

PHILLIP ISLAND &amp; SAN REMO

## ADVERTISER

Your Community Voice!

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

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# Jumping for joy

There was plenty to celebrate this week, including two of our cricket teams bringing home premiership cups (see Sport, pages 28 and 26), and Newhaven Primary prep teacher Bethanie Williams really captured the moment at Harmony Week, skipping with her students. Read more school news on page 19.

## Newhaven West developers argue their case

The key expert witness supporting Newhaven West's future subdivision agreed he had a conflict of interest, with his company also acting as a lobbyist for the land's developers, a hearing was told last week.

Landscape architect Darren Atkinson of Human Habitats last Wednesday appeared before the state government's two-month hearing on new planning controls for Phillip Island, under the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes project (DAL).

Mr Atkinson was called to give evidence on behalf of the owners of 906, 910 and 930 Phillip Island Road, Newhaven, which fronts Churchill Island and adjoins a marine national park, and is part of the internationally-recognised Western Port RAMSAR wetland.

Currently the town boundary for Newhaven ends at Boys Home Road, but the landowners are seeking to rezone for future subdivision their

land behind the chocolate factory.

Mr Atkinson told the hearing the site did not have landscape attributes that should exclude it from Newhaven's town boundary.

"I am fully supportive of protecting the distinctive landscapes in Bass Coast Shire but of the opinion the subject site does not fall into a distinctive landscape as it does not contain the landscape attributes," said Mr Atkinson, who is a specialist in urban landscapes.

"The future landscape of the subject site can be of high quality. It can adequately provide for the replacement of the vegetation previously cleared for farming."

### Conflict?

Under examination from the Planning Minister's lawyer Julie Forsyth, Mr Atkinson confirmed he was one of five directors of Human Habitats, the company that wrote the initial

submission for the Newhaven West landowners for the DAL.

He confirmed his company had been working with the landowners for several years and had created concept subdivision plans for the Newhaven land.

Human Habitats had also been lobbying the council to develop the land and stood to benefit from future work if it was included in Newhaven town boundaries.

"You as a director would benefit from that future work?" Ms Forsyth asked, adding this would impact his impartiality.

"Do you understand your independence is compromised?"

Mr Atkinson replied "that could be seen as correct, yes". He said he believed he was an independent witness because he had not read all documents in the brief given to him.

Ms Forsyth asked if any of these conflicts of interest had been dis-

closed through the DAL process, and Mr Atkinson said none of the issues had been flagged.

Panel members questioned Mr Atkinson's impartiality and he replied his assessment was "completely independent".

Two weeks ago consultant Claire Scott – who set out criteria for what made a distinctive landscape in the DAL – was challenged by lawyers for developers as having a conflict of interest because her husband owned a holiday house in Ventnor.

Ms Scott disagreed with the assertion, saying she had a more intimate understanding of Phillip Island and Bass Coast because of her connection to the area.

### Significant?

Mr Atkinson highlighted a telecommunication tower at Newhaven – behind the garden centre – was visible from Samuel Amess Drive,

while homes at Newhaven were visible from Churchill Island and therefore these set a precedent for further development.

"You drive down the beautiful tree lined landscape of Samuel Amess Drive and the telecommunication tower is a point of reference," he said.

Ms Forsyth asked if the development would be prominent and "completely change the view to the mainland" from Churchill Island.

Atkinson: "I can see there's some change to the view, yes."

Forsyth: "Do you agree the development would be detrimental to the distinctive attributes of that land?"

Atkinson: "No".

*Continued page 3*

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7 day weather forecast

Wed/Mar29

SHOWER OR TWO

15 20

Thu/Mar30

SHOWER OR TWO

10 20

Fri/Mar31

SHOWER OR TWO

14 21

Sat/Apr1

SHOWER OR TWO

12 17

Sun/Apr2

POSSIBLE SHOWER

12 19

Mon/Apr3

MOSTLY SUNNY

13 18

Tue/Apr4

PARTLY CLOUDY

13 18

# Crime in the spotlight

The Crime Statistics Agency has released its data for the 12 months to the end of December 2022.

Criminal incidents in Bass Coast for 2022 were down by 3.8 per cent on the previous year, back to 2019 levels. The rate is below the state average.

Family incidents also dropped (by 8.7 per cent), but the rate in the shire remains well above the state average.

The statistics included a breakdown of the number of offences recorded in 2022, down by 10.1 per cent on the previous year.

In further good news, while the number of offences was down, the alleged offender tally was up by 6.1 per cent. This tally shows when an individual (or organisation) has been linked as an alleged offender.

Wonthaggi and Cowes remain the top areas for criminal incidents, with criminal damage and breaches of family violence orders the principal offences.

The alleged offender incidents relate primarily to assault (and related offences) and breaches of orders.

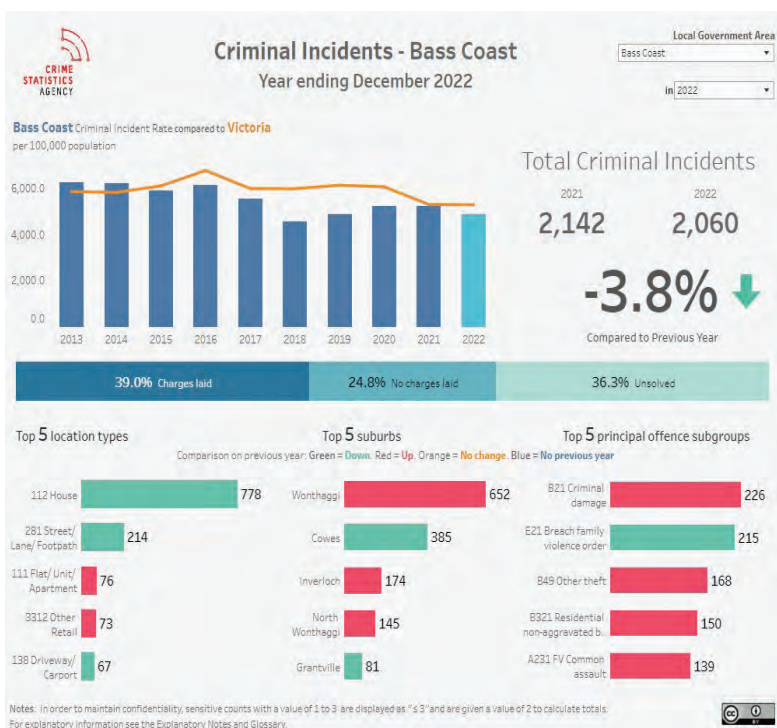
In a statement responding to the statistics, Victoria Police said across the state, overall crime remained well below pre-pandemic levels – there were 52,418 less criminal offences committed last year than in 2019 (9.8 per cent decrease).

Family violence related offences rose slightly and police said they will continue to concentrate on family violence, with “Family Violence Investigation Unit detectives proactively focussing on known family violence offenders and victims every day, so that we can detect offending and support those impacted”.

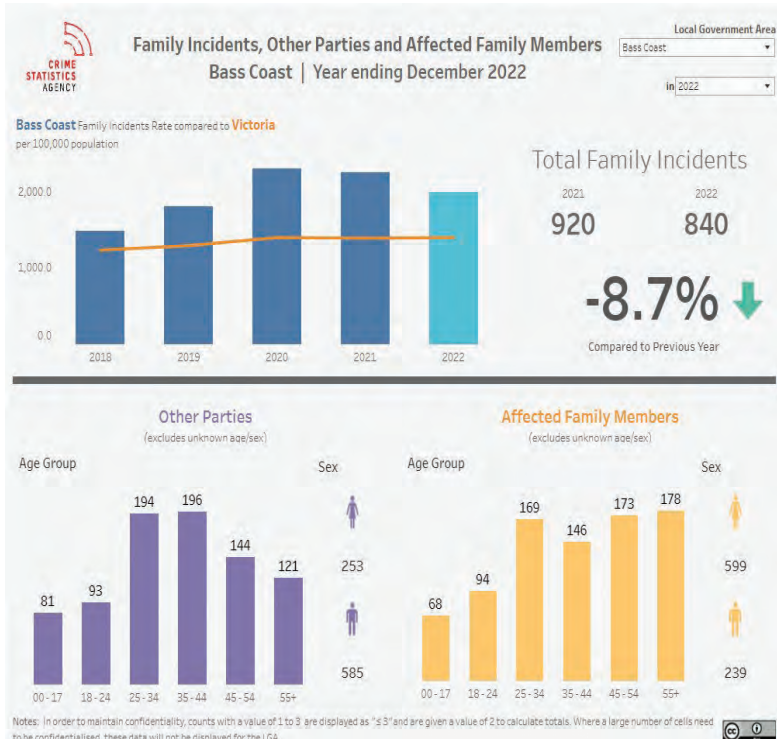
Police said while burglaries statewide were at their second lowest levels since 1993, there had been an increase in aggravated residential burglaries, driven predominantly by youth offenders targeting unlocked homes seeking to steal motor vehicles.

“Given their overrepresentation in serious crimes including aggravated burglaries, car thefts, robberies, and carjackings, youth offenders remain a significant focus for Victoria Police,” the statement said.

For the details of Bass Coast statistics: [www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/crime-statistics/latest-crime-data-by-area](http://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/crime-statistics/latest-crime-data-by-area)



Criminal Incidents in Bass Coast for 2022 were down by 3.8 per cent on the previous year, and back to 2019 levels. The rate is below the state average.



Totally family incidents dropped by 8.7 per cent, but the rate in Bass Coast is still well above the state average.



We all love a good April Fool's prank. Thank you to reader Sue Slater who sent us these photos of the day the Phillip Island bridge was "auctioned". The lucky buyer was this elegantly dressed koala. Apparently, the prank was organised by then Wonthaggi real estate agent Dennis Ginn, and even included a Joan Kirner stand-in!

## The bridge... going, going, gone!



While the date was definitely April 1, Sue wasn't sure of the year, so if anyone knows what year it was, or recognises anyone in the photo, please let us know ([advertiser@pisra.com.au](mailto:advertiser@pisra.com.au) or 5952 3201).

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The 48ha Phillip Island airfield site at 1 Veterans Drive was debated at last week’s state government panel hearing, with the owners – Glen Waverley Real Estate – seeking to have it rezoned for subdivision. The site has high-quality vegetation and is home to nationally-protected animal species.

# Airport, Smiths Beach subdivisions could “benefit” threatened species

Even though the current level of human population on Phillip Island is “threatening” to the environment, land at the Cape Woolamai airport and Smiths Beach could be subdivided to benefit nationally-protected species.

That’s according to an expert witness on behalf of the owners of these sites who last week gave evidence at the state government’s two-month hearing on new planning controls for Phillip Island, under the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes project (DAL).

Best Hooper Property Lawyers’ solicitor Geoff Lake last week represented four clients over two days.

The clients – all seeking to have their land rezoned for subdivision – are:

1. The 48ha Phillip Island airfield site at 1 Veterans Drive (owned by Glen Waverley Real Estate)
  2. 34ha at 87 Back Beach Road, between Sunderland Bay and Smiths Beach (Jim Goumas)
  3. 90ha south of the existing Coronet Bay settlement (Coastal Estates) and
  4. 13ha south-east of Dalyston’s settlement boundary (Justin Taylor).
- Mr Lake called on four witnesses – in planning, economics, landscape and ecology – concluding no town boundary in any town in Bass Coast should be protected, also questioning the merits of planning controls to protect significant landscapes.
- Mr Lake said the DAL was “too parochial” and focused on the “biased influence” of residents who had moved to the area in recent years who “seek to shut the gate behind them”.

## Flora, fauna

Brett Lane of Nature Advisory gave evidence on behalf of the landowners on the ecological importance of the airport and Smiths Beach site.

Mr Lane said even though both sites had significant biodiversity, they would be suitable for subdivisions without “adversely impacting the ecology”.

He said Cape Woolamai had more than a hectare of high-quality vegetation and was home to nationally-protected animal species, such as the short-tailed shearwater, while the Smiths Beach property had significant coastal vegetation and a dam home to protected bird species.

The Planning Minister’s lawyer Julie Forsyth asked whether this flora and fauna would be impacted by increased human populations, dogs, cats, and lighting, for example.

Mr Lane agreed but said subdivisions could be managed well with careful design and resident compliance, such as paying biodiversity levies.

Ms Forsyth asked if good management of biodiversity could be achieved with other projects such as tourism under one manager, as opposed to housing subdivisions, which had many individual owners.

“There are risks with urban development and in particular subdivi-



Last October, the Advertiser reported VCAT knocked back a planning permit for a home on this Smiths Beach property because the south coast of Phillip Island is of “state significance”. The owner is now seeking to have his land rezoned for subdivision through the Bass Coast DAL process.

sions and if you don’t allow urban development you don’t open up those risks,” she asked.

Mr Lane eventually conceded this was correct but only after repeating the benefits of managed subdivisions on protected flora and fauna.

Ms Forsyth asked if indirect threats from urban development were “more pronounced on Phillip Island” than other areas, because of its habitat.

Mr Lane replied the current level of human settlement was “potentially quite threatening” but Phillip Island Nature Parks management had ensured species such as hooded plovers were protected and enhanced.

## “Political risk”

Landscape architect Steve Schutt of Hansen Partners gave evidence on behalf of the four landowners that the methodology used to create the DAL was “not sufficiently robust to be relied on”, was weak and “not up to industry standards”.

Mr Schutt said sections of the landscape at the airport were not significant enough to be protected and should not be locked out of the town boundaries, especially where it had been cleared and contained airport buildings.

He said while sections of the land around Smiths Beach was deserving of its ranking as state significant, it was unclear why the area closest to Back Beach Road was protected from development.

Under a three-hour cross-examination, the Planning Minister’s lawyer Julie Forsyth asked whether Mr Schutt had approached the Bass Coast DAL with “an eye for error”, instructed to find weaknesses, to which he agreed.

Ms Forsyth challenged Mr Schutt’s conclusions by highlighting the methodology used in Bass Coast was the same as that applied to the Victorian coastline, such as the Great Ocean Road, asking whether his criticism had been “misleading” and “woefully inadequate”.

“I certainly wouldn’t say it’s misleading,” Mr Schutt replied.

“I’ll accept it’s incomplete.”

Ms Forsyth asked Mr Schutt whether protected settlement boundaries were “treated with caution given the political risk and uncertainty for landowners”, to which he replied he was “no more political than anyone else who votes”.

## VCAT

Bass Coast Shire’s lawyer David Vorchheimer asked Mr Schutt whether he had declared a potential conflict of interest to the DAL panel, having represented the owner of the same property at 87 Back Beach Road, Smiths Beach, on behalf of Best Hooper Lawyers, in a VCAT hearing last year.

Mr Schutt said he had not declared this because he didn’t think it was “relevant”.

Last October, the Advertiser reported VCAT knocked back a planning permit for a home on the Smiths Beach property because the south coast of Phillip Island is of “state significance” (“Coastal beauty wins over development”).

Mr Goumas had sought a permit to build a 290sqm, four-bedroom home 57 metres from the cliff edge.

After Bass Coast Shire rejected the permit, the owner took the shire to VCAT who also refused it.

“Phillip Island has a strong history of inappropriate residential development,” VCAT member Christopher Harty said at the time.

“The Phillip Island western and southern coasts are recognised as of state significance with policy referring to protecting the undeveloped character of the coastal strip and setting back development from the coast.”

At the VCAT hearing Mr Schutt argued the dwelling wouldn’t be visible and wouldn’t impact the green break between Smiths Beach and Sunderland Bay.

Mr Vorchheimer told last week’s hearing ultimately VCAT disagreed with Mr Schutt’s evidence, adding the land represented almost 30 per cent of the green break between the two hamlets.



This is the land proposed for development at Newhaven West. The developers’ proposed concept designs – not available to the public – included extensive carparking along Phillip Island Road and service roads, for mooted tourism facilities.

# Newhaven West developers argue their case

From page 1

Forsyth: “You think it would be a positive change?”

Atkinson: “It could be, yes.”

While Mr Atkinson agreed land neighbouring the developer’s site was significant, he said his client’s site wasn’t significant.

Ms Forsyth highlighted that Mr Atkinson had used photos in his evidence that “underplayed the visibility” of the proposed Newhaven West development.

She asked if the proposed designs would be a different landscape to the current farmland and native vegetation on the land and Mr Atkinson agreed it would.

She asked whether any future resident on the subdivision would be allowed to cut down significant vegetation because it was in a bush-fire zone, and Mr Atkinson agreed.

## Environment

Ms Forsyth examined the developers’ proposed concept designs for the Newhaven West land, which included extensive carparking along Phillip Island Road and service roads – for mooted tourism facilities – asserting it wouldn’t provide a green break on the tourist road.

Mr Atkinson said he wouldn’t want to “experience a sea of car parks” on Phillip Island Road but bitumen could be softened with tree planting.

