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# ADVERTISER

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Wednesday, May 21, 2025

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**Come for  
a cuppa  
and a  
great cause**

Greg Price invites you to join the team at Alex Scott in Cowes for the Biggest Morning Tea on Thursday May 22, from 10am to 12pm, raising money for the Cancer Council.

## FUNDRAISER

Join Alex Scott and Staff in Cowes for the Biggest Morning Tea on Thursday May 22, from 10am to 12pm, raising money for the Cancer Council.

Director Greg Price said this was the first time the team has hosted the Biggest Morning Tea, which is the major annual fundraiser for the Cancer Council.

"We thought it would be great fun to be involved," he said, noting there were people close to the team who had been diagnosed with cancer.

"Cancer touches everyone in the community. I don't think there's a family in Australia that hasn't been touched by some kind of cancer," Greg said.

He praised the work the Cancer Council has done, constantly

helping researchers to find better ways to treat cancer and give patients better outcomes.

The Alex Scott Biggest Morning Tea includes a coffee cart, which will be outside the front of the office at 113a Thompson Avenue in Cowes.

Tea lovers will also be catered for, and no one will leave hungry.

"There will be a proper country morning tea," Greg promised.

"We're getting some expert help to put together a spread."

Entry is by donation and all proceeds will go to the Cancer Council.

"We want people to come down, enjoy a cuppa and help raise awareness of the work the Cancer Council does," Greg said.

"Hopefully this is the first of what will become an annual morning tea tradition."

If you can't attend, you can donate online at: [www.biggest-morningtea.com.au/fundraisers/alexscottstaff/biggest-morning-tea-vic](http://www.biggest-morningtea.com.au/fundraisers/alexscottstaff/biggest-morning-tea-vic)

**Biggest Morning Tea, Thursday May 22, from 10am – 12 noon.**  
**Alex Scott and Staff, 113a Thompson Avenue, Cowes.**  
[www.cancer.org.au](http://www.cancer.org.au)

## Boys Home hotel plans dropped

### MAJOR PROJECTS

Plans to build a 72-room hotel at Newhaven's old boys home development have been withdrawn, with the developer now reverting to a previous planning permit approved in 2010 by VCAT.

In 2023 the developer, who bought the heritage-listed property in 2021, applied for the permit to build a \$15.6 million hotel on 1.4 hectares at 54-61 Forrest Avenue,

which is zoned residential.

The permit included 13 townhouses, restaurant, gym, and function centre and sought to retain buildings including the southern dormitory and the cottage to the south, which were previously set for demolition.

However last week the developer, renowned boxing promoter Brian Amatruda, told the Advertiser following discussions with his family he had withdrawn the

plans and was now seeking to amend the 2010 VCAT plans.

The 2010 permit includes: 21 lot subdivision, 10 dwellings, part demolition and alteration of an existing heritage building, including conversion of the heritage building into six residential apartments with ancillary garages, and vegetation removal.

Mr Amatruda for the past three years has spent "millions of dollars" restoring the main

old boys' home building to its original 1928 art deco style and said he did not want to demolish any of the heritage buildings or remove vegetation.

As such, he would now need to return to VCAT for approval to vary the 2010 permit.

"Technically we need to go back to VCAT but it shouldn't be contentious," Mr Amatruda said.

"We are now working with

*Continued page 8*

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	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	SHOWER OR TWO	SHOWER OR TWO	SHOWER OR TWO	SHOWER OR TWO	SHOWER OR TWO
	8 17	10 17	10 19	12 21	13 20	12 16	13 15



New emergency signage has been installed on every entrance to beaches on the south coast of Phillip Island, to help responders pinpoint an exact location during an emergency.

## Beach safety and emergency measures increased

### SIGNAGE

New emergency signage has been installed at beaches on Phillip Island to help improve emergency response. A spokesperson for Phillip Island Nature Parks said the new signs had been installed on every entrance to beaches on the south coast of the island. The signs clearly state a number (PIN) to quote when calling Triple Zero (000) during an emergency. “Emergency markers are designed to pinpoint your exact location during an emergency in public open spaces or hard

to define places,” the spokesperson explained. “The emergency markers are in addition to standard beach entry signage and the additional hazard signage installed at high-risk beaches.” The signage is not part of the Life Saving Victoria Water Safety Framework released last year, which included a review of beach safety signage at high-risk locations. Nature Parks said the signs were part of its “general emergency management improvements to aid emergency service responders” and were not directly tied to a specific plan.

## End of era with sale of Ventnor Heights Nursery

### BUSINESS

A familiar landmark on Phillip Island has entered a new chapter with the recent sale of Ventnor Heights Nursery. Established in 1982 by the late Greg and Margaret Dean, the nursery carved a special niche as a dedicated Australian native plant provider providing many plants for farmers through the then new Landcare group. From its humble beginnings, Ventnor Heights Nursery became renowned for its impressive ability to source and propagate native seeds, particularly those unique to Phillip Island. The plants cultivated at the Ventnor site gained a strong reputation for their remarkable resilience, a testament to being struck and grown in the area’s often harsh and windy conditions, particularly the strong south-westerly winds that frequently sweep through Ventnor. Beyond their horticultural expertise, Greg and Margaret Dean were cherished members of the local community. Their passion for Australian flora and their commitment to providing har-



Greg Price from Alex Scott and Staff Cowes, and Robert Dean, son of the nursery’s founders Greg and Margaret Dean. The sale of the nursery marks the conclusion of a remarkable chapter in the history of the island’s native flora.

dy, locally-sourced plants left a lasting impact on the gardens and landscapes of Phillip Island and beyond. Following the passing of Greg and Margaret, the property was recently offered for sale. Greg Price from Alex Scott and Staff said they were proud to represent the Dean family in this significant transaction, successfully completing the sale and marking the end of an era for the beloved

nursery. “The closure of Ventnor Heights Nursery signifies the conclusion of a remarkable chapter in Phillip Island’s history, celebrating the legacy of two dedicated individuals and their contribution to the region’s unique native flora,” Greg said. The property is now poised for its next phase, leaving behind a legacy of beautiful, resilient Australian plants.

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# Big bucks to repair bridge

## INFRASTRUCTURE

The State Government has allocated \$50.4 million in this year's budget for maintenance work on the Phillip Island bridge.

The government said the works will extend the lifespan of the bridge, which was erected in 1969, with replacement of beams, pier legs, piles and handrails.

Local MP Jordan Crugnale said the upgrade would ensure the vital connection to the mainland could be used by residents and visitors for years to come.

"This will give locals and millions of visitors a smooth and dependable route to get to the amazing Phillip Island," Ms Crugnale said.

"Phillip Island is iconic with so much on offer – it's why we're making sure the thousands of people who come here every week can get there safely."

The government said it was working to finalise time frames for the Phillip Island bridge, and it is expected works will take around three years to deliver.

The funding for the bridge upgrade is part of the government's \$976 million Better Roads Blitz, announced this week in the lead up to the release of the 2025/26 state budget.

## Concerns

In recent years, the Phillip Island bridge has been subject to consistent and progressively more thorough inspections by the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP).

In March 2021, DTP bridge inspections requiring lane closures were carried out over six days.

In 2023, the department engaged an engineering consultancy service to inspect the bridge using automated technologies including drones, AI and machine learning.

In February this year, the DTP installed sensors to monitor the bridge's structural condition and performance.

This follows on from a \$1.6 million inspection of the bridge in 2024, which included underwater divers.

That Level 3 investigation by Arcadis Australia, took over three months, during which the company "collected and analysed optical imagery, lidar, acoustic and thermal data which provided digital insights and accurate defect quantification" of the bridge.

In 2024, some residents speculated the bridge was well past its original use by date and was showing signs of deterioration.

Mike Cleeland is a lifelong island resident who was present when the bridge opened to the



Local MP Jordan Crugnale said the \$50.4 million upgrade to the Phillip Island bridge would ensure the vital connection to the mainland could be used by residents and visitors for years to come.

public in 1969.

"While there is no substitute for a qualified engineering assessment," the former science teacher said, "when you're underneath the bridge looking up, to the untrained eye it's cause for alarm."

There were other community members who shared Mike's concerns as several cracks in each pylon are visible at low tide, and there have been reports by the community of 'spalling' – where fragments of concrete break off

a larger body – of which concrete cancer is a cause.

Dr Hemanta Doloi, a professor of construction management at the University of Melbourne and an expert in rural infrastructure planning and policies, spoke to the Advertiser in 2024.

"In an ideal situation, you do not like to see any cracks," Dr Doloi said.

"Because this is a classic recipe of oxidation taking place within the concrete crack where the



In recent years there were reports by the community of 'spalling' – where fragments of concrete break off a larger body and several cracks are visible in each pylon accessible by land at low tide. One crack over a metre-and-a-half long nears the width of a 50c piece in parts, with a small midden of shells nestled in its crevice.

steel is present inside.

"That will create concrete cancer, where the steel will bulge inside and concrete will eventually fall apart.

"If there is a crack, definitely there is a compromise."

However, the professor stopped short of saying whether the cracks would pose a threat to the integrity of the structure, noting many public assets last long beyond their original predicted lifespan.



While about 20 Victorian shires have rolled out purple bins for glass recycling, Bass Coast has delayed the mandated scheme, highlighting the cost to ratepayers.

## Purple bin rollout delayed

## WASTE

Bass Coast Shire Council has written to the State Government raising concerns about the financial costs of moving to a purple-lidded glass bin recycling scheme.

The bin roll out was initially expected in December last year, but now has a deadline of July 2027, with about 30 Victorian councils trying to stop the mandated rollout.

The group of councils argue the \$129 million recycling scheme will force an increase in waste disposal charges to households of about \$27 per year.

The councils want to see glass included in the state's container deposit scheme, including glass wine and spirits.

About 20 councils have already rolled out the purple bins.

A Bass Coast Shire Council spokesperson confirmed they had written a formal letter to the Environment Minister and made

a submission through the state's consultation process last year.

"In both, Council raised concerns about the potential financial impact on our community," the spokesperson said.

"The State Government's decision, initially expected in December 2024, has been delayed, and we are awaiting further updates."

Queensland, NSW and South Australia have opted to expand their container deposit schemes to include glass wine and spirits bottles.

According to the draft Bass Coast Shire Council 2025/26 budget, ratepayers will be hit by a price hike of 7.4 per cent – or \$42 – to the garbage charge.

The increase will see the charge rise to \$617.

In 2018 we paid \$374 for the privilege of kerbside waste removal.

The council said the hike was necessary to comply with environmental regulations.

## Sin bin: council aims to reduce landfill

## ENVIRONMENT

Farmers, tourism businesses and builders will be encouraged to go green under a new Bass Coast Shire Council policy.

The council last week released a new report for community consultation, "A Circular Economy Framework for Bass Coast 2025-2035", to discourage materials wasted or thrown into landfill and instead encouraging re-use.

While the council is now calling for ideas and feedback, with a summit to be held on June 5 ahead of a final framework in July, the report flags potential solutions including processing and use of organic material locally, also supporting a local marketplace for salvaged construction materials.

For the tourism industry, it proposes "waste free tourism" including reducing single-use plastics, supporting nature tourism that regenerates the environment and zero waste events, and introducing energy and water-efficiency.

The report says the construction industry in Bass Coast accounts for the highest economic output at 22 per cent, and the largest count of businesses by industry with over one quarter of all businesses.

For construction, it proposes supporting recycled materials, modular construction and digital platforms for sharing waste materials, as well as establishing deconstruction guidelines for buildings.

Several countries and companies have implemented manufacturer take-back programs for waste, placing the responsibility on producers for managing their products' end-of-life, such as Patagonia through its Worn Wear program, which accepts used clothing.

## Farming

For farming, the second largest



Local and state governments are trying to grapple with the ever-growing amount of waste produced, with a new Bass Coast Shire Council policy aiming to reduce products from landfill. However, farmers say the policy should reinstate recycling of hay bale plastic.

count of businesses at 13 per cent, especially beef and dairy, the report encourages composting and repurposing organic waste, alongside adopting regenerative farming, soil health practices such as nutrient cycling, bioenergy and biochar products.

The council states it will encourage farm to table networks that minimise packaging waste and food miles.

However, Phillip Island's only dairy farmers Adam and Annette Eldridge say they send an average of 12 x 1.5 cubic metres of hay bale plastic waste to landfill because Bass Coast Shire Council no longer offers a recycling program.

The couple, who run more than 300 beef and dairy cows on 480 acres at Ventnor, said in spring they baled rounds of hay, each bale covered in netting and plastic, which was then taken to Grantville transfer station, paying about \$1200 for it be buried in landfill.

Adam said for many years he bagged the plastic and took it to Grantville for recycling, but in recent years this program stopped.

He admitted it was part of a bigger, national problem.

"It's a big problem but I think the shire is the one who can offer solutions," Adam said.

