

# PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO ADVERTISER

**Your Community Voice!**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021**

**\$1.40 Incl. GST**



A new mural celebrating the life of Olive Justice and aspects of island life was completed last week. Part of the council's Street Art Scheme, the bold mural by artist Eirian Chapman brings colour and contrast to the centre of Cowes. Read more on Page 6.

## Wildlife volunteers come to the rescue

A volunteer army of Phillip Island residents have stepped up to take on wildlife rescue of injured animals.

The volunteer group comes two years after two wildlife rescuers – Colleen Gilbee and Kaylene Mendoza, who helped about 3000 animals annually for 14 years – closed their volunteer service.

At the time the Phillip Island Nature Parks all but ruled out taking over the 24/7 service.

Since then, Colleen who now runs the Wildlife Rescue and Rehab Shelter Bass Coast has repeatedly said additional resources are desperately needed.

Last week Nature Parks announced they had hosted a workshop to train and support more than 30 volunteers for the island, with all attendees registered as volunteers with Wildlife Victoria, the state's premier wildlife care service.

Nature Parks' volunteer coordinator Helen Masters said volunteers were trained in wildlife rescue and transportation specific to the island's unique wildlife including

penguins, short-tailed shearwaters, Australian fur seals and eastern barred bandicoots.

But Helen said the volunteers would also respond to general call outs for wildlife species across the island, including beach washed birds, animals found in backyards and those injured by vehicle collisions.

"Wildlife Victoria provided the overall training and the Nature Parks gave specific advice on assisting our unique species," she said.

"Over the years there has been a significant increase in the native animal population on the island, which is largely due to successful conservation management and the eradication of foxes."

Wildlife Victoria CEO Lisa Palma said she was pleased to see such a high level of interest from people in the area.

"We're aware that there is a consistent level of road trauma for Phillip Island's wildlife and this has put a great deal of pressure on our key local rescuer," she said.

"Our hope is that this new intake



More than 30 Phillip Island residents have registered as volunteers with Wildlife Victoria, the state's premier wildlife care service. From left to right: Wildlife Victoria volunteer Colleen Gilbee, Wildlife Victoria head of wildlife volunteering Dana Frew and Phillip Island Nature Parks' Helen Masters.

of volunteers will mean we can spread the load, enabling volunteers to more quickly assist native animals in need and ultimately save more lives."

Nature Parks has an agreement with Wildlife Victoria, with Nature Parks staff responding to call outs

on Phillip Island between 7.30am and 4pm, after which calls are directed to Wildlife Victoria.

Call 5951 2800 between 7.30am and 4pm daily to report injured wildlife on Phillip Island.

After hours and across Victoria, call Wildlife Victoria on 8400 7300.

### Roadkill

Wildlife rescuers Colleen and Kaylene – who started in 2005 – forked out more than \$20,000 each year of their own money to run their 24/7 Wildlife Rescue and Carer Shelters Phillip Island, with generous support from the community. Before they closed, Kaylene warned if Nature Parks "don't step up the animals are going to suffer".

Before closing, Kaylene said in 2005 they received about 300 calls a year, but that had skyrocketed to an average 3000.

The increasing numbers of tourists and residents saw about 70 per cent of animal call-outs from a vehicle injury, with other causes varying from wallabies caught in farm fences, to dogs and cats attacking wildlife.

"So many tourists come down not just for the penguins, but for the whole wildlife experience, including the birds and wallabies. Tourists also comment online, saying it's an absolute disgrace the amount of roadkill on the island and some even refer to it as 'cemetery island'," Kaylene said.

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# PHILLIP ISLAND

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PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	SHOWER OR TWO	SHOWER OR TWO	SHOWER OR TWO. WINDY	PARTLY CLOUDY
10 17	11 19	11 18	11 18	11 17	10 16	10 14

## The weather is here!



Channel 7 Meteorologist Jane Bunn is broadcasting from Phillip Island on Wednesday May 5 during the 6pm news.

Channel 7 weather host Jane Bunn will broadcast live from Phillip Island today (Wednesday, May 5).

During her visit, Jane and the Channel 7 crew will be at the new Visitor Centre at the Penguin Parade and learn about our island's abundant wildlife and will cross live during the 6pm news.

The tour has been organised by Visit Victoria in partnership with Seven News, as part of a tour of

regional towns.

Visit Victoria CEO Brendan McClements said he was thrilled to be partnering with Seven to get out on the road in Victoria once again.

"We're pleased to welcome Jane and the team at Seven back to help us showcase the depth and breadth of Victoria's destination offering while supporting some of our regional areas who need it most."



Whale blubber and sections of the carcass are still visible on the beach at Forrest Caves.

## Whale gradually slipping away

The whale carcass on the beach at Forrest Caves is gradually disintegrating.

Smaller pieces of blubber and large sections of backbone are still visible, but gradually, the huge mammal is disappearing.

Local surfer Geoff Owens has been regularly inspecting the site and said at this rate, he expects the whale will be completely gone in the next few weeks.

"It's amazing really, it's only seven or eight weeks since it beached, and

nature has nearly disposed of it," he said.

Geoff said a very big section of the whale had reappeared on the beach last week and must have been washed back in on the tide.

When the whale first beached, an advice message was issued warning visitors to avoid Surf Beach and the Woolamai beaches due to the increased risk of sharks swimming closer to the shore to feed on the carcass.

There were a number of unconfirmed shark sightings in the follow-

ing weeks, including one at Woolamai Beach.

There is no longer a shark warning in place for the area, and surfers were out in force on the weekend.

However, three grommets had their surf cut short on Saturday when they spotted a shark in the water at Aussie Track.

The three youngsters quickly padded back to shore, but there were plenty of others happy to take their chances and make the most of the sunshine and good conditions.

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## Friends rally to replace stolen car

A GoFundMe page has been set up to help a young woman after thieves stole and set fire to her car.

Shayna Erickson's car was stolen on April 24, and after a rampage across Bass Coast, it was found burnt out on Pyramid Rock Road.

Her friend Carly Jeffery has started a GoFundMe campaign to help her buy a new car.

"Hoping our community will gather together and help catch who stole her car and replace it," Carly said.

For Shayna, the car had a special significance, as it had belonged to her grandfather who passed away during Covid.

On her Facebook page, she described the robbery and destruction of the car as "a huge kick in

the guts".

Footage shared on Facebook showed a man wearing jeans and a black top with a white cross on the back, getting into the car.

Police said the vehicle was used to ram a police vehicle in Wonthaggi in the early hours of Sunday, April 25.

Bass Coast detectives are still investigating the incident.

