

# ADVERTISER

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Wednesday, August 7, 2024

\$1.80 Incl. GST



## Well spotted! Celebrating 101 days of school

As schools across the shire celebrated the 100-day milestone for this year's preps, the prep students at Cowes Primary School mixed it up a little, instead marking 101 days of school with a Dalmatian themed dress up, like these cute little pups Saige and Georgie. See more school coverage on page 8.

## Silverleaves' erosion an "emergency situation": MP

### ENVIRONMENT

Silverleaves' foreshore needs "emergency protection" following a winter of accelerated erosion, with the "sea very close to spilling" into property, according to residents.

Homeowners in the past week met with Federal MP for Monash Russell Broadbent, showing him the impact of inundation, and requesting \$5 million in federal funding for environmental protection to protect the foreshore.

Mr Broadbent agreed it was "an emergency situation that needs to be rectified urgently".

The residents also called on

the State Government to quickly release a long-awaited report expected to recommend solutions to Silverleaves' erosion, and fulfil a commitment to meet with impacted property owners.

In July last year then Bass Coast Shire mayor Michael Whelan met with Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale, and Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) representatives – following weeks of pressure and anger by anxious residents – to discuss actions to stop accelerating erosion.

At that time the government said they would undertake a coastal processes study over the

next few months, to examine options to stop erosion.

The study was delayed until the beginning of this year but Ms Crugnale last week confirmed DEECA had a draft version of the Gippsland West Coastal Processes Study – Observation Point to Silverleaves and it would be shared with the community "in the coming period" with an on-line community event.

She explained a mooted on-line community event for August 8 had been postponed to allow time "to finalise the draft ahead of the public release of the report".

"Once rescheduled, the online

community event will be open to all interested people and recorded for those who are unable to attend the live event," she said.

"DEECA continues to work closely with Bass Coast Shire Council to monitor the conditions at Silverleaves."

Mr Broadbent said he would be "quite happy" to apply for environmental funding on residents' behalf.

"I am surprised at the extent of the erosion and remain very concerned about the impacts and likelihood of future erosion, which has the potential to cause significant damage to the properties in Silverleaves."

In the past week alone strong northerly winds and a high tide saw two metres of erosion between Ellen Court and Sanders Road, the worst impacted area,

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	9 15	9 15	9 14	8 14	8 14	10 18	13 17



They might not have the same vocal talent, but our little penguins officially sold more tickets in Australia than Taylor Swift in the last financial year.

# It's official: little penguins bigger than Taylor Swift

## TOURISM

The question on almost no local's lips has finally been answered: the penguin parade officially sold more tickets in Australia than Taylor Swift in the last financial year.

Figures released last week by Phillip Island Nature Parks (PINP) report there were 709,527 visitors to the island's little penguins in the 2023-24 financial year, a 30 per cent surge on the 2022-23 period.

Across seven shows earlier this year, it is estimated the international megastar sold just under 630,000 tickets to three and four shows in Melbourne

and Sydney respectively.

Georgia Louey, an avid Taylor Swift fan born and raised on Phillip Island, assessed the numbers with a little more typical Swiftie zeal, noting the enormous crowds which gathered outside the gates of each concert.

"Phillip Island penguins are a big tourist destination. I wouldn't be shocked if there were more visitors there throughout the last year," Georgia laughed.

The number of international tourists who attended the world-famous penguin parade in the last year jumped by over 100,000 people – one full MGC

stadium – to 251,208.

According to PINP, the highest international visitation came from China, Taiwan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, India and the UK.

Ayla Aksenov, 18, from San Remo said she wasn't surprised at all the little penguins had pipped the global cultural icon.

"It should always be the people's priority to see the beauty and experience the nature of Phillip Island," Ayla said.

"Taylor Swift is a massive worldwide celebrity, but clearly so are our little penguins who wander up the beach every day and then return home to 'shake it off'."

# Purple bins in, green compostable liners out

## WASTE

Just as households across Bass Coast had embraced using the green compostable caddy liners, the State Government looks set to ban their use.

The government has proposed regulations for household waste and recycling, which is out for public comment until August 14.

The regulations will herald a new standardised waste system for all of Victoria from July 1, 2027, with four streams: glass, food and garden waste, mixed recyclables, and general rubbish.

According to a Household Waste and Recycling Service Standard, in the 'not accepted in green bins' category is compostable plastic caddy liners, while this item is accepted in the general rubbish service category.

A Bass Coast Shire spokesperson said if the proposed regulations proceed as currently proposed, council would be obliged to introduce a fourth (purple) bin for glass for those properties eligible for kerbside waste services.

"Council's other bin types and bin lid colours already comply with the proposed standards," the spokesperson said.

"Recycling processes will certainly need to be revisited, as there are significant differences between the proposed standard bin contents and what is currently accepted – and not accepted – by council's recycling and organics processors."

The spokesperson said there was currently no agreed timeline, and no indication of costs, and the



The State Government looks set to ban the use of green compostable caddy liners by 2027, under proposals currently out for community feedback.

shire was still working through the proposed changes with other councils and Recycling Victoria.

"It is far too early to reasonably assess the impact on costs to ratepayers," the spokesperson said.

"Council will be seeking State Government support to meet any increased costs of providing waste and recycling services.

"Council cannot advise further on any proposed response until the final regulations and service standard have been formally confirmed."

The spokesperson said residents and ratepayers should review and have their say on the proposed changes by August 14.

Details: [engage.vic.gov.au/setting-the-standard-for-better-recycling-at-home](https://engage.vic.gov.au/setting-the-standard-for-better-recycling-at-home)

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"Theft is always going to happen," IGA San Remo manager Shayne Crawford said after upping store security measures. "But it's just really prevalent now I think with the cost-of-living crisis and everything else."

# "Trolleys full of groceries" stolen from San Remo IGA

## BUSINESS

The San Remo IGA recently put in place new security measures to prevent shoplifting, after people were walking out of the store without paying for entire trolleys full of groceries amidst the cost-of-living crisis.

Manager of the IGA, Shayne Crawford, explained new barriers have been put in place at the entrance of the store, and it is now mandatory for staff to hand receipts to customers after theft skyrocketed in the last three months.

While the store manager said theft has always been present, the recent spike has meant the store had no choice but to up security measures.

"We've had tons of theft in the last three months, everything from kids right up to adults, filling up trolleys full of groceries and walking straight out the door," Shayne said.

"And then there's even shiftier ones, people buying tobacco who will ask for a certain pack of cigarettes and then go: 'oh no, I'll actually have that one.' The service attendant leaves it on the counter and they'll just quickly walk off with it while the staff member is distracted."

The store manager acknowl-

edged having to take a receipt with each purchase could be a little tedious, but "because of the large amount of theft going on at the moment, we've really just had to crack down."

Shayne also said thieves would take advantage of the store's open layout, which is why barriers had to be installed.

"It's coming at a pretty big cost to us, but in the scheme of things, compared to the theft we've seen, it's only minor."

Shayne said their self-serve checkouts were turned off approximately three years ago due to theft, and the fact the IGA "is more of a local grocer, there for locals and happy to help".

"Theft is always going to happen," Shayne said, "but it's just really prevalent now I think with the cost-of-living crisis and everything else."

## Support

If Phillip Island and San Remo residents are struggling to afford food, a number of community-run organisations exist to support those in need.

The PICAL pantry, located at 16 Warley Avenue in Cowes, offers free food and other essentials for those struggling during the cost-of-living crisis, and there are no barriers or means

testing for receiving free food.

Earlier this year, centre manager David Rooks told the Advertiser "when people come to the pantry there are no questions asked, there are no judgements made, there's no criteria you have to pass".

The PICAL pantry is open to the public Monday to Friday, 9am till 3pm.

Another pantry, more specifically tailored for 'mums and bubs', was established in the Myli library located in Berninnet in May this year.

Run by the Country Women's Association (CWA) Twilight Branch, president Sally Ann Matthews said the pantry is "primarily aimed at mums, bubs, toddlers and women experiencing problems with the cost-of-living crisis".

The pantry provides a range of free items including nappies, food, shampoo and 'feel good' products, and again there are no questions asked when taking items from the pantry.

The library is open from 9.30am until 5pm on most weekdays (closing at 6.30pm on Wednesdays, and 10am - 1.30pm on Saturdays).

St John's Uniting Church in Cowes provides a free community meal every Monday evening.



During the fourth quarter of 2023/24, Bass Coast paramedics treated 753 Code 1 cases, with 61 per cent responded to in under 15 minutes.

# Local paramedics performance on the up

## HEALTH

Paramedics across Gippsland faced the busiest quarter on record, with the Bass Coast team rising to the challenge.

According to figures released by Ambulance Victoria, during the fourth quarter of 2023/24, Bass Coast paramedics treated 753 Code 1 cases, with 61 per cent responded to in under 15 minutes.

This is up from 58.8 per cent in the fourth quarter in the previous year.

The figures showed that in between 60 and 70 per cent of Code 1 cases were responded to within 15 minutes. Overall, the average response time was between 15 and 20 minutes.

The figures also included a breakdown of Code 1 responses in urban centre localities, which showed Wonthaggi Hospital had dropped to 77.1 per cent, compared to 85.6 per cent in the previous fourth quarter. The average wait time was 13:10 minutes.

Wonthaggi also dropped for Code 2 responses, with the average wait time now 53:45, compared to 48:04 the previous year.

Code 2 response for Bass Coast paramedics had also gone down, with the average response time 46:15, compared to 42:43 in the 2022/23 fourth quarter.

Ambulance Victoria (AV) Gippsland Regional Director Ross Salathiel said demand across the Gippsland Region increased by 4.7 per cent - or 273 more Code 1 cases - compared with a year ago.

"The entire health system continues to be extremely busy due to seasonal illness such as flu, COVID-19 and RSV circulating within our communities and our workforce," Mr Salathiel said.

"It is important that everyone does their part. If your matter is not an emergency, consider using alternative care options and keep our highly skilled paramedics available for patients most in need."

Mr Salathiel said April to June was AV's busiest quarter ever with more than 102,000 Code 1 cases across Victoria - breaking the previous record of 100,238 Code 1 cases set in October to December 2022.

Performance against the 15-minute target for Code 1 cases improved in 55 of Victoria's 79 Local Government Areas (LGAs) compared with a year ago. In the Gippsland Region, the biggest improvements were in the Wellington, East Gippsland, Latrobe and Baw Baw LGAs.

Executive Director Regional Operations Danielle North said about one in five calls to Triple Zero (000) did not need an emergency ambulance response.

She urged the public to look at alternative care pathways when they need "timely medical care and health advice but not an emergency ambulance".

These include the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department (VVED) at [www.vved.org.au](http://www.vved.org.au), local Priority Primary Care Centres (PPCC), GP or pharmacist, or Nurse-On-Call on 1300 60 60 24.

"Staying up to date with your yearly flu and COVID-19 vaccinations helps protect you, the people around you, and makes a difference reducing demand on our paramedics during this busy time."

For more information about routine winter vaccinations or finding your nearest PPCC, visit the Better Health website at [www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au).

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# He saves seashells for the sea floor

## WESTERN PORT

Are you a recreational angler who loves fishing in Western Port?

Or perhaps a local restaurant sending mussel, oyster and scallop shells to landfill?

Perhaps you just want to give back to the bay?

Either way, OzFish needs your help.

The non-profit, national organisation, which aims to restore habitat and support anglers, has just kickstarted a project to re-establish fish ecosystems and populations around Western Port.

OzFish senior project manager for Victoria Andy Foudoulis said since March, staff and volunteers have started a trial, collecting tonnes of waste shellfish shells from restaurants and wholesalers on the Mornington Peninsula.

Andy said the Shell Saver project shells are then taken to a Flinders recycling facility where they are cleaned and left out for nine months to be cured hygienically by the sun and elements.



OzFish senior project manager for Victoria Andy Foudoulis said the national organisation, which aims to restore habitat and support anglers, has just kickstarted a project to re-establish fish ecosystems and populations around Western Port.

And then?

"Then the next step in the plan is to take the shells and make reefs to encourage fish and other marine creatures to gather and breed," Andy said.

"It's a matter of build (the reefs) and they will come. It's about kickstarting ecosystems that were once there but now lost.

"Yes we are making a home for fish so anglers can catch, but

what we're doing is a lot deeper than that. It's about anglers giving back to improve the marine ecosystem."

Andy said given the project was in its infancy, the Shell Saver shells would initially be used in Port Phillip Bay at a depth of up to 12 metres.

But ultimately the plan is to expand to Western Port.

"Western Port is a massive priority because it's Ramsar

listed (a site of international importance).

"We are looking for areas to deploy this so it's a matter of if not when."

### Waste

He said if there were any Phillip Island or San Remo restaurants or wholesalers who had waste shells currently going to landfill, he'd like to hear from them.

"For us to come to the island

we'd like to provide bins where they can deposit one tonne a week or month," he said, explaining that would be the equivalent of about four 24 litre wheelie bins.

Shells were generally collected weekly, or stored in cool rooms to avoid smells.

Andy said in parallel OzFish were always seeking volunteers.

Currently the group has nine chapters in Victoria and a couple of hundred volunteers, who all initiate projects in their local area.

"We would love to have a chapter in Western Port. That would be a priority."

Most recently OzFish and the Western Port Biosphere worked together with schools to plant mangroves in Western Port to restore habitat.

"Anyone who wants to do more work in the bay, but doesn't know how to do it, we can help the community get involved."

Details: [ozfish.org.au/projects/reef-ball-rejuvenation-project/](http://ozfish.org.au/projects/reef-ball-rejuvenation-project/)

# Noise concerns again raised over track

## RACING

The Victorian Ombudsman could be alerted to concerns about noise from increased commercial driving days at the Phillip Island Circuit.

