



PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO

ADVERTISER

YOUR COMMUNITY VOICE!

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

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Everyone immersed in whales

This year's Island Whale Festival attracted record numbers, including this family who own a holiday house in Cape Woolamai, enjoying the craft at Clay & Co. From left: Nikki, Harper, Ava, Flynn, Elouise and little Theodosia who was truly immersing herself in the whole experience. More festival coverage on pages 8 and 9.

Those who face erosion will now need to “retreat”?

DAL

Six years after it was first mooted by the State Government, Bass Coast Shire councillors have endorsed the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL), describing it as the “most influential decision” they will make.

However, the vote in support of the DAL was not without contention, with two councillors rais-

ing concerns about the implication of the DAL on homeowners “who face the threat of retreat with no insurance cover ... and no indication from the State Government for compensation”.

And one councillor voted against endorsing the DAL because it will impact the next 50 years of council decisions, arguing this council had failed to address recent concerns

by impacted parties.

As reported last month, under the DAL, town boundaries across Phillip Island will not be expanded, except at Newhaven to Samuel Amess Drive, while San Remo's town boundary has expanded to allow housing development through to Punch Bowl Road.

A special council meeting was called with 48 hours' notice last Wednes-

day for councillors to endorse the DAL ahead of final State Government approval, with 30 members of the public attending in the public gallery and clapping once the DAL was endorsed.

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10 14	10 12	9 13	9 13	10 13	9 14	10 14

Building a better world from marine debris

ENVIRONMENT

Currently docked in Rhyll, Samuel McLennan's hand-built sailing vessel is a floating symbol of change. Constructed entirely from discarded marine debris found along Tasmania's coastline, the boat – named Heart – is central to Samuel's project, which combines environmental action, mental health awareness and community engagement.

Samuel, founder of Project Interrupt, has followed an unconventional path.

After running a mentoring business, he made the bold decision in 2018 to live homeless by choice – a personal commitment to better understand the lives of those he aimed to support. That experience shaped his belief in the link between inner wellbeing and how we treat the environment.

When a proposal to convert a decommissioned ferry into an "innovation island" was knocked back, it was his father who offered a challenge: "Build it out of rubbish".

Taking the advice literally, Samuel began collecting marine debris – primarily from salmon and oyster farms – and over two years, constructed a seaworthy vessel using only salvaged and repurposed materials.

"Building Heart took over two years. I never expected to be the person who built a boat out of rubbish," Samuel said.



Currently moored at Rhyll, Samuel McLennan's hand-built sailing vessel is made entirely of discarded marine debris.

"It was a constant process of trial and error, learning how to work with what I had."

He then decided to sail his vessel up the coast of Australia, to raise environmental awareness, and to challenge what people believe is possible.

He set sail from southern Tasmania in February 2024 and has now been at sea for almost a year. The journey – from Hobart to Sydney via the Victorian coast – is expected to take another year to complete.

Along the way, he plans to stop in coastal communities to run clean-ups, visit schools, and encourage people to connect the dots between mental wellbeing and environmental care.

Before arriving in Victoria, Samuel spent months waiting on Flinders Island for the right conditions to cross the notoriously

dangerous Bass Strait – a stretch of water locals describe as either "beautiful or damn deadly."

Samuel's arrival on Phillip Island coincided with the Island Whale Festival, where he was a last-minute addition to the program. He delivered two free talks on Sunday July 13, sharing his journey and encouraging locals to take action.

Project Interrupted

On his Project Interrupted website, Samuel outlines his vision for helping people, and the planet, through his incredible journey.

"The project is inspiring people to take new actions to shift the unworkable situation we have created for ourselves, future generations and mother earth," he says.

"This is a project to interrupt the way human beings think, speak and act



Samuel collected waste along the Tasmanian coastline, primarily from salmon and oyster farms.

about themselves and other people – because the current result is waste showing up in the environment."

And he believes that when people feel good about themselves, the world around them benefits.

"When people love and nurture themselves, they naturally care for the world around them," he says.

"Rubbish on the inside equals rubbish on the outside."

Samuel plans to stay on the island for the next three to four weeks, before continuing his voyage through Western Port Bay, with stops in Hastings, Flinders, and across to Port Phillip Bay, eventually making his way up the coast toward Sydney.

You can follow Samuel's journey by signing up to his newsletter, or make a donation to help, via his website: projectinterrupt.com/



This Saturday (July 19), local tattoo artist Jack Montgomery is due to arrive in Cowes between 5.30pm and 7pm, after running 110km around Phillip Island, to raise money for Free 3D Hands.

Jack's on foot to lend a hand

FUNDRAISER

This Saturday (July 19), local tattoo artist Jack Montgomery is running 110km around Phillip Island, raising money for local charity Free 3D Hands.

Jack plans to set off before dawn and arrive at Grenache Wine Bar in Cowes between 5.30pm and 7pm, and he's hoping people will come out to cheer him on in the final leg of the gruelling run.

Initially trying to raise \$2000 for the local charity, Jack smashed his original target and is now closing in on 10

times that amount, with a new goal of \$20,000.

So far, he's raised almost \$17,000. There's still time to donate online, or you can even donate on the day at Grenache.

This isn't Jack's first marathon, but this one is definitely personal.

"I wanted to run for a meaningful cause, and Free 3D Hands are one of the most selfless groups I've ever met," he said.

"Hopefully this run helps raise awareness and some funds to keep their work going," he said. To donate to Jack's run, scan the QR code.



PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO

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VCAT rules on Lifestyle Communities

MAJOR PROJECTS

Future buyers of Cowes' Lifestyle Communities will now sign contracts that no longer charge rent following the death of a homeowner. The new contracts come in the wake of a VCAT ruling against the company last week on controversial fees charged by the over 50s estate.

In what has been described as a "David and Goliath struggle", the VCAT case Dowling and others v Lifestyle Management saw 83 residents in Lifestyle Communities Wollert take the company to VCAT, accusing it of charging "exorbitant" exit fees when they move out.

Lifestyle Communities is currently constructing 256 dwellings, costed at \$14 million, on the corner of Justice and Settlement Roads in Cowes; and while Cowes was not associated with the VCAT case, the outcome impacts residents and buyers.

Before the VCAT decision, the company charged rent and other fees after a resident's death, while also stopping anyone from occupying or using the home until it was sold.

VCAT president Honourable Justice Ted Woodward last week ordered Lifestyle Communities to stop the practice of requiring families to keep paying rent following the death of their family member (and former resident).

The Justice also ruled on deferred management fees (DMF), or exit fees, finding they were invalid under state tenancy laws.

The DMF were charged as a percentage of the final sale price, capped at 20 per cent after five years. So, for example, a home bought for \$650,000, and increasing to \$1.2 million over seven years, would pay \$237,000 in exit fees at sale.

Following the ruling, anyone who has sold their property and was charged the DMF are now eligible for a refund from the company, with the

ruling also applying to those living at Lifestyle Communities now and about to sell.

The average refund is believed to be \$88,000 or as high as \$200,000 and potentially impacts thousands of people.

"In my judgment, the provisions in their current form are at least harsh, if not unconscionable," Honourable Justice Woodward found.

"At the heart of the applicants' complaint about these provisions is that the residents' families are required to keep up the residents' end of the bargain by paying rent (presumably from the residents' deceased estate), while not getting the benefit of that bargain because nobody is allowed to live there."

Justice Woodward has invited submissions from the parties on the exact form of the orders to be issued, but this will not change the substance of the decision.

The ASX listed company – which saw its share price fall 37 per cent last week – manages 4000 homes on a so-called "land lease" model, which allows residents to buy a prefabricated house while renting the land.

Appeal

In a statement to the ASX, Lifestyle Communities said they intended to appeal the decision, with 42 days to do so, and the company will apply for a stay of the orders until the appeal is determined. The timing and duration of the appeal will be determined by the judicial process and heard by the Victorian Supreme Court of Appeal.

Following the ruling, and "until the appeal is resolved", the statement said Lifestyle Communities would amend its new homeowner contracts in the interim to comply with Justice Woodward's ruling.

"Notwithstanding the continued charging of rent after the passing of a homeowner was found permissible under the Act", Lifestyle Communities will no longer charge rent on



Lifestyle Communities is currently constructing 256 dwellings, costed at \$14 million, on the corner of Justice and Settlement Roads in Cowes; and while Cowes was not associated with the VCAT case, the outcome impacts residents and buyers.

deceased estates, the statement said.

It said Justice Woodward held that the deceased estate should be permitted to have someone live in the home in the intervening period, until a home is sold, subject to Lifestyle Communities' written consent which should not be unreasonably withheld.

The company statement also said for deposit holders and future homeowners Lifestyle Communities will amend the DMF calculation "to be consistent with Justice Woodward's findings".

"It will be based on the homeowner's purchase price and pro-rated over a five-year period to a maximum of 20 per cent of this price," the statement said.

"For existing homeowners selling and leaving Lifestyle Communities we will continue to operate under the existing contractual arrangements, pending the issuance of any orders by VCAT."

The statement said Justice Woodward ruled the Residential Tenancies Act 1997 did not prohibit a DMF but found the

DMF clause in Lifestyle Communities contracts was void due to the lack of disclosure of a precise amount.

Lifestyle Communities CEO Henry Ruiz said the company "respected" the rights of homeowners to seek clarity through VCAT on matters "where we have been unable to reach agreement via our usual engagement channels".

"We take our compliance obligations very seriously and have sought and obtained legal advice at various stages in our history to ensure our contracts are compliant with all relevant legislation," Mr Ruiz said.

"We are disappointed with the outcome of the VCAT proceedings and intend to lodge an appeal."

He added the decision about the calculation of the DMF was "disappointing", and they had a "high conviction over a DMF model as it practically lowers the entry costs for downsizers in the midst of a well-documented housing affordability crisis and helps release equity from their homes to boost their savings and improve living standards in retirement".

Know your rights

Know your rights and understand the contract you're signing, is the advice for anyone looking to buy a home in a land lease community.

In the wake of the VCAT ruling last week (see separate story), as well as other similar, recent examples on Phillip Island, executive officer from Housing for the Aged Action Group Fiona York said charging exit fees on the future sale price of dwellings wasn't legal in Victoria under the Residential Tenancies Act.

Last year she told the Advertiser while cases in the past have gone to court, most of them settle out of court confidentially, so "other residents don't benefit" from knowing.

"The Residential Tenancies Act sets strict limits on what kinds of fees can be charged in these communities, and we believe some exit fees breach these requirements," Ms York told the Advertiser.

"Our broader concern is that exit fees can trap older people in really terrible conditions, because they can't move without paying tens or even hundreds of thousands of dollars."

Ms York said they had concerns about the management and regulation of all "land lease" villages, including Lifestyle Communities.

"Residents and their families often face a range of difficulties when trying to sell their homes in residential parks, and it often takes many months or even years, during which time the resident continues to be charged fees."

"This can include people who have passed away, or moved into residential care. This can even create an incentive for operators to make it harder for residents to sell, so they can keep collecting rent on vacant sites."

She said another major concern was there was a "lack of recourse for residents when their rights were breached, and a lack of enforcement of existing protections".

"Our advice to would-be buyers is that land lease communities may be, for many people, the best option available."

"Make sure you know your rights and understand the contract you're signing, and think about whether you'll be able to leave if you need to."

No more rock bags at Silverleaves

EROSION

Contractors who built this year's new Silverleaves' rock bag wall were again at the same beach with their heavy machinery earlier this month.

Their presence led to speculation by local residents the rock bag wall may be extended east to include the newly-eroded area, which contractors bulldozed with sand.

However, spokespeople for both the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action and the Bass Coast Shire Council confirmed there were no plans to extend the rock bags.

"The rock bag wall built before Easter is not being extended by these contractors on site," a council spokesperson said.

"Council engaged contractors to replace sand at the end of the rock bag wall, to address terminal scour and restore beach access after recent high tides."

Meanwhile, Silverleaves last week

featured in a national magazine which said recent satellite imagery showed erosion was emerging not as a broad pattern, but in hotspots.

The Good Weekend magazine article stated satellite monitoring over the past three decades showed sea levels were rising and the rate was accelerating.

Last year NASA analysis of satellite data found a faster than expected rise last year alone, expecting 4.3 millimetres but instead recording 5.9 millimetres, because 2024 was the hottest year on record.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) says coastal communities must take a long-term approach, ranking beach nourishment (or bulldozing sand) as one of the least effective strategies, elevating houses keeps seas at bay for 30 years, levees and sea walls for about 50 and 100 years respectively, and planned relocation the most effective long-term solution of all.



Both the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action and the Bass Coast Shire Council confirmed there are no plans to extend the rock bag wall at Silverleaves.



Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary members Sue Gale, Gill Scrase and Louanne Caldwell viewing anaesthetic machines at the new Community Hospital

Auxiliary members visit new community hospital

HEALTH

Recently members of the Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary toured the new Community Hospital in Cowes. Guided through the new building by Kerryn Griffiths, members Sue Gale, Gill Scrase and Louanne Caldwell described it as “a fantastic facility that will be an incredible asset to the health care of our community”.

The visit was a chance to see some of the results of all their fundraising efforts.

“We were able to see the anaesthetic machines that will be used in our new theatres,” said Gill.

“Our Auxiliary is so pleased to be able to donate \$30,800 towards these vital pieces of equipment. This money has been raised over the past few months from the Woolamai Races, trivia

nights, raffles, community markets, sausage sizzles and many more events.

“So thank you to everyone on the island and people from far and wide who supported us!”

Over the last six years the Hub Auxiliary has donated money to fund gynaecological equipment, dermatologist equipment, ECG system and treadmill package, Sozo and hyfrecator equipment for the physiotherapy department and a coffee cart for the Health Hub.

It also contributed to the landscaping for the L Rigby Cancer Centre (Wonthaggi) and donated funds for a renal dialysis chair, Pink Emergency Trolley for maternity and a Maternity Observation machine at Wonthaggi Hospital.

The Auxiliary welcomes new members. Please email: health-hubau3@gmail.com.



Two extra bus services will run in third term to Bass Coast College's San Remo campus; one from Sunset Strip and one from Coronet Bay.

More buses for Bass Coast College

EDUCATION

There's some relief in sight for parents and students at Bass Coast College's San Remo campus, after the government announced two additional school bus services would start in term three.

In April, parents told the Advertiser there were not enough bus places available for all the students enrolled at the campus, with some parents having to drop off and collect their children every day.

Although the capacity of the existing buses had been increased by 10 to allow for more students, with up to 10 students standing up on the bus journey at times, there was still a waiting list for the services.

One parent even said her job, which required her to regularly travel interstate, was in jeopardy due to the lack of transport options for the students.

Last week, the government announced two new services will run from Coronet Bay and Sunset Strip to the San Remo campus.

The service between Coronet Bay and San Remo will run via Bass and Woolamai, which the government said would benefit around 30 students.

The service from Sunset Strip to San Remo will travel via Smiths Beach, Rhyll and Surf Beach, and was expected to ben-

efit more than 40 students.

Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale said the two new services were a great result for students and families in Coronet Bay and Phillip Island, providing “more school services and better connections”.

“Thank you to Bus Coordinator Penny Witherden for her tireless advocacy work and to the many families that reached out highlighting this need,” Ms Crugnale said.

“We want all our kids to be able to get to and from school and there is more to be done across the bus network.”

Bass Coast College previously told the Advertiser they had applied for multiple new bus services, to service new growth areas, particularly Phillip Island, Coronet Bay, Grantville and Inverloch. These are also the areas with the longest waiting lists for students requiring seats on buses.