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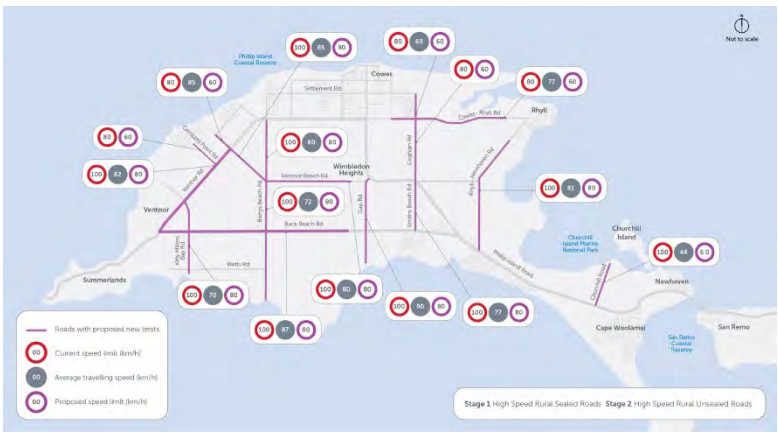


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As reported in the Advertiser last month, roads on Phillip Island would have a maximum speed limit of 80km/hr under a proposal by Regional Roads Victoria. The proposal would also see some roads that are currently zoned 80km/hr drop to 60km/hr, including Cowes Rhyll Road, Coghlan Road, Ventnor Beach and Grossard Point roads.

## Business asked to vote on speed changes

Phillip Island Business network members were last week asked to vote on whether they supported or opposed proposed speed changes to Phillip Island roads.

As reported in the Advertiser last month, roads on Phillip Island would have a maximum speed limit of 80km/hr under a proposal by Regional Roads Victoria.

The proposal would also see some roads that are currently zoned 80km/hr drop to 60km/hr, including Cowes Rhyll Road, Coghlan Road, Ventnor Beach and Grossard Point roads.

The proposal is supported by a variety of groups including the Phillip Island Medical and Health Action Group, Island Voice, Rhyll Community Association and a Cowes citizen scientist, who argue the speed reductions are needed to protect animal and human life.

But the speed changes have also received some opposition, including from the head of Phillip Island's peak transport company Michael

Wright who said he was particularly concerned about the proposed 60kph limit proposed for Coghlan Road and Cowes-Rhyll Road, which would harm business, including his taxi and bus company.

Bass Coast Shire requested Phillip Island Business network members vote on four outcomes: to support the proposal; accept the majority of changes except Rhyll and Coghlan roads; support variable digital signs for Rhyll and Coghlan roads; or change nothing.

As part of the proposal, RRV has monitored average road speeds across the island.

On Berry's Beach Road monitoring showed drivers averaged 80km/hr, which has instigated the recommendation of an 80km limit.

On Ventnor Beach Road the average speed was 85km/hr, leading to a recommended drop to 60.

Yet on the Cowes-Rhyll Rd, motorists drove at an average 77km/hr, with RRV recommending it become a 60 zone.

## Speed number one wildlife killer

More wildlife deaths occur on Phillip Island roads with moderate to high speed limits, according to a new study into roadkill.

The study – conducted by the Phillip Island Nature Parks and Deakin University – completed bi-weekly surveys on some of the island's busiest urban and rural roads in 1998 and 1999 and again in 2014.

The release of the findings, published recently in the Global Ecology and Conservation journal, is timely given it coincides with plans by Regional Roads Victoria and Bass Coast Shire to have a maximum speed limit of 80km/hr on the island, with some roads currently zoned 80km/hr dropping to 60km/hr.

The study found a total of 2479 individual roadkill was recorded.

There were 714 roadkill – or 1.5 deaths per km per month – in 1998-1999; and 688 – or 2.39 deaths per km per month – in 2014.

A total of 62 species were killed, including 13 mammals, 45 birds, three reptiles and one amphibian.

The swamp wallaby was the most frequently recorded species, with more than six per cent of the total estimated island population killed in just four months of sampling, with roadkills of wallabies highest at 80-100 km/h.

Brushtail possums were next, with most killed at 60-80km/hr, followed by rabbits (mostly killed in 60km/h zones), while birds had no relationship to speed.

The critically endangered eastern barred bandicoots are increasingly being found as roadkill, averaging more than one per week, especially on roads around Newhaven and Summerlands.

Lead author Anthony Rendall, from Deakin University said speed limit was the most influential factor affecting roadkill rates.

"One way to reduce overall roadkill rates could be a reduction in road speed limits, particularly in areas that experience high roadkill rates – often closer to conservation re-



A total of 2479 individual roadkill were recorded in bi-weekly surveys undertaken in 1998, 1999 and 2014 by Nature Parks and Deakin University. The swamp wallaby was the most frequently recorded species.

serves," he said.

Mr Rendall said the study showed a 25 per cent increase in the number of animals killed each month between 1998 and 2014.

"We were expecting a small increase, but we were particularly surprised by the increase in roadkill rates for certain species, particularly swamp wallabies and possums," Mr Rendall said.

### Human numbers

Co-author Dr Duncan Sutherland, Phillip Island Nature Parks deputy research director, said the study helped to pinpoint the best way to reduce roadkill.

"As a community we can all play our part by driving carefully and watching for wildlife day and night," Dr Sutherland said.

Mr Rendall said other factors leading to roadkill included urbanisation, a rapidly growing resident and visitor population, and the successful eradication of the red fox.

"The island's human population has doubled over the past 20 years

and is predicted to increase by a further 30 per cent over the next 20 years," Mr Rendall said.

"Add to this the boost to the wildlife populations due to successful management of the red fox and the likelihood of a collision with wildlife significantly increases."

He said levels of roadside vegetation also played a role.

"More vegetation was associated with higher rates of possum roadkill but fewer rabbit and bird roadkill," Mr Rendall said.

Mr Rendall said the range of factors involved in the significant increase showed that there is no one-size-fits all solution to mitigating roadkill on Phillip Island.

"With an understanding of where roadkill occurs and the factors that contribute to roadkill rates, effective solutions can be tried that improve the safety of roads for wildlife and drivers alike.

"Rope bridges and culverts could be considered for further improvements of roadkill rates for particular species."

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# Jet Ski adventurers visit San Remo

A team of intrepid jet ski adventurers from Tasmania visited San Remo last week.

The team was mid-way through a 1700-kilometre loop around Bass Strait to raise funds for Lifeline Tasmania.

The trip, which started from Stanley on ANZAC Day, took in King Island, Apollo Bay, Portarlinton, San Remo, Inverloch and Port Albert, finished up at Bridport in Tasmania on the weekend.

On Wednesday last week, the jet ski team stopped off in San Remo, to enjoy some sunshine and lunch at the Fisherman's Co-op, before heading for Inverloch for the night.

Team member Dave Gray said all the men were members of a jet ski club and regularly went on long distance adventure rides.

He said the trip was a chance to raise money for Lifeline, test themselves and show a good side to jet skis.

"Often jet skis get a bad name due to some people's irresponsible behaviour and we wanted to show another side to it.

"We don't annoy people at local beaches. In Tasmania, we go on adventure rides on lakes, through caves and along the coastline.

"It's not uncommon for us to do a 200-kilometre ride in one day."

On this trip, the team aimed to be the first jet skiers to do a loop around Bass Strait and are hoping to raise \$15,000 for Lifeline in the process.

"We pay all our own expenses, so 100 per cent of donations go to Lifeline," David said.

"That means a whole lot more counsellors can be trained up."

## Long distance skiers

The team travelled on modified jet skis that allowed them to make the long journey from Tasmania.

"You can take the back seat off and make a deck at the back for long-range tanks to be strapped on



A six-man team of jet skiers arrived in San Remo last Wednesday, stopping for lunch at the Fisherman's Co-op on their 1700 km loop around Bass Strait.

and plumbed into the main tank," Dave explained.

"In theory, we can do over 300 kilometres on what we can carry."

As well as additional fuel capacity, the team carry a range of instruments and equipment to make the

journey as safe and as comfortable as possible.

"We've got chart plotters, so we can follow the pink line on the screen. That's invaluable when you've only got water and no land reference around you."

The team also have Cardo headsets, which enables them to communicate.

"It's really handy. We can point out obstacles and talk to each other without pushing any buttons.

"It's like Siri – you can say 'hey Cardo, play music'."

The team also carries two satellite trackers they can text to and from – which also allow family and friends to track their progress – as well as the mandatory life jackets, radio and flares.

The jackets have "pockets all over them", which can hold snacks and flares and the men carry fresh water on the jet skis.

To keep out the biting winds of the strait, Dave said he wears a heated lifejacket, "and we have a few other tricks", including ways to avoid becoming shark bait.

"That's what everyone asks us, what about sharks?"

"We haven't seen any this trip, but we're probably going over 100 sharks every day, so we have Sharkbanz on our ankles."

So far the trip has had a few thrills and spills.

Two of the riders have fallen off their jet skis, including Dave himself.

Arriving at King Island provided the riders with one of the trip's biggest thrills.

"Over 100 dolphins welcomed us to King Island. They swam alongside us, jumped in front of us.

"It was so spectacular."

Dave and his fellow jet ski adventurers hope the trip will help raise much needed funds and awareness for the work of Lifeline.

The fundraising page will remain open for another week.

To donate, go to [www.lifelinetasmania.org.au/fundraisers/bass-strait-jet-ski-adventure-2021](http://www.lifelinetasmania.org.au/fundraisers/bass-strait-jet-ski-adventure-2021).

For 24/7 crisis or suicide prevention support, please call Lifeline on 13 11 14.



Passenger numbers on the Stony Point to Cowes ferry have increased by 10 per cent since 2019, with figures over Easter up by 27 per cent.

## Visitors take to the water

The number of visitors coming to Phillip Island by ferry is up by 10 per cent, as more and more visitors arrive in Cowes via the Stony Point ferry.

Leanne Jones, Marketing Manager for Westernport Ferries said passenger numbers have grown by around 10 per cent since 2019.

"Significant increases were seen over the public holiday weekends and school holidays with a 27 per cent increase over Easter," said Leanne.

To meet the demand, the company had to run two ferries.

"The growth in traffic is strictly tourism, visitors to the region for the day or overnight travellers sailing from Stony Point to French Island and Cowes," she said.

"More and more families and groups of friends are travelling on the ferry with bicycles to get around French Island or Phillip Island."

Searoad Ferries, the Queenscliff to Sorrento ferry service, has also seen a similar increase in passenger numbers in comparison to 2019, with a third ferry added to the service over the Christmas/New Year and Easter periods.



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# John Clarke's legacy

Almost a year ago an 8ha property at Rhyll was gifted for environmental protection by the family of satirist and comedian, the late John Clarke.

And to mark the anniversary, last week John's wife Helen McDonald was joined by indigenous land management students and local conservationists to celebrate the last 12 month's work.

"John adored this property – he had a dream of being a farmer and I think this land satisfied that. He loved coming out here and working," Helen told the Advertiser.

"So now it seems absolutely right for the traditional owners to use it for cultural activities."

The land, adjoining Conservation Hill Reserve overlooking the Rhyll Inlet, was bought by John and Helen in 1999, with the couple – up until John's death in 2017 – working hard to revegetate it.

Last year Helen donated the site to Trust for Nature, a Victorian not-for-profit that partners with private landholders to protect the environment.

Trust for Nature's Westernport manager Ben Cullen last week told the Advertiser the land was being used by indigenous students studying conservation land management at Holmesglen tafe and had most recently been filmed by ABC TV's Gardening Australia for an upcoming segment.

Ben organised last week's celebration – which included a sausage sizzle by the Phillip Island Lions Club – around the unveiling of a planter box, made by the students.

"We plan to use the box – which the students have put



*In donating the 8ha land John Clarke's widow Helen wanted to leave a legacy: "I'm devastated about climate change and I know every little bit helps."*

together as part of their course – for bush foods in the future," Ben said.

"It's not just a planter box but a monument to the work that is being done here, making a meaningful and tangible connection with the local indigenous community."

He said in coming months they hoped to carry out revegetation work, including the re-introduction of internationally significant flora species, such as endangered orchids.

"Phillip Island is an important place for conservation on the planet – a significant site for migratory birds and a globally significant wetland – and it needs as much help as it can get," Ben said.

"This is a substantial land donation by any standards. It's a gift that gives new hope for threatened species in the area."

Three generations of the Boonwurrung community attended last week's event: Melissa McDevitt Weston from Dalyston, her daughter Renee



John Clarke's wife Helen McDonald was joined by Trust for Nature's Westernport manager Ben Cullen as well as indigenous students studying conservation land management at the Rhyll property last week. From left to right: Chelsea Cooke, Ben Cullen - Trust for Nature, Renee and Harmony Sweetman, Melissa McDevitt Weston, Helen McDonald and Ian Harrison.

Sweetman from Inverloch, who is taking part in the land management course, and her daughter Harmony.

"I wanted my mum and daughter to come out here and see the work we're doing," Renee said.

"It's important for us to connect back to country."

## Legacy

Helen said the site would continue to hold a special place in their hearts.

"This is very much about leaving a legacy," Helen said.

"John would have loved to know this land is going to Trust for Nature. It's the natural choice for me. It really is my heart's desire."

John and Helen have owned a holiday house in Silverleaves for about four decades, where Helen has even won an award

for her garden design.

During this time, John's passion for birdlife and the Rhyll Inlet grew.

"John became an avid bird watcher and photographer," Helen said.

"He loved to watch the kookaburras with his young grandchildren. We also enjoyed the project of spotting the huge and beautiful sea eagles."

In 1999 they bought the Rhyll 8ha property – with the previous owners already placing it under a conservation covenant with Trust for Nature, which is a legally-binding agreement permanently protecting native vegetation.

The couple then planted 2000 indigenous plants, with help from Bass Coast Landcare.

"I'm devastated about climate change and I know every little bit helps," Helen said.



The Washington Post article explains that more than 100 people – including several children, a few home renovators and a couple of police officers – came to Mykey O'Halloran's Wimbledon Heights house and spent seven hours painting the home's siding, deck and fence in stripes of blue, green, yellow, orange, purple and pink.

## Island's gay pride under international spotlight

Mykey O'Halloran has only lived on Phillip Island for nearly three months.

But in that short time he has attracted considerable attention.

His plan to paint his Wimbledon Heights house in rainbow colours – leading to a community working bee on April 18 – not only attracted local and national attention.

Now the paint work has appeared in the Washington Post, one of America's most prestigious newspapers.

"Mykey O'Halloran's rainbow house on Australia's Phillip Island, after painting by volunteers was completed on April 18," read the Post's photo caption.

And while the article was a celebration of gay pride, it also highlighted the alleged homophobic attack at his home in March and Mykey's battle to be accepted.

The Washington Post article also details that Mykey held a fundraiser during the community working bee, with the 29-year-old last week confirming to the Advertiser he raised a total of \$9500 for future community events, including donating \$1000 to the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre's Rainbow Connect program.

"I have contacted Melbourne drag queens and am planning to do Sunday afternoon family friendly events once a venue has been found," Mykey said.

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

Cr Ronnie Bauer  
for the Island Ward,  
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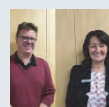
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The mural has two themes, the relationship between mother and child and the life of Olive Justice.

# Olive Justice honoured in new mural

The last-minute burst of summer weather last week provided the ideal conditions for completing a new mural in Olive Justice Place.

Local artist Eirian Chapman was commissioned by Bass Coast Shire Council to create the mural depicting many aspects of life on the island.

The project is part of the council's Street Art Scheme.

Eirian's bold, graphic designs have appeared in campaigns for Destination Phillip Island, Melbourne Zoo, Schweppes and the Melbourne Writers' Festival.

In her design for the Olive Justice Place mural, Eirian said she focused on two themes – the relationship between mothers and infants, and the life of Olive Justice.

In her artwork, she said she focused "on Olive's wish for the space to be transformed into a garden for the community to enjoy as well as a safe space for mothers

and their babies".

"Through my research of Olive's life, I discovered that her garden was her pride and joy and that featured many fruit trees," Eirian said.

The garden included a fig tree that remained standing as the area turned into a car park for the businesses on Thompson Avenue.

"I kept thinking of the Joni Mitchell song Big Yellow Taxi in which she sings *'They paved paradise, put up a parking lot'*."

"There was quite a lot of room on her block of land for Olive to have a garden full of fruit trees as well as a hot house for her son to grow potted plants for charity street stalls.

"Her vision for the space to be a garden to flourish for everyone's enjoyment influenced my concept for the mural."

Exploring the theme of the mother and child relationship, Eirian said: "My hero is the mother, pre-



Last week's fine weather provided ideal conditions for artist Eirian Chapman to complete a new mural in Olive Justice Place.

sented as a female deity protecting her baby in a garden of Eden.

"The landscape that unfurls be-

hind her is dotted with fruit trees that symbolise fertility, plenty and harvest.

"Elements of Phillip Island's historical horticulture are seen in the blue chicory flower and lavender stems. Fig leaves, open fruit and circle motifs like the moon all reference ancient female manifestations of childbirth and crop cycles.

"The Great Egret or Heron on the left, seen often around Phillip Island's waterways symbolises tranquillity, independence, domesticity and nesting/building a home," Eirian continued.

"He is juxtaposed against the mother as a spirit animal watching over her.

"Stylistically I have been inspired by the Japanese artist Hiroshige and his prints of Edo.

"His depictions of life through the changing seasons influenced my use of colour and shape."

The mural was completed last week and is already attracting attention from visitors and locals alike.

# Covid vaccine now available for 50s and above

Victorians aged 50 and over are now able to book in for the Covid vaccine.

Bookings for the vaccine opened at 9am on Monday (May 3) and DHS was overwhelmed by the volume of calls, reporting over 5000 before 9.30pm.

The state government has expanded the number of high-volume vaccinations centres across the state, although there is still no confirmed date for when a mass vaccination centre will open in Bass Coast.

CEO Jan Child told the Advertiser Bass Coast Health (BCH) had been working with the Gippsland Public Health Unit and Bass Coast Shire Council to set up a mass vaccination

clinic.

The Town Hall in Wonthaggi has been flagged as the ideal site for the local clinic, and Ms Child said they were hopeful of being up and running by the last week of May.

"It's still a bit up in the air, as we're waiting on the roll out from Gippsland Public Health."

Ms Child said it was not possible to take bookings for the new clinic until a start date was confirmed, but details of a local booking number and process would be released as soon as possible.

The plan is to run the mass vaccination clinic for three days a week initially.

Depending on the response and if it

was viable, Ms Child said BCH would then investigate setting up a clinic on Phillip Island.

At the moment, only a small number of local GPs are providing a vaccination service. Some clinics are only administering vaccines to existing patients.

Although more GP clinics are expected to come on board, Ms Child said for many doctors, it simply wasn't possible to provide the vaccination service.

"The logistics are tricky, so you need to have the right facility," Ms Child said.

"You need to be able to observe people for 15 minutes after the vaccination, so many GP clinics don't have

the room.

"Everyone is keen for the mass vaccination clinics to pick up the excess."

## Statewide clinics

Across Victoria, 20 mass vaccination sites have been established, including at regional locations in Bendigo, Geelong, Ballarat, Traralgon, Shepparton and Albury Wodonga.

The closest centres to Bass Coast include Box Hill, Ringwood, Frankston, Berwick, Monash Medical Centre and Dandenong.

Phone bookings are strongly encouraged at all sites, with some sites not taking any walk-ins.

To visit one of the existing clinics outside Bass Coast, you can call the

vaccination booking service on 1800 675 398 (and select option 3, option 2, option 2) and discuss the centre that's right for you, based on availability, age and vaccine type.

A number of the centres will offer the Pfizer vaccine strictly for those eligible to receive it. The Pfizer vaccine is supply limited and prioritised for eligible people under the age of 50 in phase 1a and 1b of the Commonwealth's program, in line with advice from ATAGI.

More information about locations, vaccine and walk-in access is also available at [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/) vaccine. For more information about the Commonwealth's vaccination program, visit [health.gov.au](https://health.gov.au).

## Smile Squad is on its way

The Victorian Government is making it easier for our kids to get the dental care they need.

**Find out more at [smilesquad.vic.gov.au](https://smilesquad.vic.gov.au)**



# San Remo Lions Park popular spot for a new skate park

The skate community has mooted their own suggested locations for a regional skate park after Bass Coast Shire councillors last month voted to dump plans in Newhaven.

Skaters took to the shire's Facebook page, voicing their frustration that the second attempt in four years to find a location had again failed.

Several suggested the Lions Park in San Remo be the new site.

Tanya Sturt wrote the park had enough room and "it's not right in the middle of the town", to which Michael Waser agreed saying it was a "no brainer", with plenty of room, not close to houses, not hidden away, and with the new secondary school up the road.

Kellie Smith McDonald agreed, adding the Lions Park was on the original shortlist but was dismissed because access and visibility weren't as ideal as the San Remo foreshore and Newhaven.

"San Remo residents who vocally opposed the original foreshore location had given that location their blessing at the time too," Kellie said.

She added Cape Woolamai was also a popular location, with surfers' keen skaters.

"Maybe the current or new Vietnam Veterans properties can offer the space?" Kellie said.

"Please don't take this project away from the actual commu-

nity that has lobbied for so many years to receive it.

"Putting it in another area of Bass Coast is not meeting the needs of the youth here on and near the island ... It's been requested for over a decade and it's time to see it come to life where the need has always existed."

While some mooted Kilcunda as an ideal location, others argued populations at Newhaven and Cape Woolamai were 10 times the size, not including summer visitors.

Ben Miles asked whether the vacant land off Bass Avenue in Cowes – behind Pino's restaurant – could be an option, with another suggesting the Cowes foreshore.

Skaters have been lobbying since 2014 for upgraded skate facilities, including a regional skate park.

In 2018 the shire received a \$650,000 State Government grant for a regional skate park at San Remo.

When the shire then moved the skate park to Grayden's Reserve the funding was extended, but last month the shire announced the government had now withdrawn the grant.

Mayor Brett Tessari said the shire would now "spend some time" finding a new location, adding he was confident they could re-apply for funding.



*The McLure family of Smiths Beach end their holiday camping in the relaxed and unpretentious bush of Cape Conran, tucked along Victoria's far east wilderness coast.*

*Here, in Lisa's weekly column, she shares a slice of the serenity, and a run-in with a boisterous wombat.*

"We're just driving out of Bruthen after spending a week in Cape Conran.

We were going to stay in Marlo but then a girlfriend said Cape Conran was so beautiful so we went there instead.

The more off-the-beaten-track the more our family loves it.

It was just bush camping, no wifi, no power, no shower. We're now the great unwashed.

I had a quick shower in the van and we've gone for swims but the family just loves keeping it natural.

We've chilled out, sat still, enjoyed the simplicity. As soon as I'm in green I feel calm. It's so nice not to look at time and not be in a hurry.

Cape Conran is beautiful. The bushfires burnt trees to the beach and so the trees are like black skeletons with green dressing gowns.

It's a weird juxtaposition between one metre of green growth and on the top is all black.

The first day was a bit of a contrast and you get in your own way but then you settle down. The kids said they were bored and hungry every five minutes but then they realised we had

nothing exciting to eat, and started entertaining themselves.

They were fine with the digital detox. As soon as they don't have access to technology, they find something else. Me too. I read two books, cover to cover.

The kids invented new ways to torture each other and then made a treasure hunt for each other, collected shells, rode their bikes, pretended to be tennis instructors, picked leaves off trees.

Evie and I did a nudie run with the pink full moon. Angus was like 'no way' but Evie was 'yes way'.

Tim bought a surfboard – another one – and loves surfing now more than the dog.

The funniest part of the whole trip happened the other night.

We always put our food away so the wombats can't get it, but we forgot about the dog biscuits.

So about midnight I heard a noise and Tim went out and found a wombat under the van munching away on the dog food. He told it to shoo but it wouldn't budge so he went under the van and grabbed the dog food. But then the wombat took

a giant run and rammed Tim.

Tim went one way and the dog food went the other way.

The wombat was like Jackie Chan. In the end it triumphed, eating the pile of dog food that went flying onto the ground.

I was watching it all from the safety of the van, laughing my head off.

Tim's now got a bruise and scratch from the run-in.

Lucky we still had enough food to feed Audrey.

I did a big shop in Orbost before Cape Conran so we had enough food for the week, and we also went to Marlo to shop and ate at the pub, which was awesome.

We ate like we do at home, but everything just takes a bit longer to cook, boiling the kettle over the

fire or on the gas. We have a solar-powered fridge and a gas stove, but used the fire outside a lot, because food tastes beautiful cooked over flames.

I've decided I want to be a grey nomad when I grow up.

Their lifestyle is fantastic, they have got the whole gig down pat, very minimalist living, no kids, total freedom.

Having said that, we think two weeks off is just the right amount of time to chill out, but not want to chuck your job in. It's nice to have a break and come home.

East Gippsland is so unpretentious and relaxed. It has been nice learning to stop and not judging yourself for it.

But it's now time to get back to reality."



*The McLure family of Smiths Beach end their holiday camping in the relaxed and unpretentious bush of Cape Conran.*

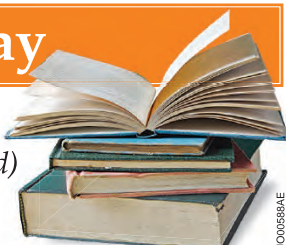
## Melaleuca Lodge Secondhand Book Sale

Open 10-12 every Saturday

**BILLS BOOK SHED**

1 Watchorn Road, COWES (off Settlement Road)

**0437 949 029**



## Council Update



### Have your say: Proposed Budget 2021/22

Council has prepared a Proposed Budget 2021/22 for the financial year ending 30 June 2022. Council adopted the Proposed Budget 2021/22 at an Ordinary Council Meeting on Wednesday, 21 April 2021.

Interested community members are invited to an online Facebook Q&A forum to learn more about the Proposed 2021/22 Budget on Wednesday, 5 May at [www.facebook.com/basscoastshire](https://www.facebook.com/basscoastshire), from 6.00pm to 7.30pm.

The Proposed Budget 2021/22 can be downloaded from Council's website at [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/budget](https://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/budget) or can be viewed at the Bass Coast Civic Centre, 76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi, or at the Cowes Customer Service Centre, 154-156 Thompson Avenue. If you would like a copy to be sent to you by mail, please send your request to [basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au) or contact Kristen Stewart at 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211.

Submissions are invited to the Proposed Budget 2021/22 and can be made online through Council's website at [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/budget](https://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/budget). The submission period will close at 5.00pm on Thursday, 20 May and submissions will be considered by Council on Wednesday, 26 May. If you wish to present your submission to Council, please indicate where prompted in the online submission form. Presenters will be provided a five-minute allocation between 1.00pm to 2.00pm on Wednesday, 26 May. A specific time allocation will be confirmed via phone, following the completion of your submission. This year, Budget submissions will only be accepted online. If you require assistance with this process, please contact Kristen Stewart on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211. The final Budget 2021/22 will be presented at the Council Meeting on Wednesday, 16 June for adoption. Responses to Budget submissions, including any funding changes will be incorporated into the Council report.

Bass Coast Shire Council, 76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi | DX 34903 Wonthaggi | PO Box 118, Wonthaggi VIC 3995 | 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211 or via the National Relay Service (for people with speech or hearing difficulties) on 13 36 77 | [basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au) | [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au](https://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au)



Community Bank · Cowes, San Remo District and Grantville and District

## Cowes, San Remo and Grantville Community Grants Program

A Community Grant may be just what your organisation needs to make a great idea happen.

It's support for your organisation when it needs it most.

Applications open May 10 and close 7 June 2021. Head to your local branch for more information or search:

[bendigobank.com.au/foundation](https://bendigobank.com.au/foundation)

**Bendigo Bank**

Community Enterprise Foundation™

The Cowes Community Grants Program is a management account of the Community Enterprise Charitable Fund ABN 12 102 649 968 (the Fund), The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550. Sandhurst Trustees Limited ABN 16 004 030 737 AFSL 237906, a subsidiary of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL 237879, is the trustee of the Fund. OUT\_2034279, 30/04/2021





Rangers were delighted to see this male koala joey, the first to be born in the wild on the island since 2007.

## Oh boy, it's a boy!

Island's first koala joey born in the wild since 2007

Phillip Island Nature Parks rangers at the Koala Conservation Reserve were recently delighted by a visit from a wild mother koala and her male joey - just in time for Wild Koala Day on May 3.

The joey is estimated to be around 12 months old and is the first to be born on the Island since 2007. The pair was first spotted in January and had not been seen since.

"We have been hoping to see the mother and joey again and were delighted when it arrived in a gum tree near the Koala Conservation Reserve boundary," said Daniel Kallstrom, Nature Parks Senior Environment Ranger.

"He is still with his Mum, but I expect that she is starting to reduce their bond so he can become independent at around 18 months of age.

"This is special because we estimate there are less than 20 koalas left in the wild on Phillip Island due to habitat loss, the disease Chlamydia,

being hit on the roads and predation.

"Koalas are not native to Phillip Island and were introduced in the late 1800s," explained Daniel.

"One of the main reasons for the decline in the population is loss of habitat. The Koala Conservation Reserve protects a population of koalas and their habitat which also provides homes for a wide variety of wildlife including bats, birds, echidnas and insects.

"It is fitting that the koala arrived close to Wild Koala Day as this is a day to celebrate wild koalas and protect their habitats.

"We can all help to protect wild koalas and all wildlife by driving carefully on the Island's roads and planting native trees in our gardens."

While koala populations in New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory and Queensland are listed as vulnerable, that's not the case in Victoria.

Scientists from the Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research (ARI) recently estimated there were more than 400,000 koalas across the state.

# Penguins join the Fitbit craze

Tiny trackers help scientists unlock the feeding secrets of Phillip Island's Little Penguins

Marine scientists have attached sensors described as "penguin Fitbits" to Phillip Island's Little Penguins to follow their journey into the ocean to discover how they search for food at different stages of their lives.

By unlocking the secrets of penguin foraging, Phillip Island Nature Parks' scientists hope to secure the supply of penguin food into the future, to ensure the population continues to thrive.

The study followed 10 male penguins over an entire breeding season to give a feeding snapshot of the entire population. The penguin Fitbits can tell where penguins go, how deep and how often they dive, giving a full picture of their lives at sea.

"Penguins have been around for 2.4 million years and have mastered the art of fishing," said Nature Parks' marine scientist Dr Andre Chiaradia.

"Our study showed pen-



Sensors described as "penguin Fitbits" have helped track Little Penguins on their journey into the ocean to feed. The study followed 10 male penguins over an entire breeding season.

guins are remarkably flexible when searching for food. They vary their feeding strategy at short notice to get the best food, and choose different foods depending on where they are in their breeding stage.

"The penguin diet is quite diverse - from jellyfish to sardines and small barracoutas.

"Studying penguins at sea is hard, so we relied on sensors like Fitbits to explore how penguins forage and what distance they travel.

"While most studies follow

penguins for one feeding trip, our study followed individual penguins for the whole breeding season. What we've learned has shown us that we shouldn't always rely on information based on a single feeding trip."

Dr Chiaradia said they discovered a remarkable difference between feeding trips in each stage of the breeding season.

For example, when incubating eggs, penguins can travel long distances as one parent sits on the eggs

while the other forages at sea, with no hurry to return to the colony.

But when the chicks have hatched, the male penguin needs to return quickly and regularly to feed the chicks, so they travel closer to the colony to ensure they have enough time to come ashore at dusk and feed their young.

"This is another crucial piece of a puzzle in understanding the lives of penguins at sea," said Andre.

"Future studies on penguins and marine animals in general will benefit from knowing that individual penguins vary dramatically in their foraging strategies. Every piece of information we gather assists us in protecting the little penguin population into the future."

This study on diving and movement of penguins was conducted in conjunction with Phillip Island Nature Parks, the Australian Antarctic Division, Western University in Canada and scientists from several French organisations. It was published in the prestigious German Journal of Marine Biology.

# Regional tourism gets big boost

The state government has delivered a \$46 million boost to regional tourism, announcing grants for 30 projects across Victoria.

Bass Coast's Phillip Island Brewing will receive \$200,000 to construct a unique onsite brewing operation which will provide an improved tourism and

food and beverage experience for the island.

Other projects include \$3.3 million for eco-tourism at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Cranbourne, \$3.35 million to create the Yarra Trail Northern Loop walking and cycling path, and \$3.9 million viewing platform at Loch Ard

Gorge.

Funded projects also include establishing a new distillery at Ballarat, a new light and sound show at the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement and developing a camping experience at Point Nepean.

State Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale wel-

comed confirmation of the Bass Coast funding for what she described as "a critical project for the region".

A full list of funded projects is available at [www.djpr.vic.gov.au/significant-projects/visitor-economy-recovery-and-reform-plan](http://www.djpr.vic.gov.au/significant-projects/visitor-economy-recovery-and-reform-plan).



## Call someone who gets it.

Every year we help thousands of people control their gambling.

So, we get that every story is different. To change the way you think

about gambling, call Latrobe Community Health Service on 1800 242 696.





## Call out for community panel members

Bass Coast Shire Council is calling for Expressions of Interest from community members to form a Community Panel as the next step in the 'Our Bass Coast. Our Future' project.

This Panel will be made up of around 40 people and participate in a series of workshops and engagement processes to help form a 20-year Vision for Bass Coast and contribute to the development of the Council Plan 2021-25.

Bass Coast Shire Mayor, Cr Brett Tessari encouraged everyone to express their interest. "We're looking for a diverse range of people from different age groups, backgrounds and interests to make up our Community Panel to represent all areas of Bass Coast," Cr Tessari said.

"We're really pleased with the sheer volume of feedback from the community during the initial consultation held over the last few months, with over 700 surveys completed and over 200 people attending our drop-in sessions. Now is the time to get involved in the next stage of guiding the future

of Bass Coast."

The Community Panel will meet for five workshops, both online and in person that will be supported by an external community engagement consultant, Council officers and experts to help better understand challenges and opportunities.

"If you're passionate about our area and would like to be involved in shaping the future of Bass Coast then this is your chance," Cr Tessari said.

"I'm really excited to see this Panel form and to hear the outcomes."

Expressions of Interest are open to anyone aged over 16 who lives or owns property or a business in Bass Coast. Panel members will need to be available for all of the workshops and will be reimbursed \$200 for their time. For more information or to express your interest please visit [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/ourfuture](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/ourfuture) or contact Alice Coulson at Conversation Caravan on 03 8797 5362.

Expressions of Interest close at 5pm on Sunday, May 16.

*/sponsored article/*

## Flu vaccinations available

Bass Coast Shire Council's Influenza immunisation program will begin in May, which offers free flu vaccinations through the National Immunisation Program.

The free vaccines are available for eligible children aged between six months and four years old, adults aged over 65 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people over six months old and pregnant women.

Individuals who are not eligible for the free vaccine are encouraged to visit their local pharmacy or GP.

This year, bookings will be required for all sessions, please visit [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/immunisation) and select the session you wish to attend, or contact Council's Immunisation Administration Officer.

The childhood and over 65 sessions will be held separately this year, so ensure that you book in for the correct age group.

Immunisation sessions will be held in Cowes, Wonthaggi and Corinella in May.

**COWES:** Tuesday, May 11 at the St Philips Anglican Parish, 102 Thompson Avenue.

- Childhood session - 10.30am to 12.30pm
- Over 65 - 1pm to 3pm

**WONTHAGGI:** Tuesday, May 18 at the Wonthaggi Town Hall

- Childhood session - 10.30am to 12.30pm



Bass Coast Shire Mayor, Cr Brett Tessari rolled up his sleeve for the flu shot last year. Council's flu immunisation sessions start this week.

- Over 65 - 1.30pm to 4.30pm.

**CORINELLA:** Tuesday, May 25 at the Bass Valley Children's Centre

- Childhood session - 10.30am to 12.30pm
- Over 65 - 1pm to 2.30pm

The flu is a highly contagious viral infection that can cause severe illness and life-threatening complications, including pneumonia. The flu doesn't discriminate and anyone can be affected.

Bass Coast Shire Mayor, Cr Brett Tessari said it's really important for

everyone in the community to play their part in helping to stop the spread of the flu.

"It's as easy as following three steps: cough or sneeze into your elbow, wash your hands regularly and if you're sick, avoid going to work or school, visiting vulnerable people or busy public places," Cr Tessari said.

For more information on immunisation sessions contact Council's Immunisation Administration Officer on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211 or visit [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/immunisation).



Cr Brett Tessari showing the new battery recycling banks available at any of Council's Customer Service Centres or Visitor Information Centres.

## Better battery recycling

Bass Coast Shire Council now has Battery Recycle Banks at all of its Customer Service and Visitor Information Centres.

Bass Coast Shire Mayor, Cr Brett Tessari said that recycling batteries is the best way to keep our community and environment safe.

"Batteries should never be disposed of in bins. The most common cause of fires in garbage trucks and at recycling processors is batteries that have been disposed of in kerbside bins," Cr Tessari said.

"If your batteries end up in landfill, they can potentially harm wildlife and affect surrounding soil or waterways - another good reason to keep them out of your bins."

You can now recycle the following types of household batteries at Council's Customer Services Centres in Wonthaggi, Cowes, Grantville and Inverloch and Visitor Information Centres in Newhaven: AA, AAA, C, D, 9 volt batteries and Button cell batteries

Alternatively, Council's waste facilities accept all of these batteries for recycling free of charge, as well as mobile phone, computer and laptop batteries, power tool batteries and car batteries.

"All of the batteries Council collects are recycled safely and importantly, kept out of landfill. Please don't ever put batteries in any of your kerbside bins," Cr Tessari said.



## Newhaven College

# Open Day

Sat, 15 May 2021

10am-2pm

1770 Phillip Island Road, Phillip Island  
[www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au](http://www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au) Ph: 5956 7505

# Our Bass Coast. Our Future.

## Join our Community Panel

Are you passionate about Bass Coast? We're currently seeking expressions of interest for our Community Panel to create a 20-year Community Vision for Bass Coast. This is your chance to work with around 40 other community members and is open to anyone over 16 who lives or owns a property or a business in Bass Coast.

For more information or to express your interest visit [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/ourfuture](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/ourfuture) or contact Alice Coulson, Conversation Caravan on 03 8797 5362.

Expressions close on Sunday, 16 May 2021.





# Crunch time for business?

## Covid impacts still not fully realised

Bass Coast was one of the hardest hit local government areas in Australia in terms of unemployment due to COVID-19.

But the biggest challenge for business might be yet to come.

Ranked in the Top 10 hardest hit areas of the state in terms of unemployment and loss of wages (see separate story) at the start of the pandemic, over summer the employment and wages/salaries ranking for the region improved.

However regional tourism body Destination Phillip Island (DPI) believes the full impact of the pandemic is not yet clear.

Kim Storey, General Manager of DPI said while visitor numbers were up over summer, businesses were now dealing with the end of Job Keeper payments and the end of both the rental moratorium and the freeze on mortgage repayments.

Business owners could be under significant pressure Ms Storey said, with many "taking a hard look at their accounts".

"Now is the crunch time."

She believes the strong summer visitor numbers might not be enough to compensate for the losses suffered during the Covid lockdowns, however DPI was only aware of a small number of businesses that had closed their doors or sold up due to Covid.

Some businesses had been able to adjust their trading model to survive the lockdowns.

"Businesses that could pivot to takeaway last year, and then had a busy summer, are reporting record sales," Ms Storey said.

"But that doesn't apply to every-



Despite a busy summer, Destination Phillip Island believes the full impact of the pandemic on local business is not clear, and warns "now is the crunch time".

one. For example, accommodation providers had no trade for most of last year, so it's very hard for them to catch up."

Tourism businesses face a similar scenario.

Ms Storey said in addition to the loss of revenue, many business owners had to take on extra roles themselves, including cleaning, to reduce the Covid risk once they reopened.

### Staffing

Official visitation figures for the first quarter of the year aren't available until June and results of a member survey undertaken by DPI last month are still being compiled.

However initial indications from the survey show while most businesses experienced strong trade over summer, 50 per cent were impacted by staffing issues. With the Job Keeper scheme now over, Ms Storey said some

businesses will probably have to restructure in order to continue trading.

"There might be a few pressures on them."

"Some might not be able to hold onto staff during winter."

She said DPI was working on several campaigns to attract visitors to the area over winter, including the popular Whale Festival in June.

"We are trying to create a whale month."

## Bass Coast in the top 10 hardest hit by Covid

According to REMPLAN, a group of economists, demographers, planners and analysts who have undertaken economic modelling to estimate the impact of COVID-19 on local economies, Bass Coast was one of the hardest hit areas in the state ... and the country.

Figures compiled by REMPLAN in April 2020, show Bass Coast was ranked #6 in terms of the economic

impact of unemployment and #9 for the drop in wages and salary, out of the 79 local government areas (LGA) in Victoria.

The higher the ranking, the harder an area was impacted.

On a nation level, we were ranked at #17 and #24 respectively, out of 539 LGAs.

Over the busy summer, the figures looked less gloomy.

With businesses hiring to cope with the influx of tourists, the Bass Coast employment ranking rose to 41 nationally and 37 in Victoria.

But as the holiday season wound up, the statistics show Bass Coast was still one of the most badly affected areas.

By January 2021, we had returned to our unenviable Top 10 position in terms of unemployment, coming in

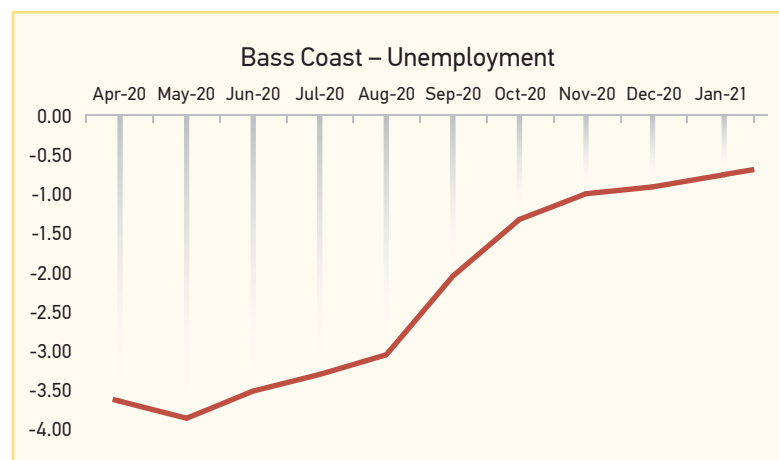
at #8 in Victoria.

We were rated #14 for the impact on wages and salary.

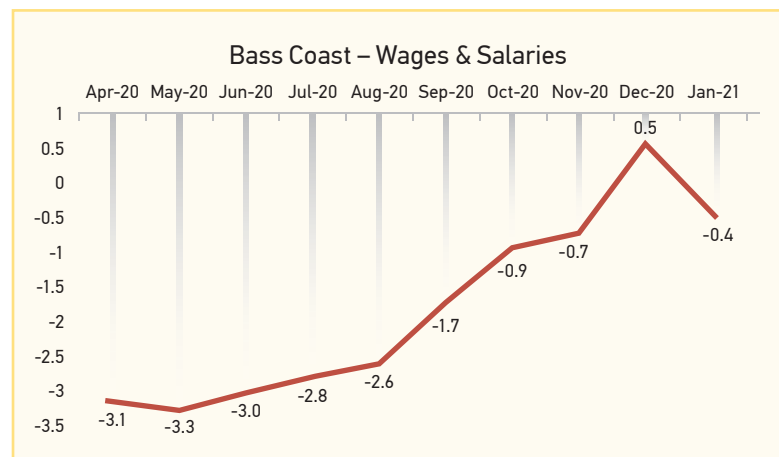
That translated to national rankings of #29 and #37 respectively.

With the summer and holiday season now behind us, employment figures are expected to continue to drop, which means our ranking figures will continue to rise.

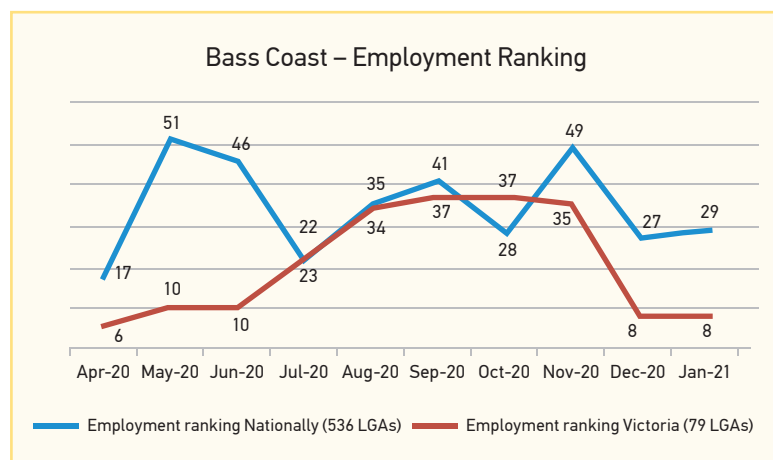
More details at [remplan.com.au](http://remplan.com.au)



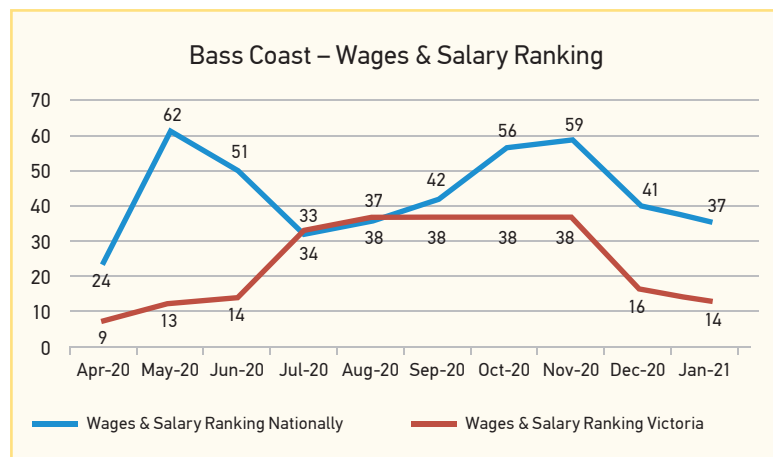
Back in April 2020, REMPLAN recorded a -3.60 impact for employment, but after a busy summer, that moved to just -0.7 by January 2021.



The busy summer season saw wages and salaries for the area increase, but by January it was a downward trend again.



Although our employment ranking improved over summer, by January 2021, Bass Coast was back in the Top 10 most impacted areas of Victoria, and sitting at 29 nationally.



This graph shows that while the holiday season saw an improvement in the impact of Covid on wages and salaries, the trend is for tough times ahead.

### Kicking in for country footy and netball

Applications for the 2021-22 Country Football and Netball Program are now open, with funding available to upgrade and develop facilities for football and netball clubs to meet growing demand and welcome even more members.

Grants of up to \$150,000 are available to deliver projects such as re-developing and building new ovals and netball courts, installing sports lighting, and building new and re-developed pavilions.

Applications for funding from local councils close on June 22.

For more information and to apply, visit [sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding](http://sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding). A second round of the program will open in September 2021.

### Manufacturing grants

Victorian manufacturers can apply for grants of up to \$500,000 to support and expand their operations, through the Business Competitiveness Program.

The Business Competitiveness Program will help eligible Victorian manufacturers implement new manufacturing technologies and processes. Grants will cover up to one-third of eligible project costs.

Grants can go towards the purchase and commissioning of capital equipment, manufacturing product and process improvements and supply chain capability development.

For more information about the Business Competitiveness Program and to apply for a grant, go to [business.vic.gov.au/midf](http://business.vic.gov.au/midf).

### Victorians in favour of new Animal Welfare Act

Victorians support modernising the Animal Welfare Act, with widespread backing for key proposals that will strengthen animal welfare provisions. An engagement report outlining the consultation findings summarises feedback from more than 1200 individuals and organisations is now available.

Feedback received from the consultation will inform draft legislation for a new animal welfare Act, with an exposure draft to be released in 2022.

The community will again have an opportunity to provide their feedback before a Bill is introduced to Parliament.

To view the full consultation summary report, visit [engage.vic.gov.au](http://engage.vic.gov.au).

### Further boost for camping and caravan parks

Round three of the Camping and Caravan Grants is open, for projects to upgrade and improve the visitor experience.

Grants between \$5000 to \$200,000 are available to support managers of campgrounds and caravan parks, including Crown land managers, committees of management, traditional owners and councils to improve the quality and amount of visitor facilities.

Applications close at 4pm on Friday, June 11.

For more information visit [www.forestsandreserves.vic.gov.au/grants/camping-and-caravan-grants](http://www.forestsandreserves.vic.gov.au/grants/camping-and-caravan-grants)

### Mental health help for farmers

Free sessions provided by Agriculture Victoria aim to ease the mental health burden of people working in the industry.

Agriculture Victoria is providing free sessions of The Occasional Counsellor training for anyone who works in horticulture or interacts with people in the horticulture industry in the course of their work.

The training is ideal for anyone who finds themselves needing to provide support, whether a farmer, manager, agronomist, vet or financial adviser visiting a farmer or worksite.

The session teaches simple skills about how to listen, how to reduce feelings of uncertainty and isolation and how to provide constructive support.

The upcoming free, three-hour webinar training sessions are on Monday, May 17 from 1pm-4pm, and Thursday, June 3 from 10am-1pm.

For information and to register visit: [agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/event-listing](http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/event-listing)



# Holly's Top Design

Holly Buckley, who graduated from Newhaven College in 2020, has been selected to be part of the 2021 Top Designs exhibition.

The College's Head of Visual Arts, