presentation, Samuel quite literally gave a student the shirt off his back – a concrete example of generosity and connection.

“Students left the session energised, hopeful, and full of ideas about how they might make a difference right here on their home island of Millowl.”



Samuel McLennan, whose vessel made from marine debris is currently moored at Rhyll, inspired the students of OLSS to consider how they might make a difference where they live.





From left: Kody Lewis, Miller Micallef and Maxen Mills all competed for Newhaven College at the recent MTB King of Ballarat Series with amazing results.

## Newhaven College team claim podium glory Ballarat

### MOUNTAIN BIKING

In a display of grit, gravity, and guts, Newhaven College's Mountain Bike Team carved their names into the podium at the King of Ballarat (KOB) Series – a premier, three-round down-hill racing event hosted by Club MUD Ballarat.

Racing over a span of three months on three wildly different tracks, the KOB series isn't for the faint-hearted.

With over 50 competitors charging down the treacherous courses each round, consistency, courage and control are the name of the game, and the Newhaven riders brought the lot.

Round One saw the team stamp their mark early. Maxen Mills blitzed the track to finish in a phenomenal second place, while teammate Miller Micallef powered into a solid 12th place – both outstanding results in a red-hot under-15 men's field of over 50 riders.

Round Two kept the adrenaline high as Hamish Dakers-Hock came heartbreakingly close to a podium, finishing in fourth place, proving Newhaven's got serious horsepower on



Maxen Mills from Newhaven College (left) placed second overall in the KOB Series, a great achievement in one of Victoria's most hotly contested junior competitions.

the hill.

However, it was Round Three that tested every rider's mettle.

Faced with wild weather, slick mud and slippery roots and rocks, it was an all-or-nothing battle against the elements.

Undeterred, Kody Lewis, Miller Micallef and Maxen Mills donned their race jerseys and pushed hard in the under-15 men's category, navigating the chaos with tenacity.

The result? Maxen Mills soared once again, claiming second overall in the KOB Series,

a mighty achievement in one of Victoria's most hotly contested junior competitions.

Now with confidence high and legs dialled in, the Newhaven College squad shifts its focus to the fast-approaching Joyride Rookie Cup Series and the elite-level Victorian Downhill Series (VDHS).

These rising stars are set to continue turning heads, taking on some of the gnarliest courses in the country.

Coach, parents and supporters alike couldn't be prouder.



Congratulations to Hamish Dakers-Hock, who place 3rd at the MTB Interschool Series.

## Newhaven College riders at MTB Interschool Series

### MOUNTAIN BIKING

Thirteen determined mountain bike riders from Newhaven College braved cold, wet and muddy conditions at Round 3 of the Aus Cycling Interschool Cross-Country (XC) Series, hosted by Haunted Hills and Gippsland MTB club.

The course pushed competitors, with steep climbs and tight hairpin corners, demanding skill, stamina and grit.

Slippery trails made for a true test of resilience, with every rider earning their place at the finish line.

Notable performances included Hamish Dakers-Hock, who powered through to claim third place in the highly competitive Under 17 Boys category.

Many other Newhaven riders also secured impressive top ten finishes across various age divisions.

Newhaven MTB Academy

coach Tom Basterfield said it was good to see the younger riders enjoying racing with their mates.

"The stoke was shared by everyone," he said.

"Lots of Newhaven jerseys getting around the event area and lots of parents shouting support to our Academy kids, despite the cold and the rain. Well done to everyone who competed today – everyone got across the line on a pretty tough course. We're looking forward to You Yangs!"

With spirits high despite the mud and rain, students are now preparing for a big weekend of racing with a double-header:

You Yangs: Saturday, August 23.

Ballarat: Sunday, August 24.

Newhaven College congratulates all riders on their performance and sportsmanship in what was a challenging and rewarding day on the trails.

## On the green

### GOLF

#### Tuesday, July 29

##### Men's 18H Comp Stableford 18

Overall winner: Warren Dickie (21) 39 pts.