The Phillip Island Conservation Society (PICS) in their July newsletter states overuse of the GP Circuit was causing an "unresolved noise problem for our community and environment".

"This is continuous commercial use, not the six well-publicised big racing events held each year," PICS states.

In May the group wrote to the EPA requesting the matter of commercial use be examined.

PICS also requested a new circuit noise notice was needed to give the community "more respite".

However the EPA rejected the request and suggested an appeal to the Victorian Ombudsman.

Last week PICS president Greg Johnson confirmed the group was currently considering whether to appeal.

"Noise from the circuit is not a new issue," Mr Johnson said.



According to noise monitoring data published on the circuit's website, in the past year there have been 21 "loudest" days above 95 decibels, and 160 "quite loud" days up to 95dB.

"Over the years there's been an increasing use of the circuit and the concern is the consecutive days of use."

According to noise monitoring data published on the circuit's website, in the past year there have been 21 "loudest" days above 95 decibels (15 midweek days and six weekend for major events), and 160 "quite loud" days up to 95dB (for club events and ride days).

There were 112 days of moderate noise (up to 75dB), which includes vehicle launches and

driver training days, and 72 quiet days.

A lawnmower is 94dB and exposure to sounds at 85dB can damage hearing.

Circuit management did not respond to Advertiser questions.

### History

In 2020 two Smiths Beach residents called for more noise controls at the circuit, even suggesting a complaints hotline be set up by the Bass Coast Shire.

One resident said for three decades he had called for the shire

and the EPA to monitor and enforce noise breaches.

"Phone calls to the EPA are told it is a shire problem. The shire says it is EPA. Collectively, there is no control and no rules so they can do what they want," the resident said, adding the noise was constant, from 9am - 6pm.

Another resident said while the track was a "welcome economic addition to the island", without "proper noise abatement and realistic noise levels, the operation of the track severely conflicts with Phillip Island's values".

"The island is also a place for all to enjoy the outdoors, nature, activities and beaches. Excessive track noise has a definite adverse effect on these enjoyments."

A 2015 EPA survey found noise complaints from the track were the third highest in Victoria at 11 per cent, with amplified music across the state the highest at 48 per cent, followed by noise from Victorian industry (19 per cent).

In 2020 the EPA confirmed to the Advertiser there were no regulations for trackside noise by motor vehicle racing in Victoria.

"However, if noise is being generated by vehicle testing in excess of the applicable regulations, EPA may have an enforcement role," the spokesman said.

The Phillip Island Conservation Society in a submission to State Government noise controls in 2018 highlighted concerns around track noise, saying residents don't object to major sporting events but it was "the frequent industrial use of the track and the apparent lack of any permit control or redress which is the main issue".

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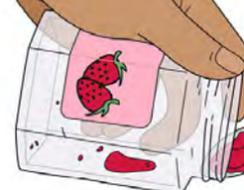
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# Future of Bass Coast up for consultation

**COUNCIL**

The Bass Coast Shire Council has now held three of four 'drop-in' sessions across Phillip Island and San Remo, where community members were invited to share their insights about the future of Bass Coast.

The sessions were held at the Visitor Information Centre in Newhaven, Berninnet in Cowes, and the Churchill Island Market, with one more session to be held on Friday August 23 from 10am to 12pm at the San Remo Foreshore.

The aim of the drop-in sessions is to inform the review of four key strategic documents set to shape the future direction of Bass Coast Council as the local government election beckons, including: Community Vision, the Financial Plan, the Asset Plan and the Council Plan 2025-29.

The three main questions posed to the community, who were able to write their responses on sticky-notes and post to each respective board, included:

- What aspects of Bass Coast do you feel are most important to protect and preserve?
- What does your ideal future Bass Coast look like?
- What is one thing you love most about Bass Coast?

**Findings**

At last weekend's session, there were resounding calls to protect and preserve the natural coastal environment of Bass Coast and maintain the area's 'rural' feel by preventing over development.

Other responses included preserving Bass Coast's community spirit and connectedness, as well as Bunurong culture.

When asked about their ideal future vision for Bass Coast, respondents stressed the need for better public transport, more open space including bike tracks,

walking tracks and playgrounds, and the building of the long-awaited aquatic centre. Affordable community housing, better waste management, and a second bridge crossing were also posted by members of the community.

Natural beauty and wildlife, surf breaks, the rural lifestyle and 'the people' notched highest among what residents most love about Bass Coast.

At each session, there was also a chart where respondents were able to place three stickers in order to indicate their top priorities for the future direction of Bass Coast Shire Council.

At the Cowes session there was a clear trend for council to prioritise environment and climate change as well as farming and agriculture, followed by arts, events and tourism and sports grounds and facilities.

At the Churchill Island session, which overwhelmingly attracted the most engagement, roads and footpaths topped the list of priorities, followed by sports grounds and facilities, supporting local business, environment and climate change, and feeling connected.

Only three members of the public were present at the Visitor Information Centre session in Newhaven, which was held from 5.30pm to 7pm on a Wednesday night last month.

**Community voices**

Melodie Moltzen is a teacher and mother-of-two who lives in San Remo and said her first priority was "the natural area and keeping that preserved. That's really important".

"Having two young kids I'd love to see a skatepark in Newhaven or San Remo because we do a lot of driving to the skate parks. But just keeping the natural integrity of the area that's

what's really important to us."

Hyph Webb-Johnson of Cape Woolamai said he was for supporting local business, "so when tourists come down the locals don't get squeezed out, so the businesses can still thrive and look after the locals and tourists all at once".

"And access for people to do stuff, like sporting facilities, making sure the access to the beaches are all maintained and looked after. Inclusiveness for kids and families as well as adult groups."

Keely Garrett-Bevan (25) from Kilcunda, said community, a sense of togetherness and folks looking after each other was what mattered most to her about Bass Coast.

Keely said while the council is currently completing important works in Kilcunda, including putting in a much-needed pedestrian crossing on the main road, road safety was still her number one priority.

"I'd also like a bit more wildlife signage, particularly in Kilcunda. There are so many wombats and kangaroos and animals that have just been killed."

Millie Frawley (18) of Cape Woolamai agreed there should be more safety signage and added that areas of her neighbourhood are particularly dark and not suitably lit when she walks home from her local job.

"It's scary sometimes (walking home). There are no footpaths and no lights. You have to walk down roads and around roundabouts and sometimes you can't see the cars. It's not very safe on the roads at night."

Members of the community are also encouraged to provide their feedback online via the Bass Coast's engage website at: [engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/ourbasscoastourfuture](https://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/ourbasscoastourfuture)



Mr Quackers' surgery went ahead after an outpouring of community generosity, and the life of a duck which belonged to the late, iconic Phillip Island artist DAK has been saved.

## Surgery saves Mr Quackers

**COMMUNITY**

Mr Quackers, the former beloved pet of the late Phillip Island metal sculptor, DAK, has been saved after a "heartwarming" outpouring of community generosity.

Early last month Mr Quackers was diagnosed with bumblefoot, a highly painful condition found in the feet of ducks and was all but set to be euthanised before a community fundraiser amassed enough money for the expensive and technical surgery.

Mr Quackers' caretaker Jess O'Brien said the fundraiser "came down to the wire", but DAK's treasured duck has now undergone a successful surgery, just in the nick of time before his bacterial infection spread to the bone.

"Now he's right as rain," Jess said,

"It looks like Mr Quackers has got a pretty good future ahead of him."

"I really do thank everybody that pledged and donated. I was incredibly touched by how many people came out to save Mr Quackers."

"I didn't expect it. I had a

game plan in place and the fundraiser was a bit of a Hail Mary. But I just think it's beautiful and very heartwarming to see because it is tough times for people right now."

Jess said the majority of donations were between \$15 and \$20, with a few \$50 and \$100 donations, however at the time Jess booked the surgery she was still \$484 short.

"And then a beautiful person actually over donated; they donated \$1000 dollars even though we were only \$484 short. They didn't want change and said put it towards the next vet bill for one of the ducks. So, it's gone to the unusual pet vets and now we are in credit," Jess said.

"Everyone is obviously doing it tough at the moment, and all those amounts made such a difference and saved Mr Quackers."

"I think it was beautiful with the community coming together. He is a perfectly healthy duck that just had this one issue to be dealt with or he needed to be put down."

"I can't stress enough how thankful I am for everyone who helped save DAK's duck."

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## Our Bass Coast. Our Future.

Bass Coast Shire Council is excited to launch 'Our Bass Coast. Our Future' and we're asking what you love about Bass Coast? What should be a priority for Council? What should be preserved? And what does the future look like? Your input will identify the priority focus areas for Council for the next four years.

We're holding drop-in sessions and an online survey where you can let us know what you think.

**Drop-in sessions:**

**Tuesday, 13 August**  
11.00am to 2.00pm - Inverloch Community Hub

**Friday, 23 August**  
10.00am to 12.00pm - San Remo Foreshore

**Online survey**  
<https://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/ourbasscoastourfuture>

**Complete our survey**

**BASS COAST**



The Eric Juckett mural commissioned by the Shire of Phillip Island's Bicentennial committee was unveiled by Australia's Governor General Sir Ninian Stephen. A pictorial record of events that shaped the history and direction of Phillip Island since 1801, it was displayed at the Cowes Cultural Centre until its demolition to make way for Berninneit.

# Teething problems at Berninneit

## COMMUNITY

Members of Island Voice met last week with Bass Coast Shire Council officers to discuss community concerns about the future of three historic artefacts, formerly on public display in the old Cultural Centre.

They are the Eric Juckett historic mural celebrating Australia's bicentennial, unveiled by the Governor General of Australia in 1988; the Artists Society of Phillip Island Region (ASPIR) Textile Group tapestry celebrating Phillip Island's 150 years of settlement; and the John Adams mural.

Council is proposing the Eric Juckett historic mural, which details the history of Phillip Island settlement, remain in the Cowes Primary School gymnasium, where it was sent for storage following demolition of the old Cultural Centre, instead of at Berninneit.

Council has also stated that it does not have a suitable location for permanent display of the five-metre by 2.5 metre tapestry created by the ASPIR Textile Group.

The tapestry, which marks 150 years of settlement on Phillip Island, was presented to the people of Phillip Island in 2018, by the Textile Group. It was accepted by then Bass Coast Shire Mayor Pam Rothfield, on behalf of the community. It is currently being stored at Newhaven College.

Council says it is committed to safe storage and will assist the Textile Group with temporary display options at ASPIR events, of which there are two annually scheduled for Berninneit.

Still under investigation, in a suitable location other than Berninneit, is the John Adam mural which was displayed on an outside wall of the old Cultural Centre. It is currently stored at the Sale Art Gallery.

### History on display

Island Voice president Peter Paul appealed to council not to forsake public access to historical items that were on exhibition in the old Cultural Centre.

"If our history is dismissed as unimportant, and hidden away,

then future generations and visitors to the island will have no understanding of the island's past," he commented.

"Who builds an Art Centre where there are no central displays and nothing is permitted to be put up on the walls? Is our history to begin with the art of today," he queried.

"These murals and their accompanying interpretation gave everyone who entered the former centre a pictorial sense of Phillip Island's rich history, beginning from Lieutenant Grants voyage into Western Port in 1800, through to its development from settlement until 1988.

"Our community is proud of its history and wants to see it remain on public view at Berninneit."

Mr Paul requested council officers consider options put forward by Island Voice for their permanent display, such as mounting them vertically on freestanding moveable structures, in the spacious and lengthy entrance hall.

A willingness to raise funds to achieve this was expressed by members at the meeting.

Mr Paul pointed out the Eric Juckett mural was commissioned using a Shire of Phillip Island grant; the John Adams mural was commissioned by Bass Coast Shire, and the artist was the recipient of five Bass Coast Shire Acquisitive art prizes.

Speaking independently of the meeting, Greg Price, Chairman of the Phillip Island Bicentennial Committee which commissioned the Eric Juckett mural in 1988, believes it is a shame if the community is to lose such historic displays.

He also noted the community ended up with a very small space in Berninneit to accommodate its local history.

"Bass Coast Shire and its Wonthaggi based staff do not apparently value our artefacts in the same way we island residents do. Councillors don't seem to be aware or involved in these deliberations," Greg commented.

He said he is pleased to know that the Cowes Primary School is caring for the Bicentennial

mural.

"At least some of the island's students will be able to enjoy it," he said.

Another major concern has emerged since the opening of Berninneit with local clubs and organisations keen to use it for meetings and functions, unable to do so for several reasons (see separate article).

### Community involvement

Speaking after the meeting, Mr Paul said he believes councillors should become more involved in the decision-making process, and implored officers to follow up options suggested to address the issues identified.

He called for a review of community use at Berninneit, so the issues identified by the community can be ironed out. He's also called for broader community consultation opportunities, to allow input from potential user groups affected by the regulations governing use of Berninneit.

Lack of appropriate signage for the venue was also raised at the meeting.

Council officers at the meeting agreed everyone wants the best possible outcome at Berninneit, and listening to and understanding of all concerns is needed to achieve this.

They stated their current key concern is that the artefacts under discussion are preserved and accessible.

"At this point we are focused on the preservation aspect while we work through the display options," the officers said.

In relation to hall hire, a council staff member agreed to follow up with a member of the team who handles the bookings, and to discuss the matter further.

"We are happy to discuss this with you when we catch up next. We can also discuss the RSA (Responsible Service of Alcohol) and the references to the community spaces as a hall; as these spaces are not the same as a traditional hall for hire."

A policy with recommendations is expected to be presented to the August council meeting.



Local clubs and organisations say they are unable to use these spaces at the new cultural centre for meetings and functions due to issues with cost, kitchen facilities and liquor regulations. Photo: Peter Clarke.

