



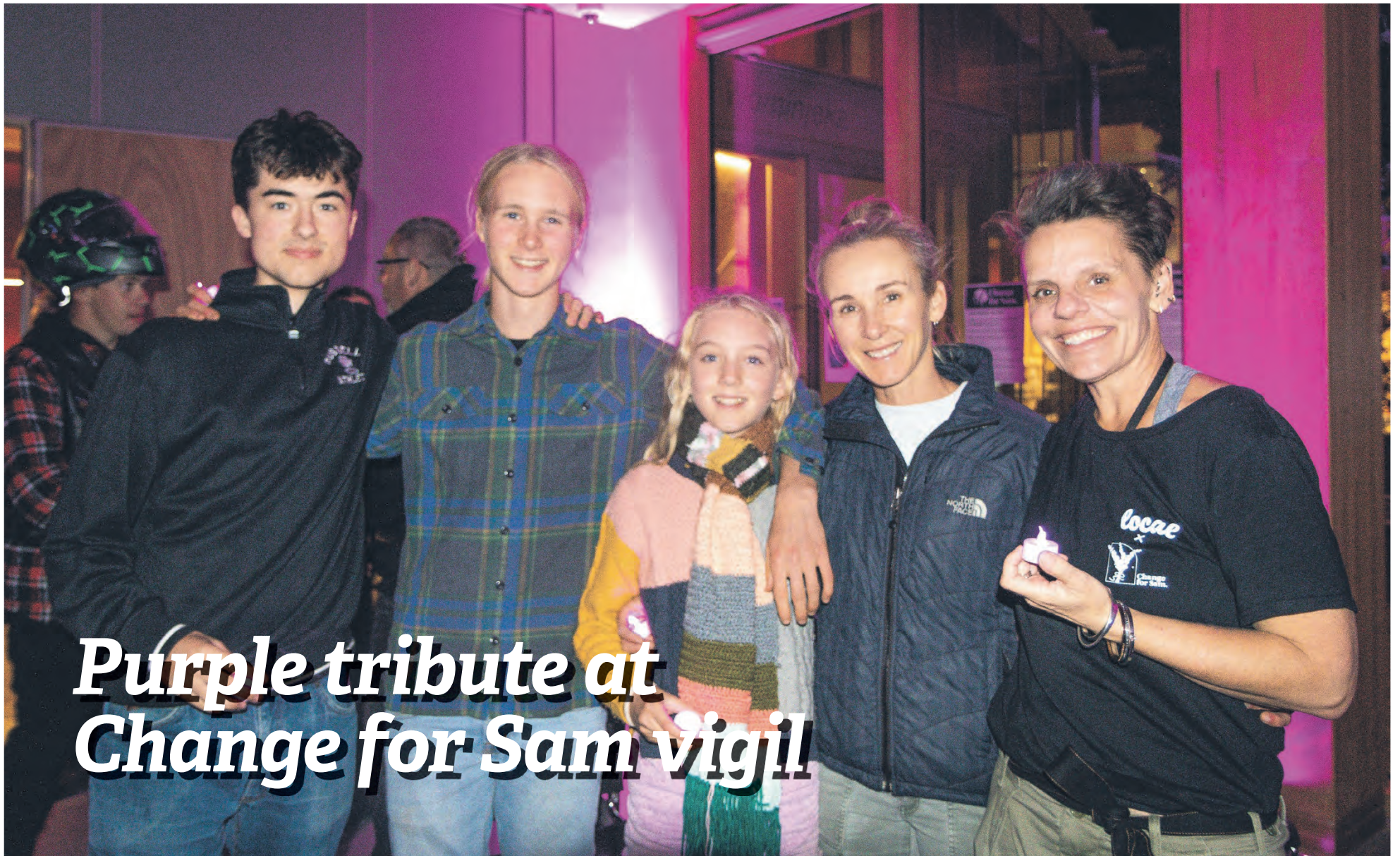
PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO

ADVERTISER

YOUR COMMUNITY VOICE!

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

\$2.00 Incl. GST



Purple tribute at Change for Sam vigil

Bad weather forced a change of venue, but didn't dampen the spirits of the local community who turned out to support Change for Sam's Candlelight Vigil last Wednesday, to honour and remember those who lost their lives due to family violence. Gabriel Di Falco, and Joey, Isla and Emma Thompson with vigil organiser, Change for Sam's Lija Matthews. **For a full report, turn to page 12.**

New erosion report steers away from big projects

SILVERLEAVES

No major new engineering projects such as groynes and rock walls are planned for Silverleaves to stop erosion in coming decades, according to a new draft report.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) released the draft East Cowes and Silverleaves Adaptation Plan at the end of April, which is out for community comment until May 30.

Residents have responded to the report, demanding groynes be constructed the length of Silverleaves (see separate story).

The draft outlines a list of long-term management options for managing erosion along the Silverleaves foreshore for the coming decades.

It emphasises a "significant portion of the land" is subject to permanent inundation from sea level rise from Rhyll Inlet rather than coastal erosion.

"Future sea levels in Rhyll Inlet are likely to flood land with low elevations," the report states, adding this flooding risk requires further studies.

The draft report divides Silverleaves into three sections, starting at the western edge near Coghlan Road, then continues eastward to the section that has experienced the most recent erosion, and finally finishing at the easterly end of Silverleaves Avenue, which is the Ramsar boundary.

For the western end, near Coghlan Road, the draft report recommends minor repairs and realignment of the existing

1970s rock revetment.

In the central section, it recommends a "nature-based hybrid solution" of "low-profile rock sills, shellfish reef or rock berms" to absorb wave energy, as well as beach nourishment and shoreline plants.

The draft report was produced before the rock bag wall was built in the erosion hotspot around Sanders Road, but says that wall could now be buried in dune reconstruction, "where it would act as a last line of defence against erosion" and also enhance habitat.

In this erosion hotspot, the report does not recommend groynes "in isolation", "because it may not effectively mitigate erosion or inundation hazards without continued beach nourishment (bulldozing sand)".

At the final section, towards the easterly end, the draft says this area is relatively stable compared to western Silverleaves and recommends non-intervention, "reflecting the lower immediate erosion risk".

Despite these recommendations, the draft East Cowes and Silverleaves Adaptation Plan emphasises there is "significant uncertainty" with erosion risk because of unpredictable coastal and climate conditions – especially sea level rise – and regular monitoring was necessary to assess potential risks over time.

Don't build?

The draft report is based on Victoria's coastal policy, which steers away from projects that have an environmental impact and has seven steps, starting

at non-intervention or allowing erosion to occur, then moving to building new developments away from risks.

The fourth step in the coastal policy is "accommodate" or designing buildings to reduce exposure to risk.

This is followed by "retreat" – or moving homes and assets

Continued page 10

Education Week
Page 13-19

Catholic Education Week
Page 16-17

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	SHOWER OR TWO	POSSIBLE SHOWER	SHOWER OR TWO	SHOWER OR TWO	MOSTLY SUNNY	SUNNY	SUNNY
	12 19	13 18	11 18	11 16	10 17	10 15	11 15

Alison Lester visits Cowes


LITERATURE

Award-winning children's author and illustrator Alison Lester visited Cowes last week for a talk and book signing. More than 50 parents and children lined up for the signing at Berninneit, for the popular author who has produced more than 50 books. An exhibition of Alison's original illustrations from her 2004 book "Are We There Yet?" – on tour from the Gippsland Art Gallery collection – is at Berninneit until May 25.



Shandelle Parkes with her son Drew, (left), came from Korumburra for the event. With author and illustrator Alison Lester (middle), and Sarah Westwood and son Finlay from Cowes (right).

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



Cr Ronnie Bauer
for the Island Ward,
Bass Coast Shire

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Another accolade for Berninneit

INFRASTRUCTURE

Berninneit has received another award, this time receiving the Australian Timber Design Awards Sustainability Prize. Berninneit has already won a raft of architectural awards, including the William Wardell Award for Public Architecture, and the AIA National Architecture Awards for Public Architecture. The Sustainability Prize was judged by Anthony Burke, host of Restoration Australia and Grand Designs Australia, and Rebecca Gilling, Planet Ark's CEO. The centre uses glulam columns sourced by Australian Sustainable Hardwoods and cross-laminated timber panels from Xlam's state-of-the-art Albury-Wodonga facility. "This is the full sustainability package," Burke, a professor of architecture at UTS, said. "You've got a beautiful use of materials featuring timber throughout the entire building, as well as community involvement." According to Gilling, who in late 2022 took over as CEO


of Australia's most trusted ENGO from long-time leader Paul Klymenko, there are so many sustainability elements to the project: "(This) includes local sourcing of materials, the Passivhaus envelope, which ensures the ongoing running costs will be minimised, and (of course) using timber as the carbon store." The Jackson Clements Burrows-designed building supports a range of uses, including a theatre, library, gallery, museum, community function rooms, and offices. "The design feels inherently connected to and of its place. Warm, pink-cream brick references nearby dunes and beaches, whilst internal timber columns speak to the island's jetties and pier structures," according to Jackson Clements Burrows's design statement. "The building creates a dynamic and interactive destination that will become a source of civic pride. Bringing together the cultural and social aspirations of the community, it draws visitors to showcase the region's history and culture." Awards collected by Berninneit include:



Berninneit has won the Australian Timber Design Awards Sustainability Prize, praised for its use of sustainable hardwoods and cross laminated timber panels. Photo: Peter Clarke.

- 2024 National Architecture Award for Public Architecture
- William Wardell Award for Public Architecture at 2024 Victorian Architecture Awards and shortlisted in three other categories: Regional Architecture, Sustainable Architecture, and Interior Architecture
- Excellence in Geographic Place Naming award at the 2024 Victorian Geospatial Excellence awards (received by Bass Coast Shire Council and the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation)
- The Australian Interior Design Award for Public Design
- 2024 Sustainability Awards – Public Building
- Australian Timber Design Awards Sustainability Prize.

Melina BATH MP
THE NATIONALS MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION



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The future of the Smiths Beach Rescue Tower is assured, after a Tiny Towns grant helped Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club meet its fundraising target, to undertake urgently needed work on the tower.

A welcome rescue for Smiths Beach tower

SAFETY

A \$50,000 grant from the State Government's Tiny Towns funding program has secured the future of the Smiths Beach Rescue Tower.

Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club (WBSLSC) President Jason Close said the club was thrilled to receive the news the project had been given a grant.

The money from the Tiny Towns fund, alongside generous support from donations and local community groups means the urgently needed repairs and rehabilitation of the rescue tower can go ahead.

"We are very grateful to the Victorian State Government and the support for the project received from our local member Jordan Crugnale MP," Jason said.

"Due to the generous support of the local community, the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo, the Smiths Beach-combers Association, the Victorian State Government and Phillip Island Nature Parks, the Smiths Beach Rescue Base project has now reached its fundraising target.

"Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club is now able to confidently proceed with the project," continued Jason.

"The club is currently planning the upgrade, liaising with local authorities, and finalising project specifications. We expect to commence the project in the coming months."

As a voluntary emergency service, serving the community of Phillip Island and surrounds, the club is still raising funds for other important services, lifesaving facilities and rescue equipment.

"However the funds that we have received will now enable the upgrade and some of the ongoing maintenance required for the Smiths Beach Rescue Base," Jason said.

The project will include wall panel works, inside painting, and stair removal and replacement.

Fundraising

In October 2024, WBSLSC received an \$83,960 grant from the State Government's Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program (VESEP) for repairs to

the rescue tower.

The club had been seeking \$140,000 in funding to ensure the safety of the rescue base structure, which was built only seven years ago.

It raised around \$25,000 towards the repairs and The Phillip Island and San Remo Rotary Club also donated \$20,000 to the project.

The tower is a vital part of the WBSLSC summer patrols, with over 11,000 people visiting Smiths Beach during patrol hours each summer.

In recent years, the club has recorded thousands of preventative actions – pro-active steps taken to avoid rescues, including directing swimmers back between the flags.

The base is also equipped with a solar panel and battery, part-funded by Westernport Water, which ensure radios – crucial for communication and co-ordination of rescues and beach safety – are able to be charged.

Moreover, the base includes a first aid room and a fresh water tap, both essential assets for lifesavers and lifeguards when treating members of the public.



Liberal candidate Mary Aldred takes the seat of Monash, after a week of counting by the AEC.

Aldred wins: finally a result for Monash

ELECTION

Liberal candidate Mary Aldred has been declared the winner in Monash, after a week of counting by the Australian Electoral Commission.

Aldred led the first preference vote at 32.08 per cent, well clear of nearest rival, Labor's Tully Fletcher, and after preferences took the seat with 54.31 per cent of the vote.

On her campaign Facebook page, Mary Aldred acknowledged it had been "a long and complicated process" to get a result.

"I understand with my election comes the expectation from day one to deliver locally and take a strong national stand on behalf of the people of Monash. And that's exactly what I intend to do."

Ms Aldred thanked her volunteers and supporters for working tirelessly, and her family for "their unconditional love".

She also thanked the Victorian and National Liberal team saying they were part of her success.

"In particular, I want to recognise Russell and Bronwyn Broadbent, for their service to the former electorates of Corinella and McMillan, and to the

electorate of Monash. They are good people and I wish them well," Ms Aldred said.

"We live in the best part of the best country on earth. Gippsland's regional success fuels our national prosperity, and I will always stand on the side of the jobs and industries that sustain this."

"Much of the nation's wealth is generated in regions like ours, and I will fight to ensure we have the infrastructure and services we need."

Ms Aldred said the task ahead for the Liberal Party was enormous but not insurmountable.

"In my view, that job includes recrafting our economic message to be the Liberal Party's central offering of aspiration and opportunity to all Australians."

She signed off with a message to the electorate.

"To the people of Monash: I will work my heart out for you."

In a statement on the result on Monday night, Tully Fletcher said he had called Mary Aldred to concede the seat.

Up until Monday May 12 Monash was one of only three seats in the entire country where AEC had yet to nominate a leading party.

Protecting the community and supporting our brigade

FIRE EQUIPMENT

Fire Equipment Maintenance (FEM) is a critical part of fire prevention and a key source of funding for many CFA brigades, including the Phillip Island Fire Brigade and the San Remo Fire Brigade.

Phillip Island and San Remo brigades have been servicing the local area for over 20 years.

As part of the FEM services, brigade members visit local businesses and facilities across Phillip Island and San Remo to inspect and maintain essential firefighting tools such as fire extinguishers, fire blankets and hose reels.

This ensures equipment is

fully functional and compliant with safety regulations, ready to respond in the event of an emergency.

This maintenance is not only vital for public safety but is also legally required for business owners and occupiers. Businesses pay a fee for this service, with all funds directly reinvested into the local brigade to support operations, equipment upgrades, and member training.

"Every dollar raised through FEM or donated by our community helps us improve our capabilities and ensure the highest level of fire safety for Phillip Island and San Remo," a Phillip Island Fire Brigade spokesperson said.

"Importantly, FEM allows us to have face-to-face conversations with business owners and staff about fire safety, helping to educate and reassure our community while promoting preparedness."

"We currently service more than 200 businesses on Phillip Island and San Remo."

If you would like to get in contact with the fire brigades' FEM service, please email: philipislandfem@outlook.com or sanremo.fem@cfa.vic.gov.au

"At Phillip Island Fire Brigade and San Remo Fire Brigade we are proud to be part of this effort – keeping our community safe, connected and prepared."



Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling has been utilising the Fire Equipment Maintenance service provided by the Phillip Island Fire Brigade for 15+ years. Craig, owner of the bowling centre, with Anita and Wayne, service technicians for Phillip Island Fire Brigade.

The food isle, Jess style

ENVIRONMENT

If you ever get peckish walking along Phillip Island's many nature trails, fear not, food is closer than you realise.

According to Jessica Moulynox, the island is a virtual kitchen pantry, which she proves on her coastal foraging walks in Cape Woolamai and Rhyll, with the next walk on May 25, 10am – midday on Cottesloe Avenue, Cape Woolamai.

Earlier this year the 38-year-old botanist started Backyard Botany, encouraging sustainable living practices through native edible garden design for schools and community groups, as well as for individuals.

Jess then opened her Cape Woolamai home garden to the public earlier this year as part of the Bass Coast Edible Garden Tour, to showcase the 22 native edibles she's planted, as a forerunner to her coastal foraging walks and workshops.

She has since run several walks, with the aim to encourage not only a love and respect for nature and native foods, especially the island's endemic plants, but also to inspire people to plant native spe-

cies in their own yards.

This includes buying local varieties at Barb Martin Bushbank, on the Phillip Island Road, or buying native edible plants at Bunnings.

"I want people to learn about the plants, plant them and use them at home," she says.

On the walk, the mother-of-two introduces participants to about 20 edible or medicinal plants that are native to the island.

Jess emphasises she has a Bass Coast Shire Council permit that allows her to forage at Cape Woolamai and Rhyll and so anyone keen to develop their foraging skills must also apply for a permit.

"I am allowed to pick plants and give samples to people," she explains.

And, she adds, she has permission from First Nations' elders to do this work.

Importantly, she explains, plants should be washed thoroughly before eating, or plucked from the top branches, so you don't eat anything at dog pee level.

Pantry

On the Cape Woolamai walk, participants go only a few metres before Jess spots an edible native plant.

She picks a frond of

young coastal saltbush and nibbles it, explaining it is a handy salt substitute, or can be fried like burnt butter sage on top of pasta.

