

# PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO ADVERTISER

YOUR COMMUNITY VOICE!

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

\$1.80 Incl. GST



King tides have battered the island's coastline over the weekend. High winds coupled with king tides have seen further sections of the Silverleaves foreshore damaged, with several large banksia trees toppling over. Meanwhile over at Cowes west, the rough seas and high tides hampered the efforts to rescue a beached yacht.

## Residents demand answers on rock wall impacts

### EROSION

Bass Coast Shire was "ill-informed" by a 2020 report recommending a rock wall for Cowes East, according to the Silverleaves Conservation Association.

The comments come as fears grow rapid erosion will soon inundate foreshore properties, with the public even suggesting a class action (see separate stories), and a beach access track last week closed to the public.

Cowes east's \$3.35 million, 360-metre wall metre boulder rock wall was built last year between Coghlan Road and Rose Avenue – along with eight timber groynes and sand works – following years of lobbying by residents to stop rapid erosion in the area.

The rock wall – funded by the shire and the then Federal Gov-

ernment – was constructed after recommendations detailed in a 2020 report, "Cowes East Foreshore Erosion Protection, Rose Avenue to Coghlan Road".

"What we now know is that the Council was ill-informed by the July 2020 report," Silverleaves Conservation Association (SCA) spokesperson Louise Hill said.

"This report recommended the revetments and groynes work and it said the effects on the surrounding areas would be negligible (section 8.4.4 page 28)."

Louise said page 29 of the report elaborated, explaining, "further east the Silverleaves' coastline already experiences cyclical erosion and accretion with the natural fluctuations in longshore transport and there is a wide coastal reserve providing

a buffer between the beach and public or private assets".

"Clearly, this is blatantly wrong, the erosion has vastly accelerated and is not natural fluctuations," Louise said.

Last year Melbourne University's Professor David Kennedy, from the office of environmental programs, told the Advertiser rock walls "don't necessarily" protect a beach, but protect property boundaries and "you always get an end effect with them".

"The general rule with a rock wall is that you double the erosion effect at the end of the wall by a few metres," David said.

"The biggest issue with coastal management is sand movement and the response is generally to stick a wall in.

"But once you armour the coast it reduces the beach's nat-

ural ability to adjust."

David spearheaded a three-year drone research project examining Cowes east beach erosion, which found sand is moving in an easterly direction, leaving some erosion hotspots.

Louise said while erosion had been a growing problem – because of climate change and impacts of increased urban density – it had increased in the past year since the rock wall was built.

"I understand the need for council to undertake the Cowes east foreshore protection works but I am concerned many unintended impacts have occurred as a result."

### Plan?

Earlier this year the SCA and the Cowes East Foreshore Pre-

ventative Action Group unsuccessfully sought shire funding in the 2023/24 budget for a coastal investigation between Coghlan Road and the end of Silverleaves Avenue.

"The investigation should consider the impact of the work to date on erosion and sand movement and the likely impact of further erosion from increased storm activity," Louise said at the time.


She said possible solutions should be assessed, such as new groynes, protection of the sand dunes, or even regulation of beach access.

"Until we get some informed expert research and advice we run the risk of making ad hoc decisions without understanding the consequential impacts."

*Continued page 6*

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# Reduce your risk of flu and Covid

# It's super! Grantville gets its supermarket

VACCINATION

People who contract COVID-19 are urged to perform a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) as soon as they show symptoms to ensure they have access to anti-viral medication if eligible.

Anti-viral medication must be taken within five days of getting Covid to be effective which is why it's important for people to get tested as soon as they notice any symptoms.

People at risk include people who are aged 70 and over, aged 50 and over with certain health conditions (or 30 if they're Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander), or have a weakened immune system, disability or are born with heart disease.

With more incidences of influenza and Covid being reported in the community, Bass Coast Health (BCH) CEO Jan Child is urging people to also ensure their vaccination status is up to date to give them the best protection.

"More than 4.2 million Victorians are now eligible for a 2023 booster dose of a Covid vaccination and so many more of us need to get a booster to give ourselves, and our community, the best protection possible," she said.

"In a recent week, 58 Covid-related deaths in Victoria were reported to the Department of Health, equating to an average of eight deaths a day, so this virus remains a very real risk to our community, particularly to those with compromised immune systems and the elderly."

Flu and Covid vaccinations are available from selected pharmacies and GP clinics.

"This is the third year we have lived with Covid and there are now more cases, as well as influenza, in our community as people start to gather inside during wintry weather," Ms Child said.

"Ensuring your Covid and flu vaccinations are current, including having a Covid winter booster if it's been six months or more since your last vaccination, will help to keep you and others safe.

"We particularly need to be mindful of the risk Covid and the flu pose to people with weakened immune systems or who are unable to have a Covid vaccination due to a medical condition and are therefore at high risk of catching Covid and becoming very ill."

Covid can be a life-threatening virus that can cause short and long-term symptoms such as fatigue, shortness of breath, loss or change in sense of smell or taste, difficulty sleeping, headache, and anxiety and depression. Influenza also poses a significant health risk to people with weak immune systems.

Contagious

Both Covid and influenza are highly contagious viral infections that usually spread when an infected person coughs or sneezes, and those droplets are inhaled by others. Infected droplets can be touched and then inhaled or consumed when a person eats or touches their nose or

mouth.

"That's why regular and thorough handwashing for 20 seconds is vital as doing so will reduce the risk of an otherwise healthy person picking up the virus," Ms Child said.

While Covid is more contagious than the flu and can make you feel very sick, Covid and influenza share similar symptoms: fever (high temperature), sore throat, cough, a runny or stuff nose, muscle or body aches, fatigue and headaches.

"If you experience these symptoms, please have a Rapid Antigen Test to test for Covid, wear a mask and reduce your contact with others until your symptoms resolve. Certainly don't go to work or school as you risk spreading illness to others," Ms Child said.

Members of the public can also reduce their risk of getting or spreading Covid and influenza by washing their hands regularly, covering their mouth when coughing, sneezing into disposable tissues, and cleaning or disposing of contaminated objects.

You can pick up two free packets of RATs from Bass Coast Shire Council's Customer Service Centre, at 154-156 Thompson Avenue, Cowes.

For information on flu vaccinations, visit: [www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/flu-influenza-immunisation](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/flu-influenza-immunisation)

For Covid vaccinations visit: [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/get-vaccinated](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/get-vaccinated)

For general Covid information: [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au)

BUSINESS

After decades of waiting, the Grantville community has finally got its much anticipated supermarket.

The new Foodworks store, at the site of the old Mitre 10, officially opened last Monday.

On hand to mark the big occasion were Store Manager Georgette, Liquor Manager Kurt and their team, and Bass Coast Shire Councillor Rochelle Halstead.

The first customer through the door was Jane Papp from Coronet Bay.

Cr Halstead said she was thrilled to be part of the official opening.

"Grantville has a well-established business precinct that offers traditional community top class service, and a supermarket is something Grantville and all the Waterline communities have been desperate to see open in the area for a long time."

Cr Halstead paid tribute to local resident Kylie Van-Schlinky, who took up the campaign for a supermarket, establishing a Facebook page called Grantville needs a Supermarket.

"Kylie kept the project front of mind for all those who would listen, and she deserves a mention for her unwavering commitment.

"The supermarket was an issue I campaigned on in 2020 when I ran for Council," Cr Halstead continued.

"As a private business there were a lot of planning boxes to check off and the project certainly was not without its ups and downs.

"Thank you to Bass



First customer through the door was Jane Papp from Coronet Bay, with store manager Georgette. Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.

Coast Planning and Health departments who worked hard to ensure the project was delivered the way our community deserves, first class.

"The range of goods available is incredible and while there, I took the opportunity to fill a basket with some goodies to take home," she said.

"Congratulations to the new owners of the site who persevered, ticked the boxes and invested considerable funds in what is a well-designed and fully stocked supermarket with drive thru bottle shop.

"I have no doubt the community appreciates and will strongly support the staff under the leadership of store manager Georgette, and I wish them every success."

The arrival of the Foodworks store has been plagued by delays, originally slated to open in 2021.

But it could be a case of

"it never rains, but it pours", with another supermarket possibly in the works.

In 2020, Bass Coast Shire Council approved another development on the opposite side of the highway, at 1531-1545 Bass Highway, which will include a new supermarket, shopping zone, service station, medical centre and residential area.

The site is still an empty paddock. However on June 6, 2023, Retail World Magazine said Ritchies Stores had signed an MOU to design and construct a supermarket and liquor store in Grantville.

"Although early stages, we intend to work with Leading Edge Property Group to obtain final council approval, and hope to commence construction in the latter half of 2023, subject to further due diligence on building quotes," a Ritchies corporate update stated.

PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO

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# Record number of residents rally to support Kitty Miller

## DEVELOPMENT

The community has rallied in unprecedented numbers to save the Kitty Miller Bay area from a proposed tourism development, with a record of more than 160 objections.

And objectors have called for the development to be assessed under Federal legislation, because it will have “significant impacts on matters of national environmental significance”, including the Penguin Parade.

The \$8 million accommodation and restaurant resort – for up to 100 guests – is being proposed by the South East Asia Sunshine International Group, on 36 hectares at 115 Kitty Millers Bay Road, on the corner of Back Beach Road.

The “eco-resort” will carry out extensive earthworks on Kitty Miller’s artificial wetlands, which flow into Swan Lake, as well as plant regeneration.

About 162 submitters were unanimous in their condemnation of the proposal, which is believed to be the most objections to a local project.

The Phillip Island Conservation Society (PICS) summarised many submitters’ concerns, stating the proposal failed “to demonstrate adequate standards of environmentally sustainable de-

sign, which is unfortunate given that the proposal is pitched as an ‘eco-resort’.”

PICS said of most concern were the impacts onsite and downstream to Nature Parks’ penguin burrows, short-tailed shearwater rookeries and Swan Lake.

For this reason, PICS recommends the resort be assessed under the Federal EPBC Act, which protects these species, as well as the endangered Eastern Barred Bandicoot, which lives in the Kitty Miller area.

It should also be assessed under the Victorian Environment Effects Act, PICS said.

“The application demonstrates no understanding or consideration of the severe environmental damage caused by excavation to create the existing wetland in the 1960s, which flooded the wetland with saline water,” the PICS submission states, adding the resort developer had insufficient detail and analysis on a range of environmental issues.

“In the 1990s, salinity levels within the artificial lakes were up to 150 percent of the salinity of seawater.

“Initial plantings failed, and it took two decades to achieve a sparse, stable vegetation cover.



There is a bumper crop of birds at Swan Lake this season, including these swans last week. Objectors fear hypersaline water could flow downstream to Swan Lake and into lower penguin burrows, from the proposed earthworks at a resort development.

“Until this point, Penguin Parade managers were concerned the eroding embankments could fail, causing unintended release of hypersaline water downstream to Swan Lake and lower burrows within adjacent penguin and shearwater rookeries.”

PICS states vegetation on the site is currently dying “with little regeneration of new plants”.

Other objectors agreed any risks to Swan Lake, the Penguin Parade and Kitty Miller Bay would be “unacceptable”, with Swan Lake alone supporting 98 species of birds, the rare growling grass frog and a rare species

of galaxia.