# Function concerns for community

## BERNINNEIT

Local clubs and organisations say they are unable to use the new cultural centre for meetings and functions for a range of reasons.

This issue was also raised at a meeting organised with council to discuss historical artefacts (see separate story), with officers agreeing to discuss it further with their booking team.

In recent weeks, at least three local groups couldn't book the largest community room for functions because of cost, inadequate kitchen facilities and new liquor regulations at the centre.

"While the theatre is very well patronised, and is a wonderful asset, the hall and community rooms are not well used, because our grassroots clubs and organisations cannot afford them," Peter Paul, Island Voice president said.

"There is not much point in watching a large section of a brand-new facility sit empty, while community groups are forced to go elsewhere."

A hiring fee of over \$3000 to stage the Phillip Island Football Netball Club (PIFNC) annual fundraising ball, a kitchen incapable of catering for a large event, and a council requirement that the club pay a council "team" to serve alcohol at all Berninneit functions resulted in the club reluctantly cancelling the ball, as there is now no suitable alternative public venue on the island.

The PIFNC stated as well as the hire fee, the alcohol regulation is a costly and unnecessary expense for an organisation trying to raise funds through an annual social function.

Previously, the function operated under a temporary liquor license obtained by the club. However Berninneit requires clubs to operate under the council's liquor license, and council staff to replace club volunteers serving alcohol. The club said the rule is impractical with table service for 200 over five hours both labour intensive and expensive, adversely impacting fundraising targets.

A local theatre group was keen to use the new hall for a recent theatre in the round production, with drinks and nibbles enjoyed by patrons seated at tables. However they had to change their plans, hiring the Senior Citizens hall instead, when it became obvious that costs and alcohol regulations at Berninneit were beyond them.

A Literary Luncheon featuring author Jock Sarong, to be presented by a local Book Club, will now be held at the Phillip Island Winery. While the Berninneit hall is beautiful, the kitchen facility was incapable of catering for the 150 guests expected.

It was suggested the council establish a local committee with broader stakeholder representation to assist council to better understand local needs, and help iron out the current problems.

Greg Price, who has raised the issue of the prohibitively high cost for local groups for use of the facility, supports a review at this stage.

"Unless Bass Coast Shire sponsors organisations, as they have recently done for the Whale and the Writers' Festival, Berninneit is largely unaffordable for most other local community groups," he said.

# Local lottery success



The team at Cowes Newsagency was thrilled to have sold a Division 1 winning entry to Saturday's lottery.

Cowes Newsagency sold a Division 1 winning entry to the August 3 lottery.

"What a fabulous Sunday morning one of our customers had," said David from the Newsagency.

"Our whole team - Amy, Lisa, Angela, Donna and I

want to congratulate our division 1 winner and are thrilled to have played a small part in helping their dream become a reality.

"We wish the recipient all the very best."

# Historical Society faces space crunch

BERNINNEIT

The Phillip Island and District Historical Society is facing a significant challenge following its move to the new Cultural Centre.

Following the demolition of its premises in Thompson Avenue three years ago to make way for Berninneit, it has been a challenge for the Society to accommodate the treasure trove of island history formerly on display there.

The new museum and research room now occupies 45 per cent less space than in its former premises.

The Society's president Doug Wain confirmed the Historical Society has been forced to now store a large portion of its collection in an offsite secure storage facility, as they have no space at Berninneit.

"Whilst we have had to seek offsite storage for the large items in the collection, we are grateful that council has contributed to our storage challenge with the installation of a compactus – a very efficient filing unit able to house the smaller and precious or vulnerable items," Mr Wain said.

One important item that has not found a home and cannot be used in the new centre is the original Phillip Island Shire council table and chairs, including the grand mayoral chair. These date back to the late 1920s, when Phillip Island gained municipal independence from the mainland.

For the past four years these invaluable pieces of our history have been stored in a private warehouse, at the expense of a generous Society member.

Unfortunately, the storage arrangement can no longer continue and the Historical Society is at a loss for a solution.

With no room to house these significant artefacts within their current space, the Society is reaching out to the community for help.

"We are calling on the community for ideas on where these historic items could be safely stored and displayed," Mr Wain



The Historical Society space at Berninneit. The group said it has now been forced to now store a large portion of its collection in an offsite secure storage facility.

said.

"These pieces are not just furniture.

"They represent an important part of Phillip Island's history and heritage.

"Possible solutions could include finding another temporary storage facility, securing a display space within a local business or public building, or even a community funded project to create a dedicated space for these artefacts."

The Historical Society welcomes all suggestions, and is hopeful the community will come together to preserve these vital links to our past, so they are not lost for future generations.

Those who have ideas or wish to contribute in any way, please contact the Phillip Island Historical Society at [hello@philipislandhistory.org.au](mailto:hello@philipislandhistory.org.au).

"Together we can ensure that these historic treasures remain an accessible and celebrated part of our local heritage.

"Let's rally together and find a home for our history."

The Society is holding a membership drive, and each new membership counts.

If you would like to join, go to [philipislandhistory.org.au/membership/](http://philipislandhistory.org.au/membership/)

# Concept for Graydens out for comment

RECREATION

A draft concept design for Graydens Reserve in Newhaven has been released and Bass Coast Shire Council is asking for community feedback on the plan.

Drop in sessions will be held this week on Thursday, August 8, at 1pm and 3pm at the reserve.

Council said the draft concept was based on feedback from earlier consultation when it asked the community for their thoughts on what the future of Graydens Reserve could look like.

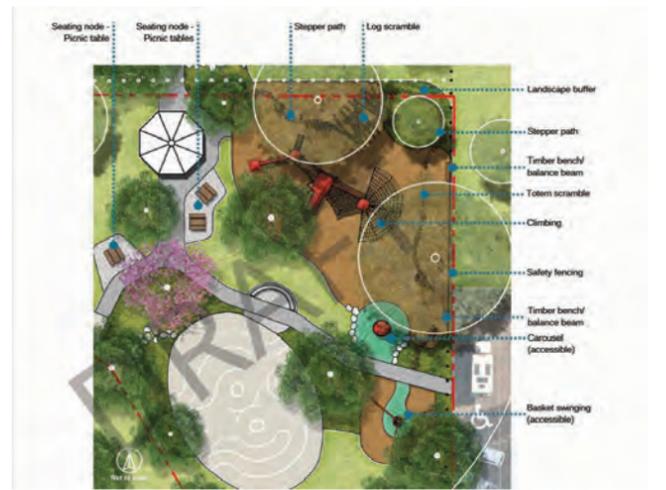
"The design brings together a large amount of community consultation," Bass Coast Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve explained.

"The key themes we heard from our community include the desire to keep all the trees and maintain the open green space within the Reserve.

"Graydens Reserve is known for being a popular place for families and friends to gather and socialise. It was important for the design to appeal and be suitable for all age groups," Cr Le Serve said.

With this in mind, the draft concept design includes:

- Accessible pathways with seating and



A draft concept design for Graydens Reserve in Newhaven has been released with council holding drop in sessions this week on August 8, at 1pm and 3pm at the reserve.

- picnic table
- A relocated playspace which includes a nature-based theme with climbing elements and a basket swing while making the most of natural shade
- Additional trees and gardens
- A small beginner-level skate park
- The addition of netball and soccer goals onto the existing basketball half-court.

The design also takes into account the future plans of Regional Roads Victoria for Phillip Island Road.

There are a range of ways you can share your feedback including a survey and drop-in sessions. To fill out the survey visit [engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/graydensreserve](http://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/graydensreserve)

Information sessions will be held at the Reserve on Thursday, August 8 from 1pm to 2pm and 3pm to 4pm.

Community members are invited to come along, view the concept design and have a chat with officers. Consultation closes on Friday, August 30.

For more information visit [engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/graydensreserve](http://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/graydensreserve)



Executive producer Darren Mort with Community Bank's Secretary Vanessa and Director Jan.

## Next stop, Hollywood for Cowes Community Bank!

The Community Banks in San Remo, Cowes and Grantville were proud to donate \$10,000 to the non-for-profit To Be Loved Foundation for their movie Millie Vs. that was filmed in Phillip Island last week. We look forward to its release!

Find out more about how your everyday banking can do good things. Call 5952 3383 or pop into one of our friendly branches at San Remo, Cowes or Grantville.



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# Silverleaves' erosion an "emergency situation": MP

From page 1

while the entire length of Silverleaves beach is also rapidly losing foreshore, as evidenced by new high cliffs.

## "Grave suspicion"

Cowes East Foreshore Preventative Action Group (CEFPAG) chair Ken Hailey described the erosion as a "disaster" and said impacted residents were "in a bind".

"They are being told nothing, and have been refused permission to protect their properties themselves," Ken said.

Ken said his "grave suspicion" was that DEECA would not release the coastal study "because it will not contain any recommendations of any repair work, other than perhaps the occasional sand renourishment".

"I really hope I am proven wrong, not only for the residents most severely affected, but also because of the environmental catastrophe that is being allowed to occur."

Ken said the current erosion was a "complete repeat of the mistakes at Cowes East".

"Lack of any government intervention meant when the waterline had reached the fence lines of the affected properties in Cowes East, the rock wall became the option of last resort.

"My fear is this may happen at Silverleaves."

He said historical aerial photos showed wooden groynes ran the length of Silverleaves beach and DEECA had allowed them to deteriorate and "on the whole disappear", "breaching their responsibilities to maintain their assets".

"If the groynes were still in place we would most likely not be having this disaster," Ken said.

"Action really needs to happen very soon, otherwise the consequences are going to be frightening."

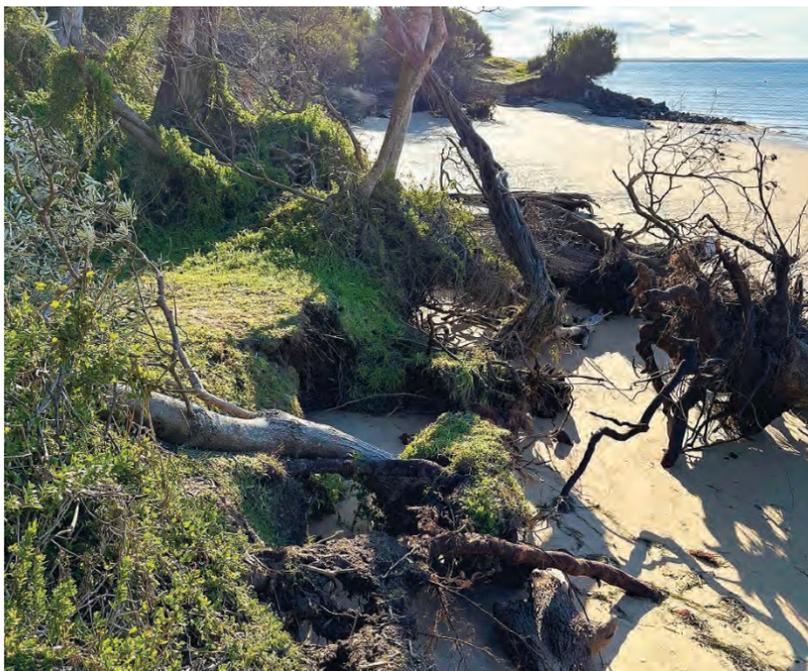
Resident Steve Lapin last week wrote to DEECA urging "emergency protection", explaining trees were "now falling onto the beach on a daily basis" and adding "the sea is very close to spilling over into my neighbour's property".

"We need protection now," Steve wrote.

"Action now will save the foreshore and adjacent properties



Now you see it: Cr Michael Whelan and Cowes East Foreshore Preventative Action Group (CEFPAG) chair Ken Hailey a fortnight ago stand on a spot in Silverleaves that was on the precipice of being eroded.



Now you don't: A week later that same section of land had been eroded, about two metres washed out to sea following strong northerly winds, including the tree that Mr Hailey was the previous week holding on to.

and may mitigate more expensive management options in the future."

Cr Michael Whelan also visited the site in the past fortnight and

agreed the sea was inching closer to properties.

"About 10 more metres of erosion and it's on a downhill run into properties," Cr Whelan said.

# Deb running again for Monash

## FEDERAL POLITICS

Voices for Monash (V4M) has announced Deb Leonard as their candidate at the next Federal election.

The committee said after an extensive process and applicant EOI period, the two chosen applicants were presented at a members-only event (also live streamed) on July 28.

Both candidates answered a range of questions from members present and via online link, then voting was open to members for 24-hours to select their preferred candidate.

V4M Committee President Fiona McKenzie described the process as "a great example of community powered politics in action".

"I really appreciate that Tim O'Brien was willing to put his hat in the ring as participation is what strengthens democracy for everyone.

"The members had the choice of two excellent candidates and Deb will do a great job engaging with our members and the broader community, and hopefully, will be representing us all in Canberra next year."

Deb Leonard, a well-known lawyer from Phillip Island ran a short but successful three-month campaign in 2022 resulting in a strong third in the Federal election, gaining over 10 per cent of the primary vote. After preferences Deb secured almost 21 per cent of the total votes.

Monash is now considered a marginal seat with only a 2.9 per cent margin to the current member.

Climate200 has recognised Monash is a winnable seat for community independent representation and has supported V4M to run their candidate selection process, a V4M spokesperson said.

Accepting the nomination, Deb pledged to be positive and inclusive, representing all of the communities throughout Monash, saying in the lead up to the election, she will meet with communi-

ty groups across the electorate to hear what their issues are and how she can best represent them.

"I am incredibly honoured and excited to receive endorsement from the members of Voices for Monash, to be the community independent candidate at the next Federal election," Deb said.

"It's so powerful that people can have a say in who represents them, and then work with that candidate to form policies that are suitable for this community. As an independent, I can prioritise our community's best interests, rather than being tied to party policy.