"It is a fantastic antiviral and can also be eaten raw."

Old man saltbush is generally considered the culinary version of saltbush, she adds, with that plant also to be found at Bunnings.

She walks a little further to a common-looking branch.

Seaberry saltbush has berries that are "jam-packed" with antioxidants.

"When modern medicine wasn't around 1000 years ago they had to rely on nature, eating small amounts regularly to sustain their health."

Seaberry saltbush is so common anyone who has strolled anywhere on the island would be familiar with it, yet will have probably entirely ignored it.

Jess calls this "plant blindness".

So too, pigface is a common Phillip Island plant, whose flowers transform into fruit, which when opened contain "little salty strawberry kiwis".

"This," she points to a stock standard green creeper kind of plant, "is



Botanist Jessica Moulynox runs coastal foraging walks, and encourages sustainable living practices through designing native edible gardens for schools and community groups.

native spinach".

"I like to blanch it and add to a pie."

"It's not Warrigal greens. It's the sister plant."

She points to lemon-scented tea tree, explaining she extracts the oils to make homemade deodorant for her family, even for her husband Trev who is a consulting arborist.

And so it continues.

A coastal wattle has water in its root that can help with survival.

The acacia tree has sap that's sweet, while the coast beard heath has a white berry that "tastes like lemonade".

The headache vine apparently lives up to its name, Jess says, putting a crown of entwined vine around her head.

"The heat from your head releases the oils from the vine, which can help relieve a headache. And the fluffy flowerheads are great as tinder," she says, adding an anecdote about her son who has been learning how to start fires using soft wood timber.

"He also made a bow

and arrow out of tea tree the other day."

Be educated

Jess grew up in a family that loved camping and it was accepted practice to forage for wild food.

One of her earliest memories is walking through paddocks with her grandfather when she got stung and he grabbed a bracken fern frond and opened the root, rubbing it on the bite.

"The roots have an antihistamine that can be used on stings and bites and it brings immediate relief," she says.

Jess studied a Bachelor of Environmental Science, majoring in biology at Deakin University, also taking subjects at Melbourne University in the flora of Victoria.

Because she studied a minor in indigenous studies Jess also calls herself an ethnobotanist, studying the relationship between humans and plants.

Jess and Trev moved to Phillip Island in 2018 because she was a dedicated

surfer who wanted to be closer to the breaks.

Since Backyard Botany's launch, Jess has installed native edible gardens at the Ramada resort, as well as PICAL and Our Lady Star of the Sea.

The foraging walks occur in the warmer months, while through the cold months Jess will run talks, including one at Island Healing on June 29.

The walks and talks are not just for foodies or gardeners.

As she demonstrates, nature is also a medicinal pantry and offers lessons in botany and indigenous culture, with handy tips for doomsday preppers on survival skills.

"People are sometimes nervous eating wild plants with me, coming from an expert."

"But I tell them, don't be afraid, be educated, there's a big difference between the two."

"The whole idea of Backyard Botany is to connect with nature, to look after the planet, to eliminate the fear of nature."

Join our Community Advisory Committee



JOSAS9AA

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

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committees that ensure consumer voice is central to the delivery of our services.

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

This is an exciting time to join BCH, with significant growth in services and infrastructure. This is your opportunity to shape your sub-regional health service, now and for the future. Expressions of interest close Wednesday 28 May.



For more information, contact Kristen Yates-Matthews:
Kristen.Yates-Matthews@basscoasthealth.org.au

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Batteries powering Phillip Island

RENEWABLES

Phillip Island's \$10 million big battery on Gap Road, which was opened in 2023, saved about 14,250 litres of diesel over summer.

And a battery forum at Cowes last Monday was told the island's sixth neighbourhood battery finished installation last week, all to be operational along with the final battery at Berninnet by August.

The forum, which included a question-and-answer session, had speakers from Mondo and AusNet, who have installed both the neighbourhood and Gap Road big batteries.

As reported, the State Government last year gave \$2.1 million to the island for the seven neighbourhood batteries.

Mondo – a commercial subsidiary of power supplier AusNet – has installed the batteries and will maintain and operate them, working with Bass Coast Shire Council and Totally Renewable Phillip Island (TRPI).

The forum heard the batteries will charge during the day when there's high solar generation and release in the evening when electricity demand is high.

"They won't prevent power outages," TRPI's Mary Whelan told the forum.

"Their function is to improve the network's ability to absorb solar or export it."

Cowes residents Lis and Robert Blandamer have a home battery with their solar system,

Scale of energy storage

Batteries do come in all shapes and sizes, including as small as your smartphone, right through to mega scale battery farms on the transmission network. All are measured in kWh (or MWh if big enough)



"Batteries come in all shapes and sizes", according to a presentation on Phillip Island's new neighbourhood batteries in Cowes last week.

across the road from one of the new neighbourhood batteries.

The couple said when they have additional power it will go to the community.

"It's better than going into the ether," Lis said, explaining they still received the same tariff feed-in price.

"There's no financial benefit to us, but there is an environmental and community benefit."

TRPI chair Simon Helps answered questions from the audience, including why the neighbourhood batteries had been placed in five public parks.

Simon explained both Nature Parks and Westernport Water wanted to house batteries, but the "complexities" of the commercial lease agreement with AusNet made it too difficult,

whereas the shire was able to work with the "constraints".

Simon said the LFP batteries used the "safest chemistry available", which was "safer than a petrol car, which people put in their garages all the time".

TRPI will be running a battery information session at the start of June on helping residents understand the benefits, installation and equipment required for installing batteries.

In what is believed to be a first, a percentage of any revenue made from the batteries will be donated back to the community for further renewable projects.

Big battery

The 5MW Phillip Island Community Energy Storage System

(PICESS) was built by Mondo in 2023, on behalf of AusNet, "to stabilise the grid" and provide extra energy in peak periods, such as during the Grand Prix, replacing the need for diesel generators.

The forum heard over summer PICESS was used in place of large diesel generators and saved about 14,250lt of diesel.

AusNet's Matthew Charles-Jones told the forum PICESS enabled more local renewables, "soaking up" renewables and releasing it for evening summer demand.

He said the big battery supported Phillip Island in extreme peak energy use times in place of generators.

"As PICESS is connected to the main feeder, it can provide network support for the entire island when it's needed the most, such as in summer, and the MotoGP," Matthew said.

The forum heard by 2035, 95

per cent of current coal generation will be closed, according to the National Energy Market (NEM), with increased solar, wind, and hydro "firmed up" with battery storage "at all levels".

The sites of the neighbourhood batteries are:

- Berninnet – Thompson Avenue (205 kWh) – which has the potential to become an emergency centre to charge phones when the power is down
- Corner Kembla Road and Pasadena Drive, reserve, (410 kWh)
- Corner Seagrass Avenue and Everton Drive, reserve, (205 kWh)
- Goodwood Drive and Elvington Avenue, reserve, (410 kWh)
- Hallway Drive, Wimbledon Heights, reserve, (205 kWh)
- Council depot – Settlement Road (205 kWh)
- Katherine Circuit, park, (205 kWh)

The Biggest Morning Tea comes to town

FUNDRAISER

On Thursday May 22, Alex Scott & Staff in Cowes are hosting a morning tea at the front of their office at 113a Thompson Avenue,

from 10am.

Everyone is welcome and there will be a coffee cart out the front.

Entry is a donation, with all proceeds going to the Cancer Council.

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It's time to talk domestic animal management plan

COUNCIL

Bass Coast Shire Council is reviewing its Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) for 2026-2029 and wants to hear from you – whether you're a pet owner or not.

The DAMP is a four-year Plan that council says provides a "a strategic, balanced approach to ensuring responsible pet ownership".

The DAMP sets out how Council manages domestic animals, trains authorised officers, and supports a healthy balance between pets, their owners and the broader community, and covers aspects like microchipping and registration, to leash laws and dog parks.

Bass Coast Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead, knows the importance and joys of responsible pet ownership firsthand.

"Our family has two dogs, Invee and our newest addition, Sanny," Cr Halstead said.

"I was proud to register Sanny using Council's new online system. It's quick, easy, and part of what responsible ownership looks like – alongside microchipping, vaccinations, and good training."

The previous Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-25 included the phased rollout of 24/7 cat containment. Other achievements include a notable increase in pet registrations, upgraded pound facilities, improvements in signage, more beach patrols, a subsidised cat de-sexing program, and community education campaigns that boosted awareness around registration and responsible pet ownership.

Consultation

As part of this consultation, Council is seeking feedback on responsible pet ownership and managing dogs in public spaces.

Off-leash facilities and regulations at three key locations have been identified for poten-



Cr Rochelle Halstead with her dog Invee and new puppy Sanny. A community engagement session about the Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) will be held in Cowes at Berninnet on Tuesday May 20 from 12pm until 2pm.

tial upgrades:

- Blue Gum Reserve, Cowes (119-133 Settlement Road)
- Headland Way Reserve, Inverloch (31-41 Ullathornes Road)
- Rhyll Recreation Reserve, Rhyll (42-52 Lock Road)

You can attend one of the upcoming community engagement sessions.

- Berninnet, Cowes: Tuesday May 20, 12pm – 2pm
- Inverloch Community Hub: Thursday May 29, 3pm – 5pm
- Wonthaggi Plaza: Monday June 2, 4pm – 6pm

- Corinella & District Community Centre: Thursday June 5, 10am – 12pm

Stage one of community consultation is open until June 9.

Council said community input will help shape the Draft DAMP, which will be released later this year for further community feedback.

It is a requirement under the Domestic Animal Management Act 1994 to develop and implement a DAMP every four years.

To learn more go to: engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/DAMP

A smaller development for Marine Parade

PLANNING

A rare single-storey redevelopment is planned for Marine Parade in San Remo.

A planning permit for 115 Marine Parade, San Remo, on the corner of Edgar Road, is currently out for public comment, and includes additions and alterations to the existing buildings, a reduction in the car parking requirement, and removal of native vegetation.

The proposal is in contrast to other recent developments along San Remo's main street that include 125 Marine Parade, a \$4.2 million building with two retail shops on the ground floor and 14 apartments on the upper levels; and at 131-133 Marine Parade a \$6 million four storey, 22-apartment complex with four retail shops is also planned.

Despite the relatively modest plan, the development still requires a significant parking waiver of 31 car spaces.

The proposed development plans to "reactivate" two current buildings, one of which has remained vacant for a number of years.



The current building on the corner of Edgar Road.

"Both buildings have reached the end of their serviceable lifespan in their current form," the planning permit states.

The proposed additions include three shop tenancies on the 440sqm site, with minimal changes to the external facades.

"The proposed development essentially revitalises an under-utilised premises with an improved street presentation and internal spaces."

A traffic engineering assessment states the proposed development has a statutory car parking requirement of 32 car spaces, including 28 spaces for the restaurant and three spaces

for the retail tenancy.

One car space will be provided, leading to an overall shortfall of 31 spaces.

The assessment states the level of traffic generated by the proposal can be accommodated by the local road network.

"The site is small. As such, it is not possible to provide on-site car parking to the statutory rates while also maximising commercial use of this property," the permit states, concluding car parking demand can be accommodated by public car parking areas.

A vegetation report says a drooping sheoak will need to be removed for the proposal.



Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club received a Landcare grant to support ongoing revegetation of the dunes surrounding the clubhouse.

Dunes restoration gets a boost

ENVIRONMENT

Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club (WBSLSC) and Phillip Island Nature Parks successfully secured a Landcare Grant to help restore the dunes around the clubhouse at Cape Woolamai.

Vice President Fi Blackmore said the club was grateful for the grant funding supplied by Landcare and BUPA.

She said the money would support "ongoing work in revegetation of the vital dunes which enhance the coastal environment surrounding the clubhouse".

"This grant, which is for just under \$5000, will support the planting of 200 indigenous shrubs and groundcovers and will be completed by November 30, 2025.

"Woolamai Beach SLSC is grateful to Landcare, BUPA and Phillip Island Nature Parks for their support of continued planting and support works in the dunes next to our clubhouse," Fi said.

"As well as stabilising the dunes, it generates fauna habitat and aids the ecology of this sensitive coastal area. The works also include removal of marram grass and sea spurge, to enable normal dune movement.

"The club is fortunate to operate within this beautiful area and through our volunteers' planting activities is contributing to its conservation."

Over the weekend, volunteers were working around the clubhouse area, planting in the dunes, to support revegetation.

This will be an ongoing activity over the next three years, Fi said.

Last weekend's works were from a grant from Coastcare Victoria's Summer by the Sea program, originally planned for January but deferred given unfavourable growing conditions.

In all, this additional round of Landcare Grants Program funded 41 projects, and supported planting of an extra 24,000 trees, shrubs and ground cover, increasing the program's impact by almost 30 per cent.

Stephen is stepping out ... again

FUNDRAISER

Phillip Island's Stephen Fullarton is off and walking again, raising money for the Stroke Foundation.

Last year, Stephen took on the challenge to walk 76km in May, but this year, his goal is 131km.

He said the target set by the Stroke Foundation has risen, reflecting the increase in people having strokes.

"Every day 131 people in Australia have a stroke," he said.

Last year, Stephen tackled all the island's different scenic walks, surpassing the 76km goal, and walking 115.5km.

Along the way he raised \$1618 for the Stroke Foundation.

This year he hopes to exceed the 131km goal, aiming to reach 150km. He also hopes to beat last year's fundraising total.

He's started the month strongly, walking 6km most days, doing a lap around Cowes.

"Last year, I did all the Nature Park walks and I'll be doing that again, on the weekends," said Stephen.

Friends are already volunteering to accompany Stephen on some of the scenic walks and are pledging donations through a link on his Facebook page.

"I even had one guy walk into my office and say, 'I'm not on Facebook', and then handed me \$100."

Stephen, who suffered a haemorrhagic stroke while on his stand-up paddle board at Crazy Birds in 2021, is an outspoken advocate for the work of the Stroke Foundation.

The foundation promotes stroke awareness, including the signs of a stroke and how quickly you need to respond.

He's also been working with the Stroke Association, taking part in their regular support meetings for stroke survivors and their carers at PICAL.

You can support Stephen's fundraiser by making a donation via his Facebook page: www.facebook.com/stephen.fullarton

Read more about the work of the Stroke Foundation at: strokefoundation.org.au

Code 1 response lifted in Bass Coast

AMBULANCE

According to the latest response time data from Ambulance Victoria (AV), between January and March 2025, our local paramedics received the highest number of Code 1 calls in the past 12 months (793) and improved their response rate from the previous quarter.

Close to 55 per cent of Code 1 calls were responded to in less than 15 minutes.

Compared to other urban centres, Wonthaggi performed well, with an average response time of 13:07 minutes, and 79.9 per cent under the 15-minute target. Ambulance Victoria said this was the second biggest improvement in the state.

Bass Coast Code 2 cases were also up during the quarter, with an average response time of 44:31 minutes.

This was an improvement on the previous quarter's 46:15-minute average response, with paramedics attending 30 more cases during the quarter.

Wonthaggi also improved its Code 2 wait times, down to 45:49 from 51:10 in the previous quarter.

The figures show a significant improvement from the previous quarter (October 1 and December 31, 2024), which showed wait times hit their highest quarterly average in over a decade.

AV Executive Director Regional Operations Danielle North said overall, demand had dropped compared with the last three months of 2024, but said there was a 31.8 per cent increase in Code 1 cases since



Between January and March 2025, local paramedics received the highest number of Code 1 calls in the past 12 months (793) and improved their response rate from the previous quarter.

the COVID-19 pandemic began more than five years ago.

In the Gippsland Region crews responded to 6039 Code 1 cases between January and March 2025, down from 6130 in the previous quarter. The biggest improvements were in Wonthaggi and Drouin.

Triage

Gippsland Regional Director Ross Salathiel said, since last November, there have been 119 new paramedics statewide, including graduate paramedics and qualified paramedics from

New South Wales, Queensland, the Northern Territory and New Zealand.

Mr Salathiel said AV's secondary triage team of paramedics and nurses made a real difference, "connecting patients with the care they need while helping free up crews for patients in time-critical emergencies".

"From January to March, 43,858 people who did not need an emergency ambulance were instead connected to more appropriate care by paramedics and nurses in Secondary Triage.

"In 2023-24, paramedics re-

ferred nearly 43,000 patients to the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department (VVED), with over three quarters cared for without transport to a physical ED."

Mr Salathiel encouraged Victorians to do their part to ensure AV's highly skilled paramedics were available for patients most in need.

"There are many options people can access when they need timely medical care and health advice but don't need an emergency ambulance, including the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department and Urgent Care Centres," Mr Salathiel said.

"We know demand on our hard-working paramedics and first responders will rise as we head towards winter.

"That's why we also urge Victorians to book in their annual flu vaccination, keep regular check-ups with your GP or specialist and stay home if unwell – we can all help to protect ourselves and people most at risk in the community."

From January to March 2025, AV crews across Victoria responded to 65.6 per cent of Code 1 cases within the state-wide target of 15 minutes, up from 64.9 per cent in the previous quarter.

The state-wide average response time to Code 1 emergencies was 15 minutes and 25 seconds, an improvement from 15 minutes and 42 seconds three months ago.

Compared with the previous quarter, performance improved in 45 Local Government Areas (LGAs).



Newhaven College Year 1 student Jude Brown takes aim during the Planes for PICAL fundraising event. More photos at pisra.com.au/education

Flying high for PICAL

EDUCATION

On a sunny Friday, a Newhaven College Junior School paper plane competition, initiated by Year 4 student Jude Thompson, raised \$122 for the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL).

