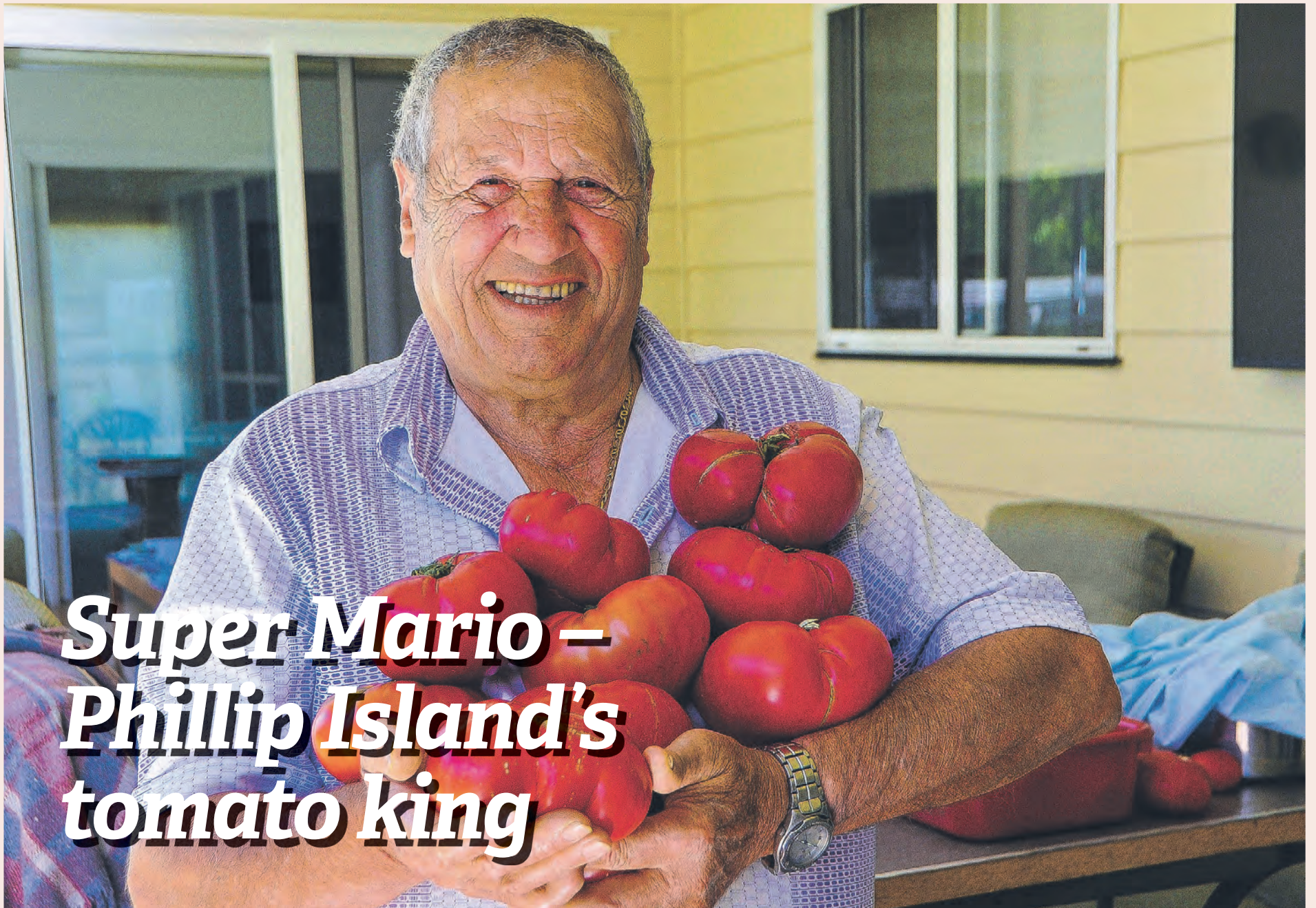


# PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO ADVERTISER

Your Community Voice!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2021

\$1.40 Incl. GST



## Super Mario – Phillip Island's tomato king

Every year, Mario Crisfulli produces a record amount of tomatoes, harvesting around 100 kilos, and this year is no exception.

Without doubt Mario Crisfulli is the king of local tomato growers, harvesting around 100 kilos of tomatoes each season.

This year has been no exception. The bountiful harvest is shared with family and friends and

transformed into sauces to be enjoyed all year round. According to Mario, the very best way to enjoy his tomatoes is

fresh – thinly sliced and served with a bit of oregano, basil, olive oil and parsley. He says his biggest tomato ever

weighed over one and three quarter kilos, but this year, the biggest fruit topped the scale at almost 600 grams.

## \$50m Vietnam Vets museum plans unveiled

Plans for a new \$50 million National Vietnam Veterans Museum will go to Bass Coast Shire this month, with an ambitious target to start construction later this year.

General manager Phil Dressing last week confirmed a planning permit was being sought for a museum, to be built on a 100-acre site opposite the current museum, with access from the Cape Woolamai roundabout.

He said a business case written

last year estimated the new building – which will be about three-times the current museum's size – would cost more than the previously estimated \$30 million.

"The business case found what we have here is not a nationally unique collection, but a globally unique one and we need to protect and conserve it," said Phil, who is set to retire in November and hand the reins to a new general manager.

"We can only do that effectively

and efficiently if we start again."

According to the designs by architects Tract, the building will be incorporated into the landscape, feature a three-acre display hall, retail, café, classroom and function room able to seat 200 people, as well as a conservation area and library.

The 100 acres extends to the intersection of Churchill and Phillip Island Roads and was purchased in 2019 for \$2.6 million – paid from a Federal Government grant – after a

long search for a new site to house the museum's expanding collection.

### Growing

Phil said they had outgrown their current one-acre site, with their Caribou plane, car park and spare parts area housed on land kindly on loan from Phillip Island Helicopters.

"We are getting more and more items and we have little space to store, conserve and display them.

"There's a Hercules forward section at Pt Cook that we want to relocate and display but it's 5m x 4m."

He said the museum was becoming increasingly popular, with more than a 20 per cent increase in visitation this summer.

The current museum site will be retained as a service site.

"But we would be open to selling if someone comes along who wants to buy it."

Continued page 6

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7 day weather forecast

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13 19	13 20	14 19	12 21	13 26	16 21	14 17



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## Future looks bright for Dutchie's

With its chequered floor and red and white striped umbrellas, Dutchie's takeaway restaurant in Newhaven harks back to a bygone era. But it looks like brighter times are ahead.

Many locals and visitors have fond memories of summer holidays enjoying burgers or fish and chips from the popular shop.

The iconic takeaway restaurant sits at the gateway to Phillip Island and sold earlier this year, with the new owners taking possession last Friday.

Agent Mike Foenander from O'Brien Real Estate said due to a confidentiality agreement he could not reveal details of the sale, but said it was an exciting development for the much-loved old building.

He also quashed rumours that the site had been purchased by Domino's Pizza.

"It's definitely not a franchise." The restaurant at 1 Forrest Avenue has been permanently closed for years and came up for sale in 2018 for the first time in fifty years.

However it wasn't until this year the store finally sold. The \$1,250,000 price tag included 664m<sup>2</sup> land, as well as a three-bedroom residence.

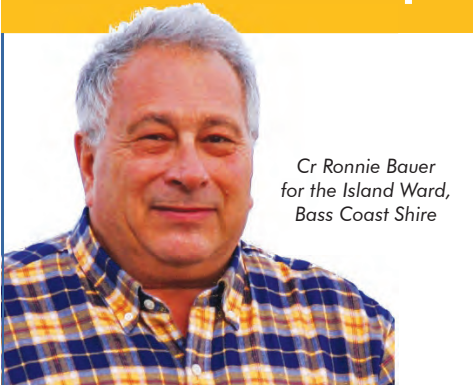
Mr Foenander believed people would "see things happening in the next three to four weeks".

"It's going to be exciting," he said. "Watch this space!"



Dutchies takeaway restaurant has been sold and exciting times are ahead, said agent Mike Foenander, who confirmed the site hadn't been bought by a franchise operator.

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



Cr Ronnie Bauer for the Island Ward, Bass Coast Shire

PO Box 996 Cowes 3922  
Tel: 0439 535 282  
email: Ron.Bauer@basscoast.vic.gov.au  
Authorised by Ronnie Bauer, PO Box 996, Cowes 3922

## Smiths Beach residents panel formed

A new Smiths Beach community panel will meet this Friday (March 5), part of long-term planning on the future of the hamlet.

Bass Coast Shire last month asked for "a cross-section" of residents to nominate for a place on the Smiths Beach Town Plan Community Panel, with members meeting for an initial virtual workshop this week and further meetings in April.

Shire CEO Ali Wastie said more than 60 expressions of interests for the panel were received and 10 members selected representing a cross-section of people who work, visit and live in Smiths Beach.

"A draft plan will be presented to the community in the coming months for wider community engagement. Officers are hoping to finalise the town plan by mid-year," Ms Wastie said.

President of the Smiths Beach Association Phil Dressing said he was buoyed by recent progress, after lobbying for a masterplan since 2006.

"We have achieved more in two months than we have in the past

two years," Phil said.

"The amount of consultation the shire has undertaken this year has been a quantum leap. They've stepped it up."

Phil said his group had met almost weekly with the shire in 2021, as well as Nature Parks, Parks Victoria and Bunurong representatives.

Last year the shire released a draft basic plan, along with on-line Zoom meetings, a 15-minute online survey, and an interactive map, which Phil said had failed to zero in on key issues for Smiths Beach.

"We need to know whether rate-payers want gravel roads to be sealed. Do residents understand the State Government's Distinctive Areas and Landscape plan and its impact on Smiths Beach? Does the community want dogs off leash on the beach?"

### User pays?

Last year the association released its own vision called "More Feet Less Footprints", which pointed to the ballooning num-

ber of visitors to Phillip Island, as highlighted in the shire's own Visitor Economy Strategy.

"If there are more people coming, including to Smiths Beach, how will we manage them in terms of infrastructure and the environment?" he said.

"Tourists use resources but aren't contributing to them."

"User-pays" paid visitor parking is just one of the ideas to be flagged by the association.

Other ideas include:

- Building a Surf Lifesaving Club observation tower on the YCW beach "to spread the load of visitors across two beaches";
- Township boundaries, which are strictly defined under the State Government's Distinctive Areas and Landscape plan;
- Road improvements, including further upgrades to the existing "dangerous" intersection between Smiths Beach and Back Beach roads, as well as sealing gravel roads;
- Measures to stop coastal erosion "because currently at high tide beach users go into the pri-

mary dunes";

• Dogs on beach and potential impacts with hood plover nesting areas;

• The potential to expand a marine park off Smiths Beach; and

• Make better use of the Mitchell Reserve, "which is currently under-utilised".

Phil said the association did not have fixed positions on these issues, but believed they were the most important to garner community feedback.

Last year's shire draft plan detailed the need for improvements in the town, explaining that "when there is an influx of visitors the infrastructure is placed under pressure".

"During peak season, car parking around the shops and beaches is a challenge and occasionally results in heavy traffic with limited road space," the draft plan stated.

It highlights that Smiths Beach is third on the shire's priority list to seal gravel roads, set to start in the next five years, funded through resident contribution through a Special Charge Scheme.

### PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO ADVERTISER

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# At last, a community pool

After three decades of community campaigning, an aquatics centre is finally in sight, with consultation set to start next month.

Bass Coast Shire CEO Ali Wastie last week confirmed final settlement on the purchase of the carnival land on the intersection of Phillip Island and Ventnor roads, which will be home to the Phillip Island Aquatics and Recreation Precinct.

She said part one of stage one of the Phillip Island Aquatics and Recreation Master Plan was currently underway.

"In 2019, we appointed Otium Planning Group to develop a Feasibility and Business Study and concept plans for an aquatics centre on Phillip Island," Ms Wastie said.

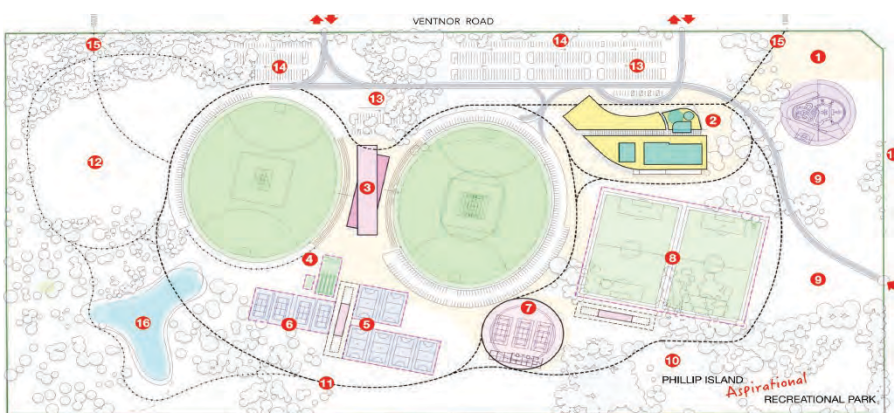
"Otium in conjunction with Integral Group is currently carrying out an Environmentally Sustainable Design Options Report, including a geothermal investigation, to ensure the design of the facilities are as environmentally sustainable as possible.

"The concept plans and Business Study will be finalised based on this report."

Ms Wastie said that once the study and concept plans were completed, community consultation would begin in April.

"We really look forward to seeing what Otium comes up with and sharing this with the community to get their feedback and ideas," Ms Wastie said.

"Engagement with the community and stakehold-



Phillip Island Aquatic Centre Fund (PIACF) secretary Peter McMahon said council must consult with community and sports groups about the new facility. In 2020, PIACF released a recreation master plan for the site – designed by community members – that includes a 50m competition pool with eight lanes.

ers is crucial and the feedback we receive will be critical in shaping the design and operations of the facility.

"We are still in the early stages of this project, however the purchase of this land means we are able to progress with confidence, to provide the community with a valuable and much needed facility."

Phillip Island Aquatic Centre Fund (PIACF) secretary Peter McMahon said it was a great outcome for Phillip Island, urging the shire to "keep to their word of consulting with community groups".

"The Aquatic Centre is very much needed on Phillip Island," said Mr McMahon, who released a statement last week, which also included Island Voice.

"This project has been in train with the PIACF Inc committee for the last 20-plus years, and our group

has amassed quite a considerable amount of data to build a centre.

"We – along with Island Voice – believe it would make sense to have a joint group of all interested parties to finalise this project."

Mr McMahon said a joint working party should include community groups, including sports.

"For too long these types of projects arrive for consultation with our community with very little input being considered," he said.

"Now with the latest community consultation procedures developed by Council, we will look forward to our voices being considered."

## Carnival land

Ms Wastie said the 16ha carnival land was purchased through negotiation with the owners, the Watkins family, and was

"agreed to by the vendor on a voluntary basis".

Last month the Advertiser reported owner Brian Watkins said the settlement price was \$2.7 million, with \$2.2 million for the value of the land and \$500,000 for compensation.

However Mr Watkins said he remained unhappy with the compensation amount and was considering further legal action against the shire.

The 78-year-old said he had refused to sign a confidentiality agreement, as requested by the shire, which would have stopped him revealing the price tag.

He said they had until June 6 to leave.

"I won't be leaving for months. It will take an army to get me out of here," Mr Watkins said.

"We've got giant shipping containers we have to take somewhere."



Charlotte Wright and Mayalu and Clarissa Wright-Monteiro with a snapped surfboard, highlighting chlorine from AGL's proposed gas project "will severely impact on surfing in Western Port".

## AGL decision expected soon

Western Port residents are redoubling their fight against AGL, with the Victorian Government's assessment of AGL's proposed bay gas project due in late March.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Despi O'Connor said the shire was compiling "No AGL" videos contributed by the community to "capture the passion of our collective opposition", which will be sent to State and Federal ministers.

"With the Government's decision on the project fast approaching – and no decision-making powers of our own – we're calling on the community to help us in this last critical fight to save Western Port before it's too late," Cr O'Connor said.

"We are imploring the government not to jeopardise our precious bay for the sake of more fossil fuels. We will also circulate the video online."

Smiths Beach resident and avid surfer Phil Wright – who made a presentation to the

inquiry – said he was most concerned about the impacts of chlorine on the bay.

AGL is proposing to build a 290 metre Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU) terminal at Crib Point, which will suck up about 470 million litres of seawater – including fish eggs and larvae – with water discharged into the bay about 7C colder and containing up to 47kg of chlorine a day.

"The large volumes of continuous chlorine discharge that are proposed by AGL will have a permanent impact on Western Port, including on the Cat Bay section of the Surfing Reserve," said Phil, who took this photo of his granddaughters to highlight concerns.

The Inquiry and Advisory Committee hearing the project's Environmental Effects Statement (EES) started on October 12 and finished on December 17 and was the most complex environmental assessment carried out in Victoria.