“Construction of the artificial lakes on Kitty Millers Road was a mistake that created a hostile hypersaline environment that has taken decades to recover,” one objector wrote.

Wrote another: “The area should be thoroughly investigated and analysed for acid sulphate soils before any bulk earthworks commence.”

## Economy

Objectors stated Bass Coast’s environment and landscape were “key to the visitor economy”.

Several submitters said be-

cause the resort would cater to Chinese tourists – not open to the public – it would provide no economic benefit to Phillip Island.

“Historic precedent has shown when large tourism infrastructure projects such as resorts have been built and run by foreign companies, they target their domestic market ... resulting in minimal direct and indirect economic benefits to the community where the resort is located,” an objector wrote.

Residents said the island was “already over developed with multiple new estates currently being established”, and the increased pressure on services and infrastructure – such as roads and water – would “impact an already overburdened system”.

There were fears that despite the promise of a yet-to-be-designed onsite wastewater treatment plant – to manage 14,250 daily litres of resort wastewater – “seepage of treated sewage and greywater would eventually reach downstream to Swan Lake and the Penguin Reserve, particularly after high rainfall periods”.

A long-term resident said in drought years developers could channel water from Swan Lake onto their land, with “potential for extreme disruption of the ecological system”.

## Laissez Faire mystery

### BOATING

In the early 1980s, an unmanned 48-foot launch was found some 20 miles off the coast of San Remo.

The launch was found going around in circles under power – unmanned with the wheel lashed. It was boarded by local fishermen and brought to safety. The RAAF Museum at Point Cook is currently restoring the boat and looking for details about the incident and the boat’s history in general. At the time of the incident, it was named Laissez Faire.

Initially, the launch was operated by the RAAF on the Gippsland Lakes from April 1945 to 1954. After being disposed of by the RAAF it had four owners.

The launch was donated to the RAAF Museum early in 2022 by the last owner Mr Harry Bowman who had operated it on the Gippsland Lakes from 1986.

The San Remo incident happened under the third owner whose name is unknown.

The scant details known are from the second owner Mr Geoff Donnelly who sold it through a broker, hence not knowing the name of the person who purchased it.

Donnelly followed the activities of the launch after he sold it and has told Museum researchers he spoke to the fisherman that carried out the rescue at the time.

But he is unable to remember the actual date or the fisherman’s name.

The Museum is keen to have the full history of the boat, which it hopes to display once it has completed restoring it to its wartime condition as bow number O2-6.

Can anyone confirm the date of the San Remo rescue, and provide any additional details about the Laissez Faire? If you have any information, please email [advertiser@pisra.com.au](mailto:advertiser@pisra.com.au) or call 03 5952 3201 and we will pass on the details.

Researchers say finding out the name of the fishermen who saved the launch would be an added bonus.

## Kitty Miller Bay of national, state significance: objectors

### ENVIRONMENT

Phillip Island’s southern coast is of national and state significance for scientific, social and historical reasons, according to the National Trust of Australia, who is an objector to the Kitty Miller Bay resort proposal.

The Victorian branch of the National Trust said their organisation had classified the south coast, explaining the south-west section of 115 Kitty Millers Bay Road was also currently being considered as a state significant landscape in the state government’s Bass Coast Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) project.

“We object on the basis the proposal would adversely impact the natural significance of the southern coastline and the delicate and threatened ecosystem that it supports,” the Trust states.

Many agreed the DAL should

protect the Kitty Miller area from this kind of development.

Other objectors highlighted recent VCAT decisions rejected a proposed caravan park at Forrest Caves and the National Vietnam Veterans Museum “due to unacceptable impacts on the visual quality of the landscape in the farming zone”.

“We are concerned approval of this application would create precedent for other farming zone land to be developed for intensive non-agricultural purposes,” wrote one objector.

Others agreed landscape was critical. “Rather than sympathetic design that protects vistas and minimises impacts on the landscape, the application proposes a sprawling design of 31 buildings, including a building of almost 11 metres in height, and a house, decks, tents, and swimming pool,” a submitter wrote.

A neighbouring farmer objected saying there was a poten-

tial land-use conflict between the “enjoyment of resort guests and agricultural activities”, including machinery such as tractors, pasture renovation, and livestock noise and odour.

The farmer also said the developer’s planning permit was incorrect when it states the artificial lakes were created by Len Lukey for aquaculture.

“This is not true. The original dam was constructed circa 1977-78 by the Lukey family and intended to be used to store water for irrigation purposes,” the farmer wrote.

“The Lukey family sold the subject site circa 1981 and over the ensuing years the new owners developed a business case for an aquaculture farm.

“Other business investments took precedence, and the aquaculture business never came to fruition.

“These owners sold the subject site to the immediate past owner circa 1998.”

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# Community at odds over bike track removal

## ENVIRONMENT

Bass Coast Shire Council has removed a homemade bike track on the Cape Woolamai foreshore, at the end of Cronulla Avenue, prompting praise and condemnation from the community.

Many residents expressed their dismay at the action, posting on the Cape Woolamai Residents Group Facebook page.

However members of the Cape Woolamai Coast Action (CWCA) group said it supported council's remediation of the area.

A Bass Coast Shire Council spokesperson told the Advertiser council recently levelled an illegal BMX track among foreshore vegetation in Cape Woolamai.

"We have a responsibility to ensure the safety of our community; unfortunately tracks like this pose a risk to their users," the spokesperson said.

"The creation of the track has destroyed a large amount of native vegetation in this area, the levelling of the track only emphasises how much vegetation has been destroyed.

"We have received many reports from our community about their concern for this vegetation loss."

Cape Woolamai resident, and former independent candidate for Monash in the Federal election, Deb Leonard has been advocating for a pump track at Cape Woolamai, and said the removal of the track by council was a huge disappointment.

"We have virtually no recreational facilities for young people in Cape Woolamai, but Bass Coast Shire have destroyed one of the few facilities we do have," said Deb.

"I understand there are environmental concerns, but this area has been enjoyed by families for years. We can hardly blame kids for making their own activities where council fails to provide."

She said bulldozing the makeshift bike track nestled in the Cleeland Bight foreshore has devastated the native growth, with significant earthworks and removal of branches from surrounding native trees and other flora.

Some residents said the track had been in place for over 40 years, being enjoyed and cared for by numerous local families.

They described it as a meeting place for families, a source



Some residents said the track on the Cape Woolamai foreshore, recently removed by council, had been in place for over 40 years, being enjoyed and cared for by numerous local families.

of exercise and recreation for young people, a party venue and natural community hub.

Local mum, Melissa Drager, who frequented the area regularly said her children were devastated. "The excavator has caused far more damage to the environment than kids on bikes ever did," she says.

Local kids also voiced their dismay. "I loved riding my bike over the bumps there," said Ashley (7), while Tyler (7) asked "why aren't we allowed anything fun to do".

## Coast Action

Claire Ranyard, Vice President of the Cape Woolamai Coast Action (CWCA) group spoke out in support of the council's action.

"We support the remediation of the area to the degree that its intended use is as a conservation zone, not as a recreational zone," she said.

"Our focus as a group is to undertake weed control, rubbish removal and native vegetation plantings. Our objective is solely to work on behalf of the community to protect our local environmental values."

The group said the damage at the end of Cronulla Avenue had not been aggravated by the actions of council in removing the illegal tracks.

It also described the area where the track was located as a critical link between Newhaven swamp and the Cape.

"It is an important corridor of habitat that contains many native plants and provides habitat for a range of local wildlife, including the re-introduced endangered Eastern Barred Bandicoot," Ms Ranyard said.

She said the group operated under the control of the council and followed its guidelines for the maintenance and restoration of the Cape Woolamai foreshore.

The council said it planned to fence off the area and begin revegetation as soon as possible with indigenous plants, to restore the habitat.

"Council takes vandalism of vegetation very seriously; this foreshore is Crown Land of which council is the custodian, so it is our duty to protect these fragile coastal environments for the benefit of all, including our native fauna and flora species.

"We understand the appetite in our community for bike tracks," the spokesperson continued.

"In fact, our Mountain Bike/BMX/Pump Reference Group had its inaugural meeting on June 28, which brought together 11 eager community representatives from across the Shire to discuss all things Mountain Bike/BMX and Pump."

The purpose of the reference group is to assist council to determine suitable locations and develop a strategy for BMX, Pump Tracks and Mountain Bike trails across the Shire.

Council said one of the key components the strategy will address is ensuring jumps and skills tracks are built on land that is suitable, without contravening any planning or land management requirements, environmental impacts or public safety concerns.

The Cape Woolamai Coast Action Group said local residents should get involved in these discussions.

"We encourage the residents who wish to see some form of recreation facility created in the Cape Woolamai vicinity to meet with representatives from the Shire to negotiate a way forward that does not result in further damage to the foreshore and environment," Ms Ranyard said.

"CWCA is also prepared to attend any meeting with the Shire and any local group to support the establishment of such a facility in an appropriate location."



There was community outcry when 15 trees - including a century-old blue gum - were in 2019 unexpectedly cut down, ahead of construction of the \$2.25 million transit centre.

## More protection for town trees

### ENVIRONMENT

Westernport Water has confirmed trees that cause water pipe problems will only be removed when necessary.

In past years there has been community outcry when trees have been chopped by the water utility and Bass Coast Shire, including a massive gum outside Coles that burst a water main, and 15 trees chopped to make way from the transit centre.

Plans for both the new Cowes cultural centre and community hospital were amended last year in order to protect significant trees; while in Melbourne it is common for trees to be protected and old water pipes replaced with new plastic pipes.

Following Bass Coast Shire's new urban forest strategy - which will protect and grow more trees in townships - the water authority last week confirmed that, "wherever possible, our work does not result in the unnecessary removal of trees".

"If the root structure has been compromised, or if the works cannot be done without the root structure being compromised, this can, in some cases, necessitate the removal of the tree, particularly

along nature strips," a Westernport Water spokesperson said.

A giant eucalypt that impacted a water pipe was set to be lopped on Chapel Street last week, but was given a stay of execution until an evaluation by an independent arborist.

For the public a permit is required to cut or remove a tree with a trunk/s that have a circumference greater than 155 centimetres one metre above ground level, or where a tree is listed on the shire's new Significant Trees Register.

Water utilities are exempt from requiring a permit when it is for the "safe and efficient" functioning of their work.

The urban forest strategy has a target of 40 per cent canopy in urban towns by 2040, with Cowes currently at about 30 per cent, with about 10,000 street trees and potential for 2000 more.

San Remo has few public trees, with just 445, and potential to plant more than 1000.

The strategy states no neighbourhood should fall below 25 per cent canopy coverage, with the shire now committing to plant 1500 trees annually, an increase of 1200 trees compared to the current program.

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# Runaway driver and rising road toll

## ACCIDENTS

Around 9pm on June 28, a car travelling at high speed in the 60km zone on Phillip Island Road near Silverwater Resort crashed into another vehicle, causing serious damage.

Police said the driver fled the scene and it's believed they were picked up by a second vehicle.

Another vehicle towing a trailer was also hit by the runaway driver. Fortunately no one in either of the other vehicles was seriously injured.

Police said a number of other matters were being investigated in regard to the collisions and driving offences on the night.

