

PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO

ADVERTISER

Your Community Voice!

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

\$1.40 Incl. GST



Lockdown ends with a Bang Bang!

Celebrating the end of the seven-day lockdown, Kellie McDonald and Kate Buchanan enjoyed a drink or two at Bang Bang in Cape Woolamai on Friday night. But it hasn't been clear sailing for local business, with many reporting big losses from the snap lockdown, plus the stress of policing the new QR check in and ID requirements as restrictions ease.

ID checks add to business Covid pain

Local businesses say they have been hit by a triple whammy, not only losing income from the latest COVID-19 lockdown, but also losses from the upcoming long weekend.

And, they say, they risk facing hostile customers to enforce the state government's mandated ID checks – which ensure no Melbourne visitors to rural Victoria – or get slapped with a fine of almost \$10,000.

Last week the Phillip Island Business Network announced they would hold a subsidised Working with Aggressive and Challenging Behaviours workshop on June 23 and 24, to help businesses with irate customers.

Since the easing of restrictions in rural Victoria last Friday, Melbourne residents were not allowed to travel to the regions, including over the coming Queen's Birthday long weekend.

Cheeky Goose owner Robert van den Brink urged visitors "to please help" and comply with regulations.

"Business cannot afford the fines

of up to \$9913 that can be imposed on them," said Robert, adding he had been vaccinated, with the roll-out critical to get the economy back.

"The hardest part of the QR/ID system is having to deal with people not wanting to comply.

"We are at the frontline and have to bear the brunt of people's frustration and rudeness."

He said while most customers complied, a few refused and took "their frustrations out on the staff".

"We do not accept this and ask the people to leave. We have absolutely lost business because of our "no details no service policy." It's not worth risking the safety of others and the fine not to comply."

Robert said despite trying to minimise food wastage with the snap lockdown announcement, they had nonetheless lost thousands of dollars and regional businesses should be eligible for grant money.

"We tried to cancel whatever we

could. But what do you do? Having to prepare the place for a shutdown, trying to find income to pay wages, calling a full book of reservations to cancel and possibly rebook is never an easy task.

"The fourth lockdown and it's a task not getting easier with practice."

San Remo Fisherman's Co-op manager Paul Mannix said while they were excited to again open their retail shop, they "immediately encountered problems and confusion" when asking for IDs and travel permits.

"We have had metro residents saying they have a holiday house here and demand to dine in," Paul said.

"Regional residents were annoyed we have asked them for proof of residence and then walked out. Others have claimed they have lost their permits.

"When we have refused service with no ID customers get irate."

Paul said they were forced to reassess and had to quickly adapt, closing seated service.

"Our answer for the moment is to keep serving our customers, but for now it is takeaway only for everyone."

Accommodation

Kaloha caravan park owner Michael Coghlan said they were forced to cancel all bookings for the lockdown, with a total loss of about \$10,000, not including the subsequent weekend and the Queen's Birthday.

"So far bookings for guests from regional Victoria are very slow coming through. I think people are a bit hesitant to book anything due to possible lockdown extensions," Michael said.

He said staff were checking guests' address and would be asking for proof of address such as drivers' licence on arrival.

"Hopefully guests will be happy to oblige with this," he added.

Larson Henderson, owner of The Island Accommodation at Newhaven, said he had been forced to cancel 95 per cent of bookings and so would

remain closed until June 11.

"It simply isn't viable to stay open with a small prospect of new bookings from regional residents travelling, which is basically our only source of income or potential clients," Larson said, questioning why Victoria needed four lockdowns.

He said their group bookings had a lead time of at least three weeks, so the one-week lockdown would take them up to six weeks to recover "in any meaningful way".

Larson commented that \$2500 of government support was "like a band aid" and it was disappointing regional Victoria was excluded from further funding.

The Waves Apartments in Cowes spokeswoman said they had "zero bookings, zero work", also with 95 per cent cancellations.

"It's a situation no one wants to be in but could be far worse if we don't get this wave under control," she said,

Continued page 6

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7 day weather forecast

Wed/June9	Thur/June10	Fri/June11	Sat/June12	Sun/June13	Mon/June14	Tue/June15
SHOWERS. VERY WINDY	SHOWERS. VERY WINDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	SHOWER OR TWO
7 14	8 15	9 16	9 16	9 15	9 14	9 13

Aquatic drop in sessions changed

Due to the latest COVID-19 restrictions, Bass Coast Shire Council has made some changes to the upcoming drop-in sessions on the Bass Coast and Phillip Island aquatic and leisure centre feasibility studies and concept plans.

The session planned for Wednesday, June 9 at the Phillip Island Leisure Centre will now be held online.

The face-to-face drop-in session at the Phillip Island Leisure Centre (10-12 Church Street) on Saturday, 12 June from 9am to 1pm will still go ahead unless further restrictions come into effect.

Bass Coast CEO, Ali Wastie said Council hoped to schedule another face-to-face date for Cowes later in the month.

"The online session was created on June 9 to allow the community to have their say during COVID-19 restrictions, as we're conscious that the community may have already set aside that time in their diaries to attend, so we still wanted to provide the opportunity on that particular day.

"Council is remaining flexible and adaptable with the aquatics community consultation, and is more than happy to provide the community with different fo-

runs and more times and places to have their say," Ms Wastie said.

"We are happy to provide an extra drop-in session at the Phillip Island Leisure Centre, tentatively booked for Wednesday, June 23, depending on restrictions at that time. We will inform the community of the time and date of this session once it can be confirmed.

"As I'm sure it can be appreciated, it is a difficult time to plan ahead, due to the uncertain nature of COVID-19 and the associated restrictions."

Bass Coast Shire Mayor, Cr Brett Tessari said it is important to remain flexible and adaptable through these challenging times.

"We want to ensure that we provide the community with the best opportunity to have their say on aquatics, as engagement with the community and stakeholders in the project is considered crucial and feedback received will be critical in shaping design and operations of both centres," Cr Tessari said.

Online drop in – Wednesday, June 9

The drop-in session on Wednesday,

June 9 will be held online between 9am and 1pm. During the session, on each half hour, a Council officer will explain the concept plans in detail and then provide attendees the opportunity to ask questions and provide their thoughts.

To join the online session, go to www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/about-council/news-listing/changes-to-aquatics-drop-in-sessions and click on the link to the session you'd like to attend.

The session originally scheduled at Wonthaggi – Bass Coast Aquatic and Leisure Centre, on June 2 has been postponed to June 16 from 9am – 1pm. The session scheduled for June 19 will go ahead as planned unless restrictions change.

If you can't make it to one of these sessions, feedback can also be provided by filling out the survey at www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/aquatics or by providing a written submission to aquatics@basscoast.vic.gov.au.

For more information on the project and to view the Concept Plans visit www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/aquatics or contact Council's Major Projects Team on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211.



POLICE BRIEFS

Arrow alarm

Police are investigating reports of archery arrows being fired in the Sunderland Bay area.

Senior Sergeant Andy O'Brien said the first reported incident was on May 1 on Anglers Road, where someone reported noticing something flash past.

"A canvas of the area provided anecdotal evidence," he said, noting that it appeared similar instances had occurred on other dates.

"Obviously we are very concerned about the possible implications of this behaviour and require anyone with information to contact us or Crime Stoppers.

"Someone must be aware of a person or persons who own or have access to bows in this vicinity – the behaviour needs to be addressed immediately and further witness accounts would assist us," Snr Sergeant O'Brien said.

Anyone with information is urged to contact LSC Wagner at Cowes police on 5952 2037 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Ventnor burglaries

Acting Sergeant Chris Brinkman from Cowes Police said there were a number of burglaries and attempted burglaries in Ventnor over the weekend.

The targets were unoccupied holiday homes that had security alarms and CCTV cameras, so police were quickly notified.

Acting Sergeant Brinkman urged holiday homeowners to talk to their neighbours, saying full time residents could keep an eye

on vacant properties.

"If they see anything odd, then they can notify us."

Thieves stole \$13,000 worth of tools from the garage of a property on The Esplanade at around 3am on Friday morning.

The police have CCTV footage of two men approaching the building and trying to knock out the camera.

Anyone with information please contact Detective Paul Burns from the Bass Coast Criminal Investigation Unit on 5671 4190, contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or crimestoppers.vic.gov.au.

Cactus thief

Thieves have struck again – cutting cactus plants from the front of the Beaumont Building Design office in Marine Parade in San Remo.

The offender was caught on security camera wielding a sizeable knife to remove the plants.

Previous offenders have been nabbed by the local police and the owners are hopeful the latest prickly thief will also be apprehended.

Covid compliance

Cowes Police did not receive any calls about people breaking the state government's current Covid restrictions over the weekend.

"I'm not aware of any reports or things that got to a level where police needed to be called," Acting Sergeant Brinkman said.

Covid safety breaches can be reported to the coronavirus hotline on 1800 675 398, WorkSafe's advisory line on 1800 136 089 or the Police Assistance Line on 131 444.

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Postcards from Phillip Island

Melburnians who can't come in person during lockdown, could still enjoy a visit by tuning into Postcards on the weekend.

Filmed before lockdown, the episode of Postcards on Channel 9 featured the team visiting Phillip Island.

Shane Crawford had a family focus, including accommodation at the Anchor Belle Holiday Park, a visit to award-winning A Maze'N Things and then the Phillip Island Chocolate Factory in Newhaven.

Shane Delia raced around the Phillip Island Go Karts track, visited the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit and learned about its history before heading to the Wild Food Farm and Café and spending the night in a coastal cabin at the Five Acres.

Brodie Harper went back in time at Churchill Island, trying her hand at whip cracking and then headed to The Nobbies Centre and the Antarctic Journey.



Brodie Harper met a friendly local when she visited Churchill Island.

And Madeline Slattery made a furry friend at the Koala Conservation Reserve before catching the famous Penguin Parade.

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Smiths Beach camp delays questioned

A planned \$6 million redevelopment of the Coastal Discovery Camp at Smiths Beach has been delayed for five years because of an unnamed consumer affairs problem, according to the owner.

In 2016 Bass Coast Shire issued a permit for the camp's redevelopment, which approved a two-storey, 176-bed accommodation, to replace the current 62-bed accommodation erected several decades ago.

The YMCA, which has leased the camp since 2004, was funding the development, and the then manager told the Advertiser they hoped to start building after Easter 2017, before re-opening the new building in 2018.

The manager said they would continue to run camps for school children and community groups, while modernising the facility and improving the experience for guests.

However, the development has since stalled, with shire CEO Ali Wastie last week confirming a second request to extend the expiry of the planning permit was currently under consideration by the planning department, "with a decision to be determined soon".

"The planning permit has previously been extended so is still valid," Ms Wastie said.

Last week Peta Gillies, executive general manager of camps at YMCA Victoria, said the Y was "fully committed" to the camp redevelopment project.

"The delay relates to a matter between Consumer Affairs Victoria and the trustee," Ms Gillies said, but not offering any further explanation.

"As soon as we have new information to share with the community we will, of course, make this our priority."

When asked about public funding for



Smiths Beach residents have questioned why the proposed rebuild of the camp at the end of Marlin St has not gone ahead.

the proposed rebuild, Ms Gillies provided no answer.

Plans

Under the 2016 planning permit, the proposed new building would measure 2886 square metres, would occupy five per cent of the 5.87ha site, with a double-storey primary accommodation building and a central function facility and sleeping wings to the east and west for 176 guests and eight staff.

The plans were designed to minimise impact on the environment and neighbouring residents, not building on the eastern boundary and not visible from

Beachcomber Avenue or the YCW car park.

There was to be a conference facility, surf shack, a renovated staff residence, bungalow accommodation, and a multi-purpose sports pavilion with amenity block for tennis, netball, basketball, skateboarding, rock climbing and school concerts, as well as a ropes course.

The plan outlined two sealed car-parks for 42 car spaces.

History

YCW is named after the Young Christian Workers movement that still owns the Phillip Island Coastal Discovery Camp.

It was the YCW Camp Committee Patriotic Fund that bought the land after World War II – founding it in about 1946 – for ex-servicemen and their families to have holidays, which is still one of the camp's primary objectives.

The Patriotic Fund was established by Melbourne businessmen running charity events, with an annual fund-raising luncheon still held each May, raising about \$7000 a year for maintenance.

In the '70s YCW sold off some land, a section of foreshore, to the shire council, and another section on a headland which is now occupied by St Bede's College camp.

Since 2004 the camp has been managed by the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association), which is entirely separate from the two Phillip Island camps run by the CYC (Christian Youth Camps) at the Adventure Resort and on Church Street at The Island.

YMCA Victoria operates seven camps across Victoria, including Phillip Island.



The Penguin Parade Visitor Centre has won the Tourism Landscape Architecture Award at this year's Victoria Landscape Architecture Awards.

Penguin Parade Visitor Centre wins top gong

Phillip Island's new Penguin Parade Visitor Centre has picked up another award, this time being recognised for excellence in landscape architecture.