"An independent can work productively with both sides of government to make sure Monash gets the funding and infrastructure it deserves after being ignored by the major parties for so long," Deb continued.

"As we have seen from other community independents, I plan to bring common sense, integrity, and transparency to parliament.

"I thank the Voices for Monash committee for their hard work in ensuring a transparent and inclusive process allowing all parts of the community to participate. You'd never see a party preselection process livestreamed."

Deb also thanked Tim O'Brien saying it was a "courageous and generous act to offer yourself up as a community candidate".

"I urge all community members who care about their future and want to have a say in how we can improve our beautiful region to sign up to my mailing list and get involved in the campaign.

"This campaign is not just about me - we need the whole community on board to ensure its success, and we're going to have a lot of fun along the way.

"Join me in doing politics differently - together. I encourage all Monash voters to sign up to find out more about my campaign at [debleonard-4monash.com.au](http://debleonard-4monash.com.au)."



Eddie sporting a 101 Days t-shirt for the celebrations at Cowes Primary School.



Harry and Hayden were cute dalmatians at the 101 Days of Prep celebrations at Cowes Primary.



Black and white spots for friends Innika and Albie at the 101 Days of Prep celebrations at Cowes Primary this month.

# 101 days of Prep

## EDUCATION

On Friday August 2, the Cowes Primary School Prep students celebrated 101 Days of Prep.

The children and staff celebrated this inaugural event by dress-

ing up as 101 Dalmatians or with 101 different objects attached to their clothing.

The milestone day started with a fun filled parade, showing off their costumes to the rest of the school. Festivities continued into the day

with the children participating in a range of 101 Literacy and Numeracy activities.

Once again, the Prep parent community went above and beyond in creating such a range of fantastic and unique costumes to help make the day more special. It was hard to 'spot' who was having more fun, the students or staff.

More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)



Prep1B at Newhaven Primary, celebrating their first 100 days of school.

# 100 days of Prep

## EDUCATION

Prep 1A and Prep 1B at Newhaven Primary School celebrated 100

days of school last week and had a wonderful time celebrating being 100 days brighter! More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)



Journalists Margaret Simons and Kerry O'Brien after the Truth in Journalism panel, one of the most popular on the program at this year's Festival of Stories. More photos at pisra.com.au



Serena and Chilli Cabello were excited to meet author Jacinta Parsons after her session, A Question of Age, on Saturday.



Festival committee president Lois Gaskin with special guest Rosie Batty who dropped in to see the festival in action before her Saturday night session.

# Stories shared and shifted at this year's festival

## LITERARY FESTIVAL

Veteran journalist Kerry O'Brien proved to be a crowd favourite at this year's Festival of Stories held at Berninnet from August 2-4.

It was a happy return for the festival which first launched in 2017, only to have the growing momentum sidelined by Covid restrictions, resulting in the 2020-2022 events being cancelled. Over those years, the festival committee worked to maintain a presence, organising online sessions and smaller events.

In 2023, the Festival of Stories finally returned in November, coinciding with the opening of the new cultural centre.

The committee hopes this year will see the start of rebuilding the festival and attracting bigger audiences, both locally and from across the state.

Committee President Lois Gaskin said she was proud of the work done by all commit-

tee members and the hundreds of hours that went into curating the event.

The Saturday program included Sue Maslin and Rosalie Ham discussing The Dressmaker book and film (including behind the scenes glimpses), while Veronica Gorrie discussed her powerful and award-winning memoir on resilience and racism.

After lunch, referencing our own Hooded Plovers, extinction and history was tackled by Hannie Rayson and Michael Cathcart in an informative and entertaining presentation.

The well attended session on women and ageing with Jacinta Parsons and Hannie Rayson urged a "conversation across the generations" on ageing.

The day culminated with an evening session with Jacinta Parsons in conversation with Rosie Batty, tackling the confronting subjects of domestic violence and resilience.

Sunday's author session on

travel and writing was briefly interrupted by a protest when a local student from the Bass Coast 4 Palestine group jumped on stage.

He was quickly removed by centre staff and the session continued.

Later that afternoon Wendy Harmer had the audience in stitches discussing self-perception and identity with Hannie Rayson, before the attendees came together for an after party in the Berninnet foyer.

### Star attraction

Without doubt, Kerry O'Brien was the star attraction of the weekend.

The Saturday afternoon session with O'Brien, titled "Bearing Witness" was an opportunity for the Walkley Award-winner to reflect on his journalism career, with at least 80 people eager to hear the former 7.30 host share his insights.

O'Brien, interviewed by Sue Hines (Allen & Unwin), said

he "stumbled into journalism" starting his career as a cadet in Brisbane, and going on to work in print and television, including flagship projects such as This Day Tonight and Lateline.

He discussed the impact of technology on journalism over the years and the incredible speed of change. "I was excited by what the technology allows you to do, but could see the shallowness of the output," he said.

Other concerns included the 24-hour news cycle and what it has meant for the quality of journalism, and the impact of social media, which he felt was "now in the process of destroying our democracy".

Lack of leadership, polarisation of news sources and the death of print media were all discussed in a session that left the crowd eager to hear more.

O'Brien returned on Sunday morning when the question of Truth in Journalism was explored with Jacinta Parsons and

journalist, author and academic Margaret Simons.

Over 90 people attended, making the panel the most popular event on the program.

From defining what truth meant in journalism, objectivity, diversity in the media (and why it's important), to the emergence of AI, the two experienced journalists provided insightful commentary, including predicting what might happen next in news media.

Both agreed there was cause for optimism with Simons noting that while ad revenue was falling, readers subscriptions at The Guardian now accounted for 50 per cent of revenue - which she described as "a huge shift in power".

O'Brien said people were "hungry for information they can trust".

The Phillip Island Festival of Stories wrapped up on Sunday afternoon with an after party at Berninnet.



Festival of Stories committee members from left, Jessica Egglestone, Lois Gaskin, Rowanne Grinstead, Kay Setches, and Sue Hines



Author Veronica Gorrie (right) with barrister Patrick Coleridge. Their session on Saturday morning focused on Veronica's award winning book "Black and Blue: A memoir of racism and resilience".



Cape Woolamai's Angela Luke with Cowes resident Robyn Smith at the after party, who described the festival as "fabulous, so diverse".



French Island poet and comedian Alan Pentland (left) performed on Saturday afternoon at the sold-out show at the Gurdies Winery, and joined the after party with Lou Lou Kearney from Cape Woolamai and Brendan Donahoe, from Sydney.



The festival's chosen charity was Change for Sam, which works to prevent family violence. Director Lija Matthews was selling \$20 personal alarms as a fundraiser.



Festival of Stories committee member Kay Setches with authors Wendy Harmer and Hannie Rayson. Wendy was the final event on the festival calendar, speaking about her memoir Lies My Mirror Told Me. The former journalist-turned-comedian had the audience in fits of laughter.

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Alley Stranglers members Matty Ware, Lindsay Becker, Adam Vyver and Craig Fairthorne after their set on the mainstage at Arockalypse Now.



Locals and fans celebrate with members of the Alley Stranglers after their set.



Roy Trumble, frontman of Ozone Street, says his band is in their "go hard era".

# Coming up at Berninneit

## ENTERTAINMENT

The good times keep coming at Berninneit with a fantastic range of performances and films this month.

This includes Ben Lee, performing on Saturday August 10 (some tickets still available) and the new James Voller exhibition – "Amidst the Drift", which is open until September 1.

Other performances include Brian Cadd (August 18) and Jane Clifton's "A Day at a time in rhyme" (August 24) with a small number of tickets still available for both.

In a new innovation, Spit the Dummy sessions have been introduced at Berninneit, with "baby friendly" sessions on a Wednesday, designed for caregivers to enjoy time at the cinema with low sound, open captions and an inclusive and friendly environment for people seeking to get out with less stress.

The first session "Greatest Days" on August 7, is at 10.30am.

Information about upcoming shows and movies at Berninneit: [www.bass-coastculturalvenues.com/berninneit-cowes](http://www.bass-coastculturalvenues.com/berninneit-cowes)



Artist James Voller's exhibition at Berninneit is open until September 1, with free entry.

# Local bands romp at Arockalypse Now

## MUSIC

On Saturday night the Westernport Hotel was a heaving testament to the importance of regional live music, with local bands The Alley Stranglers and Ozone Street obvious crowd favourites amongst a stacked nine band lineup that ran across the venue's two stages.

The PBS sponsored event is now in its third year running and attracted a heavy-hitting line up that included Super American Eagle – comprised of Dandy Warhols' drummer Brent DeBoer, Bob Harrow of Immigrant Union and Dave Mudie from Courtney Barnett's band.

After a set which electrified the mostly local crowd, lead singer of the Alley Stranglers, Adam Vyver (Adzy), laughed and said "there are some much more superior musicians to us playing tonight".

"We started in Matty (Ware's) shed only a couple of years ago, and we only play music for fun, it's just sick to be asked to come out and play," the frontman of the Cape Woolamai based surf-rock band said.

"We all grew up watching the surf and skate videos of the late 90s and 2000s, with a lot of that surf, skating inspired punk rock.

We're into fast drums and smooth melodies, power chords that are easy to play."

The local love for the band that comprises of Adam Vyver, Matty Ware, Lindsay Becker and Craig Fairthorne was palpable.

"When there's people out there getting a real buzz on for our tunes, and jeez if you get them singing your lyrics back to you it's a pretty good feeling."

### Ozone Street

Inverloch based band Ozone Street was another highlight, with lead guitarist Archie Legget's rendition of Jimi Hendrix sending many Arockalypse Now goers spinning.

The band that describes themselves as "Bass Coast born and bred" received high praise from Brent DeBoer of the Dandy Warhols.

"When we walked through I was going: 'damn, these guys are heavy!'" the Dandy Warhols drummer said, "they're really, really good.

"And they've got the look too, which is crucial."

Ozone's Lead singer Roy Trumble spoke about the growing regional talent and the need for events like Arockalypse Now.

"There's a lot of talent locally but some-

times in a small town that talent goes unnoticed because there's just not a live music scene.

"Having something like this at the Westy, you're bringing in a calibre of artists that have toured massively and have a lot of popularity.

"And you're not only exposing the people on the lineup who are not as well known to a bigger audience, but you're also exposing them to really professional musicians," Roy said.

Ozone Street recently returned from the Echuca Blues Festival, which Roy described as a very special moment for the band which has come up organically and largely through word-of-mouth.

While the band are oft described as a 'surfy blues rock outfit', the Ozone Street frontman said they're taking their music down a "new blues route" with a heavier sound.

"We're not leaving behind our cruisy kind of sound, it comes from where we live. We surf every day and we're by the ocean all the time so that vibe creeps in.

"But we're going in, and we're going hard. I feel like we're in our go hard era as a band."

# MONTHLY TRIVIA NIGHT

AUGUST 8TH 7PM-8PM

BOOK A TABLE ONLINE OR VIA MOBILE TO SECURE YOUR TEAM!

PRIZE FOR 1ST, 2ND & 3RD

\$5 PER PERSON FOR ENTRY - ALL PROCEEDS GO TO FREE 3D HANDS

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## GIG GUIDE

- 10/08 RAMBLE - 9PM
- 11/08 TONY KING - 5PM
- 15/08 SAN CISCO \$50+BF - 8PM
- 17/08 FLUX 14. FT WISER \$22.50 - 9PM
- 18/08 JARROD SHAW - 5PM
- 23/08 NOASIS \$25+BF - 9PM
- 24/08 THE MEMPHIS THREE \$50+BF - 9PM
- 25/08 CHARLIE BEDFORD - 5PM

PLUS:

WEDNESDAY NIGHT  
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THURSDAY NIGHT  
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MONDAY - SATURDAY  
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# Acclaim for local brass bands

MUSIC

Wonthaggi Youth Brass and Wonthaggi Citizens' Band both performed to great acclaim at the recent Victorian Bands League State Championships, held at the Hawthorn Arts Centre on July 28.

Wonthaggi Youth Brass, with members ranging from 11-20 years old, are all current and former students from local schools including Bass Coast College, Newhaven College, Wonthaggi PS and Korumburra SC.

They performed three works in the Junior C Grade section, scoring 182 points from a possible 200, finishing just four points behind the winning band, Richmond Youth Brass Band.

Proud musical director Nick Beale said that he was "very happy with the way WYB played, particularly with many new players playing at their first contest".

Wonthaggi Citizens' Band (WCB), comprising of lo-



Wonthaggi Youth Brass finished just four points behind the winning band at the recent Victorian Bands League State Championships.

cal musicians ranging from school students to retirees, performed a hymn, march, own choice and test piece in the Open C Grade section.

Conducted by Craig Marinus, they placed fifth out of nine bands in a highly competitive section which was won by Whitehorse Brass.

Band members were also well represented in other grades, with Stuart Alexander performing with Darebin City Brass (A grade champions), Caleb and Noah Robertson performing with City of Dandenong Brass Band (2nd placing in B grade), and Victoria and Alex Wilson performing

with Sale City Band (D grade).

Your next opportunity to see the Wonthaggi Citizens' Band perform locally is at this weekend's "Wallace and Gromit- with live brass band!" at the WUCAC on Sunday August 11. WCB will play a set, including some of their pieces from the recent state championships, before current Victorian A grade champion band Darebin City Brass take the stage to play the soundtrack for "Wallace and Gromit - The Wrong Trousers".

Don't miss this opportunity to see a great show for the whole family.

Tickets are available on Trybooking.

For more information on any performances or learning a brass instrument with the Wonthaggi Citizens' Band, email [wonnicitizensband@gmail.com](mailto:wonnicitizensband@gmail.com), follow them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/WonCitzBand](http://www.facebook.com/WonCitzBand) or contact Secretary Fiona Moldrich on 0407 299 738.