Assistant College Principal Emma Harris said approximately 80 per cent of the college's students relied on the bus network to get to school.

Ms Harris described Jordan Crugnale as a “fantastic advocate” for the college in its campaign to get increased bus services.

More buses

The government said the new buses add to the 25 current school bus services in the area taking lo-

cal students to the College's three campuses in San Remo, Dudley and Wonthaggi, plus supporting other schools in Wonthaggi and Inverloch.

The new Sunset Strip bus means there will now be 12 services operating on Phillip Island. Students of TAFE will also benefit from transport improvements said the government.

“TAFE students in the area benefit from the Victorian Budget 2025/26 with two Bass Coast and South Gippsland TAFE services, connecting Welshpool with Korumburra and Cowes with Leongatha”.

Both services were introduced in 2019 as Victorian Government-funded Flexible Local Transport Solutions Program (FLTSP) trials to increase public transport accessibility to Vocational and Educational Training (VET) programs in Korumburra and Leongatha.

“Converting the trial services to ongoing services will enable the current TAFE bus services to also support the wider Phillip Island and South Gippsland communities and be expanded to provide a year-round service on Wednesdays and Fridays instead of school term only,” the government said.

“Planning for these service upgrades is well underway, with further announcements to come.”

Community Grants

Are you a not-for-profit community group? Does your group have a project, program or event and need funding to get it off the ground? Consider applying for a community grant! The next round closes on Friday, 8 August. Council's Community Grants Officer is out and about talking all things grants:

Community Grant drop-ins – come and chat

- Wednesday, 16 July: Wonthaggi Library – 1.30pm - 4.30pm
- Friday, 18 July: Inverloch Community Hub – 9.00am - 5.00pm
- Monday, 21 July: Phillip Island Visitor Information Centre – 10.00am - 4.00pm
- Wednesday, 23 July: Berninnet, Cowes – 9.30am to 4.00pm
- Friday, 25 July: Bass Valley Community Centre – 10.00am to 3.30pm

Grant Writing Workshop – how to navigate SmartyGrants

- In person: Monday, 21 July - Phillip Island Visitor Information Centre – 4.30pm to 6.00pm. Afternoon tea provided. Bookings required: www.trybooking.com/DDKCN
- Online: Wednesday, 23 July - 6.30pm to 8.00pm. Bookings required: www.trybooking.com/DDKCT

If you have any questions please contact our Community Grants Officer on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211.



PENNY LANE CAFE

Behind the scenes at Penny Lane, it's all hands on deck — and sometimes, that includes the next generation! Head Chef Lee Hennessy keeps the kitchen running smoothly with a little help from his son, Jed. This dynamic duo proves that great food (and great work ethic) runs in the family. Arcade 22 Thompson Avenue, Cowes, 0412 566 055.



A scathing article by Council Watch argues modern councils no longer truly represent the communities that fund them, coinciding with public concerns raised about Bass Coast Shire Council's proposed new governance rules.

Have councils lost touch?

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Modern councils have become "insular fortresses" and are failing to be the voice of the people, according to a scathing article by Council Watch.

The volunteer non-profit watchdog group – which has in the past weighed in on Bass Coast Shire Council concerns – has penned the opinion piece, which comes as the council's draft governance rules 2025 close for community feedback on July 17.

According to the Council Watch article, councils largely no longer truly represent the communities that fund them.

"Instead, they have become insular fortresses – detached, defensive, and allergic to scrutiny," the article states.

"Criticism – once seen as part and parcel of a healthy democracy – is now treated as a personal attack.

"CEOs hide behind codes of conduct, policies, and silence.

"What used to be robust debate has been replaced with stage-managed meetings, tightly controlled public forums, and consultation processes that amount to little more than box-ticking.

"Councillors and executives bristle at the very idea that their

decisions might be questioned, their competence challenged, or their priorities scrutinised."

The article criticises bloated bureaucracies that "churn out reports, strategies, and policies while basic services decline".

It states services – such as waste collection, community consultation, and sports facilities management – have been outsourced to private providers, making councils "contract managers rather than service providers".

"It is no exaggeration to say that local government is at a tipping point.

"The very idea that councils are meant to be the voice of the community, the provider of basic local services, and the guardian of civic spaces has been eroded.

"Councils have become a level of government that sees itself as above its community rather than of it."

Council Watch says this has led to growing public disengagement and rising frustration with council decisions, calling for "wholesale reform".

"Ratepayers increasingly see councils as expensive, inefficient, self-serving entities that deliver little in return for their ever-growing rates bills.

"What is the point of a local government that no longer governs locally? That no longer listens?

"Until that changes – until councils rediscover humility, service, and community – ratepayers will continue to look at their local government with a mix of anger, disappointment, and despair."

Petition

More than 150 people have signed a petition fighting Bass Coast Shire Council's proposed changes to public question time.

The petition, "Stop Bass Coast Shire Council from unfairly changing the rules of public question time", follows proposed changes to public question time in the draft governance rules.

The changes include a question will not be read out if the person is not present at a council meeting and question time will be for a maximum of 30 minutes unless extended by a council resolution.

Details:

Draft governance rules: en-gage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/governance-rules-2025

Petition: www.change.org (search for Bass Coast Shire Council).



Phillip Island Nature Parks is asking the community to share their ideas about the long-term future vision for the Summerland Peninsula, with consultation sessions on July 29 and 31.

Have your say on future vision for Summerland Peninsula

CONSULTATION

Phillip Island Nature Parks is asking the community to share their ideas about the long-term future vision for the Summerland Peninsula.

The Nature Parks will work with the Phillip Island and Bass Coast local and wider community and key stakeholders to explore fresh, new ideas to shape a precinct-wide vision for eco-tourism and recreational experiences that better integrates with the conservation values of the peninsula.

The Summerland Peninsula is home to the world's largest little penguin colony, migratory short-tailed shearwaters, and the Endangered Eastern-barred bandicoot, as well as welcoming over a million visitors annually. The peninsula is a special place for Bunurong, the local community, and all those that visit, so it is critical we all have a say on its future.

The Nature Parks is looking to harness the aspirations of key stakeholders to refresh the Summerland Peninsula Master Plan that was first developed in 2012.

Phillip Island Nature Parks General Manager for Infrastructure and Planning Jarvis Weston said several projects had been delivered since the initial Master Plan was developed, including the \$6 million Penguins Plus viewing stand and the \$58 million Penguin Parade Visitor Centre, and the \$42 million Penguin Parade Boardwalks and Viewing Stands Redevelopment is partially complete.

"This is about re-setting our vision for the Summerland Peninsula for the next 20 to 30 years and considering fresh opportunities for the area – opportunities that work harmoniously with our conservation efforts, habitat restoration and eco-tourism," Mr Weston said.

"We want to hear from locals and communities so we can collectively build on the great things already achieved, to ensure we find the right balance between ecotourism and protecting the significant environmental and cultural values of the Summerland Peninsula."

Mr Weston said the Nature Parks would like to explore ways for people to access the greater area without compro-

mising their user experience or impacting habitat and wildlife; and ensure the traditional Bunurong culture was evident to all community and visitors.

In addition, the Nature Parks is exploring concepts for the future of the Nobbies precinct, including progressing any proposed infrastructure to a detailed design stage. This is an exciting opportunity for the local community, Traditional Owners and key stakeholders to shape the way that future generations will experience this incredible coast.

The Nobbies

The Nobbies Centre was forced to close in late May due to a structural issue on the building.

Given the building's proximity to the ocean and exposure to the wild weather elements, a significant investment is required to repair and re-open the building in its current form.

The Nobbies Visitor Centre will remain closed while the Nature Parks undertake this Master Plan work over the coming months. This will ensure that further funds invested into the site are working towards a future that is supported by the community.

"The closure of the Nobbies Centre gives us an opportunity to explore options for the area with the local community, that are not only economically viable, but will become a source of community pride," Mr Weston said.

"We hope this collaborative effort will encourage the Phillip Island community to enjoy, respect and champion the Summerland Peninsula and a future vision for generations to come," he said.

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

- Attend a consultation session at the Penguin Parade Visitor Centre from 5.30pm to 7pm on Tuesday July 29 in the Education Rooms, RSVP to community@penguins.org.au
- Attend a drop-in consultation session at the North Pier Hotel from 12.30pm to 1.30pm on Thursday July 31 in the upstairs function room
- Email your thoughts and ideas to community@penguins.org.au

/Sponsored article/

No, it is not Christmas in July

COMMUNITY

The Island Voice organising committee for this year's Carols by the Bay, is calling for helpers to assist with the popular community event.

Island Voice President Peter Paul said Carols By The Bay will be held on Thursday December 11 and planning for the event is already underway.

Support for the largest community event held annually in Cowes is again evident, including from Barber H Bomb Hayley, who will again be colouring hair as part of the fun entertainment for children in the lead-in to the popular event.

Hayley says Carols by the Bay is the best night of the year for island families and her children love every part of the evening.

"So much joy, and the fireworks is such a magnificent finale. You go home happy," she said.

"Like so many others, I am delighted to see Bass Coast Shire Council committing to sponsorship for the fireworks for the community for the next



Members of the Island Voice Carols by the Bay committee Peter and Glynice Paul (right), Peter McMahon, with hairdresser H Bomb Hayley, would love to hear from anyone who would like to assist with this year Carols by the Bay.

three years. I'm excited to be part of this amazing evening."

Peter Paul said Island Voice will soon be distributing posters to supporters of the Carols, to get the date out there.

He said the support from business and the community is essential and greatly appreciated.

A Quiz Night/Auction will be held at the PIRSL on Monday October 27 to raise funds for the

carols evening.

He has also appealed for volunteers to help the committee with the event.

"Like Santa we need more helpers. Be part of the free family evening."

If you would like to join in the joy of planning and helping with the event, please contact Island Voice secretary Peter McMahon on 0418 533 256.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON A FUTURE VISION

Planning for Our Future

The Nature Parks is proud of its special role on Phillip Island (Milawul), where we oversee land of significant environmental, cultural, and community value. As land managers and tourism leaders, we hold a unique responsibility in shaping a healthy and thriving environment for the island's wildlife, the community, and for all who visit.

To guide our work over the coming decade, we have established priority areas as part of our *10-Year Strategic Plan*:

Priority 1 - Bigger and better natural areas

Priority 2 - Thriving wildlife

Priority 3 - Bunurong self-determination

Priority 4 - Excellence in regenerative tourism

Priority 5 - Support a vibrant community

Priority 6 - Strong organisational foundations

Your experience and connection to Phillip Island (Milawul) and the Nature Parks is essential to our success and we invite you to share your thoughts to help shape our future.

HAVE YOUR SAY:



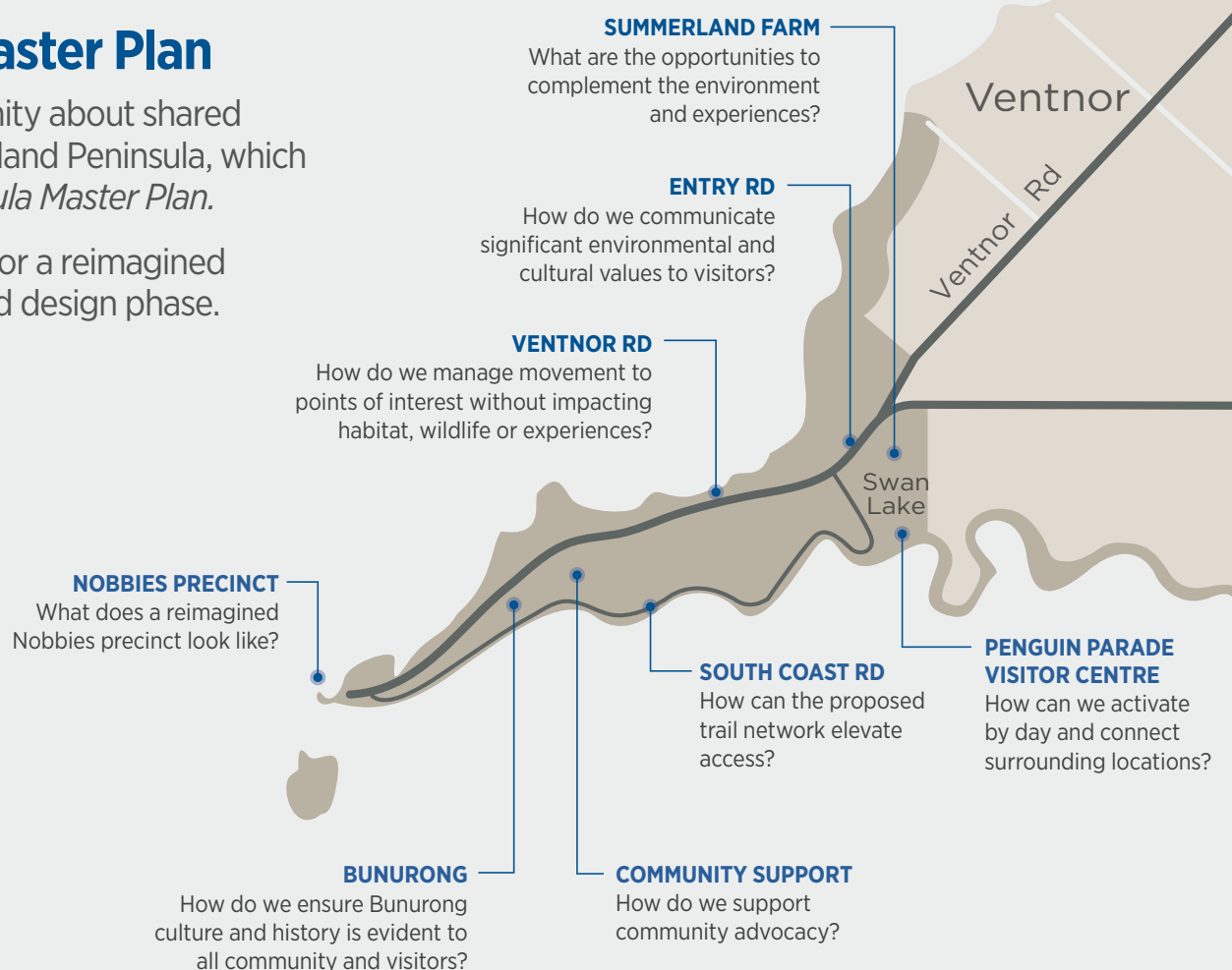
Summerland Peninsula Master Plan

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

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

HAVE YOUR SAY IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- Attend a consultation session at the Penguin Parade Visitor Centre from 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm on Tuesday 29 July in the Education Rooms, RSVP to community@penguins.org.au
- Attend a drop-in consultation session at the North Pier Hotel from 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm on Thursday 31 July in the upstairs function room.
- Email your thoughts and ideas to community@penguins.org.au



Phillip Island
NATURE PARKS

For more information visit



OUR COMMUNITY



WHALE FESTIVAL 2025



One of the key minds behind the interactive fun at the Festival Experience Hub, artist, creative and communications expert Zev Landes.

Whales in full scale

Each year, the Whale Festival brings the magic of the ocean to shore – but this year, local artist Zev Landes has taken it to an entirely new level. His latest exhibition doesn't just showcase whales – it lets you feel their size, power and presence.

Zev is the creative force behind this year's successful Festival Hub Experience, which builds on his work from previous whale festivals.

"You usually see whales in pictures or far off in the ocean," Zev explains.

"But you never really understand how enormous they are."

That challenge sparked his creative mission: to build an experience that helps people fall in love with whales while truly grasping their scale.

The exhibition is the result of months of work – and years of collaboration.