At the 2021 Victoria Landscape Architecture Awards announced last week, Tract Consultants won the Tourism Landscape Architecture Award for their work at the Penguin Parade.

AILA recognised seven Awards of Excellence and 11 Landscape Architecture Awards across 13 categories, highlighting landscape architects that delivered above and beyond the sole purpose of the project, championing collaboration, placemaking and commitment to community.

The judges said the Penguin Parade Visitor Centre elevated the existing nature-based tourism experience to a new level.

"Modernisation of the facilities goes beyond an upgrade of the building which has been informed by many years of thinking about the landscape. Policy has flowed to planning then design with the landscape architect leading this process over years of engagement with the client," the judges said.

"The building and car parks have been moved to improve visitor experiences with a clear, safe sequence of experiences. But more importantly the changes to the human experience have found a better balance with the landscape

resulting in the penguin habitat being enhanced."

The judges said the project illustrated the benefits of "considered site planning informing good design" and the end result provided environmental, cultural and economic benefits.

"The new Penguin Parade Visitor Centre has refreshed an already popular destination and provides a foundation for its future success."

Phillip Island Nature Parks CEO Catherine Basterfield congratulated Tract Consultants on their award.

"We're absolutely delighted that Tract Consultants were recognised for their contribution to the successful transformation of this incredible site," she said.

"In addition to a vastly improved and more visually appealing visitor experience, their designs have allowed for the successful and almost seamless creation of habitat for up to 1400 breeding penguins in a reinvigorated and restored landscape."

In 2020 the new Penguin Parade Visitor Centre won two awards at the Victorian Architecture Awards, including the William Wardell Award for Public Architecture.

In 2019 it took out the International Architecture Awards in the Parks and Gardens category, out of a field of 380 submissions from 41 countries.



How to back your local businesses

during the COVID-19 restrictions

Bass Coast locals are strong supporters of local businesses and traders. Here are some ideas of how you can help and continue to give them your backing.

<p>Use social media to follow, like and tag businesses</p>	<p>Order online or over the phone</p>
<p>Write a positive review online. Share your recommendation with your family and friends</p>	<p>Sign up to businesses' e-newsletters for updates and offers</p>
<p>Be considerate of businesses and traders who have to temporarily close</p>	<p>Support businesses by purchasing a gift voucher that you can use later</p>

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LOOKING FOR PLACES TO WALK AND BE ACTIVE OUTDOORS?

There is no better way to stay physically and mentally healthy than to Step Outside and explore where you live.

We have so many beautiful walks and trails across Bass Coast and South Gippsland to explore. Discover new places to move by visiting www.southcoastpcp.org.au/what-we-do/step-outside-move-your-way This new webpage has information on over 60 local walks and trails, including ideas for those just starting out through to those looking for their next challenge.

The new webpage is a great resource for people looking to find walking tracks or paths that are close to them or further away for a fun day trip. Rebecca Scott, Prevention Manager, South Coast Primary & Community Partnership, said "Discovering new places and experiencing the natural environment can really motivate people to get moving and is great for your mental wellbeing."

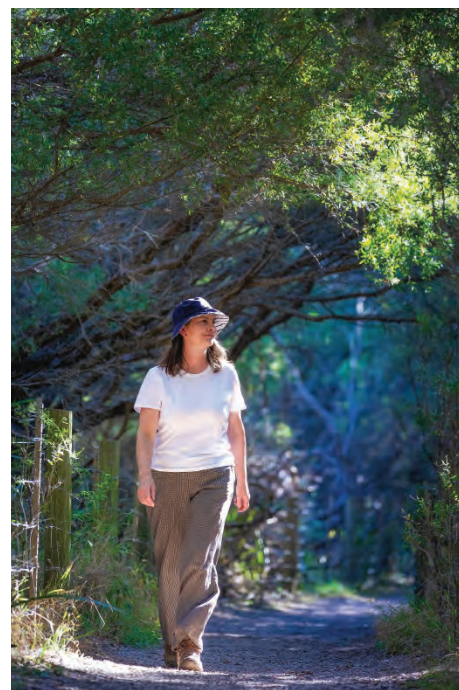
Regular outdoor activity can give you more energy, be more relaxed, and help you sleep better. If you have any pictures of yourself out and about enjoying the great outdoors, we would love you to share them to help inspire others to #StepOutsideMoveYourWay.

This campaign has been designed by locals for locals so join the movement and step outside and explore where you live.

Visit www.southcoastpcp.org.au/ or scan the QR Code



Step Outside, Move Your Way is being delivered in Bass Coast and South Gippsland by Bass Coast Shire Council, South Gippsland Shire Council, GippsSport, South Coast Primary & Community Partnership and Bass Coast YMCA.



Tracey enjoying a walk at Screw Creek Nature Walk in Inverloch.

Follow the project on social media;

Facebook: South Coast Primary & Community Partnership

Instagram: @South_coast_pcp

This project has been supported by the Victorian Government.



Aged care concerns

The lack of a comprehensive vaccination program for private aged care residents and staff has meant some of the most vulnerable in the community are still not fully protected.

Previously, all the local privately run aged care facilities reported residents had been vaccinated during February.

However none of the facilities will now confirm if their residents and staff are fully vaccinated.

Neither Grossard Court or Melaleuca Aged Care responded to questions about how many of their staff or residents had been fully vaccinated.

Banfields Aged Care declined to provide any details.

"We're not currently engaging with any media at this point of time," said Olivia Romet, Marketing Manager for the Australia Aged Care Group which run Banfields.

It's believed Banfields currently employs 120 staff and has room for 90 residents.

It was recently given approval to build an additional wing, which will bring the total number of beds to 132 and create jobs for another 20 staff.

Melaleuca has 35 permanent and two respite rooms in their Residential Aged Care section, with 39 units and suites in their Independent Living Units.

Grossard Court has 80 beds.

State aged care

The two state run facilities, Kirrak House in Wonthaggi and Griffiths Point Lodge in San Remo were happy to provide an update on staff and resident vaccinations.

There are currently 23 residents at Kirrak House and 28 at Griffiths Point.



Griffiths Lodge residents Rhonda Shubert (front right) and Betty Finnen after receiving their Covid 19 vaccination shots in March, with Operational Director Paula Bradley (back left) who also got the shot, and Joel Sanchez, Nurse Unit Manager.

Bass Coast CEO Jan Child said all residents had had been vaccinated for COVID-19, bar two residents who had declined the vaccination.

Doctors were meeting with the two residents and their families to address their concerns.

She said a couple of staff had also not received the vaccination due to "health concerns" and would be deployed to other areas and any new residents accepted to the facilities would have to be fully vaccinated.

Ms Child said in the past week, Bass Coast Health had prioritised vaccinations for any healthcare, aged care or disability workers at the Wonthaggi Clinic.

"We have offered to vaccinate the staff of any local facilities," she said.

Residents of Griffiths Point Lodge and Kirrak House were vaccinated in March this year, along with some staff members at Griffiths Point.

The vaccine was delivered by the Gippsland Region Public Health Unit, and the second dose was delivered three weeks later.

At the time, it was reported residents of Banfields, Grossard Court and Melaleuca Lodge nursing homes, which are privately operated, had been vaccinated a fortnight earlier.

Vaccination roll out

The Commonwealth government has come under fire for the slow pace of the roll out of vaccines to aged care residents and workers.

Last week, the Prime Minister said it was still not mandatory for aged care workers to be vaccinated and it was revealed the government still did not have exact figures on how many had received the vaccine.

However from June 15, all aged care facilities will have to report on their staff vaccinations.

It was also revealed last week the private companies hired by the government to roll out the vaccine in aged care facilities were only contracted to vaccinate residents, not staff.

All residents of aged care were supposed to have been vaccinated by Easter.

According to a recent report on the ABC, available data shows more than a third of Australia's nursing home residents aren't fully vaccinated.

According to the health.gov.au website, 370,595 doses of the vaccine had been administered in aged care and disability facilities as of June 3.

However only 165,723 residents had received their second doses.

Health officials have confirmed less than 10 per cent of the aged care workforce had been vaccinated through the Federal government program.

Less than two per cent of people living in disability care have been fully vaccinated.



Tilly went missing in her PJs, sparking a four day search. Finally back home, she curled up with her friend Jed for a well-earned sleep.

Tilly's a runaway sensation

A pyjama clad greyhound has become a local celebrity.

After 11-year-old Tilly ran off from Cape Woolamai last week, her frantic owner Jess McKelson posted a message on Facebook.

Tilly quickly became the talk of the town and local residents shared the post and took to the streets looking for the lost dog.

Jess said the response from the local community was overwhelming.

For three days, there was not one sighting.

Then on Thursday evening, a local surfer called saying he saw a dog in the dunes between the airstrip and Cape Kitchen.

At first light, Jess and her friends were out searching.

Then Tilly was spotted by construction workers at Cape Kitchen but ran

before anyone could catch her.

From there, Tilly raced to the Vietnam Veterans Museum, across Phillip Island Road and down Churchill Road, where she was spotted by local farmer Rob Langford.

On Friday afternoon, Jess finally found her little runaway, hiding in some Ti Trees near a dam.

"I'm just so grateful to the whole community, and especially to Barry and Bev for letting me onto their property to find her. "It was amazing. Everyone seemed to know she was missing ... it was a beautiful thing."

The pyjama wearing wanderer is now home with her relieved owner, who reports Tilly is doing well.

"She had lost a lot of weight and had nightmares that first night, but she's good now."

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Heroic rescue at Surf Beach

A Phillip Island surfer has been hailed a hero, after saving the life of former councillor Stephen Fullarton at Surf Beach last week.

Dan Seale, who is Newhaven College's property manager, was about to surf Crazy Birds break last Wednesday about 4pm when he noticed a man struggling to stay afloat in the surf.

Steve, a popular island identity and keen surfer, had suffered a stroke and was about 15 metres out in the white water.

"I was coming down the stairs and he immediately caught my attention because I could see he was struggling," said Dan, who before the incident didn't know Steve.

"He was in the water next to his stand-up paddle board with his left arm on it and I thought maybe he'd knocked his head.

"But then he kind of yelled help and I took off out there."

The 34-year-old said he swam out on his own board and reached Steve, saying his head was under-water, while his face was white and lips purple.

"I grabbed him and pinned him to his board. He was still conscious and had a bit of kick in him but it was not easy because he was clearly totally knackered. It was like his right arm was being pulled down in the water."

Dan then kicked and paddled back to the shore, "wearing a wave" on top of them as they went.

A difficult situation became worse when Dan and Steve were pushed onto rocks, each still with their surfboard leg ropes attached.

"The surf was sucking our boards out and then pushing us against the rocks. The waves were going everywhere.

"At that point I thought how the hell am I going to do this, I don't know how I'm going to get him up



Dan Seale pulled fellow surfer Stephen Fullarton out of the surf at Crazy Birds last week, after the former councillor suffered a stroke while in the water paddleboarding.

the beach."

Right at that moment another surfer – Newhaven's Larson Henderson – luckily arrived and immediately helped Dan remove the leg ropes, lift Steve out of the water, away from the rocks and up the beach.

"I was so stoked because I was struggling," Dan said, adding a kind stranger later rescued his and Steve's damaged surfboards.

Larson said he helped pull Steve up the beach – at high tide, with not much sand available – and while Dan looked after him, Larson called Triple 0, with many onlookers then coming to assist, including a nurse.

"I knew who it was straight away," Larson said, adding that his son had been chatting with Steve on the water moments before.

"In the water he was in a dire predicament.

"On the beach he got the colour back in his face and he was conscious and conversing, although he was in and out a little bit."

When paramedics arrived, they helped carry Steve up the stairs in an inflatable stretcher.

Steve was taken to Wonthaggi Hospital and then airlifted to the Alfred Hospital.

Heroes

Dan, who is also a musician who performs around the island, said he didn't hesitate to step in and help, dismissing the hero tag.

"No way. Honestly I was just going for a surf and he needed help. There was no time to contemplate anything," Dan said.

"You could see he was in big trouble. I knew it was serious, the way he yelled for help and how his head was going under."

Larson agreed.

"We were just there to do what we could. Certainly he would have been in a bad situation if he hadn't got assistance," said Larson, who runs Phillip Island Camps accommodation in Newhaven.

"When someone needs a hand, you help them. We worked as a team.

"You don't hesitate, you go into emergency mode."

Steve's mate Greg Price – who in April saved the life of a Cowes man who had a car accident in Cowes after suffering a heart attack – said the whole community was praying for a speedy recovery for Steve.

"Steve's love for his island community is immense," Greg said.

"We are all praying for the best possible outcome for him and Kerry and his family."

Steve runs his architectural design business in Cowes and is well-known for his work most recently as a Bass Coast Shire councillor for the Island Ward. He was also a councillor on the old Phillip Island Shire.

Steve is often seen around the island on his stand-up paddle board and has been instrumental in the creation of the island's National Surfing Reserve.

He remains in the Alfred Hospital where he is being treated, following his ordeal.

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Attractions remain locked down

Many Phillip Island tourist attractions remained closed, including the Penguin Parade – despite the easing of lockdown restrictions in rural Victoria.