/ Sponsored article /

# Growing Cambodia trivia night returns

FUNDRAISER

The annual Growing Cambodia trivia night fundraiser will be held this year at Berninneit on October 12, from 6.30pm until 10pm.

The night promises to be another entertaining one with more trivia questions and games for teams to navigate, as well as a silent auction and raffle. This year will also have live music to sing and dance to courtesy of the world-famous Laing Brothers

Don't miss out on the best evening of entertainment, while supporting an important cause.

All funds raised on the night will go to the Growing Cambodia charity, which has been running for 12 years, thanks to ongoing support from the island community.

Growing Cambodia's mission is to offer rural Cambodians an opportunity to improve their quality of life through education and health and well-being support.

Over eight hundred students are attending free English lessons at schools in four rural villages.



A class of students learning English at Oroluos Village. Money raised at this year's Growing Cambodia trivia night on October 12 will support education in the region.

Lessons are conducted by local Cambodian teachers with help from volunteers. Students leaving the schools are also offered university sponsorships.

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

Last year's event at the Phillip Island Adventure Resort

raised over \$29,000 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, so if you are able to help, please contact Steve Davie on 0409 167 001.

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

To book a table of 10 (\$50 per person), email enquiry@

[growingcambodia.org.au](http://growingcambodia.org.au) or phone Steve on 0409 167 001.

BYO nibbles and soft drinks, with drinks at bar prices (no BYO).

Please note 10 people per table or organisers can join you with another group.

If you can't make it but would like to make a donation, Growing Cambodia's bank details are 633 000 150148583, or make a donation at [www.growingcambodia.org.au/donate/](http://www.growingcambodia.org.au/donate/)

**Berninneit**  
91-97 Thompson Ave  
Cowes, VIC 3922

THE OFFICIAL TAKE THAT MUSICAL  
FROM THE WRITER OF CALENDAR GIRLS  
**GREATEST DAYS**  
NEVER FORGET

BACK FOR GOOD | COULD IT BE MAGIC  
A MILLION LOVE SONGS | RULE THE WORLD  
PATIENCE | ONLY IN CINEMAS JUNE 16 | PRAY  
SHINE | SAID IT ALL

**KINDS OF KINDNESS**

## Cinema Sessions at Berninneit

- Wednesday 7 Aug**
- 10:30am **Greatest Days** [M] 104mins  
*Spirit the dummy - Baby Friendly session*
  - 1pm **Between Land and Sea** [E] 87mins
  - 4pm **Driving Madelaine** [MA15+] 91mins
  - 7pm **Fly Me To The Moon** [M] 132 mins
- Friday 9 Aug**
- 4pm **Fly Me To The Moon** [M] 132 mins
  - 7pm **Kinds of Kindness** [MA15+] 164 mins
- Visit our website for more information, future sessions and Wonthaggi Cinema showtimes

**Phillip Island VIEW Club**  
Join us for our fashion Showing fundraiser by

**CLICHE CLOTHING**

**Monday 12 August 2024**

*Cliche Clothing Company will showcase their current fashion range including tops, jackets, trousers & more.*

*Enjoy afternoon tea with scrumptious sandwiches and slices.*

Venue: Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club Rooms  
6 Lions Court, Cowes

Fun, Friendship, Raffles, Door Prizes  
Book a table of friends

**Doors Open: 12.00 | Show starts 12.30**  
**Entry Fee \$20**

Bookings Essential  
Tables and singles will be taken

**RSVP August 5**

Lyn Duguid: 0427 593 936  
[lynetteduguid@gmail.com](mailto:lynetteduguid@gmail.com)

**Wallace & Gromit THE WRONG TROUSERS**  
WITH LIVE BRASS BAND

**WONTHAGGI CITIZENS' BAND AND DAREBIN CITY BRASS IN CONCERT**

SUNDAY 11TH OF AUGUST, 200PM  
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TICKETS: ADULT \$30 | CONCESSION AND STUDENT \$15  
[WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CSBLT](http://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CSBLT)

**Dine Out for Refugees**

Saturday 7 September 2024 at 7.00pm

**rar**  
rural australians for refugees

Rhyll Mechanics Institute Hall  
54 Loch Road Rhyll  
Donation \$43.00  
BYO drinks

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

We will hear about courageous work supporting women and girls in Afghanistan  
Artist Margaret Lacey has donated a painting for our Special Effort  
And the evening will feature music by Marty Box

Bring family and friends and make up a table

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

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

**Buy Tickets Online**  
Skip the queue!

Scan the QR Code to buy your tickets online and to browse all cinema sessions and upcoming live performances!

[www.basscoastculturalvenues.com](http://www.basscoastculturalvenues.com)

# 2024 Bass Coast Business Awards

## Congratulations

to our local finalists!

Over thirty businesses, including 21 from Phillip Island and San Remo are finalists for this year's Bass Coast Business Awards.

Several are finalists in multiple categories, including two nominations for last year's Business of the Year, the Waterline's Bass Coast Boat & Caravan Storage.

The awards celebrate the outstanding achievements and contributions of local businesses within our community, with both Judged and the People's Choice Awards.

This year's awards feature an exciting mix of new and established businesses, with last year's winners such as

Brinnie T, Wildlife Coast Cruises, Terralab, her. Skin Spa, NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park, San Remo Butchers and Bass Strait Direct again featured in the finalists.

It's exciting to also see new faces in the lists, such as Foodies on Phillip Island and Empowered Lactation Consulting, Cor Pilates and The Muffin Lady.

The finalists feature a welcome mix of previous winners and nominees, as well as established businesses making it onto the list for the first time, such as Sunscape Solar, ESI Solutions, Event Operations, Ocean Sounds, Anchor Belle, We are Phillip Island and Hair By Kara. It is wonderful

to see so many different businesses taking part and showcases the incredible range of services and business available right here in our back yard.

Congratulations to all the finalists and good luck on the big night!

The winners will be announced on Friday August 23 at the RACV Resort in Inverloch.

For more information about the awards go to [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/businessawards](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/businessawards)

To purchase tickets for the event at RACV Inverloch, go to [eventbrite.com.au](http://eventbrite.com.au)

### JUDGES AWARDS FINALISTS:

#### Access, Equity and Inclusion

Brinnie T Design  
Event Operations Group Australia Pty Ltd  
Inverloch Healthcare

#### Business Innovation

Bass Coast Boat & Caravan Storage  
Native Seed Box Pty Ltd  
TerraLab

#### Environmental Sustainability

ESI Solutions Pty Ltd  
Native Seed Box Pty Ltd  
Wildlife Coast Cruises

#### Event Excellence

Ocean Sounds 2024  
Tidal Seafood Festival  
Walk for the Kids (San Remo Hotel Motel)

#### Marketing and Communications

Bass Coast Boat & Caravan Storage  
NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park  
Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre

#### New Business

Empowered Lactation Consulting  
Made. By Bronte  
Native Seed Box Pty Ltd

### PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS FINALISTS:

#### Accommodation and Tourism Attraction

Anchor Belle Holiday Park  
Maru Koala and Animal Park  
NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park

#### Food and Beverage

Harman Wines  
The Haven Wave Cafe  
The Muffin Lady

#### Hair and Beauty

Dead4eva Designs  
Hair By Karra  
her. Skin Spa

#### Health and Lifestyle

Balance Health Phillip Island  
Bass Coast Support Work Services  
Cor Pilates

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

Foodies On Phillip Island  
Made. By Bronte  
We Are Phillip Island/Gippsland Directory

#### Retail and Services

Bass Coast Boat & Caravan Storage  
Bass Strait Direct  
San Remo Butchers

#### Trade

C&K Welding and Fabrication  
ESI Solutions Pty Ltd  
Sunscape Solar



Winners at last year's Bass Coast Business Awards. The 2024 finalists have been announced, with 21 businesses from Phillip Island and San Remo in the running for awards.



Bass Highway  
Grantville  
56788082

Sunscape Solar are proud to be announced as finalists in the People's Choice Award for the Trade category.

To be nominated by their customers shows that Sunscape are still making customers happy all across the Bass Coast region, helping them get their electricity bills down by investing in solar power and batteries.

The owners of Sunscape Solar, Sam & Melanie Leighton, would like to acknowledge their hard working team of installers and office staff for all the efforts they put in to make sure Sunscape customers are well looked after.

We are humbled to be a Bass Coast Business Awards finalist 4 years in a Row- Winning the judged category of Business Diversity and Inclusion in 2021, runner up for Leadership in 2022, and Winning the People's choice for Trade in 2022 and finalists in 2023

We would also like to congratulate all the other nominees for the Awards, and wish them luck.



NOMINATION TRADE



# Foodies

ON PHILLIP ISLAND

• private chef • social media creator • photography  
 foodiesonphillipisland@gmail.com

“It is such an honour to be nominated for the award.”

Foodies on Phillip Island is an invaluable guide for residents and visitors to the area who are in search of culinary places to enjoy and also for local businesses who want to engage and promote their seasonal offerings.

Foodies on Phillip Island shares unparalleled experience in food, events, scenic locations, photography and digital media creation in the Bass Coast region.

The social media page: #foodies\_on\_phillipisland, is curated by local resident, Kara Williams.

She has been following her culinary dreams for the last decade, working as a private chef and event organiser in Tuscany, Italy.

Kara brings the same dedication and passion back home to the Bass Coast, with her commitment to support and promote small food businesses, farmers and purveyors.

Foodies on Phillip Island shares an innate love and enthusiasm for food, whilst highlighting and working with businesses in the region



INSTAGRAM: foodies\_on\_phillipisland EMAIL: foodiesonphillipisland@gmail.com

**NOMINATION** ONLINE, MOBILE AND HOME BASED BUSINESS

THE HILLS ARE ALIVE PRESENTS A SPECIAL ONE-DAY SUNSET CONCERT...

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**SAT 11TH JANUARY 2025**  
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[www.oceansoundsfestival.com.au](http://www.oceansoundsfestival.com.au)

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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

## BASS COAST BOAT & CARAVAN STORAGE

**Business Of The Year Winners at last year's awards!**

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.

Ph: 0484 144 948 [www.basscoastbcs.com.au](http://www.basscoastbcs.com.au)



**NOMINATION** BUSINESS INNOVATION – MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS – RETAIL AND SERVICES

2024 Bass Coast Business Awards  
*Congratulations*  
 to our local finalists!



# Empowered Lactation

**Empowered Lactation Consulting is honoured to be a finalist in this year's Bass Coast Business Awards - a testament to our passion for supporting families in the Bass Coast community.**

As a Lactation Consultant and Registered Midwife, Sarah Long offers personalised breastfeeding and lactation support for families in the Bass Coast Region and surrounds. Services include Antenatal Breastfeeding Education, Postnatal Feeding Support, Breast Pump hire and complimentary breast shield sizing.

[www.empoweredlc.com.au](http://www.empoweredlc.com.au) 0477 840 412



**NOMINATION** | **NEW BUSINESS**

## COR PILATES



**'We are so excited and grateful to be a finalist this year in the Bass Coast Business Awards.'**

A vibrant reformer studio in the heart of San Remo. At Cor we believe Pilates is for everybody.

We are here to bring you a variety of classes that combine all the best things like

breathing, strength, balance and stability. Whether you are just starting your Pilates journey or you're a Pilates pro, we have something for you. We pride ourselves on not only being a Pilates studio but a place where people come to feel included, to work out with no judgment and to be part of the amazing community we live in.

**NOMINATION** | **HEALTH AND LIFESTYLE**

# Interiors BY **bd** BRINNIE T DESIGN

Phillip Island's leading Interior Design Studio



At Brinnie T Design, we transform spaces with an artful blend of form, function, and fabulousness. Our interior design services bring vibrant, bold creativity to every project, ensuring each space is as practical as it is stunning. Whether it's a high-end luxury or inclusive design, we craft environments that reflect your unique style and enhance your everyday living. Discover the magic of design with us today!

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**NOMINATION** | **ACCESS, EQUITY AND INCLUSION**



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ELECTRICAL, SOLAR AND INSPECTIONS

We are thrilled that ESI Solutions Pty Ltd is a finalist in the 2024 Business in Bass Coast Awards and the People's Choice Awards

ESI Solutions Pty Ltd specialises in electrical contracting and solar installations, delivering top-quality services and innovative solutions. This recognition reflects our team's hard work and our clients' support. The founders, Andrew and Kelly, would like to thank everyone who voted for us, and to our incredible team—Kurt, Harrison and Jay.

(03) 5909 9890 [www.esisolutions.info](http://www.esisolutions.info)



**NOMINATION** ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND TRADE

**eventops**  
Event Operations Group Australia

Event Operations Group are delighted to be a finalist in the Bass Coast Business Awards for Access, Equity and Inclusion.

We're proud to support some of Australia's most spectacular sporting, music and food and wine festivals from our humble warehouse on Philip Island.

It's great to be recognised by our peers down here on the Island, however most locals don't know that we also provide:

- Traffic Management
- Safety Officers
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**SAY HELLO IF YOU WANT MORE INFO.**

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[admin@eventopsgroup.com.au](mailto:admin@eventopsgroup.com.au)  
03 5900 2932



**NOMINATION** ACCESS, EQUITY AND INCLUSION



**ANCHOR BELLE HOLIDAY PARK**

The team at Anchor Belle Holiday Park are again grateful for the recognition of our efforts in providing outstanding service in the accommodation/tourism industry.

This acknowledgment means a great deal to all of us and serves as a reminder of why we are so passionate about our park.

We strive to create a welcoming and comfortable environment for our guests, and knowing that our team efforts have made a positive impact on their experiences is incredibly rewarding.

We thank all of you for taking the time to acknowledge our contributions by voting for us.

Good luck to all the Bass Coast Finalists in all your endeavours.