The Phillip Island Conservation Society’s (PICS) Terry Nott asked

Mr Atkinson whether the lands’ proximity to the RAMSAR and marine national park areas required more stringent controls.

Mr Atkinson agreed.

“Absolutely. It’s about best practice and urban sensitive water design, whether it’s a paddock (or a housing subdivision),” he said, comparing this proposed development to one in Werribee.

Mr Nott also questioned Mr Atkinsons selective use of photos, failing to show environmentally-sensitive areas.

Mr Atkinson replied he had selected photos “I thought would be helpful”.

Lawyer Graeme Peake represented the Newhaven West landowners at the planning panel, who include Howard Verwey and Geoff Moed.

Mr Peake said according to the 2010 San Remo, Newhaven and Cape Woolamai structure plan, this land is “future residential subject to a detailed structure plan and coastal vulnerability hazard assessment”, with the town boundary finishing at Samuel Amess Drive.

He said if Newhaven’s boundary finished at Boys Home Road “there would be no more land available” in the hamlet for development.

“We don’t dispute the coastal landscapes need to be protected. But it’s not the same as prohibiting development,” Mr Peake said, adding the Newhaven West subdivision would be vegetated 2000 sqm lots.

# More land supply does not help affordability

An economist last week acknowledged under cross-examination that simply rezoning land and making it for sale did not address “market failures” such as affordability, rental pressure and permanent homes versus holiday homes.

Urban economist Chris McNeill of Ethos Urban gave evidence on behalf of his clients, the four landowners – (including the Phillip Island airport, and 87 Back Beach Road, Smiths Beach) (see separate story) – saying more people wanted coastal, lifestyle properties on Phillip Island, rather than conventional land in towns such as Wonthaggi.

Under state government policy, every Victorian shire must show 15 years of land supply across a municipality.

But Mr McNeill said by his calculation there was just 12 years’ supply of lifestyle properties, but 37 years’ conventional supply in Bass Coast.

He focused on his clients’ towns, concluding Cape Woolamai was “almost fully built out” and Smiths Beach had “very limited vacant supply” and each “would be a valuable addition to Phillip Island’s supply”.

Under cross-examination by

lawyers representing the Planning Minister and Bass Coast Shire, Mr McNeill agreed simply rezoning land and making it available did not address “market failures” such as affordability, rental pressure, and buyers opting for holiday homes rather than permanent houses, but it did “play a part”.

He acknowledged capacity to accommodate growth was limited by environmental sensitivities and in one sentence he acknowledged services and infrastructure needed to match population growth, agreeing there was a “tipping point where towns can’t grow much more”.

Panel chair Kathy Mitchell asked if buyers were opting for affordability or lifestyle.

Mr McNeill replied he believed if coastal properties “dried up”, they wouldn’t choose Wonthaggi – where the majority of future land supply will be made available in Bass Coast – even if it was more affordable.

“Whether Wonthaggi is more attractive to those buying in coastal townships, I don’t think it will be. I think there will be a limited transfer of demand to Wonthaggi,” Mr McNeill said.

More on DAL, see page 5



# Council questioned on charge scheme process

The Say No group opposing the proposed special charge scheme at Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay have accused the council of failing to publicly reveal details of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan for the project.

In a media statement, the group said: "Residents in Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay are aware of a draft Council Due Diligence Cultural Heritage Assessment undertaken in 2022 but it seems no further action has taken place."

"This draft assessment has not been finalised in more than five months. Normally a report of this size is finalised within two weeks. The words due diligence indicates that formal processes are being followed but it begs the question, are they?"

They've also questioned if the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation was aware of the initial assessment.

Bass Coast Shire Council has clarified the situation, saying while a cultural heritage due diligence assessment was undertaken in October 2022, a full management plan would only be undertaken if the scheme went ahead.

"The purpose of the assessment was to undertake a Desktop Assessment and field inspection (from the road reserve only) to advise if a Cultural Heritage Management Plan will be required for the potential works," a council spokesperson explained.

"The report determined that a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) is required."

"It is standard practice to undertake a CHMP prior to construction activities if required by the due diligence report. As such, this is one of

the first activities that would be undertaken if the project is approved for construction in the future, to manage and protect cultural heritage in the area.

"In terms of consultation, the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council appointed Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation as Registered Aboriginal Party with rights and responsibilities over Aboriginal cultural heritage within this region on July 19, 2017."

"This organisation has not been contacted for the current level of assessment. This organisation will be consulted with during the CHMP if the project is approved for construction."

At the March meeting, Bass Coast Shire councillors voted to progress the project, with one option to be costed.

Costing and a funding model will be investigated and presented to a future council meeting, including a recommendation whether to declare the scheme.

Property owners would then be notified and have 28 days to lodge submissions to object or support the project.

Under the rules of the special charge scheme, which are set out in legislation, if more than 50 per cent of property owners object, the scheme cannot proceed. If less than 50 per cent object, council will decide whether to declare the scheme.

Updates on the scheme and a copy of the cultural heritage due diligence assessment are available at [engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/surf-beachroads](http://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/surf-beachroads).



Council has responded to criticism from the Say No group about not releasing a Cultural Heritage Management Plan for the Surf Beach Sunderland Bay special charge scheme, saying one would only be prepared if the scheme went ahead.



Double standards? Shire officers frequently park in the same area where locals are getting fined.

## More fines for favourite Cowes viewing spot

More residents have warned motorists to avoid a favourite viewing area on the Cowes Esplanade after receiving parking fines, even when idling their car for a few minutes.

Russell said he was challenging a \$185 fine he received this month after parking his car for "no more than three to four minutes" on the dirt area on the corner of the Esplanade and Steele Street – overlooking Cowes east beach.

"I pulled in off the road to check my diary when a council car pulled in front of me and I had to drive off around him," Russell said.

"I would have expected he would at least approach me and ask me to move on."

Russell said the infringement notice stated his vehicle "was parked or left standing".

"I was neither parked, nor was the vehicle left standing. I was in the car, the engine was running and I did not leave the vehicle."

"I'm not going to pay it."

Russell, who runs a contracting business, said in challenging the fine, he had sent Bass Coast Shire photos of shire workers parking in the same area, highlighting "double standards".

"They were working/mowing in the area, but they were definitely "parked and left standing" in the same location. There was no one in sight and the vehicle was unattended," Russell said.

"If they are allowed to park wherever they wish, the area perhaps should be signed as "council vehicles accepted".

"If the idea is that no vehicles are allowed, perhaps the corner should have bollards to make it a pedestrian-access only zone."

Last week former shire councillor Stephen Fullarton said in the past month alone he had heard from five people who had a similar experience: parking briefly or even idling their car, then receiving a fine in the mail.

"On top of those I've personally witnessed three people get fined," Steve said, adding that one was a tradie who idled his car while eating lunch.

"People come here to enjoy themselves but leave with a sour taste in their mouths because of the fun police."



A former shire councillor said in the past month alone he had heard from five people who had a similar experience – parking briefly or even idling their car at the Esplanade viewing spot, then receiving a fine in the mail – while he had witnessed a further three people fined.

A shire spokesperson said the area was clearly signed "no stopping", which means partly parking is also not allowed, including dropping off or picking up passengers.

"Drivers do not need to have left their vehicle for the "no stopping" rule to apply. The offence occurs as soon as the vehicle is stopped, even if the motor is still running," they said.

They said parking officers can serve an infringement in person, by post, or by affixing the infringement notice to the vehicle.

"As part of issuing an infringement notice, our Parking Officers are required to collate evidence of the offence. This includes documenting notes and taking photos, enabling an accurate record of the offence to be collected."

The spokesperson said drivers who have received a fine could apply to council to have it reviewed.

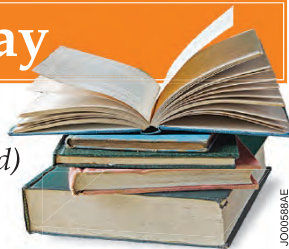
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Neighbours raised asbestos concerns after this home on The Esplanade in Cowes was demolished last week.

## Esplanade demolition

The old brick house on the corner of the Cowes Esplanade and Warley Avenue was last week demolished, with surrounding neighbours highlighting asbestos concerns.

A Bass Coast Shire spokesperson confirmed a building permit had been issued for the demolition of the home at 18 The Esplanade.

They said a planning application was currently under assessment – not yet publicly

advertised – for a community care accommodation building.

While a resident said the day after the demolition she witnessed workers in protective gear removing what appeared to be asbestos, there had been no apparent safety precautions carried out to protect the public.

The spokesperson said "concerns regarding the works on site should be directed to the private building surveyor and the EPA".



# DAL must protect Western Port Woodlands, says Mayor

As the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) Standing Advisory Committee public hearings continue, Bass Coast Mayor, Cr Michael Whelan has ramped up calls to protect the Western Port Woodlands.

In his weekly column, the Mayor said Council was shocked and disappointed last year when the state government decided to “green light the extension of a controversial sand mine in Grantville into the much-loved Western Port Woodlands”.

“This decision ignored serious community and environmental concerns,” Cr Whelan said.

“It permitted Dandy Premix Quarries to clear 13 hectares of native woodland, expand their already large sand quarry, remove 30 million tonnes of sand over 40 years, and dig below the water table. Irreparable, the woodlands would be gone forever.”

Cr Whelan said Southern brown bandicoots, powerful owls, swift parrots, koalas, plus countless endangered plant and fungus species call Western Port Woodlands home, describing it as a crucial ‘biolink’, or wildlife corridor, connecting fragments of rare coastal forest.

“Mining this habitat directly con-

tradicts the state’s own mission to safeguard areas of outstanding environmental and cultural significance: Bass Coast was declared a Distinctive Areas and Landscapes in 2019, one of just four, garnering some of the highest planning protections.

“Council passionately opposes this project, so joined the Save Western Port Woodlands campaign alongside the South Gippsland Conservation Society, Victorian National Parks Association and more.”

The Mayor said things were now at “a critical point, with significant progress” and the future of Western Port Woodlands has been central to the ongoing panel hearings.

“Lawyers and scientists presented expert evidence, which at the heart questioned why most of this native forest is designated an ‘extractive industry interest area,’” Cr Whelan stated.

“Eight destructive sand mines already operate there, including five in conservation reserves. Another 11 work permits have been approved for sand mining, seven more are under application.

“Twenty-six sand mines in an area of outstanding significance



is disastrous: they are permanent, deep scars on our landscape.”

The Mayor said the Minister’s own ecology expert, James Garden, agrees.

“At the committee, he publicly stated that the Western Port Woodlands are of irreplaceable, national significance, and that sand mining is incompatible with biodiversity objectives. Conservation means protecting vegetation – not clearing it.

“Critically James also agreed that

post-mining rehabilitation will never heal the land. Once cleared, vegetation is lost permanently.

“Sand mining is not appropriate within our vitally important, unspoilt areas nor within proximity to residents. Resource extraction is a threat to our economy, which directly relies on our environment, especially tourism and agriculture.”

The Mayor said Bass Coast Shire Council urgently seeks Extractive Industry Interest Areas be removed from Bass Coast and that sand mining ends here.

“We ask the Minister to accept the recommendations from the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes public hearing. Our environment is our economy in Bass Coast, yet the state’s incongruous decision proves it does not value both equally, which is incredibly concerning.

“I want to personally thank everyone involved for their passion and hard work. I invite you to join the next hearing on April 12 at Wonthaggi Town Hall, in person or online, where Save Western Port Woodland will be presenting.

“This is critical for Bass Coast and future generations, so let’s keep fighting!”

## Coronet Bay, Corinella merger?

Corinella and Coronet Bay would merge into one big town if a developer successfully rezones land for subdivision.

Landscape architect Darren Atkinson of Human Habitats last Wednesday appeared before the state government’s two-month hearing on new planning controls for Bass Coast, under the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes project (DAL).

Mr Atkinson gave evidence in support of the landowner, who is seeking to rezone property between Norsemens Road, Coronet Bay and Corinella Road, Corinella.

Mr Atkinson said the land should not be excluded from Coronet Bay’s town boundary.

“With policy and appropriate overlays, the future landscape of the site can be of high quality,” he said.

“I looked at Eagles Nest, San Remo, the Nobbies – that is what we’re protecting in the shire (under the DAL).”

Bass Coast Shire’s lawyer David Vorchheimer showed Mr Atkinson a Google Earth image of the property

the landowner was seeking to subdivide.

“It would be a significant area,” said Mr Vorchheimer, to which Mr Atkinson agreed.

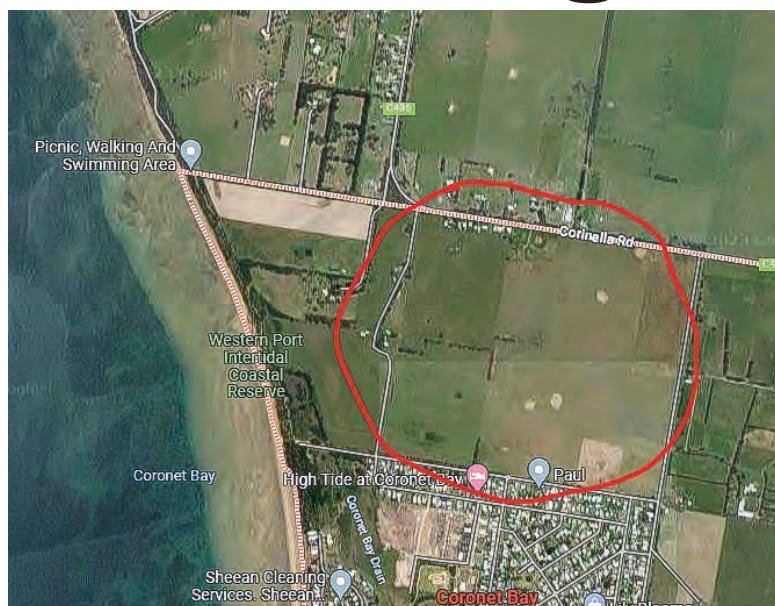
“If the panel were to recommend the settlement boundary include this area it would represent a significant change to the landscape for Coronet Bay.”

Mr Vorchheimer said if the land was to be developed there would not be a break between Corinella and Coronet Bay.

Mr Atkinson said the developer would make larger lot sizes about 1km from Agar Road to diminish the sense of housing density so it wouldn’t be like “metropolitan Melbourne”.

“This is still a rural setting and I respect Bass Coast,” Mr Atkinson said.

This area seeking rezoning has changed since the start of the DAL process, with four lots being sold by the superannuation fund that owned them: 443 and 485 Corinella Road, and 12 and 24 Norsemens Road.



Bass Coast Shire’s lawyer showed a Google Earth image of the property the landowner was seeking to subdivide, saying if it were to be developed it would fill the gap between the two waterline communities.

## Is Phillip Island state or nationally significant?

How does Phillip Island’s landscape compare to other parts of Victoria?

That was the question posed by one of the planning panel members last week in the state government’s two-month hearing on new planning controls for Phillip Island, under the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes project (DAL).

Landscape architect Steve Schutt of Hansen Partners said the south and west coasts of the island were of “state significance”.

But he said it didn’t compare to Wilsons Promontory or the 12 Apostles – which were both of national and “potentially” international significance.

“The Penguin Parade has some international prominence but not in relation to its landscape.

“The south and west coast state classification is justifiable.”



Is Phillip Island’s landscape equal to ...



... this landscape on the Great Ocean Road?



... or this landscape at Wilsons Promontory?

### What’s next?

Next week lawyers for landowners in San Remo and Ventnor will call on expert witnesses over two

days in the Bass Coast Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) planning panel hearing.

Following this, on Thursday March 30 community organisations will begin presenting includ-

ing the Bass Coast branch of the National Trust, and the Victorian Farmers Federation.

The public can listen to the hearing via video or phone.

Once concluded, the panel will

provide an independent report to the Planning Minister.

Details: [www.planningpanels.vic.gov.au/panels-and-committees/projects/distinctive-areas-and-landscapes-referral-bass-coast](http://www.planningpanels.vic.gov.au/panels-and-committees/projects/distinctive-areas-and-landscapes-referral-bass-coast)

### Community has their say on development

On social media, locals gave their feedback on the state government’s current two-month hearing on new planning controls for Phillip Island, under the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes project (DAL), especially on rezoning requests for large areas for subdivision including Ventnor, Smiths Beach, Cape Woolamai and Newhaven.

**Bruce:** “One claim by the developers’ lawyers is they need to open up the land for more “affordable” housing – that is just a falsehood. Open up more land away from the beach or without water views such as in Bass and Wonthaggi then the houses may be more affordable. Areas near the beach or with water views will always attract a premium therefore restricting affordability.”

**Megan:** “I understand Phillip Island is becoming a popular place but if we continue to build it up then it’s going to lose the charm and just become another suburb that’s crowded. The beauty of this place is the space, the nature.”

**Maree:** “Having lived in the island for 40 years, I have seen it deteriorate, be over-developed and it will never be the same. It became way too popular in the past few years and now there is no turning back.”