Phillip Island Nature Parks CEO Catherine Basterfield said based on government guidelines, from June 3, their attractions would have a maximum visitor capacity of only 50 people.

“So we have made the decision to keep our venues closed until at least Friday, June 11, at this stage, pending any changes in guidelines or advice,” Catherine said, with PINP continuing to receive some state government financial support.

She said once they re-open, if still required to check visitor IDs, the admissions and visitor experience teams would carry out checks at entry points to each venue, “similar to last year when residents of metropolitan Melbourne were unable to travel to regional Victoria”.

Catherine said Nature Parks had been part of the government’s QR code system since it was first introduced last year, and “have been actively checking our visitors in at our venues since that time”.

A Maze N Things owner Geoff Moed said they made the decision to also close their operation for two weeks.

Once they reopen, he said they would advise – via a sign at the front door – that Melbourne visitors were not allowed.

“But the actual policing might be a different matter as our staff are not trained or expected to enforce the law,” Geoff said, adding they had already rolled out QR codes.

“The two-week shutdown is bad enough, but I am more concerned with Melbourne not being able to come for the long weekend after lockdown is lifted.”

Lauren Mitchell from Phillip Island Helicopters said they too remained closed until June 11.

She said having no international



Many island tourist attractions remain closed, including the Penguin Parade, despite restrictions easing in rural Victoria.

visitors broadly, but particularly in winter, had hit their business hard, with “the damage already done” even prior to this fourth lockdown.

Furthermore, the ban on Melbourne visitors for the long weekend and a two-week closure in this lockdown would hurt further.

“It is just disappointing when you think you are getting back to normal, we are hit with yet another lockdown,” Lauren said.

“Any lockdown, no matter how short, has an impact on the bottom line, as we are a small business.”

“The June long weekend is always a very busy one for us and the island. Add this together with the business lost on the busy Valentine’s weekend and the impact of lost revenue will be significant.”

Record breaking

Vietnam Veterans Museum manager Phil Dressing said they opened after the end of lockdown last week, but “with metropolitan restrictions, visitation is basically non-existent”.

“We chose to continue paying our staff their normal wages without requiring them to take leave.”

Phil said while the museum had been “hit pretty hard with lockdown”, there were positives.

“We started collecting visitor statistics in 2013. We broke the visitor record in December 2020 and again in January 2021. We didn’t do as well in February but improved in March,” he said.

“Then April 2021 broke all records since we started collecting data.”

“We have found that visitor numbers decline not only in closing but even after reopening, visitation takes a bit of time to get back to pre-Covid numbers.”

Phil estimated the lockdown losses were about \$25,000, including the twice cancelled booking of a chorale group to perform at the museum, most recently on May 30, who now say they won’t return.

He added the state government’s circuit breaker business support package would assist the business, “but not by much”.

“Our operational costs are not greatly diminished whether we’re open or not. If we’re successful receiving the package we’ll still incur a net loss of around \$22,500 for the week.”

Businesses trained to cope with hostile patrons

Phillip Island businesses are being offering training to deal with aggressive customers in the wake of Covid lockdowns.

The Phillip Island Business Network last week announced they had received state government funding to hold a Working with Aggressive and Challenging Behaviours workshop on June 23 and 24 at the Ramada Resort.

The workshop is being offered after PIBN received feedback on the problem from local businesses and it will include three sessions for business owners as well as front of house staff, run by the Victorian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

The training will provide skills to diffuse problematic situations, covering interpersonal communication skills and risk management to deal with a range of disruptive and difficult behaviours and prevent escalation.

“Have your staff experienced confronting challenges regarding Covid principles, capacity challenges or aggressive behaviour?” a PIBN spokes-

woman said.

“We know this was a big challenge and will continue to be a big challenge especially as businesses now have to ID check and refuse service to metro.”

Cheeky Goose owner Robert van den Brink said the hardest part of the QR/ID system was dealing with people not wanting to comply.

“We are at the frontline and have to bear the brunt of people’s frustration and rudeness,” Robert said (see separate lockdown story).

He said while most customers complied, a few refused and took “their frustrations out on the staff”.

“We do not accept this and ask the people to leave. We have absolutely lost business because of our “no details no service policy.” It’s not worth risking the safety of others and the fine not to comply.”

Bookings for the workshop are essential as there are limited tickets, capped at 25. The first ticket is free and additional tickets are at the reduced price of \$15 for additional staff.

Details: pibn.com.au/

ID checks add to business Covid pain

From page 1

adding they had always maintained a guest registry so ID check in was not a problem, with all areas requiring QR codes.

“I feel it’s a comfort to make sure all guests, visitors and staff have access to immediate trace updates by this means.”

Real estate

At First National real estate Sue Martin who oversees holiday rentals said her team had cancelled, re-funded or shifted dates for about 35

bookings.

“Financially, it’s been a big hit for our office and the owners of the properties of course,” Sue said.

She said the long weekend was set to be busy, with many subsequent cancellations except for one family from Lakes Entrance.

The agency has a QR code on entry in the office and when a guest makes a booking, they always supply their personal details including postcode.

“On arrival, when checking in, we also get a copy of their drivers’ licence, but we’ve always done that.”

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Sand Mining opponents raise petitions for Parliament

Planning panel report passed to minister on massive Grantville sand mine

The Save Western Port Woodlands group, which, following its public meeting at the Corinella Hall, now claims a membership of many hundreds of concerned residents, has raised two petitions to put before the Victorian Parliament.

"These petitions give us the opportunity to shine a light on the environmental destruction in this forest, on the dangers to the Western Port foreshore and its internationally protected Ramsar Wetlands, and on the very real risk of damage to the tourism economy of this beautiful coastal region," Save Western Port Woodlands spokesperson Tim O'Brien said.

"It is particularly important right now that the Bass Coast community and Grantville residents get involved and take action to stop the destruction of our coastal forests by sand miners.

"We have learned that the Minister Richard Wynne is to be handed this week the recommendation from The Planning Panel on the application by Dandy Premix to massively expand its mine on the edge of Grantville.

"The decision on this mine application should only have rested with the Bass Coast Council. It should never have been removed from this community.

"We have had expert analysis of the Dandy premix application to massively expand its Grantville operation, and have been advised that State Government Guidelines for ensuring the protection of sensitive natural environments against toxic pollutants may have been contravened in this application process," Tim said.

"It is also galling that with a mine



The Save Western Port Woodlands group, has raised two petitions to put before the Victorian Parliament to stop the expansion of sandmining in the area.

that is to reach deep below the water table, and so close to the foreshore, that the applicant, Dandy Premix, also bypassed a risk assessment on groundwater required by Southern Rural Water.

"We simply have to stop this mine and the multiple mine expansions planned for the Grantville forest corridor.

"We can defeat this, and we can kick the greedy miners out who don't care about our forests, don't care about our tourism economy or the wildlife whose habitat they destroy, if we have enough standing in opposition. History is with us,"

he said.

"We just need your names on these petitions; we want thousands signing."

The Save Western Port Woodlands group has paper petitions circulating through the community, and also an online ePetition on the Victorian Parliament website.

"If others wish to get involved or to access our petition, or just to find out more, they can do so via the website, savewesternportwoodlands.org, or use the QR code to go straight to the parliament e-Petition," Tim said.

/ Sponsored Article /

PICAL move up for consultation

There could be some light on the horizon for the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre.

Community consultation will be held on June 23 and 24 on a proposal to move the community garden and a portable building to Blue Gum Reserve.

The move would require an amendment to the Blue Gum Reserve Master Plan.

Drop-in sessions will be held on Wednesday, June 23 at the Phillip Island Croquet Club within Blue Gum Reserve. The first session will be held from 3pm to 4pm and the second session will be held from 6pm to 7pm. Should Covid restrictions prevent these in-person sessions, Council is also offering two online sessions.

The two online sessions will be held via Zoom on Thursday, June 24, between 3pm and 4pm and between 6pm and 7pm. To attend the afternoon session, register at www.trybooking.com/BRYFJ. For the evening session, register at www.trybooking.com/BRYFT.

Last month, the board and management of PICAL raised concerns there was no money in the draft budget to finance a promised move of the community garden.

The group made a budget submission to Bass Coast Shire Council calling for certainty and asking for \$250,000 to fund the move.

Chair Jeff Floyd said they would like the garden to be moved this year and re-established at the new site.

Previously, PICAL manager Greg Thompson said shire officers had "approved in principle" to give PICAL a small parcel of

land at Blue Gum behind the CFA station.

"What we are seeking is like for like, to pick up the existing garden infrastructure and put it on a 30m x 40m parcel of land, which is the current size of the existing land," Mr Thompson said.

He said the lack of urgency from the council for the relocation was leaving the organisation in limbo.

Bass Coast Shire Council has since put out a call for community feedback on a proposed amendment to the Blue Gum Reserve Master Plan 2019, to allow the garden to be moved.

The amendment could also include relocating Rudi Coel's Shed to the reserve.

The council described the community garden as "highly valued" and Coel's Shed as "historically significant".

Bass Coast Shire Mayor, Cr Brett Tessari said it's important the community has an opportunity to provide feedback on this proposed amendment.

"We invite you to join representatives from Council and PICAL to share your feedback at one of a number of consultation sessions coming up later this month," Cr Tessari said.

For more information about the proposed amendment to the Blue Gum Reserve Master Plan visit www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/bluegumreserve.

For more information, please contact Council's Community Planning Officer Jasmin McNeill on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211 or email jasmn.mcneill@basscoast.vic.gov.au.

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TO STOP SAND MINE EXPANSIONS IN OUR
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PETITION

To the Legislative Assembly of Victoria

The Petition of Residents, Business People, and Friends of Bass Coast, Western Port and Cardinia Regions draws to the attention of the House the destruction of remnant coastal forest in the Lang Lang to Grantville corridor by the activities of sand mines operating within this forest under historical work authorities. This is the last significant stand of mature forest in the Western Port and Bass Coast region, which supports threatened species and contributes to the character of the community. The petitioners request that the Legislative Assembly of Victoria place an immediate moratorium on sand mining work authorities within this fragile forest corridor to ensure no further expansion of mines operating within and to ensure all existing remnant forest is protected from removal.

To sign the e-Petition to the Parliament:
Type: "Vic Parliament e-petition" into Google
or use the QR code at right
Then click on petition number: 343
- AND/OR -
Contact 'SAVE WESTERN PORT WOODLANDS'
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and request a petition to sign



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Financial matters

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The Federal government's MoneySmart website has some great tips and tools for helping to manage your finances.

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You can also find out where to access free and confidential financial counselling, and help if you are struggling to pay bills or fines, facing eviction or having services disconnected.

It explains other options, such as contacting the National Debt Hotline and the Small Business Support Line.

The information on the website is presented in easy-to-understand language and easy to navigate sections.

It has advice on how to get your debt under control, how to urgently access money to pay for food and essentials, how to check your credit report, and debt consolidation



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Small business is our passion

Flourishing Figures is an Accounting Firm lead by our founder, Shelley Beilharz, an experienced and qualified Chartered Accountant (CA) and a Lang Lang local. Shelley has had her office in Lang Lang for several years now and about two years ago broadened her horizons at Cowes.

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Here at Flourishing Figures, our passion is to nurture your small business and to help you to understand your money story. Financial literacy does not come easy to everyone and business owners don't go into business for all the admin required.

That is why we are here. We love technology and finding new ways to better ourselves for our clients. Taking up the boring bits and pieces and allowing you to do what you love, as we do what we love.

The end of the Financial Year is fast approaching, and it is time to start thinking about the 2020/2021 Tax Returns.

Appointments can be booked online via the website or over the phone. We have a website that is fully functional and easy to navigate

with the "Book Now" button in the top right-hand corner. Or if you much prefer to call up and book, speak to Rebecca our Office Manager who will help you.

This Tax Time we not only have Shelley who is ready to tackle the tax season, but we have a new addition to the team - Bre, our new accountant. She will be available for tax appointments at both locations - Lang Lang and Cowes as well.

We have had a few system upgrades which has helped us be flexible during the COVID-19 times and has allowed us to adapt a little better. Therefore, we are also offering phone call appointments for those who cannot come in to see us or we have an easy-to-use form on our website (go to ff.tax/taxreturn and find the blue section).

Whether you come in or we chat on the phone, this Tax Time we are very much looking forward to seeing familiar or new faces. We missed a lot of you during last year.

Appointments can be booked online via the website www.flourishingfigures.com.au or by phoning 1300 865 624.

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Financial matters



The team at Coastal View Financial Services can help you with all your financial challenges.

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Coastal View Financial Services is a highly reputable and globally respected accounting and business services company, located in Cowes.

Established twenty years ago in 2001, our operations and practice are backed by over 50 combined years of success and growth, with a team offering extensive experience in the accounting and business

management industry. We have successfully guided countless individuals and businesses through financial challenges with positive and rewarding outcomes, as well as significant and ongoing contributions with support for the community.