## Slow down

The high speed accident was the third in the San Remo vicinity in

four days.

On June 25, a car crashed on Phillip Island Road, near the chocolate factory, after swerving to avoid a wallaby.

On June 26, traffic coming on and going off the island came to a standstill after a head-on collision near Punch Bowl Road, around 4.20pm. One man was flown to hospital with serious injuries.

The accident is still being investigated.

The spate of accidents has prompted a warning from local police to slow down on the roads.

Acting Senior Sergeant Scott Morison said the accidents were a timely reminder of the importance of driving to the conditions.

"Considering the wet weather and the condition of some roads, everyone needs to slow down



Fortunately the driver of this Patrol was not seriously injured, after swerving to avoid a car travelling at high speed on the wrong side of the road.

and take a bit of extra care."

He warned against using cruise control in wet weather.

"If the road is wet, people should have total control over everything in the car. In those very quick scenarios that play out that lead to collisions – those

extra seconds where the driver is trying to take back control are vital."

He confirmed like the state road toll, the local toll was also higher than this time last year.

"We have seen an increase in lives lost and serious injury col-

lisions," he said, noting there appeared to be more people on the roads.

He urged people to slow down and take greater care on the roads.

"If you are travelling through an area known for wildlife, slow down," he advised.

"Pay particular attention to the road in front and the edges of the road where animals sit.

"There is a lot drivers can do to avoid collisions, and speed certainly plays into it, particularly when the roads are wet."

He said there were increased road patrols during the holiday period, targeting major thoroughfares.

"We are getting our people out and there's an increase in road policing enforcement as well."



Owner Marc and son Leon, with locals helping to dig out and pivot the yacht so at the high tide it can be towed back out to sea.

## Stranded yacht sparks community effort

## RESCUE

The local community rallied to help owners of a yacht stranded on Cowes west beach near McKenzie Road over the weekend. Over three days, teams worked to refloat the boat, including a crew of locals digging and pivoting the yacht, while another boat owner tried to tow it to deeper water.

After several unsuccessful attempts, finally on Monday night the yacht was returned to the water, towed out by a local boat.

The yacht broken free of its swing mooring during a storm late last week.

Owner Marc Bernstein said initially it was only half up the beach, but on the first day the weather conditions were so bad he was unable to launch a boat to pull it back out into the water.

With the island experiencing king tides over the weekend, the next tide pushed it further up the beach. Marc put out a call on so-

cial media asking for help and has been overwhelmed with the response from the community.

"The locals have been so supportive," he said.

"So many people rocked up with shovels."

After the first unsuccessful attempt, Marc hoped the king tide on Sunday would provide the conditions needed to get the yacht back in the water. Unfortunately the second attempt also failed.

"We were so close last night to getting her off, but unfortunately failed in the end," Marc posted on Facebook.

"Reorganising ourselves to come up with a new plan for today. Thanks again everyone who showed up to help yesterday – awesome effort team!"

Speaking to The Advertiser on Monday morning, Marc said a professional team might be needed to relaunch the yacht.

He singled out two locals,

Steve and Roger for special praise.

"They were working with us all day yesterday and are back here today," Marc said.

"They are amazing people, putting their heart and soul into this."

Marc and his son Leon sailed the yacht over from Flinders last week, planning to spend a few days on the island. The rest of the family is currently in Melbourne, while Marc and Leon stayed in a cabin at a local caravan park as they tried to rescue the boat.

"Leon has another week of school holidays, so we we're both still here."

He said the family were frequent visitors to the area – "we love the island" – but this has certainly been a trip to remember.

"You are our heroes," Marc posted on Facebook, when the yacht was finally freed.

"We feel very lucky to have met such wonderful people."

## Police nab crims and car in Cape

## CRIME

There were dramatic scenes last Wednesday in Cape Woolamai, with hovering helicopters and a beach arrest, following a burglary in Cowes.

Officers responded to reports of the burglary and theft of a silver Porsche 211 and a black Volkswagen Golf which were allegedly stolen from a Red Rocks Road residence about 12pm on June 5.

Police tracked the stolen Porsche to Cape Woolamai, which they allege was driving erratically along Phillip Island Road and had a minor collision with another vehicle at the roundabout at Woolamai Beach Road.

The Police Air Wing was called in and located the abandoned car in Princeton Avenue a short time later. The two men in the vehicle ran into the coastal reserve and the Police Air Wing conducted aerial searches of the area, hovering over the bushland opposite Beresford Drive, and along Aussie Track.

Police confirmed the Air Wing located the two men hiding in coastal scrub, before following them onto the foreshore and cliffs. The men tried to evade arrest, running down to the beach and along the sand, but were arrested by police on the ground near the entrance to The Colonnades. The low flying helicopter and multiple police cars in the area attracted plenty of attention, with one parent jokingly describing it as a "very entertaining school holiday show over the back fence".

Two men from Phillip Island, aged 18 and 37, were arrested.

The 18-year-old male has been released, pending further enquiries.

The 37-year-old male has been charged with offences including handling stolen goods, theft of a



This silver Porsche, stolen from Cowes was abandoned in Princeton Avenue in Cape Woolamai a short time later. Police used the Air Wing to locate the two men hiding in coastal scrub.

motor vehicle, reckless conduct endanger life and driving whilst unlicensed.

He has been bailed to appear at the Korumburra Magistrates' Court on October 12, 2023.

The Volkswagen was later located on Redwood Drive, about 2.45pm. The investigation into the burglary remains ongoing.

## Assistance

In a post on the Bass Coast Eyewatch Facebook page, police thanked the local community who provided details of sightings of the vehicle and the alleged offenders, and also offered assistance to the police at The Colonnades.

They also appealed for the driver of the vehicle that collided with the silver Porsche at the intersection of Phillip Island Road and Woolamai Beach Road to make contact.

"Police believe that this vehicle might be a blue coloured Holden Commodore wagon, which will have likely damage to its side mirrors," the post stated.

If you have any information regarding this incident, including any Dash-Cam footage, please contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online at: [www.crimestoppersvic.com.au/report-a-crime/](http://www.crimestoppersvic.com.au/report-a-crime/)



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# Buyback, class action, urgent meeting?

## EROSION

Silverleaves beach goers have mooted a class action or a buy-back of homes to remedy the loss of coast from accelerated erosion.

On social media last week, residents and those who visit the Silverleaves beach east of the new rock wall commented on a post by Rodney Clements, who wrote there were at least six large banksia trees “which won’t last a month”.

“We have our first beach track closed,” Rodney wrote, referring to the closure of the track east of the rock wall.

“This is just the start.

“We’ve saved 500 metres (from the rock wall) and we’re destroying kilometres. It’s past pointing the blame; we just need a fix.”

Bruno asked what was going to be done to “reverse the current destruction”.

“What’s happening now is soul destroying. If any class action would help to put pressure on the relevant authorities to rectify the current destruction count me in,” Bruno wrote.

Former councillor John Matthews said there should be an urgent meeting of impacted ratepayers to “thrash out where to from here”.

Wendy suggested the government carried out a buy-back of homes on the foreshore.

“Remove all the houses and let nature take its course,” she commented.

Giles said the situation was “now urgent”.

“I suggest the more people that can pressure the authorities the better,” Giles wrote.

“There’s no obvious solution



A former councillor said there should be an urgent meeting of impacted Silverleaves ratepayers to “thrash out where to from here” following this winter’s accelerated erosion east of the rock wall.

but it’s hard to argue (against) last year’s wall work didn’t accelerate dramatically the issue.

“Therefore those that built the wall need to respond to the issue asap.”

Giles said there was no doubt the works had saved some houses, but “no one suggested Silverleaves would be sacrificed in the process”.

He added he suspected “the unintended consequences of the work done wasn’t considered”.

“There’s certainly no suggestion that what is happening was expected beyond the broad acknowledgement the whole area of Cowes and east Cowes has a problem that needs a plan.”

Martin said while erosion acceleration was caused by man – and “getting worse year by year” – “but nothing like we have seen since the wall and groynes were built”.

“This issue has now become

catastrophic and further inaction will cause further loss of coastline and will endanger property,” Martin said.

“The community feeling is that council have been at best incompetent and at worst knowingly negligent in this matter.”

Helen said the beach was “unrecognisable”.

“The Sanders Road beach post was visible a couple of weeks ago and now it’s buried with sand.”

Miriam commented it was not a safe area to walk and she had never seen erosion as bad.

Tas said it appeared not to be “normal seasonal erosion”.

“I would be very nervous if I owned a house just behind the beach.”

The Phillip Island Community Noticeboard Facebook site also had comments from residents saying erosion was happening around the island, including Red Rocks and Ventnor.



MP for Bass Jordan Crugnale with Cowes East Foreshore Preventative Action Group’s Ken Hailey at the severely eroded beach in May.

# State calls urgent erosion meeting

## BEACHES

The state government will this week meet with Silverleaves residents to examine options for erosion management, ahead of a beach study this year.

MP for Bass Jordan Crugnale last week told the Advertiser she, along with representatives from the Department of Energy Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), and residents, will meet at the worst eroded beach to “work together”.

“The local community and rightly so, have expressed concerns with the rate of erosion this winter. It is significant and has become worse since I was there late May,” Jordan said.

“We will meet onsite so we can work together, be informed by experts and the science, as the last thing we want is for immediate works to be done that may exacerbate the erosion or transfer the issue further down the beach.

“I want to assure people that

the area has been actively monitored and alongside the community I too have been calling for a study.”

Jordan said DEECA included the Cowes area in a “coastal processes study”, which will be completed this year to determine suitable options to manage erosion.

“The report will look at risk, inundation, existing coastal protection infrastructure, coastal processes and provide options for current management and future adaptation.”

She said the beach was Crown Land managed by the shire as a committee of management, but DEECA would help the council with the “design of any temporary measures to reduce impacts until the recommendations of the study and adaption pathways are known”.

Jordan said she had received correspondence from concerned community members calling for a study of the area which they had been pursuing with council through their budget process.

# Silverleaves, an unenviable Victorian first?

## EROSION

Silverleaves residents predict rapid winter erosion could see properties on their foreshore be the first in Victoria to be claimed by the sea.

While we’ve all seen footage of homes falling into the sea from around the world and even NSW, Victoria has so far been spared.

But not for long, according to Cowes East Foreshore Preventative Action Group (CEFPAG) chair Ken Hailey.

“This is becoming a serious issue now as inundation of properties will probably happen before winter’s end if the weather patterns continue,” Ken said.

“The whole of Silverleaves beach is being smashed, which I suggest is the result of northerly weather patterns continuing to pound us.”

Silverleaves’ Conservation Association’s Louise Hill said about 15-20 metres of foreshore – with major stands of fully mature banksias – had been lost “and a full primary sand dune has totally disappeared”.

“Further destruction is inevitable,” said Louise, who has taken a sequence of images from the same spot to show the destruction between Ellen Road and Sanders Road from March last year to the present.

“By itself, the most recent photo shows a relatively healthy shoreline but when you see it with the others it’s horrifying.

“It’s hard to get your head around it until you see the changing images of the tree and the size of the sand dune that was in front of it and what



The timeline of the disappearance of the Silverleaves sand dune, which ran adjacent to the shoreline and Woodlands Avenue between Ellen Road and Sanders Road. “It’s hard to get your head around it until you see the changing images of the tree and the size of the sand dune that was in front of it and what height it was”, says one resident.

height it was.

