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ADVERTISER

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Wednesday, May 22, 2024

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Tourism Minister Steve Dimopoulous visited Phillip Island last week, finding himself a furry friend at the Penguin Parade, as he announced a \$62 million fund for regional tourism.

TOURISM

Tourism Minister Steve Dimopoulous visited Phillip Island last week to announce a \$62 million fund for regional tourism.

On site at the Penguin Parade, which is in stage one of a boardwalk upgrade thanks to a \$5 million State Government grant, the Minister announced a new round of funding was open for the Regional Tourism Investment Fund.

He was keen to emphasise grants of up to \$5 million were available for small- and largescale projects and accommodation improvement projects.

Phillip Island Nature Parks PINP) received the \$5 million in a previous funding round to create a new accessible boardwalk with penguin viewing stands and additional seating (see sepa-

rate story).

The new funding round offers grants in three streams: between \$100,000 and \$1 million for small scale projects; grants between \$1 – \$5 million for large scale projects and; grants between \$500,000 and \$2 million for accommodation improvement projects.

Minister Dimopoulous said the government valued the work of tourism operators across the state, many of whom were small or family businesses.

"We know the value of tourism businesses, and whether they're a private business or a trust (like PINP), they make up a big part of local economies.

"In this general region, 40 per cent of people work in tourism."

"extraordinarily doing

well", reaching a milestone \$38 billion spend last year.

"We want that to go from strength to strength."

Applications for the Regional Tourism Investment Fund are open until Friday, July 19. To learn more visit tourism.vic.gov.au.

Previous projects

Alongside the Penguin Parade boardwalk upgrade, local projects funded in previous rounds of the Regional Tourism Investment Fund included the hot springs at Newhaven (\$5.2 million), Rhyll Brewery (\$1.2 million) and the Phillip Island Chocolate Factory expansion (\$492,000) which were all funded in 2022.

At the time, there was criti-He said the visitor economy cism on social media of the businesses receiving government

COWES SELF STORAGE

support, but the Minister said any private business that received funding through the program had to meet a strict criteria.

"The ratio of spend for private businesses is harder than in other grant programs. For regional public companies, for every dollar from a grant, they have to provide two dollars, while private companies have to provide three dollars for every one dollar of funding.

"They have to demonstrate that the offering will create jobs, not just being an attraction in and of itself," he explained.

"We want to support getting more jobs in regional Victoria."

He encouraged accommodation providers to look at the grants available for accommodation improvements, saying it was important to encourage people to stay three or four days in regional areas, to provide maximum benefit to the local economy.

Mark Anderson, GM of Tourism at Phillip Island Nature Parks supported the aim to expand the stay of people visiting regional areas.

"At the Nature Parks, we want to get visitors along to other attractions, including the Koala Conversation Centre and Churchill Island, so we need them to stay somewhere and have other things to do.

"It benefits the broader economy of Phillip Island."

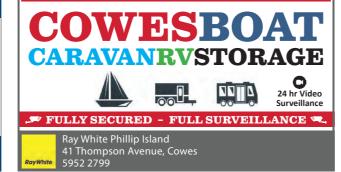
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After being arrested in early morning raids in Cowes in August 2020, Joshua and Taylor Savage have been sentenced to six years and three months and five years and two months respectively, with three

Savage brothers finally sentenced

Joshua and Taylor Savage have finally been sentenced for a series of local burglaries between 2018 and 2020.

The pair were originally due to be sentenced on May 10 at the Latrobe Valley County Court, however the case was adjourned until Monday, May 20, and heard by Judge Kevin Doyle.

Joshua Savage was charged with eight counts of burglary and theft, while Taylor Savage was charged with five counts of burglary and theft, and one charge of knowingly dealing with eligible for parole. the proceeds of crime.

The 19 charges related to multiple burglaries at properties in Cowes, as well as Surf Beach, Sunderland Bay, Inverloch, Wonthaggi and Leongatha.

Judge Doyle sentenced Joshua Taylor to six years and three months imprisonment, with a minimum sentence of three years and 10 months before being eligible for parole.

Taylor Savage was sentenced to five years and four months and will have to serve three years and two months before being

The two men were arrested in August 2020 during dramatic early morning raids on four Cowes properties, with cash, jewellery, a boat, motorbike, jet ski and vehicles seized.

In June last year, the two appeared in the Melbourne County Court on the 19 charges and entered a guilty plea thus avoiding going to a full trial.

Both men had been in custody since a hearing in early May. Prior to that they were on bail but prohibited from living in Bass Coast or South Gippsland.



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HEALTH MATTERS

Carpark closures

Anyone visiting Wonthaggi Hospital is advised several carparking areas are currently closed. The old helipad, near the sheds at the rear of the hospital and in the far western row of parking separated from the main Allied Health carpark by a road are no longer available.

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The road linking the front and western carparks is also closed. Patients wishing to park in the Allied Health carpark and to access the L. Rigby Centre should enter via the hospital's rear entrance, accessible from Baillieu Street West.

Full details and a map outlining closures are available online.

Bass Coast Health (BCH) is proud to welcome well known and much-loved General Medicine Doctor, Megan Scott, to a new role of BCH Clinical Dean.

Megan will provide guidance to 5D Medical Students, not only to help them provide a high-level service to our community, but also to ensure they have a positive experience with BCH so they may consider joining the team on an ongoing basis.

She will also be a conduit between BCH and Monash University, where students are studying.

Nurses celebrated

On International Nurses' Day, May 12, Bass Coast Health (BCH) celebrated its kind, caring and skilled nurses who care for the community.

The event, celebrated annually, serves as a tribute to these unsung heroes who touch our lives with their compassionate

"Nurses work tirelessly to care for people when they are at their most vulnerable, so it's a career that requires compassion and a real love for people,

as well as a broad range of skills given the many services and levels of care nurses provide," BCH CEO Jan Child

Midwives services

Midwives care for families during the ante-natal, birth, post-natal and early years periods, in the Maternity Ward at Wonthaggi Hospital and also in the community as Maternal and Child Health Nurses.

Maternal and Child Health nurses are Registered Nurses and Midwives, with Maternal and Child Health Nurse qualifications, who work with families from birth to school age.

Families are invited to bring their children into BCH centres to have assessments at two weeks and four years.

The MCH team has offices in Wonthaggi, Inverloch, Bass Valley, Grantville, San Remo and Cowes, where they see clients by appointment and offer home visits for the newborn and provide outreach as part of the program.

Heart health

BCH provides consultations with visiting cardiologists from The Alfred who can help you with cardiac conditions, including atrial fibrillation, chest pain, heart failure, hypertension, lipid disorders, palpitations and syncope or pre-

Appointments are available at Wonthaggi Hospital and Phillip Island Health Hub. To make an appointment, ask your medical practitioner to fax a referral to Cardiology on 03 9102 5307 or email it to access@basscoasthealth. org.au

Read the full stories at: pisra.com.au/health--wellbeing

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Parking motion gridlocked

COUNCIL

A motion to address the parking issues of Cowes and Phillip Island was defeated at the Bass Coast Shire Council May meeting.

Moved by Island Ward Councillor Ronnie Bauer, the motion failed to attract the support of his fellow Island Ward councillors and was ultimately lost with five councillors voting against it.

The motion called on the Integrated Transport Study currently being prepared by council officers to address parking arrangements on the island, in both peak and offpeak seasons.

Cr Bauer specifically called for the study to look at expanding the existing Transit Centre carpark through a Private Public Partnership, or to find an additional site nearby.

He stated the current site would not be able to cope with the growing demand, particularly when the new community hospital opened and when the hotel approved next to the cultural centre was com-

"The Transit Centre will become the messianic panacea for our parking woes," Cr Bauer said.

He also wanted carparking at boat ramps in Cowes and Rhyll to have the flexibility to allow cars without trailers to park in spaces designed for trailer use, outside of peak

Measures to address illegal parking in streets outside the Cowes CBD, additional disability parking and a review of the policy for allowing parking waivers were also part of the motion.

Cr Bauer said the community had implored the council to address local parking issues and his motion did not require any additional resources from the council.

There are few issues more spoken about on Phillip Island than parking," Cr Bauer said.

"Without a rail link, the only way to get there is either by car or bus.

With the population doubling or tripling in peak seasons, Cr Bauer said the community wanted council to tackle the parking situation.

Cr Bauer outlined the "inefficient use" of car parks at



In his notice of motion to address parking issues on the island, Cr Bauer criticised "inefficient use" of car parks at boat ramps, saying the bays for cars with trailers were empty except for a few days of the year, while cars had to park in surrounding streets.

boat ramps.

"Except for a few days of the year, all the bays of the cars with trailers-only lie idle. Officers should look at changing the parking signs so cars without trailers can use the parking bays."

Using the new brewery at nyll "with its 90-carpark waiver" as an example, he said "if the Rhyll boat ramp car park was opened up to single car use during the year, the parking situation with the brewery and all businesses on the Esplanade would greatly benefit."

He said the issue of parking on streets away from the central business area of Cowes, especially around caravan parks needed to be addressed.

"Turning out of various side streets is an accident waiting to happen.

"One suggestion is to erect bollards with ropes so the intersections can be kept clear and oncoming traffic can be seen."

While councillors Halstead, Lark and Ellis supported the motion, other councillors

were critical of the proposal, with Cr Rooks describing it as "poor governance and decision making".

Cr Rooks said there was no need for the motion, as most of it was already covered by the Integrated Transport Study and councillors should not be directing the study or pre-empting the community consultation.

Cr Whelan agreed, warning of the danger of "answers masquerading as policy", which he said was not the road to good governance.

He also warned that councillors needed to be careful that notices of motion did not "try to deflect strategy", noting this was why municipal observers had been extended in the City of Geelong. Cr Whelan was also criti-

cal of the "blasé inclusion of public private partnerships", saying it would have financial implications that had not been considered.

"The issue around public private partnerships – they're going to require at least a 10 per cent return on investment," he said, noting such a project would require looking at things like paid parking to meet the yearly costs of the partnership.

"If we're going to deal with those sorts of issues, let's deal with them as policy issues and discussions in our community and not start driving these things in ill-thought-out

Cr Leticia Laing said while she appreciated the intentions, she believed the motion "put the cart before the horse" and was essentially asking for "a report on a report".

She also described it as "unnecessarily Phillip Islandcentric", saying disability parking was an issue right across the shire.

Cr Bauer said the initiatives in the motion were "common sense", were not contrary to the Integrated Transport Study and he had raised them on behalf of the island community.

With councillors Rooks, Le Serve, Whelan, Laing and Tessari voting against it, the motion was defeated.



Council voted unanimously to contact the Minister for the Environment to ask him to clarify why the Newhaven jetty had been closed indefinitely and to commit to repairing or replacing it.

Closure questioned by council

NEWHAVEN JETTY

The decision to close Newhaven Jetty indefinitely was raised in Urgent Business at the May council meeting.

Cr Rochelle Halstead asked that the Mayor write to the Minister for the Environment, Steve Dimopoulous and seek further advice on the situation.

The motion asked why the jetty had been allowed to deteriorate to the point indefinite closure was the only option.

It also asked when and what viable options were considered, and for a commitment from the Minister to have the jetty repaired or replaced.

'I have had a lot of contact about the closure of the jetty," Cr Halstead said.

"It's a piece of infrastructure that has been enjoyed for a long time by the community.

She said the jetty was a popular spot for families with young children, who enjoyed fishing from the jetty, and said it wasn't a suitable option for them to fish at San Remo.

'San Remo jetty is a commercial operation. I would be a little concerned about the safety of children."

Cr Halstead said she was also concerned from a tourism point of view, saying the jetty provided an iconic view of the bridge.

'It's a real shame that it has been allowed to deteriorate to the point where it has been closed indefinitely.

We're hearing there are no plans to refurbish or replace it and I think that's a really sad loss for our community."

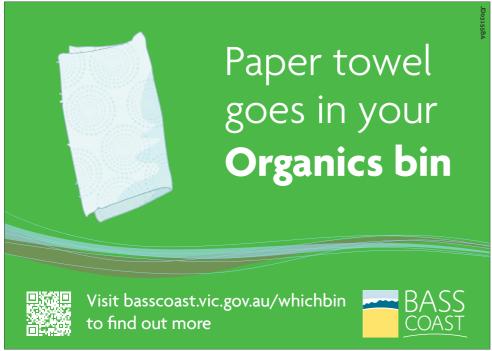
Cr Ronnie Bauer seconded the motion and supported Cr Halstead's concerns, but added the jetty was one of the first things people saw as they cross the bridge to Phil-

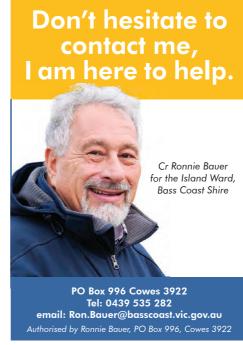
"I would be very disappointed if it wasn't resurrected or replaced in a short period of time. It does affect the whole amenity of the area.'

Cr Geoff Ellis noted at any meeting he'd attended with the Newhaven ratepayers group they had "constantly reiterated how important this facility is to them and how they value it."

He said it was important the facility was

The motion was unanimously supported.







Visiting Phillip Island last week, Minister Steve Dimopoulous said funding would be made available for San Remo Primary School's upgrade, but over multiple budgets.

Funding will come, says Minister

EDUCATION

Visiting Phillip Island last week, Minister Steve Dimopoulous said funding would be made available for San Remo Primary School's upgrade.

When told the school was mounting a campaign to get funding in the current budget, and asked what they could do to secure it, he said the school "doesn't have to do anything".

He said he was well aware of San Remo Primary School, however the project would be funded over multiple bud-

"It will be funded," he told the Advertiser, saying that of the 96 promised school upgrades, there were 29 left to do.

Earlier this month, San Remo School Council President Josh Thompson said the school had completed a master plan and was ready to go to tender, and they were campaigning to get the money they need.



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"My concern is if we wait, costs will continue to rise," said Josh.

Minister Dimopoulous said the design and tender process was run by the Victorian Schools Building Authority (VSBA), not the school, and the San Remo design work would be finalised by the end of the year and put to tender.

The school council said not being funded in this budget would see the start of the project moved back to 2026 at the earliest, and the school was already over capacity.

"We are the most disadvantaged school in this area and we've been waiting so long for this upgrade," Josh said.

In 2023, the school had 185 students, with enrolments this year jumping to around 225.

"With all the housing estates going up in San Remo, it's not going to slow down,"

The Minister said there were growth pressures right across Victoria, which was why the 96 schools were funded.

"We are already three quarters of the way through, and are only in the second year of our term," Mr Dimopoulous said.

Josh Thompson said encouraging people to write to the Education Minister, Premier and local member Jordan Crugnale was the start of a campaign to get the money the school needed.

"We want to keep going and we want to let the government know why we think it should go ahead."

The cost of councillor support

EXPENSES

A vote on a revised Council Support and Resources Policy was deferred at the May council meeting.

Cr Bauer moved a motion to defer consideration of the report for one month, with all councillors voting in favour. No explanation was given for the decision.

The policy (which was included in the minutes) covers the resources made available to councillors, including their allowances, administrative support, reimbursement of expenses, travel and accommodation entitlements, professional development opportunities and IT support.

It does not set the level of the allowances. This is decided by council after each council election, and has to be within the statutory limits set by the Minister for Local Government.

The policy clarifies the level of support and the kind of equipment provided to councillors, when councillors were eligible to claim expenses for travel and accommodation, that air fares are to be economy class (unless determined by council resolution) and reimbursement of carer expenses.