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# Government alert on Ross River

Last Friday, the Department of Health said an increased number of cases of Ross River virus have been reported this summer.

People are being warned to protect themselves from mosquito bites.

Victoria's Executive Director for Communicable Disease, Dr Bruce Bolam, said there have been 448 cases of Ross River virus across the state to February 25.

Bass Coast has recorded 26 of those cases.

The Advertiser is aware of three non-residents (two visitors and a holiday homeowner) who have also tested positive after holidaying at Phillip Island or San Remo.

Such cases would be registered at the permanent home address of the person, and not reflected in the Bass Coast numbers, as the Department of Health records cases by Local Government Area (LGA).

Figures from French Island are also not included in the Bass Coast total.

When the Advertiser broke the news of Ross River cases on Phillip Island in January, both Bass Coast Shire Council and Bass Coast Health were unaware of any confirmed local cases.

Bass Coast was also not included in the state government's health warnings on Ross River virus.

A spokesperson for the Department of Health said Bass Coast was not considered an endemic area for the virus.

Records back to 1992 reveal this year is the highest number of cases recorded in

the area in almost 30 years.

The previous highest number was 12, in 2008. In 2017, nine cases were recorded.

Single or less than five cases were recorded in the other years, with no cases recorded at all in nine of the 29 years since 1992.

## Case load

In a typical year, about 200 cases across Victoria are notified to the department, compared to the 448 this year.

In contrast, almost 2000 cases were notified in 2017 after widespread springtime flooding in late-2016 created massive mosquito breeding sites.

This summer, the department said the majority of the cases have been in residents of the Surf Coast, Bellarine and East Gippsland areas.

Transmitted through mosquito bites, Ross River virus disease occurs throughout most regions of Australia, particularly around inland waterways and coastal regions. Heavy rainfall, floods, high tides and warm weather increase mosquito numbers, resulting in higher numbers of cases.

Dr Bolam said the early summer conditions, particularly in coastal areas, were conducive to mosquito breeding.

The virus is passed between mosquitoes and certain animals, such as wallabies and kangaroos. Infected mosquitoes can then bite people.

Many local councils work routinely with the department to monitor and limit mosquito numbers. Around

12 councils currently participate in the state mosquito-borne disease program and receive funding for mosquito surveillance and vector control.

Mosquito traps are set up in the field, and the mosquitoes are sent to Melbourne for testing.

"When mosquito numbers are high, and the lab detects virus in these mosquitoes, there might be an increased risk of acquiring Ross River virus in the coming days if the weather conditions are favourable," Dr Bolam said.

"Mosquitoes need stagnant water to breed, but they also prefer mild, calm, and more humid air to fly and bite."

Bass Coast Shire Council's program of monitoring or baiting mosquitos, run in the past through the Bass Coast Landcare Network, did not take place this summer.

In October last year, Council confirmed the program had not run for five years, as there had been no local mosquito-borne health issues.

However this month, a spokesperson said the mosquito monitoring program run by Bass Coast Landcare, with support from council, is now operating and is scheduled to run through until March.

"There are currently eight sites on Phillip Island that are part of this program," the spokesperson said.

Confirmed cases on Phillip Island have been recorded in Cape Woolamai, San Remo, Surf Beach, Wimbledon Heights and rural areas around Harbison Road.



This plan A Rhyll boat ramp design was the successful concept, agreed to in February 2020, after Better Boating Victoria took on community feedback.

## Rhyll boat ramp redesign consultation

New designs for the proposed Rhyll boat ramp upgrade will be on display for community feedback tomorrow (March 4).

The modified designs build on last year's agreed Plan A, which included three lanes, an all-tide boat ramp, longer pontoons, safer pedestrian access on Beach Road, a fish cleaning table and an increase in car and trailer parking from 39 to 43 parks.

Last month Bass Coast Shire held an invitation-only meeting with anglers to show the modifications detailing plan A changes that impact the land - not marine - designs.

According to the new design, parking is reduced back to 39 with car spaces near the playground and Rhyll Angling Clubrooms lengthened to cater to trailers, requiring vehicles with trailers to reverse into the space.

The Beach Road zebra crossing has been removed and replaced with two new zebra

crossings directly across the trailer parking area.

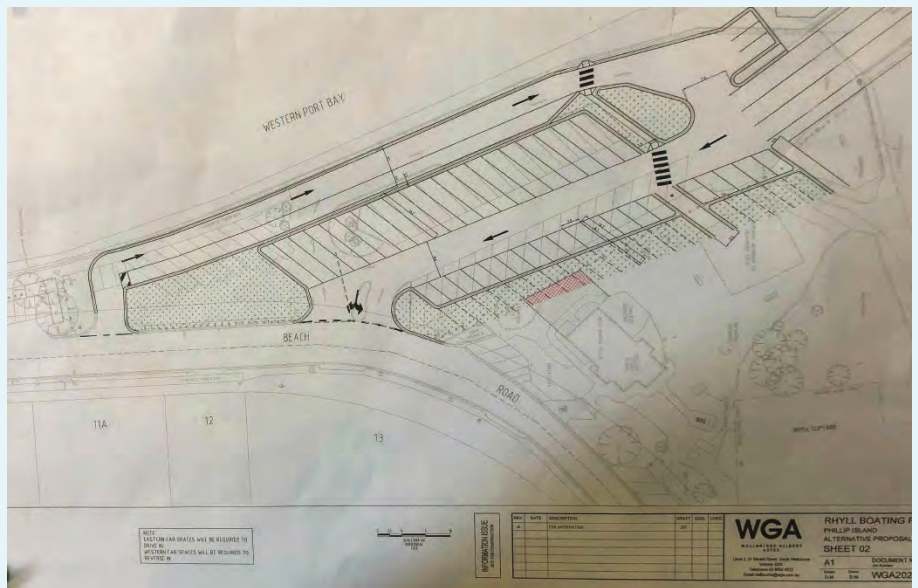
As reported in last week's Advertiser the modifications were criticised by a Silverleaves resident who works in the safety industry, who said the new plans put children and pedestrians at risk.

A drop-in information session will show the new plans for the ramp upgrade from 4-5pm at the angling club shelter on Beach Road.

There will be two construction windows, to minimise disruption to boating and snapper fishing season.

Stage 1 will see on site works between June and August 2021, pending approvals, focusing on the car park reconfiguration.

Stage 2 will involve the marine component - jetties, pontoons and boat ramp lanes, scheduled for February/March 2022 and completed by August 2022.



Anglers were surprised at the changes in the new Rhyll boat ramp design, which were unveiled at an invitation-only meeting a fortnight ago and which include land-based changes to parking and pedestrian access.

## Ross River symptoms

Symptoms of Ross River virus can include fever, rash, headache, aching muscles and/or joints and fatigue. People experiencing symptoms should seek medical attention from their GP.

Symptoms appear between two and 14 days following a bite from an infected mosquito. There is no evidence that Ross River virus can be spread directly from one person to another.

## Protection

Victoria's Executive Director for Communicable Disease, Dr Bruce Bolam said

people can take simple steps to avoid bites and protect themselves and their family against mosquito-borne diseases.

"Victorian mosquitoes can be active throughout the day, but the peak period is often around the late afternoon and into the evening as well as around dawn and dusk," he said.

"Everyone is encouraged to wear long, loose fitting clothes and use repellents containing picaridin or DEET on exposed skin."

"People should ensure that insect screens fitted to doors and windows around the

home are in good condition.

"Mosquito numbers can be reduced by getting rid of stagnant water around the home or campsites. Mosquitoes will breed in any receptacle that can hold water, including old tyres, fish ponds, unmaintained swimming pools, unsealed water tanks and pot plant holders."

A range of information relating to protecting against mosquito bites is available on the Beat the Bite campaign page on the Better Health Channel.

Visit [www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/campaigns/beat-the-bite](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/campaigns/beat-the-bite)

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# Residents ramp up fight for Shetland Heights

The Safer Roads for San Remo committee continues to campaign for an urgent upgrade for Shetland Heights Road.

They say construction of the new junior secondary campus at the intersection of Shetland Heights and Potters Hill roads makes the upgrade an urgent priority.

The road has open drains, no footpaths and the section closest to the new campus is unsealed. Residents believe the increased traffic the new school will generate – both vehicle and pedestrian – is an accident waiting to happen.

The state government has agreed to seal a section of Potters Hill Road as part of the construction of the new campus, but to date, neither Bass Coast Shire Council nor the government will commit the necessary funding to upgrade Shetland Heights Road.

Last week, residents met with the member for Eastern Victoria, Edward O'Donohue to discuss their concerns.

Mr O'Donohue has previously raised the issue in Parliament, and after meeting with residents, Mr O'Donohue told the Advertiser the government "must urgently commit to delivering the extra infrastructure needed to make access to the new junior secondary school in San Remo safe for parents, students and teachers.

"This starts with addressing traffic concerns at the intersection of Potters Hill Road and Phillip Island Road and sealing and upgrading Shetland Heights Road.

"These issues should not be dumped on Council or local residents to fix, it is the responsibility of Daniel Andrews and his State Government alone to fix."

A spokesperson for the residents' group, Fritzie Barrowcliffe said Mr O'Donohue told them he would raise the issue again in Parliament.



Edward O'Donohue, the member for Eastern Victoria, met with San Remo residents last week, to discuss their concerns about the health and safety risks of accessing the new secondary campus via Shetland Heights Road.

"Ed seemed to be very committed to helping us as much as possible," she said, noting he also had a good grasp of the dangers of the intersection of Potters Hill and Phillip Island roads.

The residents have been campaigning for almost a decade to have Shetland Heights Road upgraded, repeatedly raising safety and health concerns with Bass Coast Shire Council.

In 2019, the group lobbied the council to have the project moved to the top of their road upgrade priority list.

However, if the upgrade happens under a special charge scheme, it is

likely to take another four years to complete.

The new campus is due to open at the start of January 2022.

"We believe the only way the road can be built before the school opens is if the state government contribute to it," Fritzie said.

#### Community support

As well as meeting with Mr O'Donohue, the group has lobbied local MP, Jordan Crugnale to support their campaign.

They say Ms Crugnale has put them in touch with the Victorian School Building Authority, but "is standing her ground".

structure allowing for safe access to it?"

The group said it needs the help of the school community to lobby the state government to have the roads upgraded.

"The State politician Jordan Crugnale says no one needs to access Shetland Heights Road to reach the school but what about Newhaven, Cape Woolamai and San Remo kids and parents who might want their kids to ride or walk and who can't wait in a queue for 20 mins in the morning on Phillip Island Road, they will use Shetland Heights Road," the letter states.

"Your kids will not be safe until the road is sealed and safe pedestrian access is provided."

The group is also putting together a petition to present to Parliament and is asking local residents and parents to add their signatures.

#### Traffic woes continue

As the political arguments drag on, residents of Shetland Heights and the surrounding roads continue to deal with the safety and health issues from the unsealed road.

The easing of Covid restrictions and the busy holiday season has seen a big increase in the number of vehicles using the road.

"Council has put in a traffic counter and are contracting someone to do a traffic analysis," Fritzie said.

With construction already underway on the new campus, dust from the trucks and machinery accessing the site from the unsealed section of Potters Hill Road is adding to the residents' woes.

"The builders are doing their bit and watering the road, but the dust we are ingesting during the construction process is horrendous."

Follow the Safer Roads for San Remo Action Group (Vic) on Facebook.

The group has also presented concerns about the potential threat of silicosis due to dust particles from the unsealed road to both state government and council.

Now, the Safer Roads group has reached out to the wider community for support.

A letter has been sent to local primary school principals in Newhaven, Cowes, San Remo, Bass Valley and Powlett River, as well as local kindergartens.

Describing the new campus as a wonderful and needed facility, the letter asks, "is it sensible to locate it at the end of a residential, dusty, dangerous dirt road with no infra-

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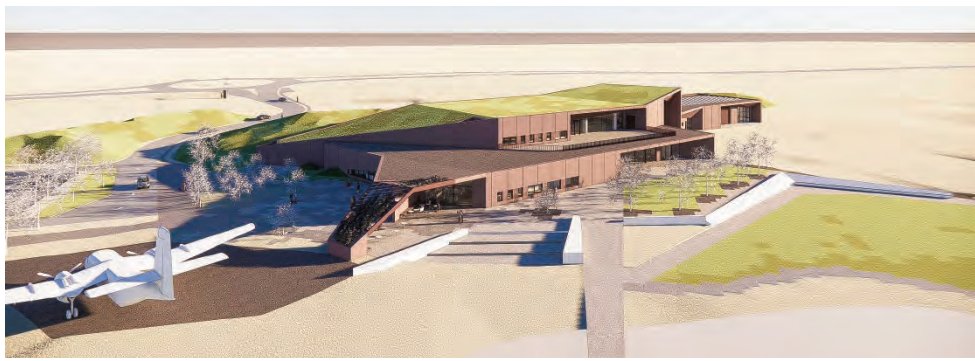
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An artist's impression of the new National Vietnam Veterans Museum: it will be built on a 100-acre site opposite the current museum, with access from the Cape Woolamai roundabout. Construction could start later in the year despite the funding yet to be secured. A letter requesting funds was sent to Premier Daniel Andrews last month.

# \$50m Vietnam Vets museum plans unveiled

From page 1

## Funding

Phil said he was confident construction could start later in the year despite the funding yet to be secured.

He said they were hoping the Victorian Government would provide \$10 million in the May budget, with a letter requesting funds sent to Premier Daniel Andrews last month, accompanied by letters of support.

State Government Veterans Minister Shaun Leane last month visited the museum, later commenting in Parliament he was "looking for ways that maybe we can support them further".

"They have got big aspirations to move the museum to a location across the road and I am seeing what we can do to help them fulfil that aspiration," Mr Leane said.

"It is the biggest Vietnam museum in the world - there is even not a bigger one in America surprisingly."

The museum will approach all the states and territories, as well as philanthropic organisations and individuals in a bid to raise funds.

"Our search will be global, any of the allies who were involved in the Vietnam War.

"We don't believe it's overly-ambitious to say we'll be sticking a shovel in the earth later this year.

"Ideally we would like to start building

within five months after receiving planning approval. But that is predicated on funding. If we can't get support then the cost will be bigger and the timeline will be extended."

## Background

Phil said the expansion was in line with the "National Vietnam Museum Masterplan 2025" adopted by the museum board in 2014, adding Phillip Island was considered "the spiritual home" for Vietnam veterans.

"The decision was made to initially look for land on the island, then go within Bass Coast Shire if need be," he explained.

"There were caveats - we needed main road frontage and enough land for future expansion."

After receiving the Federal Government funding in 2019, the museum looked at more than 12 different sites in their search for a suitable location.

In the short-term, residents and visitors will not see any changes to the existing museum, however it is hoped a mural will soon be added to a shed on the new land declaring it as the new home of the National Vietnam Veterans Museum.

Phil paid tribute to the tireless work and dedication of volunteers, with the museum started in the garage of veteran John and Krishna Methven's San Remo home, transformed into a world-class museum.

# Support for local students pursuing their education dreams

Two local students received a helping hand to following their higher education dreams, thanks to the Bendigo Community Bank.

Una Hingst and Will Brusamarello each received a \$5000 scholarship to help with the cost of attending university.

The scholarships are part of the Grantville, San Remo and Cowes Community Bank program to help local students follow their dream of tertiary education.

Una is going to Deakin University to study Wildlife Conservation and Biology, a lifelong passion.

"The scholarship money has meant I've been able to buy a working computer," she said.

"This is particularly meaningful during Covid, because a lot of it is online."

She said the scholarship, which will also help cover the cost of books has completely changed her approach to university.

"I'm very grateful." Will is studying Nursing



Will Brusamarello and Una Hingst received scholarships from Bendigo Community Bank to help with their tertiary studies.

and Paramedicine at ACU Ballarat and said the scholarship was a big help with finances, as he will have to live out of home. With his twin-brother also moving out of home to Canberra, he said the family was very appreciative of the support.

"This will help massively, thank you."

Since launching the scholarship program in 2013, the Grantville, San Remo and Cowes Community Bank has supported 31 local students through scholarships, totally \$295,000.

# Granted! Opportunities for funding

It's open season for grant applications at the moment. Here's a list of some of the current opportunities on offer, to help your community group or business.

## Commemorative grants

The 2021-22 Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program is now open, providing funding for commemorative projects and activities.

The new round has revised guidelines, based on feedback from the ex-service community.

Projects and activities supported include developing digital databases, restoring commemorative sites of significance and producing resources to keep the stories of veterans alive. [www.communitygrants.gov.au](http://www.communitygrants.gov.au)

## Junior Landcare grants

Applications for the 2021 Woolworths Junior Landcare Grants Program are now open and up to a thousand grants are being offered, for up to \$1000 each.