"If you take into account all the farmers just on Phillip Island, there's probably about 100 cubic metres of silage plastic being generated and when you think what a big farming community Bass Coast is, the quantities of waste are massive. Probably most farmers burn it, even though it's illegal to do so."

Adam said he was further frustrated that the rolls of plastic to wrap bales once came with a thick cardboard core, but manufacturers had now started using hard plastic tubes which weren't recyclable.

"We want to do the right thing, but they make it difficult."

A council spokesperson said their processor had previously been stockpiling the silage plastic, but after recycling proved ineffective the processor no longer accepted the plastic.

Adam also said they already use soil health practices on the farm and it was illegal for them to sell raw milk from the farm gate.

Details: [engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/circular-economy-framework](https://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/circular-economy-framework)



# Phillip Island a global powerhouse on environment

## WILDLIFE

Phillip Island is a global leader in conservation, helping to return species from the brink of extinction, a Phillip Island Nature Parks event was told last week.

About 110 people attended the PINP event at the Phillip Island Winery to celebrate progress in reintroducing threatened species and restoring biodiversity on Phillip Island, especially the eastern barred bandicoots (EBB) and bush stone-curlews.

Nature Parks' senior scientist Dr Duncan Sutherland told the crowd Australia had "an appalling record on extinctions" but Phillip Island's fox-free status in 2017 was helping turn that around, especially for the EBB.

He said thanks to the EBB being introduced on Phillip Island in 2017, the species had gone from extinct in the wild to now endangered.

"It skipped the critically endangered stage," Dr Sutherland said.

"It's the only species in the world we know of that has gone from extinct in the wild to no longer having a captive breeding program.

"The only way to protect them is to find fox-free habitat.

"Phillip Island's fox free

eradication is a world-stand out, I don't think people realise just how important it is.

"The next island (globally to become fox-free) is a third the size of Phillip Island and doesn't have a human population on it."

However, Dr Sutherland said one of the greatest threats to the EBB on Phillip Island was cats, which are not only predators, but also carry the disease toxoplasmosis.

He said one in five bandicoots die from the disease, with roadkill another key threat.

"If an EBB catches the disease it will die within two weeks and one in five are dying this way."

Dr Sutherland said it was now important to ensure the genetic diversity of the EBB population and so bloodlines from Tasmanian EBBs were being introduced here.

The bandicoots are prolific breeders, with babies in gestation for just over 12 days, and within about four months they were able to breed, but then have a life span of about three years.

A single EBB can move about five tonnes of soil a year, acting as "ecological engineers" aerating and improving soil health.

"There's very little of the island where the EBB is not spotted now,"



Phillip Island Nature Park's researchers Paula Wasiak and Duncan Sutherland, who spoke at the event about their respective projects, curlews and bandicoots.

he said, referring to the number of public sightings reported on the Nature Parks' EBB website.

"You can see them in almost any backyard on the island."

Dr Sutherland was asked if speed limits on Phillip Island could be reduced to protect animals, to which he agreed slower speeds "are better for wildlife" and a review of limits by the

Transport Department and Bass Coast Shire Council was not yet complete.

## Curlews

Nature Park's researcher Paula Wasiak gave a presentation on the release in August last year of a dozen critically-endangered bush stone-curlews into the Oswin Roberts Reserve.

She said the birds each wear little GPS backpacks

so they can be tracked, which take her "two hours and 15 minutes to sew".

Ms Wasiak said the survival rate of the birds had been high, with roadkills, dogs and cats their main threats, but nevertheless on two occasions she had intervened to save two birds at risk.

"One was in Rhyll being swooped by magpies," Ms Wasiak said, adding she

rescued it and re-released it to a safer area."

The second intervention was on a main road during the Grand Prix weekend.

"It's a fine line. We don't want to intervene almost all the time. They need to learn and if we intervene they will not learn. They need to coexist with us.

"We won't know if they successfully establish on Phillip Island for a few years."

An audience member asked if the current drought was impacting the birds, to which she responded most of their water needs come from their food sources, which include invertebrates.

Summerland, Cape Woolamai, Churchill Island and the Koala Conservation Reserve are all possible sites to house the birds in the future, Ms Wasiak added.

Farmer Anne Davie was scheduled to talk about sustainable farming, including planting over 20,000 trees on the family farm Bimbadeen, but was unable to make the event so her granddaughter Lily Christopher made the presentation.

Ticket sales from the event went to Phillip Island Landcare Group and the Penguin Foundation.

Details: [phillipisland-landcare.org.au](http://phillipisland-landcare.org.au) and [penguinfoundation.org.au](http://penguinfoundation.org.au)



Rotary Phillip Island subsidised 10 tickets to the rewilding event for young conservationists, who could otherwise not afford to attend. Rotary's Graeme Turner is with Nature Parks' community impact manager Kate Adams.



Phillip Island Nature Parks' Penguin Foundation produced three special wines for the rewilding event: Eastern Barred Bandicoot Bubbles, Bush Stone Curlew Chardonnay and Crimson Berry Shiraz. The foundation's Sarah Hardy sold the limited release wine to the crowd.



Citizen scientist Ron Day, from left, who has monitored roadkill on Phillip Island for many years, with Phillip Island Conservation Society president Greg Johnson.



Cape Woolamai's Jessica Moulynox with her husband Trev, who is a consulting arborist.

## Have your say: Draft Circular Economy Framework



Council has developed a draft Circular Economy Framework to guide and support the development of a circular economy in Bass Coast. The Framework is underpinned by the three core principles of circular economy:

- to design out waste and pollution
- keep materials in use at their highest value
- regenerate nature

The Framework outlines key actions for Council, as well as opportunities for community to get involved. We want to gather ideas and understand your priorities, and how we can best support the transition to a circular economy for our Shire.

### Have your say

To read the draft Framework visit Engage Bass Coast at [engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/circular-economy-framework](http://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/circular-economy-framework) or contact our Sustainable Environment Team on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211 for more information.

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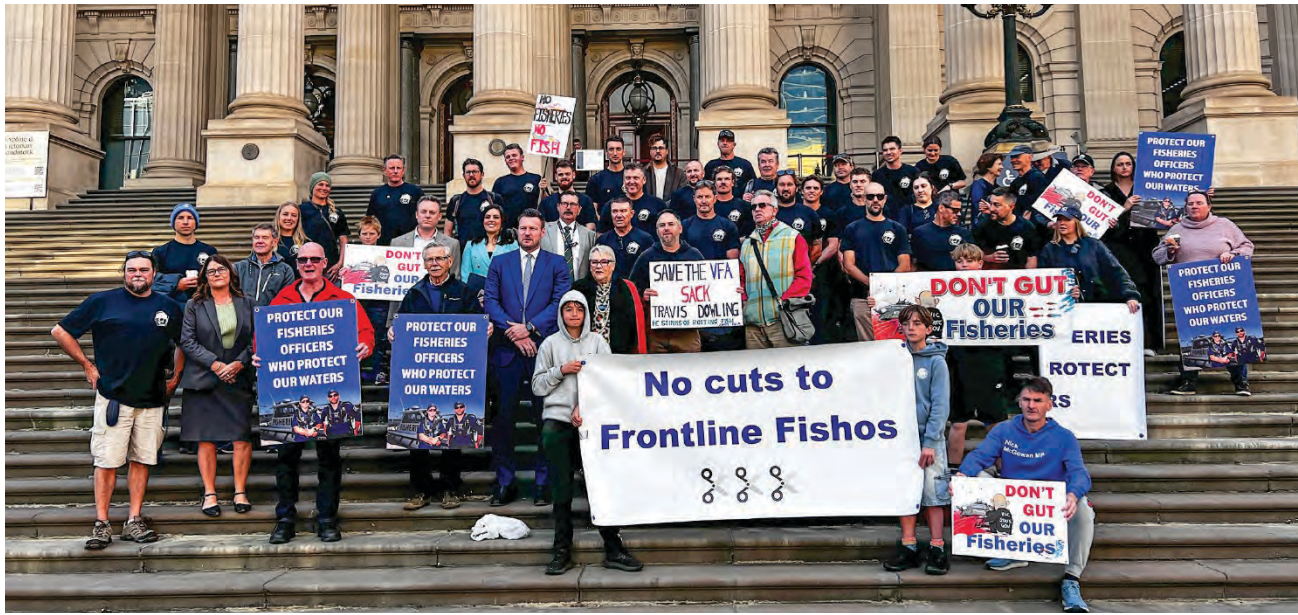
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A.F.D.A.





Fisheries officers and industry experts on the steps of parliament last Thursday, after handing the government the petition signed by more than 21,000 Victorians, calling for a stop to the planned "gutting" of Fisheries.

# Thousands say no to fisheries cuts as decision imminent

## FISHERIES

A petition signed by more than 21,000 Victorians was tabled in State Parliament last week, demanding the State Government scrap its planned "gutting" of Fisheries.

The petition came as a review on the final decision on the future of Fisheries officers is understood to have concluded last week, ahead of potential funding cuts in the state budget yesterday (May 20, which were released after the Advertiser went to press).

Last Thursday more than 50 Fisheries officers and industry stakeholders gathered on the steps of Parliament House to protest the government's decision to slash funding and staffing.

The government plans to slash the number of fisheries officer positions in Port Phillip Bay and Western Port Bay – Victoria's busiest fishing and boating areas – from 27 down to nine, with four staff in Cowes set to lose their jobs.

Statewide, 35 roles will be cut, reducing overall staffing from 192 to 157, while all Fisheries officers will be reclassified as "engagement officers", with

a shift from enforcement to "education and engagement".

Shadow Minister for Outdoor Recreation, Sam Groth, said the petition reflected "growing anger and concern from recreational fishers, environmental advocates, and coastal communities".

"Poaching has already begun. While most people do the right thing, a small percentage who don't will wreak havoc on our fisheries," Mr Groth said.

"The dismantling of fisheries enforcement will leave our waterways vulnerable to illegal fishing, marine damage, and serious safety risks."

"With more Victorians than ever enjoying fishing and boating, now is the time to strengthen compliance – not gut it."

## Offences

Meanwhile, figures released for the 2023/24 financial year show more than 70 per cent of all calls received by 13FISH related to offences in the five Fisheries stations proposed for closure.

Former Fisheries officer and Phillip Island resident Kevin Brown said in 2023/24 there were 1154 calls to 13FISH, the after-hours reporting line, for

Cowes, Altona, Braeside, Mornington and Queenscliff.

Cowes received 126 calls including 12 in marine parks.

Kevin said the numbers also detailed the penalty infringement notices and briefs of evidence presented for court prosecutions.

"How does the Victorian Fisheries Authority CEO expect to manage these offences without compliance staff in the locations to deal with them?" Kevin asked.

"The naivety is staggering."

## Unanimous

Last month the state's leading green group joined with recreational and commercial fishing organisations to condemn the anticipated cuts, which came after a unanimous vote of "no confidence" by Fisheries officers in the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA).

Last month the Advertiser spoke to many industry insiders across several seafood sectors who say they were largely "in the dark" about the government's next steps.

However, one sector said they understood a deadline for submissions – for alternative proposals – by Fisheries officers to the VFA had been extended, with a

panel examining alternative proposals and making a final decision about May 20.

Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale said the Victorian Fisheries Authority had consulted with employees and the union on workforce changes.

"The Victorian Fisheries Authority will now consider feedback from the workforce and union with a final decision to be made in due course."



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Men's Shed Co-ordinator Brian Walmsley (right) and long standing member Vern Stone, present this historic display of plaques commemorating key milestones in the 85 years of Warley Hospital to Kirsten Weinzierl, Executive Director of Primary and Clinical Services at the Phillip Island Health Hub, and Chrissy Vojkovic, Outpatients team leader.

## Warley legacy preserved at new Community Hospital

### HEALTH

As the construction of the highly anticipated Phillip Island Community Hospital nears completion ahead of a hoped-for opening in June, a tribute to the island's rich healthcare history is set to take pride of place in the new facility.

Among the final touches to be installed is an historic display of plaques commemorating key milestones in the history of Warley Hospital — a beloved institution that served the Phillip Island community for 85 years. The plaques document the establishment of the Warley Bush Nursing Hospital in 1923, the opening of a modern new Warley facility in 1962, and the addition of the Warley Nursing Home Annexe in 1980.

For 85 years, Warley Hospital provided essential healthcare services to local residents 24/7 until forced to close its doors in 2008 due to funding shortfalls. Its loss was deeply felt across the island, but now its legacy will live on thanks to the efforts of the Phillip Island RSL Community Men's Shed.

Peter Paul, President of Island Voice and the driving force behind the project, has commended the outstanding work carried out by the volunteer Men's Shed members.

"The PIRSL Community Men's Shed was more than enthusiastic to undertake the restoration of the four plaques, after they were finally located, depicting major milestones in the history of Warley Hospital.

"They regarded the



This week, the Victorian Hospital Building Authority told the Advertiser that work on the first stage of the hospital was nearing completion.

project as significant for the island's history and saw the plaques as a wonderful legacy to be displayed permanently in the new Community Hospital."

The Men's Shed volunteers meticulously restored the century-old plaques, mounting them on Baltic pine, donated to the Shed by a local family.

The restoration was carried out by Men's Shed member and former stone mason Marcus Blake, who polished the plaques to their original condition. And the timberwork was completed by Brian Walmsley, Men's Shed co-ordinator, who said the project was a "labour of love."

"Many of our members have strong ties to Warley, and the restoration became something deeply personal," Brian, whose children were born at Warley, said.

"We're proud to have helped ensure Warley's legacy is honoured for generations to come."

Kirsten Wienzerl, Ex-

ecutive Director of Primary and Clinical Services at the Health Hub — and herself born at Warley Hospital — expressed her thanks to the Men's Shed.

"This is a powerful and everlasting gift to the Phillip Island community," Kirsten said.

"The legacy of Warley will now continue to inspire and remind us all of the care and compassion that defined its service over 85 years."

The restored plaques will be permanently displayed inside the new Phillip Island Community Hospital, serving as a symbolic bridge between the island's healthcare past and its bright, modern future.

This week, the Victorian Hospital Building Authority told the Advertiser that work on the first stage of the hospital was nearing completion.

"We are working with the health service to plan for the smooth transition of services to the new Urgent Care Centre," the spokesperson said.

## New faces at San Remo favourite

### BUSINESS

The new owners of the Westernport Hotel in San Remo, Morgan and Shiree Mountford have not only taken over the hotel, they also moved states and are about to start a family, with their first child due in July.

It might sound like a daunting load, but Morgan and Shiree are relishing the challenge and have thrown themselves head-first into running the beloved local hotel.

Arriving a little over two months ago, the couple set up house in San Remo, and now Morgan's parents have also made the move, offering a helping hand both with the new hotel and the new baby.

"The idea was to make it a family venue, so mum and dad loved the opportunity to do that," Morgan said.

The decision to take on running the hotel came from the desire to raise their family in a regional area, rather than a small apartment in Sydney.

Morgan felt the skills he had built up running his own plumbing company would be transferrable to running a hotel.

He also said the strong feeling of community he discovered when he visited San Remo, reminded him of the community he grew up in, in NSW's Southern Highlands.

After seeing the venue advertised online, Morgan travelled to San Remo and met with former owner Nick Say. He said he was immediately struck by the friendliness of the locals, and how much the two men had in common.

"It was supposed to be a venue walk through and Nick and I ended up here for almost three hours, talking about life, pubs and the community."

Morgan discovered Nick was a similar age when he took over the hotel, and wife Mish was also pregnant with their first child.

"It really resonated with everything that I thought.

"I jumped in the car and rang Shiree and said I'm going to put a deposit down; we can make this work," he said.

### Community focus

Despite the massive upheaval of an interstate move and taking on a new business, Morgan and Shiree said things have fallen into place; "it's just been effortless".

As they find their feet in the community, a list of priorities for their new venture have formed.

First up is the bistro, which has seen a reworking of the menu.

"We have a great head chef, who has been here since last August, and I



The new owners of the Westernport Hotel in San Remo, Morgan and Shiree Mountford have not only taken over the hotel, they also moved states and are about to start a family.

feel like we've given him a bit more creative space," Morgan said.

"We are currently trialling new weekly specials and preparing to launch our winter menu in the coming weeks," said Shiree.

In addition to the seasonal updates, the team is working towards introducing table service to enhance the overall customer experience.

"You're coming out to a venue for hospitality — to sit, relax, and enjoy time with your friends," Morgan explained.

"We're putting a lot of effort into providing quality service and feel confident in the team's ability to make these improvements and elevate the dining experience."

Adding another level of service, the hotel has purchased a courtesy bus to help transport customers and has put a call out on social media for name suggestions.

Also on the horizon is an upgrade of the accommodation and converting one of the existing spaces into a function room.

The popular kids playroom has already had a facelift, with the addition of a big chalkboard and new toys.

Keeping the customers front of mind in all their decisions is vital, said the couple.

"The special thing about this place is there's a lot of different customers," Shiree said.

"Wednesday nights, which typically attract surfers and tradies, are very different from Friday nights, which draw in long-time locals who have been coming here for years."

Morgan hopes locals will embrace the changes, but also realise the hotel is still very much the place

they know and love.

"I would like them to feel they're still part of it. This is where everyone comes to feel part of a community."

Shiree agrees. "It's for all ages, families, dogs, everyone."

As they settle into life in San Remo, both are enjoying meeting the locals, with Morgan in the venue every day.

"I want to be part of the community. I want to know what everyone's doing."

"My main focus is letting the locals know we're here for the long haul; we want to raise our family here."

The venue's tradition of supporting local causes is continuing, including providing vouchers for the Dalyston Youth Girls and local Biggest Morning Tea fundraisers, as well as offering display space within the venue for local artists and artisans.

"We're open to collaborations and more than happy to help out."

### Music

Morgan also hopes to continue the Westernport's reputation as a live music venue.

"I'm working really hard at the moment, getting in touch with promoters. And also letting the locals know that music is here to stay."

He is keen to host more local musicians and promises they "will always have live music on a Sunday, no matter what."

"We want to get to a stage where everyone knows Sunday is Westernport music, and regardless of what band is on, it's going to be quality, and this is where you're going to come."

"I would love nothing more than to have an artist start here and end up coming back in a few years and selling out. Nothing would make me happier."





Research officers took advantage of calm conditions last Friday to carry out drone photography of Silverleaves and Cowes east erosion hotspots, as part of an ongoing study.

## Erosion eye in the sky

### ENVIRONMENT

Research officers took advantage of calm conditions at sunrise last Friday to carry out drone photography of Silverleaves and Cowes east erosion hotspots, as part of an ongoing study.

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) science officer Bec Stuart flew the drone over more than 2km of beach, from Erehwon Point to the end of Silverleaves' residential area, at low tide from the dunes to the water line.

The drone takes hundreds of photos, at 100 metres altitude, to measure sand movement.

The drone coastal monitoring program started in 2018, and has been carried out every six to eight weeks since it commenced.

DEECA released the draft East Cowes and Silverleaves Adaptation Plan at the end of April, which is out for community comment until May 30.

Details: [engage.vic.gov.au/silverleaves-coastal-adaptation-pathways](https://engage.vic.gov.au/silverleaves-coastal-adaptation-pathways)



Rotary President Gea Lovell presents Woolamai Beach SLSC President Jason Close with a cheque for \$20,000 towards the restoration of the Smiths Beach Rescue Base, surrounded by Rotary and Surf Club members. Photo: Maureen Adams.

## Rescue Base donation from Rotary

### LIFESAVING

Over the weekend, the Phillip Island and San Remo Rotary Club officially presented a \$20,000 donation towards the restoration of the Smiths Beach Rescue Base.

Jason Close, President of the Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club said the club was "most grateful to Rotary for their very generous donation".

"It was a great honour to receive a visit from the Phillip Island and San Remo Rotary Club to the Smiths Beach Rescue Base. About 12-15 members attended and had a look at the rescue base and the works proposed," Jason said.

As one of the busiest and most popular beaches on Phillip Island, Smiths Beach relies heavily on the presence of trained volunteer lifesavers — and the tower provides a vital base for their life-

saving efforts.

Rotary's donation will go directly toward structural repairs, equipment upgrades, and improvements that will ensure the facility is fit for purpose, meets modern safety standards, and can continue serving the community for many years to come.

Rotary Club President Gea Lovell said the club was proud to be part of such a critical project.

"Our club recognises the vital role the Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club plays in protecting both locals and visitors. The patrol tower at Smiths Beach has been central to these efforts, and we're honoured to support its restoration," she said.

Jason Close said the support for the project was timely, and comes on the back of a State Government Tiny Towns grant for \$50,000 announced earlier this month.

"With Rotary's support, we're now able to move from planning to action. Works are scheduled to commence shortly, and this funding gives us the confidence and momentum to get the job done," Jason said.

Both clubs said the project is a strong example of what can be achieved when local organisations work together to address community needs.

Gea Lovell said it also continues Rotary's long-standing commitment to backing grassroots initiatives that enhance safety, resilience, and volunteer capacity across the Island.

"By investing in the future of lifesaving at Smiths Beach, the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo has once again demonstrated the power of service and the enduring value of supporting those who protect our community."



## Community Roundtable Sessions

The Port of Hastings Corporation is progressing with planning for the Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal, a proposed dedicated assembly port that will support the construction of offshore wind projects off the coast of Victoria.

We are hosting a series of Roundtable Sessions with experts preparing the technical studies for the Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal's Environment Effects Statement (EES).

Come along to hear from subject experts and ask questions as part of a facilitated roundtable discussion.



Register to attend by scanning the QR code or visiting: [renewableenergyterminal.com.au/community/events](https://renewableenergyterminal.com.au/community/events)

### JUNE SESSIONS

Learn more and ask questions about the updated **project design**, the **assessment process**, the **construction approach** and the **visual amenity, coastal processes** and **onshore ecology** studies.

#### Hastings

Wednesday 18 June, 6 – 9pm  
Sanctuary Inn on  
Westernport  
126 Marine Parade

#### Cowes

Thursday 19 June, 6 – 9pm  
Berninnet Cultural and  
Community Centre  
91–97 Thompson Ave

#### Or join us online

Tuesday 24 June, 7 – 9pm

### JULY SESSIONS

Learn more and ask questions about the **marine ecology** and **waterbirds studies**, and get an update on the project design and the assessment process.

#### Hastings

Saturday 5 July, 10am – 1pm  
Hastings Community Hub  
1973 Frankston - Flinders Rd

#### Flinders

Tuesday 8 July, 6 – 9pm  
Flinders Civic Hall  
56 Cook St

#### Or join us online

Thursday 10 July, 7 – 9pm



# Boys Home hotel plans dropped

From page 1

council to keep the buildings. No developer lobbies to keep buildings so we're not asking for more, we are asking for less.

"It's very unusual to go to VCAT and ask for less demolition and more restoration of a heritage building."

He said he could have taken the hotel redevelopment to VCAT for approval, and had also sought government intervention, but ultimately decided the course of least resistance was best.

Mr Amatruda said the \$500,000 State Government tourism feasibility grant they received for the hotel development was not spent.

## Objectors

Mr Amatruda said "push back" from objectors to council had meant the hotel proposal had not been a "pleasant process".

"They pushed them so hard, even though we were trying to build something great," he said.

"We are all getting older, so let's make what we have beautiful and improve the (2010) permit.

He said objectors were calling for the Boys Home to be turned into a memorial, or a community or cultural centre "but they don't own it, it's privately owned".

"If they continue to push, we can demolish what was approved for demolition, which is a large part of the buildings. That is an option if we get too much push back.

"But we don't want to do that. We don't want to take down anything, we want to restore."

He said objectors should be careful what they wish for, explaining if this variation of the permit failed he would revert to the 2010 plans in their entirety.

"If they want something and they get it, they may ultimately lose.

"I want to emphasise you can protest all you want, but something will be built there."



As allowed under the 2010 permit, the recreation hall in the top north-east corner will be demolished for townhouses.

## Variation

Mr Amatruda said they were seeking variations to the 2010 permit including keeping all heritage buildings, which would mean the 21-lot subdivision would reduce to about 15.

The old residence on Boys Home Road was originally set to be demolished, but he was now seeking to keep that, which would reduce the lots on that section from four to two.

The 1970s caretaker building on Forrest Avenue would, however, be the only building to be demolished to allow for the originally-planned subdivision.

The original planning permit allowed for partial demolition of the main building, including adding parking, but Mr Amatruda said they planned no changes and there would be sufficient parking.

"We are sacrificing money and profit, that's what we're prepared to do to retain the history.

"We are not a big bad developer. When we bought the building it was months away from being burnt down. It had no doors or windows, it was a mess, vandalised by squatters.

"We want to restore the buildings to better than they were."

Over the past six months Mr Amatruda had run a two-

pronged parallel planning process, working on both the hotel plans and the 2010 plans, running "two on purpose".

The 2010 permit had been extended several times by various owners and when Mr Amatruda purchased the site in 2021 he extended it to October 2026.

He said they had recently successfully sought a further extension for another three years to complete.

While there were no milestones for the project, once they received the green light it would take about 18 months to complete.

Because the plans are based on the 2010 permit there is no requirement for the owner to make a publicly available estimate of the value of the development and are not required to be made public because they're based on an approved permit.

However Mr Amatruda said he had already spent considerable money, estimating about \$500,000 on the hotel plans, a further \$500,000 on the 2010 plans, and "millions" on the restoration.

He guessed once green lighted, the 2010 plans would cost about \$15 million, "which is a builder's rate", as he is the owner of Omni Property Group, which develops properties around Victoria.

# Boys home's planning history: a snapshot

## MAJOR PROJECTS

Newhaven's old Boys Home was constructed by the Mission of St James and St John in 1925 to house boys aged between nine and 16.

To this day former boys tell of a dark and tragic past at the home.

It was sold to Knox School in the early 2000s, which applied to develop the site into housing, taking their plans to VCAT in 2010.

In 2010 concerned local residents formed the Newhaven Residents Group, objecting to the development at VCAT, with amendments made through mediation.

Under the original 2010 permit, more than 100 trees would be razed, including pines, cypress trees, several natives, garden plantings and an old orchard, with the developer required to buy offset vegetation.

The 2010 plans show all outbuildings would be demolished – which was agreed to at VCAT – including the 1930s cottage facing Boys Home Road, the recreation hall, bike shed, office block, amenities and laundry block and generator/fuel store.

Where these buildings once stood would instead be a mix of vacant lots and lots with two-storey dwellings, with six units in the north-east corner on Forrest Avenue and four units facing west to Boys Home Road.

A north-east section of the main building would be demolished and another wing gutted to make way for a carpark and units.

There would be six units built in the main building's northern section, overlooking Forrest Avenue, with the Romanesque

exterior façade – arguably the most iconic characteristic of the building – required to be maintained.

The renowned chapel – which was built in 1935 and has hosted numerous Newhaven College plays, assemblies, and even year 12 exams – would be residential units.

The 2010 VCAT ruling said the chapel, headmaster's residence, and two dormitory and living wings had "primary heritage significance", with the permit retaining the key buildings and removing "those of lesser or no importance".

While the development never went ahead, the permit was still valid, after passing through multiple owners in recent years.

In 2020 the property – its 14-bedroom, 14-bathroom boarding house, chapel and ancillary buildings – was sold for about \$3.5 million, and previous to that sold for \$1.65 million in 2015 to a group of 10 investors.

In 2020 the then president of the National Trust's Bass Coast branch wrote to the council calling for an urgent review to protect the boys home, which had seen years of neglect and vandalism.

The National Trust said the permit allowed for the demolition of the eastern leg of the main heritage building, as well as a conversion of the lower level of the southern residential wing to car garages.

"This would be disappointing if this happened, as the shire's heritage expert stated it would be preferable to retain this area," the Trust's spokesperson said at the time.

He said demolition of the teacher's cottage on Boy's Home Road was also permitted in 2010.

# Edward's plaque returns

## HISTORY

A brass plaque commemorating one of the island's most famous residents, Edward the Koala, has been repaired and returned to its original site.

The sign was reinstated last month, on the site of Edward's favourite tree, in Dunsmore Road, just up from the beach.

Edward rose to national prominence after he was rescued in 1939 by Phillip Island conservationist, Florence Oswin Roberts, the proprietor of Broadwater Guest House in Cowes.

The guesthouse became famous in 1939 when Mrs Oswin Roberts turned it into a koala hospital.

In the aftermath of the bushfires that devastated parts of Phillip Island, Mrs Oswin Roberts rescued all the burned and homeless koalas she could find, set them up in hammocks in almost every room and on the verandas, and tended their wounds, hiring nurses from Melbourne to help her.

Mrs Oswin Roberts also found a helpless baby clinging to its dead mother after the bushfires.

She took the defenceless crea-



For seven years, Edward the Koala held court at Broadwater Guest House in Cowes, receiving thousands of visitors and being regularly photographed with them.

ture back to Broadwater to raise it, calling on her friend Crosbie Morrison, the famous naturalist, for advice on how best to care for the tiny orphan.

The koala was christened Edward, although it was discovered to be female after its death.

Edward thrived under Mrs Oswin Roberts' care, and despite being free to roam, showed no signs of wanting to return to the bush.

As a result, Mrs Oswin Roberts became the only person to ever legally own a koala in Victoria. She was granted permission to keep Edward by the Chief Inspector of Fisheries and Game, after a special bill was passed through the Victorian Parliament.

Such was the strength of the bond between the two, the koala rarely left her side, and became



A brass plaque commemorating one of the island's most famous residents, Edward the Koala, has been repaired and returned to its original site.

famous making appearances with Mrs Oswin Roberts at charity functions in Melbourne for the war effort.

For seven years, Edward held court at Broadwater, receiving thousands of visitors and being regularly photographed with them.

Edward was also a great favourite with the residents of Cowes, who were well accus-

tomed to seeing the pair around the town.

Edward's death in 1944 made headline news around Australia at the time, with bulletins across the nation mourning the death of Australia's most famous koala.

Edward's body was taken to a taxidermist and is now on display in the Phillip Island and District Historical Society Museum at Berninnet.



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# NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Advertising Feature

THANK YOU

## Volunteers: The heart of PICAL for over four decades

Since 1980, volunteers have been the backbone of the Phillip Island Community and Adult Learning Centre (PICAL). Founded by the community and for the community, that spirit of grassroots dedication remains stronger than ever today. It's the tireless work of more than 100 active volunteers that underpins every service and opportunity PICAL offers.

"National Volunteer Week is a great opportunity for us to pause and reflect on the incredible contribution of our volunteers," says David Rooks, Centre Manager at PICAL.

"Everything we do –

from room hire and community garden produce to our wide range of activities that connect the community – is made possible by the passion and commitment of local people who give their time so generously."

Each week, PICAL volunteers contribute an estimated 400 hours of service – far outpacing the 67 hours of paid staffing time. Volunteers are considered "active" if they contribute at least once a month, though many do far more. Their work builds connection, supports lifelong learning, and strengthens the social fabric of the wider Phillip

Island community.

Recognising that volunteer wellbeing is just as important as their contribution, PICAL has introduced low-cost chair yoga classes as a way to say thank you. Offered on Mondays at 1.30pm and Tuesdays at 3pm, classes are just \$5 for volunteers and \$15 for the broader community.

"Volunteering isn't just about lending a hand," David adds.

"It's about building relationships, sharing purpose and creating something meaningful together."

This year's National Volunteer Week theme,

"Connecting Communities," celebrates exactly that, the spirit of connection and the incredible impact volunteers have in building inclusive and thriving communities. At PICAL, this spirit lives on every day through the generosity of its people.

To learn more about volunteering or to follow the stories of PICAL's community champions, find Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre – PICAL on Facebook.



Sue Hines, dedicated pantry volunteer at PICAL who helps those in our community experiencing food insecurity.



Wednesday Cooking Group volunteers in the commercial kitchen making meals for the PICAL Pantry. From left: Angela Schembri, Lynda Clark, Liz Bowyer and Lia Gonzalez.



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PICAL

### Celebrating Our Volunteers

Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) extends a heartfelt thank you to our 100 incredible volunteers.

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# NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

## CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Advertising Feature



San Remo Opportunity Shop Auxiliary President Sara Fleisner, volunteers Elaine Inglis and Rhonda Thorne, and Secretary Marj Wagland chat with BCH Interim CEO Simone Alexander.



The Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary's Rob Jeffrey, Michelle Gaunt, Deb O'Donnell and Lyn Wadeson helped to run a successful Woolamai Race Day this year.

# Volunteers help keep Bass Coast healthy

This National Volunteer Week, Bass Coast Health (BCH) wishes to acknowledge the contribution of our valuable volunteers. Their extensive service, across many roles, helps our community to access public healthcare, both in Bass Coast and further afield. BCH Interim CEO Simone Alexander said the service of around 160 volunteers was valued by BCH Board, executive, staff and our consumers. "From helping in reception,

wayfinding and driving patients to appointments, gardening, and visiting patients and aged care residents, they are important members of our team here at Bass Coast Health," she said. "They also take part in our Community Advisory Committee, working with us to ensure we are meeting the needs of the community and enhancing our level of care. It's a truly remarkable gift for the organisation to have so many dedicated volunteers. "We're also fortunate to have

volunteers across five auxiliaries: Inverloch Art Show Auxiliary, Inverloch Fundraising Auxiliary, BCH Ladies Auxiliary, San Remo Opportunity Shop Auxiliary and the Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary. "They hold community events, sort and sell goods, conduct raffles and do other amazing work to raise funds so we can purchase 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." Margie Robinson volunteers as a concierge in reception at Wonthaggi Hospital, greeting members of the public and helping them to find the service they need. "I enjoy meeting the nice people who come in and just helping people. It makes you feel really good," she said. Faye Tuchtan volunteers in wayfinding and administration

at Wonthaggi Hospital, and has previously volunteered with our Community Advisory Committee. "Volunteering gives me a purpose and I enjoy interacting with staff and patients," she said. To express your interest in becoming a volunteer, phone 0439 367 129 or 03 5671 3372 or email [volunteer.coordinator@basscoasthealth.org.au](mailto:volunteer.coordinator@basscoasthealth.org.au) More information is available at [basscoasthealth.org.au/volunteer](http://basscoasthealth.org.au/volunteer)

## Service Above Self

### Celebrating National Volunteers Week

As we mark National Volunteers Week, Rotary Phillip Island and San Remo proudly acknowledges the dedication of our members who give their time and energy to make a real difference in our community.

Whether it's running sausage sizzles, packing birthing kits, supporting food relief efforts, mentoring young leaders, or lending a hand at local events — our volunteers are **people of action**. Their impact is felt across the Island and beyond, often quietly, but always meaningfully.

National Volunteers Week is a perfect time to say thank you to every member, friend, and supporter who has contributed to our projects over the years.

We celebrate you — our volunteers — **and the community who support us** — this week and every week.

**Your service, your support— truly changes lives.**



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W : [www.rotarypisr.org.au](http://www.rotarypisr.org.au)  
E : [info@rotarypisr.org.au](mailto:info@rotarypisr.org.au)

**Rotary**  
Phillip Island and San Remo  
District 9815



This National Volunteer Week, thank you to the Volunteers who help BCH care for our community through:

- Transport driving
- Auxiliaries
- Residential Aged Care visiting
- Gardening
- our Concierge service
- Ward visiting and more.

To learn more, contact Snezana Colley, 0439 367 129 or email [volunteer.coordinator@basscoasthealth.org.au](mailto:volunteer.coordinator@basscoasthealth.org.au)



**Wonthaggi Hospital, 5671 3333**  
**Phillip Island Health Hub, 5951 2100**  
[basscoasthealth.org.au/volunteer](http://basscoasthealth.org.au/volunteer)





NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Advertising Feature



Beautiful landscapes, great people, yummy food, 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.

Tree Planting Days with Phillip Island Landcare Group

Planting indigenous trees and shrubs is a key part of what we do at Landcare, and we love to have volunteers of all ages and abilities working alongside us. We can work together 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 BBQ lunch with great company. This year's planting calendar includes the following dates:

- Saturday June 7, Kate Darling and John Fields
- Saturday July 12, Special Family planting – Whale festival 9.30am start – Phillip Island Rec Reserve
- Thursday July 24, Phillip Island Rec Reserve
- Sunday July 27, Planet Ark's National Tree Day, Ventnor
- Saturday August 2, Kate Darling and John Fields
- Saturday August 16, Phillip Island Rec Reserve

Please see our full 2025 activity calendar for all the details: [www.phillipislandlandcare.org.au](http://www.phillipislandlandcare.org.au) and let us know if you can make it along to any.

Committed to the community

As National Volunteer Week shines a light on the selfless contributions of Australians across the country, Phillip Island Fire Brigade proudly celebrates the dedication of its members and the vital services it provides to the local community.

Operating entirely through the commitment of volunteers, the Phillip Island Fire Brigade has served as a frontline emergency service since 1937.

Today, our brigade is made up of nearly 60 members who respond around the clock to a wide range of emergencies – from bushfires and structure fires to car accidents and storm damage.

Our volunteers come from all walks of life, united by a shared passion for protecting lives, property, and the natural beauty of our island home.

More than just fires

Our role in the community goes well beyond fire response. We also play an active part in community education, conducting school visits, safety talks, and property preparedness advice to help locals reduce their fire risk.

Our Fire Equipment Maintenance (FEM) team services fire extinguishers, hose reels, and other safety equipment for businesses across Phillip Island. Not only does this service improve local safety standards, but the funds raised help support our station's equipment and training.



Members of the dedicated team at the Phillip Island Fire Brigade, at their annual Good Friday Appeal fundraiser. Operating entirely through the commitment of volunteers, the brigade has served as a frontline emergency service since 1937.

Every Tuesday evening, our brigade gathers for training – ensuring every member is up to date with the latest emergency response techniques. Whether learning how to handle breathing apparatus in smoky conditions, hose handling, or conducting joint exercises with neighbouring brigades, training is key to our preparedness.

During major events like the Phillip Island MotoGP or New Year's celebrations, our brigade increases its readiness, providing vital fire and safety support to handle the influx of thousands of visitors.