**Sharon:** “Totally agree. Leave it as is.”

**Andrew:** “Let them open the land up but ensure they improve it: a wildlife natural sanctuary for the bird life and already relocated animals that live on the island. Just stop turning the island into metropolitan suburb sprawl.”

**Mike:** “Cranbourne by the Sea.”

**Kellie:** “There is plenty of availability of cheaper housing or blocks in Grantville, Bass, Coronet Bay, Corinella, Dalyston, Wonthaggi, Lang Lang: the list goes on. No more houses for housing developments for Phillip Island. One road in – one road out – it’s not rocket science. No more traffic is needed to go over that one bridge.”

**Ash:** “(Develop) so we can get 300 new houses on pristine farmland to be bought by cashed up investors looking to turn the place into one giant AirBnB? Yeah, no thanks.”

**Trevor:** “No new residential zoned areas on the island. Keep the rural and nature areas free of houses, to keep the island a unique rural nature environment. If the Labor government allows more planned residential zoned areas they need to get developers to pay for another bridge, larger sewage, water, power, wider roads, stop lights and replacement for the wildlife killed by more traffic on the roads.”

**Vanna:** “No absolutely no. The Island is at capacity. No road access at busy times, no phones and internet when busy, no parking in towns, no dog park, no 24-hour police station. I could go on and on.”

**Steve:** “We need a bridge to the Mornington Peninsula.”

**Eve** (regarding the Ventnor subdivision and the Matthew Guy payout): “They have to return settlement money if subdivision goes through. They got settlement (payout) because they were told subdivision would go through when it didn’t. Matthew Guy time to come clean on who was involved and don’t quote a privacy agreement.”





Managing Director James Kelly, one of the founders of Lifestyle Communities, with the local team Alice Feehan, Abby Morgan, Simone Fox, Tara Holt and Peter and Paula Newman.



Attendee Helen Thompson, with daughters Kellie Thompson and Jaclyn Vagai.

# Lifestyle Communities Phillip Island launch

Lifestyle Phillip Island hosted its official launch last Thursday March 23.

The company said pre-sales for the development in Settlement Road commenced in December last year and was hugely successful, taking deposits for 30 per cent of the project.

The launch at the Phillip Island Winery gave future homeowners a glance into what this new community has to offer.

The evening was hosted by James Kelly, Managing Director of Lifestyle Community.

"This is one of our most exciting projects to date in one of Victoria's most beautiful locations, the site is truly special," Mr Kelly said.

"We are thrilled to be able to support this local community by bringing downsizing housing to the island along with employing local talent.

"Downsizing with us will allow homeowners to enjoy a more relaxed, resort like lifestyle and free themselves from the hefty maintenance costs and bills that come with a bigger home."

Whether you're a Phillip Island local looking to downsize to your own slice of paradise or a sea changer seeking an uninterrupted island staycation Lifestyle Phillip Island is the ultimate coastal community.

Perfect by 20 years of experience and passion for creating enriching homes and communities, this serene seaside oasis will redefine downsizing for homeowners.

Featuring modern, low maintenance homes and multi-million-dollar amenities, Lifestyle Phillip Island has been thoughtfully designed for the next generation of downsizers, featuring:

- 25 metre pool
- Spa
- Cold water plunge pool
- Golf Simulator
- Boat house with paddle boards
- Gym
- Peloton
- Reformer Pilates
- InfraRed sauna
- Food hub
- Moonlight cinema and micro deluxe cinema
- Electric car and bike
- Pickleball
- Dog wash

Located on Settlement Road in Cowes this ultimate coastal community is only 350 metres from the beach. Homes are on sale now, starting from \$470,000.

[lifestylecommunities.com.au](http://lifestylecommunities.com.au)

Phone: 1300 50 55 60.

/ Sponsored article /



A large group attended the launch of Lifestyle Communities Phillip Island, at the Phillip Island Winery last week.



Managing Director James Kelly spoke about the benefits of Lifestyle Communities, noting Phillip Island was the 24th community in the company's portfolio.



Jude Thompson, Jill Short, Brigid Sanders, David and Gayle Jennings at the Lifestyle Communities launch at the Phillip Island Winery.

## Grand Princess marks end of cruise season

On Wednesday March 22, Phillip Island welcomed the biggest cruise ship of the season, when the Grand Princess arrived.

Carrying 2470 passengers and 1107 crew, many came ashore to explore Phillip Island. With full shuttles operating all day, Cowes was buzzing with many happy passengers exploring the town.

Destination Phillip Island (DPI) staff, along with council staff were on hand to greet the visitors.

The arrival of the Grand Princess marks the end of a successful cruise season.

Between December 22 and March 23, Phillip Island saw 11

cruise ship arrivals, bringing a total of 6304 passengers and 4892 crew. According to DPI, passengers took 3391 tours on the island pre-booked through their respective cruises operators, while many more booked private tours or explored independently.

"Supporting these visits takes a team effort," said a DPI spokesperson.

"Special thanks to the Rhyll Community Group for their set up and support of the welcome area, our volunteers who meet and greet visitors at Olive Justice Place, and all other stakeholders who have made the 2022-2023 cruise season a success."



The final and biggest cruise ship of the season arrived last week, the Grand Princess. Photo: Wildlife Coast Cruises.



Staff from Bass Coast Shire Council and DPI were on hand to greet the passengers from the Grand Princess.



**NO** stamp duty **NO** council rates **NO** hidden fees



Artist Impression

# XL Downsizer homes *at Phillip Island*

**Lifestyle Phillip Island is the ultimate coastal community.**

Perfected by our 20 years of experience and passion for creating enriching homes and communities, the serene seaside oasis will redefine downsizing for our homeowners.

Featuring modern, low-maintenance homes and best-in-class amenities, this coastal community presents boundless opportunities to live your life your way, surrounded by the many natural delights of Phillip Island.

**Call 1300 50 55 60 or walk-in to our Lifestyle Lounge at 60 Thompson Ave, Cowes**

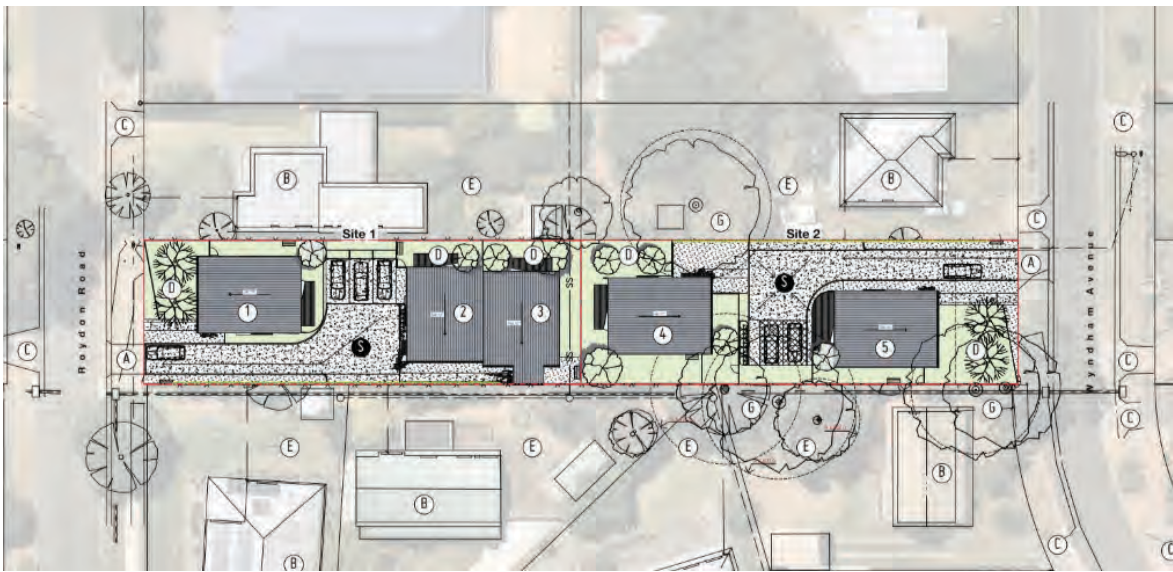


***Lifestyle***  
**PHILLIP ISLAND**



**lifestyle phillip island**





The road reserve between Roydon Road and Wyndham Avenue is set to be developed by Community Housing Limited (CHL), a registered community housing organisation, into five dwellings, removing 12 trees.

# Cowes social housing consultation kicks off

Community consultation has opened – until April 6 – on the construction of proposed social housing in Cowes.

A notice has been erected on the vacant land between Roydon Road and Wyndham Avenue by Community Housing Limited (CHL), a not-for-profit community housing provider, to develop the 1599 sqm land to build five two-bedroom dwellings and remove 12 trees.

Building of the houses will start late this year, with completion expected by the end of 2024.

Bass Coast Shire owns the 97m-long road reserve, with the shire currently undergoing a road closure process.

“CHL will enter into a 30-year lease with the council and will be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the development for the duration of the lease,” CHL states.

“The project will provide accommodation for low-income households with accessibility provisions for the less mobile.”

The project will be delivered and funded through the state government’s Big Housing Build, with the Planning Minister the responsible authority and not Bass Coast Shire.

Following consultation, the project

will be assessed by the planning department on behalf of the minister.

According to CHL, more than 33 per cent of households renting in Bass Coast are under rental stress – higher than the regional Victoria average – and 565 people are on the social housing waiting list in this region.

## Neighbours

Neighbour John said while he had nothing against community housing he was concerned at the narrow three-week community consultation process.

“My objection is that a double block with over 12 trees and abundant native flora and fauna is going to be destroyed, and five units built over the next 18 months,” John said.

“Would be nice to know how much the ratepayer is getting out of the 30-year lease of our asset.”

On social media others suggested the trees would be removed whether it was a private or government project.

“Personally I would rather house a few families in need in the current housing crisis than keep trees and possums alive,” Jeremy said.

Rob asked why it was a 30-year lease and whether rates would be levied and the shire didn’t simply

sell the land.

“Better for the council to have sold the land outright and put the funds toward the Aquatic Centre or similar,” Rob said.

Garry responded the build would bring money into the local area and employ people.

CHL said the terms of any lease were yet to be finalised but the land and the assets would be owned by the shire.

## Funding

Councillors in 2021 voted in support of social housing, with land made available for free or at a discount by the shire for the homes to be built.

The shire confirmed CHL would build up to 18 homes in Cowes and Wonthaggi for social housing following \$3.6 million in state government funding last year.

The new homes will be allocated to people who have applied for housing through the Victorian Housing Register.

Last year Wyndham Avenue residents said a “wildlife corridor” and parkland should not be destroyed for the social housing construction.

Details: [chl.org.au/about-us/our-developments/cowes-phillip-island-victoria/](http://chl.org.au/about-us/our-developments/cowes-phillip-island-victoria/)



On social media, local residents expressed concern the new Ventnor Road fire station was a flood risk, with the concrete entry on the same level as the road, with no guttering.

# Still no D-day for CFA

After numerous delays, there is still no date for the CFA to move into its new Cowes fire station.

The delay will impact a variety of community groups who will be moving into the Settlement Road site once it is vacated.

Meanwhile the CFA has also addressed concerns the new station is a flood risk.

Previously expected to be complete by spring 2021, the on-again, off-again opening was then revised to October last year.

Last week a CFA spokesperson said the station’s construction had entered its final stages.

“CFA expects to receive a certificate of occupancy as soon as possible to allow the brigade to begin operating from the new site,” they said, explaining drainage issues and the pandemic had delayed the opening.

The CFA has a lease on the existing Settlement Road station until June 2023 and “remains committed to working with council to return the property to it within the lease period”, they added.

The CFA building will be refurbished for use by the Artists Society of Phillip Island Region (ASPIR), Phillip Island Arts and Crafts Gallery, Phillip Island Contemporary Exhibition Space (PICES) and Boomerang Bags.

Boomerang Bags is currently operating out of a private home, after it was left homeless when the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre in December moved out of its Church Street premises to its new home on Warley Avenue.

\$185,000 was allocated in the 2022/23 Bass Coast Shire budget to refurbish the CFA building.

A shire spokesperson last week said they were working with community groups who will use the refurbished building to ensure that the final design meets their requirements.

“However, we cannot start any work until the CFA moves into their new building, the completion date of which is still unknown and council continues to seek updates from the CFA,” they said.

## Flood risk

On social media, local residents expressed concern the new Ventnor Road fire station was a flood risk, with the concrete entry on the same level as the road, with no guttering.

Don said he was recently driving past and saw “a lot of water laying on the road entrance to the fire station”.

“Looking at the site there’s no proper drainage because it’s level. There is no cross fall,” Don said, adding he formerly worked for VicRoads.

“This issue is urgent. Whenever you build you must check out the drainage first.”

“The next big rain will see that section of road flooded. Please fix the drainage before it’s too late.”

The CFA spokesperson said CFA had been working with VicRoads and the shire “to implement both short- and long-term resolutions to the flooding issue at the Phillip Island Station site”.

“To reduce overflow of stormwater at the station, the drainage channel out the front has been cleared and deepened. This will increase the capacity of the retention of stormwater on the site,” they said.

# Newhaven leads the way for Kids as Catalysts

More Newhaven Primary School kids are set to increase their social, emotional and leadership skills and create positive change in their communities, as they launch into a third year of delivering the Kids as Catalysts program.

Newhaven Primary School teachers shared their experiences to grow the program in three other schools across Bass Coast – Bass Valley, Wonthaggi North, and Powlett River, as part of a professional development day supporting teachers and educators to deliver the program in their schools.

Bass Coast Community Foundation chair Phil Friedlos said the growth of the program is a credit to Newhaven Primary School and the other local teachers and schools’ commitment delivering it, as well as the growing support of local community organisations.

“The 78 grade five and six students involved in last year’s program have clearly demonstrated improvements in positive social and emotional skills, connections and engagement with the community, and greater understanding and practice of leadership skills,” he said.

“These are exactly the reasons the Foundation is funding the program



Staff and team members from the Kids as Catalysts team, and principals and educators from the four participating schools, Bass Valley, Powlett River, Wonthaggi North and Newhaven Primary at Kilcunda Community Centre.

– to help grow aspirations and community connections for local kids.

“We are very proud to continue to support Kids Thrive, a forward-looking local organisation, to have such a positive impact on the lives of children’s mental health and wellbeing.

“A huge thank you also to the 17 local community organisations and volunteer groups who have supported the program and provide such a positive experience for the kids,” Phil said.

Bass Coast Kids as Catalysts is an

evidence-based program that uses creativity to engage and educate children, supporting young people to be positive change makers and leaders by partnering with local organisations to deliver community action projects.

You can see the program in action at Newhaven Primary School in a short video: [vimeo.com/789142492](https://vimeo.com/789142492).

Follow the Bass Coast Community Foundation on Facebook or go to [bccf.org.au](http://bccf.org.au).

# Community garden further delayed

The new community garden in Blue Gum Reserve has been delayed by two months.

Previously set to open by the end of this month, Bass Coast Shire last week provided an update to say it will be completed by May.

The garden was relocated to Blue Gum Reserve as there was not sufficient space at the new Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) site in Warley Avenue.

PICAL had to move as its old site in Church Street was purchased by the state government for the new community hospital.

A shire spokesperson confirmed officers had been working with garden volunteers to progress the project.

“Our goal is to have the shed and accessible toilet installed by the end of March or early April, subject to weather and material availability,” the spokesperson said.

“Following this, we plan to install perimeter fencing, pathways, and water tanks, with a projected completion date of May.”

PICAL president Jeff Floyd issued



The new community garden in Blue Gum Reserve has been delayed by two months. Previously set to open by the end of this month, Bass Coast Shire Council said it will now be completed by May.

a one sentence response: “PICAL is looking forward to the ultimate completion of the Phillip Island Community Garden.”

The total project cost is \$384,107, including council’s contribution of \$239,343, an RSL contribution of \$106,000 and a PICAL contribution of \$38,764.



# There's no need to travel to see a medical specialist.

We offer consultations and treatment with these experts in their fields at Wonthaggi Hospital and Phillip Island Health Hub.



## — GENERAL SURGERY —



Dr Chandika Wewelwala, Breast & General Surgeon



Dr Sarah Birks, Breast & General Surgeon



Dr Kostas Syrrakos, General Surgeon



Dr Naseem Mirbagheri, General Surgeon



Dr Andy Gray, Hepatobiliary, Pancreatic & General Surgeon



Mr Travis Ackermann, Hepatobiliary, Pancreatic & General Surgeon. \* Private. Phone 5671 3175



Dr Melissa Beitner, General & Bariatric Surgeon



Dr Saifulla Syed, Breast & General Surgeon

## — WOMEN'S HEALTH —



Dr Carmen Brown, Clinical Director of Women's Health



Dr Carolyn Wilde, Gynaecologist



Dr Jodi Keane, Gynaecologist



Dr Jessica Holden, Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist



Dr Colin Sabau, Gynaecologist. \* Private. Phone 9508 6084

## — PLASTICS —



Dr Foti Sofiadellis, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon

## — PAIN & PALLIATIVE —



Dr Corry DeNeef, Pain Management & Palliative Care

## — UROLOGY —



Dr Owen Niall, Urologist. \* Private. Phone 9415 6299

## — ONCOLOGY —



Prof. Mark Shackleton, Medical Oncologist



Assoc. Prof. Andrew Haydon, Medical Oncologist



Dr Mitchell Chipman, Medical Oncologist



Prof. Hany Elsaleh, Radiation Oncologist

## — DERMATOLOGY —



Assoc. Prof. Victoria Mar, Dermatologist

## — CARDIOLOGY - RAPID ACCESS CLINIC —



Prof. David Kaye, Cardiologist



Dr Angeline Leet, Cardiologist



Dr Hitesh Patel, Cardiologist



Dr Peter Bergin, Cardiologist



Dr James Hare, Cardiologist



Dr Sarah Gutman, Cardiologist



Dr Caitlin Cheshire, Cardiologist

## — STRESS ECHOES —



Dr Chris Anthony, Stress Echoes

## — CARDIOLOGY - ATRIAL FIBRILLATION —



Dr Nalin Dayawansa, Cardiologist



Dr Sandeep Prabhu, Cardiologist



Dr Hariharan Sugumar, Cardiologist



Prof. Peter Kistler, Cardiologist



Dr David Chieng, Cardiologist



Dr Liang-han Ling, Cardiologist

## — CARDIOLOGY - CHRONIC —



Dr David Bertovic, Cardiologist

## — HAEMATOLOGY —



Dr George Grigoriadis, Haematologist



Dr Abbey Willcox, Haematologist



Dr Ahmad Zargari, Haematologist

## — GERONTOLOGY —



Dr Jonathan Zimmerman, Geriatrician



Dr Alvin Tay, Geriatrician



Dr Brenton Tay, Geriatrician

## — GASTROENTEROLOGY —



Dr Anton Rajadurai, Gastroenterologist & Endoscopist. \* Private. Phone 5671 3175



Dr Matt Kitson, Gastroenterologist & Hepatologist

## — NEPHROLOGY —



Dr Jessica Ryan, Nephrologist



Dr Juli Jaw, Nephrologist



Dr Liv Amos, Nephrologist

\* All Nephrologists are private. Phone 5671 3175

## — OPHTHALMOLOGY —



Dr David Ehrlich, Ophthalmologist



Dr Ross MacIntyre, Ophthalmologist



Dr Andrew Shaw, Ophthalmologist



Dr Himanshu Solanki, Ophthalmologist

\* All Ophthalmologists are private. Phone 5672 4300

## — ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY —



Dr Osama Elsewaisy, Orthopaedic Surgeon



Mr Ruchith Dissanayake, Orthopaedic Surgeon



Mr Andrew Gong, Orthopaedic Surgeon



Mr De Juan Ng, Orthopaedic Surgeon



Mr Dan Fisher, Orthopaedic Surgeon



Mr Rabi Solaiman, Orthopaedic Surgeon



Mr Brian Loh, Orthopaedic Surgeon



Mr James Canty, Orthopaedic Surgeon



Mr Kosta Calligeros, Orthopaedic Surgeon

Unless indicated, specialists run public clinics. To see them, your medical practitioner can refer you by emailing [Access@basscoasthealth.org.au](mailto:Access@basscoasthealth.org.au) or fax 03 9102 5307. To see a private specialist, phone their number stated.



# Healthy eating a focus for visiting dietetic students

A research project undertaken on Phillip Island is the focus for two students at Gippsland Region Public Health Unit (GRPHU) on placement from Deakin University.

Megan Dodds and Aoife McHugh are both studying their Masters of Dietetics and are using their placement opportunity to identify opportunities to improve healthy eating and drinking options at venues throughout the region.

The focus for Megan and Aoife during their time with the GRPHU will be to upscale healthy food and drink choices when eating out, informed by a pilot project previously undertaken with eateries on Phillip Island.

"The aim of this project is to support the nutritional wellbeing of the community by increasing the number of healthy options available and support customers to identify the most nutritious options when eating out," Ms Dodds said.

With an interest in nutrition and healthcare, both were delighted to have the opportunity to understand the role of local public health units (LPHUs) in disease prevention.

With the role of the GRPHU now extending

far beyond COVID-19 outbreak management, Operations Director, Annelies Titulaer, said LPHUs throughout Victoria were also now supporting positive change in disease prevention and population health.

"The GRPHU works with local partners and stakeholders across the region to keep our communities healthy, safe and well," Ms Titulaer explained.

"We use local knowledge, community-based relationships and direct engagement to inform locally tailored and developed interventions to improve population health outcomes."

Ms McHugh decided to pursue nutritional science after completing her Bachelor degrees in both nursing and veterinary science.

"I realised I am passionate about providing others with evidence-based nutrition advice and would like to work to decrease the burden of diet-related disease," she said.

"The GRPHU staff are passionate, extremely knowledgeable and welcoming. We look forward to supporting the nutritional wellbeing of the Gippsland community during our placements."



Megan Dodds and Aoife McHugh are dietetic students on placement at the Gippsland Region, who will focus on a research project undertaken on Phillip Island during their placement.

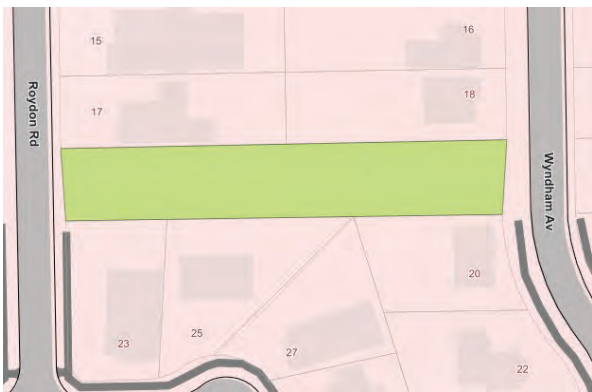
## Council Update



### Notice of Intention to discontinue roads

#### Cowes (reference F23/1161)

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 206 and Schedule 10(3) of the Local Government Act 1989 to commence procedures for the discontinuance of a Road Reserve between Roydon Road and Wyndham Avenue Cowes, an area of approximately 1535m<sup>2</sup>, as shown by the green shaded area on the plan above.



#### Wonthaggi (reference F23/1162)

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 206 and Schedule 10(3) of the Local Government Act 1989 to commence procedures for the discontinuance of a Road Reserve between Ivor Street and Back Lane Henry Street North Wonthaggi, an area of approximately 2400m<sup>2</sup>, as shown by the green shaded area on the plan above.



### Submissions

If discontinued, Council proposes to retain the land from the Road for affordable housing purposes. Any person affected by the Road discontinuance may make a written submission quoting the relevant reference number addressed to Bass Coast Shire Council and sent by email to [basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au) or by post to PO Box 118 Wonthaggi 3995 or delivered to the Council office at 76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi. Council will consider submissions received by 12 noon on 26 April 2023.

Any person who has made a written submission to the Council and requested that they be heard in support of the written submission, is entitled to appear in person or by a person acting on their behalf before a Committee of the Council. All submissions will be considered in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989. Enquiries to: Vicki Tuchtan, Coordinator Property on the numbers below or by email at [property@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:property@basscoast.vic.gov.au).

Bass Coast Shire Council, 76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi | PO Box 118, Wonthaggi VIC 3995 | 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211 or via the National Relay Service on 13 36 77 | [basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au) | [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au)



## COUNCIL BRIEFS

### Goose shootings

A Coronet Bay resident called on councillors to support alternative ways to control Cape Barren geese populations other than shooting.

Resident Joy Button said the state department of environment had authorised permits to shoot geese on land in Agar Road, Coronet Bay, surrounded by residential homes.

"I am unaware other means of reducing the wildlife, such as harvesting of eggs, haven't been implemented," Joy said.

"Can the community be advised by council of planned dates of shooting?"

"Why have no other alternative plans such as those stated in council's wildlife/environmental plan 2021 been implemented?"

CEO Ali Wastie replied it was a government issued permit and concerns about alternate options should be directed to the department.

### Dis-engagement?

The shire's CEO has dodged a question on if and when community council meetings will restart, which were cancelled in the wake of Covid.

Resident Kevin Griffin said community connection sessions were "valuable engagement opportunities".

"When will council reintroduce proposed agenda item lists, and community connection sessions?" he asked.

CEO Ali Wastie replied council recently adopted its communications and engagement strategy "which outlines how it will continue to engage with the community".

When released last year, the strategy stated ratepayers said they were concerned "community engagement should be respected and actually utilised to shape council ac-

tions".

Ratepayers also said the shire should be "clear when engaging what influence community can have".

### Rhyll path

A Rhyll resident has questioned councillors about a controversial path through the town, calling for it to be paused.

About 100 Rhyll residents in a town meeting recently "gave a very clear thumbs down" to the planned path, which will run from Conservation Hill to McIlwraith Road, then to Beach Road.

Resident Andrew Marston asked where the current path route originated, as it does not follow the routes previously proposed by council and informed by community consultation.

"Will council commit to pausing all further work until such time as they have properly engaged with the community to address their concerns and also discuss potential significant cost savings of the order of \$250,000," Andrew asked.

CEO Ali Wastie said council adopted its tracks and trails strategy in November last year.

"Council will be undertaking further community engagement on this project before proceeding further," she said.

### Recycling

Melissa Dagg questioned whether the shire complied with EPA regulations on the disposal of solar panels and wind turbine blades.

Ms Wastie replied the shire did not accept or dispose of any waste it currently is not licenced for.

### Silent partners

Bass Coast Shire councillors gave in-principal support for a new partnership policy to guide existing and future community partnerships.

Each year, the shire allo-

cates about \$2.6 million in cash and in-kind support through 174 partnerships with community groups, industry bodies and events, including \$1.4 million in subsidised rent of council-owned facilities.

Partners are invited to provide feedback on the draft before council considers the policy at the May meeting.

### Special charge scheme

There were 10 questions at the council meeting on the proposed Surf Beach Sunderland Bay special charge for road upgrades.

All 10 were not read out at the meeting, but included in the minutes, and received the same answer: "Councillors will consider and debate all aspects and implications of this issue as part of Council's agenda."

Councillors at the meeting voted to progress one of three options to be costed.

Susie Wicks asked about the format of the question – "if I do not agree with the special charge scheme" – council will pose.

"Will it be a simple yes/no box or an open-ended question?"

Geoff and Pauline Parker agreed asking whether any future survey would include a yes/no question of "are you opposed to all three proposed options?"

Maxine Sando asked if the cost for the proposed special charge would be capped, "bearing in mind that construction costs will increase before the project" starts.

"How will the protected Shearwater colony at Surf Beach be managed," she asked.

Tania Edmonds asked what the cost penalties for people who can't pay are "as budgets are already strained".

Natasha Dunston questioned whether the shire had researched alternatives to bitumen and kerb and channel.





Craig Castree – horticulturalist with 40 plus years' experience, conducted a workshop for members at the Phillip Island Community Orchard Harvest Festival on the weekend. Workshop topic was grafting and fruit tree pruning and management. More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)

# Picnic harvest at community orchard

Phillip Island's Community Orchard (PICO) Harvest Festival held last Saturday was a great success.

A feature of the annual event this year was a tree care and grafting workshop run by Craig Castree, vice president of the magnificent Werribee Park orchard.

With 100 fruit trees now well established in the community orchard, the workshop was well received and timely.

Rhyll resident and PICO member Jacki Hood, brought along a cutting from an historic 100-year-old pear tree in Rhyll, which was grafted by Craig on to a tree in the orchard, thus enabling this piece of history to continue to flourish.

The Phillip Island Community Orchard was established 10 years ago, on land near Wimbledon Heights that is leased from Westernport Water, and has proved to be an ongoing success.

Since then it has matured into a very beautiful place, tended by 40 or so PICO members, who also have individual plots where they grow their own fruit and vegetables.

Unlimited access to recycled water has contributed to the success of the orchard, and the production of strong and healthy trees and plants over the ten-year period.

A highlight on Saturday was harvesting a number of bounteous apple and pear trees. Other species also flourishing in the orchard include apricot, peach, plum, lemon, lime, orange, mandarin, grapefruit, pomegranate, figs and nashis – and berries are also grown.

"The orchard is a very popular place for members to come and go to," says PICO president

Annette Mackenzie, with 25 plots allocated for individual use.

"The place is so popular that there is a waiting list for plots to become available," she commented.

During the year, PICO members tend their own plots; set up a share table at the monthly general maintenance working bees; and benefit from four workshops held annually by gardening experts.

The highlight annually is however, the Harvest Festival, celebrated on Saturday after the apple and pear harvest with a barbecue picnic and live music provided by local talent Cassandra Craddock.

A number of PICO's activities are generously sponsored by Westernport Water.

[islandorchard.wordpress.com](http://islandorchard.wordpress.com) or [www.facebook.com/islandorchard/](http://www.facebook.com/islandorchard/)

# There was only one Johnny Gayfer

Who was Johnny Gayfer, racegoers at Woolamai this weekend may well say, when they see an intriguing race name on the program for the Phillip Island Health Hub race day at Woolamai on Saturday.

Yes, Race 2 is called "There was only one Johnny Gayfer".

The answer to that question, say his grieving mates, is a much loved and larger than life character, who was a mainstay at the outings their tight knit group shared together at the Woolamai picnic races for over 20 years, and who will never be forgotten by them.

Johnny passed away in 2021.

He was certainly one of a kind, says close friend Noel Henderson.

"What better way to pay tribute to Johnny than by sponsoring a race at the course he loved in his name and in his memory," Noel comments.

Particularly as the group were unable to attend his funeral because of Covid restrictions back in 2021.

It was Noel, involved at the Woolamai Surf Life Saving Club since the 90s, who instigated the enduring Woolamai race day tradition the group of 10 family and friends have enjoyed together for over 20 years.

"Johnny was always the life and soul of the event," he comments.

"He organised all of the food, packed the es- kies; and all of the beer as well.

"He was a catering legend, cooking up a storm for all our big events."

In fact the pair, who met during their university days, ran a catering business together for a while.

It was called Over Cater.

And over cater was what the larger-than-life Johnny did. Both keen fishermen, Noel and Johnny named the boat they shared OverCater as well.

While Johnny loved going to the races, he was not big on betting, his mates say.

"He would have a bet on the long shots; but it was the social side of the day that appealed to him."



Race 2 at the Phillip Island Health Hub races at Woolamai on April 1st has been named "There's only one Johnny Gayfer" by mates who have sponsored the race. Johnny, a keen fisherman, passed away in 2021.

Noel and Johnny's mates will catch their usual race day bus to Woolamai this Saturday – as per the tradition followed for many years – but there's a slight change of plan this year.

They're going corporate for this occasion, in a course marquee complete with a tribute banner.

Johnny's spirit will no doubt loom large on the day as they drink a beer or two in his honour, and hopefully it might urge a few of the longshots he would have backed on to greater things.

Specially designed stubby holders have been created for the event.

A song, written by mate Dennis Miller, composed in Johnny's honour, will no doubt be sung lustily after Race 2 is run.

Johnny's three children will also be trackside to make the trophy presentation.

This coming Woolamai Race Day, the legend of the one and only Johnny Gayfer will certainly live on.

The race day is a fundraiser for the Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary, with proceeds going to the Health Hub, Urgent Care Centre and the new community hospital.

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# Women's Friendship Café at PICAL

A new Women's Friendship Café has started at the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre in Cowes.

Friendship Café Coordinator Donna Boucher started the group in February, meeting once a week at PICAL's new Warley Avenue home, Wednesday 9.30am-12.30pm.

"We all start by sitting around having a cuppa, tea or coffee and just having a chat. We share stories about our lives and we discuss a lot of subjects," Donna says, adding women can drop by or stay the three hours.

No booking is required and there is no limit on numbers and so far about 10 women across all ages and all backgrounds have joined, from young mothers in their mid-20s, to a woman in her 80s who felt isolated, as well as new residents to the island.

Donna brings fruit, cakes, dips and biscuits, adding flowers to the table, and so there is a gold coin donation.

She has already created a book exchange and in coming weeks will offer scrapbooking through to vision boards, while there are plans to teach knitting, cooking and self-defence and add guest speakers.

"It's a fun place for women to gather, with no criteria to join. It's about meeting new people and having a space where they feel comfortable to come to, with no judgement, to laugh, cry and ponder."

Donna is a life coach and says it's "part of my nature to ask questions," but the café is not about her job.

"My life experience and my coaching skills help women but it's not the focus."