Schools and centres can use the grant to grow a vegetable or bush tucker garden, composting, worm farm or other environmental projects in their schools and communities, helping to educate the younger generation about the importance of the environment. Primary schools and early learning centres can also apply for a Bee Bonus, in addition to the \$1000 grant. [www.landcareaustralia.org.au/woolworthsgrants](http://www.landcareaustralia.org.au/woolworthsgrants)

## Sports club equipment grants

Sports clubs can apply for funding to buy equipment and uniforms, boost administrative skills and improve operations, under the latest round of the Sporting Club Grants Program.

The grants provide clubs with up to \$1000 for new uniforms and equipment, up to \$5000 for training coaches, officials and volunteers and up to \$5000 to improve club operational effectiveness. A Covid Recovery category provides up to \$5000 to help sports get back on their

feet after the pandemic. [www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding/our-grants/sporting-club-grants-program](http://www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding/our-grants/sporting-club-grants-program)

## Habitat protection

Grants of up to \$50,000 are now available for conservation projects or habitat restoration.

Community Environment Grants funds small and large-scale projects dedicated to preserving Victoria's biodiversity and waterways.

Community and Traditional Owners groups, volunteer organisations and schools can apply for grants through three different streams, including Aboriginal Community Caring for Country and Community Volunteer Action grants. [www.environment.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.environment.vic.gov.au/grants)

## School mindfulness

Regional primary schools across Australia can apply for Smiling Mind, a school mindfulness program. The program provides free access to Smiling Mind's training and resources, providing teachers evidence-based coaching to support the sustainable, positive mental health habits in their cohorts. [www.smilingmind.com.au/regional-and-rural-schools-program](http://www.smilingmind.com.au/regional-and-rural-schools-program)

## Get kids active

Vouchers of up to \$200 each for sporting equipment, uniforms and memberships are available through the Get Active Kids program.

The vouchers are available for children aged four to 18 who reside in Victoria. Applications for vouchers in round one of Get Active Kids will close on April 11. [www.getactive.vic.gov.au](http://www.getactive.vic.gov.au)

## Athlete Pathway grants

Applications are open for the 2020/21 Athlete Pathway Grant Program. Grants help athletes with travel costs for attending state representative events, training or to compete at events that contribute to their sporting pathways.

Grants of up to \$6000 are available for state sporting associations, regional academies of sport and state sport and recreation bodies for travel to training camps, selection trials, national championships events and athlete development, plus non-travel costs. Victorian sport and recreation clubs can apply for grants of up to \$2000. Applications close on April 6. [www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding](http://www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding)

## FIRST NATIONAL REAL ESTATE

### PROPERTIES URGENTLY REQUIRED

For Sale \$379,000

2 / 140-142 Settlement Road, Cowes

This low maintenance unit is the perfect entry level opportunity. With excellent access to Cowes shops and beaches. The three bedrooms open up so many opportunities, permanent rental, retired person. The designated car park could have a carport built for boat storage if required.

LOW MAINTENANCE / PERFECT INVESTMENT



For Sale \$719,000

26 Dunsmore Road, Cowes

Just minutes to the sandy shores of Cowes and tucked away in a tranquil and leafy enclave, this treasured home is a dream fulfilling opportunity. The home features 3 bedrooms, open plan living with wood fire which adds a warm ambience. Outdoors, the established easy-care gardens provide shade a shady haven to relax. This is undeniably one of the best locations in Cowes where you can swim within minutes of leaving home, golf, tennis and Cowes Recreation Centre. Inspections are by appointment only.

LIFESTYLE LOCATION



For Sale - Land \$359,000

39 Hastings Street, Rhyll

Nestled in this extremely quiet location is the perfect setting to create your dream home. The filtered views only enhance the complete package. With space for the boat or caravan or both. There is walking access to all Rhyll has to offer, create the perfect lifestyle.

FILTERED VIEWS/ QUIET SETTING



[www.phillipislandfn.com.au](http://www.phillipislandfn.com.au)  
60 Thompson Ave, Cowes

OPEN 7 DAYS  
5952 3922

Supporting local business, creates local jobs.

**RUSSELL BROADBENT MP**  
Federal Member for Monash

46C Albert Street, Warragul VIC 3820 | 03 5623 2064  
@ russell.broadbent.mp@aph.gov.au | Russell.Broadbent.94  
Authorised by Russell Broadbent MP, Liberal Party of Australia, 46C Albert Street, Warragul VIC 3820.

## Melaleuca Lodge Secondhand Book Sale

Open 10-12 every Saturday.

1 Watchorn Road, COWES (off Settlement Road)

5952 2263





# Nature parks says thank you Bass Coast!

## An invitation from Phillip Island Nature Parks

The Phillip Island Nature Parks team is delighted to invite our beloved community to the tenth annual Community Open Day on Sunday March 14.

"This year more than ever, the event will be a special thank you to the Bass Coast community for your support over the recent challenging months," said Sally O'Neill, Phillip Island Nature Parks' Community Engagement Officer.

Open Day is one of the many special things about being a Bass Coast Shire resident, when all locals receive free entry to the evening Penguin Parade (pre-booked tickets essential), Koala Conservation Reserve, Churchill Island and the exciting Antarctic Journey at the Nobbies Centre. The team is looking forward to being on site to say hi, showcase the work they do and answer your questions.

Enjoy old time games, farming demonstrations and guided walks at Churchill Island. Our team and community will host a mini expo of Conservation Heroes where you can meet the people behind wildlife conservation, living sustainably and much more – there will also be giveaways, a Welcome to Country and Conservation Dog demonstration.

In the woodland at the Koala Conservation Reserve, rangers and volunteers will be there to welcome you and share their conservation stories including an exclusive experience with Ranger Dan



Rangers Dan Kallstrom and Sharon Woodend ready for the day with Cassie the 20 year old koala watching on.

who will take you through the journey of caring for bushfire-affected koalas.

At the Nobbies Centre, rangers will share the magic of the southern ocean and waters closer to home in the Antarctic Journey exhibition across the day. As the afternoon settles in, the Centre's café overlooking Bass Strait, will come alive with Seals, Beats and Bandicoots where you can enjoy a refreshment, listen to some music by local performer Shaun Kenny and chat with Dr Duncan Sutherland and our researchers and rangers about Threatened Species, seals and more.

There will also be cool marine craft for kids.

As the sun begins to sink, the Penguin Parade will shine. Enjoy a guided tour led by penguin experts Dr Andre Chiaradia and Paula

Wasiak to learn about the secret lives of Little Penguins before they waddle in a sunset.

There is also an exclusive community opportunity to meet Ranger Skye and get a glimpse of how the magic happens before we flick the switch to stream the Little Penguins live to the world!

"We are excited to be able to invite our community to enjoy the Nature Parks - the not for profit conservation and sustainable tourism organisation in your backyard," said Sally.

Entry to all activities and Nature Parks' attractions (including the 'Antarctic Journey' and evening Penguin Parade) is free throughout the day for residents, students and landholders of the Bass Coast Shire and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community members.

This year, prebooked Penguin Parade tickets are essential.

Tickets will be released on March 1 and you can secure your tickets via email [bookings@penguins.org.au](mailto:bookings@penguins.org.au) or from our visitor sites.

You just need to show some proof of residency or your student card to gain entry at the first venue you visit.

"Of course locals will not be surprised to see some changes to the program and the way we usually do things to ensure the event is CovidSafe, so stay in touch with all the updates and news at [www.penguins.org.au/community](http://www.penguins.org.au/community). We're looking forward to seeing you there!"

## Love your Nature Parks all year round!

Did you also know that all Bass Coast Shire residents can purchase a Locals Pass and become part of the Phillip Island Nature Parks community all year round with unlimited entry and great offers and activities? See [www.penguins.org.au/locals](http://www.penguins.org.au/locals) or call 5951 2820.

The full program and information will be featured on #Phillipislandnp, local papers in the week before the event and available online at [www.penguins.org.au/community](http://www.penguins.org.au/community) or check out our Facebook event: [www.facebook.com/events/777589822963753](https://www.facebook.com/events/777589822963753)

If you have any queries regarding the Community Open Day or the Nature Parks' Local's Pass, please call 5951 2830 during business hours or email [community@penguins.org.au](mailto:community@penguins.org.au)



Destination Phillip Island has released eight new touring trails to inspire visitors to stay and explore the region.

## New touring trails unveiled

Destination Phillip Island Regional Tourism Board has unveiled eight new touring trails with the artwork designed by local artist Eirian Chapman.

Each map focuses on a topic theme ranging from wildlife, hiking, family fun to arts, food and drink.

The maps have been produced to inspire visitors to stay longer in region and to encourage further exploration of Phillip Island, San Remo and Bass Coast.

The maps also provide further details on highlighted spots along the trails.

Printed copies of the Touring Trails will be distributed to the local industry, including the Phillip Island Visitor Information Centre, attractions and accommodation in the coming months.

DPI said the maps were another opportunity to showcase the range of experiences on offer, and hopefully will encourage visitors to explore the region.

Locals and visitors can download copies and information on the touring trails online at [www.visit-phillipisland.com.au](http://www.visit-phillipisland.com.au).

# PHILLIP ISLAND NATURE PARKS 10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

## Sunday 14 March 2021

## Welcome back locals!

- **FREE\*** entry to Nature Parks attractions: Penguin Parade (General viewing), Antarctic Journey, Koala Conservation Reserve, Churchill Island.
- Meet our team of rangers, researchers and volunteers.

**Program and updates:**  
[www.penguins.org.au/community](http://www.penguins.org.au/community)

- **Bookings ESSENTIAL** for the Penguin Parade.  
**Email:** [bookings@penguins.org.au](mailto:bookings@penguins.org.au)  
**In person:** Visit our friendly team at: Churchill Island, Koala Conservation Reserve or Nobbies Centre.  
**Note:** You will need to provide proof of residency at entry on the day.



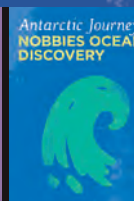
Phillip Island  
**NATURE PARKS**

[www.penguins.org.au/community](http://www.penguins.org.au/community)  
[community@penguins.org.au](mailto:community@penguins.org.au)

#Phillipislandnp



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work and learn, the Bunurong people. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and future.



**OUR COMMUNITY**



\* Entry to activities and attractions is free for residents, landholders, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community members and students of Bass Coast Shire.  
• To gain your free entry, please bring proof of your residency such as rates notice, bill, drivers licence, student card etc. Free entry for household only.  
• Accompanying friends are welcome, but must pay entry fees as apply.





**EVERY TEST HELPS  
US KEEP CATCHING UP  
WITH MATES**

Every test keeps us on top of this virus.

And keeps us doing the things we love.

So even if your symptoms are mild,  
or you've been tested before, every test helps.

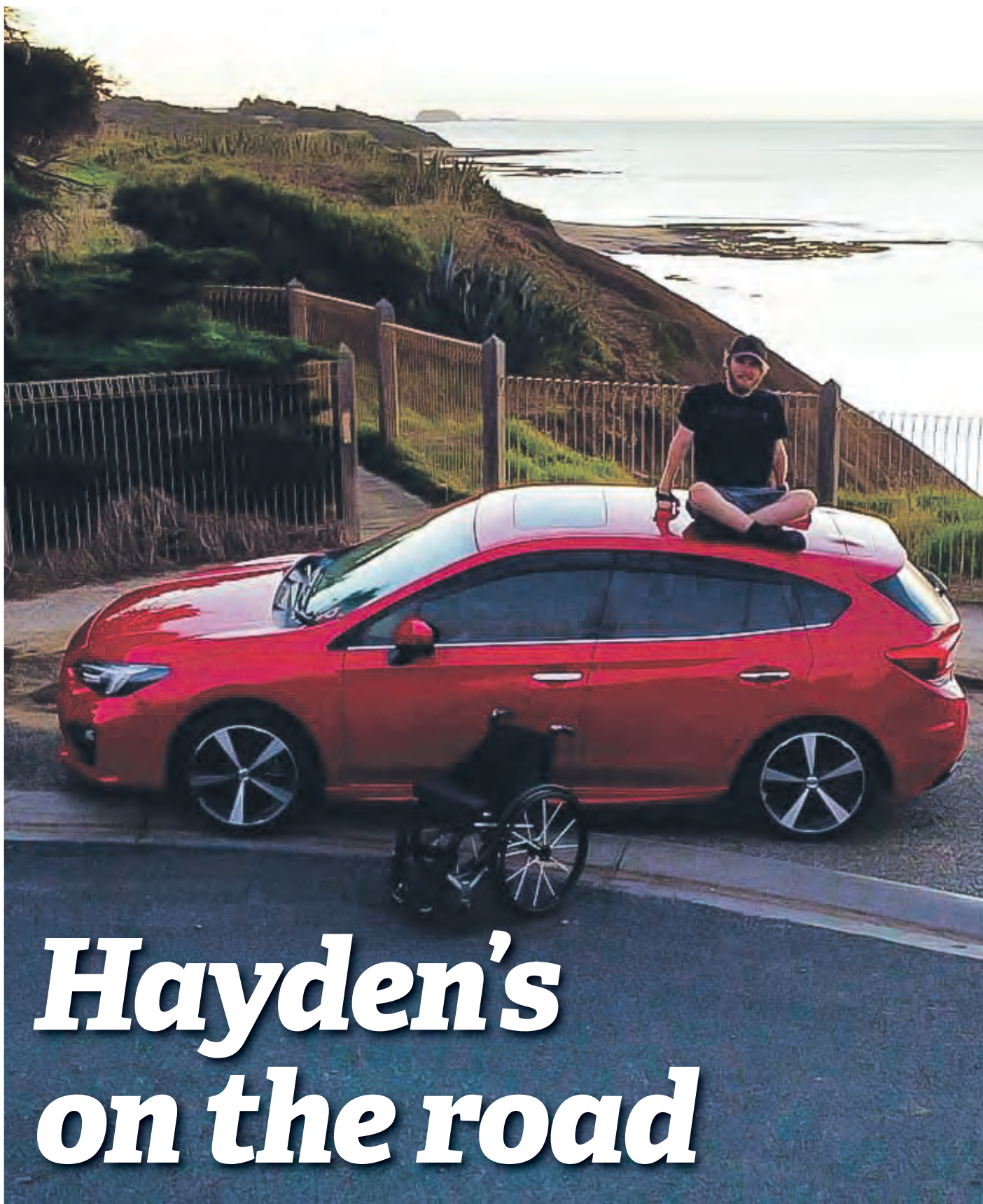
**STAY SAFE  
STAY OPEN**

**For testing locations visit  
[CORONAVIRUS.vic.gov.au](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au)**

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne







# Hayden's on the road

After getting his 120 hours up, Hayden has finally got his licence! This special converted car has hand controls and Hayden is now planning adventures and road trips all around Victoria with family and friends.

*The community has been with Hayden Marshall every step of the way on his journey to recovery. Hayden was thrilled recently to finally get his licence and shares his story with us.*

Before my accident in 2016 I had my learners permit and I had done around 30 hours of driving. Shortly after my accident Vic Roads automatically suspended my license until I was fit to drive again.

When I was at the Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre I never thought I would be able to drive again, but thanks to the support from some incredible mentors and Beau Vernon, I soon discovered that it was possible.

They showed me how they got into and out of their car, how they put their wheelchair in the car and what hand controls they use. Once I knew it was something I could do I set out on the journey to get my learners back and eventually obtain my full license.

First, I had to learn to transfer into and out of a car. Being a quadriplegic, I am paralysed from the chest down, so moving in this way was a huge feat. The first time this took about one hour with two people assisting. I was exhausted and wanted to give up, but the next day I tried again, and it took me 45 minutes.

By the time I left rehab I got my transfer time down to

about 30 minutes. I still had a long way to go. I trained in my gym every day and worked on regaining function and strength within my body, I knew that this would give me the best chance of achieving my goal and regaining my independence.

About a year after getting home from rehab I had a driving assessment to see what hand controls I required and to see if I was fit to drive again.

The assessor said I was ok to drive and once I found the hand controls, it was time to get myself a car.

I spent about six months looking for the right car. It had to be a good height to transfer into and I wanted a few specific features like automatic window wipers, automatic head lights, cruise control and reversing sensors.

I finally found the perfect car, a Subaru Impreza. I was able to have many upgraded features installed on the car to make it easier for me to drive thanks to the community fundraising efforts just after my accident.

Once I had my car, I went to different shops that specialise in installing hand controls, to

talk about what would work in my car.

I decided on ones that I can accelerate and brake with my right hand and steer with my left hand, these would cost around \$11,000.

I applied to get them funded through the NDIS and once they were approved, I could finally get my car fitted with everything I needed to drive.

It took about a month for the hand controls to be installed but when they were done, I was ok to drive ... well sort of!

I still only had my learners permit and I needed to get 120 hours before I could sit the test for my probationary license.

Over the next couple of years, I did lots of driving with Mum (Sharron), Dad (Ian) and Phillip Island local, Chris Dallingier.