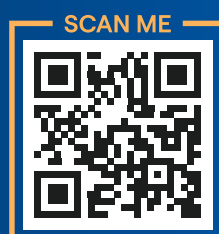
With help from Odin Jamieson in Year 2, Jude planned, advertised and judged the competition, and students soared into action to raise funds for PICAL.

The two winners for the longest throw were Joey Leary and Ari Loizou and, amongst some very strong entries, Maverick Steel took out the prize for most creative plane.

The college congratulated Jude and Odin, saying the competition showcased creativity, fun and community spirit.

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A quick bite before class. Arlo and Malia with staff member and mum Jen at the Cowes Primary School Mother's Day breakfast.

A special Mother's Day morning

EDUCATION

Last week, Cowes Primary celebrated Mother's Day with an egg and bacon breakfast.

"It was a lovely way to say a special thank you to our mothers, grandmothers and special others," said a school spokesperson.



Mum Katherine gets a hug from Evanthe at Cowes Primary's Mother's Day breakfast.



It was a double treat for Dylan with nana Janette and mum Anita at the Cowes Primary School Mother's Day breakfast. More photos at pisra.com.au/education



Josee with mum Joelle, enjoying the Cowes Primary School Mother's Day breakfast.



Newhaven College mum and PFA member, Jo Vohland, talks through gift options with Year 1 student Shiyu Tong. More photos at pisra.com.au/education

College celebrates Mother's Day

EDUCATION

Newhaven College celebrated Mother's Day through many different events last week.

Celebrations started with the hugely popular Mother's Day stall run by the Parents and Friends Association (PFA), where students purchased lovely gifts for their mums, grandmothers and other special people in their lives. The PFA's Mother's Day Raffle created a buzz as well, the prize being a hamper full of goodies, won by Year 4 student Jennifer O'Connell.

On Friday morning, Junior School students welcomed their mums and special people with

a hot coffee and muffin for the College's annual Mums and Muffins visit. Students welcomed their loved ones into their classroom to create some lovely artworks.

After the success of the Newhaven College Mother's Day lunch last year, over 80 mums, grandmas and friends converged on Phillip Island Winery to enjoy a delicious lunch. The atmosphere was one of happy congeniality, celebration and love for the special women in our lives.

The College thanks Phillip Island Winery, the PFA and everyone involved in making this such a special Mother's Day celebration.



Attendees at the Newhaven College Mother's Day Lunch enjoyed a lovely meal at Phillip Island Winery. Photo: Katrina Lawrence.

Award winning author inspires at literary lunch

LITERATURE

Celebrated Australian author Lia Hills captivated an appreciative audience earlier this month at a Literary Luncheon hosted by Turn the Page bookshop, held at the Phillip Island Winery.

Lia, whose literary career was launched with the critically acclaimed *The Beginner's Guide to Living*, spoke to an appreciative audience about her extensive body of work and the stories that have shaped her writing since.

Her debut novel was short-listed for the Victorian, Queensland, and Western Australian Premier's Literary Awards, as well as the New Zealand Post Book Awards. Her second novel, *The Crying Place*, was longlisted for the prestigious Miles Franklin Literary Award and recognised as the Australian Independent Booksellers' Book of the Month.

Other noted achievements include an award-winning poetry collection, *The Possibility of Flight*, and her translation

of Marie Darrieussecq's acclaimed novel, *Tom is Dead*.

Lia lives and works on Wurundjeri Country in Victoria and her most recent novel, *The Desert Knows Her Name*, was the topic of her address at last week's luncheon.

Set in a fictional Wimmera town, the book explores the deeply human connections people of diverse backgrounds have with the history and spirit of the land they inhabit ... its author leaving an enthralled audience with much to consider.



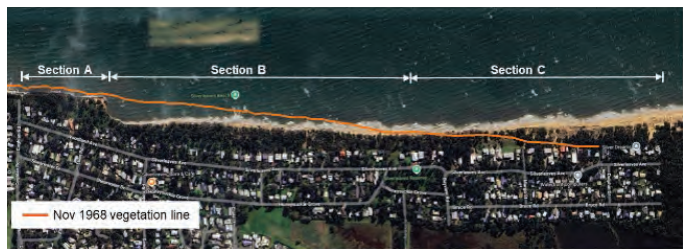
Award winning author Lia Hills (left) at last week's Literary Lunch at the Phillip Island Winery, with hosts Kylie Lindorff and Brendan McDonald of Turn the Page.



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The yellow line shows the vegetation line as it was in 1968.

New erosion report steers away from big projects

From page 1

away from the risk – and finally the last resort option is engineering works such as groynes, rock walls and bulldozing sand.

Based on this, the draft recommends other actions for Silverleaves, including updating planning controls to reflect potential hazards over the life of a building.

DEECA this month confirmed a planned sandbag wall will now not go ahead following the construction of the rock bag wall.

Consultation

Consultant FSC Range worked with DEECA to write the draft report, the same consultants who wrote last year's report Observation Point to Silverleaves: Gippsland West Coastal Processes Studies.

That report showed about 16 metres of the foreshore at Silverleaves erosion hotspot had been lost to erosion, blaming a combination of causes including the new nearby 2022 Cowes east rock wall, as well as the

associated "relatively inefficient" groynes that "reduce the amount of sand available further downstream", in addition to sand bulldozing that was required.

The report also states the nearby 1970s rock wall exacerbated erosion.

This draft has incorporated input from the Silverleaves Community Reference Group and is based on community consultation last year.

The consultation found erosion was the community's primary concern, but with "mixed preference" for engineered solutions such as rock walls and groynes.

"A recurring theme was frustration over the perceived lack of urgency and action from local councils and government agencies," the draft states.

"The community believes more planning and proactive measures are required to address long-term coastal hazards effectively."

Details: engage.vic.gov.au/silverleaves-coastal-adaptation-pathways

Silverleaves' residents call for more erosion works

EROSION

Residents say groynes should now be constructed to stop erosion along the length of Silverleaves, criticising the recent rock bag wall as insufficient.

The call comes in response to the release of the draft East Cowes and Silverleaves Adaptation Plan by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), which is out for community consultation until May 30 (see separate story).

The report does not recommend groynes "in isolation" at the erosion hotspot around Sanders Road, "because it may not effectively mitigate erosion or inundation hazards without continued beach nourishment (bulldozing sand)", which followed a report last year that said Cowes east groynes were "relatively inefficient".

Instead, it recommends a variety of "nature-based" solutions including "low-profile rock sills, shellfish reef or rock berms" to absorb wave energy, as well as dune reconstruction.

Resident Natalie Gray said they were previously advised by DEECA a reef was not feasible at Silverleaves because of tides.

"As a result, I am not confident a reef will work, nor will it be safe for water users. Dune reconstruction does not provide long term security, as shown historically," Natalie said.

"Groynes have been proven to work well to the west. I still believe that groynes are the best answer ... They should be extended to the extent of development."

She said the new rock bags, installed in April, would last five to 10 years, and given the report states the area would be reviewed in 2040 there would be "a significant hiatus".

"The bags look very much like emergency works and have no natural character.

"This temporary and third world result does not reflect well on Phillip Island and Victoria as a major tourism location and environmentally sensitive community.

"Judging by the efforts that have been taken to achieve the rock bags, I have no confidence in the will of Bass Coast Shire or the state to plan for Silverleaves in an orderly way, creating unreasonable stress.

"The uncertainty is not reasonable in a civilised society and can be very divisive."

Natalie said it was disappointing there had been no opportunity for the community to ask the consultant questions about technical issues.

Resident Steve Lapin said he was disappointed members of the community reference group (CRG) – of which he is a member – had not been listened to.

"Many of the CRG members have advocated the tried, tested and successful implementation of groynes which have proven to build up the beach," Steven said.

"This is clearly demonstrated by the success of the groynes between Erewhon Point and Rose Avenue. Groynes should have equal success."

Steve said a detailed plan was needed of the reef option, to give confidence in the process.

He disagreed with the report's conclusion that erosion was not occurring at the easterly end of Silverleaves, adding groynes should also be reinstalled in this area.

"This section should be protected now rather than wait for further deterioration. Again the early reinstallation of the groynes would be the best time-tested approach."

"Made in China"

Cowes East Foreshore Preventative Action Group (CEFPAG) chair Ken Hailey said he was "bewildered" by the draft report be-

cause nearly every recommendation was "nature based".

"This plan gives no comfort to residents that their homes and other assets will be protected.

"We feel vulnerable and have an uncertain future," Ken said.

"Property values have tumbled, insurance premiums have risen, extensions and improvements to homes are difficult to achieve."

He said the proposal to vegetate and add a dune to the western half of Silverleaves would have "questionable success".

"The rock reef that will be hidden at high tide will also be a danger to boats, canoes, and swimmers that flock to this area in summer."

He said repairs to the 1970s revetment could be avoided by replacing some groynes that were allowed to completely degrade.

"As recently as two years ago DEECA was supervising the Cowes East rock revetment and groyne installation between Rose Avenue and Coghlan Road.

"Why are groynes not part of these recommendations?"

Resident Catherine Sonsini said the new rock bags were a "complete eyesore" and "not even a medium-term solution" as she found a tear in a bag at Easter, with rocks spilling out.

"The bags made in China will not last, as is already evident and the material is completely open to vandalism and further destruction.

"There has been no community consultation on what the next steps are, how much of the funding has been allocated, and to what the permanent solution in likely to be.

"Groynes are the only answer that will work but the time to act is now."

In 2021 the construction of eight timber groynes in Cowes east – measuring 30 metres long and spaced about 60 metres apart – cost \$ 730,000.

Alice celebrates her century

COMMUNITY

Alice Mackiewicz celebrated her 100th birthday this month with a party at Melaleuca Aged Care, where she is the oldest resident.

Alice, a resident of Cowes for half a century, received letters from the King, the Prime Minister and Governor General of Australia, as well as the Victorian Premier and flowers from MP Jordan Crugnale.

The Phillip Island Ukulele Group sang happy birthday while everyone enjoyed black forest cake.

Her grandson Ricky Glaser – a professional skateboarder from Los Angeles – flew back to Australia for the celebration.

Other attendees included her children: son George and his wife Sandra, Lech and wife Ester

and daughter Grazyna from Cape Woolamai; as well as grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Alice studied to be an accountant, one of the few women to do so in those times, and migrated to Australia in 1960 from Poland.

After separating from her husband she worked in factories and as a cleaner to raise her three children in Melbourne on her own.

The family spent every summer holidays in the 1960s at Phillip Island, first in a big canvas tent on the block of land they bought in Cowes, then in a room at a caravan park.

Alice worked the "roll-down clown" stall at the Cowes Cummins foreshore carnival for just \$1 an hour to fund their holidays, with her children working in the ticket box selling and

collecting tickets on the merry-go-round.

Alice settled permanently on Phillip Island in the 1970s along with her sister Jadwiga and elderly parents Rozalia and Adolf.

She lived in Settlement Road on the outskirts of Cowes just beyond the primary school, surrounded by vacant blocks and tall gums with only the CFA station beyond.

Alice never drove a car and walked everywhere, growing all her own organic vegetables.

She still walks two hours every day around the garden and down the Cowes main street with her daughter Grazyna, and enjoys playing wordfind, extreme sudoku and rummy.

"Walking, lots of walking, a healthy diet with no junk food, no smoking or drinking – except an occasional dash of Irish cream in my coffee – and be positive," Alice said of the secret to living a century.

"I am lucky and grateful every day to be here, well cared for, with no pain and in this lovely garden."



Alice Mackiewicz says the secret to living to 100 is "walking, lots of walking, a healthy diet with no junk food, no smoking or drinking".



The Phillip Island Auto Racing Club (PIARC) promoted Round 3 of the Motorsport Australia Victorian State Race Series 2025, is on this weekend at Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit. Photo: Alia Schonberg.

State Race series at the circuit

RACING

The Phillip Island Auto Racing Club (PIARC) promoted Round 3 of the Motorsport Australia Victorian State Race Series 2025 is providing 'access to motorsport' this weekend at Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit.

The event includes nine categories and over 150 cars to date, competing in the 27 Races scheduled at Australia's most picturesque circuit.

The largest field is the Excels with a fantastic 34 cars, closely followed by Saloons with 23 (as of Monday).

Formula Ford and Formula Ford 1600 have 30 entries, Formula Vees 15 and the Improved Production E30 Racing BMWs 17.

Action aplenty is as-

sured from 9am to 5pm daily on this fantastic circuit, with family friendly admission prices (bookings via Ticketebo).

It is excellent value with adults weekend passes a mere \$40, Sunday only \$35, Saturday \$30 and kids under 16 admitted free all weekend.

This meeting is the second of the race meetings being promoted by PIARC for 2025, and one of four this year with Club involvement, all with the added importance of helping the island's great history as a racing Mecca.

PIARC spokesperson Geoff Bull says the club is hoping for more entries before closure for this event of this series which has such a rich and successful history.

"Make sure you come along and see it live as

there will not be any streaming for this Round 3 of the 2025 Motorsport Australia Victorian State Circuit Racing Championships," Geoff said.

The championship is being conducted at Phillip Island and Sandown throughout the year, with a Winton event earlier in the year at Benalla.

"Make a note in your diary for this weekend, great budget priced admission and action from 9am to 5pm daily at Phillip Island," Geoff said.

Advance admission online via Ticketebo, by eftpos, or cash.

www.ticketebo.com.au/victorian-state-race-series/vsrs-round-3-phillip-island-grand-prix-circuit

More information www.piarc.com.au and www.vicstateraceseries.com



More than 60 participants took part in the inaugural Mother's Day Classic over the weekend.

Inaugural Mother's Day Classic

FUNDRAISER

The Phillip Island Pink Ladies hosted the inaugural Mother's Day Classic on Sunday May 11 with more than 60 participants walking and running from Berry's Beach to Pyramid Rock and back, raising funds for breast and ovarian cancer.

The picture-perfect morning was rounded off with a sausage sizzle and raffle prizes donated by Phillip Island Hotel, Endota Spa, Turn the Page Bookshop and Ella Sun Boutique.

With over \$3000 raised by the Phillip Island Pink Ladies already, they are expecting the final total to be announced by the end of the week.



Event organisers Kaz Anderson, Donna Boucher, Chris Walton and Annie Hawley. More photos at pisra.com.au

Event host, Donna Boucher said "we were thrilled with the turn up and from here on out, it can only get bigger and better."

Additionally, the event was supported by Jim

Harris, Annie Hawley, Kaz Anderson and Chris Walton.

Running winners: 1st Erin Close, 2nd Rino Presutto and 3rd Michelle McMahon.

CONSUMER
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Sue Grant, Annie Hawley, Sue Wagg and Jo Scholes attended the Candlelight Vigil last week, which moved to Berninneit due to bad weather.



Friends Sari, Fiona, Deb and Gilly at last week's Candlelight Vigil. More photos at pisra.com.au

Candles in the wind

COMMUNITY

Strong wind and rain forced a change of venue, but it did not dampen the community spirit at last week's Candlelight Vigil, hosted by Change for Sam.

Moving from the Jetty Triangle to Berninneit, the centre threw open its doors and bathed the building and surrounding trees in purple, with over a hundred people gathering to mark the event.

The vigil was part of a national campaign to honour and remember those who lost their lives due to family violence.

Change for Sam, the charity established in the wake of Samantha Fraser's death in 2018, organised the event, which saw people from across Bass Coast and beyond, come together to honour Sam's memory, and support the good work being done in her name.

Change for Sam works to support victim-survivors of family violence – especially those who don't meet the strict criteria set by traditional support systems.

"We provide free, 24/7 security-monitored personal safety devices through our partner agencies, giving them the flexibility to support people who would otherwise miss out," said Change for Sam's Lija Matthews, the event organiser.

"These devices offer peace of mind and real-time emergency response at the press of a button – a critical tool during the high-

risk period of leaving a dangerous relationship."

"Not alone"

The formal part of the evening kicked off with a short speech from Island Ward councillor Ronnie Bauer.

"Tonight we are gathered here to remember the violent act perpetrated on one of our community, Samantha Fraser," Cr Bauer said.

"We are from many backgrounds, different faiths and creeds. We have found Sam's murder so upsetting that we hold a candlelight vigil every year in the hope that behaviours will change."

Cr Bauer also acknowledged the violence perpetrated against First Nations people, and the traditional owners of the land.

Welcoming everyone to the event, Lija said the vigil meant a lot "not just to me but to so many of you here".

"I know some of you have lived through family violence yourself, or supported someone who has. Please know you're not alone here."

Lija described her friend Sam as "kind, clever, brave – and she deserved so much better".

She said the Change for Sam personal safety devices are one small way to help those facing family violence "who don't meet traditional selection criteria, but are still at high risk".

Change for Sam has now funded 142 devices which have been distributed across Victo-

ria, thanks to the support of donors, and successfully securing grants.

"That's over \$184,000 in life-saving support going straight into our communities," Lija said.

"I'm incredibly proud of that, and I'm incredibly grateful to every single person who's helped make that possible."

She thanked Bass Coast Shire Council, Westernport Water, Phillip Island Nature Parks and the Advertiser for helping to organise the vigil.

Lija also thanked Phillip Island and San Remo Rotary for providing the free BBQ, Brooke at Island Cookie Box who jumped in and supplied dessert at the last minute, and musician Travis Thompson whose playing provided a soundtrack for the evening.

Supporters at the vigil included members of Samantha Fraser's family, local police, councillors and representatives from Cowes Primary School, Westernport Water, Bass Coast Shire Council, Rotary, Free 3D Hands and the Gippsland Centre Against Sexual Assault.

A group of 20 or so bike riders, from Frankston, Cranbourne and Dromana, rode into Cowes especially to attend. The ride organiser, Shivers, said several clubs as well as individual riders made up the group.

Close to \$1000 was raised in donations on the night, with the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo also presenting Change for Sam with a cheque for \$2000.



Berninneit in Cowes was bathed in purple light as part of the Candlelight Vigil organised on May 7 by Change for Sam.



Representing Cowes Primary School, Principal Rodney McKenzie with Carly O'Brien, Bree Rutherford and Sarah Tyrrell.



Rotary President Gea Lovell, with Samantha Fraser's father Trevor at the Candlelight Vigil organised by Change for Sam.



This group of bikers travelled from Frankston, Cranbourne and Dromana to support Change for Sam, here with organiser Lija Matthews (back, second from right).



Manning the BBQ for Rotary, Cr Ronnie Bauer, Graeme Turner and Syd Hadley.

EDUCATION WEEK 2025 – CELEBRATION OF CULTURES

Advertising Feature



Cowes Primary – nurturing and inclusive

At Cowes Primary School, we believe that every child deserves an excellent education and we strive to provide a safe, nurturing and academically rigorous learning environment that helps students to achieve their full potential.

We believe in evidence-based teaching methods grounded in the Science of Learning, ensuring that our students receive the highest quality education. Our structured approach to literacy, focusing on phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension has strengthened academic outcomes for our students.

The school employs a speech pathologist and learning tutors to assist in providing our students with the best possible education.

Celebrating cultures

At Cowes Primary School, we believe every student should feel proud of who they are and where they come from. That's why we're excited to embrace the 2025 Education Week theme – Celebrating Cultures – by recognising the rich cultural diversity within our school and local community.

Throughout Education Week, students will take part in experiences designed to deepen their understanding of other cultures and celebrate their own. As part of this, we are inviting families and community members to share stories, traditions, food and music that reflect their unique backgrounds.

In an exciting extension of this year's theme, we're proud to share that Cowes Primary School has been selected to take part in the 2025 ASEAN Bridge Program, facilitated by Asia Education Foundation at Asialink. From hundreds of applicants across the country, just 19 Australian schools were chosen – and we are one of them.

As part of the program, we have been paired with Suankularb Wittayalai Nonthaburi School in Thailand, located north of Bangkok. Over the next 18 months, students and staff will collaborate across countries, working on joint projects that promote global understanding, digital communication and shared learning. We will also welcome our partner school to Cowes, and in 2026, teacher Alice Hurst will represent our school during a visit to Thailand.

This exciting opportunity shows how Cowes Primary School is not only committed to local learning – but also to preparing students for a global future.

Supporting the whole child: Wellbeing at Cowes PS

It's not just academic achievement that sets Cowes Primary School apart. Our dedicated and caring staff are the heart of our school, working tirelessly to provide care and support to all students. We believe the wellbeing of our students is just as important as their academic success and



As part of the Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHIPS) initiative, Cowes Primary School employs a full-time Wellbeing Teacher, David Kelsey, seen here with student leaders.

our team is committed to creating a nurturing and inclusive environment where everyone feels safe, supported and respected.

We are proud to be part of the Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHIPS) initiative. As part of this program, Cowes Primary School employs a full-time Wellbeing Teacher, who provides targeted wellbeing support across all year levels. In addition,

our Disability Inclusion Coordinators support inclusive practices across the school and offer individual and group-based skills training to develop social skills, confidence, communication and peer connection.

Open Morning

Making the important decision about where to send your child to school should be a considered

one. Whether your child is starting school in 2026 or beyond, or you're exploring new options for their education, we invite you to join us at our upcoming open morning.

Come and see our school in action, meet our staff, tour the facilities and learn about the programs that make our school great.

Opening Morning – June 19 at 9.30am.

Are you contemplating where to send your child to school in the next few years?

We invite all prospective families to join us for a...

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- Hear about our specialised staff and programs
- View our well-equipped learning spaces

FOR ENQUIRIES: **PRINCIPAL:** Rodney McKenzie **PHONE:** 5952 2132
EMAIL: cowes.ps@education.vic.gov.au
WEB: www.cowesps.vic.edu.au



EDUCATION WEEK 2025 – CELEBRATION OF CULTURES

Advertising Feature



Located in Wonthaggi, CUC Bass Coast offers a free study and learning space for individuals pursuing degrees, diplomas or Certificate IV qualifications through any Australian university or higher education institution.

CUC’s bumper enrolment

The Country Universities Centre (CUC) Bass Coast has celebrated a significant milestone with its highest ever enrolment in Semester 1 2025, of 190 Students.

Located in Wonthaggi and supported by the Commonwealth Government’s Regional University Study Hub program, CUC Bass Coast offers a free study and learning space for individuals pursuing degrees, diplomas or Certificate IV qualifications through any Australian university or higher education institution.

The government recently announced another ten centres across Australia, making higher education more accessible for regional students. Research shows people living in regional and rural parts of Australia are 50 per cent less likely to engage in higher education.

The Regional Partnerships Program Pool (RPPP) funding bridges this gap by enabling CUC to widen its reach in the community. As part of this, CUC run participation programs for current secondary school students in the region, to build aspiration while they’re still in school.

CUC Bass Coast Centre Manager, Sarah Bourke, emphasised the importance of these efforts.

“We’ve had double the number of students under the age of 25 register so far this year, which demonstrates the response from our widening participation programs in schools.

“Not only have we had the highest ever registrations since the Centre opened in March 2021, but we’ve also seen the difference it makes having a connected and supportive environment, where students feel comfortable to approach us for localised support in their studies,” said Sarah.

“We’ve seen a vast increase in the number of requests in Learning Skills Advisor sessions, and higher than ever usage of the facilities, up 50 per cent from



Students have access to the centre seven days a week, providing high speed technology, academic mentoring and a network of like-minded students to create a community learning environment.

this time last year.”

Learning Skills Advisor (LSA) sessions provide academic support to assist students in building essential study skills such as academic writing, time management, critical thinking, referencing, exam preparation, and research strategies.

These sessions are delivered by the CUC team and align with the student’s coursework or assessment schedule to help students develop and strengthen the core skills needed for successful independent learning at university.

CUC is a dedicated local learning hub that collaborates with schools, tertiary partners, and other educational organisations to expand opportunities for students throughout the region.

Students have access to the centre seven days a week, providing high speed technology, academic mentoring and a network of like-minded students to create a community learning environment.

For more information, please give the team a call on 0472 741 451 or visit www.cucbasscoast.edu.au



Students exploring during Bush School at Scenic Estate Conservation Reserve.

Nurturing curious, capable humans in a changing world

As Education Week highlights innovative approaches to learning across Victoria, Phillip Island Village School (PIVS) is celebrating its deeply child-centred model – one that sees students not just as future members of society, but as people already living their lives with agency, curiosity and insight.

Set on the peaceful edges of Phillip Island, PIVS offers a small-scale, relationship-rich learning environment where children are trusted to follow their interests, explore their identity and learn in ways that feel purposeful and real.

“Our philosophy is grounded in the belief that children are capable, curious and deeply thoughtful,” says Principal Kate Eastcott.

“We offer them trust, time and meaningful choices. In return, they show us just how much they can achieve when their learning is relevant and their voices are heard.”

At PIVS, teaching and learning unfold through structures designed to support both autonomy and community:

- Inquiry- and project-based learning gives students the chance to pursue self-directed projects based on their interests.



A literacy group learning outdoors at the Phillip Island Village School.

- Out ‘n’ Abouts take students into the local community and natural environment, encouraging learning that is rooted in real life.
- Bush School provides time for unstructured play and exploration in the island’s bushland, nurturing confidence and connection to Country.
- Presos and Focus Sessions offer targeted instruction in literacy, numeracy and specialist areas like science and design.

With mixed-age groupings, co-created rules and decision-making structures that include children, the school intentionally cultivates autonomy, community connection and emotional intelligence.

“Children are natural-

ly curious and driven to learn,” Kate adds.

“When we create the right environment – where they feel safe, seen and have space to express who they are – they show us what they’re truly capable of.”

The school’s approach draws from current research and is inspired by both progressive and democratic education models but shaped by the local community’s values and the rhythms of island life. Learning is meaningful, relational, and woven into the world around it – from chickens in the garden to discussions about sustainability, equity and culture.

For more information or to arrange a visit, go to www.pivillageschool.org.au or follow @pivillageschool on Instagram.

COUNTRY UNIVERSITIES CENTRE BASS COAST

Studying in 2025?

- At CUC Bass Coast we offer a **FREE** safe, secure study facility located in Wonthaggi for students studying at **ANY** university or higher education institution.
- When you are a registered student at CUC Bass Coast you have access to:
 - ✓ A quiet place to study
 - ✓ Academic, wellbeing & administrative services
 - ✓ High-speed internet
 - ✓ Printing and copying services
 - ✓ Dual screen computers & video conferencing
 - ✓ Exams invigilation services
 - ✓ Networking with other local students
 - ✓ Student access 5am – midnight 7 days a week

Country Universities Centre BASS COAST

21-23 Baillieu Street, Wonthaggi (directly opposite Town Hall)
www.cucbasscoast.edu.au | degrees@cucbasscoast.edu.au | 0472 741 451

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST HERE

Phillip Island Village School

RESPECTFUL, EMPOWERING EDUCATION

AN ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLING PATHWAY THAT FOSTERS STUDENT AGENCY AND SUPPORTS CHILDREN TO DEVELOP THEIR SPARKS

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admin@pivs.org.au

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EDUCATION WEEK 2025 – CELEBRATION OF CULTURES

Advertising Feature



The ancestry suitcases were both educational and personal, another example of the school's commitment to providing opportunities for students to connect, learn and grow.



In the classroom, students impress with their creativity and curiosity, with Grade 6 presenting their ancestry suitcases, filled with artifacts from their family histories.

A thriving hub of learning and community spirit

San Remo Primary School continues to shine as a vibrant and welcoming school community, proudly upholding a strong academic focus while nurturing the wellbeing of every student.

With a proactive approach to student welfare and a commitment to excellence in education, the school has become known not only for its outstanding results but also for its warm and supportive at-

mosphere.

This term has been a particularly busy and exciting one, filled with events and opportunities for students to connect, learn and grow.

"One of the highlights last year was a whole school Bush Dance with it being so successful parents asked for this to happen again," said Principal Karen Bowker.

"So, our Music teacher, Ian Chambers is deliver-

ing with a much-anticipated whole-school Bush Dance later this term.

"The event brought together students, staff, and families for an evening of music, dancing, and celebration – a true testament to the spirit of community that defines San Remo Primary."

In the classroom, students have continued to impress with their creativity and curiosity.

"The Grade 6 cohort

recently presented their ancestry suitcases, an engaging project filled with artifacts from their family histories," said Karen.

"These carefully curated displays were both educational and deeply personal, drawing praise from all who viewed the exhibition for their thoughtful presentation and cultural richness."

Meanwhile, younger students in Prep, Grade 1, and Grade 2 are eagerly

preparing for an educational farm visit as part of their inquiry into farm animals. This hands-on experience will support their learning with real-world context and provide plenty of opportunities for exploration and discovery.

Behind all of this activity is a team of dedicated teachers who go above and beyond every day to support their students.

With their guidance,

and the ongoing support of families and the wider community, San Remo Primary School continues to provide an environment where every child feels valued, supported, and inspired to achieve their best.

As each year progresses, San Remo Primary looks forward to more exciting initiatives and the continued success of its students both in and out of the classroom.

PIELC: Celebrating education and culture

At the heart of the Phillip Island community is our Early Learning Centre, offering both sessional kindergarten and long day care for local families. We take immense pride in providing high-quality early education that nurtures each child's development in a culturally inclusive environment.

One of our recent achievements was the launch of our Reconciliation Action Plan, celebrated through a meaningful Smoking Ceremony. Families, children, staff and community members gathered together on this special day to connect, reflect and learn.

The children were captivated by the stories shared and they fully participated in the event that sparked a series of meaningful conversations about land, language and First Nations cultures that have continued to flow into our daily programs.

We're also excited to have set up a connection with a 'Sister Centre' – the Gap Community ECE in Alice Springs. This partnership allows us to exchange educational resources and teaching



One of the recent PIELC achievements was the launch of its Reconciliation Action Plan, celebrated with a Smoking Ceremony, part of its commitment to shaping a more connected inclusive future.

experiences, deepening our understanding of cultural perspectives across Australia and strengthening the way we approach teaching and learning.

Our Centre proudly welcomes families from all over the world, and we cherish the rich tapestry of languages, traditions and stories that they bring. These cultural connections help shape an environment where every

child feels seen, valued and empowered to learn.

Education is about community, culture, and curiosity. When children grow up celebrating diversity and learning from one another, they grow into adults who embrace the world with open minds and kind hearts. At our Centre, we're not just shaping young learners – we're shaping a more connected, inclusive future.

**SAN REMO
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

San Remo Primary delivers quality educational programs that engage and support our children to achieve their best. Students learn and grow academically and socially in a safe and caring environment.

San Remo Primary offers:

- Experienced teachers who deliver comprehensive and engaging curriculum prep to year 6
- A stimulating and supportive learning environment for all students
- Specialist subjects of Art, Japanese, Music, Physical Education and Library
- Dedicated and caring teachers
- Nurturing OSHC, Before School Care, After School Care, Curriculum Day and Holiday program

**Join us for our Open Days
on Tuesday 13th May 9.30am – 10.30am
or Wednesday 21st May 6pm – 7pm.**

**RSVP 5678 5354 or san.rem.ps@education.vic.gov.au
www.san-remo-ps.vic.gov.au**



Former student and Olympian Eleanor Patterson with students at Mary MacKillop College.



College programs focus on development of the whole person, providing the opportunity for students to grow in faith, learning and self-esteem.

Opportunities for success

Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College offers coeducational classes from Year 7 to Year 12 and has provided education to the South Gippsland and Bass Coast communities for more than 39 years.

The college offers students many pathways to success and opportunities for personal growth.

Rather than creating exclusive classes, students are invited to represent the college in

a wide range of fields suited to their talents and interests. These include sporting competitions, music, participation in extension programs, entering academic contests, debating, applying for leadership opportunities and numerous other activities that expand pupils' learning horizons.

As students move through the various year levels, they choose programs which best suit their needs and ambitions. The college offers a range of subjects

based on student aspirations with the pathways through the senior years including VCE and VCE Vocational Major.

College programs focus on development of the whole person, providing the opportunity for students to grow in faith, learning and self-esteem. During their time at Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College, the college supports students with career counselling, pastoral care and personal counselling.

Parents are involved in the life of the college, particularly through the online Parent Access Module, as well as being encouraged to discuss matters with staff directly.

Throughout students' six-year journey at Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College, the school works in partnership with families to assist graduates to mature into intelligent and responsible adults who can make wise choices and provide valu-


able contributions to society.



Grade Six Activity Days have recently concluded; however, you are still welcome to attend one of our Open Mornings – College Tour and Meet the Principal – on Tuesday, May 20, at 9.15am.

Alternatively, you can book a personal tour of the college. For more information or to register, please visit www.mackillop-leongatha.catholic.edu.au

Article courtesy of South Gippsland Sentinel Times.

Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College





Faith in their future

For further information or to register please visit our website or contact the college:
nrobinson@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au | (03) 5662 4255 | 115 Horn Street, Leongatha

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2025

Advertising Feature



Hope is alive in our Catholic schools

Catholic primary and secondary schools across the Diocese of Sale will be opening their doors to the community with Open Days and activities to celebrate Catholic Education Week from May 16 to May 23.

This year's theme is "Pilgrims of Hope", to align with the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope proclaimed by Pope Francis, inviting communities to reflect on the significance of hope and faith in their lives.

Mr Paul Velten, Director of Catholic Education for the Dio-

cese of Sale, said schools will be helping to spread the message of hope in their communities as part of Catholic Education Week.

"Some schools have created 'Hope Walls' adorned with messages and artwork that reflect what Hope means in their school communities, while others are undertaking social justice and fundraising projects to support those in need," he said.

"The 'Pilgrims of Hope' theme highlights the importance of faith, compassion, and community, and the transformative power

of education in shaping students into tomorrow's leaders."

Catholic Education Week will be celebrated with a Diocesan Mass led by Bishop of Sale, Most Reverend Greg Bennet on Wednesday May 21 at St Francis Xavier College, Beaconsfield. A celebration of student learning in primary and secondary schools will take place at the conclusion of Mass.

There are 39 Catholic primary schools and seven Catholic secondary schools in the Diocese of Sale educating more than 20,000

students. A new school, St Josephine Bakhita Catholic Primary School opened its doors in Clyde North this year.

Catholic schools empower students to develop their capabilities academically, spiritually, and socially, preparing them to be compassionate and capable leaders in the communities of the future.

Catholic schools invite families to attend an Open Day or contact a school for an individual tour and enrolment information. Visit a school and see the Catholic education difference.



Catholic schools across the Diocese of Sale will hold open days and activities to celebrate Catholic Education Week from May 16 to May 23, including Our Lady Star of the Sea in Cowes.