Why we volunteer

Behind every uniform is a story – whether it's a teenager joining to gain new skills, a retiree giving back to their town, or a local

worker who drops everything to respond when the pager sounds. The strength of our brigade lies in the resilience and shared sense of purpose that each member brings.

If you've ever thought about volunteering with the Phillip Island Fire Brigade, there's a place for you here. We welcome people aged 16 and over who are willing to learn, commit and contribute to something bigger than themselves.

This Volunteer Week, we praise our crew past and present. Your time, courage, and community spirit are what keep Phillip Island safe and strong.

For more information or to express interest in volunteering, visit CFA Victoria's website or drop into the station during one of our training nights.

National  
Volunteer  
Week

19-25 MAY 2025

Connecting Communities

THANK  
YOU

Phillip Island Nature Parks acknowledges the incredible contributions of our volunteers.

Their passion and dedication have been vital to our conservation, tourism, and research efforts.

Phillip Island  
NATURE  
PARKS

[penguins.org.au](http://penguins.org.au)  
#PhillipIslandNP

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

10,000+ volunteer hours  
Contributed across 7 diverse programs

1,100+ hours  
By secondary & tertiary students

6,000+ hours  
Dedicated to native plant production at Barb Martin Bushbank

1M+ visitors  
Welcomed by our visitor experience volunteers across 4 attractions

4 generations of lace  
Preserved & catalogued by the Amess women, now stored on the Victorian Collections database

Community Bank San Remo, Cowes and Grantville

A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful Board of volunteer directors at San Remo District Financial Services Ltd. Their dedication and contributions help guide and strengthen the Community Banks of San Remo, Cowes and Grantville, so we can do great things for you – our brilliant community!

Community Bank  
San Remo, Cowes and Grantville

Bendigo Bank





May 21 is a day of recognition for SES volunteers, who celebrated 50 years of VICSES in March.

## Wear Orange Wednesday

WOW Day (May 21) is the national day of recognition to say thank you to SES volunteers.

It is the most proactive day in the VICSES calendar, held in the middle of National Volunteer Week (May 19 – 25).

This year is a particularly special WOW Day on the back of celebrating 50 years of VICSES in March. That's 50 years of VICSES volunteers providing integral, life-saving emergency response for floods, storms, rescues and more.

In the last 12 months alone SES volunteers have responded to over 35,000 requests for assistance to keep our communities safe.

Each year on WOW Day, Vic-

torians are encouraged to get their workplaces, families, and friends involved in WOW Day celebrations:

- Wear orange on Wednesday May 21
- Post a photo or video to social media to say thank you using the hashtag #ThankYouSES
- Host an orange themed morning tea or encourage your local school or child-care centre to do so
- Put up posters in your workplace to celebrate our SES volunteers.
- Download an SES colouring sheet for the classroom at your local school or kinder.
- Get prepared for the risk of storm and flood so you're less likely to need the SES.

## Help shape the next chapter

Phillip Island isn't just a beautiful place to live – it's an extraordinary collection of stories. Stories of pioneers and protests, shipwrecks and schoolrooms, family businesses, slow ferries and fast cars. And by simply living there, every resident becomes part of the next chapter.

The Phillip Island and District Historical Society is dedicated to preserving these stories and sharing them through its museum at Berninnet in Cowes and across a range of digital platforms. From curated exhibitions to videos and podcasts, the Society is committed to making local history accessible and engaging – not just for today, but for future generations. Remarkably, it's all run by volunteers.

To keep the stories flowing, the Society is constantly planning ahead – which means they're always on the lookout for new faces, fresh ideas and a variety of skills to help bring history to life.

There are opportunities for researchers, catalogue assistants, exhibition helpers, hands-on practical volunteers, and people with tech skills who can support the Society's website, YouTube channel, podcasts and social media presence. Whether someone can give a few hours now and then or something more regular, every bit counts – no experience necessary, just curiosity and a sense of purpose.

One of the Society's most active volunteers is Jason Cameron – a former national television



One of the Society's most active volunteers is Jason Cameron, a former national television journalist and producer, who now channels his passion for history into preserving and promoting the island's stories.

journalist and producer with a career that spanned decades and continents. Jason interviewed prime ministers and premiers, reported live from conflict zones, and covered major events including the 1994 genocide in Rwanda and the funeral of Princess Diana. He worked across the ABC, Nine, Ten, Seven, and ITV in the UK. Today, he brings that same storytelling expertise to the Society's video content, helping to give its exhibitions a polished and professional touch.

Jason has lived on and off Phillip Island for the past 15 years. In addition to his media work, he has operated hospitality businesses, chaired community forums, and contributed to strategic tourism planning. He now channels his passion for history into preserving and promoting the island's stories – and welcomes others to join him.

To celebrate National Volunteers Week, the Historical Society is waiving its annual membership fee for anyone who joins in May – a saving of \$30 for individuals or \$40 for families.

The Society's president, Doug Waugh, is encouraging anyone with an interest to come along and see what it's all about:

"Join us for a behind-the-scenes tour of the museum and get a feel for the passion that drives our work. Meet people like Jason, see how our stories come to life – and maybe discover just how much your own story connects with the stories of Phillip Island."

Those interested can register their interest by emailing [hello@phillipislandhistory.org.au](mailto:hello@phillipislandhistory.org.au) or by visiting [phillipislandhistory.org.au](http://phillipislandhistory.org.au)

Because history isn't just about the past – it's about what we choose to preserve for the future.

# WEAR ORANGE WEDNESDAY

#ThankYouSES

A day to say thank you for  
50 years of volunteering.



21 May 2025



## HELP SHAPE THE NEXT CHAPTER of PHILLIP ISLAND'S STORY



Calling all history enthusiasts

The Phillip Island & District Historical Society shares the island's stories through exhibitions, videos and digital platforms. We're seeking passionate people—researchers, organisers, techies, hands-on helpers.

### Join Us

- Free first-year membership when you join in May
- Private behind-the-scenes tour of our modern museum at Berninnet
- Be part of a passionate community keeping the island's stories alive

### Contact Us

Get in contact with us by emailing [hello@phillipislandhistory.org.au](mailto:hello@phillipislandhistory.org.au)

[www.phillipislandhistory.com.au](http://www.phillipislandhistory.com.au)



# Call for Bass Coast to unite for reconciliation

National Reconciliation Week is a time for everyone in Bass Coast to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

This year the theme of Bridging Now to Next, reflects the ongoing connection between past, present and future and asks us all to step forward together, to look ahead and continue the push forward as past lessons guide us.

Bass Coast Reconciliation Network (the Network) acknowledges National Reconciliation Week each year with member organisations hosting events at their workplaces for their teams with some open to all community members to attend.

National Reconciliation Week is bookended by two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey:

- The successful 1967 referendum when Australians voted to remove clauses in the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- The 1992 Mabo decision when the High Court of Australia recognised native title-the recogni-



This year everyone is invited to attend reconciliation events across Bass Coast as part of National Reconciliation Week. An On Country day with Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation in 2024.

tion that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights over their lands did survive British colonisation.

"We all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in playing our part we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures, and futures," said co-Chair of the Network, Dr Bev Munro.

The day before National Reconciliation Week, May 26, is National Sorry Day commemorated nationally to remember and honour the Stolen Generations.

Public events happening across Bass Coast to acknowledge the week

include a program of free First Nations films and Story Times at your local Myli Library, a special free screening of "Off Country" at Berninnet, Cowes and celebrating the launch of Bass Coast Health's Reconciliation Action Plan on Wednesday May 28 in Wonthaggi.

"Across Bass Coast, organisations are acknowledging National Reconciliation Week in their workplaces, schools and communities and everyone is encouraged to join in and show their support," said Dr Munro.

Find out more and join the events happening across Bass Coast for National Reconciliation Week: [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/reconciliation](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/reconciliation)

## Come together on Sorry Day

Bass Coast Reconciliation Network invites the community to acknowledge the mistreatment of Australia's Stolen Generation and promote healing on National Sorry Day with a community gathering at Cape Paterson Surf Life Saving Club.

The community will come together in a collective show of reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians on May 26 to recognise the important date of significance. National Sorry Day, also known as the National Day of Healing, is an annual commemoration that acknowledges the mistreatment of First Nations children who were forcibly removed from their families, communities and cultures.

First Nations community member and co-Chair of the Network, Dr Bev Munro said "Sorry Day provides us an opportunity to reflect on the Stolen Generations and the pain and suffering past practices have caused".

"However, we need to also reflect on our current practices as a community. The recent report 'Are you waiting for us to die?' notes that only six per cent of recommendations made to support the Stolen Generation have been implemented. These recommendations were made almost 28 years ago. How sorry are we as a country if this is our response?"

Bass Coast Reconciliation Network co-Chair, Kate Lochlin, said Sorry Day was an important day for the whole community to acknowledge the pain and suffering caused by the forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

"The Cape Paterson gathering on National Sorry Day provides us with an opportunity to think of all the children and their families of the Stolen Generation and the heartache endured by their forced separation," Ms Lochlin said.

"We encourage the community to join us in a collective commitment to healing and support for First Nations.



Everyone is invited to be part of a community gathering at Cape Paterson Surf Life Saving Club on May 26, from 10am to 1pm, to promote healing on National Sorry Day.

"Everyone, including children, are invited to be part of the gathering at Cape Paterson Surf Life Saving Club from 10am to 1pm to acknowledge the strength of Stolen Generation survivors and reflect on how we can play our part in the healing process."

The Bass Coast Reconciliation Network includes membership from Bass Coast Shire Council, Bass Coast Health, Westernport Water, Phillip Island Nature Parks, Bunurong Land Council, Bass Coast South Gippsland Reconciliation Group, Myli - My Community Libraries, West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members.

The gathering will include a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony by Bunurong man, Robert Ogden and a guest speaker from the local Aboriginal community, followed by a light lunch, yarns and music by Fonzie (Paul) Patten. For more information, visit [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/community-support-services/reconciliation](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/community-support-services/reconciliation)



### Barrihbarrith Gathering Place – First Nations Community Yarn

Please join us for a yarn about our project to help establish a Gathering Place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members living on the Bass Coast. This will be a safe place to have your say. Our independent consultants Karen and Wendy from Karen Milward Consulting Services will facilitate the conversation.

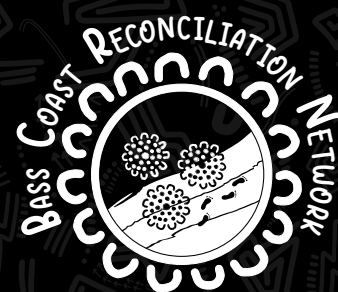
Karen and Wendy want to explore with you why a Gathering Place is important, what it could look like, what types of programs, services and events could be held there and where it should be located.

**Who should come along?** If you are a First Nations person currently living on the Bass Coast, we'd love to see you there.

We will be holding two sessions, so you have a choice to come along to the one that best suits you. Refreshments provided. Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements.

Date and Time	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 4:00pm – 6:00pm	Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 10:00am – 1:00pm
Venue	Wonthaggi Town Hall Foyer 14 Baillieu Street East, Wonthaggi	Koala Conservation Centre Gurrborra Bik Bik Room 1810 Phillip Island Road, Rhyll
RSVP	<a href="#">CommunityYarn29May</a>  by Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	<a href="#">Community Yarn31May</a>  by Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May

Enquiries: Karen Milward: [kmilward9497@gmail.com](mailto:kmilward9497@gmail.com): 0407 867863  
Deb Blaber: [barrihbarrith@gmail.com](mailto:barrihbarrith@gmail.com): 0447 303249  
Bev Munro: [brumby56@outlook.com](mailto:brumby56@outlook.com): 0420 311676



## Supporting Reconciliation across Bass Coast

Join us at these free public events

### SORRY DAY - COMMUNITY GATHERING

Monday 26 May - 10am-2pm - Cape Paterson Surf Club  
All welcome to this special day of healing. Gold coin donation.

### NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK EVENTS

• **Bass Coast Health - Reconciliation Action Plan launch**  
Wednesday 28 May - 9am - Wonthaggi Hospital

• **Free Film screening of "Off Country"**  
Wednesday 28 May - 11am-12.30pm - Berninnet, Cowes

• **Free Reconciliation themed Film screenings & Story Time sessions** - local Myli libraries

For event details and bookings:  
[www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/reconciliation](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/reconciliation)



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2025

**Bridging Now to Next**

27 MAY – 3 JUNE

#NRW2025 | [RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU](http://RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU)





# Market a big success

## EDUCATION

On Saturday May 17, Our Lady Star of the Sea hosted their first ever Community Autumn Market.

Despite the threatening skies, the crowds rolled in. Makers craft stalls, trash and treasure, musical entertainment, kids' activities and community group displays all made for a fantastic day.

"The families of Our Lady Star of the Sea would like to say a special thank you to those who generously donated their time or materials to make our market such a wonderful day for our entire island community," an OLSS spokesperson said.

"Thank you to Westernport Water, CFA, Country Women's Association, Bowens, Phillip Island Cricket Club, Newhaven College and Phillip Island Pony Club.

"We love our island home."



Members of the CWA at the first Community Autumn Market for Our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School.



The Phillip Island Fire Brigade truck was a big hit with the kids at the first Community Autumn Market at OLSS.

# Friends of the Koalas AGM

## COMMUNITY

The Annual General Meeting of Friends of the Koalas (FOK) will be held at 2pm on Saturday May 24 in the Meeting Room at the Koala Conservation Reserve.

The group was formed in 1990 in an effort to preserve Phillip Island's koalas who were struggling, mainly due to loss of habitat and road kills.

"Despite our efforts, tree planting, surveys, education, lobbying etc, free ranging koalas locally are all but gone," FOK President Patsy Hunt said.

"This is particularly sad on an island where land, such as Oswin Roberts Reserve and the Ventnor Koala Reserve, was specifically set aside for koalas but is now hardly being utilised."

FOK now concentrates on commenting and making submissions on any issues affecting koalas and their habitat.

All money received from memberships and donations is used to assist koalas and other wildlife, improve habitat and provide a newsletter to keep people informed and aware of issues affecting koalas.



Friends of the Koalas is holding their AGM at 2pm on Saturday May 24 in the meeting room at the Koala Conservation Reserve. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

"We also try to assist wildlife carers and other groups who advocate for them."

Anyone who is interested in being informed is welcome to attend on Saturday.



Clint Heinze was the guest speaker at the April VIEW meeting sharing his family's ANZAC story.

# What is Phillip Island VIEW Club?

## COMMUNITY

Phillip Island VIEW Club brings local women together, building friendships and connections.

A monthly meeting and luncheon are held at the RSL in Cowes, with speakers covering a wide range of topics. Social activities are also held each month including theatre outings, visits to local attractions, special events, coffee mornings and visits to other VIEW Clubs.

In July this year the Club will celebrate its 30th Birthday. Some of the founding members from the club's inception in 1995 are still very active members today.

VIEW, which stands for Voice, Interests and Education of Women, is a network of close to 280 clubs and over 13,000 women throughout Australia. For 65 years VIEW has connected with others in the community, enabling The Smith Family to reach more families in need.

Club President, Selby Witteveen, said this year when VIEW clubs are celebrating 65 years of Making a Difference, is the perfect time to join VIEW as social events are truly



From left, members Sheryn, Helen, Jan and Selby enjoying a VIEW Club event.

back on the calendar.

"Our events and activities are a way we raise funds to support the education of children and young people experiencing disadvantage through The Smith Family," Selby said.

VIEW is proud to be the largest community sponsor of The Smith Family's Learning for Life program, which provides students with financial, educational and personal support.

Nationally VIEW Clubs support the education of nearly 1800 students through the Learning for Life program, ensuring that they have educational support and what they need for the school year.

Phillip Island VIEW Club currently supports eight students.

"We are always looking for women of all backgrounds and ages to join us and look forward to welcoming new faces at our next monthly meeting," said Selby.

"We would love to hear from you."

Anyone interested in becoming a member or wanting more information please call Selby on 0480 258 357 or visit [www.view.org.au](http://www.view.org.au) for further information.

The next Phillip Island VIEW Club meeting is on May 26, 11am for a 11.30am start at the RSL in Thompson Avenue, Cowes.

# Grab yourself a slice of history

## AUCTION

An auction with a difference is being held on May 25, selling off motoring and farming memorabilia.

Bass Valley Lions Club President Ray Wallis is retiring from his Grantville garden supplies business and is auctioning off a veritable treasure trove of Bass Valley memories.

The incredible collection includes everything from early model Holdens to workshop tools.

Friend John O'Keefe says Ray can "always spin a good yarn" and remembers everything "from the day he took delivery to the time he updated to the latest model".

"Ray has amassed a mini museum of historical motoring caravans and farm equipment, and it will be going, going, gone at the online auction on May 25," John says.

Among the items look-



This vintage Holden is one of a treasure trove of motoring and farming memorabilia owned by Grantville Garden Supplies' founder Ray Wallis, being auctioned online on May 25.

ing for a new home are a Goliath two-door station wagon (one of very few in Australia), three MG models ranging from good condition to bargains requiring some tender loving care.

Apart from the mechanical machines there

are some absolute vintage gems like an 1890 Teak coloured organ in working condition, or a portable poker machine.

For more information, contact auctioneer Martin Evans on 0418 509 134.

[www.meauctions.com.au](http://www.meauctions.com.au)

## COWES BAZAAR PRESENTS

### THE YURT EXPERIENCE

117 THOMPSON AVE, COWES

#### COMMUNITY SCHEDULE

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
9:30AM		SOMACHI YOGA WITH ABBIE	GONG & HATHA YOGA WITH PANIA	MOVE, BREATHE & FLOW WITH DEE		MEDITATION WITH CAROLYN
4:30PM				MEDITATION WITH CAROLYN		
5:00PM			GONG & YIN YOGA WITH PANIA			

**CASUAL CLASS: \$22**  
**3 CLASS PASS AVAILABLE: \$55**  
**MEDITATION: \$10**

**CONTACT US:**  
[THEYURTEXPERIENCE\\_COWES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:THEYURTEXPERIENCE_COWES@GMAIL.COM)



# Walk safely to school

## EDUCATION

After two years of cancellations due to wet weather, Cowes Primary School was finally able to celebrate National Walk Safely to School Day last Friday – and what a fantastic morning it was.

Students, parents, families and staff came together to promote healthy habits, road safety and sustainability by walking to school. The skies stayed clear and the enthusiasm was high as three “Walking School Buses” made their way from key points across Cowes, collecting students and families along the way.

The Walking School Buses, supervised by staff and volunteers, were a major highlight of the morning. They not only provided a safe and social way for students to get to school, but also allowed families who lived too far away to park nearby and still participate in the event by joining the group walks.

Upon arrival at school, students were greeted by staff with fresh cut fruit and a Walk Safely to School Day sticker – a small reward for their big effort.

A huge thank you goes out to the staff, parents and community members who helped organise and support the event. Their involvement played a big part in making the day run smoothly and safely for all involved.



As part of Cowes Primary School's Walk Safely to School Day, three “walking school buses” made their way from key points across Cowes, collecting students and families along the way.



After arriving at school, students were greeted by staff with fresh cut fruit and a Walk Safely to School Day sticker – a small reward for their big effort. More photos at [pisra.com.au/education](http://pisra.com.au/education)



On Wednesday May 28, the Phillip Island Movie Club presents “Gloria!”, at Berninnet at 7.30pm, a film written and directed by Italian actress and singer Margherita Vicario.

## Gloria! comes to Berninnet

### FILM

On Wednesday May 28, the Phillip Island Movie Club presents “Gloria!”, at Berninnet at 7.30pm.

Released in 2024, the film is written and directed by an Italian actress and singer Margherita Vicario. The year is 1800 and we are at the Sant'Ignazio music institute for orphaned girls outside Venice. The conductor is to receive the newly elected Pope Pius VII, but is nervous about the concert. He has been commissioned to perform a self-composed work but struggles with writing and note block.

Although not based on a specific story, it is the story of many girls in this situation in Italy at that time. The historical context is

that there were four such convent-conservatories in and around Venice, where orphaned or abandoned girls were taught to sing, sight read and play instruments by musical priests. The most famous of these was Antonio Vivaldi, music master at the Ospedale della Pietà, whose music is sparingly but effectively used in the film.

By 1800, however, the anti-clerical Napoleon controlled a huge swathe of northern and central Italy, and when he repressed the country's religious orders in 1807, Venice's charitable music schools closed for good. A very different scenario to that of other countries where the girls were not taught anything and only used as servants.

“Gloria!” is a tribute

to all the talented women who composed music in previous centuries and who never received the recognition their male counterparts enjoyed.

The film runs for 106 minutes and is rated R.

Please note the film begins at 7.30pm, the new Movie Club starting time for 2025.

It is a private event and you must present your PIMC membership ticket and your Trybooking receipt to enter.

If you haven't collected your PIMC membership ticket as yet, tickets will be issued from 7pm.

There is also a screening on Friday May 30 that PIMC members who are unable to book for May 28 can attend on their membership ticket.

## GIG GUIDE

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

25/5 GLEN WAVERLEY & THE MENTONES 5.00PM

1/6 IAN COLLARD 5.00PM

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

14/6 SADDLE UP-COUNTRY MUSIC ROADSHOW \$23+BF

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

20/09 FRENZAL RHOMB 'A MAN'S (STILL) NOT A CAMEL' 25TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR - 9PM \$53+BF

PLUS:

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

\$17 PARMA NIGHT

THURSDAY NIGHT

\$20 BURGER NIGHT+\$500 JOKER POKER

FRIDAY NIGHT

LOCALS NIGHT & MEAT RAFFLE

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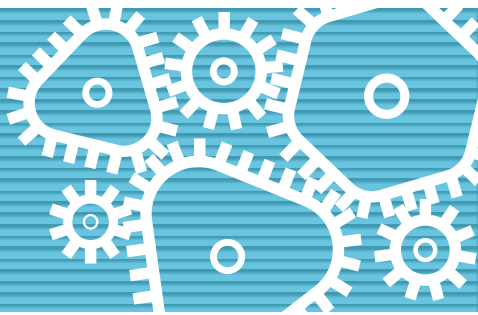
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# Island longboarders bring it home

## SURFING

The Phillip Island Boardriders Club (PIBC) Longboard crew delivered an outstanding performance at the Surfing Victoria Longboard State Titles, held on May 17 and 18 on the west coast at Point Impossible.

Competing in sizeable and contestable surf, the team brought home an impressive five division trophies and secured four podium finishes in the overall state rankings.

Sian Adnam and Jacquie Chambers won their respective divisions, as well as placing first in the state overall tally.

Ebony Maier's third place in the Open Women's round was enough to secure her a second spot in the state overall.

Natalie Van Der Heyden took out third place in the Over 40 women's division, while Graeme Burgan's second place in the Over 60/70s men also secured him second spot in the state overall tally.

Congratulations to all the competitors who made the journey, and a special shout-out to team mascot Earl.

Ben Considine (Barwon Heads) and Bea Conroy (Point



A contingent from Phillip Island delivered an outstanding performance at the state Longboard titles at Point Impossible over the weekend. From left: Graeme Burgan, Sian Adnam, Jacquie Chambers, Natalie Van Der Heyden and Ebony Maier. Photo: Andrew Lidsey @bunpix

Lonsdale) claimed top honours in the Open Men's and Women's divisions.

### Island results

#### Open Women

3rd – Ebony Maier  
State Overall: 2nd

#### Over 40 Women

3rd – Natalie Van Der Heyden

#### Over 50 Women

1st – Jacquie Chambers  
State Overall: 1st

#### Over 60/70 Men

2nd – Graeme Burgan  
State Overall: 2nd

#### Over 60/70 Women

1st – Sian Adnam  
State Overall: 1st  
[www.surfingvic.com/live](http://www.surfingvic.com/live)

# Round 1 of Victorian Schools MTB Series

## CYCLING

Newhaven College Mountain Bike Team made a powerful statement at the opening round of the 2025 AusCycling Victorian Schools XC MTB Series, with an impressive 40 student competitors representing the school at the Dromana College-hosted event.

Riders ranging from Prep to Year 10 made the journey to compete in the cross-country mountain biking event under sunny skies and ideal conditions.

The large contingent from Newhaven included a strong mix of returning athletes and enthusiastic first-time competitors, all cheered on by a supportive crowd of family, friends and staff.

Among the standout performances was Hamish Dakers-Hock, who made a strong return to racing with a third-place podium finish in the Under 17 Boys category.

His determination, race experience, and physical fitness were on full display.

Also continuing her strong form was Lucy Thompson, securing first place in the Under 15 Girls Novice.

Known affectionately within



Principal Tony Corr, Steve Scott and Under 15/17s Newhaven College Mountain Bike team competitors. More photos at [www.pisra.com/sport](http://www.pisra.com/sport)

the team as "Miss Consistent", Lucy once again proved her dominance on the course and continues to be a positive role model for younger riders.

Evelyn McCabe gave a gutsy performance to earn third place in the Under 13 Girls Novice, while Eden Bennett, racing for the first time, took a commanding first place in the Under 11 Girls Novice. The fantastic result highlights the depth of tal-

ent emerging from Newhaven's junior female riders.

Additional commendable performances included Will Walker, who narrowly missed the podium with fourth place in the Under 11 Boys Novice, and Maxen Mills, who also placed fourth in the Under 15 Novice.

The next round of the series will take place at Lysterfield Mountain Bike Park on Sunday June 22.

# Bass Coast Shield

## CROQUET

The Bass Coast Shield is fiercely contested each year between four clubs, Phillip Island, Wonthaggi, Korumburra and Leongatha.

This year, on May 13, Phillip Island hosted the Shield and being the reigning champs were keen on winning the Shield two years running; however alas it wasn't to be.

With a beautiful day and up to six players per club team it was going to be a great contest no matter what.

It was a great outcome with Korumburra winning the Shield, for the second time since 2012.

Well done to Korumburra as they played extremely well and



A successful day was hosted by Phillip Island for the Bass Coast Shield croquet yearly contest between Phillip Island, Wonthaggi, Korumburra and Leongatha. Congratulations to Korumburra for winning the Shield.

with great strategies.

Thank you to all the teams for making it a great competition and perfect day.

Next year the Bass Coast Shield will be held at Wonthaggi on May 12, 2026

Well done to all.



Congratulations to all the Phillip Island swimming club age champions and runner up award winners. More photos at [www.pisra.com/sport](http://www.pisra.com/sport)

# Phillip Island Swimming Club presentations

## SWIMMING

On Sunday June 4, Phillip Island Swimming Club held its annual AGM and presentation afternoon at North Pier Hotel.

Club president and coach Kris Minter gave a warm welcoming and opened the general meeting by introducing the other committee members and spoke about the club's activities and achievements from the past 12 months.

Having great success this season he then touched on the next 12 months goals and priorities.

This was followed by the coach's report, treasurer's report and the election of some new appointed board members.

Club vice president Karli Di Paola started off the presentation, celebrating the achievements and dedications of our swimmers who received their carnival participation certificates.

This was followed by the very special 25 club awards.

These are given to swimmers who participate in every race at every carnival throughout the season.

Congratulations Isla Gallyott, Laila Hadrian, Ava Mcbean, Sam Kennedy, Bodey Bassed, Abbey Mueller, Chelsea Parker, Nicholas Davidson, Georgie Clough, Winter Weston and James Lamaro.

Kris went on to present club age champion and runner up awards.

**BU10:** Sam Kennedy.

**GU10:** Winter Weston and Imogen Rule.

**BU11:** Bodey Bassed and Nicolas Davidson

**GU11:** Abbey Mueller and Georgie Clough.

**BU12:** James Lamaro.

**GU13:** Chelsea Parker and Lilly Clayton.

**GU14:** Isla Gallyott and Anastasia Davidson.

**BU16:** Declan Walls.

**GU16:** Laila Hadrian and Inez Palmington

**BU25:** Seth Mcbean.

## Awards

This year the club also presented two swimmers with aggregate awards.

This is for the most points accumulated from carnivals overall.

Well done U14 James Lamaro and O14 Declan Walls.

Club coaches Jen Sokac, Kris Minter and Sandra Hadrian presented swimmers with their chosen coach's awards.

Great work Bodey Bassed, Winter Weston, and James Lamaro.

Following along in tradition the club presented the prestigious Anne Leach memorial award.

Anne was a well-respected member of the club and always demonstrated the clubs key values, commitment, enthusiasm and positive attitude.

The committee did not have to think twice when awarding this to Chelsea Parker.

She is the light of every weekly training session, swimming carnival, is always supportive of other swimmers, helps out where she can and is an overall delight to have at the club. Congratulations.

Last but not least these girls stood out to coaches during their first ever season of carnivals.

The spirit award was presented to Georgie Clough, the encouragement award to Edwina Rossiter and most improved to Lilly Clayton.

Well done to all of our swimmers for another successful and fun season.

Also, a massive thanks to our coaches and club committee for an outstanding year.

What a huge success.

A huge thank you goes out to North Pier for always supporting us with a venue and to all of the local businesses who generously donate and help us out year after year.

If you have any swimming enquires or have a child who has grown out of "swimming lessons" but wants to continue to swim please email [swimclub@waterfront.net.au](mailto:swimclub@waterfront.net.au).

# Results from the table

## BRIDGE

This week saw the second round of the Club Pairs Championship won by Anne Gibson and Anne Ferrari on 60.19 per cent with 11 pairs competing.

Second place went to first round winners Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour on 55.83 per cent.

The third and final round is next Monday May 19.

On Wednesday, the Nation-

wide Pairs duplicate bridge session saw Marnie Myall and Albert Thomas as local club winners with 63 per cent.

Twelve pairs attended the day, and runners-up were Diane Coleman and Moya Crowley with 60.67 per cent.

Anyone interested in joining the Club can contact Caroline on 0418 369 557.

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# Killy Bass battle against Cora Lynn

# Successful weekend for Breakers

NETBALL

A Grade

A Grade had another tough hit out against Cora Lynn this week. The wet and slippery conditions proved to be a challenge; the girls worked hard each quarter to stay with Cora Lynn but ultimately couldn't get over the line. Some exciting glimpses of netball, and some learnings to come from it.

Looking forward to the next time we cross paths.

B Grade

Facing a strong Cora Lynn goal shooter who rarely missed, the defenders had their work cut out for them. Lizzy stepped up, grabbing every chance to intercept the ball. Her efforts were outstanding and earned her the 'Best on Court' for the day. Great job Lizzy and well done for coaching and playing a ripper game. Kira returned to the mid court this week and brought her usual energy and skill. She and Kiara worked together smoothly, as they always do. Even though Cora Lynn's defenders were taller than we're used to, our midcourt players kept the ball moving and supported the team well. The shooters, Bells, Kylie, and Ciara worked hard all game and kept their spirits up. It was especially heartwarming to see sisters Bells and Ciara play together this week, sharing a special moment on the court. Their teamwork and determination were clear throughout the

match. Although the girls didn't get the win this week, we're incredibly proud of everyone's effort and teamwork. The team showed great determination and played with heart. Next time the team verse Cora Lynn, we're confident we'll come out on top. Keep your heads high team, you did Killy Bass proud.

C Grade

In wet and slippery conditions, C Grade team put up a spirited fight against the undefeated Cora Lynn side. Despite a few costly passing errors, the girls showed great resilience and determination throughout the match. The team's defensive pressure and teamwork made it a much tougher contest than the scoreboard reflected. It was a hard-fought game that highlighted the team's grit and growth. Best on court (Summersault Wonthaggi award): Romy De Nardis.

D Grade

On Saturday the D Grade team faced a tough challenge coming up against a strong and well-drilled Cora Lynn side. From the first whistle, the opposition's defensive pressure made it difficult to settle into the game. While Killy Bass was tested across the court, there were promising passages of play where the team did well and showed resilience under pressure. Despite best efforts, Cora



Isabella Santorini in deep concentration as she goes for goal against Cora Lynn in the B grade netball match.

Lynn proved too strong on the day, taking the win with a final score of Kilcunda Bass 10 – Cora Lynn 50. A special mention to Kealey Trewavis for playing in her first senior game, well-deserved and a great effort. Best on Court players: Zoe Reiter and Miranda Eden – who both showed great determination and effort throughout the game. Both girls received a Cape Pilates voucher.

More Kilcunda Bass Netball reports at [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)

SOCCER

U15 Girls

In cool, windy conditions, balanced by breaks of glorious sunshine, the U15 girl's team played Wonthaggi United at home. A tough match with low opposition player numbers saw the Breakers offering players Ava and Izzy to help them out. On the wing Billie played hard, chasing the opposition relentlessly. Elisabeth had fire in her belly showing determination to intercept and put pressure on where needed. Player of the match Talia defended well both in and out of the goal. Many amazing attempts were made at goal, but unlucky on scoreboard. Final score saw Wonthaggi take the win 2-0, of which one goal was off the boot of our own attacking Ava, whilst playing for the opposition in the first half.

U14 Stingrays

Sunday was the soccer derby between the Phillip Island Breakers under 14's – Penguins vs Stingrays. After conceding three early goals, the Stingrays tightened up, with the Penguins scoring only one more goal in the first half. Ben scored the Penguins' only goal of the match and worked hard through the middle. Bailey made many strong runs and created lots of chances for the Stingrays, earning himself a best on ground for his efforts. In the second half, Leith, Fergus, Jordy, Blair and Jackson were a strong line of defence,

working well together to apply pressure. Combined with the hard work of Manny in goals, the Stingrays did not let a Penguins goal through. Although they didn't come away with a win, the final score of 4-1 was a testament to the excellent teamwork and defence of the Stingrays.

U12A

U12A team from Phillip Island Breakers played against Trafalgar at Phillip Island. Phillip Island dominated the play throughout the game with impressive skills and speed. They communicated well, provided support for each other and shared the goal scoring amongst different players. Trafalgar did well to try and interrupt play, with some solid challenges and one-on-one battles, however the experience and confidence of the Breakers team led them to victory 11-0. Go Breakers.

U14 Mixed Penguins

The U14 mixed Penguins took away the win, 4-1, for the first Phillip Island v Phillip Island derby of the season. Rueben got the Penguins on the board early with the opening goal. The Penguins were strong in attack in the first half with three goals to Rueben and one to James. The defence held the Stingrays at bay for the second half. Player of the match was awarded to Rueben Gjisbers.

GSL results and fixture at [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)

## Results from the green

GOLF

Tuesday, May 13

**Men's Competition Stableford 18H**  
Overall winner: John Mahony (30) 41 pts.  
A Grade winner: A-1 Anthony Shannon (9) 37 pts.  
B Grade winner: B-1 John Movric (19) 37 pts c/b.  
C Grade winner: C-1 John Mahony (30) 41 pts.  
BDL to 34 c/b.  
NTP: 7th Terry Crumpton, 10th Mark White and 17th Trevor MacFarlane.  
**Men's 9 Hole Stableford**  
Winners: Brian Carvell (30) 22 pts from Richie Nettleton (24) 20 pts.  
BDL to 18 pts.

Wednesday, May 14

**Foursomes Championship Women's 18H**  
Overall winner: Michelle Pardoe and Pam Williams 71 from Rhonda Boyd and Marlene Gibson 73.5 c/b.  
BDL to 81 c/b.  
**Women's 18 Hole Stableford**  
Overall winner: Mary Whelan (30) 37 pts from Glenda Long-

shaw (29) 34 pts.  
BDL: 32 pts c/b.  
NTP: 7th Lisa Cooper.  
**Women's 9 Hole Stableford**  
Overall, Winner: Kerri Deaton (40) 19 pts from Cath Sheahan (45) 18 c/b  
NTP: 7th Kerri Harris.

Thursday, May 15

**Open Stableford 18H**  
Overall winner: Phillip Bencraft (8) 38 pts.  
A Grade winner: A-1 Phillip Bencraft (8) 38 pts.  
B Grade winner: B-1 Zakk Allen Ryan (15) 36 pts.  
C Grade winner: C-1 Ian Young (24) 37 pts c/b.  
BDL to 33 pts c/b.  
NTP: 5th Caleb Thomas, 7th Art Lyons, 10th Warren Dickie and 17th Shane Palmer.  
**Men's 9 Hole Stableford**  
Winners: David Gladman (16) 20 pts from Col Cordery (27) 19 pts.  
BDL to 16 pts c/b.

**Saturday, May 17**  
**Men's 4BBB Stroke 18H**  
Overall winner: Paul Dickson

and Greg Holland 64 c/b from Steve Regnier and Steven McIntyre 64.  
BDL to 67 c/b.  
NTP: 5th Steven McIntyre, 7th Mark Beaton, 10th Aaron Saric and 17th Mark White.  
**Women's 4BBB Stroke 18H**  
Overall winner: Jillian Chandler and Megan Elbaz 64 c/b from Susan Brown and Vicki Ramage 64.  
BDL to 70.  
NTP 5th Jeanette Diss, 7th Lesley Meadowcroft, 10th Vicki Ramage.  
**Open Stableford 9 Holes**  
Winners: Rod Ward (20) 17 pts from Rob Davison (10) 16 pts c/b.  
BDL to 16 pts c/b.

**Sunday, May 18**  
**Men's 4BBB JJ Niven Rd 2 Stroke 18H**  
Winners: Heath Kolac and Isaac Batty 78 from Max Brown and Tim Duff 79 pts c/b.  
**Open Competition Stableford 18H**  
Winner Andrew Ryan (20) 36 pts from Scott Huther (6) 35.  
BDL: 33 c/b.  
**Open Competition Stableford 9H**  
Winner Paul Beckham (32) 14 pts.

## Veteran outguns rising stars in epic John Stewart final showdown

DARTS

A roaring crowd and electric atmosphere set the scene on Monday night for a darts spectacle like no other, as 28 of the league's fiercest competitors clashed in the legendary John Stewart Memorial Singles Championship. This annual 501 best-of-three knockout showdown has long been a highlight of the darts calendar, but this year, it delivered drama and adrenaline like never before. Precision, passion and pure grit lit up the oche, as players battled through edge-of-your-seat finishes and pressure-packed moments. The crowd exploded when young gun Will Kennedy fired the first 180 of the night, igniting the room and proving the new generation had come to play. But seasoned warrior Dave Healey wasn't done writing his own chapter, he stormed through the rounds with two massive 180s of his own, reminding everyone why he's still one of the game's most feared competitors. Then came the final, a heart-

pounding clash between experience and persistence. In a match filled with tension and breath-taking checkouts, Healey dug deep and held his nerve, edging out a relentless "Scotch" Kennedy in a final that had fans holding their breath to the very last dart. "Every player left it all on the oche, but Dave tapped into something extra when it counted," said an awestruck Deadly Darts skipper, Di Holmes. "This was darts at its absolute peak." But the night was more than just a battle of darts titans, it was a celebration of community spirit and camaraderie. A special shoutout to Shannon and Grummo, who won the beloved San Remo Butchers meat tray, proving once again they're a duo to keep an eye on. The league extends heartfelt thanks to its 2025 sponsors, San Remo Butchers, Woolworths, Boutique Tails, Creative Blinds and Awnings, Garth Lisle Property Consultants, and Bendigo Bank, whose generous support keeps the darting dream alive.

# TIDE GUIDE

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

WED 21 MAY	THU 22 MAY	FRI 23 MAY	SAT 24 MAY	SUN 25 MAY	MON 26 MAY	TUE 27 MAY
HIGH 5:54 am 2.54 m	LOW 12:25 am 1.11 m	LOW 1:10 am 1.03 m	LOW 2:02 am 0.93 m	LOW 3:03 am 0.80 m	LOW 4:11 am 0.66 m	LOW 5:19 am 0.52 m
LOW 11:43 am 0.74 m	HIGH 6:44 am 2.52 m	HIGH 7:45 am 2.52 m	HIGH 9:00 am 2.58 m	HIGH 10:19 am 2.70 m	HIGH 11:35 am 2.88 m	HIGH 12:45 pm 3.07 m
HIGH 6:44 pm 2.86 m	LOW 12:27 pm 0.86 m	LOW 1:20 pm 1.01 m	LOW 2:24 pm 1.17 m	LOW 3:39 pm 1.31 m	LOW 5:00 pm 1.37 m	LOW 6:17 pm 1.35 m
	HIGH 7:21 pm 2.80 m	HIGH 8:06 pm 2.73 m	HIGH 9:00 pm 2.67 m	HIGH 10:02 pm 2.63 m	HIGH 11:10 pm 2.62 m	

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A great night of football for the Red and Blue Phillip Island junior footy teams, getting to play against each other under lights: Award vouchers this week went to Ryan Hain, Johnny Rizzo, Kai Stuart and Denver Preddice-Firth.

## Juniors derby night

### FOOTBALL

#### U14 – Red v Blue

An exciting Friday night under lights saw U14 Red and Blue teams battle hard.

Blue's teamwork and intensity earned them a big win, while Red showed great determination and sportsmanship despite the loss.

**Final Score:** Phillip Island Red 0.5.5 (5) lost to Phillip Island Blue 6.12.48 (48).

**Blue:** Jarrah Rutherford, Brax Scheibel, Archie Dallinger and Max Carville.

**Red:** Kai Sturt, Denver Preddice Firth, Johnny Rizzo and Ryan Hain.

#### U12 Red v Blue

Under the Friday night lights, the U12 boys played a competitive game with PI Blue edging out PI Red.

Blue's midfielders provided strong clearances and attacking pressure, while Red fought back strongly with resilient defence.

Both teams showed excellent sportsmanship.

**Blue:** Oliver Hellmuth-Pask, Louis Brodie, Reeve Dennis, Kash Scheibel, Remi Glasby and Sam Martindale.

**Red:** Taj Ransom, Sunny Woodrup, Archer Summerfield, Taj Henzen, Eddie Maier and Nicholas Ramage.

#### U10 Red v Blue

On a perfect Friday night under lights, the Under 10s local derby saw mates take the field as rivals in a spirited clash between Red and Blue and lived up to all the hype of the hotly contested intra-club rivalry. A close encounter all game with periods of control for both teams across the quarters.

Phillip Island Red started the game strongly getting the ball in their forward line many times before Phillip Island Blue regained their composure to get some of their attacking game going.

The second quarter saw PI Blue keep the ball in their forward for most of the quarter but thanks to the strong efforts of PI Red defence and unfortunate missed opportunities for PI Blue, the Blues didn't get much reward for effort.

The second half was much like the first, a hotly contested game which saw PI Red capitalise on some rare opportunities for goal. PI Blue also finally got some reward for effort after slotting a goal. All in all, it was a great game of Under 10 football which highlighted the future of Junior football on Phillip Island remains strong.

**Blue:** Harry Heyes, Jay Glasby, Jordan Williams and Noah Whitehead.

**Red:** Seb Ferretto, Sid Elliott, Quil Edwards and Darcy Wright.

## U17s great victory over Tooradin

### NETBALL

#### U15

The Under 15 girls put in a solid effort but fell to a strong Tooradin side.

The team showed great spirit, strong defense, and determination. Coaches Awards: Abi Derham and Charlee Pedersen.

#### U17

Phillip Island 47 defeated Tooradin 28 in tough, drizzly conditions.

The team showed excellent composure and teamwork, highlighted by strong performances from attackers Aisha Hibbert and Ava Blake, midcourters Piper O'Brien and Abbey Clarke.

A dominant defense from Tilly Trew and Olivia Holmes, who were joint Best on court.

#### D Grade

Phillip Island D Grade narrowly lost to Tooradin 39-31 in freezing conditions but showed incredible defensive pressure and grit. Sienna Trew scored a record number of goals.

**Best on:** Hollie Kee. Runner up:

Maddy Egglestone.

#### B Grade

Our B Grade girls took on top team Tooradin.

The Island girls started strong, defending well in the first quarter and keeping scores low (8-4).

The attackers maintained a fast pace, paying off in the early stages.

Tooradin remained strong in the second quarter, but the girls refused to give up, trailing behind but still fighting and the Island defenders worked tirelessly, picking off intercepts wherever possible.

After losing momentum in the third quarter, the young players brought new energy in the fourth, resulting in an even quarter.

Despite Tooradin's solid defense, our shooters still delivered impressive scores.

**Final score:** Tooradin 59, Phillip Island 35.

A tough match, but great effort from the B Grade team.

**Best on:** Jarah White and Ruby Formosa.



Seniors Killy Bass Jack Soroczynski breaks free from the pack against Cora Lynn on Saturday.

## Killy Bass battle it out in wet conditions

### FOOTBALL

#### Seniors

Coming off a good win against Dalyston, our Seniors were confident they could take the fight to Cora Lynn over the weekend.

Killy Bass started fast, kicking the first three goals of the game.

The first quarter was good, and the boys owned most of the footy. Following quarter time, Cora Lynn took control, kicking four goals and went into the major break ahead.

After half time, it was much of the same, Cora Lynn was a very skilled team.

It began bucketing down in the third quarter, turning the game from a skill driven game into a contest-to-contest scrap.

As the final quarter started, Killy Bass team was determined to go out with a fight and kicked two goals late in the game to shrink the margin.

Ultimately it was a hard fight but could not get the job done.

**Final score:** KB 47 – CL 77.

**Best on ground:** Jack Soroczynski.

#### Reserves

The Reserves started really well, winning it out of the centre, and a quick kick inside fifty, led to a goal inside the first 20 seconds.

After the first quarter it was a lot closer, the team started the game well and were leading going into the second quarter.

Unfortunately, Killy Bass was unable to score for the rest of the half, and Cora poured on the pressure, kicking five goals.

After half time the boys showed a bit more spirit, kicking a goal and a few unlucky behinds, whilst keeping Cora Lynn to just five points.

In the last quarter however, Cora Lynn took over and ran away with it.

**Final score:** KB 28 – CL 95.

**Best on ground:** Sam Dickinson

#### U14

Under light at Inverloch for Round 4, the boys got off to a great start leading Inverloch by two goals at half time.

In the second, Inverloch



Nathan Foote struggles to break free from double trouble.

stepped it up and hit the lead close to half time.

For the remaining of the game, it was goal for goal, with another great team effort, the boys fought it out to the end.

**Best on ground:** Ryder Van Steensel, Sebastien Rennie, Dominik Acuna and Travis Hockley.

#### U12

Friday night's U12 clash between Kilcunda Bass and Inverloch Kongwak was held at Inverloch under lights.

From the opening bounce, Kilcunda Bass came out with intensity and control, dominating play across the ground.

Their defensive structure was watertight, keeping Inverloch goalless for the first three quarters.

With strong midfield efforts and clean forward entries, Bass built a commanding lead, showcasing impressive teamwork and pressure around the ball.

Inverloch, however, weren't done yet.

The final quarter saw a remarkable momentum shift.

Inverloch found a spark, lifting their pressure and finally

breaking through Kilcunda's defence scoring 1 goal 2 and leaving Bass scoreless.

While Kilcunda Bass had done more than enough early to hold on, Inverloch's final term left the crowd on the edge of their seats.

**Final scores** Bass 3.2 (22) – Inverloch 1.5 (11).

**Goals:** Levi Fisher, River Dow and Maverick Loughridge.

**Best Players:** River Dow, Miles Leary, Chaze Poulton, Jack Caffery, Bailey Pool and Lerah Schonewille.

**Awards:** Xavier O'Brien, Locklen Welling, Spencer Sunderland and Taio Braumann-Hall.

#### U10

The kids were super excited to have the opportunity to play under lights at Inverloch on Friday night.

It was a great game played in great spirits.

The side tried hard all game and enjoyed what was a new experience for lots of the kids.

Each week demonstrates areas to work on and areas for celebration.

Bring on a new week of learning and fun.





Brady Ross chasing down his opponent in Saturday reserves match against Tooradin-Dalmore.

# Hard slog for the Bulldogs

## FOOTBALL

### Seniors

Phillip Island's Senior team nearly pulled off one of the comebacks of the season but fell just short by two points in a thriller against Tooradin-Dalmore.

After a sluggish start that saw the Bulldogs trail by 30 points at quarter-time and 33 at the half, the side rallied in the second half with a renewed intensity and cleaner ball movement.

The margin was cut to 14 points by the final break, and the Bulldogs surged in the final quarter but were left to rue missed opportunities, finishing with 14 behinds.

Max Walton led the scoring with four goals in a best-on-ground display, while Charlie Bruce, Hayden Bruce, Daniel Pearce, Jaymie Youle, and

Cameron Pedersen all had influential games.

The team showed great heart and will look to carry that energy into next week's key match-up.

Tooradin-Dalmore 11.4 (70) def. Phillip Island 9.14 (68).

**Goal Kickers:** M Walton 4, H Bruce, C Bruce, B Taylor, B Ross and J Taylor 1.

**Best Players:** Charlie Bruce, Max Walton, Daniel Pearce, Hayden Bruce, Jaymie Youle and Cameron Pedersen.

### Reserves

Phillip Island's Reserves side fell agonisingly short in a tight tussle with Tooradin-Dalmore, going down by just three points in a low-scoring and fiercely contested match.

The Bulldogs had their chances late but couldn't quite find the winning goal.

Jack Huther was impres-

sive with three majors, and Michaelides chipped in with two.

The midfield worked tirelessly all game, with standout efforts from Oliver Hibbert and Jack Opitz, while Ben Taylor and Jack Keating stood tall around the ground.

Despite the loss, there were plenty of positives to take into next week's clash at Inverloch.

Tooradin-Dalmore 5.9 (39) def. Phillip Island 5.6 (36)

**Goal Kickers:** Huther 3 and Michaelides 2.

**Best Players:** Oliver Hibbert, Jack Opitz, Ben Taylor, Jack Keating, Beau Davies and Blake Thompson.

### U18

Phillip Island's Under 18s produced a dominant performance on the road against, Tooradin-Dalmore.

The match was a very even

affair for the first three quarters, however in the last quarter the Bulldogs set the tone with relentless pressure and clean ball use.

The Bulldogs' midfield controlled the contest, giving their forwards plenty of opportunity and keeping the ball locked in their half for large stretches.

Key forward Oliver Duggan was damaging up front, bagging four goals, while Max Taylor (2), Benji Chihotski (1), and Charlie O'Garey (1) added to the scoreboard in a well-rounded team effort.

Another great win for the U18 boys as they build momentum into the mid-point of the season.

Tooradin-Dalmore 3.3 (21) def. by Phillip Island 8.7 (55)

**Goal Kickers:** Duggan 4, M Taylor 2, O'Garey and Chihotski 1.



Issac Savona and Cha Cha Fischer lay a great tackle to hold up the Tooradin opposition in the U18s match.



Ben Taylor, Reserves, looking cool, calm and collected. For more Seniors and Reserves photos go to [pisra.com.au/sport](http://pisra.com.au/sport)

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