It also outlines Mayoral support including a furnished office, an environmentally friendly vehicle (or fuel card if own vehicle is preferred) and a corporate purchase card.

It outlines three avenues for professional development opportunities: councillor induction program; workshops, seminars, conferences and day training and; formal study courses at appropriately recognised training facilities.

In 2023, then Mayor Michael Whelan defended councillor training expenses, after councillors were criticised for undertaking the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) course, which costs between \$7449 and \$9213.

Ratepayers' groups questioned the need for the expensive course, however Cr Whelan said it was the "pre-eminent" course to help build governance skills, stating the importance of good governance skills for councillors.

"There's a level of probity applied now that wasn't applied in the past," Cr Whelan said.

Several councillors – Rooks, Halstead and Tessari – have all undertaken the course.

At the time, Cr Ronnie Bauer said while he had no problem with councillors doing courses – "the more educated the councillors are, the better" – he believed the system could be fine-tuned.

"Councillors are elected every four years, so what value does the community get if they don't get re-elected, or don't stand for re-election?"

He believes for more expensive courses, councillors should pay upfront, then



Councillor expenses up until the end of March were tabled at the May meeting. Cr Clare Le Serve's new role as Mayor was reflected in her increased travel costs incurred in the three months since December.

for every year of tenure, a portion of the course fee is refunded, ensuring the council gets the best possible value from its investment.

Expenses

An update on councillor expenses was presented at the meeting, and accepted as part of a block of four reports by the councillors, with no discussion.

The single page report outlined councillor expenses for the current term, from November 9, 2020 to March 31, 2024.

The last expense report, covering the period up until December 31, 2023 was presented to the February meeting.

The total allowance bill for the councillors so far this term is \$1,179,128, with \$89,357 paid in allowances since December 2023.

In terms of travel expenses, while two-time Mayor Cr Michael Whelan has clocked up the highest travel expenses for the term (\$52,021.54), unsurprisingly it was new Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve who recorded the biggest jump in travel expenses (up almost \$6000) since December.

For the three months since December 2023, only councillors Halstead and Laing recorded increased professional development costs (\$1699 and \$759 respectively).

All councillors recorded small increases in "other expenses", including Cr Bruce Kent who resigned in August 2023, but still recorded an increase of \$137 from the December figure.

Since the December report, travel expenses have increased by \$11,440. Councillors Bauer, Tessari, Rooks, Lark and Laing did not record any increase in travel expenses.

Over the current term of council, \$138,963 has been reimbursed to councillors for travel expenses, and the total expenses of all councillors is currently \$254,860.

The full details of councillors expenses is available on the council website, as an attachment to the May council meeting.



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A.F.D.A.





PICAL volunteers Anne, Linda, Karen and Lucy. The PICAL Pantry provides food for up to 300 people per week, and recently extended their opening hours to 9am - 3pm Monday to Friday for a three-month trial.

PICAL eases cruel pinch

COMMUNITY

Many families and folk across Phillip Island and San Remo continue to feel the extreme cost-of-living pressures coming into winter, with a number of volunteers and organisations working to alleviate stress in the community.

Last week, a couple with two young children from Cape Woolamai were one of many homes collecting food from the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) Pantry.

Before Covid, the couple describe a typical shop "including nappies" to be around \$300, whereas now it is "through the roof," costing the couple \$600 on average for a weekly shop.

"My wife, she's on the disability pension and I'm on a carers allowance. I'm my wife's carer, so it makes it fairly difficult financially. It's helpful, having (the PICAL Pantry) here.'

The couple said they visit the Pantry "probably every fortnight"

'We try and use (the Pantry) as sparingly as we can, you don't want to feel like you're taking too much even though we're in a po sition to probably be using it more often.

'We come get what we need and try and make do."

Another visitor to the Pantry was an 18-year-old Cowes man who collected three days' worth of food.

'They kept wanting to give me more," he said, "but I got some sausages, potato salad and a couple of protein bars."

The young man usually lives with his mother in a two bedroom "little, really old" house in Cowes, where rent is over \$400 per week.

"Well with a job, and government payments, I

put in for rent and I put in if 100 businesses donated for food and we still really struggle."

The 18-year-old works in hospitality in Cowes, and would normally work four shifts per week, but due to the drop off in customers is currently not receiving enough shifts.

"These guys help," the young man said of PICAL.

PICAL Pantry

PICAL provides food for up to 300 people per week, and recently extended their opening hours to 9am 3pm Monday to Friday for a three-month trial.

PICAL Centre Manager, David Rooks, said there was no barrier or means testing for receiving the free food.

"When people come to the Pantry there are no questions asked, there are no judgements made, there's no criteria you have to pass.

You are welcome to the food here in the PICAL Pantry. The only limitation is a maximum seven days of food," the Centre Manager said.

David also noted the Pantry's new extended opening hours have meant an increase in volunteering hours, and PICAL always looking for more volunteers.

"The Pantry operates because of volunteers. It's amazing what happens just through volunteers and the work that they do.

"There's an obvious need for the Pantry. We get a lot of regulars, those people that just rely on it all the time."

PICAL is also hosting a fundraiser on July $1\bar{2}$ at Pino's in Cowes, and is seeking ongoing PICAL Community Business partnership members.

Vice President of PICAL, Denise McGill OAM, noted roughly the price of a cupof-coffee per week, it would equate to over \$20,000 for PICAL each year.

"For us at PICAL, that is amazing," Denise stated.

Cost of Living

Linda Sparkes, Vice-President of St Vincent de Paul San Remo Cowes Conference, delivers hampers from the Pantry to people who cannot physically access the centre.

Linda has also volunteered with St Vincent's de Paul for eight years, going out to people who contact their helpline for support.

Linda says the support offered by St Vincent's de Paul mainly comes in the form of grocery and petrol vouchers, but can also "be anything else," including chemist bills, car registration costs and education expenses.

"Anything that clients need help with we can try and help them.

Linda said there had been a notable increase in people accessing their services, and "it's all about the cost of living, especially

"A lot of the people we help, they're only on ben-And sometimes the cost of rent these days is actually more than they're getting in benefits, or just about all their money.

"So it's really very hard for them these days, especially the ones with children. But even those without children, the need is desperately out there.

"And now what we're finding is a lot of people we haven't seen for years are starting to come back to us, and that's definitely because of the cost of living; they just can't manage."

More details about the PICAL fundraiser at: pical. org.au



A Gathering for Gaza, organised by Phillip Island 4 Palestine was held on May 18, on the Cowes foreshore. The group is planning further actions and will post details on their Instagram page.

Calling for ceasefire in Gaza

A Gathering for Gaza, organised by the group Phillip Island 4 Palestine was held on May 18, to advocate for a liberated Palestine and an end to the current conflict happening in the Middle East.

Phillip Island 4 Palestine is led by students from Bass Coast and aims to take peaceful community-based actions and create safe spaces for everyone to learn about Palestine, the current conflict, and how small communities like ours can be a part of the movement for peace.

The gathering was attended by over 40 people from all over Bass Coast.

Local 16-year-old student organiser from Newhaven College, Gabriel Di Falco said it was fantastic to be a part of the event, "with so many passionate people coming together for the Palestinian cause. It's such an important cause, I'm looking forward to future actions."

Details of future action will be on their Instagram page @PhillipIsland-

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Applications accepted between 18 May - 16 June 2024





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Council is holding two onsite information session about the redesign of Graydens Reserve in New-

What's the future hold for Graydens Reserve?

RECREATION

Bass Coast Shire Council is calling for community input on a future design of Graydens Reserve in Newhaven.

Graydens Reserve has been at the centre of a long-running debate between council, local skaters and residents.

Residents overwhelmingly objected to the 2019 proposal to build a regional skate park at the reserve, which was abandoned in 2021 by council.

When the Bass Coast Skate Park Strategy Review was released in September 2022, it instead recommended a local level skate park for Newhaven, with "mini ramp and basic street elements".

At the time, a council spokesperson said the skate park would be between 250-500sqm, compared to the current skate ramp area of 280sqm, and was a much smaller scale park than the original proposal for a regional park, which was fiercely opposed by residents.

However residents remained unimpressed with the proposal.

At a consultation in January 2023, the majority of residents in attendance were against the proposal, despite the strategy review stating that previous engagement undertaken for a regional skate park in Newhaven, showed there was "a lot of community support for a local scale facility" at Graydens Reserve.

A panel of 18 community members

"co-design" the next phase of consultation over the project.

A "strategic engagement plan" has now been developed and council said planning has begun on future upgrades of the area.

"We want to hear your thoughts on what it could look like," the engagebasscoast website states.

"We heard that it is a popular place for birthday parties, gatherings for families and friends, a stop-off on the way home from school and to and from the island."

Council noted any future plans need to take into account that part of the current area of the Reserve is owned by Regional Roads Victoria and will be used for a roundabout in coming years.

Feedback can be provided through an online survey, voting online for your favourite elements or attending an information session on May 28.

There will be two sessions held at the reserve, at 1pm and 3pm.

You can also send your feedback to Council via email at basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au, drop in to one its Customer Service Offices or post to Bass Coast Shire Council, 76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi 3995. Feedback closes on June 16

Council said after the consultation draft designs will be prepared and released to the community for feedback.

Project updates: engage.basscoast. was formed last year to help the council vic.gov.au/graydensreserve

On track for the year

COUNCIL

Bass Coast Shire Council is on track and projecting an \$18.2 million surplus for the year ending June 30, 2024, according to a quarterly performance report presented at the May council meeting.

The report updates progress against the council's annual action plan, and says only three actions are at risk of not being implemented. Five are already completed and the remaining 17 are expected to be finished by the end of the financial vear.

However one of the five completed actions is the contentious Wonthaggi North East Precinct Structure Plan. Residents are calling for the Environmental Audit Overlay to be rescinded, while the Nationals' Melina Bath has called for the Planning Minister to intervene and resolve the issue.

Highlights listed in the report include construction of Berninneit, the development of a draft Mountain Bike/BMX/Pump strategy, a Significant Tree Register and consultation for the Housing Strategy and Neighbourhood Character strategy.

Alongside the projected \$18.1 million surplus, council's underlaying net result is a \$159,000 deficit compared to a projected deficit of \$500,000.

The report said this had been impacted by higher than budgeted consultant (\$300,000) and contractor costs (\$200,000) and increased utility costs. The shire's workers compensation insurance costs are \$230,000 higher than budgeted.

The rising cost of materials and other price increases has also impacted the result, as well as provision of emergency relief after the storm in February 2024. The amount raised through statutory fees and fines was also less than expected.

Projects considered at risk included development of a Public Art Plan (20 per



Completion of the new cultural centre in Cowes is one of five projects listed as completed in the quarterly update against the Council Action Plan presented at the May council meeting.

cent complete), implementing the Tracks and Trails delivery plan (60 per cent complete), and developing an Integrated Transport Strategy (50 per cent com-

Cr David Rooks encouraged the community to read the report, which he said showed council was in a sound financial posi-

Cr Rochelle Halstead highlighted the work done on the Mountain Bike/ BMX/Pump strategy and thanked the officers for their work.

"I'm really happy to see that, but there's still some work to do to get it right," she said.

"Our community is well versed on these recreational activities and are keenly offering their experienced feedback."

Cr Halstead also highlighted the work on the Housing Strategy and Neighbourhood Character Strategy which she described as "critically important documents" in protecting the local community history and characteristics.

"Both have been neglected in recent times by the cookie cutter approach imposed on council through the State Government planning

regulations that have continued to strip away the ability of communities to protect the very things they love about where they live."

She also praised the financial team for steering through "a challenging and volatile economic time".

She encouraged council to continue to seek savings, saying the release of the State and Federal government budgets this month meant the outlook wasn't promising "and there seems to be stormy seas ahead".

Cr Brett Tessari also focused on the financial report, saying the council finance officers "gave it to us between the eyes in a couple of meetings, that we have to be a little bit careful moving forward".

He praised the work of the finance team, who kept the budget on track, while continuing to hear councillors' wants and requests.

All councillors except Cr Les Larke voted to accept the report.

The Quarterly Performance Report can be viewed as attachment 8.1 to the agenda of the May 2024 council meeting: www.basscoast.vic.gov. au/about-council/councilmeetings



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Penguin boardwalk upgrade

ENVIRONMENT

Tourism Minister Steve Dimopoulous used a visit to Phillip Island last week to get an update on the \$5 million boardwalk upgrade currently underway at the Penguin Parade.

The wonder of the Penguin Parade was on display in full sunshine and while the Minister didn't manage to spot a penguin, local wildlife including Cape Barren Geese and a sleepy copperhead snake were on show.

Mark Anderson, General Manager of Tourism at the Nature Parks said the new circular route for the boardwalk upgrade would provide an amazing visitor experience.

"We're extending our boardwalks out over the dunes to allow our visitors to come through and have a circular route, ensuring that we spread visitors out so there's no crowding and they get to enjoy an environmental experience.

"It gives them a great experience but importantly protects our penguins as well.

"We are very proud of what Phillip Island Nature Parks (PINP) contributes to the Victorian economy and importantly to the regional economy as well.

"We could not do that without the help and fi-



Project Manager for the boardwalk upgrade at the Penguin Parade Kym Evans (left) with Kevin Love (PINP Chair), Tourism Minister Steve Dimopoulous and Nature Parks GM Mark Anderson.

nancial assistance of the government and we thank the Minister for the great support, ensuring we are able to keep this as a world class venue.

PINP Chair Kevin Love said the government funding had allowed the organisation to start on the first stage of a large redevelopment, which would ultimately support increased visitation.

"Nature Parks is the biggest employer on Phillip Island and the more successful we are, the better it is for the island."

Project manager for the boardwalk upgrade, Kym

Evans said preliminary work for construction had been completed, with the construction team working closely with the environment team to ensure no burrows or habitat was destroyed.

"We will be hand installing the footings for the new boardwalk and the panels will be helicoptered in to minimise any on-ground disturbance.

Footings are due to start this week and we hope to have the project completed by December, in time for the summer visitors," said Kym.

The Minister said the

new accessible boardwalk with penguin viewing stands and additional seating will improve the visitor experience, ensuring more people from across Victoria and interstate can enjoy the attraction for years to come.

He said he was pleased the works will also protect the penguins' habitat by reducing erosion from visitors walking in the area, minimising the impact of visitors on the species, and described the Nature Parks as one of Australia's most popular wildlife attractions, with more than 900,000 visitors a year.



Anna Gebhart (Librarian), Mia Peters, Ruby-Rose Woolan, Darren Parker (College Principal) and Wendy Ashmore (Library Assistant) making Dolly Day badges to send a positive message about

Do it for Dolly

EDUCATION

On Friday May 10 with the support of the local Bass Coast Proactive Policing Unit, four local schools took part in Do it for Dolly Day.

Bass Coast College Junior and Senior Campus, Cowes Primary School and San Remo Primary

School participated. Students were asked to wear blue to help make Dolly's own dream of a kinder and safer world for Australia's kids and communities a reality. Collectively the schools raised over \$1000 to donate to the charity. www.dollysdream.org. au/event/do-it-for-dollyday-2024/home



At Bass Coast College's junior campus, Buckley, Jazmin, CEO Dolly's Dream Sarah Davies and Riley. More photos at pisra.com.au/



Victoria Police career information session

Join one of our monthly free online information sessions to learn more about a career with Victoria Police.

You will learn about the roles and responsibilities of a police officer, the recruitment process, training opportunities at the Victoria Police Academy, as well as salary and benefits.