"Pilgrims of Hope"

Join us in embracing hope, unity and faith

Celebrating Catholic Education Week

16 May to 23 May 2025

Visit a Catholic school Open Day and discover the difference!





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



Offering Before and After School Care Everyday

6 Cowes-Rhyll Road, Cowes

Ph: 5951 1700

www.olsscows.catholic.edu.au

EDUCATION WEEK 2025 – CELEBRATION OF CULTURES

Advertising Feature



Newhaven College – the heart of our community

Nestled on 33 hectares of untouched coastal landscape on Phillip Island, Newhaven College is an independent, co-educational school catering to over 900 students from Prep to Year 12. Families are drawn to the strong sense of community, and Principal Tony Corr is proud to lead a school where students truly thrive.

“When you set foot on Newhaven College grounds, you know you’ve arrived somewhere special,” Mr Corr says.

“Our stunning natural environment – rich in flora, fauna, wetlands and wildlife – offers a magnificent setting for students to think, learn and grow. Our size ensures that we know each student personally, allowing us to nurture their individual strengths and help them reach their full potential.”

A culture of learning

At Newhaven College, students are encouraged to approach learning with curiosity, creativity and a commitment to personal excellence. An inclusive and supportive environment ensures wellbeing and collaboration are at the heart of the academic journey. The College is dedicated to providing



Embraced as part of Newhaven College community, Vikas and Jyoti Sharma, with 2025 Prep Akitav and Year 4 student Kavish, were warmly welcomed on Akitav’s first day at school.

meaningful learning experiences that recognise individual needs and prepare students for an ever-changing world.

Visual and performing arts

Newhaven College is a vibrant hub for creativity, boasting a state-of-the-art Performing Arts Wing and expansive creative studios. Students are guided by a talented team of educators who not only teach technique but also inspire artistic exploration and individuality. School musical productions and

exhibitions provide opportunities for students to build confidence and share their talents with the wider community.

The College also offers a comprehensive instrumental music program led by professional tutors. Students can take individual or shared lessons in strings, woodwind, brass, percussion, piano, guitar, electric bass, drum kit and voice.

Director of Music, Matthew Goss, believes passionately in the program’s strength.

“We believe Newhaven College offers the very

best environment for musicians to flourish. Whether joining choirs, ensembles or bands, students are nurtured in a vibrant and supportive musical community.”

Sport and outdoor adventures

Physical activity plays a key role at Newhaven College. Students enjoy a wide range of sporting opportunities, including class sports lessons, House competitions, carnivals, and inter-school tournaments – all set against the backdrop of beautifully maintained grounds.

Specialised programs include a nationally recognised Equestrian Team, a Surf Academy, a Tennis Academy, and the recently launched Mountain Biking Academy. A well-equipped gym, outstanding sports facilities, and dedicated staff help ensure every student can achieve their best.

Included in the College’s tuition fees are camps, catering to every age group. While the Year 2s enjoy a sleepover on campus, with a demonstration from the local CFA, senior students enjoy adventurous outdoor experiences such as hiking and kayaking in remote regions across Victoria.

Principal Tony Corr appreciates the benefits of camps provided by the College.

“Camps remain a central part of the school experience. Whilst other educational sectors have had to compromise or remove camp programs, Newhaven continues to offer valuable overnight and camp experiences tailored for each year level,” he says.

House mentoring and wellbeing

The College’s House system fosters a strong, sup-

portive community where every student is known and valued. Through a range of strategies promoting physical, social and emotional wellbeing, students build authentic relationships, develop critical thinking skills, and grow into thoughtful, caring and courageous individuals.

Scholarships

Newhaven College offers scholarships to students who demonstrate exceptional aptitude across a range of abilities. Scholarships currently available include General Excellence, Music, and the Peter Reith Scholarship. Applications are open via the College website: newhavencol.vic.edu.au.

Applications close Monday May 26. Contact the College Admissions Team admissions@newhavencol.vic.edu.au or 03 5956 7505 for any enquiries.



Newhaven College’s Prep-Year 12 campus encourages interactions between students of all ages. Mentorship and cross age tutoring are embraced by everyone.



A haven of growth and belonging

At Newhaven College, we get to know your child and shape our teaching to match their needs. We nurture them and nudge them to discover their talents, so they carve their own path to success. We’re ambitious for them to succeed.

When you set foot on Newhaven College’s grounds, you know you’ve arrived somewhere special. If you’re considering Newhaven College, book a tour and come and see us in person. We’d be delighted to show you around.

To find out more contact our Admissions Team on 03 5956 7505 or email admissions@newhavencol.vic.edu.au



1770 Phillip Island Road,
Phillip Island, Victoria
newhavencol.vic.edu.au



Situated in the heart of Phillip Island community, our dedicated team of early childhood professionals are committed to delivering high-quality education and care for young children.

We are proud to hold an *Exceeding* rating in all seven Quality Areas of the National Quality Standard - a distinction that reflects our unwavering commitment to excellence. Through a nurturing environment and thoughtfully designed programs, we ensure every child in our care is supported to learn, grow, and thrive.

info@pielc.com.au; 5952 1747
(Sessional Kindergarten & Long Day Care)

EDUCATION WEEK 2025 – CELEBRATION OF CULTURES

Advertising Feature



Decades of dance and achievement

Phillip Island Dance Studio is a vibrant community-based school that has been teaching students of Phillip Island and Bass Coast for over 24 years.

We nurture friendship, creativity and teamwork, inspiring every student to gain confidence and self-worth.

Our experienced and qualified dance teachers provide high-quality dance tuition grounded in strong dance pedagogy, to help each child reach their full potential.

Through dance our students develop focus, discipline and determination, skills that support them well beyond the studio.

Many go on to achieve outstanding results in their academic pursuits, while others have continued into performing arts.

Our alumni have been accepted into prestigious programs such as The Australian Ballet School ITP, VCASS, VCA, Deakin University Performing Arts and performed professionally in productions like Disney's Beauty and the Beast and Chunky



The studio offers a wide range of classes starting from 18 months to adult ballet and over 55s dance movement classes.

Move contemporary dance company.

We offer a wide range of classes starting from 18 months to adult ballet and over 55s dance movement classes.

Our curriculum includes kinder dance, Jazz, Contemporary and lyrical styles with a strong focus on classical ballet, also providing a pre-pointe and pointe program.

Phillip Island Dance Studio is proud to offer fun, creative and social classes that emphasise

age appropriate, child safe dance practices and injury prevention for young students to dance for recreational enjoyment or for students pursuing dance more seriously.

Class prices range from \$9.50 to \$13.50 per session with affordable costume hire for our end of year stage performances held annually in Cowes.

Classes are held in Cowes; to learn more or book a trial class please email phillipislanddances-tudio@gmail.com

At the heart of education

Bass Coast College (BCC) is the heart of public secondary education in the Bass Coast and we are very proud of our students, staff and community.

Student numbers continue to grow with enrolments tipping over 1700 in 2025, and we remain focused on fostering excellence in Learning and Wellbeing through a holistic approach to education.

At the heart of our efforts is the commitment to creating a positive, inclusive and engaging environment where every student feels supported to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

To achieve this, we are implementing several key initiatives throughout 2025.

At the end of 2024, our dedicated staff began training in the Berry Street Education Model, a framework designed to enhance student engagement and wellbeing by addressing the complex needs of learners.

This model equips our teachers with practical strategies to build stronger relationships, promote self-regulation and create safe, predictable learning environments.

This work complements the School Wide Positive Behaviour Supports that



With over 1700 students enrolled in 2025, Bass Coast College is the heart of public secondary education in Bass Coast.

we have been working on over the last 12 months. We look forward to seeing the positive impact this approach will have on our classrooms and broader school community.

In addition to these wellbeing-focused initiatives, our staff remain committed to delivering a dynamic and engaging curriculum that caters to the diverse needs of all learners. We are also continuing to build on the fantastic VCE results from last year and expand our VCE VM offerings and VET opportunities.

This year we are supporting students in an extensive senior school program with 39 VCE subjects running and nine VET studies delivered on campus, with plumbing, health

services and hospitality introduced this year due to the growing demand.

To support this work we have strategically built strong leadership teams to work with students, staff and the community.

We are proud of the achievements of our College and the significant success achieved by staff and students in recent years. Growing student population, new campuses, and the addition of many high-quality staff has been rewarding, but throughout it all the key focus has been on BCC's academic and holistic support of its students.

This remains our very clear focus and we are particularly well placed for this with this high-quality support team available for students and families.

BASS COAST COLLEGE

"Achieving success in a caring and creative environment"

Bass Coast College proudly continuing the 100 year tradition as the area's government secondary school presence. We remain committed to providing outstanding support for the young people of the Bass Coast area.

DUDLEY CAMPUS
Years 7-9
03 5672 0900

SAN REMO CAMPUS
Years 7-9
03 5610 2020

FLOW CAMPUS
Flexible Learning
Options Years 7-10

WONTHAGGI CAMPUS
Years 10-12
03 5611 4000



PHILLIP ISLAND DANCE STUDIO



A nurturing school bringing the joy of Dance to Bass Coast for over 20 years for ages 18 mths - Adult
Safe & age appropriate dance
Contemporary, Jazz, Classical, pointe
phillipislanddancestudio@gmail.com



BASS COAST COLLEGE
www.basscoast.vic.edu.au

Principal
Leith Cummins



Lighten Up Theatre's opening night this week

ENTERTAINMENT

The opening night of Lighten Up Theatre's next production, *Jungle Fever*, is this Friday May 16.

This is the second production for the not-for-profit community theatre group following their debut performance *Mystery on the Orient Express* last year.

Group founder Trish Oostendarp said the response to their first production was so positive, a second one was called for. "The main comment we received was when is the next one," Trish said.

"So here we are again ready to do what we love and that is bring fun, uplifting feelgood theatre."

Jungle Fever will be performed at the Senior Citizen's hall in Cowes, as a cabaret style where the audience sit around tables with their family or friends and bring along food and purchase drinks from the licensed bar.

Performances will be 8pm on: May 16-18 and May 23 and 24, with the last performance a matinee on May 25.

Trish said the show was a "raunchy romp in the



The cast of *Jungle Fever* will perform five shows at the Cowes Senior Citizens, starting this Friday May 16.

African Jungle, and not for the innocent or faint hearted".

Trish, who has lived on the island nearly nine years, is both a director and actor in community theatre and has led plays and a musical in Western Australia and Queensland.

She said she had a desire to reignite her passion and took a leap of faith to

start *Lighten Up* at the end of 2023.

"What started as a small group of like-minded souls who decided to take part in this at times crazy journey, has certainly been a rollercoaster.

"But it has shown the community desperately needs something of this kind.

"This year we also

have had many new members join us which again is what my vision for the group was. We believe in giving everyone a chance to show their inner diva.

"Our cast are an eclectic group from all ages and background."

Tickets: \$30 or \$25 concession. Bookings: www.trybooking.com/DASPB or call 0400 817 481.



The Phillip Island Bicycle User Group (BUG) runs a Bike Ed program designed for adults who have not ridden before, or have not cycled for some time. It operates on Friday mornings at the PICAL Garden carpark, Settlement Road, Cowes.

Bike Ed for adults

HEALTH

The Phillip Island Bicycle User Group (BUG) is currently running a Bike Ed program for adults. The program is designed for adults who have not ridden before, or have not cycled for some time.

The program shows riders how to mount and dismount safely and easily, how to ride in a straight line, as well as how to use brakes and gears. Bike control skills of balance, steering, turns and negotiating hazards are to be covered also. The program is run by BUG volunteers, who have up to two decades of assisting with Bike Ed in schools,

and there are enough volunteers to ensure riders are able to progress at their own rate.

"Although the program has already commenced, new riders are welcome," a BUG spokesperson said.

"And we can keep the program going until riders feel competent to ride safely on footpaths, shared paths and on quiet roads, both individually or in a group."

The program operates on Friday mornings at the PICAL Garden carpark, Settlement Road Cowes. To register, and for more information, contact Trevor, the BUG Secretary, on 0408 574 360.

Bass Coast Community Foundation Gala Dinner

FUNDRAISER

An elegant evening of fine dining, inspiring conversation, and community giving at a fundraiser supporting the Bass Coast Community Foundation and all that it does in the Bass Coast Community is being held in July. This special event brings together local leaders, philanthropists and community members to celebrate a shared mission of strengthening and supporting the Bass Coast community.

Guests will enjoy a gourmet dinner and an inspiring keynote speech from Beau Vernon, a champion whose journey has changed his life, the lives of his community and audiences who listen to his unbelievable story of opportunity and optimism.

The evening will also showcase the Foundation's accomplishments, highlight success stories, and present opportunities for guests to make a lasting difference through donations and sponsorships. The funds raised at this event will be put towards extending the Foundation's support for a financial management basics program for teens called Centsible Teen Talk.

Developed and delivered by local experts Re-



Beau Vernon is the special guest at a Gala Dinner for the Bass Coast Community Foundation on July 26 at Silverwater Resort. Beau proudly displaying his bronze medal at the Paralympic Games in Paris, with his daughter Layla.

becca Casey and Jackie Newman, the Centsible program teaches participants about budgeting and financial management through topics such as budgeting, how to buy a house, affluenza and the Diderot effect, money management, credit scores, banking, credit cards, resumes, cybercrime, superannuation and insurance.

Event Highlights:

- Keynote Address by Beau Vernon
- Gourmet two course dinner with canapes and a complimentary drink on arrival
- Live entertainment and

time for networking

- Auction to benefit community initiatives

Date and time: 7pm - 10pm, Saturday July 26

Location: Silverwater Resort, 17 Potters Hill Road, San Remo

Cost: \$130 per person or \$950 for a table of eight

Tickets: www.trybooking.com/CZNQT

Sponsorship package available by contacting Deb Watson at info@bccf.org.au or 0493 110 802. Your support will directly impact programs which ensure that our community thrives for generations to come.

/ Sponsored article /

bass coast community foundation

Gala Dinner

with

Beau Vernon

Opportunity
and
Optimism



Beau Vernon is a champion whose journey has changed his life, the lives of his community and audiences who listen to his unbelievable story of opportunity and optimism

Join us for a night of inspiration.

Saturday 26 July 2025

Silverwater Resort

17 Potters Hill Rd, San Remo

7pm - 10pm

\$130 per person/\$950 per table of 8

Bookings via Trybooking

<https://www.trybooking.com/CZNQT>

Canapes & complimentary drink on arrival

Two course dinner - mains and desserts

Drinks at Bar Prices

Tea and Coffee





OBrien Real Estate staff with some of the many items donated to its Winter Clothing Donation Drive.



Bec Becker (right) from OBrien Real Estate, with David Rooks, a member of the Bass Coast Winter Shelter Committee.

Local generosity warms hearts ... and bodies

COMMUNITY

A recent Winter Clothing Donation Drive led by OBrien Real Estate has drawn a heartwarming response from the local community, with hundreds of quality items collected to assist those most vulnerable during the colder months.

The OBrien Real Estate team was overwhelmed by the public's generosity and put considerable thought into finding the right organisation to receive the donations.

After speaking with several local community groups, the team found a strong alignment with the mission and values of the Bass Coast Winter Shelter, a volunteer-led initiative gearing up to provide emergency winter accommodation to people experiencing homelessness across the region.

Planning to operate three nights a week from June through August, the shelter will offer more than just a warm bed – it will provide dignity, care, and a safe environment for those doing it tough.

However, during initial conversations between Bec Becker from OBrien Real Estate and Bass Coast Winter Shelter's project coordinator, Wendy Elson, an unexpected challenge emerged. While

the shelter was grateful for the offer, they explained they simply didn't have the storage capacity to take in all of the donations.

"Determined to find a solution, I discussed the hurdle with our Director, Jodie Hanssen, and it was agreed that OBrien Real Estate would donate the use of one of our own storage facilities to support the shelter in managing stock throughout the winter season," explained Mrs Becker.

Chair of the Bass Coast Winter Shelter Committee, David Rooks, expressed his appreciation for the collaboration, highlighting the serendipitous alignment between the two organisations.

He noted that it was a perfect example of community at its best – two independent local entities coming together with a shared purpose.

Mrs Becker recently met with Mr Rooks to discuss the alignment of their efforts, with OBrien Real Estate committed to further supporting and growing the partnership in the months and years ahead.

"We're excited to be part of such a meaningful community initiative," Ms Hanssen added.

"It's more than a one-

time gesture – we're committed to supporting the shelter wherever we can, now and into the future."

Should any other local businesses want to know more about the various ways they can contribute to supporting the Bass Coast Winter Shelter committee please email OBrien at operations.jw@obre.com.au or contact the shelter at basscoastwintershelter.wordpress.com/

Biggest Morning Tea

Building on its recent community outreach, OBrien Real Estate is also inviting locals to come together for another cause close to many hearts.

On Tuesday May 20, from 10am to 12pm, the team will host a Biggest Morning Tea outside their Cowes Sales Office (54 Thompson Avenue, Cowes), raising vital funds for the Cancer Council.

"Everyone has been touched by cancer in some way – whether personally or through a loved one, we want to bring the community together to raise funds and offer support in a meaningful and positive way," is the message being shared from the team.

Attendees can enjoy sweet treats, light refreshments, and a range of mini games to win prizes generously donated by lo-

cal businesses including Ocean Reach Brewery, Flowers of Phillip Island, Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling, Ember & Oak, Bang Bang, and more.