A Grade winner: A-1 Brent Scott (11) 37 pts.

A-2 winner Ian Smith (10) 35 pts C/B.

B Grade winners: B-1 Alf Micallef (14) 37 pts C/B.

B-2 winner: Barry Gibson (14) 37 pts.

C Grade winners: C-1 Warren Dickie (21) 39 pts.

C-2 winner: David Murdoch (23) 37 pts C/B.

BDL to 34 C/B.

NTP: 5th and 10th Brent Scott, 7th Phil Dressing and 17th Greg Kane.

##### Men's 9H Stableford

Overall winner: John Niven (26) 20 pts from Clive Scott (21)

19 pts C/B.

BDL to 17 pts C/B.

#### Wednesday, July 30

##### Women's 18H Gentsomes Team Stableford

Overall winner: Pam Rothfield and Jeanette Diss and Sarah Gordon and Vicki Roff-Smith 94 pts, from Joanne Disher and Robyn Chipperfield and Barb Haydon and Adrienne Anglin 93 pts C/B.

BDL to 93.

NTP: 5th and 7th Vicki Ramage, 10th Emma Hall and 17th Mel Naismith.

##### Women's 9H Stableford

Overall winner: Barbara Moloney (37) 17 pts from Margaret Frith (35) 16 pts.

BDL 14 C/B.

#### Thursday, July 31

##### Open 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Mark White (15) 43 pts.

A Grade winner: A-1 Mark

Ritterman (3) 36 pts C/B.

A-2 winner: Rob Davison (10) 36 pts.

B Grade winner: B-1 Mark White (15) 43 pts.

B-2 winner: Peter Williams (18) 37 pts.

C Grade winner: C-1 Ian Young (26) 39 pts.

C-2 winner: Collin Morris (26) 37 pts C/B.

BDL to 33 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th and 7th Dave Egan, 10th Cheis Sanderson and 17th Heath Grace.

##### Men's 9H Stableford

Overall winner: Harold Jackson (38) 22 pts from Basil Moloney (15) 19 pts.

BDL to 16 pts C/B.

#### Saturday, August 2

##### Men's 18H Comp Stroke Monthly Medal

Overall winner: Mark Ritterman (4) 67 C/B.

A Grade winner: A-1 Mark Ritterman (4) 67 C/B.

A-2 winner: Lucas Saric (12) 67.

B Grade winner: B-1 Greg Williams (17) 71.

B-2 winner: Mark White (14) 72.

C Grade winner: C-1 David Pardoe (20) 71 C/B.

C-2 winner: Robert Purcell (25) 71.

BDL to 75 C/B.

NTP: 5th Mark Ritterman, 7th Shane Harding, 10th Graeme Niven and 17th Lawrence Ferrari.

##### Women's 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Vicki Ramage (18) 34 pts from Emma Hall (4) 33 pts C/B.

BDL to 30 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Mary Taylor, 7th Lesley Meadowcroft and 10th Jillian Chandler.

##### 9H Stableford

Winner: David Henstridge (22) 20 pts from Rob Davison (8) 16 pts C/B.

BDL: N/A pts.

#### Sunday, August 3

##### 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Brady Ross (4) 36 pts from Mark Griffin (11) 34 pts.

BDL: to 32 pts.

## Red Rocks results

### GOLF

#### Saturday, August 8

##### Stroke Monthly Medal

Winner: Steven Cerni (16) 51 nett.

2nd place: Steve Wurt (6) 55 nett.

3rd place: Anthony Fradkin (19) 56 nett.

Putting competition: Steven Cerni 28 putts.

#### Sunday, August 3

##### Stableford

Winner: Rob Stead (16) 38 points.

NTP: Hole 1 and 17 Chris Fall, Hole 5 Terry Fox.





Winners of Midweek bowls were Peter Taylor (L), Louis Magri (S) and Neil Andreatta (3).



Robyn Dahl (3), Wayne Stevens (2), Bill Sheriff (L) and Bob Arnold (L) were runners up at Midweek bowls.

## Midweek at Loch

### BOWLS

Forty-three bowlers turned up to bowl at Loch last week.

Once the teams were selected everyone headed for the green to once again fight it out for player(s) of the week.

As usual there were great players in all teams making it a real challenge. Lots of laughter and a reasonable amount of banter across all the rinks.

We didn't see too many wrong bias bowls, but the RCH tin is still filling up.

As always there can only be one winning team and that team on a score of 36 was Peter Taylor (L), Louis Magri (S) and Neil Andreatta (3).

Runners up on a very close score of 35

were Robyn Dahl (3), Wayne Stevens (2), Bill Sheriff (L) and Bob Arnold (L).

Best One Game winners on a score of 20 were Tony Heppleston (3), Mark Hanrahan (S), Alan Weeden (L) and Robyn Banks (2).

A big shout out to Trevor for looking after the thirsty bowlers.

Not to forget Alex for his great work cleaning up after the game.

Also thank you to all the ladies who looked after the kitchen, too many to name.

This week the bowlers will be meeting up at Corinella Bowls Club to once again fight it out for players of the week.

Please, be on site by 10am as the numbers are getting quite high and if you are in after the books are full then you may have to miss out.

Until then, have fun and stay safe.

## Competition update

### TENPIN

**2s Company week 2:** 1st place on 5pts Pin-pushers, 2nd place on 4pts King Pins and 3rd place on 3pts Jail.

**ABL week 2:** 1st place on 32pts Just Bowl Already, 2nd place on 31pts The Fireballs and 3rd place on 27pts The Rollers.

**Business Early week 2:** 1st place on 6pts Happy Hour, 2nd place on 4pts Wooly

Rollers, 3rd place on 3pts The Redundants, 4th place on 3pts Old Timers.

**Business Late Week 2:** 1st place on 6pts S&R Clarke Auto, 2nd place on 3pts The Squeezers, 3rd place on 3pts 3 Blind Mice and 4th place on 3pts The Ex-Men.

Top scores this week:

Men: Scott Lynch and Chris Chivers on 208pins and Riley Weinzierl and Lindsay Becker on 188pins.

Woman: Valma Peterson 188pins, Penny Wolswinkel 176pins and Mary Daroha 161pins.



The U15 Girls soccer team had a dominant win over Leongatha Knights on Sunday.

## Junior soccer highlights

### SOCCER

#### U15 Girls

The U15 Girls team journeyed to Leongatha to play the Leongatha Knights on Sunday.

In what was a pleasant surprise the game was played in glorious sunshine and light winds. In the first half the Breakers quickly came out of the blocks and by half time the scoreline was 8-0.

Ava Barber was the dominant first half scorer with four along with a few goal assists. The second half continued in the same vein with the girl's dominating in attack once again scoring another 7-0 and the final score ended up at 15-0.

**Best players:** Ava Barber, Hannah Titmarsh and Ariana Ward (Billie Geoghegan and Amara Pittorino in the second half).

**Goal Scorers:** Ava Barber and Hannah Titmarsh 5, Ebony Welsh, Ariana Ward, Lily Thomas, Amara Pittorino and Lily James 1.

Well done to the four Breakers girls who played for the Leongatha Knights to ensure they had the numbers in what was a great demonstration of sportsmanship. Also, acknowledgement to the Leongatha Knights who ran out the game with competitiveness and enthusiasm despite the one-sided scoreline. Congratulations to the girls on a great win.

#### U14 Stingrays

The U14 Stingrays faced a well-drilled Drouin side, going down 6-0 in a fast-paced and high-pressure game.

Despite the result, the Stingrays brought great energy and commitment across the field.

Manny was sensational in goal, pulling off some brilliant saves.

In the midfield, Hunter, Cooper and Callum worked tirelessly to push forward and create chances.

The defence was tested all game but stood firm under pressure, with Jordy awarded Player of the Match for his outstanding defensive effort.

The Stingrays played with heart from the first whistle to the last and should be proud of their teamwork, determination and positive attitude throughout the match.

#### U14 Penguins

Sunday saw the U14 Phillip Island Penguins play an away game against Leongatha on a stunning crisp sunny morning.

The team showed commendable teamwork, skilful foot skills and accurate passing to dominate for the majority of the game.

The solid defence line of Reuben, Ariana, Zach and Hannah kept Leongatha's strongest forward players at bay and goalkeeper Judd stopped many of Leongatha goal attempts.

Early in the first half a great set up by Levi saw Blake score the first goal of the game. Team captain Angus in the mid-field along with Matilda and Levi's speed on the wing kept the pressure on Leongatha as James and Reuben each secured another goal before half time.

Minutes into the second half Leongatha scored their first goal which was shortly answered by a spectacular header by Oisin from James' corner kick.

Beautiful play and a few near misses by Tamsin and Lily on the forward line and then well into the second half Tamsin scored her first goal.

James then secured the final goal of the game perfectly set up by Reuben.

**Final score:** 6-1.

#### U12

The U12 Girls played Leongatha Knights on Sunday.

Gabrielle Titmarsh quickly set the tone of the game by scoring within the first minute. It was a dominant display by the girls showcasing their passing and dribbling skills to create many goals.

Gabrielle Titmarsh, Lily Murphy, Kelsey Watson and Cassandra Rivans all scored multiple times in the first half.

In the second half the girls continued to dominate the game.

A fantastic one-two between Lottie Bland and Reagan Welsh got Lottie in behind the defence to score her first goal of the season. The boost in confidence saw Lottie Bland go on to score another three goals in the second half.

Aubrey Sherburn also got her first goal of the season and followed it up with a second goal. Reagan Welsh and Chelsea Chambers also scored multiple goals in the second half.

The final score was a 25-0 win to the Breakers.

While the U12 Girls beat Leongatha 7-1 earlier in the season, today's performance demonstrated how much the team has improved in just half a season.

It has taken a lot of hard work to improve so much, and all players should be proud of their efforts.

## Round 14 soccer results

**Senior Men's:** Phillip Island Breakers 2 d Leongatha Knights 0.

**Senior Women's:** Phillip Island Breakers 2 d Leongatha Knights 1

**Men's Reserves:** Phillip Island Breakers 3 d Leongatha Knights 0.

**Under 17 Mixed:** Phillip Island Breakers 2 drew Leongatha Knights Blue 2.

**Under 15 Girls:** Phillip Island Breakers 6 d Leongatha Knights 0.

**Under 14 Mixed:** Drouin Dragons Maroon 5 d Phillip Island Stingrays 0 and Phillip Island Penguins 6 d Leongatha Knights 1.

**Under 12 Girls:** Phillip Island Breakers 6 d Leongatha Knights 0.

**Under 12A Mixed:** Phillip Island Breakers 8 d Leongatha Knights Blue 2.

**Under 12B Mixed:** Phillip Island Penguins 4 d Leongatha Knights White 3.

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**14 BEACH RD, RHYLL PHILLIP ISLAND**





The U17s had an impressive win over Dalyston on Saturday.

# A Grade push Dalyston to the final whistle

NETBALL

A Grade

The Phillip Island A Grade team travelled to Dalyston on a stunning warm day and came out firing.

Despite a strong start, Dalyston's power through the court saw them edge ahead.

But the Island girls refused to back down, working tirelessly to close the gap and keeping themselves in the game right until the final whistle.

Ella Duggan was electric in goals, moving with confidence and shooting beautifully.

Aisha also had a standout performance in the ring, making a strong impact with her composure and accuracy.

Charli, Maya, Lexi and Hollie rotated through the midcourt, bringing energy, sharp drives and well-timed passes that connected the play seamlessly.

In defence, Liv, Hollie and the sister duo Charley and Hallie were rock-solid, applying pressure and coming up with crucial intercepts throughout the game.

It was a great team effort full of grit and determination; the girls played with heart and just fell short of the win.

U17

Phillip Island U17 team hit the court determined in Round 17 against Dalyston.

The team brought strong energy from the first whistle and maintained their momentum right through to the final siren.

Island shooters Aisha Hibbert and Ava Blake found their rhythm early, consistently converting under pressure and working beautifully together in the ring.

The midcourt Ellie Hennessy, Piper O'Brien Jasira Derham and Kate McCausland provided slick ball movement and linked up well with the shooters, maintaining strong transitions and holding their own in contests.

Defensively, Matilda Trew and Olivia Holmes were rock-solid, putting the Dalyston attack line under relentless pressure.

Their intercepts and rebounds proved crucial, especially in the final half.

**Final Score:** Phillip Island 33 defeated Dalyston 22.

**Awards:** Matilda Trew was unstoppable in defence, reading the play with precision and creating multiple turnovers. Ava Blake was strong and composed in goals, her movement and shooting accuracy was a standout.

Well done to all players for a competitive and exciting match.

For the rest of the Island girls' netball reports go to [www.pisra.com.au](http://www.pisra.com.au)



Kilcunda Bass B Grade GS Isabella Satorini about to take the pass against Koo Wee Rup on the weekend.

# Killy Bass battle it out with Koo Wee Rup

NETBALL

B Grade

B Grade went into Saturday clash against Koo Wee Rup expecting a physical contest and from the opening whistle it was just that.

The girls started well, playing steady and composed netball in the first quarter while adjusting to the slightly windy conditions.

The attacking end worked hard to position for safer, more controlled shooting options, which paid off as the team edged ahead by one goal at quarter time.

The second quarter remained tightly contested, with both sides applying consistent pressure.

Despite the efforts, Koo Wee Rup gained a slight edge, and we went into the main break trailing by just one goal.

Unfortunately, the third quarter proved to be the turning point. As Koo Wee Rup lifted their intensity, the girls struggled to match their focus and connection.

The game became unsettled for Killy Bass and despite their best efforts and their hard work at training, the team couldn't find their usual rhythm or cohesion.

Heading into the final quarter down by four, the girls continued to push, but were unable to close the gap.



Killy Bass GS Kylie Wookey in action.

It was a tough game that was certainly there to be won, but this week B Grade fell short of delivering their best team netball.

Plenty to take away and build on as the girls continue to work toward a strong finish to the season.

Best on court for their consistent efforts and always being the 'here if you need' option was Alison Carter.

Read the rest of the Kilcunda Bass Netball reports at [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)

# Gippsland Team Vic shine in Brisbane

SWIMMING

It's been a big week for the 10 Gippsland swimmers who were a part of Team Vic at the School Sports Australia Championships in Brisbane last week.

The swimmers competed in a range of individual events in the morning, coming back in the afternoon for finals.

All the swimmers made finals with some outstanding results, including a new Vic Country and School Sports Australia record for Archie Smyth in the 50m Backstroke.

Several swimmers swam together in the relays and have come home with medals.

The swimmers had a fantastic time racing as a team in the relays with others who are usually their competitors.

They enjoyed racing against swimmers from other states who they compete against at Nationals Age Championships.

The swimmers have a short week to recover before heading to Bendigo for the Country Championships next weekend.

SGB results from finals:

Claudia Croatto: 6th 100m Breaststroke, 7th 50m Breaststroke, 5th 200m Breaststroke, 3rd 10 x 50m Mixed free relay 5th 4x50m free relay, 8th Med-

ley relay.

Levi Jarrett: MC 7th 100m Breaststroke, 9th 50m Butterfly, 9th 200m Freestyle, 7th 100m Backstroke, 9th 50m Breaststroke, 9th 100m Freestyle, 9th 50m Backstroke, 7th Medley relay, 8th Freestyle Relay.

Miah Roberts: 7th 50m Backstroke, 6th 200m Backstroke, 4th 100m Backstroke, 8th Medley relay, 7th 4 x 100m Freestyle relay.