**Here's to a thriving future for all our businesses!**



**NOMINATION** ACCOMMODATION AND TOURISM ATTRACTION

# 2024 Bass Coast Business Awards

## Congratulations

to our local finalists!

### THE MUFFIN LADY



We are so excited to be voted as a finalist for the people's choice awards!

Our muffin lady cake & coffee shop opened last February in Wonthaggi.

Our unique pink cafe located in the plaza arcade on Graham Street offers coffee, house made baked goods, brunch, custom birthday and wedding cakes.

Along side our cafe we set up our 'pop up' coffee & cake van at Cape Paterson

every summer. We love providing our community with a fun & wholesome experience when visiting either location. We are beyond thankful to our community for everyone's support. Starting with a small market stall, and a passion for making people smile it's been an incredible journey building a community & culture with customer satisfaction & enjoyment at the core.

Contact: [www.themuffinlady3996.com.au](http://www.themuffinlady3996.com.au)

<https://m.facebook.com/themuffinlady3996/>

Address : Shop 6  
140 Graham Street Wonthaggi  
Wonthaggi Plaza Arcade

**NOMINATION** FOOD & BEVERAGE

## Phillip Island Business and Community Directory



[www.WeArePhillipIsland.com.au](http://www.WeArePhillipIsland.com.au)

FOLLOW ON

WE ARE  
*Phillip Island*

Absolutely thrilled to be in this position as finalist again.

Congratulations to the other finalists "Foodies on Phillip Island" and "Made. By Bronte" Thank you so much to the followers who like my posts and make comments.

We wouldn't be here without the followers and for voting. Thank you also to the businesses who make up this business directory. I am deeply appreciative of your continued faith and support.

**Judi Pay - Executive Officer**  
Website: [www.WeArePhillipIsland.com.au](http://www.WeArePhillipIsland.com.au)  
Website: [www.GippslandDirectory.com.au](http://www.GippslandDirectory.com.au)  
Phone: 0477 988 510

**WINNER** People's Choice Awards 2023  
Online & Home Based business  
**FINALIST** in Resilience Award  
Bass Coast Shire Business Awards 2023

**NOMINATION** ONLINE, MOBILE AND HOME BASED BUSINESS

## HAIR BY KARRA



My passion is working with women.  
I've been in the industry for 26 years.

I've been nominated for peoples choice awards – this is my third year in a row.

I'm honoured to be nominated again and I'm very grateful for the local support.

**Karra Marino**  
0439 005 927



@HAIR\_BY\_KARRA

**NOMINATION** HAIR AND BEAUTY

# KEEP IT LOCAL

## DIRECTORY

### BEAUTY



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Choose from an array of native and endemic plants to Phillip Island (Millowl).  
OPEN 9am-3pm Wed, Thur, Sat & Sun  
LOCATION Next to Koala Conservation Reserve, 1810 Phillip Island Rd, Phillip Island  
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**Cruise the Island**  
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**Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre**  
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**PHILLIP ISLAND MARINE**  
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Master Builders Australia (MBA) chief economist Shane Garrett said "if we are to win the battle against inflation, we need to pull out all stops to build new homes."

# Home prices fall, housing inflation rises

## HOUSING

Regional Victoria's home prices had the greatest monthly fall of all markets in July, according to the PropTrack Home Price Index, released last week.

The report found that home prices in regional Victoria dropped by 0.63 per cent in July to sit 1.54 per cent below July 2023 levels.

Despite that drop, the report shows prices in regional Victoria have increased by 39 per cent since March 2020, compared to a 15.8 per cent increase in Melbourne.

The report said prices in Australia's capital cities have increased 6.6 per cent over the past year, outpacing regional markets, which recorded the first monthly price fall (-0.12 per cent) since late 2022.

"National home price growth persisted in July, albeit at a slower pace given the seasonally quieter time of the year," said PropTrack Senior Economist Paul Ryan.

"Price conditions across the country remain diverse. Melbourne has posted further price falls, and regional markets saw the first price drop since 2022.

"Further home price growth is expected over the coming months as the market moves into the traditionally busier spring selling season. However, the pace of price growth is likely to remain modest as uncertainty about the path of interest rates and affordability challenges constrain buyers' budgets."

### Housing inflation

The annual housing inflation accelerated to 5.5 per cent over the year to June 2024, well above the average inflation rate of 3.8 per cent.

Master Builders Australia (MBA) chief economist Shane Garrett said this was predominantly driven by rental

price growth of 7.1 per cent over the year reflecting a lack of rental properties.

"For owner occupiers, the price of new dwellings is 5.4 per cent up on a year ago. This is partly the result of labour shortages and other cost pressures in the new home building market.

"It's further evidence that if we are to win the battle against inflation, we need to pull out all stops to build new homes.

"Building approvals released earlier this week show that June 2024 was the worst month since 2012 for higher density home building approvals."

Mr Garrett said a higher volumes of new home building was needed if rental market pressures are to be relieved.

Master Builders CEO Denita Wawn said workforce shortages, woeful productivity, lack of critical infrastructure, high taxes and charges, slow approval processes, and union EBAs were all contributing factors to housing inflation.



Regional Victoria's home prices had the greatest monthly fall of all markets in July, according to the PropTrack Home Price Index, released last week.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



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## Pool needed now

Former Bass Coast (Phillip Island) resident and Newhaven College student, Bowen Gough (26), just missed swimming under Olympic qualifying time while winning the final of the Men's 200m Butterfly at the Olympic Swimming Trials in Brisbane recently. Watched by his parents, Michelle and Owen, his sister Charlie, and friends and swimming buddies, Bowen went so close to gaining automatic selection to the Paris Games. As a teenager, Bowen trained and swam with the South Gippsland-Bass Swimming Club, before moving to Nunawading Swimming Club, and more recently Brisbane, in search of better training facilities and coaching. Although his local coaches, Ivan Moore and Dylan Muir, are very highly regarded, the facilities at the Bass Coast Aquatic Centre at Wonthaggi are a long way from world class.

All our local swimming clubs – Phillip Island Swimming Club, Wonthaggi Swimming Club and South Gippsland-Bass – have been campaigning for decades for better facilities. Phillip Island has produced other swimmers who have even chased success by uprooting themselves and moving to the United States.

Given we are in the thick of the Olympics, just image what Bowen could have achieved if Phillip Island had an Aquatic Centre many years ago?

How many potential champions will it take before our Council wakes up? Recreation facilities are needed now not in 20-25 years.

*Peter McMahon, Secretary, Phillip Island Aquatic Centre Fund*

## Turning lane needed

There was another crash for a car waiting to turn right at the Phillip Island Road and Dunvegan Crescent Intersection on July 30 at 5pm. Luckily no car was

shunted into oncoming traffic as has happened previously resulting in death.

Residents of the area responding to a 2022 Community Engagement questionnaire for the Surf Beach Sunderland Special Charge Scheme had requested a dedicated right turn lane at this intersection but it has fallen on deaf ears. Of the 310 respondents to the specific council question, 216 stated they wanted a dedicated right turn lane. When I contacted the roads minister in May 2023 regarding drainage and road safety matters in the area, I received a reply stating Bass Coast Shire Council had stated in accordance with community feedback intersection upgrades will not be incorporated into the current area. It appears council and ratepayers are reading from different documents or have figures been manipulated by council to suit their agenda? VLine with VicRoads approval has constructed a bus stop on the approach side of the intersection meaning that there is now no room for a right turn lane. It should be noted that the location of the bus stop is not in accordance with National Transport Authority guidelines. With the imminent construction of Batman Street, Glen Street and Dunvegan Crescent there will be increased turning manoeuvres at these intersections resulting in more traffic conflict and undoubtedly more crashes.

It is imperative for auxiliary right turn treatments to be incorporated into the design of these intersections as was recommended in the 2014 Surf Beach Traffic management Plan or relocate the main Phillip Island access road onto farmland adjacent as is the long term proposal.

Council and VicRoads in the future may well have to answer why they did not implement recommended safety features.

*Philip Davy, Surf Beach*

## Reeks of duplicity

It appears that the minority of 13 per cent (yes a measly 13 per cent) that wanted the roads and drains undertaken in Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay are in business with council or vice versa. Council has recently updated their Urban Roads and Drains Policy that blatantly suits this 13 per cent. Council is happily assisting the head petitioners from this 13 per cent to get their streets shunted up to the top of the list for action. There appears to be no requirement of proof regarding the authenticity of these petitions and Council has no processes in place for their own auditing transparency.

We then have the strange scenario that costs being provided to the petitioned streets in some cases are less than the original Special Charge Scheme. This begs the question were the initial costs inflated? It all reeks of duplicitous behaviour to me and yet another reason these councillors need to go in November.

*Susie Wickes, Surf Beach*

## Competency questions

Bass Coast Shire Council recently sent information to residents of Link Street informing them of details of a newly proposed special charge scheme for that street.

One of the documents compares the designated cost per Link Street house in the rejected Sunderland Bay/Surf Beach scheme, against the suggested costs of the four options offered in the proposed new and significantly smaller scheme.

The projected costs are very similar to, and in some cases lower, than those quoted in the rejected scheme. This seems very odd.

In the construction industry, what is referred to as "economy of scale" greatly impacts and guides project costs. A simple definition of economy of scale is "a reduction in unit dollar costs with increased volume." For ex-

ample, the unit dollar cost per square metre for asphalt paving over a 100,000-square-metre area would be significantly lower than the unit dollar cost per square metre for asphalt paving over a 1000 square-metre area.

Essentially Council is stating that they can arrange construction work for a 12-house project in Link Street at around the same unit cost, as they could arrange the unit cost for a project of 1000 houses; a project approximately 100 times larger!

Scale of economy in construction would suggest this to be extremely unusual. It would generally be expected that the cost per unit would be significantly different between the larger and smaller projects.

Something here seems quite strange and I question if the original scheme costs were overestimated, or whether the new scheme costs are underestimated.

In light of this discrepancy, as well as the Berninnet budget blowout and Passiv Haus debacle, I find myself questioning Council's competency in organising and managing construction projects.

*Ross Bencraft, Surf Beach*

## Museum concerns continue

Your article, "Museum board responds to farmer concerns" (July 31) needs a response. The board's Phil Dressing downplays the significance of the Minister's approval of the Vietnam Vet's museum at Newhaven. We disagree. While we couldn't afford the VCAT hearing, Phillip Island Conservation Society (PICS) was one of thirteen other original objectors to the museum application. Given the sensitivity of this land, we thought it was the wrong site, a view supported by VCAT. At the hearing, five expert witnesses and three planning lawyers were closely questioned about forty-three policies and provisions in the scheme. VCAT's

forty-seven-page report transparently explained their refusal, mostly on landscape grounds. Claims that this showed VCAT is unfair or undemocratic, or that the Minister stepped in to correct an injustice, are fanciful.

Democracy produces planning schemes to ensure development benefits, 'all Victorians' (legislation). It was confounding that, in the name of boosting employment, the Minister dismissed not only the VCAT finding, but the full weight of years of environmental evidence and protective local planning policy about this sensitive site. The advisory panel used the council approved strategy 'Unlocking Rural Tourism' (BURT) to advise the Minister in favour of approving the museum because the BURT strategy theoretically opens any rural land for a museum application. Any wonder farmers are concerned.

The new tourism push, supported by most councillors, is for deregulated planning to allow for, 'high-end' market-driven facilities catering for 'tourism product gaps' like, 'regional food and wine experiences, ecological and luxury accommodation with restaurant, spa and wellness experiences', outside township boundaries, ie: on rural land. The Farm Zone could be rezoned to either Rural Activity or Special Use Zone (page 99). There is no certainty that traditional farming and the familiar, tourist-friendly open landscape that gives the island its character, has an assured future. Are chances really 'remote', for another Kitty Miller Bay proposal, as Phil Dressing says? The BURT strategy recommends the whole "sensitive" area be investigated as a Special Use Zone for tourism development (page 93-94). We doubt the Minister's advisors would miss that. There is a council election in October.

*Greg Johnson – PICS President*

# Newhaven College colour fun run

## EDUCATION

After last year's highly successful Colour Run, Newhaven College's Parent and Friends Association (PFA) decided to set up an even bigger and better event for 2024.

The Colour Fun Run took place on the College oval on Friday August 2 and sunny and breezy conditions made for the perfect experience.

Students from Prep to Year 12 got into the spirit of the event, running through an obstacle course while parent and student volunteers ensured they exploded with colour.

Some of the students had a lot of fun with costumes, with Shaun the Sheep, a robot, polar bears, astronauts, storm troopers and unicorns parading the grounds. It proved to be an incredible mid-winter cobweb clearer, with hysterical laughter ringing across campus.

President of the PFA, Angel Chambers was thrilled with the enthusiasm shown by all who



Newhaven College Year 4 students had a ball with the explosion of colour.



Students getting into the spirit of the colour run on a stunning Friday morning.

participated and is proud of the PFA fundraising efforts so far, "The Crazy Colour Day Fun Run has helped fundraise towards the PFA Giving Fund which has been established to support and enhance the school and educational experience for students.

"The fund has supported

several important initiatives this year including a donation to the MTB Club for a trailer, the Music Department for a performance stage and Shades of Pink, a breast cancer charity.

"However, the event was viewed as more than a fundraising event. It was seen as an opportunity for the entire school

of over 900 students, from Prep to Year 12, and teachers, to create memories and participate in a fun school-wide event."

The College PFA focus is to raise money for specific projects and activities to benefit College students.

The PFA wants to extend thanks to everyone who helped

support and make the Colour Run a successful event: Principal Mr Corr, Heads of Sub-Schools Ms Huther, Mr Arceo and Mr Torstonson, teachers, maintenance staff, volunteers, parents and those in the community who helped fundraise, Angel said.