These sweet treats and prize opportunities will be on offer in exchange for a gold coin donation, all of which will go to the worthy cause. Furry friends and kids are most welcome to attend the day as well.

In addition to the fundraising from the morning tea, OBrien Real Estate will be donating \$20

to the Cancer Council for every appraisal booked on the day – whether it be for Sales, Permanent, or Holiday Rentals.

"These are no-obligation appraisals, but they can have a real impact," Ms Hanssen said.

"It's a simple way to support a great cause while gaining insight into your property's market value – now or for the future."

For those unable to attend in person, donations can still be made online by simply scanning the

QR code and following the prompts to make your donation. Alternatively, if you wish to make a cash donation, you can stop into OBrien's Cowes, San Remo, or Wonthaggi office, as all have donation jars readily available to accept these donations.

"Every dollar counts, together, we hope to make a meaningful contribution to cancer research and support services – and we'd love to see as many people as possible join us on the day."

/Sponsored article/

OBrien Real Estate

Australia's

Biggest Morning Tea

Where?
54 Thompson Avenue,
Cowes

When?
Tuesday 20th May
10am - 12pm

YOU'RE INVITED!

Our team are gearing up with sweets, treats and plenty of prizes to be won for this year's Biggest Morning Tea!

We'll be out on the front steps, so just plan your shop or coffee run at the right time & bring a gold coin donation to enjoy a treat from us to raise money for Cancer Council! Four legged friends also welcome!

Can't join us in person? No worries! You can still show your support by scanning the QR code to make a donation!

For more info, scan here!

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16/5 FLUX -9PM \$20+BF

17/5 OLLIE AND SCUZZI -8.30PM

18/5 LAING BROTHER -5.00PM

23/5 DEEP SOUTH BRASS 8 PIECE BAND -9.00PM

25/5 GLEN WAVERLEY & THE MENTONES 5.00PM

7/6 SECOND HAND NEWS- A TRIBUTE TO FLEETWOOD MAC - 9PM \$25+BF

23/8 SCARECROW-THE MELLENCAMP SHOW-35 YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR - 9PM \$35+BF

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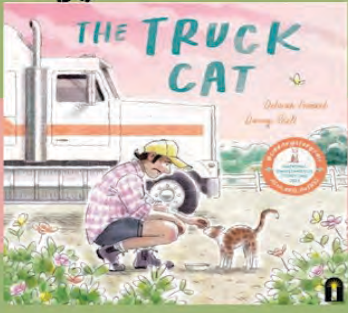
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National Simultaneous Storytime

Phillip Island Library

WEDNESDAY
21 MAY
10.30am

myli my community library

Join the National Simultaneous Storytime at the Phillip Island Library on May 21 at 10.30am, reading *The Truck Cat* by Deborah Frenkel.

A special storytime event in Cowes

LIBRARY

National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) is back for 2025, and Phillip Island Library is excited to take part in this fun, nationwide celebration of reading, on Wednesday May 21.

Each year, thousands of libraries, schools, and early learning centres across Australia read the same book at the same time – and you're invited to join in.

This year's featured title is *The Truck Cat* by Deborah Frenkel, illustrated by Danny Snell. It's a sweet and thoughtful story about friendship, belonging, and life on the road.

There will also be a fun craft activity for everyone to enjoy after the storytime.

Join the Storytime at the Cowes Library in Berninnet (91-97 Thompson Avenue) on Wednesday May 21, from 10.30am until 11.30am.

The event is free, but please register your attendance via Eventbrite, or visit myli.org.au

Swing into jazz this weekend

MUSIC

On Sunday, May 18, Phillip Island Jazz Club presents Anita Harris and the Swingeroos.

The popular vocalist is performing at the Phillip Island Bowling Club, 40 Dunsmore Road in Cowes, from 2pm until 4.30pm.

Joining Anita are the Swingeroos: her dad Kim Harris on keyboards, Phillip Island Jazz favourite Ron Anderson on reeds, Steve Temple on trumpet, Doug Kuhn on bass and Alan Richards on drums.

Anita always gives a quality performance, and this will be no exception.

She was once described by Australian Jazz Scene as "one of those very rare vocal stylists who have a wide appeal to a range of age groups and jazz preferences in her audiences".

Anita has a large repertoire of jazz gems, a growing catalogue of recordings and some of Melbourne's finest musicians on hand to work by her side.

This will be a great afternoon of music and wonderful vocals. Please book early if possible, to give organisers an idea on how many tables and chairs will be needed for the day.

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

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



Sunday, May 18, Phillip Island Jazz Club presents Anita Harris and the Swingeroos at the Phillip Island Bowling Club from 2pm to 4.30pm.

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4:30PM				MEDITATION WITH CAROLYN		
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CASUAL CLASS: \$22
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Off Country – A Reconciliation Film Club documentary

FILM

Bass Coast Shire Council and Latrobe Community Health Service are proud to present a special screening of *Off Country*, a Reconciliation Film Club documentary for National Reconciliation Week 2025.

The documentary screens on Wednesday May 28 at 11am at Berninnet. Tickets are free, but you must reserve your seat (via Trybooking.com).

From inside the Geelong Grammar boarding house, on the sports fields and in the classroom, *Off Country* follows the 2020 school year as the school is thrown into chaos as the pandemic hits. Students wrestle with their identities as they move between boarding life and home life and offer complex portraits of what it is to be an Indigenous child in Australia today.

Directed by Rhian Skirving and John Harvey, this PG rated film runs for 80 minutes.

WARNING: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander viewers are warned that this program may contain footage of deceased persons. Reserve your seat now at: www.trybooking.com/DBHWO



Reserve your seat now at the free screening of "Off Country" on May 28 at 11am at Berninnet, as part of Reconciliation Week 2025.

New home for Waterline Library

COMMUNITY

The Waterline Library has opened the doors of its new home at Unit 3, 1524 Bass Highway, Grantville.

The team has been hard at work to create a welcoming space where book lovers, curious minds and community connections can thrive.


Opening hours for the new library location are:

- Tuesday: 3pm – 6pm
- Thursday: 10am – 1pm
- Saturday: 10am – 12pm

Weekly programs including Storytime, Baby Rhyme Time and STEAM Club.

Details of an official "grand opening" coming soon. Details will also be released shortly for anyone who has registered their interest in the Open Access membership.

If you have any questions, please contact the MYLI Support Team via support@myli.org.au or 1800 44 6954.



TRIVIA NIGHT

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Where: Cowes Bowling Club, Dunsmore Rd, Cowes
When: Saturday 31st May 2025

Raffles

7-9pm (doors open 6.30pm)
Tickets: \$10 per head
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New Phillip Island Community Hospital



Offshore heads to the Emerald City

THEATRE

Offshore Theatre returns to the stage with a piece of classic Australian theatre – David Williamson's *Emerald City*. The show runs for five nights, between May 23 and 31, at the Black Box Theatre at Newhaven College.

Offshore Theatre's president, Remi D'Agostin said the group was looking for something lighter than its previous productions, and was struck by how comedic it was.

"David Williamson has an amazing ability to capture a time period through dialogue; he's very witty," she said.

Although the play is set in the 1980s, Remi believes it will resonate with today's audience.

"Every play, we are looking for something that does connect to now. That's why, as a company we are interested in doing Australian works. There's always a theme, idea or character that we can relate to."

After last year's successful presentation of *My Sister Jill* at Berninnet, Remi said Offshore was excited to step back into the Black Box space.

"We don't have the capacity to do big shows like that (at Berninnet) all the time.

"We feel very lucky to

have access to both these spaces, which allows us to play around with the kind of plays we present," she explained.

"The Black Box has an experimental intimacy to it. The theatre seats about 100 people, and you have to walk onto the stage to get to the seats.

"Although there's no audience involvement, you are very close up."

Directorial debut

Emerald City is the directorial debut for Marni Johnston, who audiences last saw as Christine, the lead role and narrator in *My Sister Jill*.

For Marni, the opportunity is an exciting chance to use her directorial training from the National Theatre Drama School.

"I'd say I'm more of an actor's director than a technician's one," said Marni.

"I really love the creative process and being able to step back and look at the bigger picture – something that's harder to do when you're focused on just one role. That said, I'm also acting in this production, so it's definitely keeping me on my toes."

Set in 1987, the play explores contemporary urban values, cultural rivalries, and the fierce passions that drive the pursuit of success.

Colin, a screenwriter,

and his wife Kate, a publisher, leave introspective, drizzly Melbourne for the glittering lure of Sydney – the so-called Emerald City – where fame and fortune seem just within reach.

But as they navigate the cutthroat world of showbiz, they begin to discover their journey to success is full of unexpected twists.

The cast includes some new and old faces.

The lead role of Colin introduces new member Adam Gooderham.

"He's a great find and brings real depth to the role of Colin, a vulnerable but very successful screenwriter," said Marni.

Kate Bindley Jones is returning for her second Offshore production, after playing Martha, the mum in *My Sister Jill*.

"This time, she's taking on the lead female role of Kate – yes, Kate playing Kate.

"She's Colin's wife: sharp-witted, intelligent, and a real force in the story."

Also featured are Ashley Read (as Mike), Melissa McMillian (as Denise) and Nina Prideaux (as Elaine).

Marni said the play's staging stays true to the late 80s era, "so get ready for big hair, shoulder pads, neon colours and dial phones".

Audiences can expect



Offshore Theatre presents David Williamson's *Emerald City* for five nights from May 23 – 31 at the Black Box Theatre at Newhaven College. Adam Gooderham and Kate Bindley Jones play the leads Colin and Kate. Tickets are available now through trybooking.com.

to be entertained and provoked.

"David Williamson's writing is known for being sharply satirical and grounded in realism, and this play is no exception.

"It captures the contradictions of ambition, vulnerability, and human connection with both humour and insight. One of the most striking elements of the play is the use of direct address – monologues that are not only funny and disarmingly honest, but also offer a rare intimacy between character and audience."

Membership

Tickets for *Emerald City* are available online, with five shows in total: Friday May 23 and Saturday May 24, then Thursday, Friday and Saturday the following week (May 29-31).

"In the past we found word-of-mouth is really big for our shows, so the second weekend is usually a big one," explained Remi.

"So we changed the way we do things, with the extra show in the second week."

Remi is also hoping audience members will consider signing up for an Offshore Theatre membership.

"You can sign up on the

night, and receive a free glass of wine, and a keyring," she explained.

"If you buy a membership, you get a discount on tickets and a free wine with every show. There are other benefits – script club and theatre club – throughout the year."

You don't have to aspire to be on the stage to be a member (although that is always welcomed) assures Remi.

"We want to build an audience, plus people who want to be part of what we are doing."

Like many small community companies, Offshore suffered a loss of momentum and membership during Covid and is hoping to build back up in the coming year, including getting its website back up and running.

"We'd love to have more actors and directors, but we really need a solid community who is going to support us.


"I feel we are small, but we are mighty," Remi said.

Director Marni also hopes the community will support the latest production.

"We'd absolutely love to see you there, and feel free to come and say hi after the show," she said.

Tickets available now at: www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1380060

/ Sponsored article /



DAVID WILLIAMSON'S

EMERALD CITY

Directed by Marni Johnson



May 23, 24, 29, 30, 31st June 1st

Newhaven College Black Box Theatre

National

Volunteer

Week

19-25 MAY 2025

Connecting Communities

2025 Bass Coast Volunteer Gathering

This event is proudly supported by PICAL, Bass Coast Health, Bass Coast Shire Council, Phillip Island Nature Parks and MYLI – My Community Libraries.

As part of National Volunteer Week, we are celebrating the 2025 theme of 'connecting communities' and bringing together volunteers from across the Bass Coast shire.

Date: Tuesday 20 May 2025

Time: 10.00 am to 12.00 pm

Where: Nobbies Centre

Register at www.trybooking.com/DAWMB or scan the QR code





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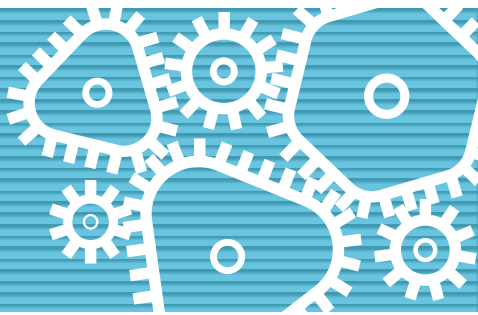


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SEEK, BUY AND SELL



DEATHS

CAIRNS, MARGARET ELIZABETH (MARNIE):
5/9/1935 – 9/5/2025
Beloved wife of Ian for 64 years.
Adored mother of Catherine and Stewart and mother-in-law to Clare.
Loved Gran of Meg, Lachie, Harry, Lucy and Kate.
Great grandmother of Jack, Ray and Freddie.
Forever in our hearts now in God's loving care.

CAIRNS, Marnie:
A loved and loving sister to Fergus, sister-in-law to Chris, cherished aunt to Dugald, Hugh, Kristie, and Susannah, and adored great-aunt to Mackenzie, James, and Charles.
Marnie leaves behind a legacy of love, warmth, and quiet resilience that will live on in our hearts forever.
Thank you Marnie, you will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

CAIRNS, Marnie:
Many hugs and love for Ian, Stew, Clare and Cath and families, as they mourn the loss of Marnie, a wonderful and caring lady.
Now at Rest
Pam and the Cameron Clan.

CAIRNS, Marnie:
To Ian and the Cameron Family.
So sorry to hear about the loss of the lovely Marnie.
She was a very special lady.
She will be greatly missed.
Chris Monk and Jane DD

DEATHS

Phillip Island and San Remo War Widows Club regret the passing of:
MORGAN, Mary:
Loved by all and will be missed by Legatees and members alike.
Rest in Peace

FUNERALS

CAIRNS:
The Funeral Service to Celebrate the life of Marnie Cairns will be held at St. Johns Uniting Church, Cowes on FRIDAY (May 16, 2025) commencing at 2:00pm.
A Private Cremation will follow.
In lieu of flowers donations to Melaleuca Aged Care would be appreciated.

For live-streaming go to www.handleyardersonfunerals.com.au


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PUBLIC NOTICES

FRIENDS OF THE KOALAS INC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday May 24th 2025 2pm
Meeting Room
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ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: Weekly meetings Bass Coast Shire, Wonthaggi – Tuesday 8pm; AA Cowes Big Book meeting at St Philip's Church (opp. Coles) – Tuesday 7pm, 0417 317 470; Salvation Army building, McKenzie St., Wonthaggi, Saturday 11am, 5672 3627. Phone head office 9429 1833.

PUBLIC NOTICES

 **INNER WHEEL CLUB OF PHILLIP ISLAND INC.**

Presents "A Taste of Of Inner Wheel" for Women 18 and over.

Come along and join members for drinks and nibbles and meet other like minded local women and find out about this local friendship group.

Thursday 7th June 5.00pm – 6.00pm at 6 Settlement Rd Cowes.

For more information, or to RSVP contact Club Secretary Julie Holloway on 0430 712 734 or email iiw.au.phillipisland@gmail.com

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PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO
ADVERTISER



The Phillip Island Yacht Club received a \$2400 grant for a female sailing program to provide a forum for women and girls to both develop or reactivate their sailing skills to better participate in the club's sailing program.

Supporting women and girls in sport

GRANT FUNDING

The Phillip Island Yacht Club was one of 130 recipients of the State Government's Change Our Game Community Activation Grants program announced this month.

The club received \$2400 for a female sailing program to provide a forum for women and girls to both develop or reactivate their sailing skills to better participate in the club's sailing program. Their training will be provided by female instructors over four sessions.

The only other local recipient was GippSport, which received \$9980 to facilitate leadership and governance training to encourage young women to step into leadership roles in local community sport.

The funding will also help create a network of peer support and intergenerational mentoring in connection with their Changing Gippsland's Game Professional Network.

Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale MP congratulated the two recipients on securing the grants.

"These grants support the work our wonderful clubs and community sport organisations are doing to create positive change whether it is in participation or leadership programs for women and girls," Ms Crugnale said.

"I want to thank Cowes Yacht Club and GippSport who are active, devising programs, putting in the time, dedication and energy to creating a level playing field and breaking down barriers."

The Change Our Game Community Activation Grants program delivers grants of up to \$10,000 to community sport and recreation clubs to help inspire women and girls to take part – including new women's programs, opportunities for club leadership roles and other on and off field options.

For more information about Change Our Game programs, visit changeourgame.vic.gov.au

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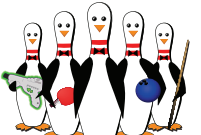
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Congratulations to Laurie Jones who took home the San Remo Butchers meat tray.

Gleeson hits 180 as finals loom

DARTS

The Phillip Island and Districts Darts League roared back to life on Monday night, with the darts centre buzzing as over 40 players across 10 teams hit the oche for an action-packed Round 7.

Five matches were played and competitors fought for crucial points with the finals fast approaching.

A standout moment came during the team's leg when Paul Gleeson lit up the board with a perfect 180.

Meanwhile, luck was finally on the side of Laurie, a long-time member and first-time raffle winner, who proudly walked away with the San Remo Butchers meat tray. His smile was almost as big as Gleeson's score.

With the ladder beginning to take shape, every match now carries extra weight. Next week promises even more excitement as players face off in the prestigious John Stewart Memorial Singles Championship – a drawn 501 knockout tournament open to all members.

Presentation night for bowls crew

BOWLS

The Phillip Island Bowling Club hosted their 2024/25 presentation night on May 9, with members attending to witness club champions receive their trophies.

For Marilyn and Peter Forrest it was a family affair, respectively taking out the Ladies' and Men's Singles Titles,

along with the Ladies' and Men's Bowler of the Year Award.

Additionally Marilyn also won the Ladies' 100 Up Handicap and the Mixed Pairs Championship with Peter. Peter also took out the Men's 15 End (two bowl singles) and the Men's 100 Up Handicap. Congratulations to both players who have had an outstanding season.



Congratulations to Marilyn and Peter Forrest on their great performance this season at the Phillip Island Bowls Club.

Midweek at Loch

BOWLS

Last week, the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group headed to Loch and District Bowls Club to fight it out for team of the week.

Players were greeted

by Pauline and Vern while Peter, David and Claire prepared teams with over 50 bowlers attending.

A few showers beat down on the green but players managed to get through the day without reducing the ends played.



Congratulations to last week's winners on 36 points (from left): Jenny Smith (L), Trevor Loughridge (S) and Wendy Pownall (3).

The RCH tin continues to fill.

The group give their thanks to volunteers including Trevor behind the bar and Andrea in the kitchen.

Winners on a great score of 36: Jenny Smith (L), Trevor Loughridge (S) and Wendy Pownall (3).

Runners up on a score of 34: Raff Merante (3),

Steve Muhi (S) and Bob Arnold (L).

Best one game winners on a score of 19: Michael Saunders (3), Jenny Harding (L) and Bill Sherriff (S).

This week, midweek bowls will be played at Lang Lang Bowls Club.

Please arrive on time to avoid missing out as numbers are close to full.



Runners up: Raff Merante (3), Steve Muhi (S) and Bob Arnold (L).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

A rescued Pearl

Do you own a Golden Labrador called Pearl who was recently lost near Lions Park in San Remo?

If so, you may like to contact the Bass Coast Specialist School to thank a group of staff and students who kept Pearl safe initially?

I was passing and saw them scanning the road, so stopped to see if I could help too.

A dog lead from my car secured her safely and then one of the staff members kindly lifted her into the car so I could take her to the Newhaven Vet Clinic, as she did not have obvious ID. One of the students, Ethan, was most helpful too. Thankfully a call to Bass Coast Shire this morning revealed the dog's name and that she had been reunited with her owner.

Helen Beyer, San Remo

Salvos Red Shield Appeal

The 61st Red Shield Appeal is here. The collecting outside your local shops, the knocks on your front door, and the emblazoned Red Shield around the town means that it is time to dig deep to support Aussies in need.

It is a time of year that isn't just about the funds raised. The Salvos are always blown away by the ways the community comes together across the country in support. We are in awe of our Army of volunteers, this year aiming to be 20,000 strong, who make all of this happen.

Why is the Red Shield Appeal so important? Because it allows for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our society to get the support they vitally need and deserve. It means we can continue our work in areas like homelessness, family and domestic violence, youth, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, financial hardship and so much more.

Whether you are able to give financially, or give your time through volunteering, every little bit supports us to continue what we do best – helping people.

The Salvos are aiming to raise \$38 million this year for our Red Shield Appeal. We trust Australians will be generous, and for that, we offer a sincere thank you.

And the best part is, when you see the folk collecting outside the supermarket, or receive a

friendly knock on the door, you can know that funds raised locally in your community will remain local, supporting your fellow community members doing it tough.

So please, if you can this year, consider supporting the Salvos Red Shield Appeal.

To donate or volunteer for The Salvation Army's Red Shield Appeal or if you need support from the Salvos, visit salvationarmy.org.au or call 13 SALVOS. You can also donate at any Salvos Store.

Major Bruce Harmer, The Salvation Army

No to nukes

When he unveiled the Coalition's nuclear energy ambitions last June Peter Dutton said, "I'm very happy for the election to be a referendum on energy, on nuclear."

It was, and the result was a resounding rejection of high cost, high risk nuclear power. The election result is clear, as is the wider lesson: when the Coalition pushes nuclear, Australia pushes back. In 2007, John Howard took nuclear to an election where he lost government and his own seat. In 2025, Peter Dut-

ton said nuclear and Australia said no – and goodbye.

Thanks to those in the community who identified and acted on the risk of potential nuclear for making a positive difference in Bass Coast and far beyond. Australians have spoken and it's now time to draw a line under this unproductive distraction and get on with real action to meet our nation's climate and energy challenges.

Dave Sweeney, Australian Conservation Foundation, Sunderland Bay

It's a good sign

In August 2023 the Advertiser ran an article "Phillip Island's most confusing road speeds", relating to the Cowes/Rhyll Road between Phillip Island and Coghlan roads. The article was the result of council erecting an 80km/h sign only 50 metres west of the 60km/h sign on the South side of the road (when entering said road from Coghlan Road), thereby matching the existing speed of 80km/h on the north side of the road.

Well, it would seem that common sense has finally

prevailed and speed limits have again been changed. The speed limit is now 60km/h on both sides of the road all the way between Coghlan and Phillip Island Road except for 40km/h during school crossing times at Our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School. Hallelujah.

Ron Day, Cowes

Mobile coverage concerns

The issue of adequate mobile phone coverage on Phillip Island appears to still be unresolved, particularly during higher demand periods.

This issue has been taken up by the Advertiser in the past – but I respectfully submit that it is a matter that beckons to again be refreshed.

The existing systems do not appear to have adequate bandwidth to cater for the demand placed on them for considerable periods of time.

Over Easter for example, it was not possible to download documents onto my phone, including the Age newspaper for example. Just too many people on the line for the system to function adequately it would appear.

Is it timely for an up-

date article on the status of upgrades that Telstra and Optus are to put in place on the island?

Rob McKaige, Cowes

Island Astronomy needs a home

Our club has been now running for over five years within Bass Coast and we are at a stage of moving to a permanent home. Discussions with the Bass Coast Mayor Rochelle Halstead, unfortunately have broken down and we are left with seeking a permanent home through the private investment sector.

Our objective is to establish a high-end astronomy centre on Phillip Island enjoying the benefits of our dark skies we love. To do this we need private support for some land, good visual area and the opportunity to operate viewing for public events, school astronomy and members astronomy centre including a large emphasis on Astronomy and dark skies tourism.

Any interested parties, please make contact with the President, Eden White: email edendwhite22@gmail.com

Eden White, Silverleaves



Congratulations to Team FC, winning the Tuesday Night Men's Team Competition. From left: Ron Walker, Geoff Clements, Kevin Donnelly and Rod Shell.



Section 1 winner, Ron Walker.



Section 4 winner, Anthony Johns.



Section 2 winner, Paul Smeele.

Tuesday Night Men's Comp

TENNIS

More than thirty players participated in the Phillip Island Tennis Club's Autumn 2025

Tuesday Night Men's Competition which wrapped up on May 6, with Team FC winning the Team's Competition.

Winners:

Section 1: Ron Walker.
Section 2: Paul Smeele.
Section 3: Peter Williams.
Section 4: Anthony Johns.
Section 5: Andrew Cornthwaite.

Results from the green

GOLF

Tuesday, May 6

Men's 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Daniel Pearce (2) with 37 pts C/B.

A Grade winner: A-1 Daniel Pearce (2) with 37 pts.

B Grade winner: B-1 David Nicoll (16) with 34 pts C/B.

C Grade winner: C-1 Warren Dickie (23) with 37 pts.

BDL: 32 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Daniel Pearce, 7th Cam Cristiano, 10th Peter Officer and 17th Brent Scott.

Men's 9H Stableford

Winners: David Henstridge (21) with 19 pts C/B from David Scrase (39) on 19 pts.

BDL: 16 pts C/B.

Wednesday, May 7

Women's 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Anne McCallum (41) with 40 pts from Megan Elbaz (26) on 38 pts.

BDL: 31 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Judy Henry, 7th Dianne Ray, 10th Helen Coghlan and 17th Patricia Jamieson.

Women's 9H Stableford

Overall winner: Sandra Barker (44) with 17 pts from Barbara Moloney (38) on 16 pts.

BDL: 15 pts C/B.

NTP: 7th Lisa Cooper.

Thursday, May 8

Open 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Chris Sanderson (13) with 38 pts.

A Grade winner: A-1 Chris Sanderson (13) with 38 pts.

B Grade winner: B-1 Rickardo Meder (18) with 36 pts.

C Grade winner: C-1 Mike Fitzmaurice (20) with 37 pts C/B.

BDL: 33 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Daniel Pearce, 7th Paul Cashman, 10th Tony Gay and 17th Brenton O'Brien.

Men's 9H Stableford

Winners: John Niven (26) with 19 pts C/B from Brian Carvell (30) on 19 pts.

BDL: 16 pts C/B.

Saturday, May 10

Men's 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Mark White (15) with 40 pts.

A Grade winner: A-1 Anthony Shannon (10) with 36 pts C/B.

B Grade winner: B-1 Mark White (15) with 40 pts.

C Grade winner: C-1 Joel Panozzo (19) with 37 pts.

BDL: 33 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Tony Owens, 7th Travis Johnson, 10th Andrew Hewett and 17th Aaron Saric.

Women's 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Adrienne Anglin (14) with 37 pts C/B from Lesley Meadowcroft (13) with 37 pts.

BDL: 32 pts.

NTP: 5th Lesley Meadowcroft, 10th Cheryl White and 17th Adrienne Anglin.

Open 9H Stableford

Winners: Laurie Petrusch (26) with 18 pts from Steve Rieger (26) with 16 pts C/B.

BDL: 16 pts C/B.

Sunday, May 11

Open 18H Stableford

Winner: David Murdoch (23) with 35 pts from Chris Sanderson (13) on 32 pts.

BDL: 32 pts.

Red Rocks results

GOLF

Friday, May 9 – 9H Stableford: 1st Neil Malcolm (19) with 19 pts.

Saturday, May 10 – Stableford: 1st Victor Petropoulos (16) with 42 pts, 2nd Ian Murray (18) with 41 pts, 3rd Steven Cerni (15) with 40 pts.

Sunday, May 11 – Stableford: 1st Neil Malcolm (17) with 41 pts.



U17s Breakers, Evie Titmarsh, Oli Raso, Dylan Gregory, Charlie Anderson, Justin Tran and Joss Geronimo.

Breakers cruise to victory

SOCCER

U17

The Phillip Island Breakers U17s hit the road this weekend, cruising to a 5-0 victory over Korumburra City.

Oli Raso worked hard, putting the Breakers ahead and mounting the pressure against Korumburra.

Shortly after, Dylan Gregory doubled the advantage, latching onto a perfectly timed assist from Harley Drayton.

While the goals rightly caught attention, it was the Breakers' defensive unit that quietly dominated and shut down Korumburra's advances.

Joss Geronimo, Michaela Marr, Ben Westwood and Justin Tran were rock-solid at the back, ensuring goalkeeper involvement was minimal and kept Korumburra well away from any meaningful chances.

With a 2-0 lead at half-time, the Breakers showed no signs of slowing down.

The second half was more of the same.

Evie Titmarsh, Jasper Saunders and Tiki Reed each found the back of the net, taking the scoreline to an impressive 5-0.

A second goal from Dylan Gregory was unfortunately disallowed.

With a bye next week, the Breakers will return to the League action on May 25 against the Leongatha Nights at home.

U15 Girls

As Female Football week came to an end, fittingly on Mother's Day, the Phillip Island Breakers U15 Girls, led by Georgia (Captain), put in a hard-fought effort against Korumburra City.

In a match that was fast paced with many high-flying balls behind powerful kicks, the team showed improved cohesion and awareness.

With some impressive attempts at the goals, the match could have gone either way, however both Izzy and Lily J remained calm and in control by the goals.

The defence was strong with both Talia and Mia proving a force to be reckoned with, chasing down and intercepting many balls.

Amara, Lily T and Hannah showed eagerness to take a chance at goals for the Breakers, with full force and support from Ariana, Tamsin and Ebo-

ny up forward.

Both Billie and Scarlett showed speed and agility down the line, getting the ball to the attacking line.

Showing increasing confidence, Elisabeth and Grace held their positions well in midfield, passing to the attacking players.

Final score: 1-0 going the Breakers way (Amara the team's sole goal scorer).

The team are pleased with the positive start to the season under the guidance of coaches Megan and Annie.

U14 Penguins

The U14 Mixed Penguins team triumphed over Korumburra with a stunning 7-0 win on a beautiful Mother's Day morning.

Blake scored four goals while Reuben, Angus and James each added one.

The defence, led by Reuben and James, was rock-solid, while Oisín controlled the midfield with finesse.

Blake's attacking prowess kept the team on the offensive. Each person played their part in securing a win.

U14 Stingrays, U12 Girls and U12A reports at pisra.com.au/sport

Breakers dominate away match against Korumburra City

SOCCER

The Phillip Island Breakers Women's Senior Team delivered a strong performance in their away clash against Korumburra, finishing with a resounding 16-0 win.

Leading 6-0 at half-time, the Breakers showed no signs of slowing down in the second half.

Jarrah van Stekelenburg made a sensational return from a preseason ankle injury, netting an incredible double hat-trick (six goals).

Kelly Wall was in fine form, capping off her hat-trick with a fourth goal late in the game.

Joss Geronimo and Tiki Reed added two goals each in the second half, while Ella Roos (making her debut for the Breakers), also found the back of the net with a confident finish.

Midfielder Annie Dempsey controlled the tempo in the middle of the park,



The Phillip Island Breakers Women's Senior Team put on a great performance against Korumburra over the weekend, coming away with a 16-0 win. From back left: Yarlini Baum, Ella Roos, Kelly Wall, Andrea Dempsy, Ailish Flynn, Jarrah Van Stekelenberg, Luka Alford and Coach Benita Russell. Front: Tiki Reed, Joss Geronimo, Michaela Marr, Annie Dempsy, Niamh Moore and Evie Titmarsh. Absent: Helen Masters.

distributing the ball with precision and was well supported by Evie Titmarsh, both getting on the scoreboard.

The Breakers' backline was rock-solid, with Andrea Dempsy commanding the goal and Luka Alford anchoring the defence as sweeper.

Niamh Moore impressed with her tireless work rate in the centre back role, while Yarlini

Baum and Helen Masters held a strong defensive line, breaking down opposition attacks and delivering composed passes out wide to wings Ailish Flynn and Miki Marr.

The team now looks ahead to their first home game of the season against Trafalgar Victory.

GSL scores and fixtures at pisra.com.au/sport



In the Under 16 Girls, Evie Lutz (left) came fourth in the Round Three event of the Victorian Junior Surfing Titles held on Phillip Island over the weekend.

Scarlett chalks up a round three win

SURFING

Congratulations to Cape Woolamai's Scarlett Rennie who won the Under 14 Girls category in Round Three of the Victorian Junior Surfing Titles on Phillip Island on the weekend.

The win secured Scarlett second place in the titles overall, finishing behind Estella Carbonelli of Jan Juc.

Cowes surfer Evie Lutz took out fourth place in the Under 16 girls Round Three event, while Angus Kennedy came third in the Under 16 Boys.

The round kicked off at Smiths Beach, with day one of the competition bringing plenty of excitement in quick succession, with both Under 14 divisions running through to the finals. It was a clean day down at Smiths Beach, with the sun shining and two-foot peaks rolling through the lineup.

Day two of the competition was moved to Cape Woolamai as the swell dropped at Smiths Beach,

offering more consistent waves and better conditions for the highly anticipated Under 16 and Under 18 divisions to showcase their skills and battle it out for valuable points toward the State Championship. Local surfers were unable to score the win, although Lillian Bassed came fourth in the Under 18 Girls, while Rye Cicero took out fourth in the Under 18 Boys.

With performances lifted high and the crowd entertained, it was the perfect conclusion to the 2025 No TXT No Wrecks Victorian Junior Surfing Titles.

Under 18 Title: Girls Ava Holland (Dromana); Boys Jarvis Barrow (Jan Juc).

Under 16 Title: Girls Rose Holland (Dromana); Boys Kato Mogi (Belmont).

Under 14 Title: Girls Estella Carbonelli (Jan Juc); Boys Teddy Robertson (Torquay).

Full results and scores and schedule can be found online at www.surfingvic.com/live

News from the table

BRIDGE

It is Club Pairs Championship month at the Bridge Club and the first round was played on Monday.

Winners will be decided based on best aggregate scores over three weekly sessions.

Eleven pairs competed in Round 1 with 62.50 per cent proving best score of the day by Jean Barbour and Greg Nicholson.

Currently in second place sit Lorrie Read and Neville Chapman with 58.80 per cent.

Not in the winner's circle, but not last either, the club welcomed brand new member Jenny Johnston.

Jenny has been playing Tuesday afternoon super-

vised sessions for a few weeks and has now advanced to full club membership.

Jenny partnered with Brigid Sanders, a relative newcomer, who has also been taking supervised lessons at the club. The future looks bright.

Wednesday saw Duplicate Bridge played by eight pairs and winners were Anne Hodgson and Caroline Shaw on 63.10 per cent.

Euchre results

Ladies' winner: Leonie with eight wins.

Men's winner: Mark with five wins.

Encouragement award: Beverly.



Esther Evans remains composed in Goal Defence during the B Grade match.



A Grade's Grace Rand working hard in Wing Attack.