“We will not have the tree – nor many others – for much longer and we will never get the sand dune back.

“The landmark banksia is now fully showing, which was behind the massive sand dune now gone.”

## Alarm

Last month other foreshore Silverleaves residents sounded an urgent alarm, with several warning their homes will be washed away within a decade.

Residents said because of the pace of erosion it was unfeasible to renovate houses, and properties were “not attractive to purchase”, so the shire should reduce current “ballooning” rate payments.

The residents spoke after unsuccessfully calling on Bass Coast Shire to fund a \$60,000

coastal engineering study to understand the “ongoing severe erosion” in this year’s budget.

Submitters said last year’s construction of the Cowes east rock wall and groynes, between Rose Avenue and Coghlan Road, had “exacerbated the erosion”, with one estimating about five metres of dune had been lost over Easter storms alone.

“It is not feasible to renovate or redevelop my 1950s fibro shack. The property is not attractive to purchase which affects its value,” wrote one, explaining council rates were calculated on the assumption the property has a “survival rate”.

“Surely council understands a property has little value if there is no certainty regarding its longevity.

“I trust council is addressing this matter with the Valuer-General.”

# Residents demand answers on rock wall impacts

From page 1

Last week Louise said given the rapid rate of erosion following northerly winter storms, it was “becoming increasingly apparent the council has no strategy or plan for managing the coastal assets and for protection of the foreshore, flora or fauna”.

“They have not had an impact assessment of their \$2 million expenditure on the erosion works.

“Nor do they have any proper monitoring or risk mitigation controls in place.

“It’s beyond a study but we need real expert advice about options and actions.”

The SCA has written to the shire “seeking urgent information” about their erosion program but Louise said they had yet to receive an answer.

## Report

According to the 2020 report, “Cowes East Foreshore Erosion Protection, Rose Avenue to Coghlan Road”, revetments (rock wall), groynes and beach nourishment (sand scraping) “can all have impacts on the coastal processes in the immediate and surrounding areas”.

“The area which is at greatest risk of impact from the construction of the foreshore protection works is the down-drift coastline to the east, which could be impacted by a reduction in longshore transport,” the



Cowes east’s \$3.35 million, 360-metre wall metre boulder rock wall.

report stated.

“In this case the effects on surrounding areas are expected to be negligible because: potential impacts have been mitigated in the design; the total amount of sand that could be trapped by the new groynes (6,000m³) is an order of magnitude smaller than the estimated average annual longshore transport (40,000m³); and the down-drift coastline is resilient to the natural occurring large fluctuations in longshore transport.

“The revetment may also lower the beach profile on the seaward side, but this will be mitigated by the groynes and nourishment which raise the beach profile.”

The Advertiser contacted the authors of the report but at the time of going to print were yet to hear back.





Members of the Bass Coast Health Social Support Group enjoy the company of fellow community members.

## Find new friends through BCH's Social Support Group

### HEALTH

If you would like to build more social connections in your community, then the Social Support Group run by Bass Coast Health (BCH) may appeal to you.

Our group offers people the chance to take part in social activities and gentle exercise, to develop their interests and more.

The group is ideal for people who are unable to get out into the community due to mobility, fatigue or confidence limitations, who feel isolated and alone, and who seek community contact in a supported group setting.

BCH Social Support Group Coordinator Sharon Legg said having access to a social group is important to a person's health and wellbeing.

"Being socially isolated can have a negative impact on our wellbeing, mentally and physically," she said.

"Being a contributing member of a socially interactive and physically active group can help to restore self-confidence, motivation, some physical improvements and a more positive outlook."

Social Support Group staff offer activities and opportunities for participants to maintain and enhance their independence and social contacts.

Activities include outings such as barbecues and visiting places of interest, sharing skills, hobbies and learning about the interests of others. Participants also take part in quizzes, table games, indoor bowls, pool and

theme days, an exercise program, guest speakers, craft, music and more.

"We offer shorter community access outings for those who are socially isolated and have introduced a full day community access every month called the Big Day Out," Sharon said.

"We've also recently acquired centres to reintroduce centre-based activities and also hold activities in the community."

To learn more, contact Sharon on 5671 3520.

BCH provides this service for people aged under 65 (under 50 years for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) through the Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACC PYP). BCH also provides this service for people aged over 65.

/ Sponsored article /

## Special cot to help families through a traumatic time

### HEALTH

Bass Coast Health (BCH) has received a Cuddle Cot from Melbourne family Kit and Blake Norrish, who raise funds to enable the charity Bears of Hope to supply Cuddle Cots to hospitals.

The Norrish family was inspired to give the cot after experiencing the trauma of a stillborn baby. They have given six cots to Victorian hospitals to date.

The Cuddle Cot is a cooling system designed to fit within a small cot, enabling families to spend every moment with their baby before saying goodbye.

BCH Midwifery Unit Manager Relle McMillin said the Cuddle Cot enables families to have "as normal memories as possible" after experiencing a stillbirth.

"We had an older system here and are so grateful to Kit, Blake and Bears of Hope for this new Cuddle Cot that will help families through such a trying time," she said.

"The Cuddle Cot allows a family to cuddle, kiss, bath and dress their baby, and even take their baby home."

Kit and Blake were patients at a Melbourne hospital when their son Arlo



Kit and Blake Norrish, centre, with the Cuddle Cot they gave to the Maternity unit at Wonthaggi Hospital with Bass Coast Health Maternity staff; from left, Brenda Buckland, Lauren Yann, Jess Jude, Min Hopkins, Relle McMillin, Student Midwife Shawnte Smith, Pauline Humbert and Maddi Carew.

was stillborn in January this year. By using a Cuddle Cot, the couple was able to spend five days with Arlo.

Drawing on their experience, they have since raised nearly \$40,000 to enable Bears of Hope to extend the availability of Cuddle Cots to more hospitals.

This week, they travelled to Wonthaggi to generously share their story.

"Giving Cuddle Cots to hospitals is just a representation of how much Arlo was loved – something good has come out of what we've been through," Kit said.

"If we can't do it with Arlo, we will do it for Arlo."

Blake said the Cuddle Cots are labelled with Arlo's name and date of birth to not only preserve his memory, but to also encourage people to talk about stillbirth and to help them to cope with the emotional toll.

"If we do not talk about it, then no-one will," he said.

To donate to Kit and Blake's fundraising campaign, go to: [makeadifference.gofundraise.com.au](https://makeadifference.gofundraise.com.au), and search for Arlo, or click on: [bit.ly/46vFIF6](https://bit.ly/46vFIF6)



## Are you struggling with everyday life due to a health condition?

**You could benefit from Allied Health and Community Services offered by Bass Coast Health.**

BCH provides these services for people aged under 65 (under 50 years for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) through the Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACC PYP). BCH also provides these services for people aged over 65.

We can help you with tasks around the home and caring for yourself, and offer medical assistance, social activities and transport.

### Our services include:

- Community Nursing (District Nursing, Diabetes Education, Continence, Cardio/Pulmonary, Stomal Therapy, Integrated Chronic Disease Management and Wound Care)
- Allied Health services (Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Dietetics, Occupational Therapy, Social Work, Speech Pathology and Counselling)
- Integrated Chronic Disease Management
- Meals on Wheels
- Social Support Groups
- Transport to medical appointments.

### How we can help you:

- To access Allied Health or Specialist Nursing services, contact our Access team on [Access@basscoasthealth.org.au](mailto:Access@basscoasthealth.org.au) or Allied Health Reception by phoning 5671 3343
- To access District Nursing, contact: 5671 9219, fax 5678 5183, [district.nursing@basscoasthealth.org.au](mailto:district.nursing@basscoasthealth.org.au)

Alternatively, phone **5671 3333** and ask for the service or the Access team. For more information, go to: [basscoasthealth.org.au/HACC](https://basscoasthealth.org.au/HACC)




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**TOWN Club recognition day**

Phillip Island TOWN Club (Take off weight naturally) celebrated its Club recognition day on June 15. On the left: Graduate Monica Smith, Runner up Queen Val Harper, with Joint Queens Joan Scott OAM and Linda Andrews, either side of Vincent Vale. The Club meet every Thursday morning at the Rhyll Hall from 8.30am - 11am. New members are always welcome.

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Debbie and Lynnie started Flock and Fodder to share their passion for wine, good food and making people smile.

## Introducing Flock and Fodder

### FOOD

Five years ago, destiny brought Deb and Lynnie together at The Phillip Island Winery, where their passion for wine, good food, and making people smile sparked an instant friendship.

Now, they're ready to take their camaraderie to the next level and share their love for life's simple pleasures with like-minded people.

Deb and Lynnie's genuine and joyful friendship is the heart and soul of Flock and Fodder. Their natural chemistry and infectious laughter create a warm and welcoming environment that draws people in like old friends.

From smaller intimate gatherings to hosting of larger 40-50 guest events, Flock and Fodder specialise in creating memorable moments that leave a last-

ing impression on you and your guests.

### Gippsland Celebration

Flock and Fodder's next event is A Celebration of Gippsland.

"After the resounding success of our inaugural event at Mario's Italian Restaurant in San Remo, we are thrilled to invite you to our next gastronomic adventure," said Deb and Lynnie.

"On Thursday, July 27, join us at The Westernport Hotel in San Remo for a fun filled evening, commencing with canapes and sparkling wine followed by a carefully curated five-course degustation dinner thoughtfully paired with beautiful Gippsland wines."

To secure your spot head to Flock and Fodder Instagram or Facebook page and hit the link in the bio or go to [\[ing.com/CJOUH\]\(http://www.trybook-ing.com/CJOUH\).](http://www.trybook-</a></p>
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With Christmas fast approaching it's time to start planning your end of year event.

Flock and Fodder, just love organising fun and fabulous experiences that revolve around food and beverages.

"From winery tours to mouthwatering lunches and dinners, and even shopping trips, we have it all covered," Deb and Lynnie said.

"Our mission is to provide you with fun moments and fabulous memories that will linger on your taste buds and keep you smiling!"

Email: [Flockandfodder@outlook.com](mailto:Flockandfodder@outlook.com). Follow on Instagram and Facebook for event announcements and updates.

Flock and Fodder: Where food, friendship, and fun come together!

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## M E N U

### APPETIZER

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Pumpkin tarte tatin / whipped feta / candied  
walnuts / balsamic glazed crisp greens

Gippsland grain feed beef fillet / loaded potato  
autumn roast veg / mushroom cream sauce

Pan fried catch of the day / butter sauteed leek &  
potatoes / lemon myrtle fish crackling / burmese  
coconut curry sauce

Pork belly / roasted sweet potato rounds /  
hazelnut & peppermint gum puree / Chardonnay  
poached pear / mustard-ale reduction / crackling

Parsley & ricotta gnocchi / roasted tomato glazed  
mushrooms / herb pesto / mustard greens

Chocolate fondant / strawberry gum & cocoa  
fennel soil / vanilla bean ice cream

Chocolate brownie / cocoa fennel soil / peppermint  
gum / vanilla bean ice cream

Sticky date pudding / whiskey-butterscotch sauce  
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On Sunday July 16, Phillip Island Jazz presents Ron Anderson, one of the most talented reed players in the country, with his band, Bande Apart, at the Phillip Island Bowling Club, from 2pm - 4.15pm.