At the Bass Coast IDAHOBIT event, Amy, Dani, Dylan, Austin, Jodi and Nick with guest speaker Tilly Lucas-Rodd (centre), the inaugural ALFW captain of Hawthorn Football Club.

A boost for Pride

INCLUSION

Held on May 17, the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) is a global movement that champions LGBTQ-IA+ inclusion and challenges discrimination and prejudice.

An IDAHOBIT event hosted by Bass Coast Shire Council was held last Friday at Berninneit, attended by council staff and representatives from Headspace, Gippsland Regional Public Health Unit and Anglicare staff, with local sporting groups also invited to attend.

Tilly Lucas-Rodd, the inaugural AFLW captain of Hawthorn Football Club, spoke at the event about their experience as a queer, non-binary person.

"When I first came out to my mum, she was pretty upset and didn't really understand what was going on. But I think she not only had conversations with me, but she also took the time to educate herself.

"Because it's not always on a queer person to share knowledge and make someone else's sense of self feel better.

"So when I come in to a new space and people don't know I'm non-binary, it's quite daunting to have to tell people that. Sometimes I just let them mis-pronoun me and misgender me, because it's just easier than having to come out to a stranger.

"But that's something my teammates will do, especially some of the closer ones. They'll correct people or have that conversation for me. And I think that's really important for allies to be able to do."

Gippsland funding

The Gippsland Pride Initiative received State Government funding to support its Rainbow Brick Road project and services, as announced by Minister for Equality Harriet Shing on IDA-HOBIT day.

A total of \$800,000 in grants were spread across 12 organisations in Victoria.

Community Liaison Officer for the Gippsland Pride Initiative, Daniel Bryen, said the grant will allow his organisation to continue their community work.

"It means we can expand the services that we offer from the hub. But also we cover a big area: 40,000 square kilometres, so it means that we're always continuously out on the road.

"The grant will make sure that we can still engage in some of those more far-flung areas of Gippsland."

Daniel said the importance of organised community groups for queer folk, especially in regional areas, is "the whole reason Gippsland Pride exists."

"We were born on the back of the really divisive debate in the community for marriage equality. It was a group of people getting together to say 'how can we respond to that (debate) when we're not feeling safe?'

"But also just a really big desire of people wanting to connect with people in their community and going: 'I mustn't be alone.""

Rainbow Brick Road

The following section of this article contains references to suicide.

The Painbow Briek Boad re

The Rainbow Brick Road report was launched one year ago and is a specific study into the experience of LGBTQIA+ people in Gippsland. Before the report was published, Daniel said there

was little concrete data to aid understanding of LGBTQIA+ experiences in Gippsland.

In the report, 60 per cent of those surveyed said they did not think their community has a "good understanding of LGBTQ-IA+ identities".

However, 68 per cent of respondents said they felt "connected, supported and welcomed as an LGBTQIA+ person" in their local community.

But Daniel said the report also shows suicide attempts and suicidal ideation is "certainly higher" for members of the queer community living in Gippsland.

Over 70 per cent of those surveyed said they have considered or experienced self-harm or suicidal thoughts in their lifetime, and two in three young queer people "will experience abuse just simply due to their identity," Daniel said.

"But we've certainly seen a lot more allyship. I think there's been a little bit of a move from just acceptance (of queer people) to really active allyship, and actually people being active bystanders and speaking up for LGBTQIA+ people."

An ally is someone who may not be queer themselves, but supports, encourages, and stands up for LGBTQIA+ people around them.

Daniel said making people feel safer in the community is "as simple as the information you know, or the language that you use. That can be really meaningful to people who are LGBTQIA+."

gippslandpride.com

If you or anyone you know is struggling and needs help, please call: Lifeline on 13 11 14 or Beyond Blue on 1300 22 46 36.



Sarah Tyrrell from Cowes Primary School (centre back), with the visiting Indian principals and representatives from the Australia India Institute, the Indian Consulate and the University of Melbourne.

From Dehli to Cowes

EDUCATION

This month Sarah Tyrrell, Assistant Principal of Cowes Primary School, took part in the reciprocal visit from 10 Indian principals from Dehli as part of the Women in School Leadership (WISL) program.

Late last year Sarah travelled to India with 12 other Victorian principals, spending time at her partner school, ITL Public School, located on the outskirts of Dehli.

The WISL program is part of Victoria's "India Strategy: Our Shared Future" and sought to deepen cultural ties and understanding between Victorian and Indian schools, with the overarching theme of 'leading schools for social change'.

"The intercultural exchange has really been able to expand my understanding of how the Indian education system works, and then what I can bring back to use on Phillip Island and in Cowes," Sarah said.

"We have quite a small Indian population (on the island), but I think it's really important to incorporate their cultures and all the different multiculturalism we have on Phillip Island."

Sarah also explained the different approaches needed to introduce ideas of global community and cultural diversity in regional classrooms.

"Being able to tap into real world situations and being able to look at the different cultures that people do come from and migrate to Victoria is really important. But it can look really different to what it does in some of these Melbourne schools."

Sarah said Cowes Primary uses a number of resources available through the department of education "that will relate to our children".

"We use a range of different resources, webinars and things like that so students can actually get a perspective. Because I think it's important the students can see that children who come from all around the world are just the same as them."

Women leaders

While a major focus of the ninemonth professional program was cross-cultural learnings, WISL also inherently championed female leadership in schools.

According to a 2021 gender audit report, while making up 76 per cent of the workforce in Victorian government schools, women only account for 44 per cent of executive principals.

"In a woman dominated profession, it becomes quite a male dominated leadership," Sarah said.

"It's nice that as a group of women we're able to raise each other up and support each other, and really validate our style of leadership as well.

"There were 24 female principals who took part in the program and every single person was different. But it's not that you say 'Oh, women do it this way and men would do it this way'. That's absolutely not how it is.

"It's about giving each other support and not feeling in competition with one another. Just gaining 23 other women leaders as friends and people that you can talk to, and talk things through with, was an amazing aspect of the program."

Connection

While acknowledging the school Sarah visited in India and Cowes Primary are vastly different in many aspects, a sense of pride in the school community is palpable and unmistakable.

"I think the thing that struck me about their school was just how immensely proud they were of it.

"I think that relates to the students at Cowes Primary School as well. We're in a lucky position on Phillip Island. We are one community, and we look at our school as the heart of our community as well."

Melaleuca Lodge Secondhand Book Sale

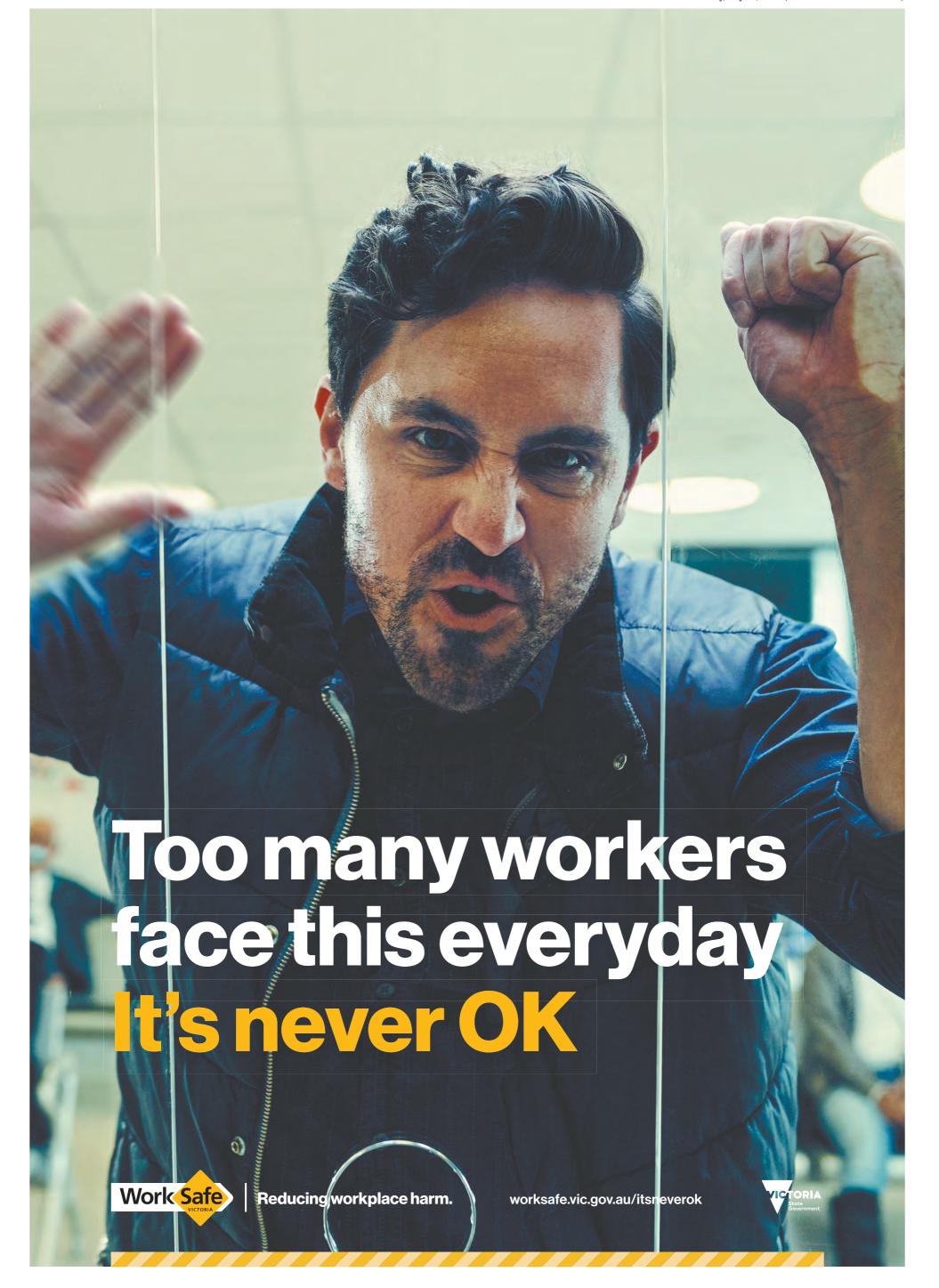
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Changing his tune

When Dave Barr finishes his day job as Phillip Island Winery general manager – and when all the customers and staff have left – that's when he cranks up the volume.

The 27-year-old heads to the property's renowned atrium, overlooking farmland towards Berrys Beach, and practices his other job: playing the bagpipes.

"I practice there after hours a lot – the acoustics are so beautiful," Dave says.

"Because it's such a loud, powerful instrument, I don't want to impose myself on other people, so I can't practice at home in Cowes. You have to be a big fan of yourself to play when there's a lot of other people around.

"If I'm not practicing at the winery then I'll find a nice quiet spot at Red Rocks beach in the evening when there's no one around, although if it's windless the sound can travel more than 1km."

Dave started formally playing the bagpipes just two years ago, when he moved to Phillip Island with his partner Molly Conroy, and now runs The Island Piper, performing for weddings, birthdays, events, and funerals around the island and Bass Coast.

However, as Dave explains in his lilting Scottish accent, he has been immersed in the instrument of his home country his whole life.

Bonny Scot

Dave grew up in the eastern Scottish town of Kirriemuir, between Angus and Dundee: ("it's actually the birth place of AC/DC's Bon Scott and there's a statue of him in the town playing the bagpipes").

His parents were both vets, but his dad Colin was also an advanced piper, performing in some of the world's top pipe bands. "I remember him playing for fun for friends at Hogmanay (New Year's Eve), and he'd also play the small pipes at the local pub with violinists."

As a kid Dave played everything but the bagpipes – guitar, piano, violin, drums – and says it's "one of my big regrets" not taking up the pipes at a young age.

He says it was only when he left Scotland in 2020 that he appreciated the music of his ancestors.

Dave worked in New Zealand's ski fields for three years where he met Australian Molly (who had grown up holidaying at Phillip Island) and the couple lived in Melbourne during Covid.

"I was stuck in lockdown and I'd never missed home much but it was then when I couldn't leave that I appreciated my heritage more."

That's when Colin began teaching his son bagpipe lessons via zoom from Scotland.

Dave started on the chanter, which is like a recorder, and then moved to the full Great Highland Bagpipes two years ago (he explains there are more than 30 kinds of bagpipes, ranging from \$1500 to \$9000).

"I still send him videos of myself playing and he critiques them."

Dave was actually given his first set of bagpipes by his grandfather George on a trip to Scotland in 2022, but the pipes were lost by an airline and never retrieved, so Colin and Dave bought a set together.

Pied piper

Dave says he is now "somewhat competent" on the highly complex instrument.

"It has been said it is one of the hardest instruments to learn."

The bagpipe is made of the chanter, which produces the noise, and three drones ("the long sticks out the back") that produce the hum, with all four of these requiring tuning during the performance.



Sometimes, David will find "a nice quiet spot at Red Rocks beach in the evening when there's no one around", to practice his piping. Photo: Molly Conroy. More photos at pirsa.com.au

At the same time a piper must constantly blow into the bag, that is tucked under the arm and squeezed.

"The breathing is hard, but it's about timing more than good lung capacity. It's not about amazing lungs as much as about knowing when to use it.

"You can't breathe well when you overthink for some reason. So if I'm playing a tune that is challenging, suddenly breathing is hard because there's too many things for the brain to think about.

"Results aren't fast like guitar or piano and there's a lot of muscle memory required."

For this reason, a piper will generally only perform for about 10 minutes (although top pipers performing at the Queen's funeral, for instance, can walk

and play up to 30 minutes).

So as The Island Piper, Dave will generally pipe a bride down the aisle or offer 10-minute ceremonial performances.

When performing, he wears full Argyll kilt ("because the Barr tartan is horrible") and his repertoire includes favourites such as the Skye Boat Song, Scotland the Brave, and Amazing Grace.

He says he loves performing on beaches around the island, even playing for a birth-day party at Berrys Beach, which is reminiscent of Scotland.

"When I came from the UK everyone has the image of Australia as looking like Surfers Paradise, but I was surprised when I came to Phillip Island, the beaches are very rugged and dramatic, which reminds me of home."



FIRST NATIONAL PHILLIP ISLAND

1/13 LANGARD RD, COWES \$1,400,000 TO \$1,500,000

The heading says it all, this home covers all the bases with the stunning views, beach proximity, ample room for entertaining over all levels. The north facing aspect just adds to create an extremely bright and inviting environment, nestled is the very quiet pocket of Cowes West let the stress from Melbourne wash away. The biggest decision will be a walk on the beach or relax on the balcony with a morning coffee, The low maintenance is another factor to enjoy, extra room for boat storage just adds to this extremely well presented property.

CONTACT MICHAEL MCLEOD 0412 712 034



43 GOODWOOD DRIVE, COWES \$720,000 TO \$745,000

This 4 bedroom home would suit the fussiest of buyers with large open plan living area, as well as a separate living zone for the kids. The well equipped kitchen has plenty of storage and is ideal for cooking up a storm for family/ friends. All bedrooms have built in robes, 2 bathrooms, outdoor entertaining area, reverse cycle heating and cooling, additional parking for boat or trailer and low maintenance yard.

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Advertising Feature



New recruits Garry Thompson and Natalie Stevens with recruitment coordinator Kyle Wood who helped recruit and train the pair.

New recruits excited to help

Natalie Stevens and Garry Thompson are the two latest recruits to join the volunteer team at Phillip Island Fire Brigade.

The pair finished their training less than a fortnight ago, and last week both attended their first call-out.

For Natalie, the 2am call to attend a gas leak left her wide awake and unable to sleep

- "the adrenaline was really racing", while Garry said it was great to put the skills he'd learned to work helping put out a grass fire. Both were driven to volunteer through a strong commitment to community.

"It's exciting and daunting, but I wanted to give back to the community, learn new things and have a bit of adventure," said Natalie of her decision to apply.

After retiring and moving to Phillip Island last year, Garry wanted to do something a bit more physical and learn something new.

"It's 50 per cent physical and 50 per cent mental, and the training was much more complex than I thought," Garry said.

"But this is a fantastic team and a very professional outfit."

Natalie also praised the skill and dedication of her new teammates.

"Everyone was so welcoming and so supportive. It is really impressive how much people do and it's an honour to be a

CFA Phillip Island – community spirit in action

Phillip Island Fire Brigade is a 100 per cent Volunteer Fire Brigade with members responding to urgent and non-urgent requests 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Currently we have 57 Members with 45 Operational and 12 Non-Operational and have responded to 100 local incidents already this calendar year.

Operational members, apart from emergency response are also required to attend training one night a week and one Sunday a month to maintain their skills as well as undertaking specialist training both locally and regionally, either one night a week up to six weeks or in weekly blocks.

Operational members respond to a range of local incidents, including fires (both structure and bush), alarms, motor vehicle accidents and also to assist other agencies (Police, Ambulance and SES) with their emergency response.

Operational members can also be deployed statewide and nationwide in major emergency response to assist other communities in need.

Non-Operational members, an essential part of any brigade, volunteer their time for a myriad of tasks such as station maintenance, catering for group training and events, assisting with fund raising and

community engagement.

Members both Operational and Non-Operational also volunteer their time in local schools and other community groups with educational programs and assistance.

Maintenance and fundraising

Some of our volunteers are also qualified in Fire Equipment Maintenance which gives Phillip Island Fire Brigade the ability to service and maintain fire extinguishers for local businesses, enabling them to be able to meet their Workplace Health and Safety requirements.

Although supported by CFA and the

State Government, brigades require extra funding to procure specialist equipment deemed necessary to provide a better service to our community. Members volunteer their time to raising these extra funds, whether it be at monthly BBQ's or filling out grant applications to organisations. Every extra dollar raised is an important part of keeping the brigade operating.

There is more to volunteering with CFA than just getting on a truck when the pager goes off and the time put in is more than rewarded when our members can help others in the community in their times of distress.



Broadbent MP

Something for Everyone Week

A huge thank you to the volunteers of the Monash electorate for the integral work they do for our

communities - whether that be through emergency services, local sport or youth and senior activities.

russell.broadbent.mp@aph.gov.au © 5623 2064

PHILLIP ISLAND HEALTH HUB AUXILIARY

Our next fund raising venture is a Trivia night come along and have a lot of fun whilst helping our community!



Get a group of friends together and book a table of up to 8 people with Amanda (0407 684 838) If you are not in a team, we will find one for you! **Bookings** essential

Where: Cowes Bowling Club,

Dunsmore Rd, Cowes, 3922

When: Wednesday 5th June 7 – 9pm

(doors open 6.30pm)

Tickets: \$10 per head

BYO nibbles, Drinks at Bar prices

!! Raffle!! Door prizes!! Lucky numbers!!

All proceeds going to the Phillip Island Health Hub & Community Hospital





Vicki Love. "I volunteer in the Bass Coast Adult Learning's English As a Second Language classes because they are lovely people and we laugh



Sunny Egresits of Bass Coast Board Riders Inc. "I volunteer because I get to share the stoke of surfing



Emma is one of a team of volunteers at Mitchell House.



Rhyce Davis, CFA volunteer. "Volunteering makes me feel privileged. I volunteer because if not me ... who?'



With approximately 90 volunteers on its database, PICAL relies on the extraordinary contribution of volunteers to perform its vital services

Celebrating our volunteers

Bass Coast Shire Council, along with many community groups and dedicated individuals are thrilled to be celebrating Volunteer Week from May 20 to 26 this year.

This year's theme is 'something for everyone', and Council is delighted to be showcasing a range of brilliant people who make our community thrive.

"As Mayor of Bass Coast Shire Council I would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all the incredible volunteers who make up our community. Communities cannot run without volunteers. This is the spirit that keeps our places and communities vibrant, healthy and connected," said Mayor, Clare Le Serve.

"We want to recognise the

diverse passions and talents everyone brings to the act of volunteering," she said.

From young to old, from individuals to those who make up groups - Bass Coast proudly has a community that thrives from the work from volunteers who make this region sparkle and shine that little bit more.

Bass Coast has a large range of community and not for profit organisations and an enormous number of volunteers. The last CENSUS proudly shows our region as having a higher-than-average number of volunteers, with nearly 20 per cent volunteer-

Interested in becoming a volunteer? Join www.volunteeringgippsland.com.au



Volunteers with Wonthaggi SES.

Volunteering at PICAL

Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) is fortunate to have a strong volunteer participation rate. And our community is the beneficiary of all the volunteers as they provide most of the services offered at PICAL.

PICAL has approximately 90 volunteers on their database. Around 70 of them would be active each fortnight volunteering at least one shift. The volunteers contribute around 300 volunteer hours each week. It's clear the volunteers have a huge impact on the work undertaken by PICAL and the community they

PICAL volunteers are empowered and trained to operate freely. Coordinator positions are formalised that lead the main areas of reception, pantry, garden and cooking teams. These coordinator roles provide the reference point for each of the teams, and a vehicle to ensure that everyone is included and involved in the day-to-day operations.

Other specialist volunteer roles exist such as grant writing, education, social planet administrator/room hire, NDIS research, maintenance, pantry drivers, partnerships and volunteer coordinator.

Centre Manager David Rooks expresses his huge thanks to all the volunteers. "It's very rewarding seeing volunteers, with their wealth of education and experience, working at their high level of capacity."

Recognising the theme for this year's National Volunteer Week is 'Something for Everyone', the PICAL volunteer offer aligns well.

'Our offer is unique as there are a myriad of different roles available requiring different skills, interests and experience," said David.

Should anyone wish to volunteer at PICAL please go to www.pical.org.au to register your interest or contact reception on 03 5952 1131.

Thank you to all our volunteers!



Bass Coast Shire Council would like to thank all volunteers in our community for their contribution and dedication.

Their service to the community is appreciated by the visitors and residents they assist.

Volunteers are part of Visitor Information Centres, Community Asset Committees, Foreshore and Bushland Reserve Management as well as emergency services and the many community groups and sporting clubs in Bass Coast which enrich our community.





programs, playing a vital role in our conservation, research, and tourism achievements.

Thank you, volunteer team!

Phillip Island
NATURE
PARKS

penguins.org.au #PhillipIslandNP



Our organisation depends on volunteers to provide services to the community.

PICAL volunteers help in many areas: reception, food pantry, building and maintenance, pantry drivers, community garden, projects and cooking.

To volunteer with us go to www.pical.org.au or contact reception on 5952 1131





The Phillip Island SES Unit is looking for volunteers to join their team. There are a range of different roles available and they need volunteers with different skills and backgrounds.

The SES needs you!

The Phillip Island SES Unit is looking for volunteers to join their team.

There are a range of different roles available and Deputy Controller Bri Reid said they need volunteers with different skills and backgrounds.

She said new members were always

"We're looking for not only operational members (those responding to physical events), but also support members," she said.

'You might have other skills, like administration or equipment maintenance.

"If you're interested, there's a job for everyone. All of the training is provided by VICSES at no cost.

"It's a great way to learn new skills and push yourself outside your comfort

"It's a great way to give back to the

community."

The unit's members are available 24/7 for road rescue, storm and flood damage and emergency events within the com-

And while their trucks are a familiar sight, most people would be surprised to learn the number of volunteers that make up the Phillip Island team.

"The unit averages between 20-30 members, and the number of active members available to respond to jobs varies between 10 and 15," Bri said.

"Many of our members work full time, or run their own business, plus sometimes people are away on holidays.

"Our road rescue team is only about

Follow the Phillip Island SES on Facebook. More information about SES at: www.ses.vic.gov.au

Melina thanks community heroes

"They are some of the most unassuming and selfless people among us, but they are true heroes,' said Melina Bath, Nationals Member for Eastern Victoria Region, who is also the Secretary for Education, Volunteers and Public Land Use in the Shadow Parliament.

'Volunteers form the fabric of our community in their tireless efforts to keep us safe, care for us, and ensure we can participate in the activities we love.

"National Volunteer Week is an opportune time for everyone to take stock of the enormous contribution our volunteers make to society.

"Every day I am inspired by volunteers from all walks of life who often put others' needs before their own, simply because they want to help," said Ms Bath.

"The astounding value of volunteerism in Victoria is estimated at some \$60 billion, although it's hard to put a price tag on the invaluable social benefits afforded to communities by their volunteer networks.

"Volunteers help keep us connected in sport clubs and community groups, they risk their



Volunteers are "some of the most unassuming and selfless people among us, but they are true heroes," said Melina Bath, Nationals Member for Eastern Victoria Region.

lives to save ours in times of disaster, they provide food and safe havens, and they don't expect anything in return.

'We are more time poor than ever, and while volunteers don't necessarily have the time, they certainly have the heart.

"I want to extend my sincere thanks to all volunteers in our region who go out of their way to genuinely make a difference in our community we couldn't do it without

Want to help your community?

Ready to receive nationally accredited training?

Looking to develop your career? Create new friendships?

SES Phillip Island Unit

We are looking for new volunteers with different skills, abilities and backgrounds to suit a range of roles. Each role is important to how we respond to emergencies and care for our community, and you could be a part of the Phillip Island team too.

Come & visit us or find out more

Saturday 25 May 2024 10:00 am - 2:00pm Free BBQ SES Phillip Island Unit 127 Settlement Road, Cowes



SES Phillip Island Unit

or contact: phillipisland@ses.vic.gov.au







Advertising Feature

Something for everyone

The contribution of hundreds of Phillip Island Nature Parks volunteers will be celebrated this week with a program of activities and a special 'Breakfast with a View' to mark National Volunteer Week.

Kate Adams, Community Impact Manager at Phillip Island Nature Parks said the Nature Parks is lucky enough to be able to provide a diverse range of volunteering opportunities.

"We have over 150 active volunteers that do a broad range of activities including native plant nursery work, Eastern barred bandicoot surveys, wildlife rehabilitation support, heritage restoration, visitor engagement, community events, seal field work and more," said Ms Adams.

Some of the highlights over the past year include:

- Koala Conservation Reserve: Volunteer Coordinator Louise Casey works closely with Ranger Ashley Reed on the Curlew Custodians program with 21 volunteers sharing duties including daily curlew feeding and monitoring, enrichment and educating visitors. The dedicated team provides ongoing support and plays an important role in efforts to return the bush stonecurlew to its natural habitat.
- Churchill Island Heritage Farm: Museum Curator Dr Andrea Cleland, led volunteers Marg Knapton, Jude Adams



Volunteer Robyn is part of the Churchill Island visitor engagement team, showing the art of wool spinning.

and Linda Patterson through an intensive workshop as part of the Collections and Community Resilience Project. Volunteers learnt techniques to handle and preserve textiles and lace collected by the Amess family over four generations since 1850. Handling such fragile material involved learning how to check and assess each textile for its condition and best practice for unfolding larger pieces, including one of the earliest pieces, a Limerick lace chemise dating

from the 1850s. The volunteers worked diligently to preserve a collection of 94 major pieces in total, a significant collection contributing to Churchill

Island's unique history.
• In the 2022-23 financial year, there were 321 registered volunteers including 49 new volunteers and contributing 4547 hours. There were many service milestones achieved during this period including 22 volunteers with five years of service, three volunteers with ten years of service, three volunteers with 15 years of service, three volunteers with 25 years of service and one volunteer achieving an incredible 45 years of service.

Kerri Ritchie, Volunteer Coordinator at Phillip Island Nature Parks, said diversity of both volunteers and the volunteer activities available at the Nature Parks fits perfectly with this year's National Volunteer Week theme of 'Something for Everyone', which is all about inclusion.

"The wonderful people who volunteer at the Nature Parks have incredibly diverse life ex-periences and they bring these amazing qualities to the way they contribute to the Nature Parks purpose of protecting nature for wildlife and inspiring people to act," said Ms Ritchie.

For volunteering opportunities at the Nature Parks, please visit penguins.org.au



Beautiful landscapes, great people and a chance to contribute to improving our Island environment. What's not to love about a Community Planting day with Phillip Island Landcare Group.

Plant a tree with Landcare

Planting Indigenous trees and shrubs is a key part of what we do at Landcare. We love to have volunteers of all ages and abilities working alongside us, to make Phillip Island a biodiverse, healthy landscape which provides shelter and food for native animals, as well as improving water quality and preventing land degradation.

Tree planting is not only beneficial to the land and wildlife, but also to you. These planting days are a great way to spend time with your family and friends, to explore new areas which you normally wouldn't have access to (which can offer some spectacular views!), you'll get out in nature, get your hands dirty, work on your fitness, and of course enjoy that warm fuzzy feeling you get knowing what a difference your help has made to the land for future generations.

Phillip Island Landcare Group holds many tree planting days every year throughout late Autumn to early Spring. Most plantings run from 10am – 1pm and finish with a delicious barbeque lunch with great company.

Please see our planting calendar for upcoming events at www. phillipislandlandcare.org.au and let us know if you can make it









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To discuss your individual requirements and experience the Banfields Aged Care lifestyle firsthand, please phone (03) 5951 2500 Or visit www.banfields.com.au

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THANK YOU

The Phillip Island RSL Committee, Management and Staff thanks its team of amazing volunteers who dedicate their time to assist the RSL and the local community with pride and passion.

We value their support in the following services:

Medical transport

Home and hospital visits for our veterans

Home help Commemorative services **Fundraising**

Welfare committee Men's Shed Islander's Day Club

Breakfast Club Memorabilia



Advertising Feature

able volunteers.

Their extensive service, across many roles, helps our community to access public healthcare, both in Bass Coast and further afield.

BCH CEO Jan Child said the service of around 200 Volunteers was valued by BCH Board, Executive, staff and our consumers.

"From helping in reception, wayfinding and driving patients to appointments locally and as far as Melbourne, to gardening, visiting patients and aged care residents, it's truly remarkable where you can find a volunteer," Ms Child said.

"They also help with administration take part in our Community Advisory Committee, working with us to enhance our level of care. They always have a smile on their face while they're contributing to your public health service.

"We're also fortunate to have volunteers across five Auxiliaries: San Remo Opportunity



BCH Ladies Auxiliary member Wendy Martin serves Angela Favretto at the Auxiliary's fete.

Shop Auxiliary, the Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary, Inverloch Art Show Auxiliary, Inverloch Fundraising Auxiliary and BCH Ladies Auxiliary. They hold fun-filled events, sort and sell goods, conduct raffles and do other amazing work to raise funds so we can buy medical equipment that benefits our patients.

"These are wonderful people, giving so freely of their time to help others. Individually they make a difference. Together they achieve so much."

Wendy Martin volunteers in many ways; as a member of the BCH Ladies Auxiliary and also visiting patients at

Wonthaggi Hospital. "I like interacting with the patients and it's nice for them to have someone to talk to about trivial stuff, rather than medical matters," she said.

Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary President Lyn Wadeson said it was an honour to serve the community.

"The Auxiliary members are like-minded people who want to help the community by raising funds for extra equipment that makes the lives of patients and staff easier," she said.

"As President I care for new members, and try and make meetings

as a team and understand when people commitments, have family, travel and work. Basically it's fun to volunteer and be part of something to help oth-

Joan Ray volunteers at the BCH San Remo Opportunity Shop to raise funds for BCH. "The community is amazing because they know the money they spend here is going to a great cause," she said.

Volunteer Michelle Wilson helps with administration tasks at Wonthaggi Hospital.

"I like volunteering because I like talking to different people and meeting different people, and I'm giving back to the community as well," she said.

For more information, please contact the Volunteer Support Team on 5671 3372 or email Vicki Riley, Volunteer and Fundraising Manager, vicki.riley@ basscoasthealth.org.au

You can also go to: www.basscoasthealth. org.au/volunteer

Helping care for the community This National Volunteer Week, Bass Coast Health (BCH) wishes to Bell powledge the con We all pull together Helping care for the community Achieving great this National Volunteer Week, Bass Coast allow for individual expression and ideas, as well as coffee and cake. "We all pull together"

The Lions Club of Phillip Island was proud to receive the Lions Membership Satisfaction Award for 2022 - 2023. "The strength of your club supports your ability to help those in need. You understand that together we can achieve greater things.

We asked some of our volunteers what it means to them to be

"Companionship in working together and helping people." -

"I used to be in JayCees in NZ; it's a good thing, social and great chocolate biscuits!" – John J.

"Making friends and having fun." - Sue.

"I live in the community and I want it to be a strong community." – Steve.

"I enjoy seeing people and being a helper and a giver." - Lucy.

'Now at retirement age it's good to give back and raise funds to help the community." – Wyn.

"Because Lions saved my life, gave me a purpose, nothing beats giving back to the community." – Deb.

["]I like helping people who need help." – John R.

"Gives a sense of purpose and pride in the donations given to the community." – Madeleine.

"Great social atmosphere, good for mental health, feeling



If you too want to give something back to our island community, the Lions Club of Phillip Island welcomes new

members, just ask how. a sense of fulfilment." - Manny.

"I like doing it - we're with friends and giving something back to the community." - Ray.

"Helping other people who are not as lucky as myself, contributes to cohesive public spirit on the island." - Dave H.

You can meet our amazing volunteers any weekend at the Steptoes trash and treasure market in Dunsmore Road, Cowes, next to the Shire recycle centre. Browse around, find a treasure, make a donation and meet our happy Lions.

If you too want to give something back to our island community, we welcome new members, just ask how. To enquire about donating goods for Steptoes, send photos and text to 0433 191 654.



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- **Auxiliaries**
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- Gardening
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- Ward visiting and more.

To learn more, contact Vicki Riley, 0439 367 129 or email vicki.riley@basscoasthealth.org.au

Wonthaggi Hospital, 5671 3333 Phillip Island Health Hub, 5951 2100 basscoasthealth.org.au/volunteer







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Dunsmore Road Cowes, next to Shire recycling depot.

Donations of furniture, hardware etc: contact Deb on 0433 191 654 (texts preferred).

Deliveries and pickups by Lions truck can be arranged.

All proceeds go to community service projects on the Island, or to state and national emergency relief and charities.

New volunteers welcome.



Junior School Captains Edward Lee and Chloe Shapardon presented Cameron Ashe AIM with a gift after his address to the assembly.



Deputy Principal and Head of Senior School, Jason Scott delivered his final speech to a whole-school assembly before retiring at the end of this term, after 30 years in education and 14 years of those years as Vice Principal



Newhaven College Prep students were excited to receive their house badges at the Foundation Day assembly. Sambell students Chiara Fumagalli and Iona James, and Bass students Maeve Randall and Mali Dennis.

Newhaven College celebrates Foundation Day

EDUCATION

Last week Newhaven College's Foundation Day Assembly marked the school's 44th birthday.

The College welcomed back former principal Mr Mike Brewin (1998-2011) and 1985 alumni and the College's first student captain, Cameron Ashe AIM. Also in the audience were College Life Governors, Board members, early teachers at the school, the College leadership team, staff, students and families.

The celebrations com-

menced with an address environment, where it was by Cameron Ashe. Since leaving school, Cameron has worked in national intelligence and is currently the Deputy Director General of the Australian Signals Directorate - Australia's intelligence agency responsible for signals and cyber intelligence.

"In 1980 I was in Year 8 and one of 150 founding students at Newhaven College. But, Newhaven College was just a fancy sounding name for four portable classrooms, and as many teachers, in a swamp-like no coincidence the classrooms were named after ferries," he quipped.

Cameron joked about being at the "first Foundation Day, the first student to eat a sausage roll at the canteen, the first student to get hit in the head by a cricket ball in the playground ... and the first student to receive the Papworth Prize for Excellence.'

Cameron went on to graduate with honours at La Trobe University and win a graduate position at the Defence Signals Directorate. Cameron was also awarded the Australian Intelligence Medal (AIM), a civil decoration awarded to national intelligence community members for distinguished service.

During his final address to the College as Vice Principal, Jason Scott was thoughtful, reflecting on his time at Newhaven and trying to identify the special and unique character and personality of the College.

Jason drew on words for the College's school song to summarise his thoughts:

"All through life, heart and mind hold the key".

Student leaders were given the opportunity to present to the assembly, with College Captains Max Arceo and Alice Mabilia speaking about the fundraisers the Year 12 Leadership and House groups have been running for the Cancer Council. Middle School Captains Amara Pittorino and Finn Campbell Walker spoke about Middle School initiatives while Junior School Captains Edward Lee and Chloe Shapardon presented a thank you gift to guest speaker Cameron Ashe.

The Preps were awarded their house badges.

Musical performances included Senior School band, Marchioness, the Little Shop of Horrors cast and the Junior School Choir, the Combined Choir and the College orchestra performed. The Foundation Day assembly celebrated everything the school is proud of: a rich history, leadership, involvement, encouragement and music.

More photos at pisra. com.au/education

Celebrating Refugee Week

COMMUNITY

Phillip Island Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR) celebrate Refugee Week with a lunch and film on Thursday June 20.

All around the world individuals and families are escaping conflict, death, persecution, famine, drought and floods. What can we do, you may ask?

This little RAR group is part of a network of similar groups around rural and regional Australia involved in fund raising, advocacy and support of refugees already in Australia and those who are seeking safety in another country

This year RAR on Phillip Island will hold a Soup and Slice lunch; listen to Julie Watson from Bass Coast Refugee Sponsorship Group; and watch a



Phillip Island Rural Australians for Refugees is holding a Soup and Slice lunch, with a short film, at St John's Uniting Church in Cowes, on June 20, at 12.30pm, to celebrate Refugee Week.

titled "Humanity".

The lunch will be held in St John's Uniting Church, Cowes on June 20, 12pm for

film they have made en- 12.30pm. Food donations will be gratefully received and an entry donation.

Please call 0432 163 694 to reserve your place.



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Orly Moulynox and Oliver Crane (front, second and third from right) were part of the Victorian State Youth Ballet's sold-out performances on the weekend.

Orly and Ollie hit the stage

Cape Woolamai and 10-year-old Oliver

Eight-year-old Orly Moulynox from Crane of Corinella were part of the Vic-

No Place Quite Like It: The family history of Walter Withers and his wife Fanny Flinn by local author David Rathgen Now available at Turn the Page bookshop, 40A Thompson Ave, Cowes.

The story of Walter Withers, landscape artist, best friend of Tom Roberts, Fred McCubbin, Arthur Streeton. Holidayed at Erehwon Guest House, Cowes. Painted: Cowes Jetty, Playtime at Cowes front beach, Picnics at Ventnor Beach and Red Rocks.



torian State Youth Ballet's sold-out performances of the Little Mermaid on the weekend.

The boys performed at the Karralyka Theatre in Ringwood East and in preparation for the show, have been travelling to Bundoora every Sunday for six hours of training and rehearsals.

Earlier this year, the boys successfully auditioned for the Victorian State Youth Ballet (VSYB), the state's leading youth ballet company. It offers training, rehearsing and performing opportunities to the next generation of dancers, and the opportunity to be mentored by professional dancers.

The two boys, who both attend Spark Studio of Dance in Corinella, have travelled to Melbourne for rehearsals since March.

Orly's mum Jess said the boys have worked hard to achieve their goal and as part of the Little Mermaid will appear as swordfish in one act, and dancers at a ball in another.

"The show is amazing and we're all so excited to see how far the boys have come this year," she said.

In the second half of the year, the boys will start training for the next performance – The Nutcracker.

The Big Freeze is back at the San Remo Hotel on June 9, from 2pm onwards, raising funds for Fight MND. At last year's event, Cr Rochelle Halstead looking bright and breezy before taking the plunge, was supported by Yvonne, Len, Kerryn, Helena and Stuart. Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.

Get ready to Freeze

The Big Freeze is returning to San Remo next month, with the San Remo Hotel hosting the event on June 9 from 2pm.

Raising money for Fight MND, the fun filled family day will include an ice bath where some local celebrities will be dunked – as well as a raffle and auction, with Big Freeze merchandise for sale.

There'll be live music from

Last year's event raised over \$15,000 for this great cause, including sales of \$8500 worth of MND merchandise. Big Freeze Beanies are already available at the hotel's bar, bistro and bottle shop. More details on the San Remo Hotel Motel facebook page.

The Gondoliers float into St John'

OPERA

The fabulous Gilbert and Sullivan opera "The Gondoliers" will be performed at St John's Uniting Church on May 26.

The annual Singularity concert raises money to support Rubaga Youth Development Association (RYDA), Uganda.

Get ready for an afternoon of harmonious music, fabulous period costumes and an enthusiastic choir supporting delightful soloists. The choir is donating their time and talent to this important cause.

RYDA provides vocational and life skill training for orphaned and vulnerable young people and they accommodate, teach, feed and care for 100-200 young people at their Kampala live-in campus.

An accredited charity that receives no government funding, St John's have been supporting RYDA's work for many years.

The Gondoliers' story follows two handsome gondoliers raised as brothers, Marco and Giuseppe. One a prince, the heir to the kingdom of Barataria, the other a commoner.

Their father, who raised them alone (enough to drive anyone to drink) has imbibed so much through life that he can't remember which is which and they were never told.

Add one beautiful princess who, on the recent death of the King of Barataria, discovers that she was married to the prince when six months old.

Arriving in Venice to find her



Marco and Giuseppe look forward to meeting you at St John's for a performanceof Gilbert and Sullivan's The Gondoliers on May 26.

heir to the throne, the plot is further complicated by both handsome gondoliers being recent newlyweds ... and the princess secretly having chosen another to be the love of her life.

The outcome must surely be an afternoon of music and merriment not to be missed.

All welcome at St John's Uniting Church, Chapel Street, 2pm, Sunday May 26.

Tickets at the door: \$15 adults and \$5 under 14. Cash only, no EFTPOS.

All proceeds support Rubaga Youth Development Association, Uganda, in providing life and vocational skills training for orphaned and vulnerable girls and boys aged 12 to 18.

Discover more about RYDA at www.blackdouglas.com.au/ ryda.

GIG GUIDE

25/05 URBAN GROOVE - 9PM 26/05 **HEY GRINGO - 5PM** 01/06 THE REGULAR BOYS - 9PM 02/06 ANNA SCIONTI - 5PM 07/06 LLOYD SPEIGEL £35+BF - 8PM DOORS 08/06 **SECOND HAND NEWS - 9PM** (FLEETWOOD MAC TRIBUTE) 09/06 LAING BROTHERS (EARLY) - 4-7PM 09/06 FELIPE BALDOMIR (LATE) - 8PM 16/06 GLEN WAVERLEY & THE MENTONES 30/06 IAN COLLARD

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Arı Barker

when we pee?

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COMMUNITY GATHERING ~ SUNDAY 26 MAY, 10.30am-1pm

We invite you to enjoy the beautiful Nobbies Centre on Millowl to come together to support healing for all Stolen Generations Survivors. All Stolen Generations Survivors, family members, descendants and allies are encouraged to attend. The event will begin with a Traditional Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country at 10.30am followed by a community gathering over lunch.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK EVENTS

National Reconciliation Week is a time to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to reconciliation. The theme for 2024, Now More Than Ever, is a reminder to all of us that no matter what, the fight for justice and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will, and must continue. You can get involved by attending one of the below events and activities.

FIRST NATIONS FILM SCREENINGS MYLI LIBRARIES ~ Monday 27 to Friday 30 May

Myli Libraries across Bass Coast and South Gippsland will be screening a wide selection of films by First Nations creators, holding special Story Time sessions to celebrate First Nations authors and illustrators, and providing free children's activity booklets and activity stations at many of its branches across the week.

Check out what your local branch is up to and get involved this National Reconciliation Week 2024. www.myli.org.au /nrw2024

POWLETT RIVER - KUGERUNGMOME ~ Thursday 30 May

The Bunurong Land Council in collaboration with West Gippsland CMA and Westernport Water are hosting a cultural values assessment activity at Powlett River Kugerungmome. This event is open to all First Nations Community members only, as part of National Reconciliation Week on Thursday 30 May, from 10am to 12pm.

Bookings: cultural.values@bunuronglc.org.au

BOOK DISCUSSION WHITE FRAGILITY ~ Thursday 30 May and Friday 31 May

The Bass Coast South Gippsland Reconciliation Group invites you to one of two sessions to discuss the book White Fragility. One group will meet on Thursday 30 May in Inverloch at 2pm and the other in Leongatha at 5pm on Friday 31 May.

Bookings - Marg Lynn on 0419 361 039

Presented by members of the Bass Coast Reconciliation Network

For bookings and further information about events visit www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/reconciliation

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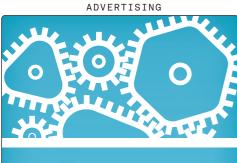
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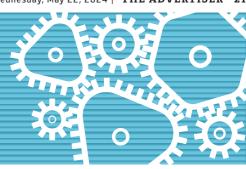
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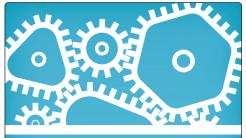
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DEATHS

DIXON, June:

Thank you for being the most beautiful person always and for being an adopted grandmother to Jessie, Shae and Shelby.

Now cruising with Michael in that 56 T-Bird.

Forever in our hearts -The Justice family.

JACKIW, Anne Mary:

Passed away peacefully on 17th May, 2024 with her daughter by her side.

Loved mum of Michelle and cherished companion of Isabelle.

For those wishing to say their final goodbyes to Anne, you are welcome to attend Handley & Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on THURSDAY (May 23, 2024) at 11:00am.

Privately cremated.



MAY, Geoffrey William:

Passed away peacefully on 18.05.2024.

Loving husband of Pam.

Much loved father and father-in-law of Mark and Simone, Karen and Glenn, Vanessa and Tac.

Adored Poppy to Thomas and Harry.

Loving brother to Jan, Ray, Annie, John (all dec.) and Chris.

Fishing and golfing forever more.

A Private cremation will be held.

MAY, Geoffrey:

The members of **Probus Club of Cowes** were saddened to learn of the death of Geoffrey on Saturday 18th May.

Condolences to Pam and family.

FUNERALS

MAY:

A Celebration of Life for Mr. Geoffrey William May will be held at the Philip Island Golf Club, 34-44 Settlement Road, Cowes on Tuesday (May 28, 2024) commencing at 2:30pm.

IN MEMORIAM

DIXON. June:

To our darling June, What a wonderful life, And beautiful memories. Love Marg and Bob Watson

PUBLIC NOTICES

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



Initiative of Phillip Island Masonic Lodge

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EDITORIAL GUIDELINES The Advertiser conducts its journalism in accordance with the guidelines of the Australian

The General Principles Accuracy and clarity

1. Ensure that factual material in news reports and elsewhere is accurate and not misleading, and is distinguishable from other material such as oninion Provide a correction or other adequate remedial action if published material is significantly inaccurate or misleading.

Fairness and balance

3. Ensure that factual material is presented with reasonable fairness and balance, and that writers' expressions of opinion are not based on significantly inaccurate factual material of

omission of key facts.
4. Ensure that where material refers adversely to a person,

a fair opportunity is given for subsequent publication of a reply if that is reasonably essary to address a possible breach of General Principle 3.

Privacy and avoidance of harm 5. Avoid intruding on a person's reasonable expectations privacy, unless doing so is sufficiently in the public interest. 6. Avoid causing or contributing materially to substantial offence, distress or prejudice, or a substantial risk to health or safety, unless doing so is sufficiently in the public interest

Integrity and transparency Avoid publishing mater which has been gathered by decentive or unfair means unless doing so is sufficiently in the public interest.

8. Ensure that conflicts of interests are avoided or adequately disclosed, and that they do not influence published material.

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FOOTBALL 2024 CARDS

AFL Team Coach 2024 Football Cards. Commons 50 cents each or Silvers 75 cents each. 100's of swaps available.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PHILLIP ISLAND SENIOR CITIZENS INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday July 5th at 1:45pm at the club rooms at 6 Lions Court, Cowes All Welcome

PUBLIC NOTICE AIR SCOURING



Water mains cleaning

As part of our continuing program to improve the quality of your water supply, Westernport Water will be undertaking water mains cleaning across Phillip Island and some mainland townships from 17th June to 30th June,

Air scouring is a proven method of cleaning water mains and involves injecting filtered pressurised air through

Air scouring will take place in the following locations: Ventnor, Sunset Strip, San Remo, Kilcunda, Dalyston, Archies Creek, and Coronet Bay.

- Customers in the areas directly impacted will be notified up to 7 days prior to commencement of the water interruption
- Impacted customers may be without water for a few hours.
- A schedule is available on our website.
- If you experience water that appears milky following the works, this is caused by small pressurised air bubbles. This will resolve over time as the water settles and is safe to drink.
- Contractor H&S Maintenance, who are cleaning the water mains, do not necessarily have to be in your street or at your property to carry out their work.

Please contact our Project Coordinator on 1300 720 711 if you have any questions westernportwater.com.au



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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

Support for Emporium

It truly beggars belief why council wants to close down the nursery Aussie Outdoor Emporium at the approach to Cowes.

This nursery has enhanced this area being aesthetically pleasing to the eye and kept very neat and tidy, including the nature strip.

Closer to Cowes we have unsightly gum trees that are rotten and extremely dangerous to both vehicles and pedestrians, including many children riding bikes to and from schools in the area, along with unruly grass to harbor snakes.

Council keeps allowing subdivisions across the island with the constant removal of most if not all fauna and flora.

Our wildlife and birdlife need to find new homes, which is fast disappearing due to over development. This is so disappointing.

With all the new housing estates, people like to have a nice garden to encourage wildlife to return.

The Aussie Emporium nursery enables people/ratepayers to support a local business and not have to go off the island to the likes of Bunnings to establish, landscape and maintain their gardens.

Have any of the councillors taken the time to see just what a variety of plants, trees, shrubs, pots, water features and sculptures are available to locals and visitors to the island?

The area is zoned as farm land. Surely Ramada Holiday Resort is not classified as a farm! Perhaps Aussie Outdoor Emporium should be called a horticultural plant farm. Surely it is time locals/ residents were listened to by council.

Is this just another case of one complaint and the minority gets their way? G and J Falkingham, Cowes

Rate rise not right

Thank you for your recent coverage of the Bass Coast Shire budget. I fail to see how a mandated 2.75 per cent allows the Bass Coast Shire to increase rates by 4.3 per cent - nearly double.

Perhaps a new batch of councillors who are aware of how much pain such increases cause will help?

Lawrence Alexander, Wonthaggi

Our heritage rots

The Cowes pier is an important gateway to the Island. However, looking back to the beautiful foreshore we face an unsightly decaying Jetty Shed.

The Jetty Shed has a National Trust classification and dates back to 1870. The rundown appearance of this important heritage building unfortunately reflects its age. The building is apparently leased from Bass Coast Shire so one assumes they are responsible for its care and maintenance. Flaking paint, rotting timbers, a broken awning, old signage, general rubbish and a well weathered cool room are all part of the historic building which should be in a better condition. How is the ugly and incongruous cool room left standing there when it does not have a heritage classification and when previous tenants have long departed?

How long will it take Bass Coast Shire to remove the cool room and undertake maintenance on this building which features in much of our heritage and photographs of yesteryear. We have a beautiful island but this presents a well neglected piece of it.

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ADVERTISER

W Stanley, Cowes

Tough hit out for Kilcunda Bass girls

NETBALL

A Grade

A Grade had a tough hit out against Inverloch Kongwak over the weekend.

The girls managed to stay onboard with the top contenders for most of the game.

However, Inverloch Kongwak were too strong on the day, despite Kilcunda Bass pushing until the end.

The girls have lots to learn from and are looking onwards and upwards to their next match. Best on court: Grace.

B Grade

B Grade came out with nothing to lose and everything to gain on the weekend.

Their midcourt was missing their Coach, however Kiara stepped up and was able to mesh well with the group.

Kilcunda Bass' constant effort and never-give-up attitude shone through during the final quarter, only taking a one-point loss. Their hand over pressure and composure were their strengths throughout the match.

Best on court: Kira.

C Grade

Despite the scoreboard not swinging C Grade's way, there was plenty to be happy about with their match against Inver-

Having said bon voyage to Jelly and Jess on their respective holidays, and Captain Kim sidelined with injury, C Grade were down to seven players (including a couple of girls who had the flu the whole week) and were fortunate enough to have Chloe and Ella B join the team for the day.

Inverloch challenged Kilcunda Bass all game but were up for majority of the first half however, they ran out of legs as the game progressed.

Best on court: Ally and Kiara.

D Grade

D Grade knew they were in for a tough match against Inverloch, but with Chloe's expert advice and game plan, they charged into the first quarter with determina-

Despite Inverloch's rough and tough play, Kilcunda Bass' girls held their ground and fought back fiercely.

Ro and Tay faced a formidable challenge against the Inverloch

defenders, while Lils and Jaycee battled against a very vocal mid-

Alicia alongside Chloe, Jade and the enforcer Jess, worked tirelessly to keep Inverloch from scoring, but ultimately Inverloch proved to be the stronger team.

Throughout the last quarter, the girls mixed things up by trying different positions, and showing great spirit and resilience.

Though the final score didn't reflect their effort, the girls never dropped their heads and fought until the end.

Best on court: Lilly.

The U17s had a fantastic hit out against Inverloch over the week-

They showed up ready to roll, with smiles on their faces and showed their strength throughout the match.

They were fortunate enough to have Lexi, Izzy and Milli onboard who stepped up after having been down due to injury.

The second half for the girls was spot on, implementing everything they've been working on. Despite falling short by nine points, the girls have a taste for

their strategy now. Best on court: Ryah.

U15s

The U15s knew this was going to be a tough match. Despite their preparation they underestimated just how impressive Inverloch was. They came out strong and got the jump on Kilcunda Bass early, the girls unfortunately couldn't match their intensity.

There were some solid passages of play and Kilcunda Bass' defensive pressure was strong however, just couldn't hit the scoreboard.

The girls will shake this one off and be ready to move forward to their next match against Gar-

Best on court: Isabella Stead.

U13s

The U13 girls stepped onto the court ready to take on a tough looking Inverloch Kongwak side. It was competitive from the getgo. Kilcunda Bass kept the scores level during the first quarter however, a couple of unruly passes, combined with strong intercepts from their opponents saw Inverloch Kongwak take the lead.

Kilcunda Bass' captains gave

the team a rousing three-quarter time rev-up, leading the girls to fight their way back in during the final quarter.

Their defence from Paige Obrien and Asha Payne was outstanding, their pressure consistent from start to finish.

Final scores: Kilcunda Bass: 15 def by Inverloch Kongwak: 22.

Best on court: Paige O'Brien, Asha Payne and Kealey Trewa-

U11s

The U11s are showing signs of improvement with every match and their end result certainly didn't reflect the great passages of play displayed by Kilcunda Bass.

Their Inverloch Kongwak opponents just had the edge on them in a few areas during the second and third quarter.

The defensive duo of Claire and Summer were excellent all game, shutting down many of their opponents attempt at goal.

The girls plan to keep building as they take on Garfield next. Final scores: Inverloch Kongwak: 21 def Kilcunda bass: 13.

Team award: Indy. Chocolate award: Claire.



Congratulations to Our Lady Star of the Sea who recently took home their first Grand Final win in the

OLSS victorious in districts

SOCCER

Our Lady Star of the Sea (OLSS) recently won its first ever U12 and U13 team sport Grand Final at the school districts level.

Being a new school with relatively small numbers, OLSS has often sent students to interschool sporting competitions, however typically had to play on other schools' teams - not anymore!

OLSS now have the numbers to organise full sports teams, with soccer being one of their first competitions.

Last year they sent their first soccer team off to districts. As it was their first year, they were placed in the non-competitive B pool. However, OLSS did so well, that they won all their games. This planted the seed ... could they join the A pool?

With a dream of playing in the A competition, the soccer team practiced every lunchtime (as soon as cricket season was

When the day finally arrived, OLSS won all their A level games and made it into the Grand Final against Bass Valley.

The game was so close that it went into overtime. Everyone was exhausted. But OLSS gathered their efforts once more.

With only two minutes to go, a corner kick from Sebastian had more spin than Beckham, and drifted towards goal. With a simple jump and nod of the head from Edie, the ball landed in the net.

The cheers sent flocks of cockatoos into the air. It was a huge moment.

After two more minutes of a full onaught from the opposition, OLSS survived and won!



Congratulations to the island's U17 Penguins who managed their first win of the season against

Breakers tough it out in cold conditions

The island's Breakers played a great weekend with some big wins and close games, despite wet and cold conditions.

Results

U12 Stingrays: defeated by Drouin Ma

U12 Penguins: claimed victory against Wonthaggi 6-0.

U12 Sharks: celebrated their first win of the season against Wonthaggi 4-3.

U13 Girls: defeated by Wonthaggi 3-4. U14 Stingrays: claimed victory against Drouin Maroon 7-2.

U14 Penguins: claimed victory against Wonthaggi 6-0, with Aidan Smyth kicking two goals and using his head for the

U17 Penguins: claimed victory against Wonthaggi 5-4 in their first win of the season.

claimed victory against Wonthaggi 6-0.

Senior Men's: took a sensational win over Wonthaggi 15-0.

> For GSL's Round 5 results and Round 6 fixture, go to pisra.com.au/sport

Results from the league

TENPIN BOWLING

Phantom: 1st on 17.5 pts The Jimma, 2nd on 16 pts Strike It Lucky and 3rd on 13.5 pts Saucer.

2s Company (Monday afternoon): 1st on 25 pts Pinpushers, 2nd on 22.5 pts Jail and 3rd on 18.5 pts Tinabe. ABL – Almost Bowling Legends (Wednesday

evening): 1st on 120.5 pts Storm, 2nd on 120 pts Just Bowl Already and 3rd on 115 pts Knackers.

Business Early (Thursday evening): 1st on 11

pts The Redundants, 2nd on 10 pts Balls Deep, 3rd on 8 pts Turkey Slappers and 4th on 8 pts Wooly Rollers.

Business Late (Thursday evening): 1st on 10 pts S&R Clarke Auto, 2nd on 10 pts City Lights, 3rd on 10 pts Sassy Gronks and 4th on 9 pts Holy Splits.

Top scores for the week throughout all leagues: Men: Dean Bacon 267, Matt Edwards 244 and Justin Porthouse 211.

Women: Mary Daroha 174, Lauren Edwards 172, Penny Wolswinkel 164 and Sue Gale 164.

Sunny conditions for social

BOWLS

Last Thursday hosted sunny conditions for the island's social bowlers' weekly

Runners up for the day were: Skip

Lindsay Meredith, 3rd Alan Price, 2nd Murray Anderson and Lead Marlene Puncher.

Congratulations to the winners: Skip Derek MacDonald, 3rd Serge Castel, 2nd Errol Bradford and Lead Bruce Puncher.

Island makes waves at Koo Wee Rup

NETBALLA Grade

Scores: Koo Wee Rup: 50 def Phillip Island: 41.

B Grade

Phillip Island's B Grade were dominant from the get-go. Their centre passes were unstoppable, and Isla's impressive intercepts got them up 5-0.

By the end of the first quarter, the island lead 13-9.

Their second quarter was just as strong, with fantastic pathways down the midcourt, the island's defence showed relentless pressure and grabbed every rebound.

In the third quarter the goalies worked well together, scoring another six in a row, showcasing their accuracy.

The last quarter saw a few position changes within both sides. Koo Wee Rup fought back, but the island pulled off a great win with every member contributing. **Best on court:** Meika, Anthea and Isla.

Scores: Phillip Island: 48 def Koo Wee Rup: 39.

C Grade

Scores: Koo Wee Rup: 36 def Phillip Island: 16.

D Grade

Scores: Koo Wee Rup: 22 def Phillip Island: 12.

U17s

The island girls came out strong in their play and ability to adapt to a slippery court. Phillip Island



The island's U13 girls played a dominant game against Koo Wee Rup.

led the first quarter.

Koo Wee Rup fought back hard, resulting in an even second quarter. Isla, Sophia and Jasira in defence were strong, intercepting and grabbing rebounds.

The ball moved smoothly down the midcourt with Maya, Abby, Jazz and Tilly using fast passes and fast feet.

Matilda and Meika showed great teamwork, leading to multiple goals being scored.

Scores: Phillip Island: 36 def Koo Wee Rup: 19.

U15s

The U15s had an unexpected tougher game last week against Koo Wee Rup. The first quarter showed some accurate shooting by Aisha which was soon backed up by Mia and Adelle during the second and third quarter.

The mid court with Ava, Ellie, Isla and Piper were put under physical pressure by their opponents and had to work tirelessly to get the ball down the court.

Maisie, Tilly and Ruby worked hard in defence all game against Koo Wee Rup's accurate goal shooter.

The team had a third quarter slump but were able to come away in the last with a close win.

Best on court: Matilda Trew and Ruby Mewett.

Scores: Phillip Island: 26 def Koo Wee Rup: 19.

U13s

It was cold and foggy as the island girls made their way to Koo Wee Rup to take on the Demons at their home ground.

After scoring 10 points in the first quarter to the Demons' two and then another 14 points by half time, Coach Lawri decided to mix up her players positions in order to give everyone a decent turn and try their hand at a few different positions.

Eden took control wearing the goal shooting and wing attack bib, Piper had a turn in the Centre and Charlee whizzed around as goalkeeper.

The girls had a lot of fun trying some different positions and happily came out with a 38-point win. **Best on court:** Ivy and Eden.

Scores: Phillip Island: 49 def Koo Wee Rup: 11.

J11s

In a frosty morning showdown at Koo Wee Rup, the U11 girls faced challenging playing conditions, but that didn't dampen their spirits.

As the girls warmed up, the speed of the game intensified, showcasing their determination and resilience.

Amidst the chilly weather, teamwork proved to be the key ingredient for success once again. The girls exhibited remarkable coordination and support for each other throughout the match, demonstrating their strong bond as a team.

In the end, victory belonged to the island.

Standout performances were aplenty, with Marley shining in defence and Milla dominating the mid-court with numerous intercepts.

Scores: Phillip Island: 22 def Koo Wee Rup: 7.

Island girls excel in LDNA

NETBALL

U13 Red

Saturday saw the island's U13 Reds go up against the top ranked Kilcunda Bass U13s team at Leongatha.

Coach Trish put forward a strong line-up across the court for the first half of the game which saw the girls going goal-for-goal with Kilcunda Bass, which kept the game low and tight at half time with scores sitting at 5-4.

The second half saw a minor shift of positions and the island's defenders Alexis, Sera and Miranda turned up the heat, intercepting ball after ball resulting in turnovers that allowed goal shooters Hazel, Madison and Aliza to keep the scores in close check until the final whistle.

Although the final score didn't give them the win, it was a fantastically hard-fought game for the island Red girls which demonstrated how passionate, determined and strong they are becoming as a team.

Best on court: Miranda and Sera for their sensational defence. Scores: Kilcunda Bass: 11 def Phillip Island Red: 9.

U13 White

The island's White team took on Mt Eccles' Grey side over the weekend.

It was a tough and competitive match with scores almost even at half time, resulting in the island's White team taking



The island's U13 White team: Evie, Ellie, Lavinia, Ruby, Holly, Willow Alana and Coach Casey.

victory 14-10

Willow and Ellie as the island's goalers were fabulous, their communication was excellent and long, efficient passes right to the ring helped the goal tally rise.

Midcourt was much improved this week, with centre Ruby using her boundless energy to cover the court.

Lavinia as WD assisted with some great intercepts, and Alana as WA skilfully worked to reoffer and drive the ball down to our end.

Fierce defenders Evie and Holly kept the pressure at a high intensity for the duration of the game. Their efforts were rewarded with some great turnovers. The

Thank you to Evie, Indi and Pollie from the Blue team who each played a quarter when we had some injuries to navigate around.

Best on court: Ruby and Ellie. **Scores:** Phillip Island White: 14 def Mt Eccles Grey: 10.

U13 Blue

It was great conditions for a great game over the weekend at Leongatha.

Good intercepts and turn overs saw the island's Blue team steal the show against Mt Eccles. **Best on court:** Bonnie Walton and Pollie Padefke.

Scores: Phillip Island Blue: 20 def Mt Eccles White: 11.



Congratulations to last week's winners on 34 points: John Nicholson (S), Cheryl Floyd (L), Neil Andreatta (3) and Mark Andreatta (2) (inset).

Midweek at Corinella

BOWLS

It was a great day, with great company and great numbers for the midweek crew at Corinella last week.

Cheryl Floyd (L).
Runners up
Tony Heppleston mers (3), Michae

San Remo lacked electric power making it difficult for the club to play there. Thankfully Corinella put their hand up to cater to their family of bowlers and, like always, looked after the group excellently.

The club would like to thank Cheryl and Terry who went above and beyond cleaning up and organising preparations.

Out on the green, 54 players met to fight it out for team of the day and what a fight it was, with lots of sledging, laughter and close matches across the green.

Congratulations to last week's winners on 34 points:

John Nicholson (S), Neil Andreatta (3), Mark Andreatta (2) and Cheryl Floyd (L).

Runners up on 33 points: Tony Heppleston (S), Max Summers (3), Michael Saunders (2) and Frank Verco (L).

Best one game winners on 25 points: Steve Hickson (S), Laurie Bell (3) and Peter Thorley (L).

Once again, the club give their thanks to Peter for all his hard work putting the teams together, Pauline and John for greeting all players and signing them on, Terry for his hard work in the kitchen and to Chris for providing the club's thirsty bowlers with liquid refreshment.

This week, the club will be returning to their regular fixture and ask that everyone be on site at Lang Lang by 10am to allow time to make team selections.





It was a damp huddle for the U14s at half time during their match against Dalyston.

Killy-Bass Juniors under lights against Dalyston

FOOTBALL

U10s

On Friday, May 17 the Kilcunda Bass U10s took to the field to play their first ever night match. All 30 kids braved a cold and windy night and played a fantastic game.

Ollie Wright won the toss and kicked with the wind. The first half was an even battle, with both teams trying to use the wind to their advantage.

The second half saw Dalyston put together some good passages of play, but the kids kept defending and trying to drive the ball forward.

Max Milner once again played a great game, driving the ball out of defence; he was well supported by Coby Dobson and August Lidstone.

Kudos to Darcy Wright and Morgan Barton, both who are playing their first year of football and are continuing to improve. Keep up the great work kids.

U12s

Round 5 at Dalyston was a first for many of the young stars, playing under lights and in wet conditions, which was dished up to them as soon as the game

Kilcunda Bass had all kids n deck for this match, ensuring no one missed out on the underlights-experience.

With the interchange as busy as Flinders Street Station, coaches Jonny Loughridge and Allan Bedford had them on rotation quarter for quarter.

Instructions were clear from the coaches, "put your head over the ball, pick it up, talk and take long wide kicks".

Dalyston scored the first goal for the game, which was quickly answered by a Kilcunda Bass goal from Blake Lewindon.

Dalyston proceeded to kick a further three goals in the second quarter, proving too good for Kilcunda Bass' rotation of bottom aged kids during the quar-



The U10s keeping warm between quarters. From left: Bentley, Sonny, Charlie, Lachie, Rylee and Patrick.

ter. With a glitch in the Dalyston electronic scoreboard, it was challenging to keep up with the scores in real time, nonetheless at half time it was evident that Dalyston were ahead.

With a wet and heavy ball, cold kids and the relentless rain, the conditions for the second half were tough on both teams, with missed catches and several missed opportunities to convert points into goals.

Dalyston in the end, proved too good on the night.

Best players: River Dow Brodie, Travis Hockley and Saylor Maund.

U14s

In wet, windy and cool conditions under lights for the U14s, the team had to quickly work out through trial and error, that they would have to modify their game tactics in the tough condi-

Bouncing the ball was quickly ruled out as an option and saw young ruck Brodie McMillan caught out early in the game who was penalised for travel-

Due to the Dalyston scoreboard being out of action, players, coaches and spectators were doing mental maths in order to keep up with the game in real

The second quarter proved to be Kilcunda Bass' strongest, with Patrick Marks, Harvey Leary and Cooper Brown putting them on the scoreboard all kicking goals, along with four attempts which did not convert.

There was plenty of tense moments throughout the game. Kilcunda Bass took the lead during the fourth quarter, leading to Patrick Marks taking his second goal for the game, which was backed up by another from An-

A disappointing umpire decision made after the final siren, left spectators, coaches, players and his fellow umpire questioning the decision reflected by his hands in head gesture, which sadly cost Kilcunda Bass the game by one point.

Overall, despite the conditions, Kilcunda Bass played a solid game which could have rendered a different result if they had managed to convert all their attempts into goals.

Best players: Patrick Marks, Justin Braumann-Hall, Eddie Treloar, Ryder Van Steensel, Jae Barlow and Charlie Burgess.

Another tough day at the office

FOOTBALL

U16s

It was another tough day at the office on the weekend for Kilcunda Bass' young U16 lads taking on the second placed Inverloch Kongwak.

With the numbers already thin, losing players before the game and one during the first quarter would proceed to make the day even tougher.

To the boys' credit, after a revup at quarter time from Coach Rick Crook, they came out and worked hard for the remaining three quarters, lifting their work rate and intensity.

Rick stressed that this was going to be a tough game and that "this year is about development and learning from these better sides"

Again, Kilcunda Bass saw the heavy lifting done by Perry McKay and Riley Eden in the midfield, who worked hard all four quarters, as has been seen all year.

Taye Prasad-Taylor provided plenty of run up and down the wings, and young Henry Dean played his best game gaining plenty of possession off the back line. Seth McBean from Wonthaggi played a great game kicking Kilcunda Bass' only goal.

Once again, the team was grateful to have the help from and Phillip Island.

Next week, Kilcunda Bass hosts Garfield at home and with a solid week on the track, the boys are up for a fight in what hopefully is a competitive and tight game.

Best players: Perry McKay, Riley Eden, Henry Dean and Taye Prasad-Taylor.

Goals: Seth McBean.

Reserves

It was an even tussle for the Reserves throughout the first quarter in their match against Inverloch, despite having a few late-outs, Kilcunda Bass thanks the two Veteran boys who stepped up – Banksy and Kyle.

Throughout the second, Inverloch stepped up on top. Kilcunda Bass played a good third term, keeping Inverloch goalless, however in the end they were too good for Kilcunda Bass.

Kilcunda Bass' onballers in Jack, Jono and Lleyts had big games, their two ruckmen in Gussy and Cal were excellent and were pleased with Dyl's game on the dangerous Tully Dickie. Matty and Trent both got plenty of the ball, and Speedy, Will and Doyle worked hard

Kilcunda Bass is hoping they can get a few players back for their upcoming game against Garfield.



Congratulations to the 2024 Shield winners: Helen Biffin, Bob Weaver, Holly White, Greg Moran, Ray Biffin (Captain) and Noel West.

Island wins Bass Coast Shield

CROQUET

Last Tuesday, six members of the Phillip Island Croquet Club travelled to Leongatha to compete in the 2024 Bass Coast Shield, an annual event between the croquet clubs of Korumburra, Leongatha, Phillip Island and Wonthaggi.

After a welcoming speech by Leongatha's President, Garry Shandley, the competition com-

The games were keenly con-

tested throughout the day with many games finishing level and then having to go to a deciding 13th hoop. By the end of the day the Phillip Island team finished on top by a margin of only one game and was declared the 2024 winner of the Shield, with Wonthaggi the runners up.

Congratulations to the Phillip Island and Wonthaggi teams, and to all the teams taking part.

Anyone interested in trying out croquet can contact Claire Earl on 0493 614 265.

Euchre results

Ladies' winner: Caroline Smith with six wins.

Men's winner: Bob Hee with six wins.

Encouragement award: Bet Stevenson.

The club would like to wish Bet the happiest of birthdays. Congratulations on another lap around the sun.

New players are always welcome for a hit of cards, for further information contact Bob Hee on 0418 173 388.

Island juniors play for Beau Vernon Medal

FOOTBALL

U14 Blue V Red

The two U14 Phillip Island teams met on Friday night under lights for the first time this season with both teams looking for their first win after some early losses.

Winter was approaching with wet and cold conditions throughout the night.

The first quarter started at a blistering pace. Callum for the Reds combined with his teammates to get some good marks in the middle.

The Blues were working hard to stop the run of the Reds. Denver kicked the ball to Caleb resulting in the first score of the game - one-point to the Blues.

Kolby for the Reds was strong in defence and booted the ball out of the back line. Teammate Maddy showed speed and agility through the quarter, along with Harvey for the Blues scored a goal, thus lifting Blues' team spirits.

By the second quarter the rain had set in. A combination for the Blues, set up by Brax kicked to the strong hands of Caleb and then to Denver through the middle of the goals. The Blues had their second goal.

Denver was on fire and had his best game of the season. He would finish the game with three goals to his name.

Parry for the Reds used his height in the ruck to win many taps, often catching the Blues off guard.

Bodhi got his hands on the ball for the Reds, along with Maddy continuing to use her speed through the midfield.

A strong defence by the Blues kept the score to zero. Marlin, Bud and Jessie were also having a great game, displaying leadership and hoping to guide their team to their first win of the season. The second half was evenly contested and the Reds fought hard until the final siren.

The Beau Vernon medal was awarded to Caleb for his standout performance, great sportsmanship and display of lead-



Congratulations to Caleb Cantwell of the U14 Blue, who was awarded the Beau Vernon Medal, for displaying courage, mateship, discipline and most of all enjoyment.

ership, both on and off the field.

Scores: Phillip Island Blue: 5.7.37. Phillip Island Red: 0.0.0.

U12 Blue V Red

Scores: Phillip Island Blue: 1.7.13. Phillip Island Red: 0.1.1.

Best players: Blue: Joel Mead-Sanchez, Max Robinson, Taj Piera, Otis Joyner and Bowie Edwards. Red: Jasper Goodall, Tijian Coldora, Phoenix Durdin, Zaine Liddell, Jett Fawaz and Kai Denblyden.

U10 Red

The U10 Reds were welcomed with a guard of honour from the Aus-kickers onto the field and led by the week's Captain, Jackson Rodakis who gave a ripping speech to get the team pumped up.

Fletcher was back on the field for his first game after injury, along with Sid who played his first game for the club. Great to have another pup on board!



Recipient of the Beau Vernon Medal, Tanner Lee of the U10 Red who as always, put in 110 per cent effort and played a tough, hard game.

It was a wet and cold Friday night but that didn't stop the excitement of getting to play their mates on the Blues side. It was a solid even game and the better team could not be picked.

Awards: Sebastian, Fletcher, Ashton and Jackson Rodakis.

U10 Blue

It was Friday night football under lights for the U10 Blues, with lots of excited young footballers taking to the field in wet conditions.

It was not an ideal start for the Blues, with the week's Captain, Leith being a late withdrawal. Despite this, Leith was still able to give his inspirational speech prior to the game and also take up the assistant Coach duties on the bench that his father was unable to make.

The first half was a tight battle of defence from both teams. It was great to see all the boys really focusing on team foot-



Congratulations to recipient of the Beau Vernon Medal, Jaxon Marshall of the U12 Blue.

ball.

Eddie, Reeve, Hugo and Cooper all had an impact early on, with some great shepherds and tackling.

The second half proved to be just as exciting.

Ethan ran hard to execute the perfect tackle in the middle of the ground. Oscar dropped back in the midfield and was able to rebound back into their forward line several times.

The boys certainly saved the best for the last quarter with the ball spending the majority of time in the Blues' forward line.

Logan was able to take four marks in the forward line and send the ball back in, giving a chance to score.

The highlight of the last quarter was Jonty taking a mark and going back to slot the goal.

What a great game by both sides. Well done to Tanner on winning the Beau Vernon Medal

Island girls go down in a close one

FOOTBALL

The Phillip Island girls once again stepped up over the weekend. In trying conditions, they took on Morwell at home.

Fielding a team of 13 amazing girls the island was slow to get out of the blocks and unfortunately let Morwell score two easy goals before they switched up a gear and got their running game going.

The second quarter saw the island girls lift their intensity and start to play their game.

The midfielders of Lily O'Loughlin, Mikki Leary, Giselle Smith and Teirlin Hamley worked tirelessly all day and set up a great wall to block the ball in the forward line. After numerous attacks forward, Teirlin Hamley finally got onto a great kick and sent the ball through the goal for the island's first and only goal.

As the game progressed some of the less experienced girls started to come to the fore, with Lily "Elbow" Bow, Scarlett Rees and Georgia Niven providing strong options up the forward, and Mia Ward and Tahlia Jessup



Congratulations to Giselle Smith who was awarded the Beau Vernon Medal.

taking strong marks and clearing the ball numerous times out of defence.

The final quarter saw Jade Ricardo move into the middle and the girls launch numerous attacks forward.

Macey Stubbs stepped up in the ruck and Mikki Leary, Lily O'Loughlin and Jayla Loughridge continued to attack the ball. Tess Ricardo was once again a rock in defence, but unfortunately the girls couldn't capitalise on their great efforts.

A great effort by the girls in wet and cold conditions.

Final scores: Morwell: 2.6.18 def Phillip Island: 1.2.8.

Best players: Giselle Smith (recipient of the Beau Vernon Medal), Jade Ricardo, Teirlin Hamley, Lily O'Loughlin, Macey Stubbs, Mia Ward, Scarlett Rees and Tahlia Jessup.

Goals: Teirlin Hamley.



Last weekend, the U14 island girls competed in the league's first Southern Gippsland Girls Shield Day.

Girls Shield Day

FOOTBALL

On Sunday, May 19, the U14 girls' football team competed in the league's first Southern Gippsland Girls Shield Day, hosted by the Leongatha Football Club.

Coaches and club officials designed the day to give the female teams more game opportunities throughout their season, along with further cementing their deserved place within the football community. Each team played against the other in what proved to be a ripper day of continuous flowing football.

Phillip Island kicked off the day against Leongatha, in which the island girls took their first ever victory.

The next two games against Dalyston and Inverloch just got away from the island girls, they kept scores to a minimum and showed a large amount of improvement on the ground.

Following on, the girls took part in the organised

skills competitions, consisting of a ground ball relay race, a goal kicking competition and a popular specky competition. This led the island to grab some extra points to add to their shield tally.

As the day wrapped, the results were announced and Dalyston took home first place along with this season's shield.

The club thanks everyone involved who assisted in getting this day off the

End of season presentation night

ANGLING

On May 18, the Rhyll-Phillip Island Angling Club (RPIAC) held their Senior Presentation Night for the 2023/24 competition season at the Phillip Island Bowls Club.

Guests were entertained by the musical talents of local artists Travis Thompson and Steve Gijsbers, singing along and dancing to classic tunes.

Their energy was sustained throughout the evening, thanks to the delicious feast prepared by Frank Velardi, Andrew Ingliss and their catering team. Importantly, everyone remained hydrated by the refreshing beverages served by the welcoming staff at the bowls club.

Many of the club's members have volunteered throughout the year and each angling competition has been well attended.

RPIAC's President, Albert Abram spoke of the enthusiasm and outstanding service to the club that has been provided by all members who attend, support and represent the club to members and visitors.

With so many contributions throughout the year, he presented Russell Gallagher the RPIAC Secretary, with the President's Award for his tireless efforts and dedicated support throughout the year.

Every year, RPIAC entices members to take part in the season's angling competitions, offering weekend and annual prizes. Throughout the season, participants are entered into the 365-Competition, Reverse Draw and Club Championship.

365-Competition The keeps track of the biggest catches of each eligible species caught by anglers throughout the year.

365-Competition award plaques were presented to: Len Bates for a cuttlefish (3980 grams - new club record) and a leatherjacket (800 grams); James Nicolaci for a pike (3345 grams), a salmon (2780 grams) and a tailor (1075 grams - new club record); Mark Griffin for a garfish (180 grams), a tuna (18,500 grams) and a squid (2140 grams – new club record); Tim Fahnle for a kingfish (1520 grams - new club record); Chris Leonardos for a snapper (8985 grams); David Soler for a King George whiting (895 grams); Paul Goodwin



RPIAC participants, supporters and award winners.

for a gummy shark (12,200 grams); Kate Jinnette for a flathead (1275 grams); Sam Linklater for a stranger whiting (355 grams - equal biggest); Duncan Firth for a mullet (505 grams) and stranger whiting (355 grams - equal biggest); Albert Abram for a mackerel (675 grams) and a trevally (1290 grams); and Andy Chihotski for a couta (880 grams).

A special award was also presented for Trevor Gleeson's blue warehou (810 grams).

Each Senior angler who participated in the RPIAC's weekend angling competitions was entered into the Reverse Draw when they weighed-in an eligible species during a competition weekend.

The last 20 entries were drawn on the night and hopes for the prize faded as members heard their names drawn. Everyone hoped that the last name called was theirs, but the last name pulled from the draw was Trevor Thompson, taking home the \$1000

Of course, the formalities of the night would not be in order unless the recipient of the RPIAC Merle Award (the award that nobody wants), was announced. The Merle Award recognises mishaps, errors of judgement or remarkable feats throughout the

There were a few strong contenders and ultimately, the 2024 Merle Award recipient was Lea Bowen.

The Haymes Paint Shop's Cordless Drill Package door prize was won by Nadia Chihotski and evening's presentathe tions concluded with the announcement of the top three Female and Male Club Champions.

The 2024 Female Club Champions were: Anne-Marie Richards in third



Conaratulations to Russell Gallagher, RPIAC Secretary who received the President's Award for his outstanding service to RPIAC. More photos at pisra. com.au/sport

place with a total of 14,500.5 units, Debra Orr in second place with a total of 19,213 units and Kate Jinnette finished the season in first place with 20,708 units, winning the title for a second time in two seasons.

The 2024 Male Club Champions were: Chris Leonardos in third place with a total of 27,660 units, Duncan Firth in second place with a total of 30,107 units and James Nicolaci finished in first place with a total of 32,602.5 units.

The next angling competition season is scheduled to commence in spring 2024.

RPIAC's clubroom is located adjacent to the Rhyll boat ramp and is open to members and visitors on Friday evenings (from 5pm) and competition weekends coinciding with weigh-in through spring, summer and autumn each year.

The club promotes responsible and sustainable fishing practices, and supports and assists in developing an interest in fishing for youngsters, families and locals.

For further information about the club, events, competitions and rules, visit www.rpiac.com.



The OLSS Aerobics team of Millie, Charlie, Grace, Cordelia, Indy, Krystal, Elisabeth, Meila and Isla are off to the State final later this year.

OLSS students shine again

Our Lady Star of the Sea offers a wide variety of opportunities for the students

It was with great excitement, that enthusiastic teacher, Lisa Bennett, advertised for interested 5/6 students to be part

of an Aerobics team.

From early March the team started practising to prepare for the Melbourne inter-school competition. On Sunday May 5 the team competed against other teams from our region for the very first time. They did extremely well and are now off to the State final in June.

Results from the green

GOLF

Tuesday, May 14 Men's Comp Par 18H

Overall winner: Ricky Males (16) +3 C/B. A grade winners: A-1 Stephen Earl (14) +3 and A-2 Gerard Ferrari (14) +2.

B grade winners: B-1 Ricky Males (16) +3 C/B and B-2 Justin McBean (16) +2 C/B. C grade winners: C-1 Glenn Botterill +3 C/B and C-2 Mark Dickson (29) +3.

BDL: -1 C/B. NTP: 5th Peter W Innes, 7th Robert Purcell, 10th Nigel Firth and 17th Stephen Earl.

Men's 9H Stableford Winners: Col Cordery (31) with 19 pts C/B from Basil Moloney (14) on 19 pts. BDL: 16 pts C/B.

Wednesday, May 15

Foursomes Championship - Women's

Winners: Liz Gleeson and Marilyn John with 73.5 pts from Michelle Pardoe and Emma Hall on 78 pts.

BDL: 82.5 pts.

NTP: 7th Louise Dawborn, 10th Joanne Disher and 17th Cheryl White. Women's 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Helen Coghlan with 34 pts from Cheryl White on 32 pts C/B.

A grade winner: Helen Coghlan with 34 pts.

B grade winner: Diana Holmberg with 31 pts. BDL: 30 pts C/B.

Women's 9H Stableford

Overall winner: Joanne Westthorp (45) with 16 pts from Rosemary Bailey (40) on 15 pts.

BDL: 10 pts C/B.

Thursday, May 16 18H Stableford

Overall winner: John Movic (18) with 41

A grade winners: A-1 Ron Young (11) with 38 pts and A-2 Christian Lloyd (8)

B grade winners: B-1 John Movic (18) with 41 pts and B-2 Rowan Wales (17) with 39 pts.

C grade winners: C-1 William Lang (19) with 38 pts and C-2 Shane Palmer (22) with 36 pts C/B.

BDL: 33 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th and 7th Rowan Wales, 10th Peter Cartwright and 17th Andrew Wal-

Open Comp 9H Stableford

Winner: Brian Carvell (31) with 25 pts from Steve Reiger (24) on 19 pts.

BDL: 18 pts C/B.

Saturday, May 18

Men's and Mixed 4BBB Stroke 18H

Overall winner: Michael Coghlan and Tom Tyrrell with 63 pts C/B.

In second: Glenn Paterson and Robert Brown with 63 pts.

In third: Christian Lloyd and Brandon Lloyd with 64 pts.

BDL: 69 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Tom Tyrrell, 7th Max Disher, 10th Neil Buttery and 17th Mark Beaton. Women's 4BBB Stableford 18H

Winners: Vicki Ramage and Megan El-

baz with 41 pts from Lynn McCole and Maureen Ellard on 39 pts. BDL: 36 pts. NTP: 5th Joanne Disher, 7th Susan

Brown, 10th Vicki Ramage and 17th Barb Haydon. Open Comp 9H Stableford

Winner: Robert Leak (30) with 19 pts from Steve Rieger (24) on 19 pts. BDL: 16 pts.

Sunday, May 19

Open Stableford 18H - JJ Niven Final

Winners: Scott Fullarton and Sean Ambler with 77 pts C/B from Rick Jenkins and Timm Duff on 77 pts C/B.

Sunday Open Stableford 18H

Winner: Oliver Duggan (19) with 38 pts from Brodie Mabilia (12) on 37 pts C/B.

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

WED 22 MAY		O THU 23 MAY		FRI 24 MAY		SAT 25 MAY		SUN 26 MAY		MON 27 MAY		TUE 28 MAY	
LOW	4:54 am 0.99 m	LOW	5:46 am 0.86 m	HIGH	12:29 am 2.44 m	HIGH	1:18 am 2.50 m	HIGH	2:04 am 2.56 m	HIGH	2:48 am 2.61 m	HIGH	3:31 am 2.64 m
HIGH	12:07 pm 2.60 m	HIGH	1:01 pm 2.79 m	LOW	6:34 am 0.74 m	LOW	7:19 am 0.62 m	LOW	8:02 am 0.54 m	LOW	8:45 am 0.49 m	LOW	9:27 am 0.48 m
LOW	5:45 pm 1.50 m	LOW	6:43 pm 1.45 m	HIGH	1:50 pm 2.96 m	HIGH	2:36 pm 3.08 m	HIGH	3:19 pm 3.15 m	HIGH	4:01 pm 3.16 m	HIGH	4:42 pm 3.14 m
HIGH	11:33 pm 2.39 m			LOW	7:31 pm 1.38 m	LOW	8:15 pm 1.31 m	LOW	8:56 pm 1.25 m	LOW	9:36 pm 1.21 m	LOW	10:16 pm 1.18 m

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Charlie Bruce goes for the getaway during the Seniors match against Koo Wee Rup. More photos at pisra.com.au/sport

Bulldogs triumph in thrilling comeback

FOOTBALL

Seniors

In an exhilarating clash at Koo Wee Rup's home ground, Phillip Island faced off against a determined Koo Wee Rup side.

From the first bounce, Koo Wee Rup showcased their intent, dominating the early stages with hard work in tight, through stoppages and disciplined possession football.

Their strategy kept Phillip Island on the back foot for much of the match, as Koo Wee Rup controlled the tempo and took a two-goal lead into the first break.

Throughout the first three quarters, Koo Wee Rup's midfielders and defenders excelled in shutting down Phillip Island's attacks, using precise ball movement to transition from defense to attack.

Koo Wee Rup capitalised on their opportunities, consistently applying scoreboard pressure to hold onto a twogoal lead going into the final quarter.

Koo Wee Rup kicked the first goal of the final quarter and a big upset was looking likely. Phillip Island, however, refused to concede defeat.

Trailing for most of the game, they dug deep and rallied in the final quarter.

With a renewed sense of ur-

gency and intensity, Phillip Island's midfield began winning crucial clearances, while our forwards found their rhythm and began to convert their chances.

Zac Walker continued his progression and looked very dangerous at both ends of the ground. Once again, the Taylors were providing headaches up forward, combining for six goals between them.

As the final quarter progressed, Phillip Island's relentless pressure started to wear down Koo Wee Rup.

The home side's defensive efforts tightened, limiting their scoring opportunities and forcing turnovers. Capitalising on these mistakes, Phillip Island surged forward with quick, decisive play.

In a stunning turnaround, Phillip Island not only erased the deficit but managed to pull ahead, eventually securing an 18-point victory.

The final siren confirmed their impressive comeback, leaving Koo Wee Rup to reflect on a game that slipped from their grasp.

On a positive note, Phillip Island has 10 goal scorers and were able to get another game into their young talent.

Phillip Island's late surge was a testament to their resilience and fighting spirit, ensuring a memorable win after back-to-back away games. **Scores:** Phillip Island: 2.1.13, 6.3.39, 10.3.63, 16.6.102. Koo

Wee Rup: 4.0.24, 8.4.52, 11.6.72, 13.6.84.

Best players: Phillip Island: Zac Walker, Billy Taylor, Jack Taylor, Mark Griffin, Jesse

Patullo and Bryce Hindhaugh. Koo Wee Rup: Matthew Voss, Blake Peach, Nick Prowd, Travis Bindley, Robbie McMahen and Liam Pirotta.

Goals: Phillip Island: Billy Taylor – 4, Jack Taylor and Max Walton – 2. Koo Wee Rup: Matthew Voss – 4 and Luke McMaster – 2.

Reserves

Scores: Phillip Island: 3.3.21, 4.5.29, 6.6.42, 11.9.75. Koo Wee Rup: 0.0.0, 2.0.12, 2.2.14, 3.3.21.

Best players: Phillip Island: Ethan Michaelides, Connor Thompson, Jay Ladson, Tyce Kleverkamp, Kirby Fuller and Brayden Kleverkamp. Koo Wee Rup: Jesse Cammarano, Cooper Arthur, Ryan Wilby, John Ramos, Luke Edwards and Tyler Evans.

Goals: Phillip Island: Ben Taylor – 3, Tyce Kleverkamp – 2, Jack Keating, Jay Ladson, Ethan Michaelides, Jace Nichol, James Nicolaci and Ash Salter – 1. Koo Wee Rup: N/A.

U18s

Scores: Phillip Island: 5.2.32,

6.5.41, 8.5.53, 12.6.78. Koo Wee Rup: 0.0.0, 1.3.9, 3.3.21, 5.3.33.

Best players: Phillip Island: Beau Davies, Jack Huther, Leo Savona, Benjamin Chihotski, Finn O'Brien and Daniel Caffieri. Koo Wee Rup: Ethan Neill, Mack Brown, Luke Briganti, Nick Booth, Drew Simmons and Max Monckton. Goals: Phillip Island: Benjamin Chihotski, Jack Huther – 3, Finn O'Brien – 2, Daniel Caffieri, Jasper Cashman, Noah Forrest Mabilia and Max Taylor – 1. Koo Wee Rup: Nick Booth - 2, Cullen Anderson, Lachlan Bertone and Luke Briganti – 1.

U16s

Scores: Phillip Island: 2.2.14, 3.6.24, 4.10.34, 10.10.70. Koo Wee Rup: 0.0.0, 0.0.0, 0.0.0, 0.1.1.

Best players: Phillip Island: Xavier Williams, Harrison Carlon, Jeremy Kelly, Jack Larsson, Dean Rizzo and Blake Murphy. Koo Wee Rup: Kynen Dore-Wilson, Matthew Simpson, Lincon Tannahill, Campbell Wood, Joshua Saunders and Lochy Loveday.

Goals: Phillip Island: Xavier Williams – 3, Felix Bathgate, Sam O'Garey – 2, Archer Cameron, Jeremy Kelly and Blake Murphy – 1. Koo Wee Rup: N/A.

ALEX SCOTT

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