Kilcunda Bass bring strong performance on the courts

NETBALL

A Grade

Kilcunda Bass' A Grade came out hoping for redemption after a tough loss in their previous round.

The girls had patches of solid netball throughout the game and kept Dalyston in their sight throughout.

A dominant final quarter allowed Bass to get within four goals, however Dalyston came away with the four points in the end.

Best on ground: Caity Egan.

B Grade

What a battle it was this week as the Kilcunda Bass B Grade went head-to-head with a fiery Dalyston side who came out swinging.

With superstar midcourter Kiz out, the girls knew they would need to dig deep and that's exactly what they did.

Midcourt legends Ally, Kiara and Ciara worked their socks off, running the house down and giving every ounce of hustle they had.

A massive shoutout to Ciara Santorini, who took on WA.

Stepping out of her comfort zone, she gave it a red-hot crack, brought the energy and absolutely earned her spot as this week's best on. Go C.

Down in defence, it was nothing short of electric.

The Dalyston shooters were strong and steady but they had not met "The Duo".

That's right, Lizzy and Esther were an unstoppable force in the ring, flying for intercepts, reading the play like pros and giving Daly a headache all game long.

The dynamic duo were coordinated and on fire, putting on a masterclass in defensive pressure.

And just when we needed a spark – enter Bells.

Her first game back and she lit up the court like she had never been away.

Calm, classy and commanding, she was everywhere and brought serious leadership to the floor.

They may not have walked away with the win, but the grit, the fight and unity were all Bass.

Dalyston took the points this time, but the girls have unfinished business and you better believe they will be coming back stronger.

C Grade

Kilcunda Bass' C Grade had a slow start to the game, with both teams struggling to find their rhythm early on.

At the end of the first quarter, the score was tied and it appeared it could be anyone's game.

However, Kilcunda quickly adjusted to their opposition and gradually took control of the game.

Final scores: Kilcunda Bass 33 def Dalyston 17.

Best on court: Juliette Townsend.

D Grade

Coming off a disappointing loss, the team was eager to get back on court and prove what they're made of.

Despite missing players due to injury and unavailability, the group adapted seamlessly to new positions, maintaining their focus and determination.

Kilcunda Bass came out firing, executing set plays with precision, just as practiced at training, resulting in a strong 8-3 lead at the end of the first quarter.

The team's hard work, persistence and teamwork were evident throughout the match as they continued to build momentum and extend the margin.

Final scores: Kilcunda Bass 33 def Dalyston 20.

Best on court and recipient of the Foodworks voucher: Charlotte Adam.

U17s

Coming off a team building pilates and dinner night, team morale was high.

Focusing on voice on the court, supporting each other and effort, the girls set out against Dalyston.

They had a consistent four quarters, with everyone putting in effort and contributing to the team.

Goalers had a tough job but handled the extra pressure well.

Due to missing players and coaches, positions were shuffled however that did not phase anyone.

The team give a shout-out to Charlotte for coaching her first game and Millie Gold who played well in the ring.

Final scores: Kilcunda Bass 12 def by Dalyston 34.

Best on ground: Hope Oats.

U15s

A week off to reset and work hard at training proved to be just what the Kilcunda Bass U15s needed.

The girls went into this weekend's game with a fair bit of confidence which they had been lacking over recent weeks and with that newfound confidence came a reconnected team.

Putting what they have been working on at training out onto the court and seeing it come to life makes all the hard work worth it.

The girls have been working to correct mistakes in past games and sometimes that's the winning formula.

Dalyston didn't let Kilcunda Bass have it all their own way, applied pressure leading the team to work harder to ensure the scoreboard continued to tick over.

With the pressure on, Kilcunda Bass adjusted their game and lifted the intensity, seeing the girls come away with a convincing win at the end

of the match.

Best on court: Ciara Santorini for her dominance in the goal ring and Kealey Trewavis for her strong defensive work.

Final scores: Kilcunda Bass 33 def Dalyston 22.

U13s

The Kilcunda Bass U13s took to the court with determination, energy and great team spirit, paying off with a well-deserved second win of the season.

From the first whistle, the team showed fantastic communication and movement, with strong passes and clever play down the court.

Defence worked hard, making it tough for Dalyston while Kilcunda Bass' shooters stayed cool under pressure and nailed some impressive goals.

Every player gave their all, and the teamwork and sportsmanship shone through.

The improvement from the start of the season is clear, and the smiles at the end said it all, this team is growing in confidence.

Best on court: Frankie and Emily.

U11s

The sun shone bright as Kilcunda Bass' U11s took on Dalyston this week.

With a full team on board, coaches were able to give the kids a turn in a few positions.

The team made up of a few newbies, it was good to see them having a go and trying to implement some things they have been working on at training.

Dalyston in their usual form always bring a good brand of netball and were a little too strong, running away to a nine-goal win. **Best on court:** Molly for her improvement in defence, implementing the turn and box the team have been working on.

Maccas award: Ebony for her good intercepts.



U12 Reds: Logan Regnier, Leith Cameron, Jasper Goodall, Brock Larsson and Eddie Maier.

Island juniors work hard

From page 32

With impressive teamwork and skills, the boys took to the ground and secured the lead against Inverloch Kongwak from the beginning.

Callum Chambers in the ruck was spot on, and defence was strong from Miller Sund, Archie Dalling, Ari de Fazio, Ry Sheers and Max Carville.

A Flynn Riley goal early in the first quarter set the team in motion.

Movement in the middle and pressure from Brax Scheibel, Kolby Carton, Jarrah Rutherford, Balin Riky and Jax Marshall motivated the boys who found the space and won the contests.

Tijian Coldora was catch-me-if-you-can and goals from Kai Denblyden, Flynn Riley, Taj Piera and Archie Robinson saw the Island ahead for the whole game.

A shoutout to Jett Fawaz who played up, played well and kicked a goal.

Awards: Riley Whyte, Rocco Archer, Tijian Coldora and Callum Chambers.

Final scores: Phillip Island 63 def Inverloch Kongwak 25.

U14 Girls

On Friday night led by Captain Hailey, the U14 Girls' football match between Phillip Island and Dalyston was a showcase of grit, with Dalyston ultimately taking the win, but not without a serious challenge from Phillip Island.

Dalyston came out strong early, using clean ball movement and sharp kicks to take the lead.

However, Phillip Island refused to back down.

With standout performances from Isla H, Charlee, Madi and Indi C, they forced several turnovers and kept the pressure high.

Although Phillip Island couldn't close the gap on the scoreboard and despite the final score not falling in their favour, Phillip Island impressed with their defensive pressure throughout

the match.

The backline worked tirelessly, constantly pushing back against Dalyston's attacking force and making every goal hard-earned.

Final scores: Phillip Island: 1.0.6 def by Dalyston: 8.7.55.

U12 Blue

In a home match against Inverloch, the U12 Blue Bulldogs put on a strong four-quarter performance, claiming a well-deserved win and delivering the perfect Mother's Day gift.

After Inverloch opened the scoring midway through the first, the Bulldogs hit back quickly with goals from a fast-moving forward line.

Defenders Zed, Kash, Zaine and Cody worked hard under pressure, keeping Inverloch at bay with disciplined marking and long, clearing kicks.

The second quarter saw some standout play, with a brilliant chain from Jett to Max, then to Reeve, setting up another forward push.

Noah's clean ground-ball work earned him goal of the match, before Max capitalised on his own midfield efforts with a well-earned major.

Despite a strong Inverloch push early in the third, the Bulldogs answered through dominant ruck work from Ray and a classy left-foot snap from Max.

Final-quarter goals from Noah and Max sealed the game.

Awards: Remy, Reeve and Max.

Mother's Day Award: Bea, Alison and all the other mums.

U12 Red

The U12 Red team travelled to Leongatha and were greeted with perfect conditions.

Brock Larsson led his team and they put in a gutsy performance.

Although the scoreboard didn't fall in their favour, the team fought right to the final siren.

The team's sportsman-

ship stood out and each player showed encouragement towards each other.

Awards: Brock Larsson, Logan Regnier, Jasper Goodall, Leith Cameron and Eddie Maier.

U10 Blue

The sun shone brightly over the field for the highly anticipated Mother's Day match against Inverloch.

The U10s delivered an inspiring performance showcasing determination, teamwork and heart in a goal-for-goal contest.

The boys never gave up, fighting hard and playing an exciting game.

A special congratulations goes to well-deserving award winners. Cody Sheers was named best on ground for his outstanding play, while Lathan Lucas, Kai Soussa and Morrison Conway were also recognised for their efforts throughout the match.

The team would also like to give a heartfelt thank you to Lisa Lucas, team manager.

Her dedication, organisation and tireless contributions behind the scenes play a huge part in keeping the team running smoothly.

U10 Red

This past Sunday morning, the U10 Red pups travelled to Leongatha to take on the Parrots.

It was a glorious autumn morning, with the sun shining for a perfect Mother's Day game.

The pups came out strong from the first quarter, displaying excellent teamwork, moving the ball smoothly and capably through the field whilst working with unified effort and skill throughout the quarters.

The team did a sensational job at reading the field and staying in procession of the ball for most of the game.

Well done to the team.

Best player awards: Nate, Sid, Seb, Levi N and Xander.



Kilcunda Bass Senior, Daniel Mock moves in for a tackle against Dalyston.

Strong team performance in Mother's Day round

FOOTBALL

Seniors

After a week off, Kilcunda Bass' Seniors were excited to get back into things and there could be no better way to do that than taking down rivals from down the highway in Dalyston.

Dalyston jumped Bass at the start, kicking the first three goals of the game, before Kilcunda Bass finally hit the scoreboard with a major in the 15th minute of the first.

For the remainder of the first half, it was a hard scrap.

At half time, Kilcunda Bass led 41-38.

After half time the match proved much of the same.

A tough fought battle with both teams kicking crucial goals.

By the final quarter though, Kilcunda Bass switched into another gear and ran with it, kicking seven goals in the fourth quarter compared to Dalyston's two.

Final scores: Kilcunda Bass 103 def Dalyston 69.

Best on ground: Trent Cartmel.

Reserves

From years past, the Kilcunda Bass Reserves knew that the game against Dalyston was going to be a tough slog.

Kilcunda Bass looked in great shape heading into this one and were confident they could get the job done.

The whole game was a hard fight, but Kilcunda Bass looked the better side all day with some great ball movement and fantastic teamwork.

Final scores: Kilcunda Bass 73 def Dalyston 44.

Best on ground: Angus McGillivray.

Veterans

It was an even contest for the Veterans throughout the first half, with neither side giving an inch.

At three-quarter time, Tooradin held a narrow 11-point lead.

In the final term, they managed to pull away, eventually securing a 17-point win over a determined Kilcunda Bass side.

Both teams played with great spirit and skill in a hard-fought game.

U14s

The weekend's Mother's Day round was a tough outing for Kilcunda Bass in their latest U14s clash, taking on a well-drilled and fast-starting Wonthaggi outfit.

From the first bounce, Wonthaggi asserted dominance, kicking six unanswered goals in quick succession during the opening quarter.

Their midfield pressure and clean ball use gave them control early, putting Kilcunda Bass on the back foot.

Despite the early blow, Kilcunda Bass showed plenty of grit.

After halftime, they began to find their rhythm, tightening up defensively and pushing forward with more purpose.

The second half saw a much more balanced contest, with Kilcunda Bass matching Wonthaggi in intensity and producing some strong passages of play.

However, the damage had been done early and Wonthaggi's lead proved too much to reel in.

While the result didn't go their way, Kilcunda Bass can take plenty of positives from their second-

half performance.

The team will now look to carry that momentum into next week's match and aim for a four-quarter performance.

Best on ground: Justin Braumann-Hall, Jarvis Stafferton, Harvey Oates, Hunter Bettles, Brady Van Steensel and Cooper Brown.

U12s

Mother's Day was celebrated at Bass when Kilcunda Bass played Wonthaggi Power in a physical hard game with strong tackles from both sides.

Bass led halftime by 17-points with Power kicking two points for the half.

Power responded kicking two quick goals after the break but Bass' midfield and forward pushed back and kicked three goals for the quarter while the backline only conceded another point.

Bass dominated the last, kicking 3-6 and keeping Wonthaggi scoreless, cementing the win by 46.

Eight goal contributors assisted Bass, with Alfie Russo leading with two.

Coach Nick Russo praised the entire team for their efforts and attack on the ball.

Awards: Austin Bennett, Jack Caffrey, Rory Nicholas, Byron Dinnie and Kaiden Evans.

U10s

Coming off a tough game last week the Kilcunda Bass kids had some things to practice at training as they prepared for their match against Wonthaggi. Working hard all game, the kids displayed impressive effort and intensity, and should feel proud of their efforts.

TIDE GUIDE

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

WED 14 MAY	THU 15 MAY	FRI 16 MAY	SAT 17 MAY	SUN 18 MAY	MON 19 MAY	TUE 20 MAY
HIGH 1:25 am 2.50 m	HIGH 2:05 am 2.56 m	HIGH 2:43 am 2.60 m	HIGH 3:20 am 2.63 m	HIGH 3:57 am 2.63 m	HIGH 4:33 am 2.61 m	HIGH 5:12 am 2.58 m
LOW 7:24 am 0.67 m	LOW 8:02 am 0.60 m	LOW 8:40 am 0.56 m	LOW 9:16 am 0.55 m	LOW 9:51 am 0.57 m	LOW 10:27 am 0.60 m	LOW 11:03 am 0.66 m
HIGH 2:33 pm 3.02 m	HIGH 3:12 pm 3.10 m	HIGH 3:48 pm 3.12 m	HIGH 4:25 pm 3.11 m	HIGH 5:00 pm 3.06 m	HIGH 5:34 pm 3.00 m	HIGH 6:08 pm 2.93 m
LOW 8:17 pm 1.25 m	LOW 8:54 pm 1.21 m	LOW 9:29 pm 1.19 m	LOW 10:02 pm 1.18 m	LOW 10:36 pm 1.18 m	LOW 11:11 pm 1.17 m	LOW 11:46 pm 1.16 m

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The Island U16 Girls and their mums. The team celebrated a decisive win over Nar Nar Goon. More photos at pisra.com.au/sport

Island juniors work hard

FOOTBALL

U16 Girls

The Phillip Island Youth Girls bounced back this week after their tough loss to Warragul.

In picture perfect conditions at Nar Nar Goon on Mother's Day, the girls took control of the game from the first bounce.

Ruby Kent-Ford was dominant in the ruck while on-ballers Gisele Smith, Lily "Elbow" Bow and Miki Leary consistently won the clearances.

Gemma Fischer was relishing her time up forward getting her hands on the ball on numerous occasions, while Scarlett "Scar" Rees was a strong presence up forward.

After a couple of minor scores, the girls finally got their first goal on the board and did not let up for the rest of the game.

Continual rotations saw all girls get an opportunity up forward.

Luna Bowker demonstrated great attack at the ball, while Jazz "Cuz" Campbell continues to improve and impress each week.

Welcomed back for her first game was Piper "Pip" Nicolaci and it didn't take long for the Nicolaci sisters to combine, with older sister Brinkley providing a great shepherd for Piper who ran in to score a goal.

Stellah Tilley was also rewarded with her first goal ever and Kyra Carton was out to prove that she prefers to play



U14 Red players (from left): Roy Paterson, Jedah Chard-Richards, Kane Patton, Loklan Newstead and Flynn Doig.

forward snagging a quick fire three goals in the second half.

Lily "Elbow" Bow showed her footy smarts throughout the game racking up numerous possessions and even taking three or four bounces from the wing into the 50 to set up another goal.

Captain Tess Ricardo also lead from the front in defence and when on the ball, seemed to step seamlessly through traffic and was unlucky not to score her first goal of the season.

The team also welcomed

back Ruby "Kinky" King to the team for her first game.

This was a fantastic team effort with Scarlett Rees also putting in a solid quarter in the ruck and Lili O'Loughlin dominating both in defence and when thrown forward.

Thanks to all the girls who volunteered and played a quarter for the Nar Nar Goon team and to Jayla Loughridge (injured) and her mum who drove all the way to the Goon to support the team.

Final score: Phillip Island 11.6.82 def Nar Nar Goon 0.1.1.

Best: Lily "Elbow" Bow, Lili O'Loughlin, Gemma Fischer, Ruby Kent-Ford, Gisele Smith and Brinkley Nicolaci.

Goals: Kyra Carton 3, Stellah Tilley, Brinkley Nicolaci, Lily "Elbow" Bow, Ruby Kent-Ford, Piper Nicolaci, Gisele Smith, Miki Leary and Gemma Fischer.

U14 Red

The U14 Reds took on Leon-gatha on Mother's Day.

Captain Zane said some lovely words to the mums pre-game to acknowledge all the duties throughout the season.

Leongatha started strong with early goals and plenty of hands on the ball.

The Island had many opportunities to kick a goal but unfortunately couldn't convert and added a few behinds to the scoreboard.

Half time scores: Leon-gatha 23 and Island 3.

In the third quarter, the Island came out firing with two quick goals and were back in the game with goals coming from key players Zane and Denver.

The fourth quarter was evenly matched, but Leon-gatha converted on several occasions to increase their lead.

Phillip Island went down by 33 points.

Best players: Roy, Jeadah, Flynn, Kane and Lachie.

U14 Blue

It was a cracking day full of sunshine and a home ground win for the U14 Blue team and their mums on Mother's Day.

Continued on page 31

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