## Background

Several years ago Donna was re-



Women's Friendship Café Coordinator Donna Boucher. The group meets once a week at PICAL in Warley Avenue on Wednesday, 9.30am – 12.30pm

covering from a painful divorce when she joined a women's friendship group in Pakenham, which had up to 40 women and which she loved so much she eventually co-ordinated.

"Through the divorce I lost a lot of friends and family and had to start again," she says.

"I made a lot of friendships in that group. It lifted me up and I realised that this is my calling: to help other women, whether they're going through divorce or other circumstances or just after a friendship."

The mother-of-three and grandmother-of-one moved to Cowes last year, quickly seeing the same need for a friendship café here, for women to make time for themselves.

So far the PICAL group has discussed favourite movies, children,

grandchildren, pets, and "other things we have loved or not liked so much in our lives" and a chat about menopause "had us in fits of laughter".

"Talking with other women helps to embrace the changes of body and life, and to be gentler as we age."

"There are several experienced women to guide us with their wisdom. We talk about life experiences, whether you're a mother or a single woman."

"The café can also be a place where you can escape from the difficult things in your life for an hour or two, to just stop have a break and say hi to some friendly faces or seek guidance for help in areas of your life"

"You are surrounded by help at PICAL and we can refer you to the appropriate resources."



Christine Hammond (left) and Ruth Routley collecting at Coles for the World Vision Turkey and Syria Earthquake Appeal

## World Vision earthquake appeal

The Phillip Island World Vision club has raised \$5500 for the World Vision Turkey and Syria Earthquake Appeal.

Members and friends of the club were rostered to collect donations over three weekends in March.

"We are very grateful to Coles in Cowes and IGA in San Remo for permitting us to collect at their premises, and thankful for the community's generosity," a club spokesperson said.

Due to the generosity of donors World Vision teams and local partners on the ground are providing life-saving essentials to survivors of this terrible disaster.

So far 19,155 people have received heating supplies, 12,753 people have received ready-to-eat hot meals and 11,985 people have received vouchers to buy food and other essentials.

World Vision has also provided shelter, warmth, first-aid and other

disaster related activities.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the Phillip Island World Vision Club's appeal can make a donation to their bank account: World Vision Australia – Phillip Island Club. BSB 633000 Account 189180375.

Kindly reference any donation 'Earthquake', and if you require a receipt email John Hendrie, Treasurer at piworldvision@gmail.com

Phillip Island World Vision Club supports the work of World Vision Australia both here and overseas. They meet on the second Wednesday of each month and welcome new members.

Friends of PIWVC are a second tier of supporters who help the Club as needed.

For enquiries regarding membership please email our Secretary, Christine Hammond: piworldvision@gmail.com



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# A wizard with wood Focus on a brighter, clearer future

Bob Hee is undoubtedly a wizard with wood.

Hence the name "The Wood Wizard" on the door of his factory premises in the industrial estate.

His great love is furniture restoration and antique furniture in particular, but he can turn his hand to anything, from making furniture to order for a particular space, to letter boxes, bird houses and trophy shields at the other end of the scale.

Bob's love of wood dates back to the 1960s when he undertook a five-year apprenticeship after leaving school, with a chair and couch maker.

He won the Apprentice of the Year award at the end of his training, for two Chippendale chairs, which he still has, that he made from scratch.

His first job was with a company called Danish De-Luxe making teak furniture; and from there he went into furniture sales.

It is safe to say that Bob knows the furniture business inside out.

Although he moved across to industrial sales – he and his wife Robyn operated a first aid and safety supplies business for three decades – he kept his hand in with woodworking, his first love, building up an enviable machine and tool collection in this pursuit over the years.

On retirement in 2013, Bob and Robyn moved to Phillip Island in 2018, where he decided to turn his love of wood



Bob Hee is a wizard with wood. Virtually anything that requires using timber, Bob can do. Restoring much loved pieces of furniture is a specialty, but he is just adept at making something new.

into a retirement past time.

He purchased a factory in Harvey Drive and has been operating out of it ever since.

Over the past seven years Bob has built up a very appreciative clientele, mostly restoring much loved furniture pieces.

It's what he loves best, with dining suites a particular specialty.

"I enjoy restoring as much as making new furniture for clients. It is a hobby as much as a job," he comments enthusiastically.

Virtually anything required in timber, Bob can do. Wooden shields for sporting groups are a specialty.

Bob can be found in his factory five days a week, in the morning from 10.30am to 12.30pm, and is back after lunch from 1.30pm to 5pm. He offers a pick-up and drop-off service for clients, anywhere in the Bass Coast Shire.

The Wood Wizard is located in the Concourse, at 5 Harvey Drive, Cowes. Bob can also be contacted on 0418 173 388.

Susan Wilder is a clinical hypnotherapist and counsellor providing support for anxiety, depression, family and relationship, grief and loss, substance misuse and trauma.

"Wilder Therapies is an inclusive and welcoming environment where we acknowledge that survivors of trauma, grief and loss and violence are of all ages, abilities, genders, sexes, spiritual and religious, racial and cultural identifiers," said Susan.

"My passion is to empower people in their emotional and mental wellbeing."

During her career, Susan has worked extensively with individuals, families, youth and children, as a counsellor and family support practitioner and brings this experience to support her community in Phillip Island and surrounds.

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Susan Wilder is a clinical hypnotherapist and counsellor providing support for anxiety, depression, family and relationship, grief and loss, substance misuse and trauma.

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and create goals for what you would like to achieve within therapy".

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To book, call Susan on 0490 308 983 or book online at [www.wildertherapies.com.au/contact](http://www.wildertherapies.com.au/contact)



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Susan from Wilder Therapies provides therapeutic support for a wide range of issues including relationship, family conflict, grief and loss, rebuilding after divorce, mental health, substance misuse and specialist family violence and trauma.

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# Getting into the swim of it

Helping your child respect and enjoy being in the water is a lifelong investment, which offers incredible rewards.

Phillip Island Swim School offers swim lessons for children of all ages and abilities. Run by Lawri and Lucas Piera, the school has taught thousands of local children to swim since it started five years.

For the past three and a half years, the school has been in the Concourse, offering classes for children aged four months and up, in its heated 17-metre pool.

Head coach Lawri is a fully qualified swimming teacher and primary school teacher, who loves working with children and helping them reach their full potential, in and out of the pool. She says teaching children to swim is about more than water skills.

“Swimming improves children’s essential skills, like balance, posture, coordination and concentration,” Lawri explained.

“It also helps in the early development of fine and gross motor skills.

“Learning water safety and how to swim are life saving and lifelong skills.”

Lessons for babies up to age three or four include parents in the pool and aim to teach the children to swim independently. Older children are grouped by their ability, and lessons are customised for each child’s individual goals and needs.

“Our coaches are good at giving one-on-one attention to every child in every lesson.”

Lessons for babies up to age three or four include parents in the pool and aim to teach the children to swim independently. Older children are grouped by their ability, and lessons are customised for each child’s individual goals and needs.

“Our coaches are good at giving one-on-one attention to every child in every lesson.”



Lessons for babies up to age three or four include parents in the pool and aim to teach the children to swim independently.



School aged classes run Monday to Friday from 3.45pm to 6.45pm. “By the end of term, they’re swimming freestyle down the pool,” says coach Lawri Piera.

The school offers preschool classes (four months to five years) Monday to Saturday mornings, between 9am and 1pm. School aged classes run Monday to Friday from 3.45pm to 6.45pm.

“A lot of kids at the start won’t even want to get wet or put their face in the water,” Lawri said.

“By the end of term, they’re swimming freestyle down the pool.”

Parents are welcome to visit the centre and observe a class, or “come and try” to decide if the lessons are right for their child. Private lessons are available for children with NDIS funding.

Phillip Island Swim School. 4/24 The Concourse, Cowes. Call 03 5952 3078.

# Make the most of your recycling bank

Cowes Recycling Bank accepts all sorts of household waste for recycling and disposal. Whitegoods, scrap metal and batteries can all be recycled for free; charges apply to recycle other items such as e-waste, mattresses and fluorescent light bulbs or tubes.

Household recyclables such as paper, cardboard, plastic bottles and containers, glass bottles and jars, aluminium cans and steel tins cans can all be recycled at no cost – very handy when you’ve had visitors and your kerbside Recycling bin is full!

You can also empty your 120L red-lidded Landfill bin for just \$7 (\$14 if you have the larger 240L bin) as domestic waste is accepted at Cowes Recycling Bank (up to 0.35cubic metres – or a standard car boot load).

Local businesses can use the Recycling Bank to recycle cardboard for free, which is taken direct to Visy to be made into new cardboard products. Polystyrene can be recycled at Cowes Recycling Bank (charges apply).

Council recently introduced a new drop off service for glass only – by putting glass bottles and jars in a separate bin, more of them can be recycled into new products.

Due to site constraints and safety considerations, trucks are not permitted to access Cowes Recycling Bank. It cannot accept any building or renovation waste – including bricks, asbestos, concrete, tiles, timber and toilets.

Other items that cannot be accepted include furniture, gas bottles and fire extinguishers, tyres, non-mulchable garden waste and soil or clean fill – you can dispose of these items at the Grantville Transfer Station.

Sorting your waste and recyclables into separate types before you arrive helps to reduce waiting times. Customers are required to unload their own vehicles; items longer than 1.8 metres in length or single items weighing over 25kgs may not be accepted – and the site operator’s decision is final. Check before your visit if you’re not sure about a particular item.

For more information on what can be recycled at Cowes Recycling Bank, or for any other waste and recycling queries, visit Council’s website [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/wastefacilities](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/wastefacilities) or contact Council’s Waste Services team on 1300 BCOAST (226 278).



Cowes Recycling Bank accepts all sorts of household waste for recycling and disposal and household recyclables can be recycled at no cost. You can also empty your 120L red Landfill bin for just \$7.



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### Cowes Recycling Bank

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Wednesday – Thursday: 1.00pm - 5.00pm  
Friday – Sunday: 10.30am - 3.30pm

Cnr Settlement Road and Dunsmore Road, Cowes

[www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/waste](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/waste)

Load size	Domestic waste	Green waste
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120 litres	\$7	\$2.50
240 litres	\$14	\$4.50
	\$19.50	\$6.50
All other vehicle loads charged at trailer rates		
Trailers		
up to 6 x 4		\$16 \$26.50 \$37
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All municipal, commercial and industrial waste loads larger than the above, including trucks and skip bins, will only be accepted at Grantville.

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Fluorescent light tubes	\$1.00	Scrap metal	Free
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		Polystyrene – Domestic Waste rates apply	POA

\*Conditions apply

Site Operator’s decision is final



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 Dates planned are:  
 Fri. 14/4 - John Rowles Tribute  
 Fri. 12/5 - Oldies but Goodies 50s, 60s & 70s  
 Fri. 9/6 - Olivia Newton John/  
 Shirley Bassey Tribute  
 Also, the Saturday Night Live "Back to the 80s"  
 planned for Saturday 29th April is also cancelled.

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Support the businesses at the ♥ of our community



# Country racing at its finest

## Health Hub race day

Come and enjoy country racing at its finest at Woolamai this Saturday, and support the Phillip Island Health Hub Woolamai Race Day.

The Woolamai Race Course, set in a picturesque country setting at the foot of the Bass hills with tranquil views over the surrounding farmland, is just a 30 minute drive from Cowes.

Or catch the special race day buses from Cowes and San Remo, run by South Coast bus lines. On course facilities are outstanding.

There's shaded areas under lovely old elm trees, with picnic tables available or you can bring a rug and foldout chairs and sit on the lawn area. A great day of racing is always assured, with full bookmaker and TAB facilities on course for those who like a flutter.

The kids are well catered for with children's entertainment.

And two bars and kiosks run by local sporting clubs provide a wide variety of great food and refreshments at very reasonable prices.

The day presents a great opportunity for the Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary to raise funds for both the Hub and the new community hospital, and our community is urged to come along and assist with this important cause. Facilities such as chemotherapy and renal dialysis will be available, when the new hospital opens.

This week, Jan Child CEO of BCH, has advised that planning for the new hospital is progressing well.

An early works program being undertaken by TS Constructions over the last few weeks has prepared the site for construction with site benching undertaken to ensure the Health Hub and adjoining new hospital are at the same street level. Bass Coast Health has advised the tender process for the main works is on track



Early works on the site of the new community hospital are preparing the site for construction, with soil and vegetation removal complete. Money raised at the Health Hub Auxiliary race day will go towards the hub, UCC and the new community hospital.

and it's anticipated the main works contractor will be appointed in the coming weeks.

Fundraising efforts will be ongoing by BCH and the Phillip Island Hub Auxiliary to ensure that when the building is ready to open mid to late 2024, the community will have access to state-of-the-art equipment, and therapeutic gardens.

### Race Day details

The Health Hub Race Day is on Saturday April 1. Gates open at 11am. General admission ticket is \$15, with children under 16 free.

You can purchase your ticket online: [country.racing.com/calendar/2020-03-15/woolamai-picnic-race-day](http://country.racing.com/calendar/2020-03-15/woolamai-picnic-race-day) or buy at the gate on the day.

Special race day bus services are available from Cowes and San Remo. Bookings are essential. Call South Coast bus lines on 5952 2500. / *Sponsored article* /

# Lions and IGA Cowes join to fight childhood cancer

On Easter Saturday morning, April 8, the Lions club of Phillip Island will be holding a fund-raising BBQ outside Cowes IGA, from 8am, to raise funds to help defeat childhood cancer.

IGA have generously set aside part of their carpark fronting Thompson Avenue for the event.

Part of the Australian Lions Biggest BBQ 2023, this event in Cowes will help raise funds to combat childhood cancer.

Many of the other 1200 Lions Clubs across Australia will be running similar BBQs throughout 2023 to add their contributions to this fight.

Since 1996, Lions Australia Childhood Cancer Research Fund (ALCCRF) has contributed over \$12 million to childhood cancer research. This effort has helped the development of safer and more effective blood stem cell transplantation for leukaemia patients following chemotherapy, leading to shorter hospitalisation and more rapid recovery.

The ALCCRF has now announced it will provide \$1.05 million of funding to the Telethon Kids Cancer Centre.

Chair of the Telethon Kids Institute, the Hon. Julie Bishop said, "we are so grateful for Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation's support. This \$1.05 million in funding will enable the Telethon Kids Cancer Centre to continue its leading research into childhood cancer – particularly in the area of cancer immunotherapy, which focuses on supercharging the body's natural defences to destroy cancer cells."

Lions Club of Phillip Island also welcomes the



Lions President Steve Munro and IGA Cowes Owner Phill Behre join the fight against kids' cancer. The Lions Club will hold a fund-raising BBQ outside IGA Cowes on Easter Saturday Morning, April 8, from 8am.

assistance provided by Bakers Delight in Cowes for this battle against kids' cancer.

If you would like to get involved in any of the Lions Club Community Service activities on Phillip Island please email [lionsclubphillipisland@gmail.com](mailto:lionsclubphillipisland@gmail.com), or phone 0433 191 654.



The River Garden in Bass is the location for this year's Sustainability Festival on Sunday, May 21.

# Bass Coast Sustainability Festival is back for 2023

There are exciting times ahead for Bass Coast and surrounds, as Bass Coast Landcare Network prepares to host this year's Sustainability Festival at the River Garden in Bass.

This year, local groups, businesses, organisations and community members are invited to participate in a one-day festival-style event on Sunday May 21 from 10am to 3pm, with gold coin entry donation for participants.

"Unlike 2021's festival which was held online and in person over six weeks due to covid restrictions, we are looking forward to a more engaging event with lots of community connection this time," said organiser Lisa Wangman of the Bass Coast Landcare Network.

"The theme for the 2023 Festival is 'Empowering People to Adapt'. With rises in the cost of living, erratic weather, and environmental systems in decline, now is the time to find better ways of living a little lighter on our earth.

"If you have a business, group or offering that can help our community respond to changes in our climate in positive ways, then we would love to hear from you."

The festival is also looking for innovative, interactive demonstrations that visitors to the festival can participate in, as well as engaging speakers for the festival stage, which will feature live presentations throughout the day.

The festival is a chance for local communities across Gippsland and beyond, to speak to a massive audience, to share their products, mission or passions.

Energy and water efficiency, zero waste options, recycled/recyclable products, sustainable gardening and farming, innovative housing solutions, electric vehicles and more will all be showcased at this year's Festival.

The Festival location at the River Garden is an exciting space in itself, with swales of vegetables, herbs and fruit trees, a nuttury and orchard, all surrounded by the beautiful Bass River.

Applications for stallholders, food, demonstrators and presenters will be open very soon at the Festival website [www.basscoastlandcare.org.au/sustainabilityfestival2023.html](http://www.basscoastlandcare.org.au/sustainabilityfestival2023.html)

Express your interest by filling out an application form.

"Hosting a stall or interactive demonstration at the market is a great opportunity to not only sell your wares but to connect directly with future customers," Lisa explained.

"People can connect with the face of your business and learn how and why you do what you do.

"There are also various sponsorship opportunities available for businesses that would like to increase their reach into the community by association with the Festival and Landcare."

If you would like to discover, learn about, and implement sustainable actions into your life to save yourself some hard-earned cash or increase your comfort, then there is definitely something in this year's festival for you.

This event is supported by Bass Coast Shire Council and run by the Bass Coast Landcare Network.

For more information about the Sustainability Festival head to [www.basscoastlandcare.org.au/sustainabilityfestival2023.html](http://www.basscoastlandcare.org.au/sustainabilityfestival2023.html)

For all enquiries, please contact Lisa Wangman, Education, Training and Communications Manager for Bass Coast Landcare network at [lisa.wangman@basscoastlandcare.org.au](mailto:lisa.wangman@basscoastlandcare.org.au)

PHILLIP ISLAND HEALTH HUB AUXILIARY WITH WOOLAMAI & DISTRICT RACING CLUB

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Community Hospital provide the best facilities & resources for our health care!

With thanks to the Phillip Island & San Remo Advertiser for their continued support





The whole school coming together to celebrate that “Everyone Belongs”, on Harmony Day at San Remo Primary.

## Harmony Day at San Remo Primary School

Harmony Day was celebrated at San Remo Primary School on March 21.

Students and staff dressed in a splash of orange and participated in activities that focussed on inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

The school’s Student Support Leaders ran inclusive games and activities in the yard at recess and lunchtime, with music playing and student working together. Activities included dodge ball, parachute games and a scavenger hunt.

Teachers planned Harmony Day activities in their classroom where there was collaboration, togetherness and understanding of the multiculturalism of our local community and beyond.

Lauren Hamer, Disability Inclusion and Well-being Leader at San Remo Primary School said, “Harmony Day is a great opportunity for us to celebrate who we are and what we stand for, ensuring everyone feels a sense of belonging, within our school and community.”



Sisters, Harli and Sienna, and siblings Frankie and Monty with Alex, coming together during the playtime, as part of San Remo Primary’s Harmony Day activities.



Evie, Gemma and Scarlet working together and having fun, as part of Harmony Day activities at San Remo Primary School.



Six students from Bass Coast College – Alex Beale, Dylan and Neva Cleary, Rhiannon Orchard, Noah Robertson and Jeffrey Yu marched in the Moomba Parade as part of the Victorian State Youth Brass Band (VSYBB), which is composed of students from across the state.

## Moomba Magic for Bass Coast College students

Bass Coast College was very proud to have some fantastic student representation during the recent Moomba Festival in Melbourne.

As part of the Moomba Festival, the Australian Skateboarding Leagues hosted their Melbourne finals during the eighth annual Moomba Street Championships at Riverside Skate Park.

Following a successful qualifying event on the Saturday, 14-year-old Ted Stapleton tore it up to impress both the crowds and the judges and was one of only eight boys invited to participate in the under 16s division finals the next day.

Nailing some seriously impressive moves and competing with great competition, it was fantastic to see Ted’s skills in this field earning him an honourable fourth place in the final.

A further six students from Bass Coast College – Alex Beale, Dylan and Neva Cleary, Rhiannon Orchard, Noah Robertson and Jeffrey Yu – took part in the amazing and colourful Moomba Parade. These students marched as part of the Victorian State Youth Brass Band (VSYBB), which is composed of students from across the state and run through the incredible dedication of Skunkworks Community.

The VSYBB is made up of young brass and percussion players who come together to rehearse once a month, make lifelong friendships and produce some high-quality music for gigs which they have more than a hoot performing throughout the year.

Brilliant efforts and contributions Bass Coast College!



Prep parent Nithia creating cultural painting with rice flour, with Xavier and Hudson looking on.



Newhaven Kindergarten children joined in the Harmony Week celebrations with a sack race.

## Harmony week celebrations

Newhaven Primary School has been busy celebrating Harmony week.

Throughout the week, students have learned about the school community’s cultural connections across the grades.

This culminated in a fun day, where the Newhaven kinder kids were also invited to join in the festivities. What a wonderful day with children showing “everybody belongs” in harmony.



Newhaven Primary celebrates Harmony Week. Photo: Craig Bester.



A record-breaking number of students participating in the active commute, with students and families enjoying an active and safe travel to school.



Grade 6 students at Cowes Primary School, Raven, Eliza and Ella, getting ready for Ride to School day.



Members of the Phillip Island Bicycle Users Group (BUG) were on hand to help students ride safely to school.

## Cowes Primary rides to school

Last Friday, Cowes Primary School celebrated National Ride 2 School Day with an incredible turnout of students who rode, skated, or scooted to school.

The school said a record-breaking number of students participating in the active commute, and it was great to see so many students and families enjoying an active and safe travel to school.

“The event was a fantastic community event, with many parents, teachers, and community members coming together to support the students,” said Principal Rodney McKenzie.

“The Phillip Island Bicycle Users Group (BUG) played an important role in the event

by assisting students in riding safely to school. Their support was greatly appreciated, and it helped to make the event a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.”

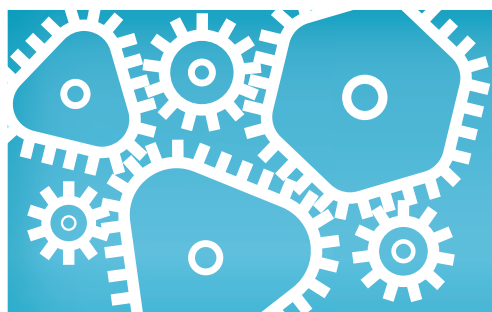
Cowes Primary School would like to thank the Island Grocer for supplying fresh fruit for the students.

“This healthy treat was a wonderful way to start the day and helped to fuel the students for their busy day of learning,” Mr McKenzie said.

Owen Bentley from BUG said it was fantastic to see so many kids riding to school.

“It was a pleasure to be able to help out. Let’s make every day #ride2schoolday on Phillip Island, and around Australia.”





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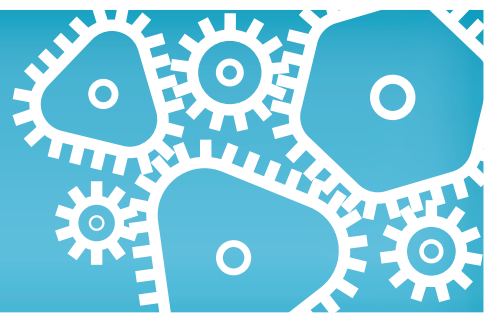
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While the position is 0.6 FTE, there will be busy weeks during the year where more than this is required, yet other weeks where a lesser amount of time is needed. Consequently, the successful applicant will need to have flexibility, together with an ability to be an independent worker and a self-manager, to succeed in the role.

A suitable salary will be negotiated with the preferred candidate, together with additional benefits such as the provision of a laptop computer.

For further information about SEISA, please visit [www.seisa.com.au](http://www.seisa.com.au) or email Cobie Giliam at [secretary@seisa.com.au](mailto:secretary@seisa.com.au).

To apply for the position, please send a cover letter and resume to Cameron Herbert, SEISA Chair, at [principal@stpaulsags.vic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stpaulsags.vic.edu.au).

Closing Date for Applications: Monday 27 March 2023.



Ethan Lynch and Flynn Wright guiding a group of prospective families at the Newhaven College Open Day.

## Open Day and Alumni Reunion Success

On Saturday March 25, Newhaven College hosted the annual College Open Day and Alumni reunions.

Graduates from years 1993, 2003, 2013 and 2018 joined prospective families visiting the school on the day. The College's stunning 82-acre campus was looking its best as visitors teemed from the Gym to the Year 9 Environmental Centre, taking in everything in between.

#### Open Day

Hundreds of prospective students and their families visited the College and student leaders took guided tours, sharing their knowledge and passion for their school with visitors. It was impressive to see so many students and staff helping out on the day.

Highlights included the equestrian display located near the Year 9 Environmental Centre, where families watched some of Victoria's best junior riders show off their skills.

The gym was home to fun sporting activities, as well as displays on the school's surf and tennis academies.

Displays and presentations were on offer throughout the school's main locations.

Visitors were treated at every location around the campus: enjoying the soft vocals of the choir at Junior School; making little wooden cars and watching cooking demonstrations at the Trades Centre; partaking in some ice cream making with liquid nitrogen or making a clay sculpture in the Specialist Wing; being serenaded by some of the school's top performers in the new Performing Arts Wing; plus lots of other fun interactive activities dotted across the day's program.

A focus on Newhaven College's House structure and pastoral care was well received by visitors.

For those unable to attend, Newhaven College tours can be arranged through the College's Registrar Belinda Manning at [belinda.manning@newhavencol.vic.edu.au](mailto:belinda.manning@newhavencol.vic.edu.au), 5956 7505 or book online through the Newhaven College website.

#### Alumni Reunion

Newhaven College is in the process of growing its alumni connections, so the annual reunion is the perfect place to get things moving.

The school welcomed back students who graduated in 1993 (30 years), 2003 (20 years), 2013 (10 years) and 2018 (5 years).

They were met by Principal Tony Corr who guided the group on a tour of the school.

For many of these students, even the most recently departed, there were plenty of new and exciting facilities. For some, it was their first-time setting foot on the Phillip Island Road campus.

The tour was followed by morning tea in the school pavilion with some of our long-term staff. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to catch up and reminisce.

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



Principal Tony Corr guiding a tour for Newhaven College returning alumni.

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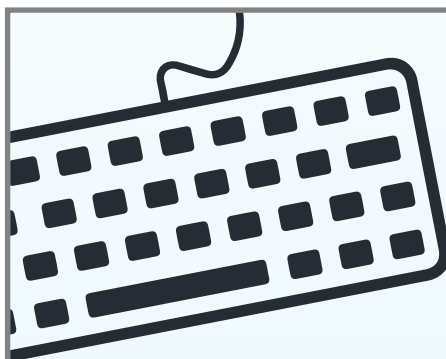
- Demonstrated qualification or equivalent experience gained in an operations, maintenance, or equivalent industry.
  - Demonstrated ability to work and participate as part of a team and autonomously.
  - Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of water/sewer/network and other systems.
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ing and success. We strive for a workplace that is equitable and inclusive. We welcome diversity in applicants.

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Applications Close Wednesday 5th April 2023 at 5:00pm



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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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## Rhyll pathway

It is incredible that the proposed Rhyll Pathway with drawings clearly marked “for construction” should have been made without any input from Rhyll residents.

There has been no consultation with the Community Associations or residents in Rhyll in developing the pathway plan.

Council should abandon its current plans of a shared pathway through Rhyll and instead implement the previously proposed headland gravel pathway along the north coastline of Rhyll.

This proposal is about a third of the cost of the path in the construction drawings made by Council and more environmentally friendly by not requiring 80 tonnes of concrete and not producing 80 tonnes of CO2.

Nor does it require a 2.5m concrete pathway covering the roots of trees on the east of McIlwraith Road, an area posted by Council as of significant vegetation.

The headland route is currently favoured by many cyclists and pedestrians as it has many lovely bay views. I am very aware of this as I live on the north coast of Rhyll and daily see the number of cyclists and pedestrians on this route.

Cyclists daily use the gravel path from Conservation Hill to McIlwraith road and then continue on the headland route to the Rhyll Yacht Club.

As a property owner in Rhyll since 1973 and a permanent resident since 1996, I am amazed that this project has gone so far without any consultation or consideration for the people of Rhyll.

I urge Council to reconsider and consult with the residents of Rhyll.

*John Swarbrick, Rhyll*

## Where's the care?

As Councillors and CEO of BCSC you have a duty of care, responsibility and indeed an obligation to the community, ratepayers to be fully informed and to listen to residents' concerns. Ultimately your actions will impact our environment with long term negative consequences, if you proceed with the current plan for the Rhyll pathway. If you have never been to Rhyll then make it your business to visit and compare your current plan with our considered and informed alternative.

I sincerely hope you have availed yourselves to Mr Peter Balfe's (retired civil engineer and respected resident of Rhyll) power point presentation in which he provides detailed analysis of the BCSC proposed plan and the residents preferred alternative gravel path following the headland. Significant positive benefits are to be gained by following the headland, these include substantial cost savings, safety and the environment. You failed to consult with the Rhyll community, now you have a chance to reform. Make it a positive one in favour for the environment. What we have is extremely rare, precious and valued, that is to say ... the environment, unlike concrete!

*Vickie Cunningham, Rhyll*

## Condescending councillors

Councillors have the community's interests at heart, right? How wrong I was. Watching their meeting to find out how the Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay road scheme was progressing it was obvious that they are strategic, condescending bullies. Fancy having an agenda item about bullying then leading into the road scheme with claims the Say No group are bullies with an anecdotal story and no evidence.

I've got my own claims of council sending biased propaganda to suit their needs. Next, some story of parents in the old days not having two pennies to rub together. How about Pioneer Bay being an excellent example. Residents are still fuming about the poor design and additional costs. Being told the roads would have been

cheaper in the past and more expensive in the future. What about right now? People are dealing with interest rate hikes and cost of living burdens after a global pandemic. And why wasn't it done as part of planning in the past by council anyway?

Was any of their discussion factual? No. Not one question was discussed or debated in the meeting. There was no fact, debate or stakeholder needs addressed. How stupid do they think we are? Who is representing us, because I sure don't feel represented. The core group doing the hard yards and being put in the firing line by these councillors are representing us, that's who. I just want to thank these people for listening to us and for all the hard work they do!

*Danielle Inwood, Surf Beach*

## You're kidding

### – summer dog fines

I was surprised to read (The Advertiser March 22) the Bass Coast Shire Rangers had only issued 10 penalties to dog owners over the holiday period. On a slow day I could get 10 each morning around Cape Woolamai alone. Dogs uncontrolled on the dog beach, dogs out of hours on the beach, dogs out of control on the streets and dogs at the surf beach. I have no issue with dogs, and many owners do the right thing, but I don't want to be rushed, I don't want to be jumped on. I don't want my beach towel sniffed and slobbered on and covered in sand.

If your dog rushes at people, you don't have it under effective control and the leash needs to be at work.

Come on some owners and Bass Coast Rangers. Do better!

*Stuart Box, Cape Woolamai*

## No community support

The recent Council meeting showed clearly that Council knows they do not have the support of the community for the Special Charge Scheme that they are attempting to bulldoze through at Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay.

This is a problem for Council as it would make any future scheme on their Special Charge list untenable, Smiths Beach is next in line.

So, what does Council do – well for starters Councillors behave badly at Council meetings, they spread misinformation, they make up stories, they publicly laugh and scoff at the community and generally behave like schoolyard bullies, all recorded on video and uploaded to YouTube.

The next problem is that the CEO seems unable to manage this sort of behaviour of her councillors, so tends to join in.

And another problem, Council changes the rules and goalposts at a moment's notice to suit their agenda. No consultation, no suitable notice and no process of recall for the community.

The Minister for Local Government seems to be freed up now since another regional council has just been put into administration after a damning commission of inquiry report was tabled at parliament a couple of weeks ago.

Everyone is watching Bass Coast Shire Council, not just the Say No group. You only need to open the local papers, see the questions lodged with Council or speak with anyone in a local village or shopping strip across the shire.

The community is sick and tired of being pushed around by a group of self-serving bureaucrats. If only it was an election year.

*Susie Wickes, Surf Beach*

## Depressed for our wildlife

How depressed I became when reading last week's Advertiser (March 22) on the plight of native animals and birds on this island.

I was already depressed after we drove through Five Ways a few weeks ago to see a dead koala on the side of the road, one of the three or four left to roam in the wild.

To think that in the early 70s a ko-

ala could sit happily and safely on a grassed no through road at our house at Rhyll and have its photo taken.

*Olga Bolitho, Cowes*

## Questions but no answers

Ten ratepayers took the time to write to the Bass Coast Shire Council with a broad range of public questions about the Surf Beach/Sunderland Bay roads and drainage scheme, to be addressed at the Council meeting March 15.

The questions were published two weeks ago but none of the subjects were addressed directly by council. Ten questions, no answers.

To quote Mayor Whelan's response to the 10 questions asked: “Council has received questions from 10 individuals regarding Surf Beach/Sunderland Bay road and drainage preferred concept design ... a group response for these questions is ‘councillors will consider and debate all aspects and implications of this issue as part of councils agenda today.’”

This identical response was also later sent to each individual's question via email: “Councillors will consider and debate all aspects and implications of this issue as part of Council's agenda.”

Ten questions, one response, no answers.

One question which did receive its own “unique” response was this one asked by a Say No group member. Q: “What does the word “unique” mean to council staff and councillors?” Council's reply: “This is a courtesy email to advise that the below question was disallowed in accordance with the governing rule 54.6.2. It is inflammatory, indecent, abusive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance.”

Really? Bass Coast Council's Community Engagement Policy states the objectives of the policy includes, to undertake community engagement activities: with respect; by building trust; with openness and accountability.

In light of this, do you believe that the above-mentioned actions by the CEO, the mayor and the councillors, in response to the 10 questions from ratepayers, is adequate?

Does council's response to the questions fulfil any of the objectives of their own policy?

Is a commitment to transparent good governance and a commitment to ensure the voices of all residents are represented, evident in the council's conduct here?

Don't ever forget that it's your rates paying for this type of service.

*Ross Bencraft, Surf Beach*

## Disillusioned ratepayer

Bass Coast councillors had their monthly meeting on March 15. During these meetings there is an opportunity for rate payers to ask councillors questions by email. I lodged a question in relation to Surf Beach Sunderland Bay proposed charge scheme: What does the word ‘unique’ mean to council staff and councillors? Given that this is how council has described the area in past proposed charge scheme newsletters emailed to ratepayers.

I was appalled by their response: “This is a courtesy email to advise that the below questions were disallowed in accordance with the Governance Rules 54.6.2: is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance.”

This is typical of our local councillors and their arrogance towards ratepayers and an example of their inability to listen to our concerns throughout this process.

They push ahead with the proposed urbanisation and destructive scheme knowing full well there is over 51 per cent of rate payers not wanting the options that have been proposed by council. Considering councillors are elected by ratepayers to govern on their behalf, this isn't happening at BCSC. When voting next year in

council elections, it will be my chance to change the councillor in this area. It is time for a fresh approach and to remove our precious lot that continues to waste ratepayers time and money on this proposed scheme that the majority don't want in its present form.

*Anne Clements, Surf Beach*

## No meaningful responses

At last week's council meeting (March 15), CEO Ali Wastie, Mayor Whelan and councillors successfully avoided providing meaningful responses to the questions asked about the Surf Beach Sunderland Bay special scheme.

However, some councillors did manage to speak about it.

Cr Le Serve patted herself on the back for her success in implementing a similar scheme in Pioneer Bay, and assured us (without supporting data) it was popular amongst locals.

Cr Halstead spoke of bullying/harassment by some ratepayers, carefully avoiding naming the Say No group which it appeared she was implying was the guilty party. Fortunately, Cr Halstead clarified that implication when she stated on the front page of the Sentinel Times that she “is adamant the reports about opponents of the scheme behaving badly are bona fide”.

Cr Rook wanted to “thank the community for sticking with the process council is running amongst all the negative energy that's been going on”. What choice have we ever had since the initiation of this “process” other than to “stick with it”? And why has there been so much “negative energy” going on?

Finally, Cr Tessari regaled us with stories of his early life growing up poor and his enjoyment of playing cricket on the road as his justification for the scheme. Then turned his attention to the alleged bullying. He smugly stated “I look out in the gallery for the ones we were expecting to come and voice their opinions today and there's no-one”. Is Cr Tessari so out of touch that he has forgotten council's policies? Council's “Public Question Time” policy (displayed on their website) states:

1. In the current COVID-19 environment, the meeting will be virtual for the health and safety of our community, Councillors and staff.

2. At this stage, the forum will not

provide the opportunity for submit- ters to ask their questions directly.

How, Cr Tessari, would those you were “expecting” have been able to attend and voice their opinions? Oops!

So rather than answering ratepayer questions with genuine or factual information, this was the level of robust questioning and debate that occurred amongst councillors, regarding a \$32 million project council expects ratepayers to pay for.

*Leanne Sumpter, Surf Beach*

## Residents have said no

The Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay Scheme debate continues. Why? The Say No petition recorded 51 per cent of people against the scheme. The Bass Coast Shire Council's devoted public servants downgraded this number, but their acceptance of 399 signatures still outweigh the 265 “pro” votes that the Council polls claim. Some specious comments say that the 526 (51 per cent) no response means that residents want to leave it up to the Council to decide. Wishful thinking by some! An alternative view is that with three “for” options included and no negative responses allowed, 526 people disregarded the biased, stacked poll as undemocratic. The Council's “for” votes also include 20 residents who front Phillip Island Road, who already have pavement and kerb and channel. Why is this group included? Stacking? I understand that some areas have drainage problems. My street has not been flooded in the 21 years that I've lived here. We have no potholes. How are raised intersections, speed humps and pavements on my street going to solve flooding problems three kms away? And Council's recent decision? They seem to think that residents are only against the scheme because we don't understand the costs? Offer it to me free, I'll still object. I don't want what the Council wants to impose on me. But what really worries me is that given the strong objection to the scheme from residents, given the ludicrous rationale for an over-engineered solution to cover the whole region, given the incredible devotion the Council has for the scheme is why? If it's not what residents want, then I just don't understand why? Why is the Council fixated on this scheme? Clearly it's something other than what voters want.

*Chris Rowles, Surf Beach*



## SHORT STACK

### A QUICK ROUNDUP OF NEWS, VIEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

#### Women leading locally

Applications are open for the second round of Women Leading Locally, which aims to build gender equality on local councils.

The program is equipping 125 local leaders with the connections and tools to campaign as candidates in the 2024 council elections.

Applications close on April 14. Visit [localgovernment.vic.gov.au](http://localgovernment.vic.gov.au).

#### Nominate your beautiful town

Nominations are open for the Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Tidy Towns and Sustainable Cities awards.

There are 10 categories: education, environment, energy, community, litter, EPA waste reduction and prevention, heritage and culture, Indigenous culture, wellbeing and young legend.

Entries close June 18. [www.kvb.org.au/](http://www.kvb.org.au/)

#### Working with Children check goes digital

You can now apply for and display a digital version of the Working with Children card on the Service Victoria app.

You can easily and securely apply for, update, and renew your clear-

ance through the app – with an application process as robust as ever.

If you are a current clearance-holder and wish to obtain a digital Working with Children Check card, go to [service.vic.gov.au](http://service.vic.gov.au) or download the app at the App Store or Google Play Store. The Check's Customer Support Line is open 9.00am – 3.00pm weekdays.

#### Optus Business Plus Tech Grants

Small businesses are invited to apply for an Optus Business Plus Tech Grant to support the adoption of new technology into their business.

There are \$30,000 in tech grants available which then allow business to apply for one of two 1:1 business mentorship opportunities available nationally.

To enter, eligible businesses simply need to enter their details at [www.optus.com.au/content/optus/en/business/optus-business-plus-mentorship-grant-competition.html](http://www.optus.com.au/content/optus/en/business/optus-business-plus-mentorship-grant-competition.html), and in 50 words or less explain why you need an Optus Business Plus Mentorship Grant.

Open to existing Optus Business customers only.





The race started with a gusty southerly wind that stayed for most of the racing, providing good sailing conditions. Competitors Robbie and Lachie in action.



There was a special award for the youngest ever competitor to complete the event – Leo Holroyd aged 11 who crewed on a Mosquito Sloop with his father Jon.

# Spectacular sailing in this year's challenge

The second year of the super-sized Around French Island Catamaran Challenge last Saturday was a resounding success.

Ant Richards from the Westernport Yacht Club secured the coveted Isle of Wight trophy for the second successive year.

The ramped-up pre-event activity included a free sausage sizzle and raffle, sponsored by the Isle of Wight.

Over 50 entrants, including several from interstate (NSW, ACT and SA), took to the water at 12 noon, for a clockwise lap of French Island.

The instructions were simple. Leave Cowes, then keep French Island to Starboard (right), round Eagle Rock and the turning buoy near Lang Lang, then get back as

quick as you can!

Westernport Bay served up some magnificent weather, with a range of conditions and hazards that tested competitors to their limits.

The race started with a gusty southerly wind that stayed for most of the racing, providing good sailing conditions.

Although the course is approximately 100kms (in a direct line), GPS trackers on the boats showed many travelled well over that distance.

The first boat made it home in just over four hours, with the final competitor arrived back after five and a half hours.

Race organisers said, as expected, there were lots of challenges for competitors with bro-

ken spinnaker poles, tillers and rudders.

"Some were fixed on the run but others just had to persist, testing strength and endurance further," said Cowes Yacht Club Commodore Tom Modra.

"Overall the race was a huge effort by club members who will need a lot of rest but it was wonderful to see the yard and beach so full of boats and people with so much excitement pre-race and many stories post-race.

"Like so many events it would not have been possible without the sponsors' generosity and club volunteers support."

After the event, everyone enjoyed dinner and an awards presentation at the Cowes Yacht Club.

"The overall winner came back by power boat from Balnarring after freshening up – stuck on a falling tide," said Tom.

"There was a special award for the youngest ever competitor to complete the event – Leo Holroyd aged 11 who crewed on a Mosquito Sloop with his father Jon.

"Congratulations to Ant Richards – Taipan 4.9 from Westernport Yacht Club, who was the overall winner on Handicap and Division 2 winner, so he records back to back wins of the Isle of Wight trophy."

Division 1 Winner: Emma Rankin and Beau White – F16 Sloop, Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, NSW.

Division 3 Winner: Robert Lott – Mosquito, Bendigo Yacht Club.



Ant Richards – Taipan 4.9 from Westernport Yacht Club, was the overall winner on Handicap and Division 2 winner, so he records back to back wins of the Isle of Wight trophy.



Ladies winners from Wednesday, Christine Riley, Cheryl White and Vicki Amato.



Men's Stableford winner from Saturday, John Fitzpatrick.

## Phillip Island golf

### Sunday, March 19, Stableford

18 Hole – Winner Tony Valena (9) with 35 points from Jake Wright and Heath Kolac.

9 Hole – Winner Cheryl White (20) with 21 points from Russell Wright 15 points.

### Tuesday, March 21

#### Men's 18 Hole Stableford

A Grade winner: David Nicoll (27) with 39 points from Peter Cartwright (6) with 35 points c/b.

B Grade winner: Bez Moustafa (21) with 39 points from William Lang (18) 38 points.

C Grade winner: John Maglica (27) with 44 points from Victor Petropolous (24) with 39 points c/b.

NTP: 5th Alan Schache, 7th Steve Mack, 10th Steve Mack, 14th, Paul Adams and 17th John Leheny. BDL to 36 points.

#### Men's 9 Hole Stableford

Winner: Peter Matthews (33) with

21 points from Mal Macarthur (28) with 20 points. BDL to 17 points c/b.

### Wednesday, March 22

#### Ladies 18 Hole Stableford

A Grade winner: Cheryl White (19) with 38 points.

B Grade winner: Vicki Amato (29) with 4 points.

C Grade winner: Christine Riley (43) with 36 points c/b.

BDL to 35 points c/b. NTP: 5th Zoe Frost, 7th Debra Orr, 10th Vicki Amato and 17th Miyuki Yamaguchi.

#### Ladies 9 Hole Stableford

Winner: Ros Wells (39) with 20 points countback from Pauline Scoble (45) 18 points c/b.

### Thursday, March 23

#### Open Stableford

A grade winner: Alan Schache (5) 38 points from Christian Lloyd (12)

37 points.

B Grade winner: Steve Sloss (15) with 35 points c/b from Dan Hall (16).

C Grade winner: Paul Hewitt (29) with 40 points c/b from Lloyd Daire (31).

BDL to 33 points c/b.

NTP: 5th Wayne Morris, 7th Geoff Owen, 10th Paul Wagner, 14th Steve Mack and 17th Steve Mack.

#### Open 9 Hole Stableford

Winner was Basil Moloney (15) with 21 points from Len Fenton (16) 19 points c/b.

BDL to 17 points.

### Saturday, March 25 Stableford

#### Men's results:

A Grade winner: Mark Haringsma (8) with 38 points from Ian Smith (8) 37 points.

B Grade winner: Greg Williams (15) with 41 points from Rick Banfield (14) 38 points.

C Grade winner: John Fitzpatrick (21) with 42 points from Phil Foster (21) 36 points.

BDL to 34 points c/b.

NTP: 5th Jeff Sellenger, 7th Phil

Ellard, 10th Rob Purcell, 14th Craig O'Neill and 17th Greg Stewart.

#### Ladies' results:

Winner was Marlene Gibson (27) with 41 points from Pam Williams (41) with 40 points.

NTP: 5th Sheryl Smith, 7th Megan Elbaz, 10th Helen Coghlan and 17th Helen Coghlan.

BDL to 34 points c/b.

#### 9 Hole Open Stableford

Winner was David Hensbridge (20) with 22 points.

BDL to 16.

The 9 Holes play the Laurie Cook memorial honour board event each year over four rounds.

The winner was our 9 Hole Captain Ron Hatley with a great score of 56 points, runner up with 54 points was Malcolm MacArthur, third place went to Alan Tindale with 51 points.

This event was once again sponsored by the Phillip Island RSL.

On hand to present the prizes to the winners was President Greg Mead, a huge thank you to the RSL and congratulations to the winners and all that participated.

## Bridge results

On Monday March 20, line honours for North/South went to Matti Shub and John Quayle with 59.22 per cent. Jill Short and Wendy Mckergow had a good day netting 55 per cent.

Albert Thomas who is visiting from Hong Kong played with Greg Nicholson and finished with 50.71 per cent.

Ann Hodgson and partner Caroline Shaw set the benchmark for east/west with an impressive 73.33 per cent. Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles followed with 59.58 per cent. Shirley Stewart and John Farr weren't far behind on 58.75 per cent.

Wednesday March 22 winners were Leng Haggith and Caroline Shaw on 63.89 per cent. In second place were Greg Nicholson and Diane Coleman on 60.42 per cent. Shirley Stewart and Albert Thomas came third with 56.25 per cent.

Two exciting red points events are happening in April.

First our mid-week pairs on Wednesday, April 5 and then April 12. Round up your partner and let's try and get at least six tables for this event (normal start time).

The second is the postponed Life Members pairs on April 24 (start time to be advised).

Caroline Shaw and Graham Mckergow have been refreshing the home page of our website. Check it out on [www.bridgewebs.com/phillipisland/](http://www.bridgewebs.com/phillipisland/)

## Euchre results

Ladies winner: Leonie Brennan – 6 wins.

Men's winner: Les Walton – 6 wins. Encouragement award: Joan Baker.

Please contact Bob Hee for any further information on 0418 173 388.

Come along everyone and have a great night out.

Tables booked for those wanting dinner before games start.





Shiran Rathnayake receiving his man of the match award in the A1 Premiership match against Leongatha Town.

## Sharks go back to back!

*Continued from page 28*

The Island concluding their innings on an imposing 6/385; Town certainly rueing their decision to bowl first.

Overcast conditions greeted the combatants on day two, and with 385 runs to chase, everything had to go right for Leongatha to chase down the mammoth Island total.

Simon Kirton opened the bowling with Tom Keily, and it was not long before Simon had the first breakthrough, clean bowling Hume for 2 in the fifth over and it was 1/14.

Just four overs later TK grabbed the wicket of Town skipper Giardina bowled for 21. When TK had Abeyasinghe caught for 8 a few overs later, Town were in some early trouble as we went to drinks with the score 3/38 off 15 overs.

With former skipper Max Royal now introduced into the attack, the bowling pair were giving the opposition few chances to get their game going, and it wasn't too long before Max struck, bowling Madusanka middle stump.

When he then removed Hanrahan LBW in his next over, Town were reeling with the score 5/56 and the Island score of 385 was looking like Mt Everest.

The dangerous Ratnaïke supported by Gallage held the remaining Town's hope in their hands, and the pair successfully negotiated the remaining overs to the lunch break. The score 5/80 off 33 overs and the Sharks well and truly in the box seat.

Things did not get much better for Town as Max struck yet again straight after the break, trapping Gallage LBW with the score on 84, and when he removed Riaz just six runs later after a brilliant diving catch from Charith it was 7/90 and the fat lady (it might have been Macca) was warming her tonsils.

With Town gun Ratnaïke the only real resistance remaining at the crease, the crowd was in raptures next over as yet again Max drew a false shot from the batsmen; Mocky taking the easiest of catches as Town were out on their feet at 8/103.

Max securing 5 for 44 in a Grand Final bowling spell for the ages off 15 unchanged overs.

Charith picked up his first wicket for the day next over, and when Max was inexplicably rested for the next over, the re-introduced Simon Kirton clean bowled the last remain-

ing Town batsmen to dismiss Leongatha for just 109.

The crowd erupted into applause as the players celebrated and proud family members and club-mates mobbed them.

An unbelievable effort after a tough season in which we looked like we might miss the finals altogether, only to seal a commanding premiership victory, securing a very rare back-to-back premiership success.

RSL Man of the Match was Shiran for his brilliant century.

Go Sharks!

A1 GRADE		IGR SAN REMO
PHILLIP ISLAND 6-385 S.RATHNAYAKE L.CLELAND T.KEILY	128 84 84	PHILLIP ISLAND v LEONGATHA TOWN SAT MARCH 25 KORUMBURRA RECREATION RESERVE
LEONGATHA TOWN 109 M.ROYAL S.KIRTON T.KEILY	5-40 2-8 2-37	
C1 GRADE		reece
PHILLIP ISLAND 2-104 T.ASURUMUI G.EXCELL D.MANI	33+ 26 22	PHILLIP ISLAND v KORUMBURRA SAT MARCH 25 & SUN MARCH 26 OUTRIM RECREATION OVAL
KORUMBURRA 100 T.ASURUMUI D.MANI M.CLEARY	4-7 3-28 2-15	

# Back-to-back Premierships for C Grade



C Grade Premiers – players and family thrilled with their back-to-back premierships.

The Phillip Island C graders headed to Outrim to take on the Korumburra Cobras in the Grand Final on Saturday.

The Cobras won the toss and elected to bat. Satchin and Cleary opened the bowling for the Sharks.

The Cobras didn't get off to a good start as Cleary removed both openers, bowled and LBW.

Francis was then introduced into the attack and had immediate success when Marshall took the catch, Korumburra 3/27.

The Cobras steadied and got to drinks 3/38.

Fall and Francis kept bowling and Ivey was particularly excellent in the field, saving plenty of runs.

Mani was introduced into the attack and got the breakthrough when Cleary took a catch in cover 4/78.

Mani backed it up with another when Parry took a catch.

Tharu Asurumui was introduced and caused absolute destruction of the Cobras' innings.

Firstly he removed the captain when Cleary took an outfield catch in front of the bump crowd.

He then claimed three caught by keeper Paterson, three of the greatest wicket-keeping catches ever taken.

Mani then claimed his third when Excell took a catch and the Cobras were all out for 100.

Cleary 2/15, Satchin 0/27, Francis 1/6, Fall 0/15, Mani 3/28 and Asurumui 4/7.

The Sharks opened with Manning and Excell and needed a steady start as the Cobras desperately needed early wickets.

Jonty and Gav delivered, as they have done all year.



Man of the Match Tharu Asurumui (left) with 4/7 and 33 not out, and Satchin, who was man of the match in the semi final holding the C grade Premiership cup.

Jonty was out LBW for 16, 1/32.

Excell tore a muscle, so Paterson was introduced as runner.

Gav battled on and was bowled for 26, Sharks 2/52.

Mani was batting solidly and was joined by Tharu.

Tharu in an awesome display, quickly took the game away from the Cobras, hitting the boundary and clearing it with some massive sixes.

Mani hit the winning runs with a beautiful boundary, Sharks 2/103.

Mani finished on 22 not out and Tharu 33 not out.

Player of the match was Tharu Asurumui with his 4/7 and 33 not out.

Back-to-back premiers for C Grade, a fantastic season.

## Women's soccer

Are you a young girl or woman of any age above 15 and interested in trying soccer and making new friends?

If this might be you, then keep on reading.

Football fever is about to sweep across this country like it never has before, with our Matilda's taking centre stage when the FIFA Women's World Cup is hosted by Australia this July.

Why not join a local soccer team this season before the football frenzy begins?

The popularity of women's football around the world has skyrocketed in the last ten years with millions of girls and women taking up the game and there are now massive global career opportunities in the sport.

With the Women's World Cup coming to Australia, this is an extremely exciting time for women's football in this country.

At Phillip Island Soccer Club located at

Newhaven, we have a fantastic soccer facility and a brilliant community club that offers beautiful green grassed playing pitches, a brand new club rooms building that provide exclusive female change rooms and bathrooms and most importantly we provide a fun, safe and family friendly atmosphere that places a high value in developing and promoting girls and women in sport.

Whether you might have big football dreams or whether you're just interested in a social kick, it can all begin at Phillip Island.

Please come and try soccer by coming to training, held on Thursday nights at 6pm starting March 30 at Newhaven Recreation Reserve.

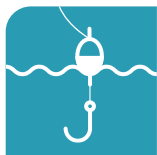
It's free to try, and no experience is necessary.

If you are interested or have any queries please contact Jake on 0407 098 196.



Phillip Island Soccer Club is inviting women and girls to come and try soccer at their Thursday night training sessions starting at 6pm, from March 30, at Newhaven Rec Reserve.





## AROUND THE BAY

WITH JIM'S BAIT AND TACKLE

The days are getting shorter, the water is cooling down ... all signs that we are heading towards winter. The only thing that isn't showing signs of winter is the fishing.

There are less people fishing but the quality of the reports is as good as we have seen all season both in the bay and offshore.

We had a customer offshore who has done several trips this season, telling us the tuna was everywhere.

They found them in close and all the way out to Cody banks.

If you are going to be catching to release, change out your trebles to single hooks as they make it much easier to release the fish without injury.

The fish reported in the bay are not quite jumping in the boats, the sizes are very mixed up and a little more driving around and patience is needed.

Snappers – we are back to smaller pinkies with the occasional bigger one. There is no pattern to the reports, and we are seeing the pinkies everywhere.

Mostly, anything bigger is being reported from deeper water near channels while the shallows have more of the smaller ones, but then someone comes in with an opposite report.

Everywhere you fish for whiting lately has produced good numbers but the sizes are all over the place.

The fish are still very healthy, and you will get a good feed off half a dozen or so, although some have been lucky enough to land on a good patch and catch their bag.

Those catching a bag of fish don't have any or many over the 40cm mark whereas those only finding smaller numbers are getting much better fish. Where? Fish your favourite whiting spot where the conditions will allow you to.

Our reports have come from everywhere lately and even a few showing up from the land-based customers as well.

Calamari, gummies and flathead are all being reported, however whiting and tuna seem to be the targeted species and the rest just a bonus.

There is quality, quantity, under-size, and none at all in the other species.

There is another handful of species that I could add to the list as is the nature of this time of the year

which just shows how healthy the bay is at the moment.

### Fish responsibly

Fishermen are their own worst enemy, is a phrase I hear in the shop often. It's becoming more frequently used, not just from fishermen but plenty of concerned members of the public as well.

You don't even have to spend five minutes on the computer to find a dozen groups trying to stop fishing.

For example, the PEW group. This group is funded better than many small countries that start spot fires all round the world with one agenda.

Admittedly most is concerning overfishing on the commercial side with almost all of that about overseas countries but it's the general public that goes for a walk and brings me a dozen empty bait packets they find on the beach.

They are the ones that will one day have a big enough voice to stop us doing what we do.

The easiest way to counter that takes no effort at all.

We are finding in the shop it's the older customers that get it and are thinking about what they are doing. They bring in a bag for their bait, they ask about the environmentally friendly alternatives and they are picking up the rubbish off the beaches.

It's those younger who should be the ones concerned that are still asking for plastic bags, and telling us they didn't throw the empty bait packet in the water so it's not their problem to pick it up.

Removing plastic is the buzz thing at the moment. There have been huge steps made by the suppliers to reduce this, however its going to take time and pressure from the consumer to force quicker change.

Do some research for yourself and see how much effort and money is being put in by the "other side" using whatever angle they can. The easy counter is to just be responsible; it wont just be a commercial fishing problem.

Don't forget the Easter Good Friday Fishing competition if you haven't entered as yet.

We will also have extended hours over the Easter weekend opening at 6am every day.



Scarlett Rennie (left) second in round 3 of the Under 14 girls, and first place getter Rose Holland (Dromana). The pair also took out the same places in the overall championship. Photo: Noah Clifford, Surfing Victoria.

# Local juniors shine

Junior surfers Scarlett Rennie (Cape Woolamai), Arch Rayner (Inverloch) and Rye Cicero (Sandy Point) put in solid performances at the final round of the Victorian Junior Surfing titles on the weekend.

As the final round of the competition, the results also determined the Junior Surfing titles for the year, with Arch Rayner crowned Under 14 boys champion, while Scarlett Rennie and Rye Cicero came second in the Under 14 girls and Under 16 boys respectively.

The final round was held at Gunnamatta.

On the day, Rye Cicero won round 3 of the Under 16 boys competition, Scarlett Rennie came second in the Under 14 girls and Arch Rayner took third spot in the Under 14 Boys.

Full results for round 3 and the overall results for the Victorian Junior Surfing Titles at [www.surfingvic.com](http://www.surfingvic.com)



Rye Cicero (Sandy Point) won the round 3 Under 16 boys event, and came second in the championship overall. Photo: Noah Clifford, Surfing Victoria.



Social bowls winners from left: Michael Frost, Glenda Grazules, Joan Farmer and Lindsay Meredith.

## Phillip Island bowls

Phillip Island Bowls Club had a perfect day for social bowls on Thursday with fine warm and sunny conditions for 24 bowlers to show their talent.

Runners ups for the day with two wins and +24 were Skip Robyn Den-

nis, 3rd Rod Swyak, 2nd Graeme White and Lead Marlene Puncher.

Congratulations to the winners with 2 wins and + 35, Skip Lindsay Meredith, 3rd Glenda Grazules, 2nd Michael Frost and Lead Joan Farmer.

## Midweek bowls

Another great day as 25 bowlers turned up at San Remo to continue the weekly challenge.

Once again lots of laughter and friendly banter from all rinks.

There doesn't appear to be too many wrong bias bowls these days but, the RCH tin is still heading in the right direction.

A big shout out to Bob, Rob and John for helping out in the kitchen as well as Peter T in the bar.

Once again thank you to Peter and Pauline Mac for all the behind the scenes work as well as to John for his master of ceremonies duties each week.

It was lovely to see Elaine drop in to say hello; after almost a year it was a pleasure to see her.

Looking forward to her return when she is fully recovered.

This week's winners with 35 points were: Craig Brown (S), Chris Brooks (3) and Peter Thorley (L).

Runners up on three points were: Rob Jeffries (S), Gillian Harper (3) and Bob Arnold (L).

Best One Game on 21 points were: Mark Andreatta (S), David Talbot (3) and Shirley Corcoran (L).

Next Thursday we are looking forward to playing our final summer match at Koo Wee Rup and hope that all our group members can make it.

So be there at 10am for a 10.30am start.



Midweek bowls winners last week were: Chris Brooks (3), Peter Thorley (L) and Craig Brown (S).



Best One Game winners were David Talbot (3), Shirley Corcoran (L) and Marl Andreatta (S).

## Ten Pin bowling

**25 Company:** 1st on 10pts King Pins, 2nd on 9pts Alley Cats and 3rd on 9pts Palms.

**ABL (Almost Bowling Legends):** 1st on 71pts Knackers, 2nd on 60.5pts Pinpals and 3rd on 55pts Fairlanes.

**Business Early:** 1st on 11pts Balls Deep, 2nd on 10pts Sassy Gronks, 3rd on 8pts Happy Hour and 4th on 8pts Old Timers.

**Business Late:** 1st on 11pts Dynamic Painting, 2nd on 9pts Team Rich, 3rd on 7.5pts 3 Stooges and 4th on 6.5pts City Lights.

**Phantom:** 1st on 3pts AlleyGator, 2nd on 3pts Lucky13 and 3rd on 3pts Dish.

Top Scores for this week across each league are:

Men: Jack Aitken 196, Matt Edwards 193 and Raff Merante 192.

Women: Chloe Else 181, Karen Klym 179 and Barbara Burns 140.

# TIDE GUIDE

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

WED 29 MAR	THU 30 MAR	FRI 31 MAR	SAT 1 APR	SUN 2 APR	MON 3 APR	TUE 4 APR
LOW 12:41 am 0.92 m	LOW 1:15 am 1.00 m	LOW 1:50 am 1.10 m	LOW 2:27 am 1.20 m	LOW 2:10 am 1.29 m	LOW 3:06 am 1.36 m	LOW 4:20 am 1.36 m
HIGH 6:43 am 2.71 m	HIGH 7:15 am 2.62 m	HIGH 7:46 am 2.51 m	HIGH 8:23 am 2.39 m	HIGH 8:07 am 2.28 m	HIGH 9:10 am 2.19 m	HIGH 10:35 am 2.17 m
LOW 12:45 pm 0.38 m	LOW 1:18 pm 0.50 m	LOW 1:53 pm 0.64 m	LOW 2:30 pm 0.79 m	LOW 2:15 pm 0.95 m	LOW 3:17 pm 1.09 m	LOW 4:39 pm 1.18 m
HIGH 7:43 pm 2.91 m	HIGH 8:17 pm 2.78 m	HIGH 8:54 pm 2.65 m	HIGH 9:36 pm 2.52 m	HIGH 9:28 pm 2.42 m	HIGH 10:31 pm 2.37 m	HIGH 11:39 pm 2.38 m

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



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A1 Premiers - Back Row: Lachie Cleeland, Simon Kirton, Max Royal, Jarrod Black, Daniel Bourke and Tom Keily. Front Row: Brodie Johnston, Daniel Mock (C), Shiran Rathnayake, Eli Richards and Charith Keerthisinghe.

# Sharks go back to back!

In a re-match of last season's Grand Final Phillip Island and Leongatha Town met in a two-day clash at the picturesque Korumburra Recreation Reserve to decide this year's premier A1 team; Phillip Island searching for back-to-back titles and Town seeking redemption.

With the ground in perfect condition and the pitch appearing to offer something for the bowlers, Town won the toss and sent the Island into bat.

Eli Richards opened with Lachie Cleeland and Eli started positively, attacking anything loose and had quickly moved to 17 when he was out, caught driving off the bowling of Gallage. The Island were 1/19 off six overs.

Captain Daniel Mock joined Lachie and was soon given a life on five when he was dropped by the keeper off the express bowling of Riaz.

From there the pair batted smartly, doing their best to survive the openers but keeping the scoreboard ticking over and at drinks had pushed the score to 1/50 off 16.

After the break, Riaz continued to bowl quickly and dangerously in tandem with the spin of Madusanka, but the Island batsmen were up for the challenge, continuing to blunt the Town attack.

The pair maintained an attacking edge, capitalising on anything too full or short, Lachie bringing up a fantastic 50 off 82 balls. When lunch was called shortly after, the Sharks had set a fantastic platform with the score 1/109 off 33 overs, skipper Mock on 37 himself.

When play resumed it was Town who started best when Ratnaika had the Island skipper Mock caught behind for 40 ending a vitally important 93-run stand.

Lach was given a life shortly after at second slip and when new batsmen Daniel Bourke on three popped one back to the bowler Hume, Town could feel the momentum swinging, with the score now 3/134.

Shiran was in next and sensing an opportunity Riaz was re-introduced by Town. However the batting pair settled into the job at hand, steadying the innings and taking the Sharks to the next drinks break with score 3/158 off 49 overs, Lachie batting beautifully on 79.

The Island pair began to attack after the



The dads celebrate their premiership win against Leongatha Town with the kids. From left: Daniel Mock, Jarrod Black, Tom Keily, Charith Keerthisinghe and Simon Kirton. Kids (from left): Parker and Hudson Mock, Macey Black, Ollie Keily, Delansa and Delasna Keerthisinghe and Elsie Bell Kirton

break, punishing the Town bowlers with some great batting and quickly bringing up our 200 in the 56th over and Shiran made his 50 a few overs later.

Unfortunately for the Island supporters shortly after this, Lachie was caught in the deep on 92 off the bowling of Madusanka, an unbelievable effort from the Island opener, ending another crucial 80-run partnership with the score now 4/214 off 62 overs.

Once Jarrod Black was out LBW in the next over without troubling the scorers, the Town players were up and about and another quick wicket or two would have them right back in the contest.

With the tea break now concluded, the Sharks had 26 overs remaining in the day and what occurred could well decide the direction of the contest.

Tom Keily joined Shiran and the pair began to lift the tempo, taking the attack to the Town bowlers. They pushed the score to 5/282 off 76

by the next drinks break, Shiran edging ever closer to three figures on 98.

The crowd did not have to wait long after the break, Shiran playing a glorious pull shot off Riaz that screamed to the boundary to bring up his maiden 100 for the club to the applause of the entire crowd in attendance.

TK and Shiran now really started to take it to the tiring Town attack, racing to 300 and beyond. Shiran was finally out caught on the boundary for a spectacular 112, with the score now 321, ending a brilliant 106-run partnership.

With eight overs to go, Brodie Johnston joined TK, and he immediately set about quickly turning the strike over to TK, who was brutalising the Town attack racing to post his own 50.

The pair staying together to the end of the innings, Brodie finishing with a valuable contribution of 22, TK destroying the opposition to finish not out 84 off just 92 deliveries.

Continued page 26

**ALEX SCOTT  
AND STAFF**

35A JENNER AVENUE, COWES



- Townhouse situated only 700m from north facing Cowes beach
- Kitchen, living, dining area opens onto rear balcony for entertaining
- 4 bedrooms/2 bathrooms/2 cars

\$850,000

15 HALLWAY DRIVE,  
WIMBLEDON HEIGHTS



- Open plan living leading onto undercover alfresco area
- Fully fenced yard with established gardens
- 4 bedrooms/1 bathroom/2 cars

\$720,000

LOT 2, 95-99 SHETLAND HEIGHTS ROAD,  
SAN REMO



- Vacant allotment on a generous 2000m<sup>2</sup> (approx.), perfect canvas for your dream home
- Build your home to capture the panoramic views from every angle

\$850,000

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