Our team is a collection of professional and cordial individuals, who are always ready and willing to offer

their expertise to you. We integrate our personal skill-sets and experience – covering all areas of personal and commercial accounting matters, with the standard accounting and business management techniques and trendy software and tools in all our operations, and we will always strive to deliver safe and highly efficient services.

COVID-19 Disaster Payment for people affected by restrictions

The Federal government has announced a new COVID-19 Disaster Payment to help people affected by COVID-19 restrictions.

The new payment will help Victorian workers who are unable to earn income due to the current lockdown restrictions.

You can claim this payment using your Centrelink online account through myGov from June 8.

To be eligible, you must meet all of the following conditions:

- be an Australian resident, permanent resident or eligible working visa holder
- live or work in a Commonwealth declared hotspot
- be unable to work and earn income as a result of a state lockdown
- be where the lockdown is for more than 7 days
- have liquid assets of \$10,000 or less.

If you don't have a myGov account or a Centrelink online account, you can set them up now.

The government will pay you one payment for each period of

lockdown. You'll get either:

- \$325 if you've lost less than 20 hours of work
- \$500 if you've lost 20 hours or more of work.

This payment is taxable.

You can't get the COVID-19 Disaster Payment if you're getting any of these:

- income support payments
- Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment
- state small business payment.

You need to have used up other pandemic state-based entitlements and all paid leave entitlements except annual leave.

You may be eligible for other payments instead such as:

- Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment, if you've been told to isolate or quarantine or have to care for someone with COVID-19
- Crisis Payment, a one-off payment if you've experienced an extreme circumstance and are in severe financial hardship
- payments for job seekers, if you're looking for work or unable to do your usual work or study.

Time to work smarter, not harder.



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Who we are

Coastal View Financial Services is a one-stop shop and we offer a broad range of tax, accounting and business management services for private individuals as well as small and medium sized businesses.

Our Vision

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New housing estates planned for Cowes

Cowes will grow by several hundred new homes in the next few years with developers seeking planning permits for new housing subdivisions on prominent vacant land sites.

The estates and subdivisions – totalling about 300 new homes – are all within town boundaries and in the early stages of planning, currently seeking permits through the Bass Coast Shire.

They include:

- 205-209 and 211-223 Thompson Avenue, next to the RSL: subdivision of land into 42 lots, creation of access to a road, removal of vegetation;
- 299-325 Church Street, best known for its long brick wall boundary fence: Multi-lot subdivision (192 lots), removal of vegetation and creation of reserves;
- 35 Cowes-Rhyll Road: Subdivision of land into 16 lots, creation of reserves and associated works, and removal of native vegetation;
- 14-20 Redwood Drive: Subdivision of land into 12 lots.

In addition to these new estates, there is a 2018 plan-

ning permit for a 19-lot subdivision on the former 1.7 hectare Cowes market site, with a frontage to 225 Settlement Road, which last month saw surrounding residents shocked when mature gum trees were felled to make way for the estate.

The shire's planning registry also contains numerous applications for smaller subdivisions of blocks into two or three lots, all within town boundaries.

Existing subdivision Shoalhaven in Cowes west states it will have a new release soon.

San Remo

In San Remo Penniwells Estate states stage 10 of its development will soon be released.

Various other San Remo estates – as is clearly evident – are in multiple stages of development, including The Outlook on Potters Hill Road with 12 blocks and Westernport Views on Bonwick Avenue with “a boutique 29 lot development”.

Panorama estate states stage one is sold out with only

one block in stage two left.

At Newhaven there is the Narrows new estate.

DAL

The housing subdivisions come as the state government's delayed last round of consultation on the Distinctive Area and Landscapes (DAL) project, to guide future land use, is set to begin next month.

Earlier this year shire planners told the Advertiser developers who were eyeing off housing subdivisions were putting them on ice until there was greater planning certainty around town boundaries with the DAL.

This included Newhaven West, a mooted 35-hectare development that proposed 78 residential lots, as well as land between Corinella, Coronet Bay, and Cape Paterson.

Island Ward councillor Michael Whelan said the DAL should clarify Cowes' town boundaries on the east and west – as well as Cape Woolamai's airport land – to prevent urban sprawl.

DAL wait finally over

The state government's delayed last round of community consultation on the Distinctive Area and Landscapes (DAL) project is set to begin next month.

Last week a Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) spokesperson told the Advertiser they expected public engagement to start in July, which will include a written public submissions process.

“DELWP is looking at the best way to conduct public consultation while adhering to public health guidelines – more details will be announced soon,” the spokesperson said.

The first round of community consultation on the DAL

– which will guide future land use – was in 2018, when residents sent a loud message there was too much development pressure on Phillip Island and San Remo, and growth should be managed.

The second round of consultation in 2019 saw the release of a discussion paper, which stated the main challenges facing Phillip Island were congestion and local infrastructure pressures during peak periods, urban development demand, and climate change threats to the environment.

The paper proposed a number of controls to protect the area, including ensuring new housing designs that fit in town character, beautiful

views be safeguarded, green breaks be increased between townships, avoid sprawl along the coast, while urban development close to high-value ecological areas should be restricted.

The third and final round of consultation, which was expected in the first half of 2021, will focus on the most important document of all, a draft Statement of Planning Policy (SPP), which will be enshrined in law.

The SPP aims to protect our best features and lock in town boundaries.

Details: www.engage.vic.gov.au/distinctive-areas-and-landscapes-program/bass-coast where details can be emailed to subscribers.



Edward O'Donohue (second from left) with residents of Shetland Heights Road in March this year. He has now tabled a petition in parliament calling for the state government to fund an upgrade of the road.

Shetland Heights petition in Parliament

Residents of Shetland Heights Road continue to fight for an upgrade of their road.

Since the state government announced the new junior secondary campus would be located in San Remo, residents have increased their calls for the road to be upgraded, citing traffic and health concerns.

To date, neither Bass Coast Shire Council nor the state government have agreed to pay for the upgrade.

Edward O'Donohue, the member for Eastern Victoria has taken up the cause and on

May 25 formally tabled a petition in parliament calling on the state government to fund the work.

In presenting the petition, Mr O'Donohue said the road upgrade was needed to “ensure the safety of students, parents and the broader school community to access the new campus”.

He also said footpaths were needed to encourage walking and cycling, and the intersection with Potters Hill Road needed a full upgrade.

“The Petitioners therefore request that the Legislative

Council call on the Government to fund and build, as a matter of urgency, the necessary infrastructure to ensure students, parents and the broader school community have safe access to the new junior secondary campus for Wonthaggi Secondary College in San Remo, scheduled to open in 2022.”

Under the rules of the parliament, once tabled the petition becomes a public document and its terms are communicated to the relevant Minister.

The petition has 176 signatures.

Council Update

Prepare for emergencies with the CFA and Red Cross

Council in partnership with the Red Cross and CFA are offering extra support for people who live with a disability, are older or have a chronic or acute medical condition, to prepare an emergency plan. This free service is available for up to 20 people and will include visits to residents' homes from members of the CFA and Red Cross to help prepare them for emergencies. If you or someone you know would benefit from this program, expressions of interest are open and will close on Tuesday, 20 July 2021. Please contact our Community Planning Team on the numbers below or email community.support@basscoast.vic.gov.au.

Have your say: Anderson Street Reserve Master Plan

Council is seeking community feedback to help develop a Master Plan for the Anderson Street Reserve in San Remo. The Masterplan will recognise the important role the Reserve will play as a local park over the next 10 years as the town grows. We're inviting you to have your say and help inform the draft design. A drop in session is being held:

- Thursday, 17 June, at Anderson Street Reserve from 3.00pm to 6.00pm

Submissions and suggestions can also be made by contacting Ella Angarane, Recreation and Open Space Planner, on e.angarane@basscoast.vic.gov.au or PO Box 118, Wonthaggi 3995. Submissions close on Sunday, 20 June 2021.

Council Meeting

Council's next meeting will be live-streamed at 1.00pm on Wednesday 16 June 2021. Join us on the live stream link www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/2021meetings.

The proposed items Council may consider:

- Adoption of Annual Budget 2021/22
- Planning Application 190142 - 109 Netherwood Lane, Bass
- Planning Application 200029 - 6 Charmandene Ct, Cowes
- Proposed Development Plan Endorsement (DPO3) - Grantville Mixed Use Zone Precinct (North)
- Lease - Cape Paterson Surf Live Saving Club
- Lease - Bass Coast University Centre, 21-23 Baillieu Street East, Wonthaggi
- Council Support and Resources Policy
- Review of Instrument of Delegation – Council to Staff
- Wonthaggi and San Remo Cemetery Fees and Charges
- Revenue and Rating Plan 2021

The agenda is released on Council's website on Friday, 11 June at www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/2021meetings. There is an opportunity in the Council meeting for public questions. If you would like to ask a question please submit your questions in writing no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting.

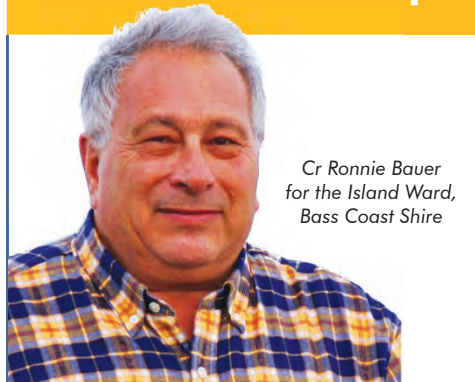
Access Grants now open

Applications are open for the Building Disability Inclusive Businesses and Community Organisations Grant. Funds of up to \$1,000 (including GST) are available to assist you to increase the number of people with disability accessing your business or community organisation as customers, visitors, members or employees. Application forms, guidelines and ideas are available on Council's website at www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/access. All applications must be discussed with Kathryn Pryor, Access and Healthy Ageing Officer, prior to being submitted. Applications close at 5.00pm on Friday, 25 June 2021. For more information visit our website, contact Kathryn on the numbers below or basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au.

Bass Coast Shire Council, 76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi | DX 34903 Wonthaggi | PO Box 118, Wonthaggi VIC 3995 | 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211 or via the National Relay Service (for people with speech or hearing difficulties) on 13 36 77 | basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au | www.basscoast.vic.gov.au



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



Cr Ronnie Bauer
for the Island Ward,
Bass Coast Shire

PO Box 996 Cowes 3922
Tel: 0439 535 282
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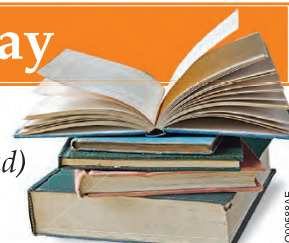
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Island HOME

— YOUR PHILLIP ISLAND AND SAN REMO PROPERTY GUIDE —



Photo: Ramble & Drift Creative



This beautifully presented three-bedroom home in Sunset Strip promotes a relaxed lifestyle with its low maintenance and extremely private surrounds.



The gorgeous and practical kitchen is complemented by stone benchtops, stainless steel dishwasher and electric oven and cooktop.

Relaxed living at Sunset Strip

Conveniently located only a short walk or bike ride to the ever-popular Smiths Beach area or a quick drive into the Cowes township is this beautifully presented three-bedroom home in Sunset Strip. The character filled property promotes a relaxed lifestyle with its low maintenance and extremely private surrounds.

The ground floor comprises two

spacious bedrooms, both with built in robes, laundry, main bathroom complete with modern fixtures and fittings, separate toilet and second living zone or office space.

Upstairs is the huge master bedroom with walk in robe and ensuite and the light filled open plan living/kitchen/dining area. The gorgeous and practical kitchen is comple-

mented by stone benchtops, stainless steel dishwasher and electric oven and cooktop. Out through sliding doors is the North facing fully covered entertaining decking, the perfect place to sit and relax or host a family get together.

A real feature of this home is the rear entertaining/bar area. The fully covered area overlooks the pristine

and low maintenance gardens and is complete with café' blinds and ceiling fan for year-round enjoyment.

Other features include: within walking distance to Newhaven College, split system heating and cooling, combustion heater, carport which can accommodate boat or caravan, workshop/shed, solar powered electric gate, security camera

system and tile, carpet and floating flooring throughout.

All of this on a fully fenced 427sqm approx. allotment.

Contact: Jon Taylor, Ray White Phillip Island, 0413 966 420

Address: 19 Vision Circuit, Sunset Strip
Property Features: three bed / two bath / one car

Price: \$760,000 - \$790,000



FIRST NATIONAL REAL ESTATE

PROPERTIES URGENTLY REQUIRED

For sale \$709,000

2/3 Wyndham Avenue, Cowes

The ideal setting awaits, set over a single level with excellent access to all Cowes has to offer. The extra living area which flows to a north facing court yard is perfect for entertaining or just relaxing. All the options are open with Holiday rental or permanent rental another asset to be utilized. The room and privacy add to this low maintenance package.