# Jazz it up this Sunday

MUSIC

On Sunday July 16, Phillip Island Jazz presents Ron Anderson's Bande Apart at the Phillip Island Bowling Club, from 2pm - 4.15pm.

Ron Anderson has been a regular at Phillip Island Jazz and can always be relied upon for an outstanding performance of well-known jazz tunes with his own particular style and approach.

Ron's new band, Bande Apart is sure to provide great entertainment for the afternoon. Ron, who is one of the most talented reeds players in the country, is supported by some very fine musicians all of

whom are well respected in jazz.

Appearing with Ron are David Galea on bass, Vince Hopkins on guitar, Larry Keane on vocals and drums and lastly David Dower on piano.

Ron is also the President of the Inverloch Jazz Festival, which is holding its 29th event on the first weekend in August.

Don't miss Ron Anderson's Bande Apart at Phillip Island Bowling Club, 40 Dunsmore Road, in Cowes from 2pm.

Tickets are \$20 for members and \$25 for visitors.

For more information please contact Robin on 0432 814 407 or Jill on 0417 416 300 to arrange purchase of tickets.



Life Coach Alexis Guttridge is holding an Intentional Living Workshop at Island Healing in Newhaven on July 23, from 10am - 12.30pm.

# Living with purpose

EVENT

Alexis Guttridge knows a thing or two about personal change and living your best life.

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Alexis' strength is cutting through the BS and getting to the core of what you truly want ...

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What would make tomorrow 'great'?

A successful life coach, Alexis shares her own experience of finding a better way to create balance with success, and her own amazing story of growth and change.

Now based in San Remo, in her former life Alexis went from owning a multi-million-dollar company in America in her 20s, to burnout and addiction in her 30s, to rewriting her life story in her 40s.

She soon realised that she had a gift to help others prevent the burnout she experienced.

Her clients gain a new level of confidence, increased focus, decrease stress levels, and profound changes in the life they want to live.

Alexis discovered her strength in helping women get UnStuck and re-discovering their confidence to live their best lives.

The International Living Workshop will cover topics including: Timing, Money, Health and Personal Growth.

Intentional Living Workshop: \$75 at Island Healing, Sunday July 23, from 10am - 12.30pm

Bookings: [www.alexisguttridge.com/ILworkshop](http://www.alexisguttridge.com/ILworkshop)



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**"What a Wonderful World"**

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## LOVE LOCAL WINTER DEALS

Advertising Feature



# RSL supports community

### GRANTS

The latest round of grants from the Phillip Island RSL have been announced.

Five community groups received grants totalling \$16,438 at a special presentation ceremony at the RSL last week.

The recipients were welcomed by new General Manager Chris Simpson.

Peter Paul, RSL Committee member and Vice President, said it was pleasing to see all the grants would be of immediate use to the local community.

"All attending were greatly appreciative of their grants and the sumptuous and magnificently presented afternoon tea," Peter said.

"A most enjoyable afternoon for all."

#### Grant recipients:

- Phillip Island Urban Fire Brigade – \$4999 for a floor scrubber for new premises.
- Probus Club of Phillip Island – \$939 for a portable PA system.
- Phillip Island Football Netball Club – \$5999 for a new coffee machine
- Phillip Island Homes for the Aged – \$5000 for a new WiFi system
- Phillip Island Medical and Health Action Group – \$500 for administration costs.

The Phillip Island RSL also provides annual grants to the Wonthaggi Cadet unit of \$5000 and as a major sponsor, increased its grant to the Carols by the Bay on December 12 this year to \$7000.



Happy recipients of the latest round of grants from the Phillip Island RSL, with grants totalling \$16,438 distributed to local community groups. More photos at [www.pisra.com.au](http://www.pisra.com.au).

## WARM UP THIS WINTER AT YOUR LOCAL RSL

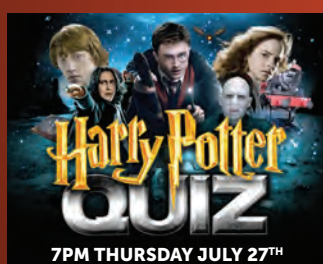
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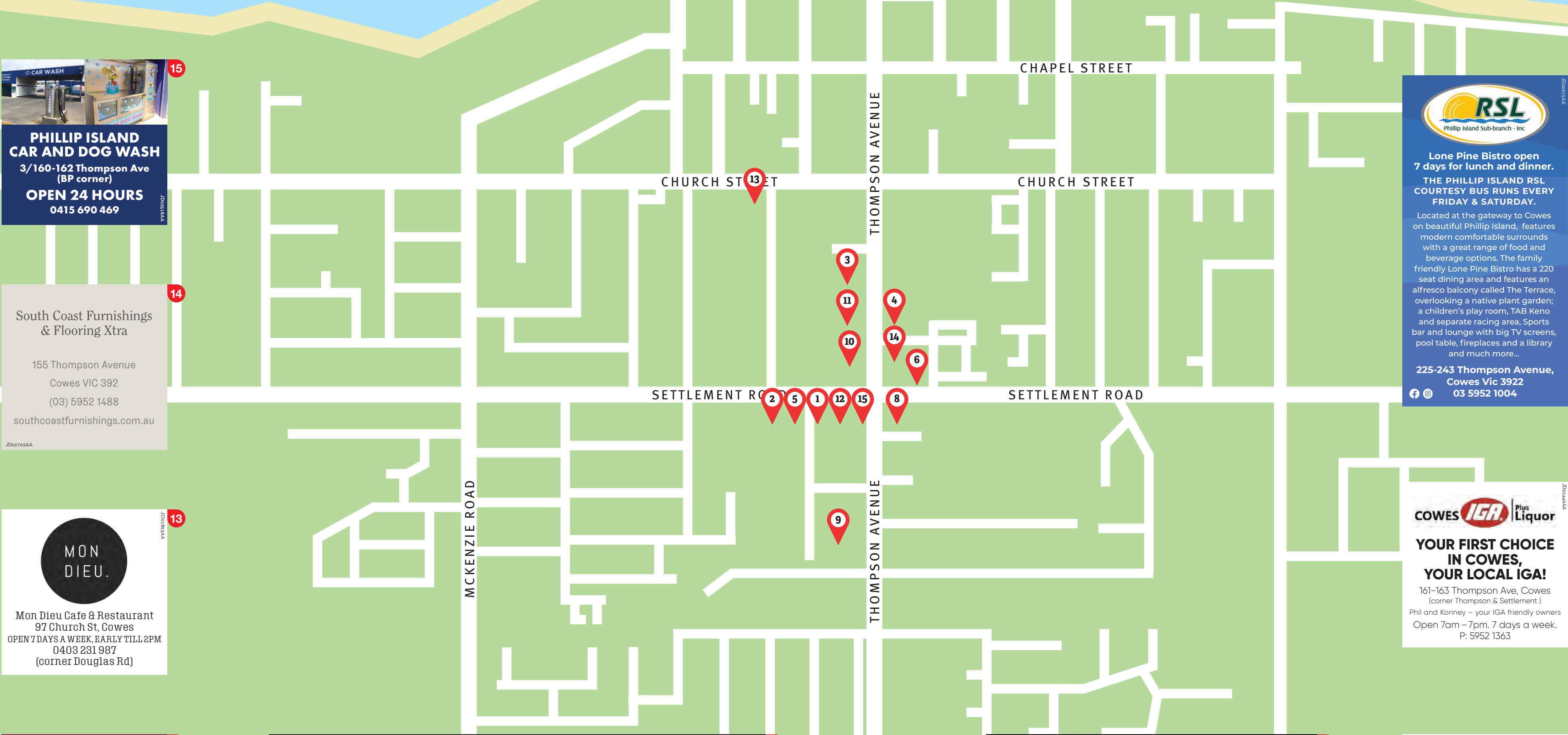
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# Island reaps benefit of record high tourism spend

Visitor expenditure in Victoria has hit a record high of \$35 billion annually, according to the latest data released by

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Tourism Research Australia.

It shows visitor expenditure in Victoria for the year ending March 2023 surpassed the 2019 pre-Covid peak of \$32.5 billion.

While Melbourne remained the number one interstate overnight leisure destination in the country, Phillip Island led the way for regional tourism.

The research showed all tourism regions hit all-time highs, with visitor spending in Phillip Island increasing by 75 per cent, High Country up by 73 per cent, and the Grampians rising by 66 per cent since 2019.

Overall intrastate overnight visitation numbers to regional Victoria were up six per cent since 2019, with total nights increasing by eight per cent and expenditure up 58 per cent.

In another big win, Victoria is leading the nation's tourism recovery. The state attracted 22.1 per cent of Australia's total visitor expenditure over the 12-month period and made the largest market share gains in the country with a 2.9 percentage point growth.

International markets continued to recover reaching \$4.2 billion in visitor expenditure in Victoria in the year ending

March 2023 – approximately 50 per cent of 2019 levels.

China has returned as the number one international market after only reopening in January and India continues to be a growing international market with visitor expenditure now 11 per cent higher than in 2019.

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos said tourism was critical to the state's economy.

"These are outstanding results for the Victorian tourism industry which has shown incredible resilience and innovation in recent years.

"There's no question that Victoria is back and top of the list for travellers from across the globe."



Phillip Island, including the Penguin Parade, led the way for regional tourism, with a 75 per cent increase in visitor spending since 2019, according to latest figures released by Tourism Research Australia.

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July 9 - Charlie Bedford  
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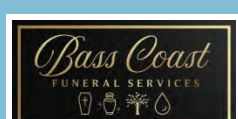
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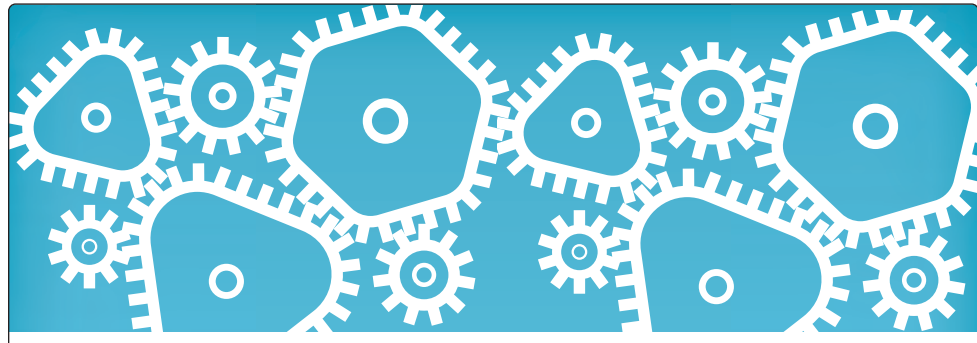
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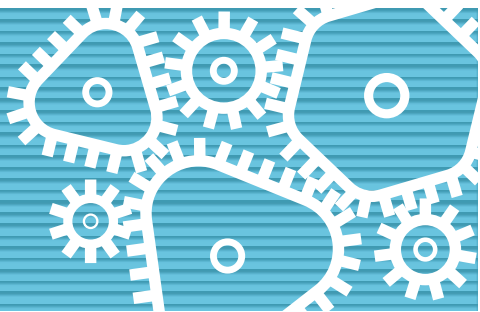
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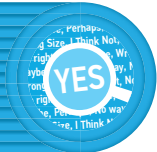
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### DEATHS



**Mr Allan Droscher**  
Service Details:  
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Australian Army  
The President, Committee, Members, Management and Staff of the Phillip Island RSL Sub-Branch deeply regret to announce the passing of Allan Droscher, a respected Service Member of our Sub-Branch. Our sincere condolences are extended to the Droscher family.  
**LEST WE FORGET.**

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### PUBLIC NOTICES

**Phillip Island RSL Community Men's Shed**  
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### SITUATIONS VACANT



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### PUBLIC NOTICES

## Join our Community Advisory Committee




Do you have strong community connections and a passion for local healthcare?