Archie Smyth: 1st 50m Backstroke, 2nd 200m Backstroke, 2nd 100m Backstroke, 8th 50m Butterfly, 8th 50m Freestyle, 5th 100m Freestyle, 3rd Freestyle Relay, 3rd Medley Relay.



Congratulations to Archie Smyth who came home with a collection of medals and records from the School Sports Australian Championships in Brisbane.

# Results from the table

BRIDGE

On Monday, Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour emerged victorious with an impressive 67.86 per cent.

Wednesday's Bridge was a Nationwide event, and it was dominated by Terry Sheafe and Julie Day, who achieved a remarkable 77.08 per cent.

Terry and Julie, who were holidaying at Venus Bay and usually play Bridge at Berwick, decided to join the local game and showcased their exceptional skills.

Looking ahead, the Traralgon Congress is set to take place on Saturday, August 16 (pairs) and Sunday, August 17 (teams).

Bridge enthusiasts should note this on their bridge calendar.

# 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 6 AUG	THU 7 AUG	FRI 8 AUG	SAT 9 AUG	SUN 10 AUG	MON 11 AUG	TUE 12 AUG
LOW 2:17 am 0.77 m	LOW 3:06 am 0.81 m	LOW 4:06 am 0.83 m	LOW 5:14 am 0.81 m	HIGH 12:13 am 2.40 m	HIGH 1:22 am 2.51 m	HIGH 2:23 am 2.64 m
HIGH 9:37 am 2.59 m	HIGH 10:39 am 2.58 m	HIGH 11:45 am 2.63 m	HIGH 12:47 pm 2.72 m	LOW 6:18 am 0.76 m	LOW 7:15 am 0.70 m	LOW 8:09 am 0.67 m
LOW 2:53 pm 1.53 m	LOW 3:55 pm 1.60 m	LOW 5:07 pm 1.59 m	LOW 6:17 pm 1.49 m	HIGH 1:42 pm 2.83 m	HIGH 2:30 pm 2.92 m	HIGH 3:12 pm 2.97 m
HIGH 8:43 pm 2.43 m	HIGH 9:43 pm 2.36 m	HIGH 10:57 pm 2.35 m		LOW 7:17 pm 1.33 m	LOW 8:09 pm 1.13 m	LOW 8:54 pm 0.93 m

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Well done to U14 Red award winners: Ryan Hain, Kai Sturt, Johnny Rizzo and Xavier Holmes.

# Mixed results for Island Juniors

## FOOTBALL

### U14 Red

The sun was shining, the grass was green, and both teams were ready to go from the first bounce.

Wonthaggi started strong, combining well through the midfield and hitting the scoreboard early.

Phillip Island had plenty of the ball but struggled to convert their efforts into forward entries.

Half time scores 28-13, Wonthaggi taking the lead.

In the second half, Denver sparked the game to life with some quick goals, supported by strong defensive work from the Island crew.

Despite a spirited finish, the Reds couldn't quite get over the line, but it was an entertaining contest and a great effort from all involved, especially with some key talls out.

A big thank you to the U12 Red young pups for stepping up and having a crack with the older kids.

Some exciting times ahead for the future unfortunately the team couldn't



U12 Pups all celebrating their new jumpers, sponsored by Salt Law.

get the win.  
**Final score:** Wonthaggi 49 def Phillip Island-Red 20.  
**Best on for Reds:** Ryan, Johnny, Kai and Xavier.

### U14 Blue

U14 Blue were home this week against neighbours Killy Bass for the second last game of the fixture.

It was a strong, competitive game with Phillip Island coming out determined to put their name on the ball.

The Blues played as a

team and worked hard for each other with solid tackles and defence leading to movement, confidence and scores to the board.

**Final score:** Phillip Island 35 defeated Wonthaggi 17.  
**Goal kickers:** Kai Denblyden 2, Flynn Riley, Jax Marshall and Spencer Smith 1.