Chris has been helping me with my gym training and offered to assist with my driving lessons. I would not have got my hours without him.

I kept practicing my transfers into and out of the car and I can now do it on my own in under 10 minutes. This includes getting my chair into the car, by fully disassembling it and placing it on the passenger seat.

After I achieved 120 hours of driving, I decided to have a few extra lessons with Stan Gates from Bass Coast Driving School.

I then had to sit another OT assessment which involved a physical check before the drive and an assessment on the road. I was lucky enough to find an OT that was also a Vic Roads registered driving assessor, so I could do both at the same time. This meant that if I passed, I could get my probationary license and be able to drive on my own.

It was a 30-minute driving assessment and at the end I found out that I passed.

I was so excited.

I also had to do the OT assessment as well, that had to be sent into the Vic Roads medical review team to be approved. This took around 30 days. When it was finally approved, I went to a Vic Roads service centre to pay for my licence.

I could finally drive on my own!

Now that I have my licence, I am driving myself everywhere. I am also planning to go on a lot of adventures and road trips all around Victoria with my family and friends.

A future goal is to convert a van into the ultimate wheelchair friendly camper and travel around Australia.

I hope to continue to inspire people showing them that anything is possible if you set a goal, having a great support network and a community behind you.

## CovidSafe settings return

The return to CovidSafe settings means more visitors in the home, less mask wearing and increasing the number of workers heading back to the office.

Masks will now only be required on public transport, in rideshare vehicles and taxis, in sensitive settings such as aged care facilities – and in some larger retail settings including indoor shopping centres, supermarkets, department stores, indoor markets.

However the government recommends masks still be used indoors or outdoors if social distancing can't be maintained, saying "the evidence is clear wearing a face covering makes a real difference in slowing the spread of the virus".

You can now host up to 30 people in your home per day. Outdoor gatherings in public places – the beach, the park – can increase to 100 people.

It's back to the office for workers, with 75 per cent across both public and private sectors allowed to return. For most workers, this meant returning to the office from March 1.

Density limits in pubs, restaurants and cafes will remain at one person per two square metres for both indoors and outdoors with no other cap, so long as electronic record keeping – a QR code – is used.

For small operations, there'll be no density limits if the patron number is under 25 and they will still be required to keep records.

For beauty services, businesses remain at one person per two square metres – if they also introduce electronic record keeping. For businesses where that's not possible, density limits of one person per four square metres will apply.

Retail businesses also remain at one person per two square metres and electronic record keeping is recommended where practical.

The government has introduced the Victorian Government Visitation API to strengthen contact tracing. From March 27, all business using electronic record keeping (such as a QR code), must have a system that integrates with the government's contact tracing system. Business have one month to connect to the API or switch to the free government QR code service.

Funerals and weddings are subject to a density limit of one person per two square metres. The same rules will apply to nightclubs and our community facilities, like libraries, RSLs, and community halls.

In gyms, the density limit remains one per four square metres – with exercise classes limited to 50 indoors and 100 outdoors.

The State of Emergency – which needs to be declared so the Chief Health Officer can issue directions to respond to the pandemic and keep Victorians safe – will be extended to 11:59pm, March 15.

For more information on the new coronavirus settings visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au).

A summary of the new settings is also available on our website [www.pisra.com.au/covid-19](https://www.pisra.com.au/covid-19).



The roll out of vaccinations in Bass Coast is due to begin from next week.

## Vaccine due locally from March 8

Vaccinations for health workers and aged care residents in state-run facilities in Bass Coast will start from March 8.

Vaccinations in private aged care facilities will be rolled out under the Commonwealth's COVID-19 vaccination program, and are expected to begin this week.

Bass Coast Health has advised it is not currently offering vaccinations for COVID-19 and said anyone wanting information on the vaccine roll out should call the Federal government's hotline on 1800 020 080.

This week, the state government advised regional health hubs in Bendigo and Ballarat would start administering the vaccine, with vaccination hubs managed by Latrobe Regional Health (which includes Bass Coast Health) to begin delivering the vaccine from the week of March 8.

The first to be vaccinated will include frontline health staff and residential aged care residents and workers.

Information about the phased roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccination program is available on the Department of Health website ([health.gov.au](https://health.gov.au))

You can also use the vaccine eligibility checker: [covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility](https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility)





The College welcomed 119 Year 7 students this year, seen enjoying their first day at school.

## Off to a great start in 2021

Mary McKillop Catholic Regional College has had a strong start to 2021.

Principal David Leslie said the school was continuing to enjoy high enrolment numbers, with 119 Year 7 students joining the school community, and over 630 students in total.

Welcoming the students back, he noted "once the students return, the College truly comes to life".

The school also welcomed seven new and three returning teachers to the ranks of its dedicated staff, as well as three AFL Trainees.

With students settling in well to the new year, the school has already held a successful Year 12 Retreat, a Year 8 camp and Library Lovers' Day.

Work on the new College building is almost completed and it is hoped senior classes will move in by the end of the term.

"There is already a great sense of anticipation as we prepare to move into this magnificent new facility," Mr Leslie said.

The new building contains 10 learning spaces, teacher work rooms, a year 12 common room and new canteen.

Mr Leslie said the \$4.5 million project was a great addition to the College and would provide a wonderful learning space for students.

"The College captains and senior students have already put forward a number of ideas of how they would like to make use of their new building," Mr Leslie said.

"It should be a huge benefit for students and staff alike."

The College strives to be a high performing school that ensures a safe and respectful environment for every student.

It offers a learning framework that assists all students to grow their resilience and their capacity to be more active in their own learning journey and aims to create lifelong learners, through the four cornerstones of the learning framework:

- Taking Ownership
- Thinking Deeply
- Making Connections
- Being Courageous

The College works in partnership with parents and families to achieve these outcomes.

Enrolment information is available online, including a virtual tour at [www.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au/enrolments/enrolment/](http://www.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au/enrolments/enrolment/)

For more information, please contact the College on 5662 42 55, email [info@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au) or visit [www.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au/](http://www.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au/)



Principal David Leslie in the new VCE building at Mary McKillop Catholic Regional College.



Settling into Year 7 and making new friends are Isabelle and Chasey.

'Do all you can to assist and love one another' Mary MacKillop 28.1.1890



Mary MacKillop College  
South Gippsland

For more information:  
03 5662 4255  
[www.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au)





## The Star continues to shine

So much has happened since we moved into our new home at Our Lady Star of the Sea in June 2018.

Moving from two demountable classrooms to our new premises filled us all with excitement and gratitude.

The excitement continues as now our Stage Two extensions take shape. The children have enjoyed watching cranes and trucks deliver all the necessary materials. This week the roof should be completed over the basketball court as well as the four new classrooms, which is causing a real buzz. We are so happy that we will be able to hold assemblies, PE and Sport and incursions outside, no matter the weather.

The new synthetic oval is nearly completed with the soccer and football goals installed as well as the cricket pitch markings and our

three-laned running track. Our amphitheatre which was part of Stage One has had a bit of a facelift too with a new soft fall surface.

The new addition of the bird hide as part of our wetlands has sparked a real interest in our wonderful, natural surroundings and this will be used as part of our specialist science class and for the birdwatching club.

Construction has also started on our outdoor kitchen which will be used to prepare the produce from our current orchard and vegetable garden.

Still to come is our new climbing play equipment which we are waiting for eagerly and our sensory garden.

Please ring the office and speak to Alison on 59511700 if you would like a tour, as enrolments are still being taken.



## Our Lady Star of the Sea

Catholic Primary School – Cowes



## Courage, Compassion & Creativity

We believe in providing a welcoming, friendly and safe environment where everyone is respected and treated fairly and justly. Taking pride in environmental sustainability, the surrounding wetlands and "green areas" on the school site will engage students in authentic studies within a natural environment.

**OPEN DAY IS EVERYDAY** Please contact us for further information on 5951 1700

6 Cowes-Rhyll Road, Cowes

[info@olsscows.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@olsscows.catholic.edu.au)

[www.olsscows.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olsscows.catholic.edu.au)

LU0103AA





## Choose to Challenge

The theme for this year's International Women's Day on March 8 is "Choose to Challenge".

It hopes to encourage people to challenge gender stereotypes and bias, raise awareness against bias and help to forge a gender equal world. To celebrate International Women's Day, the Advertiser spoke to some local women who are challenging the traditional concepts of a woman's role: on the sporting field, in the office and in the workplace.

# Chloe gets cracking

When it comes to challenging gender bias, it's hard to imagine a better example than Chloe Dann.

Working on Churchill Island has allowed Chloe to pursue a dream to work with animals, and in the process challenge her own, and others' preconceptions, about what a woman can do.

The blacksmithing, sheep-shearing, whip cracking, working dog-wrangling Phillip Islander has amassed a loyal Instagram following, and plenty of young fans through her daily demonstrations on Churchill Island.

Of all her roles, she said shearing provided her with her biggest challenge, and greatest rewards.

Part of the job at Churchill Island included a daily shearing demonstration, so Phil-

lip Island Nature Parks sent Chloe off to shearing school.

"Shearing is quite difficult to learn, it's like choreography with unwilling dance partner," Chloe said.

"If you get it wrong, you might get kicked in head."

At the school, she was one of only two girls, and at 27, the oldest of the group. The majority of her classmates were boys aged 15 to 18.

"It was one of the most difficult things I've ever done," she admitted.

"I had a lot of self-doubt. It's such a physical thing, and you get to the point where you can't feel your back. You're in agony when you're learning."

"I kept thinking, I can't do this, I'm not strong enough, but once you get through that, you come back with a renewed determination."

She said she quickly became addicted, describing it as therapeutic.

"You start to learn what the pattern is, where your feet need to go."

Now a fully trained shearer, last year she worked in various sheds around Victoria.

"I travelled with a team and I was the only female shearer, although there were other women - wool handlers and wool classers."

"I was never treated like a girl. It was so equal, and it felt like I was with a team of big brothers."

"That was one of the nicest surprises. I expected it to be a bit sexist, with guys making inappropriate comments, but I didn't have any of that."

She said young women coming into shearing is transforming an industry

traditionally seen as a male stronghold.

"International shearers weren't able to come to Australia due to Covid, so there's been an influx of young people into the industry, getting chances they wouldn't normally get."

"There are so many female shearers out there, all shearing 200-300 sheep in a day. They're just as good as the boys."

For Chloe, mastering sheep shearing has had an impact well outside the shearing shed.

"When I'm presented with a challenge now, I don't think, I can't do that. I work out how to do it."

"There's a sense of pride as I head around my duties, knowing I'm stronger than I thought I was."

That new-found confidence has helped her master other skills including black smithing, whip cracking and handling the working dogs, as part of the Churchill Island farm's daily demonstration.

"With smithing, it looks quite skilful, but once you heat up the metal and you have the right tools, you can do anything with it. It's like playdough."

The reaction from children is her favourite part of the daily demonstrations.

"Kids will ask how I learned to shear a sheep, and it's inspiring when they get excited about it," said Chloe.

"They really like the whip cracking; they think it's the coolest thing. It's so loud, it does sound tough and scary."

"And a lot of parents are excited about their children seeing a girl do something different."

She hopes she can inspire



Chloe Dann doesn't fit the traditional mould of an Aussie shearer, and says learning to shear has given her confidence to face challenges in other areas of her life.

other women and girls to think outside the square when it comes to following their passions and careers.

"Hopefully it shows you can do whatever you want. You don't have to stick to gender roles."

Her advice is for young girls to do whatever they feel like doing, and not let their

self-doubt limit them.

"Sometimes the biggest barrier is yourself. Do what makes you scared. Nothing good comes from your comfort zone."

"If you feel a bit terrified, you're probably going in the right direction."

Follow Chloe on Instagram: @chloetheshearer



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## Women connect for International Women's Day

By Women Connect and Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre

Women Connect and PICAL will host a Saturday market stall later this month to celebrate International Women's Day.

Come along and support your local community at the Market on Chapel (March 27) from 9-2pm.

You can meet our amazing volunteers and find out more about your local community centre. All funds raised will support the important initiatives and services on offer at PICAL.

Our stalls will feature:

- Quality second-hand women's clothing, shoes and handbags - to support our Women Connect Work Wardrobe
- Produce and preserves from our Community Garden and Casserole Cooking Group
- Quality second-hand books - to support our Women Connect Book Club
- Plants, herbs and succulents to support the Women Connect Gardening Group
- Quality used toys from our community partners at Vinnies
- Delicious cakes and baked

goods from our community partners at CWA

You can support us through donations of gently used/near new women's clothing, bags, accessories and shoes, along with quality books, and toys in excellent condition. Please contact us to arrange donations on 0416 970 687 or by emailing women.connect.pi@gmail.com.

Find out more about the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre at [www.pical.org.au](http://www.pical.org.au) or about Women Connect at [www.womenconnectpi.org](http://www.womenconnectpi.org)

We can't wait to meet you!



# International Women's Day

March 8 #IWD2021 #ChooseToChallenge



Coach of the Bass Coast Breakers football team, Bianca Hellmuth-Pask (second from left) believes football helps women in every aspect of their life, building self-confidence and belief.

## More than a game

The coach of the Bass Coast Breakers football team, Bianca Hellmuth-Pask, has been involved with football for decades.

Over the years, she seen a lot of changes to women's football, both on field and off. But the path to pursuing her passion in the male dominated sport hasn't always been easy.

In primary school, Bianca was just one of the boys at the local Little League.

Her dad used to take her down to play football and "everything was fine".

"As a child I grew up not knowing any different," Bianca said.

But when she moved to high school, things started to change.

She was the only girl in her school who played football and other players at the Little League were starting to question why she was there.

She still vividly remembers a young boy at her school telling her she shouldn't be playing.

"It was a defining moment for me."

And a devastating one.

"I was playing a sport that I loved playing, and didn't feel I was allowed to."

"There wasn't an option, there was no women's team, so I suppose I believed it. There were physical and mental barriers back then," she said.

Her love of the game kept her involved, taking on a coaching role at Little League, but on the field, she had to swap football for softball.

It wasn't until she left school that Bianca found her way back to football, through a chance discovery.

"In my early 20s I was working for Woollies and moved to St Kilda. The woman's football team trained at the oval behind work."

The rest, as they say, is history. She joined the training sessions and a few years later started playing for the St Kilda Sharks.

Stints playing for North Heidelberg and Melbourne Uni followed.

During that time, she witnessed the Victorian Women's Football League (VWFL) blossom.

"When I first started playing, there were about six teams in all of the VWFL."

"By the end of my playing career, there were approximately 15 clubs, some with three teams, and there were three divisions."

She also witnessed the first women's football exhibition match (17 years ago) and many of her fellow players were instrumental in the foundation of the League.

Watching the progress of women's footy over the years, she thinks now society is ready to fully embrace a female league.

"You hear commentators talking about women's football, and for some people, it's better to support their club's women's team than the men's!"

"It's all moving in the right direction."

When she moved to Phillip Island three years ago, Bianca was initially approached to play for the Bass Coast Breakers before being offered the head coach role for the 2020 season.

While it's still challenging for women to pursue their football dreams, Bianca thinks the road has gotten easier.

"The avenues are there now, but as girls get into their teens, I see them questioning

whether they should be playing football.

"It's a mental issue," she said, noting that while it's an accepted part of a man's world that they play sport, it is not always the same for women.

She said if her players drift away, she makes sure they know the door is always open for them to return.

And she's a passionate believer in the benefits of football for women, on and off the field.

"There's such competitiveness and drive in football and you can use that in your everyday life, that confidence."

"When you go for the ball, you have to be 100 per cent committed and you can take that into your work, and your relationships."

Bianca believes the expansion of women's football will create positive change for women in every aspect of their lives.

"The self confidence and belief you get from football changes the way women react in other spheres of the world."

Back on the local field, the team is training twice a week and Bianca's looking forward to the 2021 season, after Covid saw the 2020 season put on hold.

"I haven't officially coached a game yet," Bianca admitted.

"But I think I'm more passionate about it now than I was back then."

## A woman of the world

Imagine working at a world-class attraction where everyone on the staff ... from managers to maintenance staff, cleaners and life guards ... is female.

It's hard to imagine such a workplace in Australia, yet that's what Peta Wittig experienced in one of her roles in the United Arab Emirates.

Ironically, in a country known for its strict segregation rules, the Yes Waterworld in Abu Dhabi provided women with unique employment opportunities.

"The water park held a Ladies Night each week, open to women and children only," explained Peta.

The purpose was to provide a comfortable and safe environment for women without any men on site.

"The ladies night meant the company's recruitment prioritised women, so there were enough women to staff the park on those nights," Peta said.

"Ladies night was one of the most popular, from a visitation point of view. And the women who were hired got to work on the park's regular days as well, so it was a win-win situation."

Peta said the chance to work in the United Arab Emirates opened unexpected doors for her career.

And being a woman was never an issue with getting a job.

But life in the Middle East wasn't without its challenges.

"There were instances where I would put my hand out to shake someone's hand - and they'd retract in horror."

Peta was in her mid-twenties when she went to Dubai in 2007, as part of the opening team for the Dubai Aquarium.

"My manager at the Melbourne Aquarium asked me if I wanted to go to Dubai, so I



Peta Wittig spent ten years working in the UAE. "If I hadn't gone overseas for that time period, I don't know if I would have had the same opportunities in Australia."

got on a plane on my own and landed in the Middle East."

While it was a culture shock initially - "they have very strict rules, especially for the locals around co-mixing at work" - working with a familiar team helped her adjust to the social norms, long hours and demanding work pace.

"I had a fantastic manager, who guided me and I don't think I could have gotten through that time without him."

"When you're millions of miles away from home, having someone I knew I could trust was key to me getting through it."

The expected two-year stay turned into a decade.

"If I hadn't gone overseas for that time period, I don't know if I would have had the same opportunities in Australia."

During her stay, Peta worked at a number of different attractions.

She moved to Al Ain, a small town on the border of the UAE and Oman, as Operations Manager at Hili Fun City, and one of five women in

a staff of 150.

"The biggest challenge was getting the respect of the team," she said.

Her staff came from all over the globe, including Egypt, Morocco, Eastern Europe and Sri Lanka.

"They were used to the boss being a man. It took a bit to get their respect."

"Some of them had never had a female manager, and I was really young."

"In your twenties, you think you know everything, but it really tested me. I had no idea about managing different cultures and how different and difficult that would be."

She eventually left the UAE for a job in America, as part of the opening team on The Green Planet, an indoor rain forest in St Louis.

"The UAE lifestyle was very fast paced, with long hours. I wanted to find a better work/life balance."

But a Middle America tourism industry dominated by middle-aged men "was a challenge".

When she met her Australian partner, she made the difficult decision to leave her amazing job and return to Australia.

Following her heart led her to Phillip Island and ultimately to a job as head of Tourism Operations at Phillip Island Nature Parks.

"In Australia, tourism has a lot of women, but overseas it's totally different, even in America."

Her time in the male dominated space taught her great life lessons and Peta said she works hard to address gender bias in the workplace.

"When I left the Aquarium, one of my staff said: 'I've really enjoyed working with you, you're just like a man'."

"He was ultimately saying to me, I respect you."

International Women's Day  
#IWD2021 #ChooseToChallenge

At Westernport Water we #ChooseToChallenge inequality, call out bias, question stereotypes, and help forge an inclusive world.

We encourage and welcome women to apply for all job opportunities across the organisation.

It's our gender diverse workforce and commitment to our people that make Westernport Water a great place to work.

WESTERNPORT WATER





# KEEP IT LOCAL

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**Phillip Island Tyre Service**  
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 91-97 Settlement Rd, Cowes 5952 3977

### MARKETS

**COWES SUNDAY MARKET**  
 14th March | 9am-2pm  
 Cowes Jetty Triangle  
 Phillip Island Markets Contact 0428 603 043

**ISLAND FORESHORE MARKET**  
 Sat 6 March | 3pm - 9pm  
 Jetty Triangle > The Esplanade > Erehwon Point  
 Phillip Island Markets M. 0428 603 043

### COMMUNITY

**Phillip Island Community & Learning Centre**  
 56-58 Church St, Cowes  
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 Emergency Food Relief | Adult Education | Social Welfare

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 27th Mar 21 | 9am-2pm  
 St Johns Church, 86 Chapel St Cowes  
 Phillip Island Markets M. 0428 603 043

**NEWHAVEN MARKET**  
 9am - 2pm  
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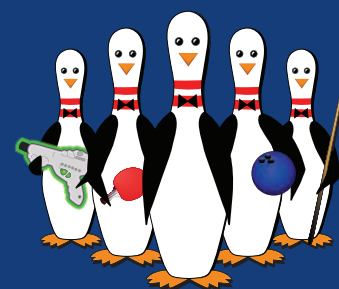
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Source Domain.com.au - December 2020



## Take the hassle out of buying a car

Have you seen the headlines that suggest used car prices have risen by 30 per cent following a stock shortage in the wake of Covid-19?

Or seen the reports that a new car can take months or even a year to arrive?

Rick Jenkins from CarFind has four decades experience in the vehicle industry, specialising in sourcing, buying and checking new and used cars for Phillip Island and San Remo residents.

He agreed there was a significant wait for new cars.

"If you want a brand new Prada for example, you could possibly wait six months due to a lack of stock because of a delay in imports," Rick said.

"But realistically you'll be waiting more like eight to 12 months."

However Rick said in his experience the price of all used cars had not increased by 30 per cent.

"I don't consider \$20,000 cars are now \$24,000. There will be the odd scenario but from what I'm seeing that would be rare."

"Used cars are still priced at the same rate as you would expect."

Rick has been in the car industry since he was 16, running a Melbourne smash repair business since 1984, selling it three years ago.

CarFind was started six years ago when he kindly helped elderly residents purchase a car after they were confused by online car sales.

"A friend suggested I ought to start a business to help others," Rick said, adding he came to the island to semi-retire.

He said CarFind had now expanded to find vehicles for first-time drivers, through to time-poor tradies and vehicle enthusiasts (such as a Porsche convertible for an 80-year-old in Cowes).

Women are among his biggest clientele, with Rick's wife Di - who markets CarFind - adding that despite equalities, her gender remained at risk of "being taken advantage of".

"Once upon a time you could buy a car through the Trading Post or a car yard, driving up and down the highway to find one," Rick said.

"Predominantly all car sales now are online. Even car yards don't need a frontage any more."

To buy a car, Rick will do all the sourcing, negotiating and

driving to locations to ensure the vehicle is up to high standards, including its history.

"I also make sure there's no bad damage or repairs and check even if it has been possibly stolen."

Most of the time customers know exactly what they want, but occasionally they come to him asking the best make and model.

"And occasionally someone will say they want one type of car and I'll advise them against it and recommend others, just based on things like quality engines."

"I've been repairing cars all my life and I know a bad car when I see one."

Once the type of vehicle, model, make and budget have been specified, books and pa-

perwork thoroughly checked, on completion the car is delivered to the customer.

Best of all Rick's service is free.

"If the advertised market price is \$25,000 then that's what the customer will pay. I negotiate the buying price and if I can get it for \$24,000-\$24,500 then the difference is my payment."



RIGHT: Rick Jenkins from CarFind has four decades of experience in the vehicle industry and can help find the best car for you and ensure it's up to the highest standard.



## That CarFind feeling

**CarFind's services include a thorough vehicle check by a team of experts, then delivered straight to you. All you pay is the advertised price of the vehicle.**

*"I was surprised how smooth the process was. Rick's expertise and knowledge gave me full confidence in the service. He delivered the perfect car!" - Jane, Cowes*

**Too good to be true?  
Call Rick for further details 0419 930 666**

New & Used Car Brokers LMCT 7175

## Phillip Island Tyre and Service Centre

Bridgestone Phillip Island Tyre and Service Centre specialises in car and 4-wheel drive log book servicing and general repairs for all makes and models of vehicles.

Repair and replacement of tyres is a specialty, with Bridgestone and other brands available.

The Phillip Island Tyre and Service Centre is a family-owned business and has been operating for 16 years by Trevor and Lauren Pavert.

The couple are experienced operators, and this week offer three important tips to motorists to help them best look after their vehicles.

1. Check tyre pressure
2. Regular maintenance
3. Get small problems fixed before they turn into large ones

Trevor and Lauren pride themselves on honest, friendly service, and invite community members to call in and

discuss their tyre and mechanical needs with them.

Trevor and Lauren Pavert can be contacted on 5952 1480.



The Phillip Island Tyre and Service Centre is a family-owned business, run by Trevor (pictured) and Lauren Pavert.

# For all your tyre and mechanical needs

Visit Bridgestone Service Centre Phillip Island today.



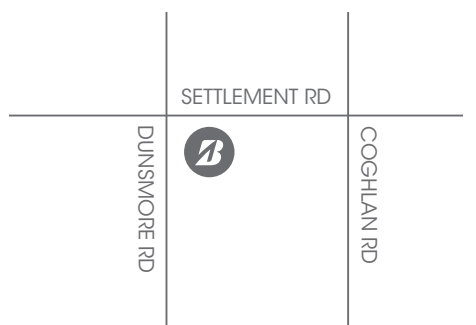
**B Service Centre**

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Mon to Fri 8am - 5pm



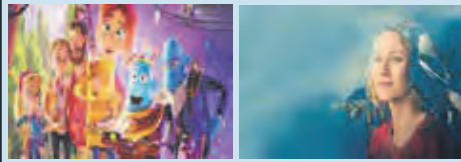
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# Wonthaggi Arts Centre

Mar 5 - Mar 14

CINEMA



**Dreambuilders [PG] Penguin Bloom [PG]**  
 Fri 5 4:00pm Sat 6 4:00pm  
 Sat 6 1:00pm Sun 7 7:00pm  
 Sun 7 10:00pm Fri 12 4:00pm  
 Sat 13 1:00pm Sat 13 10:00am  
 Sun 14 4:00pm Sun 14 7:00pm



**Highground [MA15+] Pixie [MA15+]**  
 Fri 5 7:00pm Sat 6 7:00pm  
 Sat 6 10:00am Sun 7 1:00pm  
 Sun 7 4:00pm Fri 12 7:00pm  
 Sat 13 7:00pm Sat 13 4:00pm  
 Sun 14 1:00pm Sun 14 10:00am



## Girls Can't Surf

Co-Presented by Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre & Gippsland Centre Against Sexual Assault.

GIRLS CAN'T SURF follows the journey of a band of renegade surfers who took on the male-dominated professional surfing world to achieve equality and change the sport forever.

Featuring surfing greats Jodie Cooper, Frieda Zamba, Pauline Menczer, Lisa Andersen, Pam Burrigge, Wendy Botha, Layne Beachley and more, GIRLS CAN'T SURF is a wild ride of clashing personalities, sexism, adventure and heartbreak, with each woman fighting against the odds to make their dreams of competing a reality.

**Tuesday 9 March 7:00pm**

wonthaggiartscentre.com

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

Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre

96 Graham St, Wonthaggi 3995  
 phone: 03 5671 2470



# THE PULSE

Events, entertainment and community news



ASPI committee members (from left to right): Sheryl Stewart, Barbara Owen, Kerry Francis, Gay Mosby, Shirley Collins, Miranda Sage, Jan Taylor and Charles Watson.

## ASPI is Back in 2021

A report from the Art Society of Phillip Island

After the disappointing year of cancellations in 2020 for the Art Society of Phillip Island, the committee is enthusiastic and eagerly planning events for 2021.

The loss of the Cowes Cultural Centre as a venue for Easter and Cup Weekend Exhibition meant the search was on for a suitable site. Happily it has resulted in ASPI booking the large space at Ramada for both shows. Ramada's generous offer has enabled "The Show to go on".

The Easter Exhibition will see a new category – a Sustainability Award – sponsored by Westernport Water, which will have a \$500 prize. This can be in any medium. It is hoped we will see some exciting artistic ideas reflecting this most important subject. Easter will include all the other categories and Wearable Art. We as a committee are looking forward to members having an occa-

sion to share their endeavours with other artists and the general public. Members will receive entry forms shortly, and we welcome new members to join and exhibit. Entries will be photographed and be entered online for sale after the exhibition, details of this opportunity will follow.

The first workshop of 2021 will begin with a Sofie Dieu "Ink in Botanicals". It will be held at PICAL on March 20 from 10am until 4pm. The cost is \$50 for members and \$80 for non-members. The workshop is almost sold out, however if you are interested please call Shirley Collins on 0410 584 025.

In May a visit to Montsalvat is planned. The finalists in the Nillumbik Contemporary Art Award will be displayed and we will have a guided tour of all areas. There will be a bus trip, entry and the tour, and the cost will be \$50. This will be a popular event and we need any expressions of interest early for booking. Please call Shirley

Collins 0410 584 025 or Barbara Owen 0438 689 719.

Regular monthly workshops are resuming at PICAL for Portraits, Appraisals, Life Drawing and fortnightly for Textile Artists. Please call relevant contacts with any queries.

ASPI Contact List  
 ASPI: aspicommittee@gmail.com, PO Box 198, Cowes, Vic. 3922

President: Miranda Sage, 0400 927 076, beachside@waterfront.net.au (also Bulletin)

Secretary: Barbara Owen, 0438 689 719, barbaraowen1943@gmail.com

Treasurer: Gay Mosby, 0425 728 323, gay.mosby@gmail.com  
 Appraisal: Marian Quigley, 0430 274 666, marianquig@gmail.com

Life Drawing: Ajanta Judd, 0430 104 044, ajantajudd@gmail.com

Textile Artists and workshops: Shirley Collins, secmail@fastmail.fm

Writers: Ian Robertson, 0407 250 024, gurdies@australiaonline.net.au



Almost 30 dogs and owners attended a dog obedience training session presented by the Phillip Island Bass Coast Dog Owners Association at Ventnor Recreation Reserve.

## Barks in the park at dog obedience day

A dog obedience training session on at the Ventnor Recreation Reserve was the first group event hosted by the newly formed Phillip Island Bass Coast Dog Owner Association.

At the event on Saturday, March 27, Sue Lloyd from Phillip Island Dog Training and Education presented a funny and helpful session, showing owners – and their dogs – some useful training techniques.

The day was a big success, and although 16 people had registered before the event, almost 30 dogs and owners arrived on the day to be part of the fun.

After the training everyone was rewarded with a sausage sizzle cooked by Jane Halliday and Davey.

Particular preference was given to the dogs, who did not miss out on a sausage or two, sometimes even three! Special mention must go to Golden Retrievers Maple and Digger who ate quite a few more. Jane said Digger must have had "around 500", after making very good puppy dog eyes at any sausage eater he could find.

The dog association would like to thank all involved and all the helpers, Sue Lloyd and of course the Ventnor Recreation Reserve for allowing them the use of their fabulous facility.

They would also like to thank Bass Coast Shire for supplying show bags for the event which were happily snapped up.

The Association hopes to have more training days to help people get good control of their dogs, including most importantly, instant recall.

Further events and information will be publicised on the Association's Facebook page.

## Music lovers support gender equality in Bass Coast

An afternoon concert at Archie's Creek Hotel on Sunday, March 7 as part of International Women's Day will raise funds to improve equity for Bass Coast women.

Bass Coast Community Foundation, through the Women for Change program, is partnering with the music event featuring renowned musician Rebecca Barnard and friends, Monique diMattina and Sam Lemann.

Bass Coast Community Foundation Chair Carol Blair said a recent study undertaken by the Foundation found women in Bass Coast are living in more financial stress than men.

"Almost one third of women in Bass Coast live alone and have lower individual incomes than men. Only 12 per cent of women have an individual income of over \$1000 per week compared to 25 per cent of men," she said.

"Improving equity is vital for growing a strong local economy and building healthy happy and thriving families. Women



Rebecca Barnard is appearing at the Archie's Creek Hotel on March 7, as part of an International Women's Day fundraiser.

for Change aims to address this, and this event for International Women's Day is a perfect way of putting the spotlight on this issue and raising funds for a very important cause.

"It's quite fitting that the theme for International Women's Day this year is 'choose to challenge', that's exactly what

Women for Change are doing.

"We want to support local women to be the best they can be – whether it be through help to access education and employment opportunities, managing their finances or supporting their families."

Funds raised from the event will go to the Women for Change Fund so its grants program, which is now open for applications, can expand and further improve the lives of women and girls across the Bass Coast.

International Women's Day (March 8) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating women's equality.

Tickets are now on sale for the event at [www.trybooking.com/events/landing?embed&id=713241](http://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?embed&id=713241).

Donations for the Women for Change initiative can also be made directly at [bccf.org.au/donate/](http://bccf.org.au/donate/)

## World day of prayer

The Combined Churches of Phillip Island will be meeting at St Mary's Catholic Church on Friday, March 5 at 2pm to join the World Day of Prayer.

World Day of Prayer is an

international, inter-church organisation which hears the thoughts of women from all parts of the world; their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast.

An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in over 170 countries.

At churches across the globe, on March 5, people will gather to celebrate the service prepared this year by the women of Vanuatu.

## Plant and art sale this weekend

Plant enthusiasts and art lovers are in for a treat this weekend, when Margie and Alan Lacey open their Cowes studio and gardens to the public on March 6 and 7.

The couple recently moved to the island from Eltham, where they were involved with Australian Open Gardens, welcoming the public to their one-hectare garden.

Although their Cowes garden is on a much smaller scale, the diversely planted native garden welcomes wildlife and human friends equally, and creativity and love bloom in every nook.