More photos at [pisra.com.au/education](http://pisra.com.au/education)

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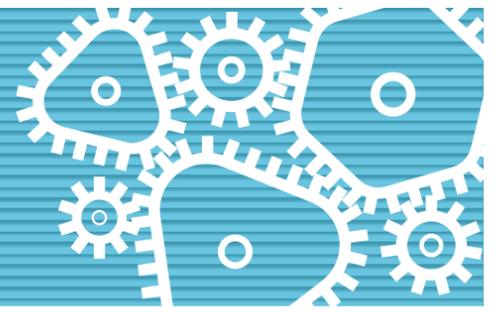
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Newhaven College's up and coming mountain biking talents: Hamish Dakers-Hock, Ethan Tilley and Lucy Thompson.

## Success for Newhaven College at You Yangs MTB Park

### MOUNTAIN BIKING

The icy morning chill made way for stunning sunshine and perfect race conditions for the seven Newhaven College students who competed in Round 4 of the school MTB series at You Yangs MTB Park on Sunday, August 4.

Students made the long trek from Bass Coast to one of their favourite mountain bike courses.

Hamish Dakers-Hock has done it yet again, going from strength to strength by securing another first-place win in the U15 males' category, ensuring he is no

stranger to the podium.

Meanwhile, "Miss Consistent" Lucy Thompson has proven herself with yet another first-place finish, continuing to hone her skills and showcase her athleticism in the U15 girls' category.

The event featured impressive racing from all involved and highlighted the growing popularity of mountain biking in Bass Coast.

Looking ahead, the next races in the series are scheduled for Round 4 in Castlemaine and Round 5 in Bendigo, taking place on September 7 and September 8 respectively.



Congratulations to Newhaven College's Hamish Dakers-Hock who took out another first place win in the U15 males category.

## Big day at the kennel courts against Dalyston

### NETBALL

#### A Grade

Scores: Phillip Island: 50 def by Dalyston: 71.

#### B Grade

In a fiercely contested match, the first quarter saw both teams going goal for goal with great speed, ending with Dalyston leading by two points.

Daly extended their lead in the second quarter by capitalising on rebounds.

However, the Island mounted a determined comeback in the second half, narrowing the gap from 10 points to just four.

In the final quarter, the Island girls showcased excellent teamwork, refusing to give up and fighting back to end the game in a thrilling tie.

**Best on court:** Maddy and Anthea.  
Scores: Phillip Island: 44 tied Dalyston: 44.

#### C Grade

Scores: Phillip Island: 21 def by Dalyston: 38.

#### D Grade

The Island's D Grade team maintained their winning streak with a decisive victory over Dalyston on Saturday.

The game saw both teams locked in a tight battle with equal scores at halftime.

In a great second-half performance, Phillip Island surged ahead, securing the

win with a solid final quarter.

Standout players of the match, Sienna and Abby, both received awards for their contributions in the attack.

Scores: Phillip Island: 28 def Dalyston: 17.

#### U17s

Phillip Island's U17s hit the court with intensity and dominated the first quarter of the match.

Position changes to both sides saw a competitive second quarter with the Island scraping to hold onto their lead (by seven) at half time.

In the second half, the Island girls' teamwork paid off with precise shooting, continuous defensive pressure and fast, effective midcourt play which carried them to a convincing win.

**Best on court:** Maya and Tilly.  
Scores: Phillip Island: 45 def Dalyston: 32.

#### U15s

The Island's U15s got off to a slow start throughout the first quarter.

Despite this, the second and third gained momentum with midcourters Piper, Ellie, Maisie and Isla driving and using the channels well.

Tilly and Ruby in defence made it tough for the Dalyston girls, shutting the attackers down completely.

Additionally, Aisha and Mia's accuracy improved through the game and the Island took victory.

**Best on court:** Piper and Ellie.  
Scores: Phillip Island: 28 def Dalyston: 5.



Congratulations to Phillip Island White who secured a strong win against Fish Creek over the weekend.

## Victories for Island LDNA

### NETBALL

#### U13 Red

Saturday saw the Island Reds take on Meeniyan District.

The weather was kinder this week and the girls took the court with confidence and determination from the first whistle.

Faced with some strong opposition, Island Red understood the assignment and delivered the strong game plan from Coach Trish.

With precise passes and strong confident intercepts through the midcourt by Georgie and Hazel, the goals began to build at the hands of Aliza and Madi throughout the first quarter.

The Island's inspiring defensive line in the second quarter of Miranda, Sera and Alexis saw Meeniyan struggle to secure their passes down the court, allowing the Island to deliver turnover after turnover resulting in a further lead.

The second half of the game saw Ella jump into centre and deliver brilliant strategy with the behind assistance of

Miranda in WD to shake up the opposition's midcourt, allowing the Island the opportunity to increase the lead.

With an awe-inspiring dance around their opponents in the goal circle, strong passes and on point shooting by Aliza and Madi, the Island sealed the deal and at the final whistle secured the well-earned win.

**Best on court:** Miranda and Aliza.

Scores: Phillip Island Red: 27 def Meeniyan and District: 14.

#### U13 White

On Saturday morning, the Island were pumped to take on Fish Creek Red in a huge battle between fourth and second on the ladder.

With the girls motivated for the win they came out firing in what proved to be a competitive match with both teams holding their ground in the midcourt.

The Island managed to compose and reduce court errors, getting ahead in the fourth and coming away with a 15-10 win.

Scores: Phillip Island White: 15 def Fish Creek Red: 10.

#### U13s

The U13 girls prepared for an exhilarating semi-local match against Dalyston at the Kennel.

Coach Lawri opted to foster a sense of enjoyment as the season drew to a close and it certainly paid off.

The younger players were given ample court time, maintaining a steady four-point lead each quarter with everyone contributing equally.

Kate, Piper and Abi alternated in the centre, Macy and Charlee shared the GD role, and Frankie and Eden took turns

scoring goals. It was a spirited and enjoyable game, culminating in an eight-point victory for the Island.

Awards were presented to Ivy for her dynamic performance and to Ella for her excellent intercepts.

Scores: Phillip Island: 24 def Dalyston: 16.

#### U11s

Scores: Phillip Island: 29 def Dalyston: 4.

**Kilcunda Bass Netball report at [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)**

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Charlie Burgess of the U14 Panthers.



Timonty Wallace of Kilcunda Bass' U12s.

## Kilcunda Bass juniors take on Inverloch Kongwak in heated battle

### FOOTBALL

#### U10s

In their last game for the 2024 season, Kilcunda Bass' youngest Panthers kicked off against Inverloch Kongwak at their home ground.

It was a cool crisp morning for the players and spectators alike, who were all very grateful for the beautiful sunshine.

Once again, the kids played with full enthusiasm and team spirit. It's been wonderful for all involved to watch their progress and skill development throughout the season.

#### U12s

Facing off against the top team Inverloch Kongwak was always going to be tough for Kilcunda Bass' U12 Panthers – especially on their home ground.

It looked as though they may have been in with a chance during the first half of the game. Harvey Oats opened the scoreboard with the first goal in the first quarter for Kilcunda Bass and then holding their opposition off from getting too far ahead in the second.

However, in the second half, the young Inverloch team proved why they are top of the ladder – defeating Kilcunda Bass by 31 points.

**Best players:** Timonty Wallace, Bailey Pool, Zach Bedford, Dominik Acuna, Harvey Oats and Ryan Hain.

**Coaches awards:** Timonty Wallace, Bailey Pool, Zach Bedford, Dominik Acuna, Harvey Oats, Travis Hockley and Cooper Martin.

#### U14s

In the U14s final match of the season, it was a similar story as

the U12s for the Panthers, playing against top team Inverloch Kongwak.

Some great play and teamwork was on display from Charlie Burgess and Beth Grenness in the midfield, along with goals from Ryder Van Steensel and Cruz Bettles.

The first quarter looked promising. Kilcunda Bass may have been in for a chance but like the previous game, Inverloch soon proved why they are top of the ladder defeating the Panthers by 31 points.

It's been great to see this young side improve and develop not only individually but also as a team throughout the season.

**Best players:** Charlie Burgess, Bethany Grenness, Brodie McMullan, Kayden Read, Nate Miller and Cruz Bettles.

# Strong end to season for Island juniors

### FOOTBALL

#### U14 Red

This week, the Island played their final game of the season against a strong Leongatha side.

The match kicked off with Maddi Leed winning the first clearance, followed by intense forward pressure from Xavier Holmes and Dustin Naismith.

Captain Jackson Allan delivered excellent tackles in the backline, winning a critical 2v1 to save a goal.

Loklan Newstead and Aiden Smith provided robust support, while Callum Chambers competed well in the ruck and Zane Larsson dominated the midfield.

Despite their phenomenal first-quarter pressure, Leongatha led 28-0 at the break.

In the second quarter, the Island's pressure game continued, led by Archer Bailey-Cox, Zane and Maddi.

Birthday boy Kolby Carton and Bailey Parry were relentless, pushing the ball forward.

Kai Sturt excelled on the wing, and Zac Basterfield and Spencer Smith used their size effectively in the forward line.

Big tackles from Dexter Goodall and Zane Larsson stopped certain goals, but Leongatha capitalised on their opportunities, leading 47-0 at halftime.

The third quarter saw Bailey Parry's physicality in the ruck and young gun Jett Fawaz's impressive tackling.

Jacko and Kolby linked up well in defence, creating scoring chances.

Despite the Island's efforts, Leongatha maintained their lead, 74-1 at three-quarter time.

In the final quarter, Callum moved the ball forward and Zane looked dangerous in the forward line. Dexter and Maddi broke away from stoppages, laying crucial tackles.

Xavier's efforts created an opportunity for Zane to score the Island's first goal.

Despite the score, their pressure remained strong until the end.

A thanks from the team to Dan, Johnny and Holmsey for coaching throughout the year, along with team manager Mel.

**Scores:** Phillip Island Red: 1.2.8. Leongatha: 11.17.83.

**Goals:** Phillip Island Red: Zane Larsson – 1.

**Best players:** Phillip Island Red: Maddison Leed, Zane Larsson, Dexter Goodall, Bailey Parry, Loklan Newstead and Dustin Naismith.

**Goals:** Leongatha: Jacob Dean – 3, Lois Read, Reeve Tucker – 2, Noah Cameron, Ryllie Couper, Beau Elkin and Frazier Livingstone – 1.

#### U14 Blue

**Scores:** Phillip Island Blue: 4.8.32. Dalyston: 3.3.21.

**Goals:** Phillip Island Blue: Caleb Cantwell, Kane Patton,

Mason Paxton and Denver Preddice Firth – 1. Dalyston: Jed Caddy, Heath Crump and Blake Ton – 1.

**Best players:** Phillip Island Blue: Harvey Paterson, Jesse Moschetti, Samuel Cole, Brax Scheibel, Kai Opitz and Sam Fairthorne. Dalyston: Riley McRae, Angus Benetti, Shelton Winmar, Roy Humphris, James Dowson and Heath Crump.

#### U14 Girls

**Scores:** Phillip Island: 0.1.1. Leongatha: 1.3.9.

#### U12 Red

**Scores:** Phillip Island Red: 4.7.31. Leongatha: 3.3.21.

**Goals:** Phillip Island Red: Flynn Riley – 2, Oliver Hellmuth-Pask and Johnny Rizzo – 1. Leongatha: Zaki Burggraaff, Jaxon Eddy and Finn Matheson – 1.

**Best players:** Phillip Island Red: Tijian Coldora, Flynn Riley, Oliver Hellmuth-Pask, Jasper Goodall, Sonny Williams and Nash Hornsby Ramage. Leongatha: Shem Hickey, Reggie Read, Finn Matheson, Jaxon Eddy, Liam Meyer and Zaki Burggraaff.

#### U12 Blue

**Scores:** Phillip Island Blue: 6.7.43. Dalyston: 2.3.15.

**Goals:** Phillip Island Blue: Bowie Edwards – 2, Max Carville, Billy Easton, Taj Piera and Max Robinson – 1. Dalyston: Heath Crump and Jed O'Connor – 1.

#### U10 Blue

The pups played their final game of the season against Dalyston, with a strong finish to the season.

The game began with some exceptional skills being executed by the midfield and composed forward line, keeping it out of Dalyston's scoring 50 for the entire quarter.

The pups showed strong resilience throughout the second quarter only allowing Dalyston to get into the Island's forward 50 once – good plays were executed through Hugo, Cooper, Logan William and Ethan.

The third quarter led Phillip Island to a few injuries, leaving the pups to push through with only 17 on the field.

The last quarter of the year however, saw a strong response from the passionate Phillip Island Bulldogs, with a recharged, rejuvenated and recovered team. Back to full numbers on the field, the pups came out giving it 110 per cent in the final minutes delivering a fantastic show for the cheering crowds, dominating the field and giving spectators something to look forward to for the next season of football.

**Awards:** Leith, Cooper, Ethan and Logan.

**Goals:** Hugo, Tate and Logan.



Congratulations to last week's winners (from left): Peter McWilliams (L), Michael Dady (S), Enid Johnston (3) and Bev Elliott (2).

## Midweek at Loch

### BOWLS

Thirty-seven of the Phillip Island Bowling Club's midweek crew had a successful day at Loch last week.

Players were welcomed by Pauline and John, whilst Peter and Claire arranged teams.

Despite the initial chill, players were pleased to see the sun come out as soon as they stepped onto the green, along with a lack of wind, which ensured a great day of bowling.

The day saw one or two wrong bias bowls, adding to the RCH tin.

The club would like to

acknowledge the efforts of Trevor and Sue for their work behind the bar and in the kitchen, along with Steve for cleaning up.