Zev brought together a team of scientists, marine biologists, photographers, filmmakers, and local creatives to bring the pieces to life. One installation used real images of humpbacks taken just off the Bass Coast by local photographers. Another featured animation crafted by a San Remo filmmaker, grounded in real science from Phillip Island Nature Parks.

Zev's own graphic designs and concepts tie everything together, but he's quick to emphasise it wasn't a solo effort. "This is what happens when science and art work together," he says.

"It's playful, immersive, and memorable – especially for kids."

"I feel very lucky to celebrate our local wildlife with the community."

"To do it all locally, with experts, and at this scale – it's incredibly fulfilling."



As always, face painting at the Festival Experience Hub was popular with the kids, who were all sporting marine-inspired designs.



Laura Town-Hopkinson from Coastcare with one of the many marine-themed stalls on display at this year's Island Whale Festival.



Many visitors to the Festival Experience Hub were keen to get a photo with the whale poo emoji, with the display highlighting the "incredible, central, integral role whales play in the ecosystem" said creator Zev Landes.



Phillip Island Boomerang Bags team had been hard at work, creating whale toys and reusable bags for the Whale Festival. Displaying their wares are members Marita Kraft and Cheryl Woodruff.



Having already visited the face painting stand, these young whale enthusiasts were lined up to have a staring contest with a whale. The display featured footage of a whale eye, with visitors challenged to see who would blink first ... them or the whale.



For more photos, visit pisra.com.au

Tash, with her children Asher and Arlia enjoyed some whale tail and fish painting, at Clay & Co Studio. The family has a holiday house in Kilcunda and this is their second time at the Whale Festival.



From left, Lucas, Eleanor and Charlotte were down from Melbourne for the weekend and popped into Clay & Co Studio to enjoy painting some plaster sea creatures.

WHALE FESTIVAL 2025



Bass Coast's Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead embraced the Festival Hub experience, saying she looked forward to the festival every year with its creative and diverse program.

The whales were world-class

This year's Island Whale Festival was a resounding success, with crowds flocking to the different events and activities over the three-day festival.

Despite the gloomy weather, the festival kicked off in style last Friday, with a Welcome to Country from Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation's Josh West. Destination Phillip Island's Kim Storey welcomed the crowd, with speeches from Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead and local MP Jordan Crugnale.

Cr Halstead said she was delighted to be at the festival, an event she looked forward to every year.

She said the "beloved event" was a "reflection of who we are", showing the community's love for the ocean and the environment.

Ms Crugnale said the government was proud to support the festival, which was growing each year, noting "there are whales a plenty" spotted in local waters.

For the kids visiting the Festival Experience Hub, the competition to out-stare a whale, and the chance for a photo with a whale poo emoji proved popular, as did the marine themed craft tables.

Although official attendance figures are yet to be released, pre-sales for Festival passes and session tickets were well ahead of the previous year's level.



The craft tables at the Festival Experience Hub were kept busy with children decorating their own sea creatures.



For two-year-old Vinnie, it was a first-time experience, helping family including dad Jack hammer in the tree guards. "It's great to get outdoors and help," Jack said.

Doing their bit for the island

Whale Festival goers were not just keen to spot the mammals, but help the environment during last weekend's event.

About 30 people attended a Phillip Island Landcare tree planting at the future Cowes recreation reserve, on the corner of Phillip Island and Ventnor roads.

Landcare last year started the project, which is funded by AusNet, in the south-east corner of the 80-acre site, with volunteers planting in an area protected by wallaby and rabbit proof fencing.

This year there will be two more planting days, on July 24 and August 16, which will see a further 2000 trees planted.

Landcare's David Rooks said across the three years, there will be seven different trials carried out, to see which is the most successful revegetation method, including a low temperature burn to encourage natural revegetation, scarification of the ground, as well as mulch and water crystals and natural generation.

"These plots will help assess the success of outcomes to help guide future decisions," David said.



Charli Millar (13) and her brother Harrison (11) from Melbourne were seasoned planters, having planted at various events around Melbourne. "I enjoy it, it's fun planting trees and giving back to the community," Charli said.



Ella Hutchinson, Williamson Research Fellow from the Dolphin Research Institute with Dr Wally Franklin, who were both presenters at this year's Whale Festival.



Natalia Baechtold, Dr Chels Marshall and Dr Jodi Edwards, presented a session exploring the cultural connections between whales and First Nations communities.



Jess Patman and Georgia Bisset from Wildlife Coast Cruises with Dr Sue Mason, Cetacean Science. Sue was one of the original co-founders of the Whale Festival.



A visual impact study found ships transporting upright turbines – up to 200 metres tall – would be “highly visible and visually dominant” from the Cowes jetty, heading out to the wind turbine zone 190 nautical miles off Western Port. They would be visible for 30-45 minutes, once every seven to 10 days. Inward shipping movements will be less noticeable as they will be lying down.

Shipping in the bay will increase

WIND TURBINE HUB

There would be an extra 130 ships per year in Western Port if the proposed new wind turbine hub is approved.

That’s according to an on-line meeting, one of a series being run by the Port of Hastings (PoH), which is seeking approvals on behalf of the State Government for a revised Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal (VRET) project.

The meeting came as there was an extension of time for public comment to the new Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) referral until July 16.

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

VRET construction would start in 2027 and be operational by the end of the decade, subject to approvals.

The meeting was told once operational “we expect approximately 130 ships per annum”, a combination of ships delivering components and offshore installation vessels.

“To put that into context, the number of ships going into Port Phillip Bay is around 3600,” VRET project manager Peter Watt told the meeting.

Peter was questioned about decommissioning of the VRET, and he responded the Victorian Government had a target of off-

shore wind of 9-gigawatts by 2040 and beyond that the project could be repurposed.

“This is a fairly big investment by the state who would look to use the terminal for trade. It would want to keep utilising the terminal,” Peter said, adding planning approvals would need to be sought for a change of cargo.

“It could become a reliable and economic source of energy and other developments possibly for offshore wind that could extend beyond the 9-gigawatts so it’s a bit hard to predict when the use of the terminal will diminish but it certainly won’t be before 2040.”

The meeting heard sedimentation due to dredging impacts would mostly impact the western shoreline between 2-4mm, with “sedimentation very local to the site”.

A Phillip Island resident and lifelong commercial diver Noel Duffy, however, warned “the blanket of sediment” could kill seagrass.

“We witnessed the same effects during dredging around Hastings in the 70s,” Noel said.

“The impacts were visible in Western Port for decades, only recently returning to pre-dredging levels of marine life.”

Ecology

The PoH was asked about the carbon footprint for the terminal and how long it will take for wind to offset CO2 emissions, but a manager responded detailing this was not a requirement

in the process.

The PoH also did not divulge the cost of the VRET, citing commercial in confidence, although they said it would supply turbines to Australia’s largest and first offshore wind zone off Gippsland, which was declared by the Federal Government and was 190 nautical miles from Western Port.

The meeting received many questions on marine ecology, but could not answer these questions at that time.

Last year the then Federal Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek knocked back the state’s original VRET because it would have “clearly unacceptable” environmental impacts on the bay.

The new VRET, according to PoH, takes on the Minister’s feedback with a “substantially modified” project.

As the VRET is proposed within the Western Port Ramsar wetland – which is of international significance – the EPBC is a required step for Commonwealth approvals, with a state-based Environmental Effects Statement (EES) process already underway.

The EPBC referral includes studies on marine ecology, waterbirds, and coastal processes with details on dredging in the bay.

Details: renewableenergyterminal.com.au/planning/commonwealth-epbc-referral
renewableenergyterminal.com.au/construction/dredging



Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund (GERF) is presenting a series of free workshops to help prepare for bushfires, storms and other natural disasters on July 23 and 24 in Bass Coast.

Be better prepared for bushfires, storms and natural disasters

WORKSHOPS

Bass Coast residents can better prepare for bushfires, storms and other natural disasters thanks to a series of free workshops on July 23 and 24, presented by Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund (GERF).

GERF has partnered with the Resilient Building Council (RBC) to help homeowners assess their property’s resilience and take simple steps to improve it.

The free workshops will guide residents through RBC’s easy-to-use digital self-assessment tools, which provide practical, tailored recommendations to strengthen buildings against disaster risks.

“Whether you’re living in an older home, planning a new build, or rebuilding after a loss, these workshops will be invaluable,” said GERF President Andy Tegart.

“Recent increases in the number and severity of bushfires, floods and storms from climate change means we need to be ready for more frequent extreme weather events.

“If you can improve your home’s resilience, natural hazards may not become a personal disaster.

“This free program will provide clear, cost-effective advice

on steps (big or small) you can take to strengthen and better protect your home or business,” Mr Tegart said.

Resilient Building Council CEO Kate Cotter encouraged homeowners to make use of the tools and incentives on offer.

“Once you’ve completed the self-assessment, you can choose to have your Resilience Rating certified by an expert and access your Resilience Rating Certificate,” Ms Cotter said.

“Households can use their certificate to access insurance or mortgage benefits, and have peace of mind that their home is better protected.”

Bass Coast workshops:
July 23, 9.30am: Newhaven Hall

July 23, 1.30pm: Berninnet Community Meeting Room

July 24, 1pm: Coronet Bay Community Hall.

July 24, 6pm: Wonthaggi Town Hall

Register online to secure your spot. Light refreshments provided. Please come prepared with RBC’s Resilience Rating app installed on your phone or device (available at rating.rbcouncil.org).

To find out more, for workshop locations and dates, and to register online go to: gerf.org.au/rbc

/Sponsored article /



Strengthen your home against natural disasters.

To help Gippslanders be better prepared, we’re holding FREE community workshops with resilience experts to guide homeowners through RBC’s easy-to-use bushfire resilience assessment app.

GET IN QUICK!

July 23 @ Newhaven

July 23 @ Cowes

July 24 @ Coronet Bay

July 24 @ Wonthaggi

FREE WORKSHOPS ACROSS BASS COAST

GERF.ORG.AU

TAKE ACTION

Please register to secure your spot!

GERF.ORG.AU/RBC





Sonia Weston leading the parade at the Ngangga Festival at Berninneit on July 6, part of a program of NAIDOC Week events across Bass Coast.



Kutcha Edwards on stage at Berninneit, in a special NAIDOC Week performance.



Treaty Victoria stall on display at the first Ngangga Festival at Berninneit on July 6, part of NAIDOC Week celebrations organised by the Bass Coast Reconciliation Network.

NAIDOC Week – that's a wrap

COMMUNITY

NAIDOC Week 2025 marked 50 years of the annual celebration across Australia with the theme Next Generation: Strength, Vision and Legacy.

The week saw the community supporting a showcase of First Nations art, culture, music and talent in one of the largest coordinated programs of events in Bass Coast to date.

The week kicked off with a meet the artists event for the Bass Coast/South Gippsland NAIDOC Week First Nations Art Exhibition at Artspace in Wonthaggi.

Bass Coast Cultural Venues put on two inspiring events at their perform-

ing arts spaces in Wonthaggi and Berninneit in Cowes.

"Saturday night was absolutely pumping for the Birdz & Fred Leone gig with local Gunai singer and storyteller Fonzie opening the show," said Laura A'Bell Marketing and Audience Development Coordinator for Bass Coast Cultural Venues.

"The feedback has been phenomenal. There were hundreds of people dancing, singing and getting totally involved."

The Catching the Light exhibition in Lightbox Lane next to the Union Theatre, Wonthaggi was also a hit with show goers and the community.

Across the week the Union Theatre and Bernin-

neit were lit up with NAIDOC projections each night giving a festive atmosphere to the winter evenings.

The region's first ever NAIDOC Festival, Ngangga, was held in Berninneit on July 6 with stalls, workshops and music giving the space a great vibe. Over 800 festival goers enjoyed the Cultural Games as well as live music, market and information stalls, and workshops including art and weaving, led by Bass Coast First Nations Community members Fonzie Patten, Auntie Lizzie Dalton, Patrice Mahoney, Les Briggs and family, along with stalls from Baluk Arts and Treaty Victoria.

The Sunday ended with Uncle Kutcha Edwards and

band giving a moving performance at the Berninneit theatre.

NAIDOC Week events across Bass Coast for were organised by Bass Coast Cultural Venues, Bass Coast Reconciliation Network and supported by Dhelk Dja: Safe Our Way – Strong Culture, Strong Peoples, Strong Families, an Aboriginal-led agreement to address family violence in Aboriginal communities.

Bass Coast Reconciliation Network would like to thank the community for their support and look forward to working together to promote reconciliation across the year to come.

Keep up to date: www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/reconciliation



Paul "Fonzie" Patten with Birdz and Fred Leone, after their performance at the Union Theatre in Wonthaggi.

Art on show for NAIDOC Week

ArtSpace Wonthaggi presented a showcase of artworks by 13 First Nations artists of Bass Coast, with an opening day celebration on July 5.

"This year celebrates 50 years of honouring the culture, creativity and resilience of First Nations People throughout Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities," said Mary Mutsaers, exhibition organiser.

The exhibition runs until Sunday July 20 with a virtual exhibition running in tandem at www.naidoc-art.com.au

Details: ArtSpace Wonthaggi, Centennial Centre, 1 Bent Street, Wonthaggi. Phone 03 5672 5767.



First Nations artists with works on display at this year's NAIDOC Week Art Exhibition at ArtSpace Wonthaggi.

San Remo CFA supports NAIDOC

Stefan and Bob from the San Remo CFA brigade got a helping hand from some juniors of the team – Alfred and Hugo – to raise the Aboriginal flag during NAIDOC Week.



PHILLIP ISLAND



Festival of Stories

**July 25 – 27
at Berninneit.**

Appearing at this year's Festival of Stories



Beau Vernon is a proud product of Phillip Island whose journey of resilience and leadership has inspired people across Australia. Beau has refused to let adversity define him. In his festival session he talks about being an elite wheelchair rugby athlete with the Australian Steelers, and what it was like winning a Paralympic bronze medal at the Paris games.



Dr Ann Jones is ABC's 'nature nerd', Ann has a special affinity with all things land and nature. She can be heard showcasing the best of nature, adventure and scientific research with Radio National's What the Duck?. She has also hosted science and nature documentaries for ABC TV and is part of the children's nature-adventure podcast 'Noisy by Nature'.



Paula Wasiak Paula Wasiak is a conservation scientist reintroducing bush stone-curlews to Milawul, Phillip Island, after spending 15 years elbow-deep in penguin burrows. She is a passionate science communicator who likes to blend research with humour to spark joy and a desire for conservation action.



Judy Horacek is a freelance Australian cartoonist, writer and children's book creator. She has published 10 collections of cartoons, and 11 picture books, five on her own and six with Mem Fox, including the wildly successful Where is the Green Sheep? She lives in Melbourne and has holidayed on Phillip Island her entire life.

Tickets available now at www.pifestivalofstories.com

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John Adam's vision on show

ART

A new exhibition celebrates a lifetime of artistic practice by local artist John Adam, and coincides with his 90th birthday.

"Vision and Reality" is showing at Berninneit in Cowes, from July 24 until August 6, and entry is free.

A special opening night celebration will be held on Sunday July 27, from 2pm until 4pm in the Small Community Room, and the exhibition will be formally opened by Cr Tim O'Brien.

Dedicated to painting from an early age, John studied at Swinburne Technical College in 1953, and has exhibited consistently since then, receiving many awards including the Bass Coast Shire Acquisitive Award on five occasions.

John developed a passion for visual art especially painting, while at secondary school. English artist John Constable was an early influence, as were Australians Tom Roberts, Arthur Stree- ton and Fred McCubbin.

He said he was fortunate in his final year at school to have the great painter John Brack as his mentor. The work of French post- Impressionists has been a lifelong inspiration.

Last year, after 65 years of sharing his experience with children and adults, John retired from teaching. He intends to continue painting as long as he is able.

The exhibition features a selection of paintings spanning 70 years, and captures John's continuing experimentation and his belief – to quote the late Brett Whiteley – that "painting is a dif-



A new exhibition "Vision and Reality" celebrates a lifetime of artistic practice by local artist John Adam, and is showing at Berninneit in Cowes, from July 24 until August 6. John in front of his Phillip Island mural which is now at the Creative Arts Station in Settlement Road. Photo courtesy of the Bass Coast Post.

ficult pleasure".

John's work featured prominently at the former Cowes Cultural Centre, in a mural commissioned by the Phillip Island and District Historical Society in 2005.

When the old centre was demolished in 2020, the mural was housed at the Gippsland Art Gallery in Sale and in April returned to Phillip Island and is now on display at the Creative Arts Station in Settlement Road.

John has also been commissioned to create a major artwork for the new Phillip Island Community Hospital.

"Vision and Reality" at Berninneit runs from July 24 until August 6.

Berninneit is open Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 5pm and weekends from 10am until 4pm.

www.basscoastculturalvenues.com/berninneit-cowes

/ Sponsored article /



On Sunday July 20 the Phillip Island Jazz Club presents Syncopators, from 2pm until 4.30pm at the Phillip Island Bowling Club, 40 Dunsmore Road, Cowes.

Syncopators back by popular demand

JAZZ

On Sunday July 20, back by popular demand, the Phillip Island Jazz Club presents Syncopators.

The show runs from 2pm until 4.30pm at the Phillip Island Bowling Club in Dunsmore Road, Cowes.

"This group has six of the finest musicians in Australia and without doubt they are considered to be one of the best show bands in the country," said a club spokesperson.

"If you only see one group for 2025 you will leave amazed at their organisation and control."

The members of the group are: Chris Ludowyk, leader

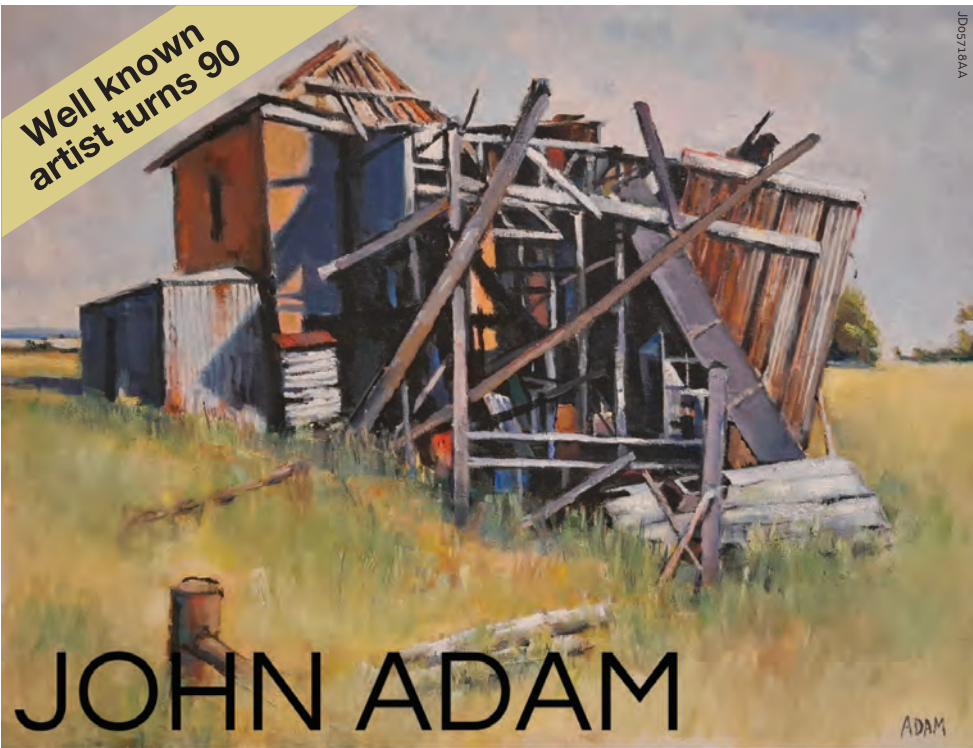
and trombone; Peter Gaudion on trumpet and vocals; Richard Miller on reeds; James Clark on bass; Steven Grant on keyboards and; Rod Gilbert on drums.

"We are really looking forward to the return of this fantastic group. Everywhere they perform they bring large, fun-loving audiences to see them and we will expect that this will be similar in July."

"We recommend that you book early if possible which gives us an idea on how many tables and chairs we need for the day."

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

For more information please contact: Jill Boyce on 0417 416 300.



JOHN ADAM VISION & REALITY

Berninneit, Cowes

24 July – 6 August 2025

Opening celebration Sunday 27 July 2025, 2–4PM

"Vision and Reality" celebrates a lifetime of artistic practice by Phillip Island artist John Adam. Dedicated to painting from an early age, John studied at Swinburne Technical College in 1953, and has exhibited consistently since then, receiving many awards including the Bass Coast Shire Acquisitive Award on five occasions. Displaying a selection of paintings spanning seventy years, this modest survey exhibition captures John Adam's continuing experimentation and his belief – to quote the late Brett Whiteley – that "painting is a difficult pleasure".



Image credit: John Adam, "Kiln 2" 2024, oil on canvas, 50 x 60 cm. Courtesy the artist.



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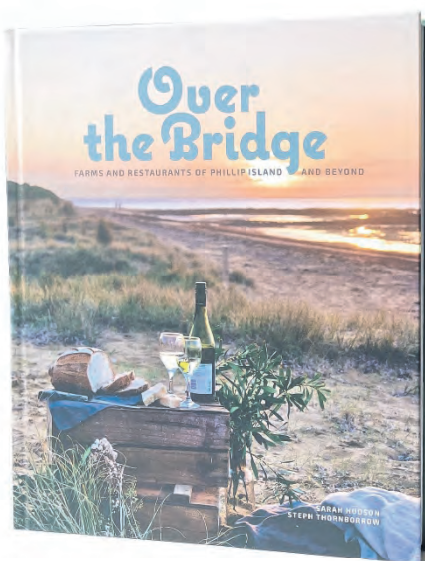
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The Owl's Apprentice

SAT 12 JUL / 11:00AM / FROM \$12

This is a voyage into a gorgeous realm of shadow puppetry while acting as a creative catalyst for exploring the unique biology of Australian animals. A mesmerising and perfect piece of family entertainment.

Cinderella - Inveni Ensemble

FRI 18 JUL / 2:00PM / FROM \$15

We are thrilled to have Inveni Ensemble return! Like Cinderella's transformation at the stroke of midnight, experience a symphonic metamorphosis that transports you through every twist and turn of the story.

Cinema Program

Weekly Program Updates

Come along to our regular cinema sessions in our comfy theatres at Berninnet in Cowes or at The Union Theatre, Wonthaggi. We offer a range of films to suit all tastes including sessions with accessibility options including OCAP.

Winter School Holidays Program

Berninnet, Cowes
The Union Theatre, Wonthaggi

UNION THEATRE

Berninnet
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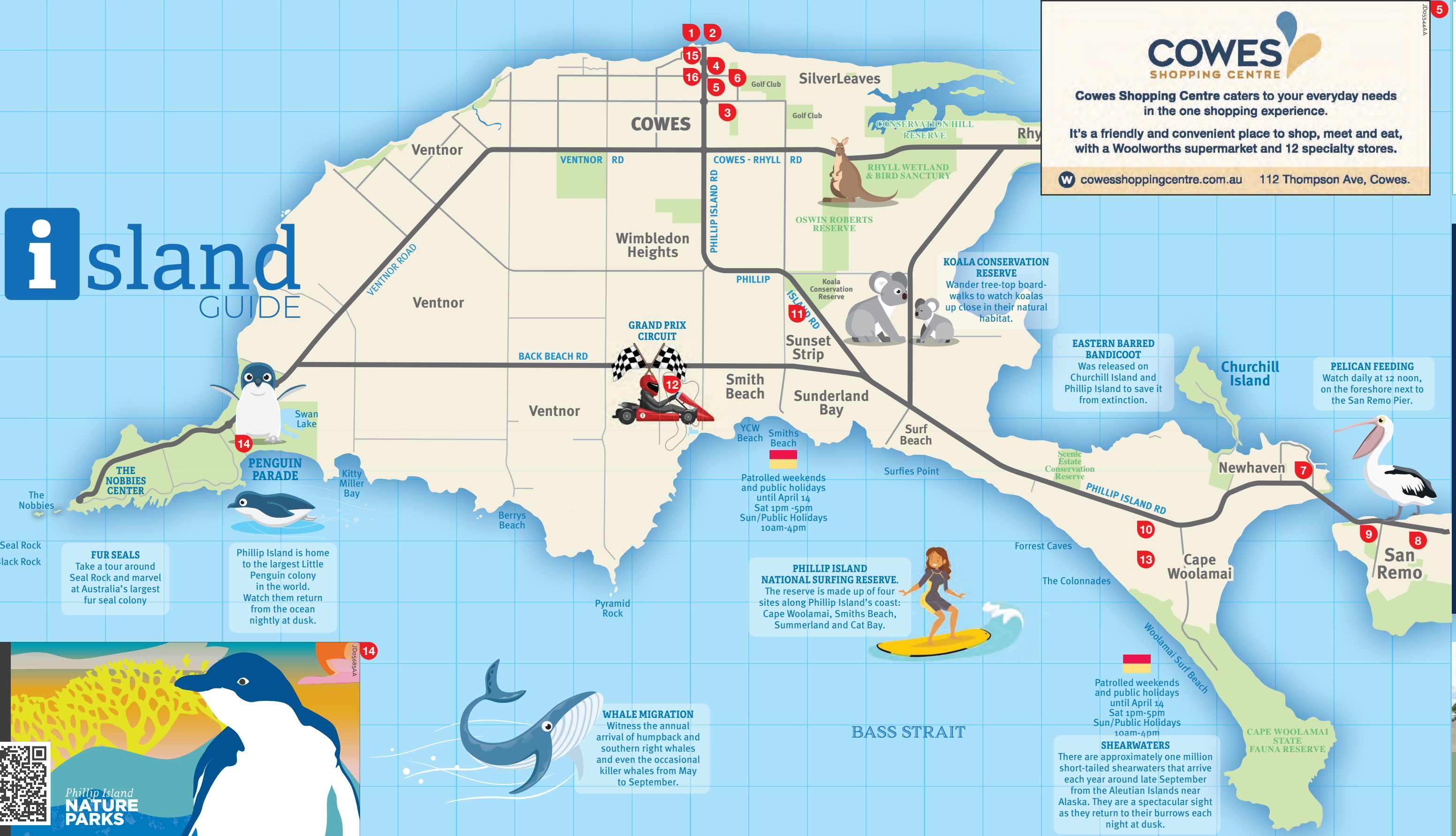
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NRMA Holiday Park turns blue for mental health

COMMUNITY

This Thursday (July 17), a special community event will highlight the importance of talking about mental health.

A large blue tree will be installed at NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park – not made of bark or leaves, but a bold blue design fixed to a chimney, standing as a symbol of hope and awareness.

The community is invited to a launch event from 10am on Thursday July 17. There will be a free barbecue, games including inflatable basketball and giant Connect Four, and an area where families can add handprints to the wall in white paint as a show of support.

The display is part of the national Blue Tree Project, a mental health initiative encouraging people to “start the conversation” by creating public blue trees across Australia.

Daniel Rutter, manager of the Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park, said the project is especially meaningful to him.

“I lost a young apprentice named Chad who had worked for me for five years. None of us knew he was struggling,” he said. “You’d never have picked it. I think if there had been more open conversations around mental health, maybe things could have been different.”

The original plan to paint a tree on-site was changed after an arborist deemed the tree un-



A large blue tree will be mounted to the chimney at NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park, supporting the Blue Tree project, to raise awareness of mental health issues. A community launch runs from 10am on Thursday July 17.

safe. Instead, a life-sized blue tree – created and donated by Archi Signs – will be mounted to the park’s chimney, with the surrounding wall also painted blue.

A QR code will be displayed so visitors can scan and learn more about the Blue Tree Project and access mental health support resources.

Several local businesses have offered their support, including Island Hire, Mojo Arborists, Phillip Island Honey, Mitre 10 and Archisign.

NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park regularly runs mental health fundraising events, including annual support for Beyond Blue and Camp Quality. They also provide a dedicated cabin for families

undergoing cancer treatment, offering a much-needed break between hospital visits.

“We’re part of this community,” said Mr Rudder.

“If this helps even one person speak up, then we’ve done something worthwhile.”

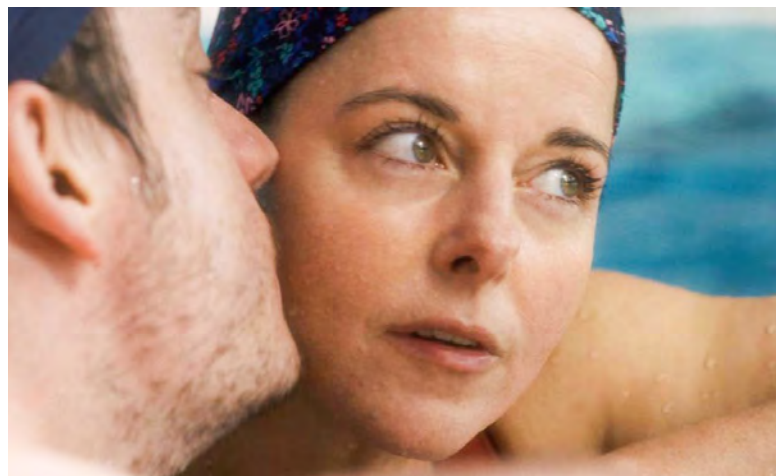
For information about the Blue Tree Project, visit: bluetree-project.com.au

If you or someone you know needs help:

Call Lifeline Australia on 13 11 14, for 24/7 crisis support, **Lifeline Text** is also available from 12pm to midnight by texting 0477 13 11 14.

Call Beyond Blue on 1300 22 4636 or visit www.beyondblue.org.au

For local services, visit gippslandmentalhealth.org.au



This month's movie club film, “My Everything” looks at the empty nest syndrome which can be difficult for parents to deal with. Showing at 7.30pm on July 23 at Berninnet, it is open to movie club members only.

Movie club heads to France

FILM

On Wednesday July 23, the Phillip Island Movie Club (PIMC) presents “My Everything”, at 7.30pm at Berninnet.

The French film is the debut from writer/director Anne-Sophie Bailly.

Her film looks at the empty nest syndrome which can be difficult for parents to deal with, but “My Everything” has taken a fresh angle to this ordinary dilemma: the adult son who’s ready to flee the coop has an intellectual disability.

Joël (Charles Peccia Galletto) is in his late twenties/early thirties and lives with his mother Mona (Laure Calamy). He has a part-time carer and a job through an organisation designed to help adults like him. Mona had Joël as a young mother and her whole life has

revolved around his needs

Bailly says although she had Charles Galletto, who also has a disability, play the role of Joël, she didn’t want to ‘label’ Joël’s disability and the same goes for Julie Froger who plays Oceane.

“The film is about Mona’s realisation that her work as a parent is done, but it is not easy to let go in this situation,” said movie club secretary Margaret Byrne.

“The film also highlights her selflessness and commitment that has meant she has had no life of her own.”

Please note the film begins at 7.30pm, the new movie club starting time for 2025.

It is a private event and you must present your PIMC membership ticket and your Try-booking receipt to enter.

“My Everything” runs for one hour 34 minutes and is rated MA.



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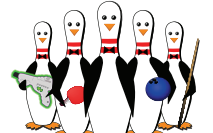


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Warm up this winter with Christmas in July promotion

HEALTH

As the crisp winter breeze sweeps across the island, Phillip Island Gym is choosing to warm the community's spirit – not just with hot workouts, but with heartfelt giving.

Their "Christmas in July" promotion, running from July 14 to 28, is more than just a festive campaign – it's a celebration of kindness, generosity, and shared health goals. In true Christmas spirit – a time of giving, joy, and connection – the gym is offering massive membership deals to help more people take charge of their wellbeing.

With families doing it tough and the world in need of more love and support, Phillip Island Gym is stepping in to give back – not just in savings, but in meaning. Festive membership specials include:

- 12-month upfront membership: slashed from \$960 to \$699

- 6-month upfront membership: reduced to \$475 from \$520
- 12-month direct debit: now \$16.50/week (was \$18.50)
- 6-month direct debit: dropped to \$19.50/week (was \$21.50)

"These deals are our gift to the community," said a representative from Phillip Island Gym.

"We believe Christmas is about giving – and in a world that could always use more love, we want to do our part to help people get healthier, happier and more connected."

But the spirit of giving doesn't stop there. Members are also encouraged to share the love by passing these incredible offers to their friends and family – making it easier for others to begin their health journey alongside them.

Giveaway

To sprinkle on more holiday magic, the gym is also hosting a Christmas-themed Instagram raffle,

with a free one-year membership up for grabs.

"We believe in the power of community, and we know fitness is better together," the team added.

"This isn't just about deals. It's about giving people the chance to show up for themselves and for those they care about."

As an added bonus, readers of this article can claim a \$15 coupon, cut it out from the ad and it's good for a casual visit or any group class – a perfect first step for anyone looking to try something new or reignite their fitness goals.

So whether you're gifting a membership to a loved one, joining for yourself, or entering the raffle, Phillip Island Gym invites you to celebrate this season of goodwill with movement, joy, and heart.

Visit phillipislandgym.com or follow @phillipislandgym on Instagram to get involved.

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Island RSL crowned best bistro

HOSPITALITY

The team at Phillip Island RSL has claimed the coveted Best Regional Club Bistro-Restaurant award at the 2025 Community Clubs Victoria (CCV) Awards.

The gala dinner and awards night on Saturday July 5 at the RACV City Club in Melbourne, saw more than 1000 licensed clubs come together from across Victoria.

The Phillip Island RSL's win was applauded by CCV Chief Executive Andrew Lloyd.

"This well-deserved recognition highlights their leadership within both the industry and the broader community. At a time when many clubs face operational challenges, it's more important than ever to celebrate those making a positive impact."

General Manager Chris Simpson described the win as a celebration of people, purpose, and place.

"We're more than just a venue – we're part of the fabric of Phillip Island life," Chris said.

"This award recognises the dedication of our team, the warmth of our service, and the pride we take in delivering consistent, quality experiences to locals and visitors alike."

Chris said the redevelopment of the club's kitchen was a turning point – giving the team "the platform they needed to truly innovate and shine".

"We've worked hard to evolve our menu, embrace fresh local ingredients, and create a space that brings people together."

"We aim for every guest to feel at home, whether they're a local member



The team at the heart of the award-winning RSL Bistro, from left: Lenore Birkett, Tracey Bowes, Peter Cubetta, Senior Executive Chef Brent Mills and Davinder Singh.

grabbing a weeknight meal or a holidaymaker celebrating a special occasion. It's this sense of welcome that defines who we are."

Culinary destination

At the heart of this achievement is Senior Executive Chef Brent Mills and his brigade of talented professional and apprentice chefs, whose passion has helped transform the bistro into a Victorian award-winner.

"This award is a proud moment for our kitchen team and our community – it's a tribute to our collective hard work, passion and teamwork," said Chef Mills.

"As Senior Executive Chef, I'm honoured to see our regional bistro recognised at this level. It's a win for us all."

"We're incredibly privileged to work alongside such wonderful local suppliers and to showcase the richness of regional produce right here on Phillip Island and the Bass Coast."

"Every dish that leaves our kitchen is the result of strong relationships – from paddock to plate – and the unwavering support of our community, loyal members, and visiting guests is

deeply appreciated.

"I'm both excited and motivated for where we're headed."

Chris Simpson described the win as one for the team, "who go above and beyond", and for local producers and the community.

"It validates our commitment to doing things the right way – with care, integrity, and a strong sense of community."

From seasonal seafood platters and hearty winter warmers to family favourites and plant-forward options, the Phillip Island RSL continues to serve up more than just great food – it serves up connection, tradition, and a shared love for the region.

"We're proud to be here on Phillip Island, doing what we love, for the people we care about," Simpson said.

"This award reminds us that we're on the right path – and the best is yet to come."

With the win firmly under their apron strings, the Phillip Island RSL continues to inspire as a true community cornerstone – where every meal tells a story of regional pride, passion, and people.

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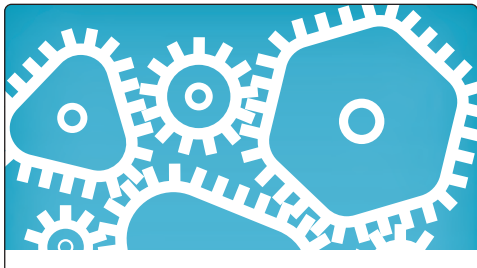


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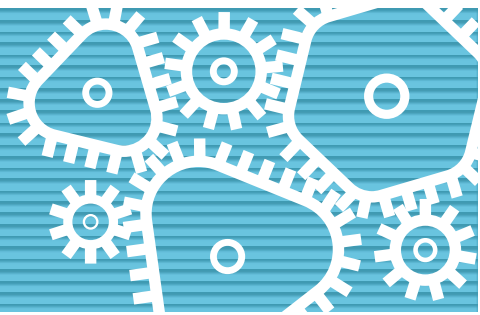


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Making the connection

MENTAL HEALTH

A unique event this month combines surfing with mental health and human connection.

Shore Break, at Berninnet on July 30 features a one-man theatre performance followed by a Q&R panel, featuring surfers and mental health experts.

Bass Coast Shire Council's Team Leader for Emergency Services and Community Resilience, Paul Milne helped assembled the panel, which includes Shore Break's Chris Pitman, legendary big wave surfer Ross Clarke Jones and Barry Randall, the founder and director of Operation Soul Surf.

Paul's own background made him uniquely suited to the task, and it's an area he's passionate about.

He hopes the evening will provide men and their partners with an opportunity to

open up and examine mental health issues.

"It's okay to talk up when things aren't going right and there's no judgement or stigma," he said.

"Being vulnerable is strong. It's not weak to discover the importance of the human connection."

He knows from experience how difficult it is to find your purpose again in life, after a mental health illness back in 2014.

"It's taken me a good decade to get to where I am. It's a process, trial and error."

Paul recently published a book documenting his own experiences. "The Urgent Connection" covers the obstacles he faced during his journey to recovery.

He describes the book as "a bit of a toolkit".

"It's about listening more and letting people talk, then providing options. It's empowering people to make those decisions."

Panel

Assembling the panel for the Shore Break performance on July 30, Paul knew it was important to resonate with the local surfing community. That's what prompted him to approach Ross Clarke Jones.

"Ross is amazing, the things he's done in his career, and he's had his own setbacks. The resilience and mind set to do what he does is incredible. You have to be very strong to ride waves of that size."

Also on the panel is Barry Randall, a member of Victoria Police, who has developed Operation Soul Surf, a program to get first responders into the water, to experience the healing power of the ocean.

"Surfing is a pathway to post-traumatic growth," said Paul, who grew up surfing most weekends on Phillip Island.

"It is only a 20-minute panel, and it will give people a chance to ask questions, then afterwards, talk to the panel members one on one."

"It's about creating those safe spaces, where people can come up and have a quick chat."

Journey

The former Northern Territory policeman said prior to his own breakdown, he thought he was bulletproof.

"Looking in hindsight now, I was probably suffering for many years before I fell."

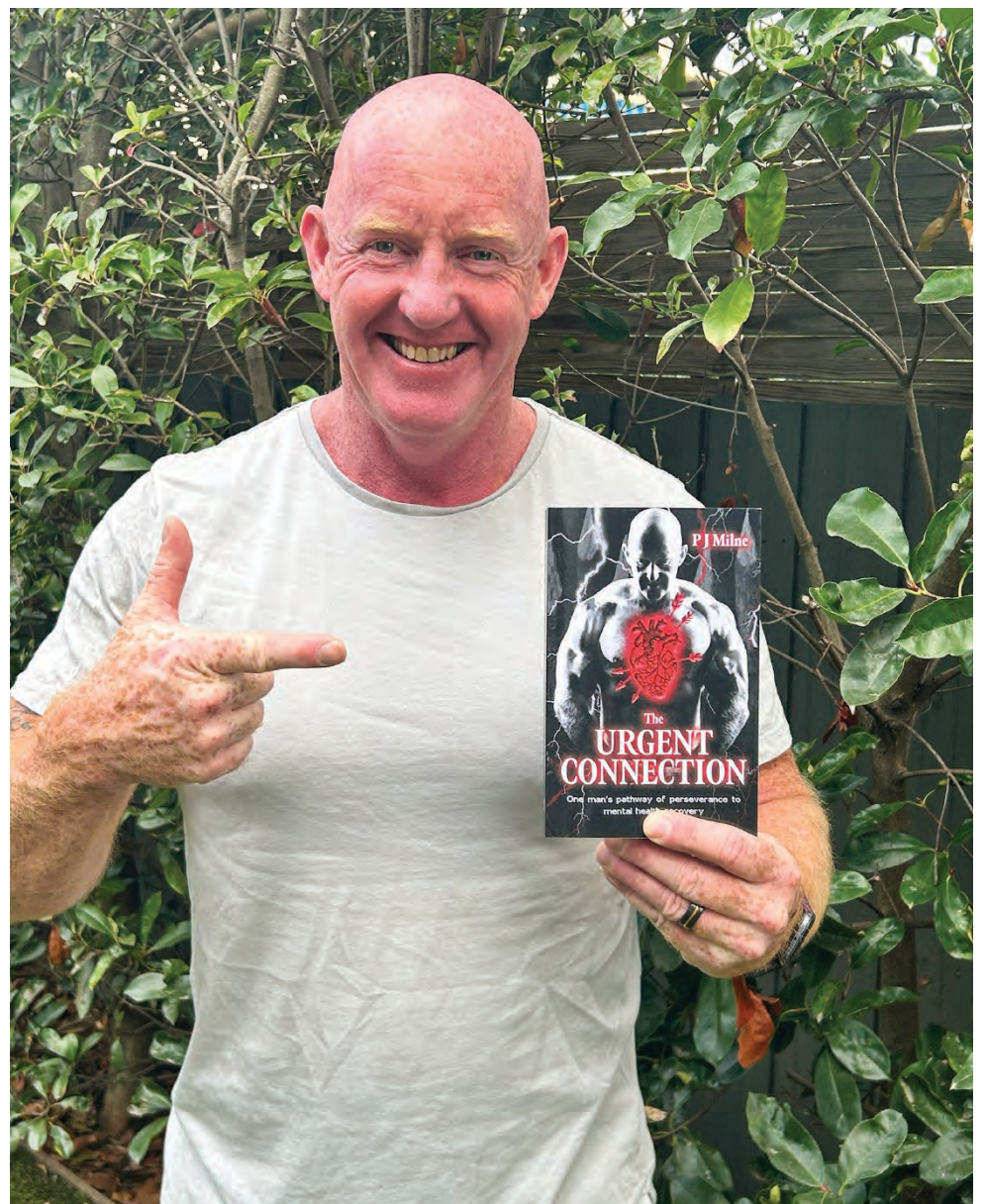
Returning with his family to Melbourne, it took multiple stints in a facility set up specifically for first responders suffering from PTSD, to start getting back on track.

The breakthrough for him was speaking with a Buddhist monk who visited the facility.

"He said to me, Paul, you need to start being kind to yourself. And from that point, everything changed, because I wasn't being kind, I was being really hard on myself."

"So I started trying different things, like mindfulness and meditation. I started to look into different ways of making myself better and getting more grounded in the world."

Paul then reached out to Beyond Blue to see if there was a way he could help other people going through the same thing, joining their ambassador program.



Mental Health ambassador and author Paul Milne has put together a panel as part of the Shore Break performance on July 30, addressing mental health issues, particularly in the surfing communities. Limited tickets still available through basscoastculturalvenues.com

After several former colleagues in the police force took their own lives, Paul became a vocal advocate for first responders' mental health, getting involved in events like the Heart to Heart walk from Central Australia to Canberra, and in 2021 found himself addressing a room full of politicians in Canberra.

His journey toward recovery has also included roles in government, as well as CEO of Fearless Australia and NZ, Director at Heart2Heart Foundation, Chair and Board Director Lived Experience Australia and director of Mind Blank.

Connection

He says people should come along to the Shore Break performance with an open mind.

"If you come with no expectations, then you're going to be surprised, and get something out of it," he said.

"It's an experience to enjoy, and we're also getting everyone in the community together. And that's the ultimate goal; to build that community, because we're stronger as a bigger group."

He hopes the evening will provide new connections and some advice on how to help anyone suffering from mental health issues.

"It's all about looking for the signs," said Paul.

"If you've got a friend or a partner who is outgoing and all of a sudden starts to change, doesn't want to come out as much, isn't as engaged, is tired, says I'll be there, but never shows up ... these things start to slowly add up."

"Once your cup fills up, it gets to a certain point and it overflows, and that's when you start to go downhill."

"It's important to remember suicide is the pointy end (of mental health illness). There's a pathway to get there, so it's identifying if someone is on that journey."

"It's being involved in that person's life and talking, providing support and options."

Tickets to Shore Break are selling fast. Book yours now: www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1362864

www.basscoastculturalvenues.com/live-at-berninnet-cowes

CLASSIFIEDS SEEK, BUY AND SELL

DEATHS

TANNER, Jeffery:

25/1/45 – 3/7/25

It is with deep sorrow that I, Lynette, his wife of 58 years announce the death of Jeffery Tanner on 3/7/25 at the Age of 80.

Beloved Father of Kylie and Hayden.

Grandfather of Hayley and Jade.

Brother to Julie and Carl (dec.)

Jeffery will be deeply missed by his family and friends. Much Loved!

PUBLIC NOTICES

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS:

Weekly meetings Bass Coast Shire, Wonthaggi – Tuesday 8pm; AA Cowes Big Book meeting at St Philip's Church (opp. Coles) – Tuesday 7pm, 0417 317 470; Salvation Army building, McKenzie St., Wonthaggi, Saturday 11am, 5672 3627. Phone head office 9429 1833.



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MSC7943



ROYCE, Inga:

The Board of Management and all of the members of the Phillip Island Bowling Club regret the passing of our esteemed member Inga Royce.

Inga was a much loved member and our thoughts and sincere sympathy are extended to Inga's family.

SITUATIONS VACANT

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CWA offers warm welcome

COMMUNITY

Cowes Branch CWA would like to thank all those who joined them for their Annual Morning Tea for the Cancer Council.

The CWA Shop in Thompson Avenue provides a welcoming and warm venue – particularly with its current window display celebrating The Whale Festival – bright and attractive and also displaying many handmade items from members.



The CWA shop in Cowes gets into the spirit of the Island Whale Festival, with a display including many handmade items by members to celebrate the whales.



SPECIAL DELIVERY



Hello Violet

Cowes couple Tessa Johnston and Cam Davidson are the proud parents of a baby girl, Violet, born at Wonthaggi Hospital on Sunday June 22. Violet weighed in at 2.5kgs.

Those who face erosion will now need to “retreat”?

From page 1

A council planner told the meeting the scale of the DAL was “one of the most significant pieces of policy and “will impact most decisions that council makes”.

“This is a blessing, providing clarity on the future conservation and development of Bass Coast, but also a burden given the scale of further work,” the planner said.

Planners said they were now required to take a leading role in creating at least 10 major planning documents, including identifying preferred areas for tourism development, preparing detailed plans for the San Remo and Newhaven growth fronts, as well as significant landscape controls.

Councillors voted to endorse the DAL, but to write to the Planning Minister requesting the state to do the work to protect the Western Port Woodlands, including an interim environmental significance overlay.

Concerns

Cr Meg Edwards was the only councillor to vote against the DAL, asking about 10 questions of council officers, highlighting concerns at the short notice the public were given for the special council meeting, which meant there was no question time.

Cr Edwards asked officers about a variety of correspondence council had recently received raising concerns, including letters from the Property Council of Australia and S&K Planning Lawyers who represent Cape Patterson developers, whose land is now excluded from development.

She also asked about the cost to council of implementing the DAL, with a council officer taking the question on notice.

She acknowledged the work that had been done but said the DAL would impact more than 12 future terms of council who would “be dictated to about what they can and can’t do”.

“I have great concerns about the process of the DAL,” Cr Edwards said.



According to the DAL, existing structures and assets should be “decommissioned or relocated” “away from areas that are or will be harmed by natural hazards”. Planners say the DAL will now “impact most decisions that council makes”.

“My concerns are around the use of the word ‘retreat’ rather than protecting our communities, and questions I have raised left unanswered by the minister.

“In my mind natural justice has not been applied in terms of listening to and considering all affected parties by this term of council, despite numerous requests that have been ignored.”

According to the DAL, existing structures and assets should be “decommissioned or relocated” “away from areas that are or will be harmed by natural hazards”.

Cr Jan Thompson said while she supported the DAL she was concerned for homeowners “who face the threat of retreat with no insurance cover, as this is classified as an act of God, and no indication from the State Government for compensation”.

“If the state wants retreat, they should offer appropriate compensation and a way forward,” she said.

Support

Cr Ronnie Bauer said council’s vote would have little impact on the outcome of the DAL process, calling it a “rubber stamp”.

“I am concerned with the locking in of town boundaries. The only option is to chop up the larger block as infill and after

that the only option is to go up,” Cr Bauer said.

“As an islander it is my experience that residents would prefer the larger allotments against the sardine can outcomes which are primarily driven by what is the bang for buck.”

Cr Tim O’Brien said the DAL improved “council power by defining town boundaries and significant landscapes we need to protect”.

Cr Mat Morgan said he supported “prioritising environmental protection, fighting for a safe climate future, and caring for country”, as outlined in the DAL, but he called on the Western Port Woodlands to be protected from sand mining.

Mayor Rochelle Halstead agreed.

“Council is calling for immediate and meaningful action from the State Government to ensure they are protected now and into the future,” she said.

Cr Jon Temby said the DAL ensured environmental protection while managing growth.

“It is the ‘giant leap forward for Bass Coast’, we will be much better off with it than without it,” he said.

Once gazetted, any changes to the DAL require ratification by both Houses of Parliament.



Newhaven’s town boundary is expanding to Samuel Amess Drive under the DAL, but not any time soon, says a developer.

Newhaven West won’t happen any time soon: developer

PLANNING

It will be at least six years before Newhaven’s town boundary is expanded west, according to the developer who owns part of the land set to be developed.

As reported last month, under the State Government’s Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) process – which was last week endorsed by Bass Coast Shire councillors (see separate story) – Newhaven’s town boundary will expand from Boys Home Road to Samuel Amess Drive.

During the DAL process in 2023, lawyers for the combined Newhaven West landowners of 906, 910 and 930 Phillip Island Road, Newhaven, including Howard Verwey, Geoff Moed and Panny Letchumanan from the Chocolate Factory, argued locking the boundary at Boys Home Road was “ill-conceived”.

Geoff Moed, known to many locals as the former owner of A Maze’N Things, told the Advertiser he bought 30 acres of this Newhaven West site several years ago because he believed it was earmarked by the council for future housing development and within Newhaven’s town boundaries.

Last week Geoff confirmed he was in no rush to build.

“There is still three-plus years for the council to do their work before we could even look at a rezoning, and then another three-plus years after that for any significant development, and that is all at a best-case scenario,” Geoff said.

“The indecision, delays and constant cost increases now make any development in Victoria difficult.”

Under the DAL, council planners are now required to carry out extensive planning work to prepare for Newhaven’s expansion.

Last month the Newhaven Residents Group said a new housing estate at Newhaven west would damage the environment and strain infrastructure including the Phillip Island bridge.

“The groups’ objections are concerned with lack of infrastructure, environmental intrusions as well as increased traffic congestion,” the group statement said.

“It is hoped Bass Coast Shire Council will have the good sense to reverse any decision ... of the area becoming a housing estate and demonstrate a commitment to preserving the area as a nature precinct.”

Push back

Geoff pushed back, saying critics already lived on the island

and were “enthusiastic users of all the extra services and facilities that we get because of previous developments”.

“I am aware there are lots of people who don’t like ‘property developers’,” Geoff said.

“I have been around long enough to remember all the whingers and complainers about Shearwater Estate, Seagrove, Whytesands, Woolamai House Estate, and San Remo’s various estates.

“Yet all those residents now have somewhere to live, work and have families.”

He said he heard complaints from people who now live here and “don’t want things to change”, but “I don’t hear complaints from parents who are looking for somewhere local for their kids to move into, or builders and tradies who are now again struggling for work, or business operators who rely on the population”.

He said there were many planning controls that will restrict building in any new estate, “let alone something that abuts a Ramsar wetland and with close proximity to Churchill Island”.

“There are solutions available that would make the existing Newhaven houses look like power guzzling monsters.

“And then of course there are those who are just jealous and complain about the huge profits that developers make.”

Geoff said he would have been better off putting money into safe investments and conservative shares.

“I am not complaining about that, as it was my choice, but I do object to incorrect claims and accusations by some anti-progress individuals and groups that I choose to ignore.

“If anyone feels desperately precious to preserve this land, feel free to spend some money, buy it and do what you want with it.

“Some people do things and some people don’t. I prefer to be a doer and not a ‘donter’.”

The new Samuel Amess Drive boundary – which will ultimately be locked into law – was proposed in the Bass Coast Planning Scheme but is a considerable extension from what the DAL proposed in 2022, to end roughly around Boys Home Road.

The planning scheme flagged the land behind the Chocolate Factory as future residential land, but only subject to a detailed coastal vulnerability hazard assessment, because the land is deemed of environmental significance.

National Tree Day planting

LANDCARE

Come and be a champion for change by joining two national movements and assisting Phillip Island’s wildlife.

The Phillip Island Landcare Group has organised a tree planting day on Sunday July 27 from 9.30am – 1pm, at 865 Ventnor Road, in Ventnor.

Phillip Island Landcare is one of thousands of Landcare groups across Australia. Anyone can get involved with this group, which plants hundreds of native, indigenous plants each year at multiple community tree planting days.

One of their tree planting days this year falls on National Tree Day, an Australia wide community tree planting event.

The hosts for this day are Helen and Tim, who moved to Ventnor last year and quickly made plans to restore vegetation on their property and create a habitat for wildlife, and a wildlife corridor with neighbouring properties.

Neighbouring properties include Green Lake across the road, and the adjoining Phillip Island Nature Parks property dubbed ‘Summerland farm’ beside Swan Lake, set to be revegetated into the future.

This year’s plantings form a great wildlife corridor that will be utilised by many species, including Eastern barred bandicoots, birds such as Scarlet robins and Currawongs, as well as echidnas, tortoises, possums and lizards.

Phillip Island Nature Parks and Bass Coast Shire Council have provided subsidies for plants, tree guards, food and advertising to support this community tree planting day.

“Helen and Tim can’t do this alone though and need your help,” Landcare’s Lisa Wangman said.

“Volunteer tree planters are needed for this day from 9.30am to 1pm, on the corner of Back Beach Road and Ventnor Road, with the entrance on Ventnor Road on the left as you go to-

wards the Penguin Parade.

“All tools and equipment for planting are provided. Please bring along your gloves, water bottle and appropriate clothing for the weather (Sturdy boots preferred).”

Registrations are essential for catering to phillipislandlandcare@gmail.com

The day includes morning tea and lunch.

“Come and hang out with a great group of likeminded people, and get the warm and fuzzy feeling of knowing that you will be part of this inspirational community partnership to restore vegetation and create habitat for our local species,” said Lisa.

When: Sunday July 27, 9.30am – 1pm

Where: 865 Ventnor Road, Ventnor (please follow the parking signs)

BYO: Gloves, sturdy boots and appropriate weather gear

Morning tea and lunch provided

RSVP: phillipislandlandcare@gmail.com



Members of the social golf group The Dirty Dozen recently held a sausage sizzle to raise money for Disabled Surfers Association Bass Coast. From left: Justin McBean (Club Captain), Wayne “the pain” Burton, Colin Morris, Chris “Chucka” van der Hayden, Glenn “Patto” Patterson, and Chris “Lofty” Cannin.

Golfers grab the tongs for surfers

FUNDRAISER

A group of golfers who call themselves The Dirty Dozen, recently raised \$750 for the Bass Coast Disabled Surfers Association. The men held a sausage sizzle on July 7 outside Mitre 10 in Cowes. Paul Hayes, President of Disabled Surfers Association Bass Coast, said the Dirty Dozen’s captain Justin McBean heard about the organisation, and wanted to help out. The day was an amazing success, with over 170 snags cooked, raising \$750 for our organisation,” Paul said. “This money helps us with the four events we run each year over January to March at Smiths Beach and Inverloch Surf Life Saving Beach. “These events enable physically and mentally challenged members of our com-

munity and their families to enjoy a day at the beach and a surfing experience in a safe, fun and welcoming environment which we put on free of charge thanks to supporters like the Dirty Dozen.” Contributing to the barbeque fundraiser was Mitre 10 Cowes, who supplied the BBQ and gas, as well as hosting the sausage sizzle at the front of their store. The sausages were courtesy of Rowan from Herd of Cowes butchers and Just Fences Phillip Island, while Abicor Southern Café Supplies providing catering supplies. “It was a great community effort that is making a real difference, and we can’t thank them enough,” said Paul. Follow Disabled Surfers Association Bass Coast on Facebook and Instagram, or visit www.disabledsurfers.org/vic-bass-coast-inverloch

Entries open for GromSearch Phillip Island

SURFING

Entries opened on July 7 for eligible junior surfers to compete in the 2025 Rip Curl GromSearch Phillip Island. This major junior surfing event is presented by Bass Coast Shire Council and will bring elite surfers to Phillip Island this October, as the final marquee junior event on the Surfing Australia Junior Series. As a 10,000 point Marquee event on the Surfing Australia National Rankings, the event is only one of five events of this calibre in the country and provides surfers with valuable rankings points in their quest for a spot in the Irukandjis team heading to the ISA World Junior Surfing Titles. Speaking last week, Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead said she was thrilled to welcome back Australia’s top juniors to Bass Coast. “We’re incredibly proud to welcome the Rip Curl GromSearch back to Phillip Island — a marquee event that not only showcases our spectacular coastline and surf culture, but also plays a vital role in developing the next generation of Australian surfing talent. “Events like this draw families from across the country, many staying on to explore everything Bass Coast has to offer, from our beaches and wildlife to our cafes, shops and attractions. That has a big flow-on effect for our local economy and helps create lifelong memories for young athletes and their supporters. “We’re thrilled to once again host the rising stars of surfing in what’s sure to be another action-packed and inspiring week.” With over 180 competitors expected to compete over the five-day event, the event is one of the biggest in the country seeing surfers from all six surfing states. “We’re stoked to partner with Surfing Victoria to bring Australia’s best groms back to Phillip Island,” said Angus Forrest, Rip Curl’s Sports Marketing Manager. “The future of Australian surfing has never looked brighter, with the next gener-



Entries are now open for the 2025 Rip Curl GromSearch Phillip Island this October. The provides young surfers with valuable rankings points in their quest for a spot in the Irukandjis team heading to the ISA World Junior Surfing Titles. Photo: Noah Clifford, Surfing Victoria.

ation constantly pushing boundaries and elevating the sport. “Phillip Island is always a standout stop on the GromSearch series, showcasing top talent ahead of the National Final at URBNSURF Sydney later this year.” Victorian Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos said it’s fantastic to see the Rip Curl GromSearch Phillip Island receiving this strong support. “The inaugural Phillip Island Junior Pro was a massive hit and we hope it will be even bigger this year,” the Minister said. Annual Junior Series Champions in the Under 16 and 18 Male and Female Divisions of the Surfing Australia Junior Series will earn a spot on the Irukandjis Team and represent Australia at the ISA World Junior Championships, said Surfing Victoria CEO Adam Robertson. “Ensuring Victoria hosts a marquee junior event each year is key to our development pathway and ensures our surfers get the best opportunity to gain points and develop their skills against the best from other states.” Entries (via www.surfingvic.com/events) close July 21.

Red Rocks results

GOLF

Saturday July 12
Par Plus
Winner: Peter Crock (15) +3.
2nd Place: Pamela Rothfield (21) +1 C/B.

3rd Place: Steve Wurt (7) +1.
NTP Hole 1: Peter Crock. Hole 17: Rob Stead.
Sunday, July 13
Stableford
Winner: Ian Murray (20) 29 points C/B.
Runner up: Steve Wurt (7) 29 Points C/B.
NTP Hole 5: Steve Wurt. Hole 10: Doug Collins.

Bridge club news

CARDS

Monday July 7: Winners of Duplicate Bridge 5 ½ Tables: Neville Chapman and Lorrie Read on 63 per cent.
Wednesday July 9: Four Tables: Moya

Crowley and Karen Klym equal first with Graham and Wendy McKergow on 67.59 per cent.
No bridge will be held on Wednesday July 16, as the power will be off in Newhaven.
Nationwide for the week can be played at South Gippsland Bridge Club, RSL Wonthaggi, 12.15pm for 12.45pm start on Tuesday July 15.

Results from the green

GOLF

Tuesday, July 8
Men’s 18H Stableford 18
Overall winner: David Pardoe (22) 41.
A Grade winner: A-1 Paul Wagner (11) 39.
A-2 winner: Daniel McConnon (7) 32.
B Grade winner: B-1 Rowan Wales (14) 37.
B-2 winner: Brenton O’Brien (15) 38.
C Grade winner: C-1 David Pardoe (22) 41.
C-2 winner: Collin Morris (27) 40.
BDL to 33 C/B.
NTP: 5th Brent Scott, 7th Mark Dykes, 10th Nigel Firth and 17th Brenton O’Brien.
Men’s 9H Stableford
Overall winner: Harold Jackson (38) 21 pts to John Niven (26) 20 pts C/B.
BDL to 17 pts C/B.

B-2 winner: Simon Furniss (18) 26 pts.
C Grade winner: C-1 Garry Skelton (20) 36 pts.
C-2winner: Ian Cookman (22) 35 pts.
BDL to 28 pts.
NTP: 5th Peter Gray, 7th Simon Furniss, 10th Danny Hibbert.
Men’s 9H Stableford
Overall winner: Ian Samuel (26) 19 pts from Laurie Petrusch (26) 17 pts C/B.
BDL to 17 pts C/B.

Wednesday July 9
Women’s 18H Stableford
Overall winner: Helen Coghlan (16) 36 pts.
A Grade winner: A-1 Helen Coghlan (16) 36 pts.
B-1 winner: Joanne Westthorp (38) 38 pts.
BDL to 32 pts.
NTP: 5th Emma Hall, 7th Judy Henry, 10th Cathy Jones and 17th Helen Coghlan.
Women’s 9H Stableford
Overall winner: Carolyn Roberts (35) 20 pts from Barara Moloney (37) 16 pts C/B.
Thursday, July 10
Open 18H Stableford
Overall winner: Garry Skelton (20) 36 pts.
A Grade winner: A-1 Steven Sloss (11) 34 pts.
A-2 winner: Seamas Jones (9) 28 pts.
B Grade winner: B-1 Dany Hibbert (15) 34 pts.

Saturday, July 12
Men’s 18H Comp Stableford
Overall winner: Daniel McConnon (9) 37.
A Grade winner: A-1 Daniel McConnon (9) 37.
A-2 winner: Steven Sloss (12) 35 C/B.
B Grade winner: B-1 Brent White (13) 37.
B-2 winner: Rob Haydon (16) 36 C/B.
C Grade winner: C-1 Ron Davies (22) 36 C/B.
C-2 winner: Warren Hahnel (19) 36 C/B.
BDL to 33 C/B.
NTP: 5th Ian Smith, 10th Giles Thompson and 17th Ron Young.
Women’s 18H Stableford
Overall winner: Adrienne Anglin (14) 34 pts C/B from Emma Hall (4) 33 pts C/B.
BDL to 31 pts C/B.
NTP: 5th Adrienne Anglin, 7th and 10th Vicki Ramage and 17th Helen Coghlan.
9H Stableford
Winner: Rob Davison (9) 18 pts C/B from Laurie Petrusch (28) 18 pts C/B.
BDL to 18 pts.

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Breakers Juniors shine on and off the scoreboard

SOCCKER

U15 Girls

The Breakers girls travelled to Drouin to play the second on the ladder Drouin Yellow.

The game was hard fought goal for goal all the way to the final whistle, with the Island girls taking victory 6-5.

Scarlett found herself space scoring two goals from the wing.

In defence Billie closed down Drouin's attempts to approach the goal.

Ava broke through Drouin's defence to find the back of the net.

Assists from captain Georgia saw vice-captain Hannah score a hat-trick, closing the game in the final moments.

Mia was strong and composed in defence, holding her ground and clearing with power.

Lily was valiant as goalkeeper for the first half and used her agility to hold a key Drouin forward out of scoring contention for the second half.

Grace showed courage and tenacity as the second half goalkeeper, only having one attempt slip past her.

Elisabeth and Amara were essential on ballers playing key roles in chains of play to set up scoring opportunities.

U14 Penguins

On a chilly, windswept morning at home, the Phillip Island U14 Penguins dug deep to deliver a gritty 1-0 victory over a determined Inverloch side.

The match kicked off with Inverloch immediately dropping into a tight defensive structure, making it tough for the Penguins to find rhythm early on.

Despite a few goal-scoring chances, it was a sluggish start for the home side as they adjusted to the cold and strategic pressure.

But the Penguins found their groove in the second half.

With patience, persistence, and smart ball movement through the midfield engine room – featuring Angus, James, Tamsyn, Blake and Matilda the birthday girl – the breakthrough finally came.

Angus found space and coolly slotted the ball into the bottom right corner of the net, giving the home crowd something to cheer about. Levi, Oisin and Micah worked tirelessly on the wings, adding pace and width, while the backline of Nash, Zach, Ariana, and Izzy stayed composed under pressure, locking down any counterattacks and keeping a clean sheet intact.

It was a true team effort from the Penguins, showing resilience, discipline and great teamwork to secure the win. A well-earned three points on home soil.

U12 Girls

The girls played Inverloch Stars at home on Sunday.

Similar to many games this season, the girls got off to a



U12 Girls, Nkechi Okoli (right, two goals) and Cassandra Rivans (left, one goal).



U14 Penguins soccer match against Inverloch in action.

quick start with Gabrielle Titmarsh opening the scoring in the first few minutes and adding her second soon after.

However, Inverloch showed why they are one of better teams in the competition to fight back, scoring one goal and forcing Lottie Bland and Aubrey Sherburn to defend well on many occasions.

Kelsey Watson scored a goal at the end of a great solo run to finish the first half 3-1.

In the second half the girls had the wind at their backs.

Kassandra Rivans and Nkechi Okoli, both who played for Inverloch in the first half, returned to the team and took advantage of the wind.

Both girls made many driving runs forward, with Nkechi scoring twice and Kassandra scoring once.

Inverloch struggled to get the ball into their forward line and when they did, Layla Miller had all the answers as goalkeeper.

Gabrielle Titmarsh, playing in defence in the second half, made a great solo run from defence to attack to score her third goal.

The final score was 7-1 and all girls should be proud of a strong performance against good opposition.

U12A Mixed

The team hosted Inverloch Stars, unfortunately, due to interstate football commitments, only two regular players were available for the game.

However, there were many players excited to fill in and take on one of the best teams in the league.

It didn't take long for Inverloch to get the upper hand,

streaming forward in numbers through the midfield which the Breakers players struggled to cover given the lack of experience playing together.

While Inverloch scored two goals, it would have been a lot more if it hadn't been for the strong efforts of Eli Rogan in the midfield and Lottie Bland in defence.

Inverloch's confidence grew and they started creating many opportunities, but Micha Goodwin played a fantastic game as goalkeeper, stopping many shots.

Late in the first half Inverloch added a third goal to make it 0-3 at half time.

The second half started well for Phillip Island with Harvey Deaton, Gabrielle Titmarsh and Eli Rogan matching Inverloch's midfield.

Pushing forward from the midfield, Phillip Island tried to create many opportunities, but the final pass was missing today, which meant only a couple of half opportunities were created.

The extra midfield pressure made it harder for Inverloch to attack, which allowed Will Mirabito and Luka Phillips to defend well.

Chelsea Chambers also made some good saves as goalie.

It was the second game of the day for eight of the players and the fatigue started to show towards the end of the second half.

This allowed Inverloch to get two late goals.

The final score was 0-5, all players should be proud of their efforts and successful individual moments, which demonstrated they are capable of playing at this level.

Well done everyone.

Commanding performance from Bulldogs

From page 28

firing, but it was the Bulldogs who managed to maintain composure when it mattered most.

The contest was tight all day, with the Bulldogs holding a narrow lead at each change.

Defensively, the team stood tall under pressure, repelling several forward entries with discipline and structure.

The backline's efforts allowed the midfield to reset and push forward with intent.

Up forward, Oliver Duggan proved to be a handful for defenders, finishing with two important goals.

He was well supported by Benjamin Chihotski, Noah Williams, Charles O'Garey, Max Taylor, and Dean Rizzo, who each slotted one.

Charles O'Garey was influential across half-forward and through the middle, showcasing clean hands and smart ball use.

Jeremy Kelly and Jasper Cashman worked tirelessly through the midfield, while Isaac Savona and Jack Briggs were rock solid in defence.

Benjamin Chihotski also contributed strongly at both ends, providing valuable leadership and drive.

With four rounds remaining, the Bulldogs remain at the top of the ladder and continue to set the benchmark for the competition.

Their ability to play consistent, disciplined football has them well-placed for a deep fi-

nals campaign.

Goal kickers: Oliver Duggan 2, Benjamin Chihotski, Noah Williams, Charles O'Garey, Max Taylor and Dean Rizzo 1.

Best on: Charles O'Garey, Jeremy Kelly, Jasper Cashman, Isaac Savona, Jack Briggs and Benjamin Chihotski.

Phillip Island 7.5.47 def Tooradin-Dalmore 5.6.36.

U16

The Under 16 lads were back home after a few weeks away.

For the second week in a row the team was terribly undermanned.

First quarter Phillip Island started well and gave it their all keeping Tooradin to one goal.

In the second and third quarters the Bulldogs continued to give it their all.

Captain Sam O'Garey, Levi Addison and Jesse Mochetti continued to push hard to try and give the forwards the best opportunities to kick a goal.

Archer Bailey-Cox got on the end of one and kicked the only goal of the day.

The fourth quarter didn't go the boys' way at all with no rotations and very tired legs.

Goal kickers: Archer Bailey-Cox. **Best on:** Sam O'Garey, Jesse Mochetti, Zack Sund, Ethan Tilley, Levi Addison and Bailey Parry.

Phillip Island 14.10 defeated by Tooradin 11.13.79.

Triples complete

BOWLS

With winter returning to the island for the winter triples, all of the bowlers were rugged up to keep warm and were able to complete all games which was a great effort from the bowlers.

Congratulations to the winners: Lance Wearne, Dave Lawerance and Ray Pepper.

The winter triples are sponsored by SE Complete Care.



Congratulations to Winter Triples winners Lance Wearne, Dave Lawerance and Ray Pepper.

Free Fair Access development workshops

SPORTS CLUBS

Bass Coast sporting clubs are invited to get game-ready and take part in free workshops this July and August to learn more about council's Fair Access Policy and how it applies to their club.

A year on from the policy's adoption, Bass Coast Shire Council is teaming up with GippSport to deliver two free and practical workshops for club volunteers.

"Whether you're a coach, committee member, parent or player, these sessions will give you the tools to improve gender equity at your club," a council spokesperson said.

"The Fair Access Policy and Action Plan is aimed at enhancing gender equity within the local community. These workshops are part of the action plan, giving clubs guidance how to conduct gender equity audits and develop action plans, to

make sure no one is left on the sidelines."

With their expertise in making sport accessible for all, GippSport will guide clubs through what the Fair Access Policy means for clubs, how to improve gender equity on and off the field, and how to create an action plan they can actually deliver.

Two different sessions are available.

- Online workshop on Monday July 28 (6.30-8pm)

- In-person session with supper at Wonthaggi Community Stadium on Tuesday August 5 (6.30-8pm).

Both workshops are free to attend and are designed to help clubs meet Fair Access requirements, strengthen commitment to gender equity, and plan for the future.

All Bass Coast sporting clubs are encouraged to attend.

Register for free at basscoast.vic.gov.au/fairaccessworkshop

Round 11 soccer results

Senior Men's: Phillip Island Breakers 7 d Inverloch Stars 2.
Senior Women's: Phillip Island Breakers 4 d Inverloch Stars 0.
Men's Reserves: Inverloch Stars 3 d Phillip Island Breakers 1.
Under 17 Mixed: Phillip Island

Breakers 3 d Inverloch Stars 0.
Under 15 Girls: Phillip Island Breakers 6 d Drouin Dragons Yellow 5.
Under 14 Mixed: Phillip Island Penguins 1 d Inverloch Stars 0.
Under 12 Girls: Phillip Island Breakers 7 d Inverloch Stars 1.

Under 12A Mixed: Inverloch Stars 5 d Phillip Island Breakers 0.
Under 12B Mixed: Phillip Island Penguins 6 d Inverloch Stars 0 and Drouin Dragons White 3 d Phillip Island Stingrays 0.



Eight Auskickers from Phillip Island were part of the NAB Half Time Auskick at the MCG when Melbourne played North Melbourne on Sunday July 13. More photos at pisra.com.au/sport

Auskickers at the MCG

FOOTBALL

On Sunday July 13, eight Auskickers from Phillip Island were selected to participate in NAB AFL Half Time Auskick Round 18 – Melbourne v North Melbourne at the MCG.

Wyley Conway, Mason Cook, Laurence Dressing, Jack Ferrari, Kaleb Keene, Noah Whitehead, Louie Whitehead and Vincent

Heyes were all kitted out and teamed up to play each other on the ground.

Parents Stuart Cook, Andy Whitehead and Jeremy Heyes joined the Auskickers on the field to assist them all on the day.

It was such a wonderful opportunity to represent Phillip Island and show the crowd all the new skills they learnt from this Auskick season run by Matt Brown and all the volunteer coaches.



Jeremy Kelly, Bailey Hennessy, Charlie O'Garey, Noah Forrest-Mabilia and Ollie Duggan proudly pulled on the West Gippsland colours at the 2025 Gippsland Interleague Carnival, held on Wednesday, July 9, at Morwell Recreation Reserve.

West Gippsland players shine at Interleague

FOOTBALL

The 2025 Gippsland Interleague Carnival was held on Wednesday July 9, at Morwell Recreation Reserve.

The annual event brought together Gippsland's best emerging footballers, with representative teams from West Gippsland, Mid Gippsland, North Gippsland, Ellinbank and District and

the Gippsland League competing in a full day of Under 18s action.

The West Gippsland team had an outstanding day on the field, going undefeated and winning all four of their games, a strong showing that reflects the depth of talent across the region.

Congratulations to Phillip Island's Charlie O'Garey, who was named West Gippsland's best player of the day.



After a great season, Phillip Island's Veterans football team went down to reigning premiers Nar Nar Goon in the semi-final.

Veterans bow out after strong season

FOOTBALL

After a great season, Phillip Island's Veterans football team finished fourth on the ladder and earned their spot in Sunday's semi-final.

In classic winter footy conditions, cold, wet and windy, the boys took to the Bass oval to face reigning premiers, Nar Nar Goon.

With a full lineup of 29, the Island Veterans gave it their all and played true to the Bulldog spirit, with their heart and soul.

Despite their efforts, Nar Nar Goon's class and experience shone through, and the Island side went down 9.10 (64) to 3.5 (23).

Best players: Daniel Larsson, Anthony Young, Mark Riky, Nathan Hollings and Mark Blondel.

Island take on Tooradin in tough contest

NETBALL

A Grade

Despite a strong team effort, the A Grade girls went down to Tooradin in a tough match, with the final score 51–62.

Tooradin started fast, taking an early lead, 15–9 at the first break.

Phillip Island responded well in the second quarter, with improved connections down the court, however Tooradin maintained their momentum, leading 31–22 at halftime.

The third quarter saw Phillip Island continue to fight hard, with standout performances from Ella in goals and Maya in the midcourt.

Maya was especially dominant in wing defence, earning a Best on Court mention for her relentless pressure and intercepts.

Ella's shooting was sharp and consistent, helping narrow the margin heading into the final term.

The Mau sisters Charley and Hallie worked hard in defence, applying pressure and creating turnovers.

Charli and Maya drove the ball through the middle with speed, and it was a welcome boost to have Lexi back adding energy to the midcourt rotation.

Hollie was strong all over the court, rotating through defence, midcourt and shooting.

Although the result didn't go their way, A Grade showed great determination and teamwork, finishing strong and keeping Tooradin under pressure until the final whistle.

Best on: Maya Huther and Ella Duggan.

B Grade

The first quarter started strongly, with Island holding their own through strong defensive pressure.

Despite this, Tooradin-Dalmore gained the early edge, leading 17–6 by quarter-time.

The second quarter was more settled, Phillip Island found more rhythm through the midcourt and tightened up defensively, managing to slow Tooradin's scoring and keep the contest more balanced.

Everyone continued their intensity at the ball in the third quarter, however Tooradin kept their momentum against the Island.

The final quarter was strong, the Island matched Tooradin's efforts, continuously attacking the ball and converting turnovers into goals, finishing the game with a strong commitment.

D Grade

The Phillip Island D Grade girls brought the heat taking home a hard-fought win over Tooradin-Dalmore on home turf.

From the first whistle, the team came out strong, setting the tone with a dominant first quarter (11–6)

The Island shooters were in sync from the get-go, with Ruby and Sienna combining beautifully in the ring, giving an early edge and creating a strong advantage throughout the game.

In the midcourt, Jane, Rose and Abbey worked tirelessly, controlling the tempo and delivering clean feeds into the circle.

Chloe was a rock in defence, seamlessly switching between WD, GK and GD throughout the match to counter Tooradin's attacking shifts.

Maddy came out flying in WD, with her tight defence and pressure creating multiple turnovers. This along with Isla and Holly's efforts in the defensive third limited Tooradin's scoring opportunities and created vital turnovers.

Quarter by quarter, the team-maintained composure and intensity.

Despite Tooradin pushing back hard in the third term, narrowing the gap slightly, the girls rallied in the final quarter to put the result beyond doubt.

The defensive pressure across the court was immense and the team's focus showed in the closing minutes as the team out-scored Tooradin 8–5 in the fourth quarter



Phillip Island netballers took on Tooradin in hard fought netball matches all round.

to finish strongly.

A massive shoutout to the whole team for their grit and teamwork and to the scorers, umpires and supporters.

Best on courts went to Sienna for her accuracy in the ring and Maddy for an outstanding performance in WD which was crucial to our defence.

Final Score: Phillip Island 33 def Tooradin-Dalmore 25.

U17

In a tightly contested game at home, the U17 girls went down in a hard-fought clash against Tooradin-Dalmore.

The match saw strong defensive pressure from Phillip Island throughout the court, with Matilda Trew, Olivia Holmes, Kate McCausland and Jasira Derham putting in a massive effort in the defence, combining well to keep the opposition shooters under pressure.

Ava Blake, Ellie Hennessy and Macy Piera worked tirelessly in the goal circle.

Island's ability to hold strong under the post and create space was outstanding.

Abbey Clarke also had a brilliant game through the centre court and in defence, showing her usual agility and reading the play.

Despite the result, the girls showed real grit and improvement across the board.

With only five goals separating the teams, it was a great contest and a good sign of what's to come as we head into the final rounds.

A massive thank you to the U15s for stepping up and filling in again.

Best on court: Jasira Derham and Ava Blake.

Final Score: Phillip Island 22 def by Tooradin-Dalmore 27.

U11

Our Phillip Island Under 11's netball team put on a terrific performance on the weekend, securing a hard-fought 19–16 win over a determined Tooradin side.

The girls came out strong from the first whistle, setting the tone with a confident start and building a solid lead through the first three quarters.

The attacking end was sharp, and the defensive pressure kept Tooradin on the back foot for much of the game.

Tooradin mounted a spirited comeback in the final quarter, closing the gap and putting real pressure on in the dying minutes.

The team showed great composure and resilience, holding their nerve to see out the game and claim a well-deserved win.

Best on court went to Olivia Clark, who was outstanding under the post, shooting accurately and pulling in crucial rebounds throughout the game.

Kalani Piera also had a brilliant match, leading the charge through the centre court with tireless effort, strong drives and excellent defensive pressure.

Great effort all round from the whole team – go Bulldogs!



A Graders Caity Egan and Tamika De Nardis celebrated playing 50 Games each.



B Graders Allison Carter and Kylie Wookey 50 Games. More photos at pisra.com.au/sport

Killy Bass netball news

NETBALL

A Grade

The team put up a fight against Inverloch-Kongwak.

The girls displayed some great netball and put the pressure on making IK fight for their win.

The defensive pressure forced turn overs and the goalers showed their strength in the goal circle.

The team worked together well and after trailing by 10 goals at the end of the third, finished the game 42-49.

Best on court: Caity Egan.

B Grade

The girls were looking forward to hitting the court after the last few weeks not being able to be the job done; they knew the hard work was due to pay off.

B Grade hit the court hard and strong and got the jump early with amazing ring work. Ciara and Kylie, with Kiara and Kira, working the mid court with strong drives and fantastic feeds and then to the defence pressure with Ally, Esther and Liz.

An all round team effort to get the win by nine.

Best on court: Ciara.

C Grade

Kilcunda Bass put in a strong effort in their C Grade match against Inverloch, despite coming away with a loss.

With their main defenders unavailable, the girls showed great resilience and adaptability, stepping up to play out of position.

Their determination and teamwork were evident throughout the game, making it a hard-fought contest.

A commendable performance under challenging circumstances.

Best on court: Romy De Nardis and Alana Dakin.

D Grade

The girls were looking forward to another tough hit-out with Inverloch on yet another sunny Saturday.

However, the team came out a little sluggish, with some uncharacteristic unforced errors off the first three centre passes, which saw them trailing right

from the start.

By half time, they were down by 10 goals. To the team's credit, they worked hard in the second half to reduce the final margin to just seven goals.

The defensive end worked well throughout the game, turning over plenty of ball and were able to convert a number of those opportunities.

However, the girls struggled to consistently convert off their own centre passes, which made it difficult to close the gap further.

Although it wasn't the best netball and the connections were lacking at times, the effort from everyone was evident right to the final whistle.

This game has highlighted some key areas to focus on at training this week.

Best on court: Jessica Parks.

U17

With a few girls away, the U15s filled in and played well, so big thanks to them.

Last week was Buddy Week, so the team had extra support from the A Grade buddies who cheered the team on from the sidelines and kept spirits up.

Sadie, Sav and Paige were strong in defence, working hard all game.

Alana and Maya were great through the midcourt and Lexie and Jillie shot some awesome goals and worked well together in the ring.

The team ended up losing to Inverloch 14-37, however everyone gave it their all.

End game awards: Jillie and Alana.

U15

U15s went into the game excited to take on Inverloch for the second time this season, who they knew weren't going to let Killy Bass just run away with it.

Inverloch applied great defensive pressure from the first whistle, and they didn't let up all game.

Killy Bass had some great passages of play through the game to keep Inverloch honest, but they were just too strong on the day and the girls couldn't get control of the game.

Not the result that the team

wanted however they will dust off, continue to improve and move on to the next challenge.

Best on court: Savannah Bennett for her relentless defence pressure in WD and Kealey Trewavis for her defensive pressure creating turnovers and determination in GD.

U13

Faced some damp conditions this week led to a few uncharacteristic errors that IK were quick to capitalise on.

To the team's credit, they regrouped well in the second quarter and fought back strongly, closing the gap to just one goal by halftime.

In the second half, IK seemed to have all the answers and despite the girls' best efforts, the game gradually slipped away.

There were some really promising passages of play and plenty to take forward.

Killy Bass will shake this one off and keep working hard to finish the season strongly.

Awards: Indi Eden and Emily Vanderspek.

U11

The kids have come long way since round four when they last took on IK.

The first quarter the team had set some team goals and accomplished them.

It was Buddy Week for the girls, so the D Grade cheer squad was there cheering them on.

D Grade came over to huddles and gave the girls some good tips and supported the kids in a fantastic display of club camaraderie.

In the spirit of learning from each other the team gave some of our players a chance to play in positions they hadn't tried before, and the kids had a ball.

IK were still a bit strong, but the kids managed 10 goals against a very strong opponent. The team coach was very pleased to see the improvement since their last match up.

Best on court: Ebony for her amazing effort in C.

Maccas award: Sadie for her super goal.



Killy Bass Seniors' player Joseph West showing his skill in the match against Inverloch Kongwak on the weekend.

Sun shines as Killy Bass takes on Inverloch

FOOTBALL

Seniors

After a disappointing loss last week, all the boys fronted up at training, and put their best foot forward coming into the clash against Inverloch.

The sun was shining, and conditions were virtually perfect.

The game was close all day, but big performances from the likes of Nathan Foote, Travis Tuck and Dale Gawley helped get them over the line, winning by one point over the Sea Eagles.

Best on ground: Dale Gawley.

Reserves

Another good effort from the boys in the Reserves.

Inverloch have a strong reserves side, but Killy Bass boys tried their heart out and battled hard all day.

The good conditions suited the opposition, but the boys still gave it a good crack.

Unfortunately, it was another loss, but there has been lots of improvement among the team, from both young and old players.

Best on ground: Myles Owens.

U16

Back at home, with several players missing and a handful of U14s filling in, it was going to be a tough day out against a strong Inverloch outfit.

The midfield battled hard all day, with Pez and Charlie fighting hard at every contest.

Around the ground Blake, Harvey and Saya provided non-stop two way running and pressure around the ball.

With a new look backline that



U16 Brodie McMillan named in the best for the game on Saturday.

was under the pump for most of the game, the three talls in Brodie, Gus and Tyler showed plenty of determination with strong overhead marking and a thirst for the contest a highlight.

The young forward line consisting mostly of U14s worked tirelessly all day.

Often up against bigger and stronger opposition, they never gave up in working to lock the ball in the forward 50.

The boys should be proud of their efforts and continue to show the future is bright for the club with so many great juniors coming through.

Best players: Charlie Burgess, Brodie McMillan, Perry McKay, Blake Eden, Harvey Leary and Saya Logan.

TIDE GUIDE

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

WED 16 JUL	THU 17 JUL	FRI 18 JUL	SAT 19 JUL	SUN 20 JUL	MON 21 JUL	TUE 22 JUL
HIGH 4:15 am 2.70 m	HIGH 5:05 am 2.75 m	HIGH 5:56 am 2.79 m	LOW 12:00 am 0.63 m	LOW 12:43 am 0.55 m	LOW 1:27 am 0.50 m	LOW 2:16 am 0.50 m
LOW 9:57 am 0.69 m	LOW 10:42 am 0.77 m	LOW 11:29 am 0.88 m	HIGH 6:48 am 2.81 m	HIGH 7:44 am 2.82 m	HIGH 8:42 am 2.81 m	HIGH 9:44 am 2.81 m
HIGH 4:53 pm 3.04 m	HIGH 5:26 pm 3.00 m	HIGH 5:59 pm 2.95 m	LOW 12:15 pm 1.02 m	LOW 1:03 pm 1.16 m	LOW 1:55 pm 1.31 m	LOW 2:53 pm 1.43 m
LOW 10:41 pm 0.87 m	LOW 11:20 pm 0.74 m		HIGH 6:33 pm 2.88 m	HIGH 7:13 pm 2.81 m	HIGH 7:58 pm 2.72 m	HIGH 8:53 pm 2.64 m

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Mark Collison on fire yet again in the Seniors match against Tooradin.



Nick Anderson in the Seniors match; the Island had a great win over Tooradin.

Commanding performance from Bulldogs

FOOTBALL

Seniors

The Phillip Island Seniors delivered a commanding performance in Round 14, overpowering Tooradin-Dalmore by 56 points in an impressive display of attacking football.

Despite a wasteful performance in front of goal from their opponents, the Bulldogs maintained their focus and executed their game plan with precision.

From the opening bounce, the midfield dominated proceedings, giving the forwards ample opportunity to hit the scoreboard.

Cameron Pedersen was unstoppable, kicking five goals and proving why he's one of the most dangerous forwards in the league.

Brendan Kimber was electric around the goals with four majors, while Mark Collison and Billy Taylor added two each to round out a potent forward line.

Collison was instrumental in setting the tone with his clean ball use, relentless work rate, and leadership through the centre.

Mark Griffin controlled the ruck contests and gave his on-ballers first use, while Jack Taylor provided drive out of defence and even got on the scoreboard himself.

Connor Thompson and Tyce Kleverkamp were also impressive, contributing defensively and pushing up the ground to create overlap run.

The team's ball movement and defensive pressure made it difficult for Tooradin-Dalmore to gain any momentum.

This dominant win sees the Seniors maintain their position in the top three, currently sitting third on the ladder with

Jordy Patullo booted two crucial goals and was a standout in the Reserves' hard-fought win over Tooradin. More photos at pisra.com.au/sport

five rounds remaining.

With key players hitting form and the group playing with belief and cohesion, Phillip Island is shaping up as a serious premiership threat as the finals approach.

Goal kickers: Cam Pedersen 5, Brendan Kimber 4, Mark Collison, Hayden Bruce and Billy Taylor 2, Jaymie Youle, Bailey Hennessy, Jack Taylor and Nick Anderson 1.

Best on: Mark Collison, Mark Griffin, Jack Taylor, Connor Thompson, Brendan Kimber and Tyce Kleverkamp.

Phillip Island 19.8.122 def

Tooradin-Dalmore 8.18.66.

Reserves

In a thrilling contest that went down to the wire, Phillip Island's Reserves clinched an important six-point win over a determined Tooradin-Dalmore outfit.

The game was a seesawing battle, with momentum swinging multiple times throughout the four quarters.

From the outset, both teams applied intense pressure at the contest and the Bulldogs showed great character to withstand Tooradin-Dalmore's surg-

es, particularly in the final term.

Their ability to maintain structure and stick to their game plan under pressure was a key factor in the win.

Jordy Patullo led the charge up forward, kicking two goals and providing a strong target all game.

He was well supported by Jack Huther, Travis Woodfield, Brady Ross, Mikka Paulsen and Bryce Pewtress, who all capitalised on their opportunities in front of goal.

The midfield group, led by the ever-reliable Finlay Cousins and Darcy Thompson, won crucial clearances at key moments.

Jack Keating added grunt and composure through the middle, while Mikka Paulsen and Max Mattock contributed with important run and carry off half-back.

This victory cements the Reserves' place in the top four, currently sitting fourth on the ladder with five rounds to go.

Their form is building at the right time of the season, and with continued effort and intensity, they're shaping up as genuine finals contenders.

Goal kickers: Jordy Patullo 2, Jack Huther, Travis Woodfield, Brady Ross, Mikka Paulsen and Bryce Pewtress 1. **Best on:** Finlay Cousins, Darcy Thompson, Jordy Patullo, Jack Keating, Mikka Paulsen and Max Mattock.

Phillip Island 7.3.45 def Tooradin-Dalmore 6.3.39.

U18

The Phillip Island Thirds continued their strong season with a hard-earned 11-point victory over Tooradin-Dalmore in a physical and fast-paced match.

In cool and breezy conditions, both sides came out

Continued page 25

**ALEX SCOTT
AND STAFF**

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- 4 bedrooms/2 bathrooms/2 car garage

\$990,000

173 SMITHS BEACH ROAD, SMITHS BEACH



- This 6-star luxury double storey architectural masterpiece is a few minutes' walk to iconic Smiths Beach with beautifully established gardens and ample room for the caravan or boat
- Featuring hardwood flooring, quality finishes, dual ovens, built-in coffee machine, wood fire, air conditioning, 2kw solar system, several undercover alfresco areas, fire pit, outdoor kitchen, 2 driveways
- 6 bedrooms/4 bathroom/ample car parking

\$1,590,000

SAN REMO OFFICE
127a Marine Parade
5678 5408

9 BREEZE COURT, SAN REMO



- Rare 1,331m² (approx.) allotment, boasting expansive water views
- Set amongst amazing designer homes
- Limitless possibilities for your dream home, on this outstanding site

\$550,000

6 PINEDALE AVENUE, CAPE WOOLAMAI



- This well-proportioned, single level brick home is the perfect haven for the next family to enjoy
- Just a 10-minute walk from the family friendly bay swimming beach and coastal walking tracks
- 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 dining areas, extensive undercover outdoor entertainment area & double garage

\$820,000

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