LOW MAINTENANCE/ PERFECT INVESTMENT



For sale \$890,000

3 Rosella Grove, Cowes

This home is perfect for a large family wanting plenty of room to move. Complete with 4 bedrooms, ensuite & WIR to Main. The open plan living makes life a breeze and is ideal entertaining with the large alfresco area off the kitchen complete with built in BBQ. With an endless lists of features such as 6 star energy rating, double glazed windows, raised ceilings, ducted heating, outdoor shower, double garage and low maintenance yard with landscaped gardens.



ROOM TO MOVE



Walking distance to beach and town

Located only a short stroll, bike ride or drive to the beautiful beaches and main township of Cowes is this beautifully presented three-bedroom home. This property would make an ideal investment, holiday getaway or permanent residence.

The home comprises three spacious bedrooms, two of which have built in robes, main bathroom, laundry and open plan living/kitchen/dining area complete with electric oven and cooktop.

At the rear of the home is the north facing entertaining decking which overlooks the low maintenance surrounds and takes in water glimpse of the bay.

Other features include: single garage and single carport, split system heating and



The beautifully presented house includes an open plan living/kitchen/dining area, plus a north facing entertaining decking.

cooling, ceiling fans, garden shed, ramped entry, side access for boat/trailer storage and tile, carpet and polished timber flooring throughout.

All of this on a fully fenced 378sqm approx. allotment.

Contact: Jon Taylor, Ray White Phillip Island, 0413 966 420

Address: 2/32 Parrakoola Way, Cowes
Property features: three bed / one bath / one carport and one garage

Price: \$540,000 to \$560,000



44 Red Rocks Road, Cowes

3 2 2

Only 450m approx. to the beach is this three-bedroom, two bathroom home in Cowes. The double storey home features; split systems, 3 living zones, dbl carport, multiple entertaining areas and views of golf course.

Sale
\$819,000

Jon Taylor
0413 966 420

raywhitephillipisland.com.au

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10-12 Hobsons Parade

Auction



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

10-12 Hobsons Parade, Cowes

This floor plan is for illustrative purposes only and no warranty is given to accuracy.
Purchasers are advised to carry out their own investigations.
For more information contact Ray White Phillip Island
56-58 Thompson Avenue Cowes 03 5932 2799



10 and 12 Hobsons Parade, **Cowes**

5 3 2 1

This individually titled double allotment will be going to Auction on Saturday 19/06/2021 at 10am. A short walk or bike ride to the North facing beaches, this 5-bedroom, 3 bathroom property sees a brilliant holiday rental return. Features - Dual occupancy potential with main house and cottage, inground pool and spa, split system heating and cooling, S/S appliances, 1,211 sqm approx. block.

View

Saturday 12th June at 1pm
Sunday 13th June at 1pm

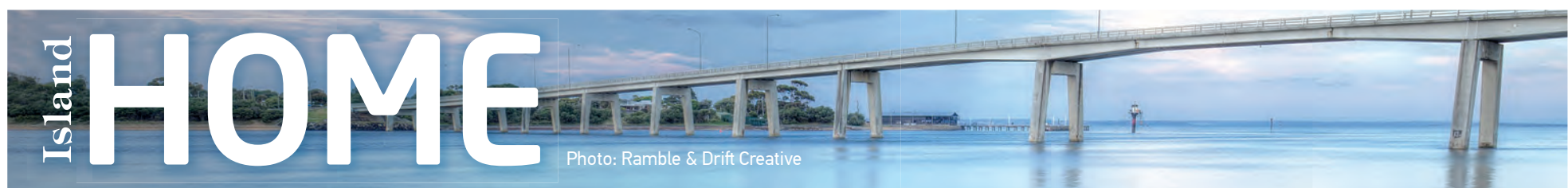
Auction

Saturday 19th June at 10am

Jon Taylor

0413 966 420

raywhitephillipisland.com.au



Exceptional attention to detail of style and quality with superior finishes has created a home that radiates warmth and comfort.



This inviting home is tucked away in a secluded court with absolute beach frontage and stunning views out to Westernport Bay.

Ultimate beachfront living

This highly sought after but rarely found position offers an idyllic coastal lifestyle. This inviting home is tucked away in a secluded court with absolute beach frontage and stunning views out to Westernport Bay. Exceptional attention to detail of style and quality with superior

finishes has created a home that radiates warmth and comfort. The ground floor consists of three bedrooms all with built in robes, two bathrooms, laundry, a convenient family living room and an outdoor kitchen makes for easy summer night cooking for the family as

you listen to the calming sounds of the ocean. A choice of either a lift or staircase brings you up to the first floor where you will find the master bedroom with a walk-in robe and an ensuite bathroom, modern well-appointed kitchen, separate toilet and




open living/dining space with wood fire heater leading through to the undercover balcony. Additional features include single garage, double carport and a fully fenced landscaped 661 sqm allotment (approx.). A leisurely stroll will take you to

Central Cowes and all local eateries, shops and schools. Inspections by private appointment. **Contact: Mike Foenander from O'Brien Real Estate on 0408 547 677** Property features: four bed / three bath / two lounge / three car

 **O'Brien Real Estate**

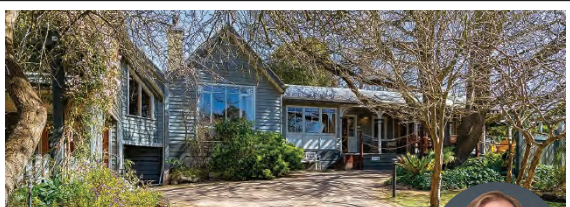
Judith Wright






2A Hereward Close, Cowes
 **4**  **2**  **2**
 Beachfront Garden Sanctuary
 Auction 19th June @ 1.00pm **Josh Dunstan** 0407 558 933






230-232 Church Street, Cowes
 **8**  **8**  **7**
 Glen Isla House
\$1,850,000 **Josh Dunstan** 0407 558 933






32-34 Walton Street, Rhyll
 **4**  **4**  **4**
 Luxury lifestyle
\$1,950,000 **Josh Dunstan** 0407 558 933






4 Shelly Court, Cowes
 **4**  **3**  **3**
 Perfectly presented
\$1,395,000-\$1,465,000 **Josh Dunstan** 0407 558 933






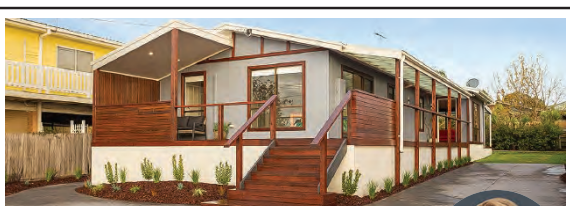
6/20 Church Street, Cowes
 **3**  **1**  **1**
 Great Investment
\$500,000 **Jenni Kent** 0428 566 643





6 Bay Court, Cowes
 **4**  **2**  **2**
 EOI closing 21st June 2021
\$840,000-\$860,000 **Jaime Morris** 0408 367 310






14 Wiltshire Road, Ventnor
 **4**  **2**  **4**
 Ultimate lifestyle change
 Contact Agent **Jenni Kent** 0428 566 643



15 Boonderabbi Way, Cowes
 **3**  **2**
 EOI closing 15th June 2021
\$790,000-\$810,000 **Jaime Morris** 0408 367 310



44 First Avenue, Cape Woolamai
 **3**  **2**  **1**
 Be the first to buy!
\$799,000 **Greg Davis** 0488 279 740

52-54 Thompson Avenue
obrienrealestate.com.au/cowes



Located on Ventnor Road on the way to the famous Penguin Parade, this five-acre property will offer you so many options in the future.



Set on five acres, established trees and gardens and a beautifully sheltered north facing location adds to this property's appeal.

Your new life starts here

With five acres of space and privacy, this is the first time the property has been offered in more than 30 years.

Ventnor Park is what everyone dreams of owning one day. This original farm homestead was cut off onto five acres many years ago. Established trees and gardens and a beautifully sheltered north facing location adds to this property's appeal. The home features two living areas with an open plan kitchen and family room, big north facing windows overlook the inground pool and open pasture. There are four large bedrooms all with built in robes and a renovated bathroom.

Sheltered entries at front rear and side. The property has a fully self-contained unit which regularly rents out through Airbnb, this renovated unit has elevated our vendors to super host with its new bathroom



The home features two living areas with an open plan kitchen and family room, overlooking the inground pool.

and private location.

The property has excellent shedding and stables with a pony paddock just waiting for you. Located on Ventnor Road on the way to the famous Penguin Parade, this property will offer you so many options in the future.

Inspection by appointment only.

Contact: Alex Scott and Staff in Cowes, 5952 2633

Address: 640 Ventnor Rd Ventnor
Auction: SATURDAY 19TH JUNE
2pm on site, if not sold prior
Terms: 10 per cent deposit. Settlement 60 days

Exemplary ultra-modern family home

Luxurious living with all your family's needs and aspirations firmly in mind, this home provides an amazing modern design with spacious living areas.

As you walk in you are greeted by a light, bright airy feeling that flows through your new home. The master parents retreat offers his and hers walk in robes, full ensuite facilities with twin bespoke hand basins on a Caesarstone bench and a 2000cm by 900cm walk in shower.

A further three bedrooms complement this incredible home. Two bedrooms share a bathroom and the fourth bedroom at the rear of the home has its own ensuite facilities and walk in robe. A further living space (rumpus

room) is located in this area with access to the alfresco area, a great retreat for visiting family and friends.

The kitchen is a dream for an entertainer or anyone who loves to cook.

The Caesarstone island bench is 3.4m long and the kitchen is 4.5m long with strip lighting, a 900mm Westinghouse electric oven and gas cook top, industrial rangehood and dishwasher. Also, a spacious butler's pantry with an additional sink and cupboards. This incredible kitchen area invites everyone to gather around and is a focal point.

This east west home offers full northerly aspects to the living areas with the double-glazed windows through-out the home (not the alfresco

external sliding doors).

The rear garden has raised vegetable beds and many fruit trees. The glasshouse provides an extended growing season for vegetables.

A generous merbau deck measuring 5.5m x 4.5m in the rear garden with seating area provides another entertainment area, enclosed by waste high water tanks.

This artfully designed home offers peace and privacy and is situated in a private quiet area of Cowes.

All this on a large 879m2 block, with child and pet friendly yard and access to Anderson Road walking track at the rear garden gate.

Contact: Alex Scott & Staff on 5952 2633.

Address: 40 Boobook Grove, Cowes



The kitchen is a dream for an entertainer or anyone who loves to cook and includes a 900mm Westinghouse electric oven and gas cook top, industrial rangehood and dishwasher and Butler's Pantry.



Luxurious living with all your family's needs and aspirations firmly in mind, this home provides an amazing modern design with spacious living areas.

**ALEX SCOTT
AND STAFF**

Est. 1886

640 VENTNOR ROAD, VENTNOR



Auction Saturday 19th June @ 2pm if not sold prior

- 'Ventnor Park' situated on 5 acres
- 4 bedrooms plus self-contained unit
- Price range - \$1,380,000 to \$1,500,000

446/2-3 THE ESPLANADE, COWES



\$380,000

- Value plus on the Cowes foreshore
- Open plan bedroom & living area
- Spacious bathroom with corner spa

37 GALLEON CRESCENT, SUNSET STRIP



UNDER
CONTRACT

1/110 THE ESPLANADE, SURF BEACH



\$700,000 to \$740,000

- Beach access track located a few doors away
- 2 bedrooms/1 bathroom
- Spacious deck overlooking the sand dunes

5 REGENT DRIVE, VENTNOR



\$800,000 to \$850,000

- Tri level home with big water views
- 4 bedrooms/2 bathrooms
- Close to the beach

15 RHYLL-NEWHAVEN ROAD, RHYLL



\$890,000 to \$950,000

- Modern beach house with rural and water views
- Currently in use as successful B&B with substantial proven income
- 7 Bedrooms/3 Bathrooms/4 Car

40 BOOKBOOK GROVE, COWES



\$1,100,000 to \$1,200,000

- Luxurious living set on 897m² (approx.)
- 4 bedrooms/3 bathrooms/2 cars
- Fully enclosed alfresco with built in bbq and outdoor kitchen

170 THOMPSON AVENUE, COWES



\$1,000,000 to \$1,100,000

- Located on generous 1150m² (approx.) allotment
- 6 bedrooms/4 bathrooms
- Currently in dual use as a family home and successful B&B

21 SEACREST DRIVE, COWES



\$680,000 to \$735,000

- 4 bed/2 bath/2 car
- Situated on a corner allotment in Whytesands Estate
- Spacious undercover rear deck

39 DUNSMORE ROAD, COWES



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Wonthaggi Arts Centre

4 June - 20 June

LIVE EVENTS

Please note that the following information may have changed subject to further lockdown announcements.



Wonthaggi Theatrical Group presents,

Mamma Mia!

4 June - 13 June

Ticket Sales are currently suspended

As of Thursdays 03/06 announcement of restrictions easing in Regional Victoria, the Wonthaggi Arts Centre and the Wonthaggi Theatrical Group (WTG) are pleased to confirm this weekend's scheduled performances of Mamma Mia! will go ahead, but with limitations.