**Awards:** Kai Denblyden, Archie Robinson, Taj Piera and Kolby Carton.

Read the rest of the Junior footy reports at [www.pisra.com.au](http://www.pisra.com.au)



Justin Braumann Hall with the ball; Jarvis Stafferton shepherds in the Killy Bass and Island Juniors. More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)

# Solid efforts and steady growth for Killy Bass Juniors

## FOOTBALL

### U14

The U14 team started slow, allowing Phillip Island Blue to kick three goals to two points in the first quarter.

For the next two quarters it was an arm wrestle with the ball moving from one end to another.

The boys didn't give up, kicking two quick goals in the last and keeping the Island to only two goals for the remainder of the game.

The first quarter turned out to be the difference for the day, with the Island winning by three goals.

**Awards:** Justin Braumann-Hall, Travis Hockley, Saya Logan and Sammuel Cole.

### U12

A really gallant effort from all the kids on Sun-

day against a strong Phillip Island team.

After a tough first quarter, the defence held up brilliantly, keeping them to just two more goals for the rest of the game.

The final three quarters were closely contested, and the kids never stopped trying.

Clancy Quinlan worked hard all day on the wing, while Bailey Pool and Miles Leary were strong through the midfield.

Down back, Alfie Russo and Chaze Poulton led the way under pressure.

Rory Nicholas had a great game up forward, kicking the only goal with confidence.

Lots of positives to take from this one.

**Goal Kicker:** Rory Nicholas.

**Best Players:** Clancy Quinlan, Bailey Pool,

Miles Leary, Alfie Russo, Rory Nicholas and Chaze Poulton.

**Awards:** Clancy Quinlan, Alfie Russo, Casper Hicks and Taio Braumann-Hall.

### U10

The U10 team headed back to Phillip Island for the second week in a row.

The sun was shining and so were the players as they played four quarters of fantastic team football.

All year the kids have grown as a team and confidence in each other has blossomed.

The hard work that has been put in at training is showing on the field as the kids' playing levels have improved out of sight.

Killy Bass boys are looking forward to a really confident showing next week for the last game of the year against Leongatha.

# Tough weekend but plenty of heart from Killy Bass

## FOOTBALL

### Seniors

A hard-fought day for the Seniors team that headed to Koo Wee Rup with a good attitude.

Kilcunda Bass started the game slow, and it wasn't until the last quarter where the team played their best footy.

By then however, it was too late, Koo Wee Rup held on to win 56 to 48.

### Reserves

Another tough day for the reserves.

The boys fought hard but were outdone on the day.

There were some highlights, but overall, Killy Bass just couldn't string it together.

**Final score:** Killy Bass 11 to Koo Wee Rup 102.

### U16

The weekend saw Killy Bass travel to Koo Wee Rup fielding our youngest team for the season in an attempt to take the win to cement their spot in the finals.

With the opposition making the most of their opportunities, the boys were down by two goals at quarter time.

The second quarter was a fierce affair with both teams throwing everything at each other.

The boys showed great composure and discipline when tested by their opponents. The midfield crew of Pez, Chuck and Harvey worked tirelessly in and around the contest.

The third quarter was another arm wrestle, with no space or run offered by either team. The backline was tremendous, continu-

ally putting their heads over the ball often against bigger opponents.

Young Eli 'Bakes', despite his size, showed no fear, attacking every contest and tackling with ferocity.

Gus Oats got better as the game wore on, throwing his body around at every contest.

The fearless captain Pez, carrying an arm injury, led the way trying to inspire his teammates for one last push.

Despite not getting the win, the boys fought until the end, outscoring the opposition in the last quarter.

Another strong display from the young and ever improving group.

The boys should be proud of their efforts.

**Best players:** Perry McKay, Gus Oats, Charlie Burgess and Harvey Leary.

# Island dominate at Dalyston



Mark Griffin showing his skills in his 200th Game in the Seniors match, the Bulldogs dominating against Dalyston.



The U16 team had another strong win on the weekend and were thrilled to have Cooper Walton back in the team after his injury. More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)