BCH is seeking Expressions of Interest for members of our Community Advisory Committee, to act as a conduit between the community and the Board and Executive.

You will convey community needs and expectations to the Board and share with our community our ever expanding services. You will provide feedback and advice, and represent the community on committees that ensure consumer voice is central to the delivery of our services.

We seek members of all ages and backgrounds bringing lived experience and skills. See our committee members here: [basscoasthealth.org.au/cac](http://basscoasthealth.org.au/cac)

This is an exciting time to join BCH, with significant growth in services and infrastructure. This is your opportunity to shape your sub-regional health service, now and for the future.



For more information, contact Kristen Yates-Matthews:  
[Kristen.Yates-Matthews@basscoasthealth.org.au](mailto:Kristen.Yates-Matthews@basscoasthealth.org.au)

### SITUATIONS VACANT


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# Climate change first for shire

Bass Coast Shire is one of the first in Australia to use climate change risk data to predict the potential impacts on council's buildings and how to manage these risks.

Councillors at the June meeting voted to accept the Building Asset Management Plan 2023-2033, which covers the 410 council owned buildings, including club rooms, toilets, sporting grounds and caravan parks.

The plan – which is updated every four years – includes modelling commissioned by the shire and members of the South-East Councils Climate Change Alliance, which incorporated asset data with potential climate impacts factoring extreme temperature, extreme rainfall, flooding, sea level rises, dryness and storm surge.

This modelling found the forecast cost of mitigating the impact of climate change risks on council buildings would be an additional \$6.8 million funding over the next 10 years, due to higher treatment costs and shorter useful lives, mayor Michael Whelan said.



Council's Building Asset Management Plan covers the 410 buildings owned by council, including toilets, sporting grounds, caravan parks and club rooms like these at the Newhaven recreation reserve.

"Here in Bass Coast there is an increased risk of structural damage caused by extreme weather events and an increase in deterioration rates of building assets," he said.

The plan found about 73 per cent of Bass Coast Shire-

owned buildings are in good or very good condition, while 1.3 per cent are in very poor condition.

The aim of the strategy is to ensure 24 per cent of buildings are in fair condition, with current fundings for main-

tenance about \$600,000 per year, with all buildings valued at \$109 million at the end of last financial year.

The strategy was open for public comment in April and May and no submissions were received.

## Woolies' rebuild

Shoppers at Cowes' Woolworths will face a minor inconvenience in coming months, with a proposed redevelopment of the entrance to the complex.

A planning permit is currently out for community feedback showing a \$895,000 redevelopment of the entry area, at 117/133 Thompson Avenue, as well as a reduction in parking.

The proposal would see five pick up parking spaces within the northern area of the existing car park, with new pedestrian paths and a reduction of four spaces in the current car park.

The total number of parking spaces within the car park will reduce from 209 to 205, including the five new spaces.

According to a parking assessment, the current car park reaches a maximum capacity of 155 car parking spaces and a reduction of four spaces will be "negligible".

The Woolworths Pick up program allows customers to order groceries online and collect them on site.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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



### What's minimal about the cost?

Bass Coast Shire Council's recent newsletter again reminds residents that they are costing a road and drainage upgrade for Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay to be minimal cost.

Well, from what I can understand that's not happening. Look at Manly Place for example. Additional road tracks have been added over the years due to the increase of new house builds and lack of foresight or planning by council. The new plans for this strip are that everything be sealed and footpaths added, without even considering adapting the roads which could easily be done to reduce the amount of bitumen and concrete planned. This strip is an example of where less road surface could be considered, in turn minimising the cost. Unfortunately, the feedback from council is that all road surfaces will be sealed, even the pointless ones. How is this project even attempting to keep costs minimal is what I want to know.

*Danielle Inwood, Surf Beach*

### No right turn bays

The Special Charge Scheme according to Bass Coast Council is supposed to address three items of concern: dust, drainage and safety. Safety for residents and passing traffic has not been addressed as part of the Special Charge Scheme. I have 20+ years as a Senior Road Safety Auditor registered in both NSW and Victoria and have conducted and or been involved in approximately 100 road safety audits from residential streets to interstate highways and freeways. Traffic speeds on the gravel streets of estates were recorded at around 30kph and council acknowledges that with sealing of the roads, speeds will increase, creating additional safety issues.

The highest rating issue of the 2014 Sunderland Bay Surf Beach Traffic Management Plan (TMP) was road safety which predominately related to the number of intersecting streets onto Phillip Island Road and the failure to address the problem of right turning traffic into and out of the estates and driveways. It appears council and VicRoads have disregarded those safety recommendations from the report with their failure to adequately address safety concerns along Phillip Island Road. A bus stop is now being installed at the intersection of Phillip Island Road and Dunvegan Crescent that will continue to be a safety issue for traffic travelling along Phillip Island Road at this intersection and preclude the installation of a right turn bay. It will also become an increased problem should the proposed introduction of additional bus services on the island be introduced. The preferred safe location for a bus stop is on the departure side of an intersection and if the bus stop was installed at the correct location there would be enough room for a dedicated right turn bay as was requested by Surf Beach ratepayers in response to a question from Bass Coast Council. Every person waiting to complete a right or sometimes left turn into the estates sits transfixed looking at the rear-view mirror praying or hoping that the person travelling behind will see their vehicle blinker and avoid crashing into them, resulting in possible injury or death.

*Philip Davy, Surf Beach*

### Laissez-Faire information

I'm seeking information about an incident that occurred in the first half of 1980 when a 48-foot launch was found going round in circles under power some 20-miles off San Remo.

Named Laissez Faire at the time the launch was said to be un-

manned with the wheel lashed. It was boarded at sea by a local fisherman and brought to safety.

The launch is believed to be the one that is presently under restoration by the RAAF Museum Point Cook for display. The Museum is keen to have the full history about its life.

Can anyone confirm the date of that occurrence?

And provide any additional details?

A bonus would be the name of the fisherman that saved the launch.

*Murray Moore, ACT*

### Say Yes Group

The majority of property owners in Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay want an end to flooding, mud, potholes, mosquitoes and silica dust. They have waited and suffered long enough. They are the "Say Yes Group". They do not rant and rave. They do not bang on your door. They do not keep a database on who is for and against the scheme. They do not have a petition with signatures from multiple household members, renters and non-property owners. They do not ridicule, badger or bombard Councillors, Council officers, Mayor and CEO in local newspapers with repetitious questions that have been answered over and over again. They do not put up signs on their fences even though they live on Phillip Island Road with a sealed road with a footpath.

The Say Yes Group continue to act respectfully and participate in Council's engagement process and wait patiently for Council to go through the democratic process for the final costings to be presented to our community.

*Gavan O'Connor, Surf Beach*

### Unwanted proposal

Once again, a non-resident of either Sunderland Bay or Surf

Beach has felt the need to express their opinions and tell those who live there, what they should do and how they should live.

Former BCSC Councillor Stephen Fullerton's comments in PISRA are just more of the same old rhetoric residents endure, expressed by someone with no dog in this fight.

"I know a lot of people who live there who are incredibly supportive of the scheme," Mr Fullerton said. I can assure you, that there are a great many who are not.

You cited the road and drainage scheme at Pioneer Bay, stating "That was a contentious scheme and it went through when I was at Bass Coast Shire Council. Almost to a person, they come back and say how good it has been for the community. Now it's amazing and one guy told me he never expected it to be so good. The community is fully behind it."

One guy. Almost to a person? I think not.

Rest assured, that there are many Pioneer Bay residents who do not think the result is at all "amazing" and are most certainly not "fully behind it". They find the personal cost and the end result neither positive nor worth it.

You expressed dismay that after almost 40 years, there is still a battle raging about unmade streets.

Perhaps you should consider that, after 40 years, there's a good reason as to why this battle is still raging. Maybe, 40 years later, it's simply that the residents and ratepayers who actually live in the affected areas, are sending a loud and clear message, that this proposal is unwanted.

*Ross Bencraft, Surf Beach*

### Community not happy

We are now at the pointy end of the Sunderland Bay and Surf Beach Roads and Drains special charge scheme.

The community for months has been making their objection to the current proposal loud and clear. Three petitions with over 600 signatures have so far been lodged with Council and a fourth is on its way. After the first petition Council stopped tabling the petitions, stopped noting their existence in Council minutes but Council is well aware of the growing numbers. Read as over 51 per cent.

In desperation Council has now in emails to residents begun a rhetoric of there being "plenty" of residents that want the scheme to proceed.

If that is the case why has Council not asked for 51 per cent to vote in favour of the scheme – I'll tell you why because "plenty" is really a handful.

Council needs to stop this bullish behaviour, go back to the drawing board, engage with the impacted community and work on a solution to the dust and drainage that the community are happy with, that the visitors to our world class surfing beaches can enjoy and that VicRoads can make use of when Phillip Island Road is out of action and The Esplanade becomes the only way in or off the island.

*Susie Wickes, Surf Beach*

*Editor's note: Council has stated residents will be sent plans to vote on in July/August and will receive more than the mandated 28 days to provide feedback. There are rules for special charge schemes which are set out in legislation, and regardless of the petitions, residents will still need to vote on the plans when they are sent out. The scheme would be abandoned if 51 per cent or more property owners opposed the preferred option. If less than 51 per cent respond, the decision on whether to proceed or not will be made by the councillors.*





A Grade working together to fight hard against Tooradin.

## Players challenged: blustery winds and slippery courts

### NETBALL

#### A Grade

Phillip Island: 36 def by Tooradin-Dalmore: 60.

#### B Grade

Phillip Island: 35 def by Tooradin-Dalmore: 41.

#### C Grade

Phillip Island: 28 def by Tooradin-Dalmore: 45.

#### D Grade

Phillip Island: 12 def by Tooradin-Dalmore: 23.

#### U17

The day began with cold and miserable strong winds and the threat of rain.

The challenge of wind made the game difficult

but the Phillip Island U17s began their lead, with 14 goals to Tooradin's six goals.

The second quarter resulted in Phillip Island gaining a 19-goal lead, scoring another 15 goals while Tooradin scored another four.

As the third quarter progressed, strong winds and rain began to pour down on the players and the spectators alike.

While less goals were scored, the Island managed to create an even wider gap between the teams, with them scoring another 13 goals to Tooradin's two.

Heavy rain and blustery winds resulted in a slippery court during the fourth quarter and while

Phillip Island scored less than the previous quarter, they still managed to extend their lead to 33 goals between the two teams with the final scores being 53 Phillip Island, 20 Tooradin.