Current Government restrictions have reduced the seating capacity to 50 patrons only for each performance. To meet these restrictions, the Wonthaggi Theatrical Group will reduce the number of patrons per performance.

Ticket purchases will be honoured in order of date and time. Ticket holders who booked their seats first will be given first option up to the 50-person limit. If they cannot attend, a refund will be issued and the next ticket holder will be contacted.

Patrons will also need to comply with compulsory measures of face masks, ID checks QR Code check-in and physical distancing.

Arts Centre staff will thoroughly clean the venue between performances and regularly sanitise touch points.

Both the Arts Centre and Wonthaggi Theatrical Group are working hard to ensure that despite the difficult circumstances, they are doing whatever they can to bring this season to life.

wonthaggiartscentre.com

- You can purchase tickets at our Box office or online
- Please view our COVID Safe guidelines on our website

Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre

96 Graham St, Wonthaggi 3995
phone: 03 5671 2470



THE PULSE

Events, entertainment and community news



Wayne Bismire (left), with son Simon and daughter-in-law Alex, at the Ocean Reach Brewery, which picked up five medals at the Australian International Beer Awards.

Ocean Reach brings home the Gold

The team at Ocean Reach Brewery hit Gold at this year's Australian International Beer Awards.

The Phillip Island based brewers won two Gold, two Silver and one Bronze medal at the prestigious competition, which attracts entries from across the globe and is the largest annual beer competition in the world.

There were more than 2500 entries from over 400 breweries in 26 countries this year. Participating for the first time, owner Wayne Bismire said Ocean Reach medalled with five of the six beers they entered.

Ocean Reach's Porter and IPA beers won Gold, the Pale Ale and Hazy Pineapple IPA were awarded Silver medals,

and the Witch Doctor NEIPA won Bronze.

"Five out of six is not a bad strike rate," he said.

"The score on our IPA was 18.74 out of a possible 20, so it was at the extreme high end of the scoring."

The beers are judged by blind tasting by a panel of experts.

Local beer lovers can enjoy the award-winning beers, which are all on sale through the brewery, although they will have to wait a week or two to enjoy the Gold medal Porter.

"We're currently sold out, but there is a new batch coming," promised Wayne.

"It's a beer that you don't traditionally brew in big batches. It's darker and hearty and it's very popular in winter."

Ocean Reach beers are distributed across Victoria, NSW and the ACT, with the wholesale side of the business growing exponentially through Covid

"Probably a third of our product goes north of the border now," Wayne said.

The beer is now on sale through BWS and Dan Murphy stores and the Ocean Reach Pale Ale is on tap at the Farmers Daughters Restaurant in Melbourne, which offers a farm-to-plate experience of Gippsland produce.

You can also visit the Ocean Reach taphouse in Thompson Avenue.

Wayne estimates since opening the brewery in December 2016, its brewing capacity has increased tenfold.



Tony Rinaud has helped to transform millions of hectares of dry land in African countries over the past 25 years and will be guest speaker at the Phillip Island World Vision fundraising lunch at the Cowes Bowling Club at 12 noon on Sunday, June 20. Tickets for a two-course lunch and drinks at bar prices are \$20.

Environmental superhero guest speaker at World Vision lunch

An environmental superhero is the guest speaker at the Phillip Island World Vision Club fundraising winter luncheon June 20.

Tony Rinaud is famously known for his work in helping to transform millions of hectares of dry land in many African countries.

A Natural Resources Management Specialist and agronomist who has worked for World Vision for many years, he has made a positive impact on food security, and environmental sustainability and resilience for thousands of vulnerable communities around the world.

His long list of achievements in developing and promoting agricultural-forestry-pastoral systems in degraded and barren landscapes has won him many international awards.

Tony's work began over 25 years ago, when, with the help of the local farmers in Niger, on the African continent, he began implementing a conservation farming system known as Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR).

The approach has been so successful that it has since been applied in at least 24 other African countries.

FMNR is the management of existing tree stumps and underground roots that still grow, even in degraded and barren landscapes, through pruning, for natural regeneration.

The pioneering methods he developed grew trees from existing underground root systems, which he has described at times as underground forests.

His technique involved pruning in a certain way and protecting the shoots, resulting in the original tree population being regenerated on what was barren land, without major financial costs.

In Niger alone, five million hectares of land with over 200 million trees were restored in this way. This also equated to 50,000 more tonnes of grain being harvested, with two and a half million people benefiting from the improved use of the land.

His methods can be easily and successfully practised by local farmers to stop and even reverse the destruction of landscapes and the livelihoods they support.

What he subsequently created was much more than an agricultural technique, but a farmer led movement, greening land in the Sahel region of western and north-central Africa extending out from Senegal, eastward to Sudan.

Transforming deserts into forests is certainly no mean feat, and his story finally caught the attention of German author Johannes Dietrich, who has just published a book and e-book about Tony called "The Forest Maker."

The Phillip Island World Vision Club is delighted to welcome Tony Rinaud to Cowes as guest speaker at their winter fundraising lunch at the Phillip Island Bowling Club, on Sunday, June 20 at 12 noon.

Tickets are \$20 for a delicious two-course meal, with drinks at bar prices.

Tickets can be booked by calling Nance on 0407 855 887 or emailing ngooderham@hotmail.com.

Or call Lynne 0432 945 204 or email: lynne4club@outlook.com.

World Vision Phillip Island Club

Winter Fundraising Luncheon

Phillip Island Bowling Club
40 Dunsmore Road Cowes

12.00 noon Sunday June 20

\$20.00 per head
includes 2 course meal & special effort tickets

Guest speaker: Tony Rinaud, winner of international awards for his environmental work in Africa, is famously known for helping to transform millions of hectares of dry and barren land in many African countries.

Tickets:

Lynne 0432 945 204

lynne4club@outlook.com

Nance 0407 855 887

ngooderham@hotmail.com

Drinks at Bar Prices | Special Effort Prize

All proceeds support PI World Vision Club projects overseas and within Australia.

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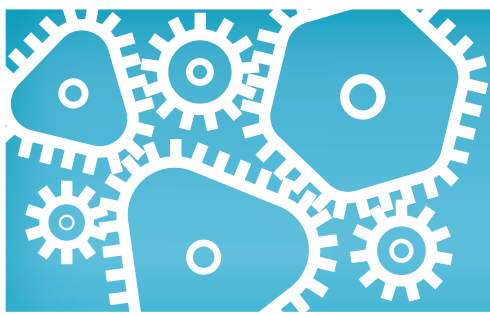
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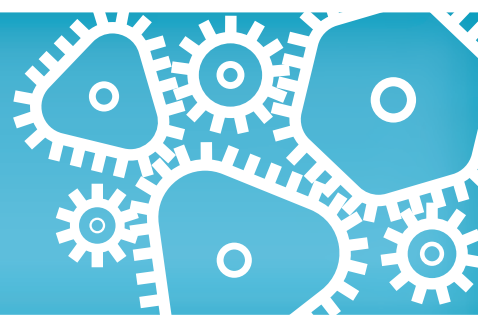
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San Remo ignored

In reply to Michael Quinn's letter – welcome to San Remo. I'll be interested in your comments when you've been here a few more years.

The Panorama Estate, known locally as "Pakenham comes to San Remo" dominates the view for anyone driving over the bridge. For those closer, the mixture of dust, flood water and overgrown eyesore is a situation still before VCAT. Who is ultimately liable – Council or developer – is still to be decided.

I hope you get your footpaths on Panorama Road; I wouldn't plan on seeing them for a few more years. San Remo has been trying for the last 21 years to get any footpaths made or even the existing ones maintained. One day someone in Wonthaggi at Council might remember we exist. The only time they think about us is when they send out rate notices, which are about 40 per cent higher than similar value property anywhere else in Victoria.

Phillip Island and San Remo use to have a good relationship in the early days of Bass Coast Council with the previous CEO and staff but sadly it's been all downhill since he retired. Plans for roads and paths and for the expansion of San Remo were dumped in the "too hard basket", never to see the light of day again. The only thing that happened was the expansion.

Meanwhile the current CEO and staff continue to get their pay rises and complain about the way they are being treated. Any complaint by people in our area about the way we are treated is ignored.

It's three years before the next council elections and things could be very different by then.

In the state election, it is likely Bass will be redistributed and Phillip Island could end up in the South Gippsland seat, which is currently held by the Nationals.

The Federal seat is Monash and that is held by Russell Broadbent, from the Liberal Party.

The Liberals and Nationals have already shown they consider they could win the seats in both Federal and state elections.

Chris Day, San Remo

Proposed airfield at Bass

The Planning application (190142) relating to the proposed airfield and aircraft hangar at Netherwood Lane, Bass will be presented before Bass Coast Council at its next meeting scheduled for June 16, 2021.

It should be noted that if approved this application will negatively impact surrounding residents, livestock, the fragile natural environment as well as any motorist utilising the two-way Link Road which is a proposed flight path!

Hopefully the preservation of the unique value of this area is a top priority in the decision-making process.

Julie Adkins, San Remo

Artwork upset

Have the Newhaven community (and Bass Coast residents) been misled?

On March 22, 2021, when Geoffrey Bartlett had been chosen as the successful artist for the Newhaven Public Art, I was sent a copy of his concept design and development for the sculpture. I am a resident who will be directly impacted by the installation. I do not overlook the area. My concerns were the location of the work in an area already crowded at peak times, potential damage to the work by cars and boat trailers and the poor maintenance of the area by the Shire. The image in the concept design is that of "Dancer 4", a work by Geoffrey Bartlett now found in a private garden in Flinders, superimposed on the site in Newhaven. I was alerted to existence of "Dancer 4" by another concerned Islander. Did the selection panel know that the proposed work already existed, that the image in the artist's proposal was not created as a unique work for Newhaven? How much research did anyone do? Why would an image of a different work be published in the press release for Newhaven's Public Art?

Under the image in the artist's Concept Design is the statement – "This montage provides an indication of the finished work 'Alpha' and the materials that will be used, and illustrates how the sculpture maintains the views to the harbour". In the Installation, materials and finishes section of the concept design, the artist describes the included image. There is no suggestion that the artwork for Newhaven will be other than that in his proposal.

Responses from the Team Leader Arts and Culture at Bass Coast Shire to my concerns have been unsatisfactory. The work for Newhaven is now to have "significant design variations that ensures that it is a unique object".

Are these variations a result of the community reaction?

Is this ratepayer's money being spent too freely and without scrutiny?

Penny Manning, Newhaven

Council's hypocrisy never ceases to amaze!

After years of council refuting that road dust is a problem, last week it finally removed the dust suppressant seals on The Esplanade and Batman Avenue at Surf Beach after 15 years of service.

The council, to my confusion, erected a sign with "Speed Means Dust" together with a 20 km/h advisory sign at one location and another sign "Less Speed Less Dust" (but without a speed sign) at two other locations.

Confusion 1 – Has dust suddenly become a problem now that the seal has been removed?

Confusion 2 – Why different dust signs and why a speed sign only at one location?

Now that council has tacitly conceded that it has created a dust problem, will it erect more than just the one speed and dust sign at Batman Avenue which is 540m long? Will it erect 20km/h speed signs at both ends of The Esplanade which is 950m long and possibly another repeater dust and speed sign mid-way?

It would also be advisable to standardise the signage to portray a sense of professionalism and also remove the senseless slippery signs usually related to icy road conditions.

A crushed rock surface which has been compacted with a steel roller and pneumatic rollers isn't prone to have vehicles slide off it!

More appropriate signs and possible speed calming devices is the least we can expect from a council that has completely ignored hundreds of scientific papers that has irrefutably found that road dust is a serious health concern.

Lou Pecora, Surf Beach

Question for Russell Broadbent Member for Monash

Could you please explain why a three year-old toddler held on Christmas Island in detention for most of her life, was denied critical medical treatment for a serious illness for 10 days?

Could you also explain why your party refuses to return this family to the Biloela community?

Louise Gillin, Ventnor



Local surfers keep an eye on the passing Orcas. Photo courtesy of Tommy Williams Photography

Whales return

Right on schedule, the whales have returned!

There were multiple whale sightings across the island last week, including in Cowes, Surf Beach, Smiths Beach and at Cape Woolamai.

Last Wednesday, a brilliant burst of sunshine meant the whale spotting conditions were ideal.

Around 10.30am at Surf Beach and Smiths, locals captured photos and videos of several Orcas as they made their way along the coastline.

Excited whale watchers at the Colonnades watched the whales frolicking, with children taking a break from home schooling to do some serious spotting.

Reports flooded in on the Phillip Island Whale Watchers Facebook page, with the superstar Orcas also spotted at Forrest Caves, along the George Bass Walk, at Punchbowl, San Remo and Kilcunda.

In the afternoon, two humpback whales were sighted in Cowes.

The updates and posts on the Facebook page were appreciated by locals hoping to catch a glimpse of the visitors, and many holiday-home owners in lockdown in Melbourne.

"My beach. Thank you for keeping us lockdowners updated," said Vicki.