Alan's keen interest in Australian plants and horticulture saw his hobby evolve into a successful business supplying landscape designers and horticulturalists with native plants.

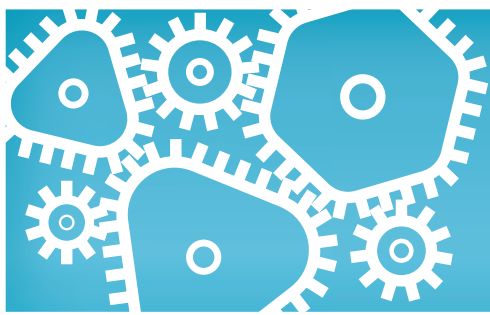
He has beautiful Australian native plants from their garden, including some rare specimens. Available on the day will be ground covers, small and pretties, to one metre as well as taller screening plants and climbers.

Margie is well known for her painting and has been a tutor in Italy, Sandy Point and Cowes, inspired with en pain air painting. In January this year Margie had a successful exhibition at Meeniyah Art Gallery. This weekend will be the first opening of her new studio – aptly named Sanctuary Studio.

Sanctuary Studio and gardens will be open from 9am – 5pm on Saturday, March 6 and Sunday, March 7, at 23 Sanctuary Drive, Cowes.

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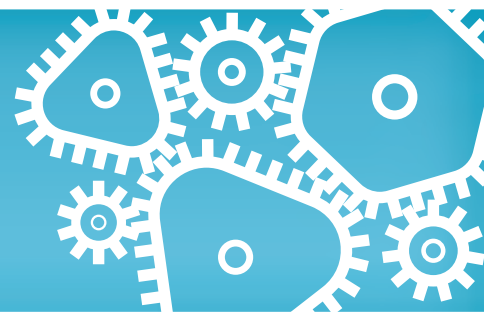
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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



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## No community engagement

The annual Community Satisfaction Survey shows that Bass Coast Shire Council is not a leader in community engagement.

It is instead a follower, languishing in the mediocre middle.

And recent behaviour at council suggests that our councillors have no desire for it to become a leader.

Example 1:

Council received 38 community submissions to its new Community Engagement policy. But council passed the policy with barely a whimper.

Apart from some brief words and excuses from Crs Rooks and Kent, the other councillors sat mute without any acknowledgement to the community's input, suggestions, or recommendations. To me they resembled a group of naughty boys and girls who had been admonished by the community.

Example 2:

Some weeks ago, council posted news to its website advising that Option 2 for the Inverloch shared path extension would not be proceeding as planned.

Option 2 is the community's preferred option. This option was agreed and funded by council in 2019.

Within hours of me notifying Inverloch Community Voice of the advice, someone at council ordered that the information be pulled from its website.

Notably, the 2019 council report states ... "In light of the overwhelming community support received for Option 2, officers believe that council has a clear indication of local com-

munity opinion and an identified way forward to progress design and construction of the path."

And in his Mayors Message of February 28 last year, Cr Brett Tessari stated... "The consultation showed that there was overwhelming support for Option 2 and the construction of this option will provide the best overall outcome for the community".

Several weeks ago I wrote to each councillor and the CEO requesting answers as to why the information has been removed. I still await a response from them. So much for community engagement from council.

Residents and ratepayers deserve much better from a council that is handsomely funded by their hard-earned money. After all, the councillors are meant to demonstrate community leadership.

Despite their newly minted engagement policy, this new councillor group is yet to demonstrate that they are willing to try harder.

Kevin Griffin, Wonthaggi

## Seating needed

The San Remo Medical Centre is an excellent facility, but it requires seating for clients while waiting for blood tests. At the moment it is first in first served and requires you to wait outside in a queue. Once the clinic opens and you get a number there is only one bench seat available. This is very inadequate considering the number of elderly people waiting for tests. Please could the clinic provide some temporary seating until the Covid crisis is over.

Janine Morris, Anderson

## Well done council

Congratulations, thank you and well done, BCSC councillors!

Many community members had been very concerned about the proposal to expand the Dandy Premix Pty Ltd sand extraction site at Grantville. What a relief to the writers of the 73 objections and many others to hear all councillors speak out and vote against the proposal.

In their detailed alternative motion, councillors showed a keen understanding of the need to protect the important biolink on the quarry site. As part of the biolink stretching from Nyora-Lang Lang to Grantville and beyond, it is essential to the biodiversity of the region.

Should the State Government insist on the proposed expansion of the quarry going ahead, councillors, in a well-researched and eloquently-written document, lay down strict guidelines to be followed to protect the environment and address other issues such as traffic, noise and hours of operation.

A special thank you to Cr Leticia Laing who presented the alternative motion for moving forward and to Cr Michael Whelan who was a major contributor to it and to Cr David Rooks who also helped.

It is good to know that Council is supporting the community and being a pro-active advocate for our precious natural environment and life-style amenity and tourist-based rather than extractive industry-based economy.

Meryl and Hartley Tobin, Grantville

# Young achiever and Strong Sista

Phillip Island Nature Parks ranger Shani Blyth has been nominated for the Yarn Strong Sista award, as part of the Victoria Young Achievers Awards.

The Yarn Strong Sista award acknowledges the work of young Indigenous people who are giving back to their community and providing strong role models for their peers.

Shani commenced her journey at Phillip Island Nature Parks as an Indigenous Trainee which she describes as an "interesting career jump" as she had just been offered full time work at the ANZ bank after completing a school-based traineeship.

She didn't really know what the job would entail but she knew that she wanted to be working outside on Bunurong Country.

She says now she is very grateful she took the jump as she "cannot imagine not working out on Country each day".

During her role as a trainee, she became aware there was no real process for working on Country.

She knew Phillip Island (Millow) was "such a unique cultural landscape that needed to be protected the right cultural way".

Working alongside another Bunurong Community member she developed the Nature Parks' first Cultural Heritage Portfolio.

Shani has been instrumental in implementing the cultural heritage management processes through training and ongoing works on Country.

She describes this as her greatest cultural achievement in protecting the landscape of Phillip Island (Millow) and



Nature Parks ranger Shani Blyth, who has been nominated for a Young Achiever award, at a Board Meeting on Country 2020 Cape Woolamai with BLCAC CEO Dan Turnbull.

educating and sharing her knowledge with others.

This had helped shift the organisation's entire environmental management culture to respect and care for Country.

Shani's integrity was critical in ensuring that the process was inclusive and respectful of the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation and a newly signed MOU.

She is also very proud of the Bush Foods Garden at the Penguin Parade Welcome to Country area.

This space was created for and with the local Community to have a place to harvest from the bush and to create a safe meeting place.

"The local Community helped me establish this area through planting days and working together to create this space," she said.

Since joining the Nature Parks, Shani has completed a Certificate III in Conservation

and Land Management, graduating in the top 20 students.

At the completion of the traineeship, Shani was promoted to a full time Environmental Ranger.

She is currently working with the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, to develop an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Land Management Agreement (ACHLAMA) for the Nature Parks - one of the first of its kind to be completed in Victoria.

"We need to protect these sites as they tell stories and the history of how the land was, is and can be used in the future," she said.

"I have really enjoyed the practical side of cultural heritage and would like to also acknowledge the people who have offered me experience and taken me under their wing, I am forever grateful for these opportunities and hope there will be more in the future."

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and family.  
All our Love.  
Chris and Nancy Jessup  
and family.

**TOPLIFF,**  
Beryl Merle:  
Passed away peacefully  
on 26th Feb, 2021 at Me-  
laleuca Lodge, Cowes.  
Much loved wife of  
Ronald (dec.)  
Loved mother of Chris,  
Anne and family, and  
Elizabeth.  
Rest In Peace

**TOPLIFF,**  
Beryl:  
A long time member  
of Phillip Island & San  
Remo Legacy Club.  
She will be missed by  
Legatees and members  
a like.  
Rest In Peace Beryl.

## FUNERALS

**TOPLIFF:**  
Requiem Mass for the  
Repose of the Soul of  
Mrs. Beryl Merle Topliff  
will be offered at St.  
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au/minister.php

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pages/St-Johns-Uniting-  
Church/828979940479969

**BAPTIST CHURCH:**  
www.islandbaptist.org.au/

**HOPE CHURCH:**  
are emailing members  
www.islandhopechurch.com/

**CATHOLIC CHURCH:**  
www.cdsale.org.au/  
coronavirus  
www.cdsale.org.au/  
prayer-and-reflection

**ST PHILLIP'S ANGLICAN  
CHURCH:**

www.anglicanparishbass-  
phillipisland.org/

www.facebook.com/  
stphilipscowes/

**PHILLIP ISLAND SURF  
CHURCH:**

www.facebook.com/pages/  
category/  
Christian-Church/Surf-Church-  
Phillip-Island-  
360300548086709/

**1 in 5  
people in  
Australia will  
experience  
depression.**

Find out more at  
[www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)  
or call 1300 22 4636.



Initiative of Phillip Island  
Masonic Lodge

## SITUATIONS WANTED

**Qualified carer and  
companion, lives  
on Island, has own  
transport.**

A personalised service  
for elderly citizens and  
people with disabilities  
that need casual/part  
time care weekdays  
and/or weekends.  
Available for sleepovers  
and 24/7 care if needed.  
Reliable, honest and  
kind.

I have worked on and off  
Island for many years.  
Written and phone  
references available.

**Phone Beth:  
0487083897**

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PHILLIP ISLAND AND DISTRICT DARTS LEAGUE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Monday 15th March 2021 - 6.30pm  
at North Pier Hotel. 3 The Esplanade, Cowes.  
**Inquiries: rybie@bigpond.com**

## FOR SALE

**AUSSIE  
PLANT SALE**

• GROUND COVERS • MEDIUM & TALL PLANTS • CLIMBERS  
- Prices below Wholesale -  
Award winning South Gippsland Artist,  
Margaret Lacey will also have paintings for  
sale from her open studio, Sanctuary 23 Dr.  
**SAT 6TH & SUN 7TH MARCH, 9am - 4pm**  
23 Sanctuary Drive, Cowes

## SITUATIONS VACANT

### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

#### Gas Opportunity

Westernport Water is seeking expressions  
of interest from qualified gas business  
experts for a business opportunity in  
San Remo on the Bass Coast.

This is a rare opportunity to acquire a gas  
business that supplies LPG to an  
established customer base via a  
reticulated network.

A **business briefing** will be held at  
2pm on Friday 12 March, outside  
Silverwater Resort (opposite 14 Potters Hill  
Road) San Remo, Victoria.

To register for the business briefing,  
contact:

Project Manager  
Surane Gunasekera on 0411 123 042 or  
email [westport@westernportwater.com.au](mailto:westport@westernportwater.com.au)



## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Phillip Island Community & Learning Centre Inc.

#### Annual General Meeting

**Thursday March 25 at 6:30pm - 8pm  
At PICAL 56 - 58 Church St, Cowes, or online via Zoom**

Members of the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre Inc. (PICAL) Committee of Management are pleased to announce the 2021 Annual General Meeting will be held at PICAL in accordance with current COVID-19 guidelines. We welcome all interested members of the community to participate and learn about the successful momentum we have built over the past twelve months. Current financial members of PICAL are eligible to vote and/or nominate for a position on the Committee. To do so please contact our Secretary, Phylis Macklin, via email at [phylismacklin@gmail.com](mailto:phylismacklin@gmail.com) to obtain a nomination form. Phylis will also be on hand to answer any questions. All nominations must be with the Secretary no later than 7 days prior to the AGM.

#### Please note:

- RSVP March 18 by email to [reception@pical.org.au](mailto:reception@pical.org.au) or PH 5952 1131
- Non-members are not eligible to vote, but are welcome to join by RSVP
- The AGM Agenda will be sent to all RSVP's. Registered online attendees will be provided with a Zoom meeting link one week prior
- The PICAL 2020 Annual Report will be made available via our website at [www.pical.org.au](http://www.pical.org.au) from Thursday March 18
- For members who cannot attend but wish to provide an apology and allocate their proxy vote to another member, please contact the Secretary for a proxy vote form

## SITUATIONS VACANT

### Position Vacancies Bass Coast Health

Bass Coast Health is seeking applications for  
the following positions:

**REGISTERED MIDWIFE**  
Casual - Closes 08/03/21

**PLUMBER**  
Full Time - Closes 14/03/21

**STOMAL THERAPY NURSE**  
Fixed Term Part Time - Closes 12/03/21

**REGISTERED NURSE HITH**  
Part Time - Closes 10/03/21

**CLINICAL DIRECTOR ANAESTHETICS**  
Part Time - Closes 24/03/21

**DIABETES EDUCATOR**  
Fixed Term Part Time - Closes 07/03/21

**SERVICE DESK OFFICER**  
Full Time - Closes 09/03/21

**ASSOCIATE NURSE UNIT MANAGER -  
EMERGENCY**  
Fixed Term Part Time - Closes 02/03/21

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST - GRADE 1**  
Full Time - Closes 02/03/21

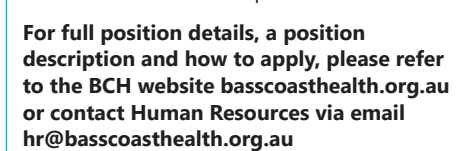
**SUPPORT SERVICE ASSISTANT - CAFÉ**  
Part Time - Closes 03/03/21

**TRADE COOK**  
Fixed Term Part Time - Closes 03/03/21

**SUPPORT SERVICES ASSISTANT -  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**  
Casual - Closes 03/03/21

**INDIGENOUS TRAINEE**  
Part Time Fixed term - Open Ended

**For full position details, a position  
description and how to apply, please refer  
to the BCH website [basscoasthealth.org.au](http://basscoasthealth.org.au)  
or contact Human Resources via email  
[hr@basscoasthealth.org.au](mailto:hr@basscoasthealth.org.au)**



## SITUATIONS VACANT

### SITUATION VACANT BARISTA FRONT OF HOUSE

The Cape Kitchen is an oceanfront restaurant  
in Newhaven on Phillip Island, lauded for its  
seasonal and local produce, provided with  
genuine hospitality.

We are currently seeing passionate hospitality  
professionals to join our dedicated team.

As part of the team, you will be responsible  
for providing warm, professional and joyful  
interaction with customers, whilst maintain a  
high level of customer service.

Previous experience and a current RSA would  
be advantageous, though not essential.

Working with an experienced team, you will  
be well supported and appreciated.

Please email your current CV  
to our Brand Manager -  
**[marketing@thecapekitchen.com.au](mailto:marketing@thecapekitchen.com.au)**

### SITUATIONS VACANT Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit

Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit is seeking  
applications for the following positions:

**OPERATIONS ASSISTANT**  
Casual position

We are seeking a competently skilled, self-  
motivated and efficient person to join our venue  
operations team.

You will have a good work ethic, a positive  
demeanour and the ability to be flexible and agile  
as you work across a number of areas of the venue.

The applicant will generally work as part of a team,  
contributing to the overall preparation and  
operation of the venue for our day to day activities  
and world class events.

Working hours will be flexible on a rostered basis,  
including some weekends to cover our 7-day  
operation.

**For position description please visit our website:  
[www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au](http://www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au).**

**Applications close Monday 15th March 2021.**  
Please email resume and cover letter to  
[cassie.stoppa@phillipislandcircuit.com.au](mailto:cassie.stoppa@phillipislandcircuit.com.au)

Tel: 5952 2710  
[www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au](http://www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au)  
e: [info@phillipislandcircuit.com.au](mailto:info@phillipislandcircuit.com.au)

### SITUATIONS VACANT Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit

**FINANCE OFFICER (PART-TIME)**

We have an exciting opportunity for a highly  
enthusiastic and motivated individual to join the  
team here at the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit in  
the role of Finance Officer Part-Time based on 2.5  
days per week as well as weekend hours during  
our major events.

Reporting to the Finance Manager you will be  
responsible for:

- Accurate management, reconciliation and processing of all cash and eftpos transactions for our Tourism and Catering departments;
- Accounts receivable functions including invoicing, debtors' management, processing and administration of competitor entry fees and event ticketing;
- Preparation of financial revenue reports for department managers;
- Identification and reporting of all discrepancies;
- Administration of cash floats.

**For position description and closing date please  
visit our website: [www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au](http://www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au)  
Please email resume and cover letter to  
[cassie.stoppa@phillipislandcircuit.com.au](mailto:cassie.stoppa@phillipislandcircuit.com.au)**

Tel: 5952 2710  
[www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au](http://www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au)  
e: [info@phillipislandcircuit.com.au](mailto:info@phillipislandcircuit.com.au)





## SITUATIONS VACANT



Newhaven College is an independent co-educational school on Phillip Island offering quality education for students from Prep to Year 12.