Best on court were Sienna Trew and Tilly McKenna.

Phillip Island: 53 def Tooradin-Dalmore: 20.

#### U15

Phillip Island: 24 def Tooradin-Dalmore: 12.

#### U13

Phillip Island: 19 def by Tooradin-Dalmore: 22.

#### U11

Phillip Island: 5 def by Tooradin-Dalmore: 20.



B Grade goes for a goal during their close match against Tooradin.

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## Corinella turns on the sun

### BOWLS

What a day. Play started and the sun came out and stayed out all day. Yes, it was a cool to cold wind but what a great winter's day.

Forty of our family of midweek bowlers turned up to once again, fight it out for team(s) of the week.

Some magnificent bowling from everyone, with even our new bowlers coming to the forefront with some first class ends.

Quite a few wrong bias shots over the day.

I still tend to think some people are doing this on purpose to help the kids.

Lots of laughter across the green as usual, with quite a bit of banter, which always keeps our spirits high. Winners on 34 points (the only two game winners this week) were:

Peter Borradale (S), Gillian Harper (3), Pauline



This week's winners: Gillian Harper (3), Peter Thorley (L), Pauline McWilliams (2) and Peter Borradale (S).

McWilliams (2) and Peter Thorley (L).

Runners up on 27 points were: John Nicholson (S), Frank D'Unienville (3), Bob Arnold (2) and Michael Waring (L).

Best one game on 22 points were: Mark Andre-atta (S), David Talbot (3), Bev Elliott (2) and Sonia Grant (L).

Thank you to Corinella for their great hospitality,

and to Phil, Max and the others for all their help and work. Also, as always, a big thank you to Peter, Pauline and John for bringing us all together every week.

Next week we will be at San Remo, so if everyone who wishes to play could be there by 10am ready for a game.

Meanwhile, to everyone, have a great week.

## OBrien 500 competition

### BOWLS

On Saturday July 9, the fifth round of the OBrien 500 was held in very difficult conditions with high winds which made bowling very challenging for our bowlers.

Despite the high winds we still had three 2-game winners.

Runners up for the day were Marlene Puncher and Robyn Dennis.

Congratulations to our winners: Clive Smith and John Hall.



This week's winners of the OBrien 500: Clive Smith and John Hall.

## Ablett tops A Grade

### GOLF

#### Tuesday, July 4

##### Mens 18-hole Stableford

A grade winner: Peter Ablett (12) with 39 points from Anthony Shannon, (8) with 38 points.

B grade winner: Andrew Walton (15) with 42 points from Chris Sanderson (17) with 40 points.

C grade winner: Chris Vanderhayden (25) with 41 points from Brett Sanderson (24) with 40 points.

BDL to 36 points c/b.

NTP: 5th Peter Cartwright, 7th Mark Dykes, 10th Barry Gibson and 17th Peter Ablett.

##### Mens 9-hole Stableford

John Rodakis (37) was the winner with 20 points from Bob Pascoe (15) with 19 points c/b from Clive Scott (21).

BDL to 17 points c/b.

#### July 5, Ladies Stableford

A grade winner: Vicki Ramage (24) with 37 points.

B grade winner: Michelle Pardoe (35) with 36 points.

BDL to 33 points c/b.

NTP: 5th Megan Elbaz, 7th Lorraine Hammon, 10th and 17th Michelle Pardoe.

Nine-hole winner was Gillian Scrase (44) with 22 points from Barb Moloney (41) with 18 points.

#### Thursday, July 6

##### Open Stableford

A grade winner: Rick Banfield (14) with 38 points from Gino Manfredi (10) with 35

points.

B grade winner: Alf Micalef (19), with 42 points from Alex Bowden (15) with 40 points.

C grade winner: Graham Robinson (36) with 38 points from Bez Moustafa (23) with 35 points c/b.

BDL to 34 points c/b.

NTP: 5th Rick Banfield, 7th Stephen Earl, 10th Peter Cartwright and 17th Brett Sanderson.

##### Open 9-hole Stableford

Winner was John Niven (24) with 21 points c/b from Steve Rieger (26).

BDL to 18 points c/b.

#### Saturday, July 8

##### Men's Stableford

A grade winner: Neville Thurgood (6) with 32 points from Gino Manfredi (11) with 31 points.

B grade winner: Andrew Hewitt (14) with 35 points from John Wiseman (18) with 34 points c/b.

C grade winner: Brett Sanderson (24) with 35 points c/b from Phil Cooksey (24).

BDL to 31 points c/b.

NTP: 5th Matt Brown, 7th Craig O'Neill, 10th Ben O'Brien, and 17th Paul Cochrane.

##### Ladies' winners

Vicki Ramage (24) won with 36 points from Jeanette Diss (20) with 33 points c/b.

BDL to 32 points.

NTP: 5th Rhonda Boyd, 7th Trish Jamieson, and 10th Lesley Meadowcroft.

##### Nine-hole open stableford

Winner: Jim Richardson (10) with 19 points c/b from Reg Browne (35).

BDL to 18.





The island girls getting ready to take on Warragul in a nail-biting battle.

# Island girls' bite as strong as their bark

FOOTBALL

Our young island girls made the trip down to Warragul on a cold and blustery Sunday afternoon taking on second placed Warragul Industrials.

With an undermanned side and teetering on the edge of making finals it was a buoyant group who took to the field.

The girls set the tempo from the first bounce with some serious attack on the footy.

Every contest was hard fought and both sides struggled to find clean possession.

Jade was quickly racking up the possessions with some great ruck work by Jorja 'Jorgs' Newman. The first quarter was fought to a bitter draw with neither team able to trouble the scorers.

The second quarter followed the same way as the first, with both teams making forays forward only to be pushed back.

Brinn Hamley was putting on

a clinic down back, along with Mia, Tess and Summer, they were constantly blunting attacks and driving the young Doggies out of defence.

Unfortunately, the pressure was growing and Warragul were able to push through for a goal, the half time score reading PI 0, WI 1.1.7.

The game opened up a little in the third quarter, Mackenzie 'Macca' Wain was seemingly everywhere, distributing from the backline and running hard into attack. Lilly 'Elbow' Bow was having a day out, with strong tackling and a great juggled pack mark to setup Bella who cut through multiple defenders to finish with a great goal.

The game was on, the stage set for the last quarter PI 1.2.8, WI 2.2.14.

With only 15 players no one would have been surprised to see the girls drop off in the last quarter, they had given it their all, but

the numbers don't lie.

Fortunately, nobody told them that. They gritted their teeth and turned up the heat.

The midfield was on fire, with some fierce tackling and teeth rattling bumps.

It was Giselle Smith who broke free to kick a great goal and even up the scorecard. A 50-metre bomb from Macca and a quick sidestep and goal from Elbow put the girls up.

With five minutes to go, the game was being played at a frenetic pace. A last foray forward by Warragul put another goal on the board, but it was a jubilant Phillip Island group who won the day, and the hearts of all watching!

Phillip Island: 4.3.27 def Warragul Industrials: 3.3.21.

Best:

Phillip Island: Mackenzie Wain, Lily Bow, Brinn Hamley, Gisele Smith and Jorja Newman.



The U14s took a convincing win against Leongatha during their home game over the weekend.

# Breakers dominate on the field

SOCCER

**U14s**

A great overall performance Sunday from the U14s as they took on Leongatha at home.

It was a dominant first half but a very clunky second for the Breakers. After changing things up to let everyone have a run and putting players in unfamiliar

spots, things somewhat fell apart and quickly set off coach Frank's heart rate monitor.

The Breakers took the win 7-2 with three goals to Jarvis, one each to Lochie, Jasper, Kade and Harvey who scored an exciting penalty despite being the team goalie today.

Next week the team will travel to take on Drouin in the hopes

of returning to the top of the ladder. Phillip Island: 7 def Leongatha: 2.

**In other results:**

U12B Red: 6 def Lang Lang: 0.

U12B Blue: 9 def Inverloch: 5.

Reserves: 0 def by Trafalgar: 4.

Women: 10 def Lang Lang: 2.

Seniors: 10 def Lang Lang: 0.

U12A and U17s - Bye.

# Free training boost for aspiring swim instructors

SWIMMING

The state government has extended applications for the Youth Aquatic Accreditation Program until May 31, 2024.

Sixteen-year-olds are now also eligible to participate in the program and it will now also offer the opportunity to learn to teach people with a disability how to swim.

It also includes up to \$195 per teacher for renewal of Swim-

ming and Water Safety Teacher licences, with the addition of up to \$285 per teacher toward Participants with a Disability During Aquatic Activities courses.

The government said the grants provide an important entry point for swim instructors to begin or continue their career in the aquatic sector, helping Victorians of all ages learn vital water safety skills and survival knowledge. For more information visit: [sport.vic.gov.au](http://sport.vic.gov.au)



Applications have extended until May 2024 for the Youth Aquatic Accreditation program, proving an entry point for swim instructors to begin or continue their career.

# Riverboys rocket to top of the ladder

DARTS

The last round of the regular season was played on Monday night with two big upsets.

Joe's Hornets toppled the Vikings 4-3 paving the way for the Riverboys, who hit form at the right time defeating That's All 5-2, to finish top of the ladder.

Storm defeated Newbies 5-2 to round out the matches.

The Lightning Premiership is next Monday followed by the first week of the finals.

Also, during the week, we received the fantastic news that the

Bendigo Bank will support the Darts League with a grant that will enable the purchase of iPads and electronic scoring equipment to enhance league quality and improve efficiency.

President Scott Lethbridge attended the presentation to accept the grant and thanked all involved for their valuable support.

New players are always welcome. If you are interested in being involved and enjoy a friendly environment with young and old alike, male and female, please contact Scott Lethbridge on 0407 543 154 or [scott@glpc.com.au](mailto:scott@glpc.com.au).

POSITION	TEAM	POINTS
1	RIVERBOYS	20
2	THE VIKINGS	18
3	THAT'S ALL	16
4	THE CLANGERS	16
5	JOE'S HORNETS	12
6	STORM	10
7	NEWBIES	6

# VBA visitor pairs up for the win

BRIDGE

On Monday, July 3, a visitor from VBA, Andrew Macready and partner Leng Haggith came first on 66.20 per cent.

In second place were Lorrie Read and Neville Chapman on 55.09 per cent.

Marnie Myall and Graham Mckergow finished third on 54.17 per cent.

Our top players for Wednesday, July 5, were Deb Anglim

and Greg Nicholson on a very respectable 70.14 per cent.

Marnie Myall and Marion Wellwood followed up on 56.94 per cent.

Jill Short returned from her travels and with partner Cathie Beenie came third on 56.25 per cent.

Several of our members are either away seeking warmer climes or jaunting around Europe.

We wish them all safe and happy travels.



# Juniors tough it out in wintery conditions

## FOOTBALL

### U14 Blue

Like a scene out of the Wizard of Oz, Dorothy was flying away with Toto at the Korumburra Oval.

That wind was unbelievable. The Doggies had eight players out, so it was going to be tough. From the first ball toss, the game was on. Phillip Island had the wind and the Doggies capitalised.

A great tap from Hayden Power to Captain Heath Bowen had the ball in the forward line.