"Bloody lockdown – those lucky people already there, enjoy!" said Sue.

"I was given binoculars and a Wildlife Coast gift voucher for my birthday. Was hoping to get to our family's holiday house to use them in the near future. So while waiting for Lockdown to end please keep posting photos so I don't miss out totally," begged Jodie.

"This is my absolute dream to see them in the wild and I can't believe we are in lockdown," Lisa said.

Whether watching online, or seeing them in real time, everyone was excited to see the whales return.

The announcement of restrictions easing for regional Victoria was welcome news to regional whale watchers, with Island Whale Month due to kick off this week.

Island Whale Month

Island Whale Month sets out to celebrate the arrival of migrating humpbacks and visiting Southern Right whales to our local waters.

Winter Whale Cruises with Wildlife Coast Cruises will commence on the Queen's Birthday weekend, and the Festival committee is working on a range of events across the month.

The award-winning Island Whale Festival will be held on the second weekend of the winter school holidays, from July 2-4. With some changes to meet Covid event requirements and the closure of the Cultural Centre, the Festival events will be spread across various venues including the Penguin Parade, The Nobbies Centre and St Philips Church. There will be an extensive range of science talks, Whale out of Water presentations and much more.

The official launch of the program has been postponed until Thursday, June 17.

A program of events is published and updated daily on the official website islandwhales.com.au and you can follow @IslandWhales on Facebook/Instagram.



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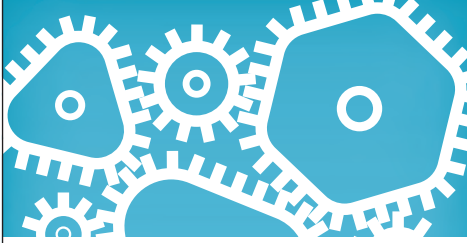
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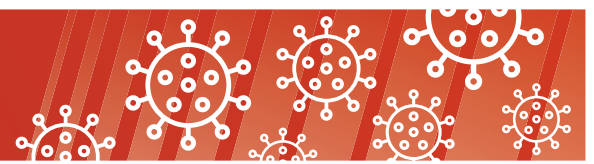
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Getting vaccinated

Like the rest of Victoria, people from Phillip Island and Bass Coast have heeded the call and are booking in and lining up to be vaccinated in droves. No one wants to spend another winter like the one in 2020. More than half our team at the Advertiser have received their first vaccination, and Eleanor McKay shares her experience of joining the queue and becoming one of the more than half a million Victorians who've started their vaccination journey.

Last Wednesday (June 2) I got my first AstraZeneca vaccine shot.

The actual injection was the easiest, most painless part of the process.

While getting the shot might have been quick – I think I spent less than five minutes with the nurse – everything else required patience.

One thing I know now is booking in takes persistence. A load of it.

My first call to the 1800 hotline was May 25. I got through, but due to the high volume of calls, a recorded message offered me the option to register my phone number for a call back.

Too easy! I registered my number and waited. And waited (still waiting ...).

Over the following week, I rang a few times a day. Every time the message was the same – high demand, unable to take your call, goodbye.

I considered trying my luck with a walk in at the Wonthaggi clinic, but when I heard people were queuing for three or four hours in the cold, persevering with the hotline while sitting in the warmth of my own house seemed like a better option.

Last Tuesday, I tried 13 times across the day. No joy.

On Wednesday, I got serious and rang 13 times in less than three hours.

At 9.42am I finally struck gold. Thirty minutes later, after a series of health questions, both my partner and I were booked in for a vaccination at 1pm that day.

Just after midday, we jumped in the car and headed for Wonthaggi.

When we arrived, around 12.45pm there were long queues for both those who had booked and the walk-in crowd.

Everyone was waiting patiently and politely, but the queues weren't moving quickly.

After 20 minutes, our booking times had come and gone, but we were still in a queue outside, just a few metres further along than when we arrived.

Even those who booked in were facing a wait of over an hour.

At ten past one, Mick the security guard, who had been keeping everyone informed and entertained with his jokes, announced loudly the clinic wouldn't be accepting any more walk-ins for the day.

Those walk-ins who had already been registered would be seen, and anyone else who arrived would be able to book in for an appointment for another day.

The crowd took the announcement without a murmur.

We're a patient and good-natured bunch it seems.

At 1.38pm we were still outside the town hall doors.

When Mick introduced Alice, who was running the clinic to the waiting crowd, she (and her staff) received a well-deserved round of applause for their hard work.

Then things started to move.

1.52pm: inside at last! Confirmed our booking and seated in the first waiting section.

1.57pm: moved to section two.

2.05pm: sitting with the nurse, ready to receive our injection.

2.11pm: in the observation zone.



Finally made it to the top of the queue at the mass vaccination clinic.



Even those who booked endured a wait of almost an hour in the queue outside the town hall.

2.37pm: out the door with our follow up appointment booked for September.

All up, the process had taken just under two hours.

The next day, with walk-ins on hold, people with bookings reported being in and out in an hour or less.

Reaction

So far, neither of us have experienced any serious reaction to the vaccination.

On Wednesday night, my arm was sore, but to be fair, I'd damaged the tendons in my shoulder and my arm had been sore for weeks, so it was hard to know how much was the shot and how much was the tendons. A few Panadol and an early night seemed the best option.

Thursday, we both felt less than brilliant – fuzzy headed, a slight temperature and super-tired – but with regular doses of Panadol, by the end of the day, things were looking up.

Book it

My advice? It's worth it to keep calling and book in. An online booking service is due to be launched any day and booking in does decrease the time you spend in the queue at the clinic.



The queue for walk-ins at the clinic stretched down the street.

On the day we attended, one lady in the walk-in queue said she'd been waiting over two hours ... and she still hadn't made it inside.

A friend did a walk in earlier in the week and said it took her three and a half hours to be processed.

"It's long, and \$%#@ cold," she texted me.

With people finally getting through on the booking hotline, the spots in the clinic are being fully booked (unlike the first week, where some days bookings were as low as 60). Bass Coast Health put a halt to walk-ins for four days last week, as the staff simply didn't have the capacity to cope with the high volume.

The other option is to book in with a local GP (see separate story for details).

I'm proud to see so many Victorians stepping up to be tested and vaccinated.

I'm hoping this lockdown is the last we'll experience this winter.

For that dream to become a reality, we all have to play a part.

So, I'm masking up, carrying my hand sanitiser and checking in wherever I go.

And I got vaccinated.

Vaccination is our only way out of this. That the one thing the medical experts and politicians agree on.

nounced it had requested double AstraZeneca doses vaccines to distribute to the GP Network over the next four weeks.

It has also asked for an additional 100,000 doses of Pfizer from mid-June for the state-run vaccination program, followed by 100,000 doses in the week of June 21, 110,000 by June 28 and 120,000 in the week of July 5.

Call the Victorian Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 675 398 to make a booking at a state-run clinic. The government has advised the hotline is experiencing unprecedented demand and people may need to call back. For more information visit www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine

Melburnians fleeing lockdown face big fines

It could be an expensive exercise for any Melburnians who head for their holiday homes during the lockdown.

Under the current restrictions, Melbourne residents still only have five reasons for leaving home and cannot travel more than 10kms from their homes.

Anyone who is allowed to visit regional areas (for example, to visit an intimate partner, authorised worker), must adhere to the restrictions in place in Melbourne, including wearing a mask indoors and outside and not visiting restaurants or attending public gatherings.

Police can issue on-the-spot fines of up to \$1652 for adults who fail or refuse to comply with the public health directives.

Fines of up to \$20,000 for individuals are possible through the court system.

Victoria Police has confirmed it will continue to protect the health and safety of all Victorians by enforcing the directions of the Chief Health Officer (CHO).

"People can expect to see a highly-visible police presence across Victoria, with our Operational Sentinel taskforce conducting proactive spot checks in public places and businesses," a police spokesperson said.

"Victoria Police will also be conducting mobile patrols, both in vehicles and on foot across the state. The mobile vehicle patrols will utilise Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology to scan car registration details and identify the residential addresses of those licence holders.

"Based on prior experiences, we are confident that the overwhelming

majority of Victorians will do the right thing and adhere to these restrictions so we can all return to normality as soon as possible."

Local residents reported police were conducting spot checks in supermarket carparks in Cowes during the first weekend of the lockdown.

The police said there were always people "who choose to blatantly disregard the CHOs directions".

"Anyone who selfishly and deliberately chooses to put their own needs above the health and safety of the entire community, can expect to be held accountable and fined," the spokesperson said.

If anyone is concerned about breaches of the CHO directions, call the Police Assistance Line on 131 444.

"Police will continue to conduct intelligence led home visits in response to complaints received through the Police Assistance Line," the spokesperson said.

However, it's worth remembering not all visitors come from Melbourne. Regional Victorians are free to travel to other areas in regional Victoria.

Masks

Under the current restrictions in regional Victoria, masks must be worn in indoor settings and should be carried with you at all times.

Adults who do not wear a face mask when required (and do not have a lawful exemption) can be fined \$200. Children can also be fined for not wearing a mask – \$40 for children aged under 15 years and \$80 for children aged between 15 and 18.

Vaccine roll out continues

Bass Coast Health staff have administered 204 vaccinations in the past seven days.

The Wonthaggi Town Hall Clinic is now fully booked and is currently not accepting walk ins from the general public.

It is unlikely that the clinic will be able to accommodate walk ins this week.

The only walk ins that will be accepted are ambulance officers, health care workers and aged and disability workers.

To make a booking, please call 1800 675 398. Alternatively, you can make a booking at the Town Hall.

A spokesperson for Bass Coast Health confirmed that people from Melbourne had tried to get vaccinated at the clinic last week.

"On Saturday Bass Coast Health staff suffered verbal abuse from people who had

travelled from Melbourne for the primary purpose of being vaccinated.

"The Chief Health Officer directive is clear that travel to regional Victoria is not allowed during the lockdown due to the high number of public exposure sites in Greater Melbourne and fleeting nature of the virus."

The Wonthaggi Clinic is open 9am-3pm Monday to Friday and Saturday 8.30am-12.30pm for vaccinations.

Bass Coast Health said over 500 people, including 257 in the last week had been tested for Covid at the new Cowes Drive Through.

Test numbers peaked when sports arenas in Melbourne were listed as public exposure sites.

The Cowes Drive Through is currently open seven days a week, from 9am – 3pm.

Vaccination options

As well as the mass vaccination clinic in Wonthaggi, you can book in for a vaccination through local GPs and medical centres.

The following clinics are taking bookings for vaccinations, but according to the Federal government website (covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au) most are booked out for the next seven days. All accept online bookings, except where otherwise indicated.

- Wonthaggi Respiratory Clinic

- South Gippsland Family Medicine
- San Remo Medical Clinic
- Inverloch Healthcare (phone bookings only)
- Cowes Medical Centre / Grandview Medical Clinic

Check your vaccine eligibility and find the nearest vaccination clinic at covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au.

To help meet the vaccination demand, last week, the state government an-

22 THE ADVERTISER, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2021

Junior footy's back!

U14s

With QR codes scanned and spectators comfortably tucked up in their cars, the battle between Phillip Island U14 Blue and Leongatha Green could kick off.

The Parrots shot out early scoring the first goal, nudging Phillip Island into action and it looked like a few days of remote learning and staying at home didn't dull the skills of the Island team.

Jack Briggs took on giants in the ruck successfully knocking the ball out for the midfield to carry to the scoring end of the field.

In dominating play, Phillip Island were well ahead at the siren.

The second term had Leongatha fired up but with the tackling pressure and intensity shown by Blake Murphy the Parrots were going to be caged.

The Island still held a strong lead at half time.

The Parrots only managed fleeting contact with the ball in the third quarter, PI defenders were just too strong, and the ball was sent quickly back into the scoring zone of the Blues.

The energy amongst these PI boys was contagious.

Entering the final term, PI managed to lock down Leongatha's defence. Tommy Newman through the forward line created space and opportunity with Max Taylor showing he was a strong option for moving the ball.

Another great win for U14 Blues. The winning song was sung in the car on the trip home.

Great work team!

U12s

It was a slow burn on Sunday morning when the Phillip Island Blues tackled, (yes, pun intended), Leongatha, in a COVID-19 "special rules" appearance game, at the Velodrome oval in Leongatha.

It started off slow and sunny, and the doggies needed to up their percentage after a one-point loss and a "bye", sent their ladder ranking falling marginally.

Leongatha kicked a couple of quick goals and the puppies looked like their missed training sessions had taken a toll on their strength and endurance.

Alex Szymanski nailed an amazing goal in the third quarter, giving the Island a glimmer of hope to perhaps secure a chance of not having to endure the walk of shame out of "Pleasantville" (before it turns to colour).

The last quarter turned around, and Charlie Fischer, Max Jess and Henry Dean had the crowd fist pumping the air with their quick and powerful goals, that gave the passionate parents hope.

Two mins left and scores were level. Leongatha and their tall, powerful squad kept taking strong marks to the Island kids kicks.