### School Counsellor Approximately 2 days per week

For details on requirements, duties and responsibilities, visit our College Website [www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au/about/work-at-newhaven](http://www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au/about/work-at-newhaven)

Applications close 5.00pm, Friday 12 March 2021 and should be submitted to [katrina.lawrence@newhavencol.vic.edu.au](mailto:katrina.lawrence@newhavencol.vic.edu.au)

*Newhaven College is a child safe environment. Every child has a right to be safe, and at the College we have a zero tolerance for child safety risks (including child abuse and reportable conduct). As such, preferred applicants will be subject to child protection screening, background and reference checks, verification of identity checks and must adhere to the College's child safe practices, as outlined in the Child Protection Program policies available on the College website.*

## SITUATION VACANT

### TANGLES

#### TANGLES HAIR DESIGN

We are currently looking for an **APPRENTICE**. Do you have a natural flair for hair and fashion? Are you an individual who has a passion for hairdressing and eager to learn new skills and wish to start a career in hairdressing? We will guide you through, give you excellent training and opportunities. **Please apply by email:** [tangleshairdesign@bigpond.com](mailto:tangleshairdesign@bigpond.com)

## Cowes Primary hosts swimming carnivals

In recent weeks Cowes Primary School has hosted a number of swimming carnivals at their school pool.

In perfect conditions the Cowes Primary School students from grades 3 to 6 participated in a fun carnival day, with all students taking part in some form of racing – from half way swims through to 25m, 50m and 100m Individual medley races.

Many students dressed in their house colours for the day and it was a perfect start to the year for the newly appointed house captains.

Anderson house came away winners for the day, while in the fiercely contested Teachers V Students race the Teachers were victorious. Congratulations to Jack and Arlie who were the 100m Individual Medley Champions for the day.

The following week Cowes Primary School pool hosted the District Swimming Carnival. Students from Wonthaggi PS, Wonthaggi North, St Josephs, Bass Valley, Newhaven College, Newhaven PS, Our Lady Star of the Sea, Cowes Primary School and Powlett River all competed.

All students demonstrated great sportsmanship and some exceptional swimming was on display. Many of these students went on to Korumburra the following week and represented the South Coast District at the Division Level.



From left to right: Kyra, Amira Lily, Ksenia and Airlie who placed second in the Open Medley Relay Team event.

## Sail away! Newhaven Primary takes to the seas



Newhaven Primary student Ava enjoying the school's first session of this year's Sailability program, run with partnership with the Newhaven Yacht Squadron.

Newhaven Primary School students in grades 5/6 enjoyed participating in the Newhaven Yacht Squadrons Sailability Program last week.

This was the first lesson about sailing for 2021. From stem to stern, the students were very excited and eager to try their hand at sailing the club's colourful dinghies.

The Sailability Program at Newhaven Primary School has been running in partnership with the Newhaven Yacht Squadron since 2018. Students learn about ocean safety and how to sail small dinghies in Westernport Bay under the careful instruction of local sailing volunteers from the Newhaven Yacht Squadron.

"We are very fortunate to be working with The Newhaven Yacht Squadron to provide our students with this amazing learning experience," Sharyne Munday, Principal of Newhaven Primary School said after students returned to school from their sailing lesson Friday morning.



Senior Girls Tennis Team are ready to play on the new tennis courts during the inter-school competition.

## Pitch perfect

Students at Newhaven College are enjoying the recently completed soccer oval and hockey pitch / 12 tennis courts located within the school's sporting precinct.

Following on from the 2019 completion of the double court gymnasium, the construction of the new soccer oval and hockey pitch / tennis courts started in late 2019 and was completed in mid-February 2021.

The synthetic pitch will be used for multiple sporting activities including hockey but has been specially engineered to include 12 tennis courts. Lighting is also planned so the courts can be used during the evening.

The pitch was professionally installed by Grassport Australia. The company also coordinated the design and construction of the full-size soccer oval which features a turf surface, providing a natural space for the College's soccer enthusiasts.

Head of Sport, Stewart Bathgate said: "When we recently hosted the SEISA inter-school competition against Beacons Hills College, the expanded sporting precinct had a great energy to it."

"It was fantastic to see tennis, softball, cricket with basketball and netball in the gym, all happening at the same time."

"The afternoon, helped by the sunshine, had a really nice feel to it and the feedback from students and staff about the new facilities has been wonderful. We are now look forward to adding four more outdoor courts to extend our Physical Education programs."

The sporting precinct is part of the College Masterplan designed to meet the school's growing need for extra training and recreational spaces. Work has commenced on the adjoining netball courts and cricket nets which are due to be completed in mid-2021.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

## Recruiting Team Member CLEANER/MAINTENANCE

### Full-Time Position, 7 Day Roster – fixed term 6-month contract

The Nature Parks is an inspiring workplace and, as the largest employer on Phillip Island, offers a range of career paths. Our people work across a broad range of activities and have many opportunities available to them should they wish to develop their skills, work in different locations or have a variety of roles.

As Cleaner / Maintenance you will undertake duties associated with cleaning and maintenance in an efficient manner, whilst ensuring that amenities and services are maintained to the highest possible standard.

To be successful in this position you will need to address the following criteria:

- Responsible for cleaning and maintenance of Nature Parks grounds, buildings and assets
- Demonstrated experience in a similar cleaning, with knowledge of the safe use of cleaning

- Ability to work independently, as part of a team and with a diverse range of culture;
- Ability to manage time efficiently and problem solve; and
- Willingness to follow instructions and complete tasks to a very high standard with a keen eye for detail.

Hours of employment are in accordance with a seven-day roster which includes evenings, weekends, public holidays and will work across our sites.

For further information on this position, visit our website at [www.penguins.org.au/about/employment/current-vacancies/](http://www.penguins.org.au/about/employment/current-vacancies/)

Phillip Island  
**NATURE  
PARKS**

Applications are to be submitted with resume and cover letter addressing selection criteria to [recruitment@penguins.org.au](mailto:recruitment@penguins.org.au) by **Monday 8th March 2021**.



## GENERAL MANAGER

**KEY LEADERSHIP ROLE  
ICONIC VENUE  
COASTAL LIFESTYLE**

The National Vietnam Veterans Museum Limited (NVVM Ltd) is seeking a General Manager to manage the day to day operation of all aspects of the Museum.

The NVVM Ltd is a volunteer based not-for-profit museum located at Newhaven, Phillip Island, Victoria and typically receives approximately 17,000 visitors annually.

The board is seeking a candidate who is a team builder, capable, confident and innovative who has a sense of humour and is approachable.

The position reports to the Board of Directors and is responsible to the Chairman of the Board.

The Position Description is available from Neville Goodwin at: [nevillegoodwin42@gmail.com](mailto:nevillegoodwin42@gmail.com)

Applications consisting of a covering letter and resume demonstrating an ability to meet the key areas of the Position Description will close on Monday 15th March, 2021

Connect with us online



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**ADVERTISER**

To read the Advertiser on your computer, smartphone or tablet go to [www.pisra.com.au](http://www.pisra.com.au)





Lannia Fostin in action for the Phillip Island team, which took out second place in both divisions. Photo Zac Loveless, Surfing Victoria.

## Torquay takes Teams Titles at Woolamai

Torquay Boardriders Club held off a spirited challenge by Phillip Island, to win both the Junior and Open Teams divisions of the Victorian Teams Titles held at Cape Woolamai on Sunday.

The Victorian Teams Titles got underway in challenging five-foot conditions, with light winds early, and reform lefts and rights on offer. As the day progressed, the swell kicked and the wind came up slightly, which forced competition to shift down the beach to another bank which was more user friendly.

Torquay showed off their diverse range in

surfing from the start of the day.

Torquay Boardriders Club's Junior side finished with a combined total of 30.47, leaving Phillip Island in second place chasing a combination of a 13.98 to get into the lead, with 13th Beach Boardriders in third place.

On the Open Teams side of competition, Torquay walked away with a total of 39.84, leaving reigning champions Phillip Island in second place (by a margin of 5.76), and Peninsula in third.

For further results, visit [www.liveheats.com/surfingvictoria](http://www.liveheats.com/surfingvictoria).

## Jessica returns to Newhaven

After graduating in 2017 Newhaven College Alumni Jess Gysberts stayed on at the College as the 2018 AFL SportsReady Trainee.

Throughout the Traineeship she completed a Certificate III in Sport and Recreation and engaged in Physical Education classes and Inter School Sport days.

The traineeship gave Jessica a stable foundation and the opportunity to experience life in the workforce.

She said she was so inspired by the teachers and staff that by the end of her traineeship she decided to study a Bachelor of Primary Education at Federation University.

Jess is currently completing her three-week university placement at the College.



After spending 2018 at Newhaven College as an AFL SportsReady Trainee, Jess Gysberts is back for a three week university placement from Federation Uni, where she is studying a Bachelor of Primary Education.

## Tennis results

Section 1: Westernport 9.72 defeated Leongatha 0.12, Inverloch 9.72 defeated Koonwarra 0.25 and

Leongatha North 7.64 defeated Korumburra 2.46.

Ladder: Inverloch 117.5, Leongatha North 86, Westernport 80, Korumburra 72.5, Koonwarra 27 and Leongatha 12.

Section 2: Outtrim 7.61 defeated Leongatha Millman 2.42, Korumburra Green 9.72 defeated Leongatha Barty 0.30 and Korumburra Blue 5.59 defeated Baromi 4.59.

Ladder: Outtrim 103, Baromi 78, Korumburra Green 78, Korumburra Blue 63, Leongatha Millman 40 and Leongatha Barty 34.

Westernport and Inverloch both had convincing wins this week in Section 1.

Leongatha had no answers against Westernport. Westernport have a good list of players qualified in time for finals.

Inverloch kept their perfect record, winning this round against Koonwarra. Well done

to them – it certainly isn't easy remaining unbeaten all season.

Leongatha North and Korumburra had the match of the round in this section. Both teams have had a great contest each time they have played each other all season. This week, it was Leongatha North's turn to come out on top.

Baromi v Korumburra Blue had the closest match in Section 2 this week. They have always had good matches and this week was no exception. The teams were equal on games, but Korumburra Blue had won the extra set, and took the win with them. Definitely a great way to end the season for them.

Korumburra Green won all the sets against Leongatha Barty.

Outtrim, who have been top of the tables all season in this section, won against Leongatha Millman. Martin Stone helped Leongatha Millman out by stepping in for a game. Nicole de Longville was pleased to be in the two winning sets for her team.

Although this was a shorter season than normal, it was a good season played by all teams.

Finals are next up, but there is no play on Saturday March 6. The first round of finals will be played on March 13, and both sections will be playing in Leongatha.

The matches will be as follows:

Section 1 – Inverloch v Korumburra and Leongatha North v Westernport.

Section 2 – Outtrim v Korumburra Blue and Baromi v Korumburra Green.

Teams outside the finals must have three umpires for their section.

Also, each club is expected to donate a raffle prize to the value of \$30 for the Presentation Night.

The Presentation night will be held after the grand finals at McCartins Hotel – \$25 per ticket and that will cover pizza and nibbles.

If you want to come, please have your name to Warren Littlejohn or Frank Dekker on Semi Final day (March 13). No late bookings allowed.

## Island cricketers finals bound!

### A Grade

Phillip Island are finals bound for the first time since their heartbreaking 2017/18 campaign after defeating Nerrena by 36 runs in their final home and away game played at the Leongatha Football Ground last Saturday.

On a wicket both captains expected to assist the bowlers, Nerrena didn't hesitate to bowl first after winning the toss.

Island openers Brodie Johnston (17) and Lachie Cleeland (12) did the hard yards early against a ball doing plenty, seeing the Sharks to 31 before Johnston was bowled.

Cleeland followed shortly after which bought Eli Richards and Shiran Rathnayake to the crease to build on the solid start from the openers.

The pair were playing beautifully, and with Richards riding his luck, saw the Island to 2-44 at the drinks break.

Both players stepped it up after the break and took the score to 96 before Richards fell for a well compiled 27.

Jarrold Black joined Rathnayake, with the latter putting on a masterclass, and at times it looked like he was batting on a different pitch to the rest, with his stroke play from the top draw.

Rathnayake eventually fell for a classy 65 off 72 balls, and with Black finishing 12no, the Island ended their 40 overs on 4-149.

The Island were always confident if they executed well with ball in hand that total should be more than enough.

Nerrena obviously didn't read the script, and after only four overs, were flying at 0-27.

Island skipper Max Royal threw the ball to Clint Wilson and he immediately made an impact, removing the Nerrena captain courtesy of a sharp catch from Johnston.

Wilson was soon partnered at the bowling crease with Royal and in the space of 14 overs, the pair proceeded to take the game away from the Red Caps.

The bowling partnership of Wilson and Royal returned 6-14 off 14 overs to leave Nerrena reeling at 6-44.

Wilson returned the exceptional figures of 4-9 off 8 overs while Royal's good form with the ball continued, finishing with 2-9 off his 8 overs to set the win up for the Sharks.

Rathnayake topped off a remarkable day with 2-26 and was well supported by Charith Keerthisinghe with 1-39.

Some late hitting took Nerrena to a respectable 9-113 at the end of their allotted 40 overs.

This Saturday the Island hit the road again to take on the top placed Leongatha Town at their home ground.

Town have been the standout side all season and although they finished a whopping 50 points clear of the Sharks on the ladder, this semi-final promises to be an absolute cracker.

Play starts at 11.00am.



Darcy Johnston was man of the match in C2 cricket, with 6 wickets for 31 and 48 not out.

### B Grade:

#### Phillip Island v Nerrena

With this the last game before finals, and Nerrena sitting on top and the Island fourth, this was a potential week one finals preview.

We won the toss and thought it was a good idea to bat and for the first 20 overs, the only good thing was that we won the toss!

Nerrena bowled tight stump to stump and had us in all sorts of trouble at 5/14.

With Andrew Finlayson joining Tommy Niven at the crease, there was only one thing to do and that was to see out the overs and try to give us something to defend.

80 or 90 would have been great, but Finno had other ideas.

He and Nivo pushed us along to 47 before Nivo was out for 13.

Liam Dayson, Matty Wright 9 and Andrew Tolley 9 pitched in late with Finno to help us get to 8/111. Finno played a great knock, ending up on 61 not out.

The message was loud and clear from the skip; we cannot bowl short, must be stump to stump and with only five bowlers in the side it meant that they all must bowl well.

And did they!

Tommy Niven and Big Man Matty Wright bowled the house down with 2 for 9 and 1 for 11 off their 8 overs respectively, having Nerrena 3/20 after 16 overs. We could not have asked for a better start. Catches were held, and the ground fielding was fantastic.

First change was Josh Excel, the young man who was dropped during the week and brought back into the side at the last minute. He knew he was under pressure to bowl well, and duly delivered.

Nerrena were 5 for 36 off 20 overs and in a bit of trouble at drinks.

However, they started a fight back, and seemed to be getting on top with a 40-run partnership. But the Sharks managed to fight back again with Josh getting two quick wickets and finished with great figures of 4 for 34 off his 8.

With Toll and Dayso chiming with some tight bowling of their own, 2 for 16 and 1 for 17, we dismissed Nerrena for just 88

to pull off an amazing victory.

It was a great effort to beat the top side with 111 on the board, and the bowling efforts of three young men under 20 was great to watch.

Well done Sharks, a fantastic win. Great effort again to Finno, it was a great batting display.

B grade travel to Outtrim next week to take on OMK in a knockout semi-final.

### C2 cricket

Phillip Islands travelled to Leongatha to play the final home and away game.

A win sees them finish second and a home final, a loss they finish third.

Either way, a semi-final against Wonthaggi Club.

We lost the toss and were asked to bowl.

The two Darcy's, Excell and Johnston opened up with one of them very wayward indeed.

Young Excell bowled a treat and if only his teammates behind the wicket could catch, he would have had impressive figures.

He finished his 8 overs with 1-40.

Johnston was asked to have a rest after two overs with 0-25 including 15 wides but as they say, cricket is a funny game!

Pete Francis came on and stemmed the run flow which frustrated the batsman and resulted in Excell picking up his first wicket.

Captain John Johnston gave his strike bowler another go but suggested he bowl his off breaks.

It seemed to work as Darcy finished his next six overs picking up 6 wickets for 6 runs!

Some great catching by Steve Burchall, Tarryn Allen and John Manning.

15-year-old James Lewis chimed in with two wickets including a great one-handed catch from keeper Patterson.

A big relief for Patto as he had grassed two previously.

Skipper Johnno picked up the last wicket and Town finished with 123.

We stressed the importance of a good start but that didn't happen with both openers, Muscat and Manning in the shed for not many. It was up to Gav Excell and Darcy Johnston to steady the ship.

Gav played his usual knock and was out caught for a much needed 37.

At 3-59, Francis joined Johnston and that pair saw their side to victory and a home final.

After a torrid start Darcy got going and was 48 no and Franga 22no.

A good solid win but we have to work harder on those early chances if we have any chance next week.

A great game by man of the match Darcy Johnston with a special mention to Darcy Excell who is doing a fine job with the new ball.

A great all-round effort by the Club with all four sides in finals.

It would be great to get some support for the C graders who will play at Cowes and Newhaven next week. Go Sharks.



## Around the Bay

WITH JIM'S BAIT AND TACKLE

Another week of mixed weather this week. It seems the hot weather may have missed us this year especially after the news that January was the coldest for over 20 years, which really comes as no surprise.

As always there are breaks in the weather and there are always some that have the time to go for a fish, so we did get some reports for the week.

For the majority of the week offshore was out for many boats with a messy swell making it very uncomfortable.

The reports we got during the week came mostly from those off the land and fishing in the bay in boats and kayaks.

Then the weekend turned up and so did the weather, so it was offshore for many.

We have had several entries in for the Good Friday Easter fishing competition and over half of the kid's packs are gone already, so if you don't want the kids to miss out drop in for an entry form.

To be in for the early entry prize - \$100 restaurant voucher - you must be paid by March 26 and all entries must be in by 2pm Good Friday. We have had a few more prizes donated as giveaways over the weekend so even if you don't catch a fish you could still win.

I was asked during the week, from someone that doesn't fish but read the flyer on the door, about holding a fishing competition during Covid.

While we are fully aware of the Covid situation and things could change in a minute, we also believe that it's important to look forward with a positive attitude no matter what the situation and not live your life based on all the negatives.

The competition will be doing nothing more than providing an outlet for families to have some fun out fishing together with the chance of winning some prizes along the way.

The people that will fish the competition will most likely be fishing over the weekend anyway. We don't have a large gathering for a weigh in or presentations and will be keeping to our current restrictions as far as business goes.

Providing we are allowed to open the shop and we can fish, the competition will go ahead so finger crossed. Let's hope that we can raise plenty of money for the kids, after all that's what the whole thing is about.

### Fishing report

Whiting continued the trend of the last couple of weeks and were tough to find or get reasonable numbers.

Customers told us they tried deep and shallow and could only find a couple then a move was needed to find anymore.

The sizes were all over the place, with undersized to almost 50cm reported, but no consistency in any spot at all.

Then opposite to those reports a couple of customers that fish around Corinella told us they couldn't get away from them and got their bag without any problem.

The only real difference this week was the winds favoured those areas around Corinella whereas they seemed to be opposite to the tide down this way.

There was a couple of exceptions where customers fell on a patch, top end towards maggi shoal, and landed a good bag but certainly in the minority.

On Saturday the moon was full, weather good, winds surprisingly calm but the gummies were hard to find.

Several headed out looking for a gummy on the full moon but only a couple managed to find anything of size.

There was the usual 100s of undersized ones but the bigger ones weren't that plentiful.

With the weather offshore not playing its part during the week once it came good on the weekend those heading out

were on the tuna or kingfish hunt. We only had one gummy reported. The only other report I had was a second hand one of a couple caught off the surf at Woolamai. From the reports over the years, it's not ideal to actually fish on the night of the full moon but the four days or so either side. The days leading up weren't that good for fishing so maybe the next couple of days will produce a few. Having said all that and the historical best gummy fishing timing things on the moon, the reports over the last few months of gummies has come from that in between time.

So, like all fishing don't stress too much if this is the only time to fish for something, just go when you get the chance.

A couple of reports of offshore flathead from the weekend and although the fish were mostly small the numbers were reasonable enough to make the trip worth it.

There is plenty of bait offshore and a good time to get in front for next season. Mackerel, salmon and yakkas all make good snapper baits, vac pack them before putting in the freezer and by snapper time they will still be as good as the day you put them in there.

Several tuna again on the weekend and from the three main spots, Cape Patterson, Pyramid Rock and the Flinders area. Although small skirts accounted for the majority, we had reports of other lures being successful, hard bodies and bigger skirts and although it was a couple of weeks back one that was caught on a bait out for a gummy.



A quality bag of fish from Steve and neighbours who headed out fishing on Saturday night.

## Phillip island golf

Tuesday February 23 - Men's 18 Hole Stableford: Winner was Tom Jacobson H/c (33) with 47 points from Jim Nunan H/c (31) with 41 points.

Men's 9 Hole Stableford: Winner was Brian Carvell H/c (32) with 20 points from Reg Browne H/c (32) with 19 points on a countback from Basil Moloney H/c (14) also with 19 points.

Wednesday, February 24 - Ladies 18-hole Monthly Medal, Putting and Silver Spoon, Veterans and Hewitson. Sponsored by Emg consulting (Liz Gleeson and Marilyn John).

A Grade - Sue Brown H/c (22) - 70 nett.

B Grade and Monthly Medal winner - Zoe Frost H/c (33) - 64 nett.

C Grade - Robyn Cornell

H/c (44) - 72 nett.

Putting winner - Jen Bilson - 29 putts.

Silver Spoon qualifier - Zoe Frost.

Wednesday's competition is the Midge Monk 4BBB, qualification for the Webster-Noonan and Golf Victoria RWH Event.

Ladies 9 Hole Stableford: Winner was Mary O'Brien H/c (38) with 18 points from Belinda Beckham H/c (45) with 14 points on a countback from Faye Rosen H/c (45) also with 14 points.

Thursday, February 25 - Men's and Ladies 18 Hole Stableford: Winner was Lesley Meadowcroft H/c (15) with 43 points from Robert Fabiny H/c (20) with 42 points.

Men's Ladies 9 Hole Sta-

bleford: Winner was Peter Wrigley H/c (7) with 21 points from David Schofield H/c (22) with 20 points on a countback from Graeme Kelsall H/c (40) also with 20 points.

Saturday February 27 - Men's 18 Hole Stableford: Winner was Anthony Johns H/c (17) with 45 points from Ron Owen H/c (15) with 41 points on a countback from Kenneth Wallace H/c (22) also with 41 points.

Ladies 18 Hole Stableford: Winner was Lesley Meadowcroft H/c (14) with 41 points from Debra Orr H/c (12) with 39 points.

Men's and Ladies 9 Hole Stableford: Winner was Annette Millership H/c (33) with 18 points on a countback from Reg Browne H/c (32) with also with 18 points.

Congratulations to Neville Thurgood - Eagle on the 9th and Rob Haydon - Eagle on the 15th

## Midweek bowls results

South West Gippsland midweek bowls winners were Dennis Talbot, Michael Dady, Bill Williams and Wayne Stevens.

Runners up were Peter McWilliams, Mark Andreatta, Pauline McWilliams and Bill Barnes.

One Game winners were John Nicholson, Rob Jeffrey, Bev Elliott and Jim Nunan.

Midweek bowls was played at San Remo with 32 happy bowlers. The green was fast and wide but in very good condition and a pleasure to play on, thanks to our green keeper Sean McWilliams. Nevertheless, there was some very wayward bowls and a lot of bowling on each other's rinks which in itself was quite comical. The laughter could be heard across the greens and many bowls were in the ditch.

As usual there was some good scores to be had every week and our midweek bowlers are improving.

They soon will be ready to play in the big leagues. We also had three wrong bias, won't mention any names just to say the Royal Children's Hospital Donation Tin is doing very well.

Thank you to the ladies in the kitchen Elaine Fitt and Sue Wood.

I would also like to thank Sue for her lovely homemade Zucchini cake and the fresh cream and jam match sticks, they were delicious and very much appreciated with our lunch time coffees.

Thanks to Peter Thorley in the bar who did a great job with a welcoming smile.

Thank you to our members who brought goods in for the free raffle table.

Next week we will be playing at Tarwin Lower at 10am at venue for a 10.30 start. BYO lunch.

Please come and join us for a great day of bowling and friendship.

To register or for more information please contact Peter McWilliams on 5678 5974. Everyone welcome. See You on The Green.



Runners up Peter McWilliams (3), Pauline McWilliams (2), Bill Barnes (L) and Mark Andreatta (3) - not in photo.



Rob Jeffries (3), John Nicholson (S), Bev Elliott (2) and Jim Nunan (L) were the best One Game winners.



Winners of midweek bowls were Michael Dady (3), Denis Talbot (S), Wayne Stevens (L) and Bill Williams (2).

## Phillip Island bowls

It has been a busy but successful week at the club.

The grand finals of Saturday Pennant were held at Wonthaggi.

Division 2 won over Inverloch 69 shots to 66, the scores were close throughout the game.

Division 5 won over San Remo 80 shots to 70, the scores do not reflect how close the game was until the final ends.

We congratulate these teams for winning in such a compromised season.

Unfortunately, Division 1 Blue was defeated by Inverloch 72 shots to 56, but it was good to be able to contest a final with only the top two teams in each division in this shortened season.

It's worth mentioning that our current President Ken Linton has been a member of the club for 32 years, and has competed in five grand finals, but this is his first Pennant victory.

Well done Ken, so pleased for you to be able to taste success.

We must thank Wonthaggi for their hospitality in hosting these finals.

Midweek Pennant: Both Division teams competed with team 1 winners getting 16 points. They are now in second position on a very tight ladder.

This week they will play Inverloch, who are on top.

The Phillip Island 2nd team play Korrumburra who are third.

So, a lot rests on results this week with only two games left.

Division 3 had a Bye.

Social Bowl winners were Ed Hislop, Peter Carter, Monika Poole, and Eric Wild.

Runners-up were Stuart Harvie, Lance Wearne, Reg Excell and Laurie Goodman.

The Mixed Pairs final winners on Sunday were Peter and Marilyn Forrest, with runners-up Di Pollock and Hans Olierooknd.

Club spectators were rewarded, witnessing a really great game, with the last end finalising the winners, by only by one shot.

Wednesday, we hosted the Bowlers Arm Coaches Clinic that George Mol organised.

## Euchre club results

This week's winners.

Men's winner: Brian Cahill - 7 winners.

Ladies winner: Marg Cahill - 6 winners.

Encouragement award: Tony Fallon - 1 winner.

Once again lots of fun had by all. 6pm dinner, tables for anyone wanting to eat prior to the game.

Games start at 7.30pm.

Phone Bob Hee 0418 173 388 for any information.



Mixed Pairs finalists' runners-up Di Pollock and Hans Olierook with Winners Marilyn and Peter Forrest.

It was held over two sessions on the day and was well supported, by bowlers who currently use the Bowlers Arms and those who may be thinking this will help them to continue to play bowls in the future.

Corporate bowls was a shortened session due to the rain. Will post results next week.



# PHILLIP ISLAND MARINE

NEW & USED BOAT SALES

## TIDE GUIDE

Tidal predictions for Stony Point  
Cowes -0.09 Newhaven -0.31

**HIGH TIDE IS MARKED IN BOLD**

	4.45am	10.31am	5.13pm	10.49pm
Wed 3	2.93m	0.52m	2.95m	0.59m
Thu 4	<b>5.25am</b>	11.15am	<b>6.02pm</b>	11.36pm
	2.94m	0.35m	3.03m	0.63m
Fri 5	<b>6.03am</b>	11.59am	<b>6.51pm</b>	3.05m
	2.92m	0.23m	3.05m	
Sat 6	12.22am	<b>6.41am</b>	12.42pm	<b>7.39pm</b>
	0.71m	2.87m	0.19m	3.01m
Sun 7	1.07am	<b>7.18am</b>	1.23pm	<b>8.28pm</b>
	0.82m	2.79m	0.23m	2.92m
Mon 8	1.52am	<b>7.58am</b>	2.06pm	<b>9.17pm</b>
	0.95m	2.69m	0.32m	2.80m
Tue 9	2.39am	<b>8.43am</b>	2.53pm	<b>10.11pm</b>
	1.07m	2.58m	0.45m	2.68m
Wed 10	3.31am	<b>9.38am</b>	3.47pm	<b>11.13pm</b>
	1.18m	2.45m	0.61m	2.59m

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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# Islanders take out Open titles

Phillip Islanders Harry De Roth and Lannia Fostin claimed Open wins at Cape Woolamai as part of the 2021 Victorian Open Series.

After multiple events being postponed due to Covid restrictions, the competition got underway in four-foot offshore conditions.

Ripping all day in the Open Men's division was Joe Van Dijk, who saw himself get to an early lead in the final with a combined heat total of 16.03 (out of a possible 20). Van Dijk's powerful surfing saw him walk away with the highest individual wave score of the day (a 9.80 out of a possible ten).

Despite his stellar performance, Van Dijk was still left chasing an 8.18 to snag the lead of eventual winner Harry De Roth.

De Roth had a slow start throughout his Open Men's final, however managed to score a right hander in the dying minutes of the heat which saw him post a 9.67 to seal the deal. He finished on top with a combined heat total of 16.20 (out of a possible 20).

"Conditions were fun out there," De Roth said.

"I'm stoked to walk away with the win and am happy that I was able to find an opportunity towards the end of the heat."

Other standout performers throughout the men's division were Cahill Bell-Warren (Torquay) and Billy Harrison (Barwon Heads). Both surfers were standouts in the opening rounds however were left needing scores in the seven point range to claim the honours.

Phillip Island's Lannia Fostin was victorious in the Open Women's division, posting a combined heat total of 13.84.

Fostin took advantage of the lefts on offer throughout the final, laying some serious rail and getting the job done.

"We scored with the conditions down here today," Fostin said.

"There were some fun lefts on offer throughout the final, and I was lucky enough to be in the right spot."



Phillip Island surfers Lannia Fostin and Harry De Roth claimed wins in the 2021 Victorian Open Series held at Cape Woolamai on the weekend.

Hot on Fostin's tail was Mia Huppatz (Jan Juc), who posted a combined heat total of 12.93, however was left chasing a 6.92 (out of a possible ten) to get into the lead.

Huppatz posted a highest score of a 6.93, however was unable to improve on her existing six point ride to advance into first position.

Phillip Island's Poppy Corbett came third.

## Final results

### Open Men

1. Harry De Roth
2. Joe Van Dijk
3. Cahill Bell-Warren
4. Billy Harrison

### Open Women

1. Lannia Fostin
2. Mia Huppatz
3. Poppy Corbett
4. Lucy Naylor

## Surf-off

As a result of the cancellation of Open Series events, there will be a surf off held at URBNSURF Melbourne on March 30 to crown state champions in a surf-off, which will include the top six surfers from both the Men and Women's divisions.

There will be three wildcards for both Men and Women, which will be selected for the shoot out based on an application process and recent results (priority order being International events, Australian Events, State Events).

The wildcard process has been put in place due to the Phillip Island event clashing with the Mad Mex Maroubra Pro QS1000 in NSW.

In the situation where an invited surfer cannot attend, the spot will revert to a wildcard position that will be allocated by the Surfing Victoria Technical Advisory Group.

All waves will be filmed and then judged by the Surfing Victoria judging panel at a later date.

Winners will be announced online via Surfing Victoria and URBNSURF's social media channels.

Speaking on the changes, Surfing Victoria CEO Adam Robertson believes this is a great opportunity to innovate and try some new formats.

"The Victorian Open Series has been run in the same format for over two decades. Although it is unfortunate to not be able to hold events on the Surf Coast and Mornington Peninsula, we are using this as an opportunity to try a new format."

"We hope that the surf-off at URBNSURF Melbourne will provide an interesting way of crowning our state champions whilst still ensuring that the top surfers in the state get ample opportunity to prove themselves."

# U14s cricket grand final – Inverloch premiership winners

The U14 Sharks played Inverloch in the grand final.

The Sharks lost the toss and bowled first.

In the first session, the Sharks bowled well but didn't take their chances.

Riley Harris and Archie Casey from Inverloch batted well and after the first session Inverloch hadn't lost a wicket.

The Sharks had a bad start after Ollie Duggan and Drew Fusinato were dismissed for not many runs.

The Sharks were 2-9, however a solid partnership from George McCausland and Connor Macmillan helped to steady the ship before Connor was caught behind for 11.

Thomas Macmillan and George McCausland batted

well together before a mix-up occurred and George was run out for 26 just before lunch.

Inverloch had a big lead but that didn't stop the Sharks as they slowed Inverloch's run rate, then Thomas Macmillan struck, and Harry Arceo struck again soon after.

An athletic throw in the field from Charlie O'Garey dismissed yet another batsman. Sam Bennett took two great wickets and Connor Macmillan took one wicket in the last over of the innings.

Faced with the task of needing 123 in 20 overs with five wickets in hand, the Sharks couldn't manage it and were all out for 88.

It was a disappointing end to an otherwise successful season.



Phillip Island's U14 side were runners up in the Leongatha and District Cricket Association grand final, played at Outtrim on Sunday. Top (L-R): Thomas MacMillan, Charlie O'Garey, Justin Tran, Ollie Duggan, George McCausland, and Conner Macmillan. Middle (L-R): Sienna MacMillan, Drew Fusinato, Xavier Godena, Harry Arceo and Sam Bennet. Front (L-R): Jake Hughes and Tyler Duell.

ALEX SCOTT AND STAFF

10 SANCTUARY DRIVE, COWES



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