Flynn Denge took on three Burra players and kicked a great goal. A similar move but with Harvey Strachen and Riley Herbert linking well, pushed the ball forward and Flynn had his second.

Strong work by Jem "Mad-dog" Hennekam, Sam Fairthorn, Bryce and Duke Lawrence had the ball moving forward at all times. Doggies up by a few.

Burra had the wind in the second and it was their turn.

Strong work up back by Jesse "Mr. Dependable" Morshetti, Joe "The General" Kelsy and Mr. Football Archie Williams did their best, but the wind was too strong.

At one stage, Henhouse kicked the ball forward, only to have the ball flying back over his head! Burra up by one.

The third quarter started, and the Doggies just couldn't kick straight with the wind, it was awful. Maxy "I can never run enough" Jess, Al Szymanski and Angus McLure teamed well for a Heath Bowen goal, but that's the only one they could get.

The Doggies added another three points for the quarter.

The last quarter was a struggle. Marley Cabello was instructed to not pick up the ball but use his soccer prowess to nutmeg as many kids as possible as the wind was removing roofs at one stage.

Glen the Doggies' runner, had to put five kilograms of weights in some of the kids shorts, to stop them blowing away!

We had to do a head count at the end, to make sure we didn't lose any. Burra by 5 points.

**Best:** Flynn Henhouse, Sam Fairthorn, Jem, Max and Al.

### U12 Blue

It was a blistering cold and windy morning in the Burra peaking at 11 degrees but feeling like eight degrees; the belting rain wasn't encouraging either.

The U12 Doggies rolled into town with fire in their bellies and a massive day ahead for co-captain Zoe, celebrating her 50th game.

With a few members down,



Bode Based of the U10's Reds kicking his first goal for the season.

coach Mick gave a great pre-game speech followed up by fantastic encouragement by co-captains Zoe and Max.

The team entered the oval via an awesome banner for Zoe's 50th game full of cheers and hoots. Big Dexter won the first ruck which led to Roy snagging a ripper goal in the first 30 seconds which was quickly followed with another by Sam K.

A series of successive goals followed through the quarter by Ryder V, Kai D, Brax, and Jarrah.

The Doggies' clearances out of the centre held Korumburra to getting the ball into their half only a couple of times for the half. Another goal to the Doggies on the siren by Kai D sealed the deal for half time 0-77.

Second half was all Phillip Island with great teamwork and everyone getting a touch.

Co-captains Zoe and Max both snapping goals late in the fourth. It's great to see everyone giving it their all in the trying conditions and credit to the Korumburra kids for never giving up or dropping their heads.

As the siren went the weather had started to ease off, much to the relief of the umpires, runners, and goalies alike. With finals scores at 122 - 0.

Twenty-two goals were kicked with 11 different scor-

ers shows the depth of this team showing great signs for the remainder of the season.

**Awards:** Zoe, Max, Sam, Sonny, Ryder and Zack. Big congratulations to the extra award winners for their commitment during the school holidays for tasks set by coach Mick.

### U10 Blue

The true test of champions is how well they do in the freezing cold conditions in Gippsland on a Sunday in Winter. Our Doggies did not disappoint.

Led by our Captain Jasper, the team worked hard to keep the pressure on and drive the waterlogged ball forward.

Kick outs from the pack were well targeted, with Alfie and Jet holding ground and Ryan kicking out in defence.

Goal of the week goes to Oli, who swept the ball up in the square and with quick thinking under pressure scored.

All the team stood out this week as the conditions were terrible. They played with courage and determination (as did all the adults cheering them on).

**Awards:** Kash, Oliver, Noah and Ryan.

For U10 Red and U12 Red go to [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)



Heath Womersley takes the mark.

## Bulldogs secure hard-fought win against Seagulls

From page 24

Continuing his fantastic form of late, the Seagulls couldn't stop him, as hard and as tough as they tried.

Aided and abetted by an arm-chair ride from ruckmen Daniel Bourke and Cameron Pedersen – particularly after half time – he led the charge for the Bulldogs.

In the tough conditions the Bulldogs' defence was set a tough test, and it was elder statesman Damien Holmes assisted ably by returning Daniel Pearce that stood tall.

Kai McKenzie kept that man Stuart Scanlon quiet (returning only one goal for the Gulls).

It took the unlikely Gulls ruckman Ray Lengel to keep the visitors in the game scoring a couple of goals at key periods.

In the end, it was a great grinding win to the Bulldogs, cementing their hold on the vital second place.

With some key outs still to come back, the rest of the season looks positive for the Dogs.

**Scores:** Phillip Island: 3.4.22, 4.8.32, 6.10.46, 7.11.53. Tooradin-Dalmore: 2.0.12, 3.4.22, 4.5.29, 6.8.44.

**Goals:** Phillip Island: Hayden Bruce 4, Max Blake and Jai Jordan 1. Tooradin-Dalmore: Ray Lengyel 2, Brad Butler, Lewis Hill, Stewart Scanlon and Xavier Shinnars 1.

**Best Players:** Phillip Island: Hayden Bruce, Cameron Pedersen, Max Walton, Damien Holmes, Billy Taylor and Jack Taylor. Tooradin-Dalmore: Luke McKenna, Hayden Bertoli-Simmonds, Lewis Hill, Trent Adams, Ray Lengyel and Cooper Shipp.

### Reserves

With a bunch of players returning from last game's seniors, combined with several players returning from injury, the Bulldogs were fielding a much stronger reserves side than in recent weeks. It was going to be needed as well, with the Tooradin reserves sitting firmly at the top of the ladder having not lost a game since 2021!

Things started in wild windy conditions, with the occasional rather unwelcome rain shower.

Conditions couldn't have been any more unpleasant, and it looked like the visitors' unbeaten run was going to contin-

ue relatively easily early on. The Gulls were able to put a couple of quick goals on the board.

A strong defensive effort towards the end of the first – led by Noah Bee-Hickman and Coby Olarenschaw brought the Bulldogs back into it.

The second eerily resembled the first – similar conditions, similar onslaught in the tough conditions from the visitors and another couple of goals.

Nothing much was happening up forward for the Bulldogs, with Leon Matthews and the returning Sam McRae holding back the green and red tide.

Coach Kev Taylor wasn't that impressed at the half time break, imploring a greater effort from his charges.

That stirring address appeared to work wonders; the Bulldogs really took the challenge up to the visitors in the second half.

Ruckmen Rocket McKenzie and his side-kick Saxon Mau took over in the middle, Tully Dickie combined with the aforementioned duo of Noah and Coby and all of a sudden it was the visitors on the backfoot.

Tyce Kleverkamp was a livewire up forward as the Bulldogs pounded the ball forward at every opportunity.

In the end, it was accuracy at the goals that was to be the difference, with the Gulls scoring five goals from their six scoring shots, as opposed to the Bulldogs' two goals from seven scoring shots being the deciding factor. Nevertheless, an encouraging effort providing an excellent base to move forward towards the finals!

**Scores:** Phillip Island: 0.0.0, 0.1.1, 2.1.13, 2.5.17. Tooradin-Dalmore: 2.0.12, 4.0.24, 5.1.31, 5.1.31.

**Goals:** Phillip Island: Tully Dickie and James Nicolaci 1. Tooradin-Dalmore: Adam Galea, Jake Genoni, Jacob Lesjak, Ben Sellings and Jason Siegel 1.

**Best Players:** Phillip Island: Noah Bee-Hickman, Coby Olarenschaw, Leon Matthews, James Nicolaci and Tully Dickie. Tooradin-Dalmore: Mitch Forgiarini, Jake Genoni, Adam Galea, James Wheeler, Brett Coffey and Corey Provan.

For U16s and U18s go to [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)

## TIDE GUIDE

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

WED 12 JUL	THU 13 JUL	FRI 14 JUL	SAT 15 JUL	SUN 16 JUL	MON 17 JUL	TUE 18 JUL
LOW 12:54 am 0.60 m	LOW 1:39 am 0.58 m	LOW 2:25 am 0.60 m	LOW 3:15 am 0.64 m	LOW 4:12 am 0.68 m	LOW 5:10 am 0.70 m	LOW 6:08 am 0.71 m
HIGH 7:50 am 2.80 m	HIGH 8:46 am 2.78 m	HIGH 9:44 am 2.77 m	HIGH 10:42 am 2.77 m	HIGH 11:41 am 2.80 m	HIGH 12:38 pm 2.83 m	HIGH 1:32 pm 2.88 m
LOW 1:09 pm 1.06 m	LOW 2:00 pm 1.21 m	LOW 2:55 pm 1.34 m	LOW 3:56 pm 1.43 m	LOW 5:02 pm 1.47 m	LOW 6:09 pm 1.45 m	LOW 7:10 pm 1.39 m
HIGH 7:35 pm 2.84 m	HIGH 8:17 pm 2.72 m	HIGH 9:03 pm 2.61 m	HIGH 9:58 pm 2.51 m	HIGH 10:58 pm 2.44 m	HIGH 11:58 pm 2.42 m	

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Jason Tomada stays cool under pressure from Tooradin. More photos at [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)

# Bulldogs secure hard-fought win against Seagulls

## FOOTBALL

After a welcome week off for the mid-season bye, it was back into it this week for the Bulldogs in the critical clashes against archrivals Tooradin.

With both clubs well entrenched in the top six across all football grades, it promised to be a tantalising day of community football at the Kennel.

Pity that the weather gods were not smiling on the day!

After a welcome break of fine and clear weather in the preceding days – offering the opportunity to firm up the condition of the ground – the wind returned with a vengeance on Friday night.

Running into Saturday morning combined with regular showers, it was likely that the wild, windy weather would have a large influence on the day results – something that was to be borne out!

## Seniors

In a clash of second vs third, with the victor taking a vice-like grip on the vital second place and double chance in the finals, the result was always going to be hotly contested.

With a howling westerly wind crossing the Kennel, it was going to be the side that could best adjust to the tough conditions that would come out on top.

With a bunch of senior



Sam McRae takes a mark during the Reserves match.

players returning to the team after the bye – including Daniel Pearce, Travis Woodfield and Max Walton – rumours of

some changes to the visitors' team swirled pre-game, confirmed with a late change seeing Seagulls superstar Brent

Macaffer out of the side.

In a tight contest, it was to be the Bulldogs that prevailed leading at all changes to win 7.11 (53) to 6.8 (44), but only after a last quarter 23-point lead was almost run down by a charging Seagulls outfit.

With a 10-point margin at each of the first two quarter breaks, it was the Bulldogs' ability to move the ball forward with just that little bit more efficiency that saw it up at the half time break.

A late goal by key Gull forward Brad Butler helped keep the visitors in it.

The second half continued the trend, with the Bulldogs extending the lead to four goals early in the last and looking like they were going to run away with it.

The Seagulls upped the tempo – and the contested footy – from that point, with some passages of play resembling rugby scrums with anything up to 10 ball-ups in a row!

Through methodical pushing and probing they were able to keep the contest alive right to the end.

Midfielder Hayden (Pencil) Bruce – fresh from the recent birth of his first daughter – was the game's standout, scoring a total of four of the seven Bulldogs goals including two of the first three.

Continued page 23

ALEX SCOTT  
AND STAFF

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