Luckily, after an unintended prolonged break in play, Jacob Solohub took a mark in front of goal.

The kick was strong and lengthy, but alas, slightly off the centre.

But that didn't matter, because time was up and the dogs came on top, by one point.



U14s Blue Thomas Macmillan drives the ball towards goal against Leongatha on Sunday.

U10s

After a week of lock down the blue pups hit the road for our longest trip this season so far to Leongatha.

With no change rooms available the team was advised to turn up ready to play and they certainly did from the first bounce!

Bodhi Cooper got an early morning phone call during the week from coach Marshy letting him know it was his turn to lead the team for the week.

Bodhi did a great job with some clever team first things that showed how much he is improving and has become an important part of the blue pup's team.

U10s have prided themselves this season on playing four good quarters of footy each week with every player doing the job they were asked, and this week was no different.

The number one rule is have fun and number two rule is first to the footy and that is exactly what the team did all game.

The east side of the island boys Arch Dallinger, Denver Firth

(one goal), Roy Patterson, Harvey Patterson (two goals) was in and under everything and Flynn Riley was a welcome return from injury kicking two goals.

The ever-reliable Archie Robbo also kicked a good goal.

Some great defensive work by Dexter Goodall, Chuck Cameron, Angus Kennedy, Lulu Van Der Walt, Taj Blundy and Brady Van Steensel kept Leongatha from troubling the scoreboard too much.

Max Wain and Miller Micallef were dominate in and under every pack and some awesome linking play from Ryder Van Steensel, Seb Rennie, Kai Sturt, Sara Szymanski and Zac Ivey was great to watch.

Liam Cleary put his hand up for a run in the ruck and improved with every ball up.

Leongatha never gave up and our blue pups played a great four quarters.

Big thanks to all our parent helpers who put their hands up every week, the kids wouldn't be having as much fun without you all!

Bass Coast Series back

Dates have been set for the 2022 Bass Coast Series with booking due to open for all three events on July 1.

Bass Coast Summer Series consists of the Cape Paterson Aquathon, Cowes Classic and San Remo Channel Challenge.

"We missed all three events in the summer of 2021 but the Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club, Cape Paterson SLSC, and the Phillip Island Football and Netball Clubs hope to see you all back keener than ever and help

us set some new participation records for all three events in 2022," a series spokesperson said.

The 2022 dates are: Cape Paterson Aquathon – Sunday 16th January at 10am

Cowes Classic – Saturday, February 5 (time to be confirmed)

San Remo Channel Challenge – Saturday, February 19 at 3.15pm.

The Little Penguin Dash will take place the same day as Cowes Classic

Online registrations should be available from July 1.

Correction:

In last week's edition, we incorrectly reported the Phillip Island Tennis Club raised \$364,000 at their Biggest Morning Tea. The correct figure was \$364.

THIS WEEKEND DRAWS

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION

Round 10, Saturday June 12

Phillip Island v Cora Lynn
Dalyston vs Kilcunda Bass

SOUTHERN GIPPSLAND JUNIOR FOOTBALL COMPETITION

Round 7, Sunday June 13

Phillip Island Blue v Dalyston
Kilcunda Bass v Leongatha Green

YOUTH GIRLS FOOTBALL COMPETITION

Round 6, Sunday June 13

Korumburra - Bena v Phillip Island

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION LADDERS

SENIOR FOOTBALL

	W	L	%	PTS
Phillip Island	6	1	290.49	24
Inverloch-Kongwak	6	1	161.45	24
Nar Nar Goon	6	1	125.10	24
Tooradin-Dalmore	5	2	171.03	20
Cora Lynn	5	2	105.59	20
Garfield	4	3	109.72	16
Warragul Industrials	3	4	119.81	12
Bunyip	3	4	73.60	12
Kilcunda Bass	1	6	67.19	4
Korumburra-Bena	1	6	55.71	4
Dalyston	1	6	48.67	4
Koo Wee Rup	1	6	40.11	4

RESERVES FOOTBALL

	W	L	%	PTS
Bunyip	6	1	481.10	24
Tooradin-Dalmore	6	1	425.47	24
Inverloch-Kongwak	5	2	217.62	20
Phillip Island	5	2	143.01	20
Warragul Industrials	5	2	124.59	20
Koo Wee Rup	4	3	94.68	16
Nar Nar Goon	4	3	90.89	16
Cora Lynn	3	4	128.62	12
Kilcunda Bass	3	4	77.83	12
Korumburra-Bena	1	6	30.16	4
Garfield	0	7	24.16	0
Dalyston	0	7	22.27	0

THIRDS FOOTBALL

	W	L	%	% WON
Garfield	6	0	261.74	100.00
I-Kongwak	4	1	701.43	80.00
Korumburra-Bena	4	1	379.35	80.00
Phillip Island	4	2	332.16	66.67
Nar Nar Goon	4	2	149.45	66.67
Cora Lynn	3	4	64.01	42.86
Bunyip	2	5	49.17	28.57
Kilcunda Bass	1	4	17.74	20.00
Koo Wee Rup	1	5	53.96	16.67
Dalyston	0	5	10.53	0.00
Warragul Indus	0	0	0.00	0.00
Tooradin-Dalmore	0	0	0.00	0.00

FOURTHS FOOTBALL

TEAM	W	L	%	% WON
Tooradin-Dalmore	6	0	1873.91	100.00
Cora Lynn	6	1	330.07	85.71
Garfield	5	1	381.90	83.33
Phillip Island	4	2	185.03	66.67
I-Kongwak	3	3	121.38	50.00
Kilcunda Bass	3	3	105.99	50.00
Nar Nar Goon	3	4	43.34	42.86
Korumburra-Bena	2	4	32.04	33.33
Bunyip	2	5	46.62	28.57
Koo Wee Rup	1	6	25.86	14.29
Dalyston	0	6	17.86	0.00
Warragul Indus	0	0	0.00	0.00

NETBALL

A-GRADE	Pts	%	C-GRADE	Pts	%
Dalyston	28	178.85	I-Kongwak	26	176.43
Bunyip	24	214.36	Bunyip	24	158.72
KoR-Bena	20	153.08	Dalyston	24	133.64
Tooradin-Dal	20	127.57	Warragul Indus	20	153.01
Warragul Indus	16	136.25	Cora Lynn	20	138.36
Phillip Island	12	101.15	Nar Nar Goon	16	132.24
Cora Lynn	12	92.56	Tooradin-Dal	14	128.57
Nar Nar Goon	12	73.05	Koo Wee Rup	12	95.86
I-Kongwak	12	70.38	Phillip Island	8	125.14
Koo Wee Rup	12	68.53	Kor-Bena	4	83.97
Garfield	0	45.38	Garfield	0	26.63
Kilcunda Bass	0	0.00	Kilcunda Bass	0	25.12
B-GRADE	Pts	%	17 & UNDER	Pts	%
Phillip Island	28	232.26	Kor-Bena	26	154.17
Tooradin-Dal	28	144.13	Koo Wee Rup	24	242.50
I-Kongwak	24	121.75	Phillip Island	24	228.80
Bunyip	20	121.61	I-Kongwak	24	226.92
Warragul Indus	16	108.30	Cora Lynn	20	162.83
Cora Lynn	14	95.47	Warragul Indus	16	153.42
Kor-Bena	12	108.95	Tooradin-Dal	14	83.19
Koo Wee Rup	10	98.55	Dalyston	8	102.00
Dalyston	8	88.49	Bunyip	8	68.12
Garfield	8	79.61	Nar Nar Goon	4	86.67
Kilcunda Bass	0	54.31	Kilcunda Bass	0	35.14
Nar Nar Goon	0	44.32	Garfield	0	6.25



PHILLIP ISLAND BULLDOGS
FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB

1951 & 1981 BACK-TO WEEKEND

30th & 31st July

All Welcome

FRIDAY 30TH JULY 6PM:

- Meet & Greet
- Welcome & Introductions by Club President
- 7pm Tribute to Ian Hill (1981 President)
- Meals Available

SATURDAY 31ST JULY:

- Home game against Garfield
- Lunch 12 midday - 2 course meal \$30 per head
- 6pm - Player introductions
- Present day awards
- Meals available

(Please advise of any dietary requirement)

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL by Thursday 29th July

TO BOOK GO TO: trybooking.com/bomil

- OR CONTACT -

John Weston: 0417 416 983

Ritchie Davie: 0400 531 777

Kaye Beaton: 0412 439 945

TIDE GUIDE

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

WED 9 JUN	THU 10 JUN	FRI 11 JUN	SAT 12 JUN	SUN 13 JUN	MON 14 JUN	TUE 15 JUN
LOW 5:10 am 0.87 m	LOW 6:00 am 0.79 m	HIGH 12:42 am 2.46 m	HIGH 1:29 am 2.52 m	HIGH 2:12 am 2.58 m	HIGH 2:53 am 2.62 m	HIGH 3:34 am 2.63 m
HIGH 12:27 pm 2.72 m	HIGH 1:15 pm 2.86 m	LOW 6:45 am 0.71 m	LOW 7:29 am 0.64 m	LOW 8:09 am 0.60 m	LOW 8:47 am 0.58 m	LOW 9:26 am 0.59 m
LOW 6:00 pm 1.43 m	LOW 6:55 pm 1.39 m	HIGH 2:00 pm 2.98 m	HIGH 2:41 pm 3.07 m	HIGH 3:21 pm 3.12 m	HIGH 3:59 pm 3.12 m	HIGH 4:35 pm 3.10 m
HIGH 11:52 pm 2.42 m		LOW 7:42 pm 1.33 m	LOW 8:23 pm 1.27 m	LOW 9:01 pm 1.22 m	LOW 9:38 pm 1.18 m	LOW 10:14 pm 1.15 m

All material is supplied in good faith and is believed to be correct. No responsibility or liability for errors or omissions is accepted.



Island girls ventured to Warragul to compete against their toughest opponent this season and managed to come out with another win.

Island girls win in tough encounter

Excited to be back playing football again, the island girls travelled to Warragul knowing they were coming up against their toughest opponent to date.

The Warragul girls were also undefeated this season.

Ahlee Penry was strong in the ruck giving the Island girls first use of the ball.

Sunday Brisbane and Jade Ricardo were dominant in the first quarter, and it wasn't long before Jade had the first goal on the board for the Island.

Stevie Hower and Poppy Marshall were providing great targets up forward, while Maya Huther on the wing and Lexi Walton at half back were racking up the possessions.

The second quarter saw Stevie Hower move into the ruck, and she continued to provide the girls with first use of the ball.

The quarter proved to be a bit of shoot out with both teams piling on the goals.

Zoe Carr made the most of



Coach – Diddy and the Youthgirls glad to be back on the ground after last week's covid lockdown.

her opportunities and snapped a quick goal, while Ahlee Penry, Sunday Brisbane and Poppy Marshall also added to the score.

Imogen Walker was working hard on the wing and Bella (Bel) Ross was solid in defence.

During the third quarter the scoring dried up, but the competition remained fierce.

Warragul continued to attack but some strong defence from Alaska Dixon and Lexi Walton kept their scores to a minimum.

A great kick from Ahlee Penry to open up the ground provided a great passage of play.

The final quarter saw Imogen (Immy) Bradford moved back to her favoured position on the wing and the experience of the Island girls started to show through.

Zoe Carr once again snapped truly while Kara Nasilasila, Sophie Gurr and Mia Boost worked hard to keep the pressure on up forward. Nikki (Jo Jo) Williams was strong in defence, ably assisted by Mackenzie (Macca) Wain and Milly Marshall who were able to keep the Warragul girls at bay.

This was a fantastic game to watch and a strong team effort by all girls.

Final Score: Phillip Island 6.6.42 def Warragul 5.3.33.

Goal Kickers: Zoe Carr 2, Sunday Brisbane, Ahlee Penry, Jade Ricardo, Poppy Marshall.

Best: Sunday Brisbane, Bella Ross, Maya Huther, Jade Ricardo, Lexi Walton, Zoe Carr and Stevie Hower.

Brave display from U17s soccer

U17s soccer team played top of the ladder team Inverloch.

This was the first home game, and another first for the team that there were three players on the bench to rotate.

From the first whistle the team showed that they were competing well, a little over two minutes in and Jake Munday slotted a goal past the Inverloch keeper.

The midfield and defence held up well, and if the Inverloch forwards showed any hope of getting through the defence, Hunter Vanderzwet was there to mop up as sweeper.

Inverloch managed to sneak three goals in the net before half

time, however Phillip Island's Keeper Liam Fuery stood solid in goals saving numerous scoring shots.

The second half saw both teams show great ball skills and had chances with several shots missing by the narrowest of margin, while Inverloch's forwards found the goals.

At the 70-minute mark, Jake Munday slotted the goal of the day from outside the 18-yard box landing it in the top right corner.

Adam Dean was solid in the midfield winning the contested ball.

Final score: Inverloch 6 to Phillip Island 2.



Best on ground for the U17s soccer team this week was Hunter Vanderzwet, Jake Munday and Adam Dean.

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AND STAFF**

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