Congratulations to last week's winners with 36 points: Peter McWilliams (L), Michael Dady (S), Enid Johnston (3) and Bev Elliott (2).

Runners up on a score of 35: John Nicholson (S), Laurie Bell (3) and Derek Fenn (L).

Best one game winners on 19 points: Max Summers (3), Bill Williams (L) and Louis Magri (S).

This week, the club will be meeting at Lang Lang, for a 10.30am start. Please be on site by 10am.



Cowes Primary's Kody Sheers on took out a first-place podium finish in the Junior U9s category at the Victorian Schools MTB series.

## Kody secures first place

### MOUNTAIN BIKING

Round 3 of the 2024 Victorian Schools MTB Series took place at Geelong over the weekend.

This race was one of the toughest of the series, featuring rock steps and steep climbs.

Kody Sheers of Cowes Primary School secured first place in the Junior

U9s category for the second time, finishing with a 34-second lead in a 4.04km race.

Ry Sheers and Frankie Heyes, also from Cowes Primary, performed strongly in their races.

The series will continue with the next two rounds at Castlemaine and Bendigo in September.

**OBrien 500 comp and Social Bowls report at [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)**

**Golf results at [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)**



Congratulations to Kilcunda Bass Senior, Daniel Mock who played his 100th game for the team over the weekend.

## Challenging clash for Kilcunda Bass

### FOOTBALL

#### Seniors

In a challenging encounter, Kilcunda Bass faced off against Inverloch.

The match started on a tough note for the team as Inverloch quickly took control in the first 15 minutes. Despite this early setback, they began to find their rhythm, though struggled to capitalise on opportunities, kicking four consecutive behinds.

The second term saw a marked improvement as they outscored Inverloch, showing resilience and determination.

By the third term, Kilcunda Bass were very much in contention, displaying some impressive passages of play. However, Inverloch pulled away in the final quarter, ultimately securing the win.

It was a frustrating game, highlighted by Kilcunda Bass' 16 behinds. On a brighter note, Vossy and Gawls continued their stellar seasons. Ben Eddy and Tucky delivered their trademark performances, while Jed was a

creative force on the wing.

Soz maintained his excellent form and Sammy Watson showed great promise as a key defender, following in the footsteps of his father, Les. Additionally, congratulations to Daniel Mock on his 100th game.

#### Reserves

Kilcunda Bass' Reserves kicked off the match well throughout the first term, however Inverloch were too strong in the second.

Throughout the third, performances were consistent however, the team finished the fourth quarter unable to score.

Kilcunda Bass' talls (Cal, Will, Pughy, Linc and Gussy) all consistently worked hard and were well supported by Coops, Jack, Trent and Dakes.

The team give their thanks to the Veteran players who stepped in for the match, along with Riley and Eden from the U16s who both had a real crack.

Looking ahead to Kilcunda Bass' next match against 'Burra, they're hoping for a win.

## Thrilling action at the league

### DARTS

In an electrifying night of darts action, the Phillip Island and Districts Darts League saw some intense matchups.

Breakers narrowly triumphed over Joe's Hornets in a thrilling 4-3 victory, proving their mettle in a closely contested battle.

Meanwhile, the Vikings showcased their dominance with a commanding 6-1 win against That's All.

The Storm also delivered a strong performance, securing a solid 5-2 victory over The Riverboys. The Dart Vaders had a smooth night, taking a 7-0 win as the Jaggers were forced to forfeit their game.

This win added crucial points to the Dart Vaders' tally as competition heats up.

With just two rounds remaining, the race for fourth place and a spot in the finals is intensifying with the Jaggers, Riverboys, Breakers and Joe's Hornets all still in contention.

Additionally, congratulations are in order for Bob, who won the San Remo Butchers meat tray raffle.

Looking ahead, next week promises more high-stakes action with last year's grand finalists, the Vikings set to face off against the Riverboys.

The Dart Vaders will have a bye, giving them a week to rest and strategise.

Gippsland Soccer League results at [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)

# Oliva a two-time champ

### EQUESTRIAN

After a three-week road trip to Queensland and NSW for showjumping winter shows, Olivia Curtain returns as a double champion.

Olivia not only won the Champion in Queensland at the Festival of Showjumping, Children's Championship 1.15m on her mare Ngahiwi Lady Blu (11yo Grey Mare), she also won the FEI Children's Classic Silver Tour Championship 1.10m on her other new mare Yalambi's Luciana (8yo Chestnut Mare) in NSW at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre.

In addition, Olivia will represent her school for the third year in a row at the Australian Inter-school Nationals at Tamworth in late September.

Expectations were tempered for the trip, as Olivia had only been riding her two horses for less than six months; Ngahiwi Lady Blu for four months and Yalambi's Luciana for five



Olivia with her proud parents who accompanied her on the three-week road trip to Queensland and NSW. More photos at [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)

months – a major change from her two ponies early this year.

"It's just incredible that Olivia has built a bond so quickly especially for a just turned 13-year-old competing against kids already 14," said proud father Matt.

Now back on the farm at

Rhyll, Olivia is preparing for the next shows at Willinga, Batemans Bay in NSW and Tamworth in September.

Olivia would like to thank her sponsors Melbourne Brick and Geohex along with her coaches Frida and Phil from Lever Equestrian.

## SGB swimmers swim for Victoria

### SWIMMING

History was made on the Gold Coast as four SGB swimmers competed at the Australian Schools Championships last week.

The four swimmers, Archie Smyth, Cooper Quaife, Miah Roberts and Gemma Cook competed in a range of events over the week-long event.

The primary school division started first, with Archie competing in several events, including the 12-year-old mixed medley in which he came first – breaking the national record.

Additionally, his results in the 12-year-old boys medley placed him in third, also narrowly missing out in placing in the 50m backstroke.

For Archie "being a part of TeamVic was an amazing experience".

"I really enjoyed being on the Gold Coast and swimming in a wonderful pool with blocks, swimming outside and not feeling cold in July was great.

"However, I had to get used to swimming backstroke – my favourite event with the sun shining in my eyes again.

"I had lots of fun playing bare foot bowls with other TeamVic members, along with hanging out and doing relays with mates who I normally swim against."

Gemma, Miah and Cooper took to the pool throughout the second half of the week.

For Gemma, a multi-class swimmer, the National Competitions gave her a unique opportunity to race others in her classification.

This meet was the first time Gemma has been a part of an official multi-class team; she said it was one of the highlights of



Winners are grinners. The U12 record breakers of the mixed medley competition. More photos at [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)

TeamVic this year.

She was one of eight multi-class swimmers ranging from S6 through to S19 (varying from physical disabilities, invisible disabilities and intellectual impairments) representing Victoria.

The males and females of the team bonded well amongst their able-bodied teammates with a mutual respect for all their abilities.

Gemma (12-years-old) competed in the 13-15 age category, making for tough racing.

However, her aim was to achieve PBs, which she did.

She was thrilled to have such a broad range of multi-class events available to swim.

Typically, meets run 50m races for multi-class, but the swimming was inclusive and for the first time she swam the 200m MC freestyle along with six other longer distance MC events and two dedicated multi-class relays.

She now has a fire that has well and truly ignited her to work even harder for next year, having had such an abundance of opportunities for multi-class swimmers.

Miah enjoyed the great camaraderie throughout TeamVic – the culture of the training sessions and racing in a team with people she normally races against.

It was her first year competing. She learnt a lot from the varying coaches and hopes to make the team next year.

In what has been a big year for Miah (after competing at nationals in Queensland a few months ago), she finished ninth in the final of the 100m backstroke (her favourite event).

Additionally, Cooper was honoured to be selected to compete and represent not only the team as their Captain, but his State after he was selected by School Sports Australia to Captain Victoria as the representative of all sports.

"It was such a privilege to read the athletes oath at the opening ceremony and carry the Victorian flag for the opening and closing ceremonies.

"I enjoyed being able to have an impact on those around me whilst doing what I love, swimming."

## TIDE GUIDE

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

	WED 7 AUG	THU 8 AUG	FRI 9 AUG	SAT 10 AUG	SUN 11 AUG	MON 12 AUG	TUE 13 AUG
HIGH	2:19 am 2.51 m	HIGH 3:10 am 2.57 m	HIGH 3:54 am 2.62 m	HIGH 4:33 am 2.65 m	HIGH 5:10 am 2.68 m	HIGH 5:47 am 2.70 m	HIGH 6:25 am 2.71 m
LOW	8:14 am 0.74 m	LOW 8:59 am 0.78 m	LOW 9:39 am 0.84 m	LOW 10:15 am 0.91 m	LOW 10:48 am 0.97 m	LOW 11:22 am 1.04 m	LOW 11:57 am 1.12 m
HIGH	3:15 pm 2.90 m	HIGH 3:51 pm 2.90 m	HIGH 4:20 pm 2.87 m	HIGH 4:46 pm 2.84 m	HIGH 5:11 pm 2.81 m	HIGH 5:37 pm 2.78 m	HIGH 6:05 pm 2.74 m
LOW	9:00 pm 1.07 m	LOW 9:39 pm 0.97 m	LOW 10:13 pm 0.89 m	LOW 10:44 pm 0.81 m	LOW 11:13 pm 0.74 m	LOW 11:44 pm 0.68 m	

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# Coach Pederson praises four-quarter effort in big win

Billy Taylor played a stellar game for the Seniors, putting seven goals away for the Island. More photos at [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)

## FOOTBALL

### Seniors

Phillip Island entered the game as heavy favourites after 12 straight victories and the Island did not disappoint as they flexed their muscles.

Following comprehensive victories from the U16s, U18s and Reserves, Phillip Island was exhilarating, piling on 61 points in the first to zero.

The swift ball movement and ability to win the contest and open up Dalyston was spearheaded by the return of big man Daniel Bourke, smooth moving Hayden Bruce alongside his brother Charlie, Jaymie Youle and Max Walton.

It was the mids controlling the game and the forwards having winners in the air and on the ground.

The return of ever reliable Mark Griffin was a great sight after a couple weeks of management.

Aaron Harris, Coby, Kai and old man Damien Holmes were resolute in defence all day turning the ball over at will high up the ground.

Coach Pedersen asked for a four-quarter effort and that's what he got.

The Bulldogs had 11 individual goal scorers. Not to be outdone, Billy Taylor slotted seven goals in a classy display.

Players have been working well and Phillip Island have great team cohesion

going into two crucial games to finish the home and away season.

The likes of Orlando Kane Gillard, Marcus Wright, Bryce Hindhaugh and veterans like Daniel Pearce, Jaymie Youle and Jack Taylor are all hitting their straps at the right time of the year.

Scores: Phillip Island: 10.1.61, 17.6.108, 22.10.142, 27.13.175. Dalyston: 0.0.0, 3.3.21, 4.5.29, 7.8.50.

Best players: Phillip Island: Hayden Bruce, Billy Taylor, Max Walton, Jaymie Youle, Aaron Harris and Coby Olarenshaw. Dalyston: Kyle Kirk, Louis Armstrong, Ash Chetland, Hayden Wallis, Brad Monson and Shaun Silver.

Goals: Phillip Island: Billy Taylor - 7, Hayden Bruce, Orlando Kane Gillard, Max Walton - 3, Thomas Baulch, Jordy Patullo, Cameron Pedersen, Travis Woodfield - 2, Daniel Bourke, Jack Taylor and Marcus Wright - 1. Dalyston: Hayden Wallis - 3, Louis Armstrong, Stewart Beaumont, Mitch Hallahan and Brad Monson - 1.

### Reserves

Scores: Phillip Island: 28.17.185. Dalyston: 0.1.1.

Goals: Phillip Island: Nick Anderson - 9, Harry Anderson - 5, Jay Ladson - 4, Lucas Chihotski, Brady Ross - 2, Finlay Cousins, Kirby Fuller, Jack Keating, Ryan Ladson, Will Macrokan and Marvin Sel-

lars - 1.

Best players: Phillip Island: Nick Anderson, Jay Ladson, Lucas Chihotski, Finlay Cousins, Kirby Fuller and Connor Thompson. Dalyston: Dean Wylie, Ryda Kay-Darts, Owen Luff, Matrix Chisholm, Philip Waugh and Campbell Bell.

### U18s:

Scores: Phillip Island: 20.10.130. Dalyston: 3.1.19.

Goals: Phillip Island: Charles O'Garey - 5, Oliver Duggan, Jack Huther - 4, Yianni Caffieri, Zac Walker - 2, Jasper Cashman, James Lewis and Max Taylor - 1. Dalyston: Jesse Dugard - 3.

Best players: Phillip Island: Charles O'Garey, Bailey Hennessy, Leo Savona, Oliver Duggan, Darcy Thompson and Yianni Caffieri. Dalyston: Jesse Dugard, Bailey Anderson, Levi Jones, Chase Krause, Max Toler and Ziggy Bowman Kissane.

### U16s

Scores: Phillip Island: 17.13.115. Dalyston: 0.0.0.

Goals: Phillip Island: Jack Larsson - 5, Levi Addison - 3, Felix Bathgate, Ethan Rhee, Parker Trappett - 2, Reef Ricky, Archie Ross and Samuel Schuller - 1.

Best players: Phillip Island: Jack Larsson, Kai Cashman, Archie Ross, Alexander Szymanski, Parker Trappett and Lewis De Fazio.

**ALEX SCOTT AND STAFF**

**40 CHILLINGWORTH ROAD, COWES**



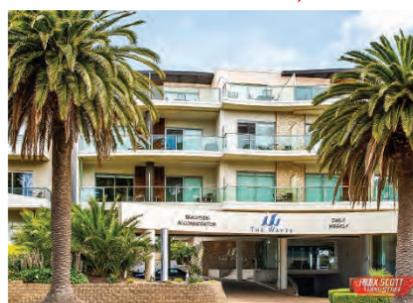
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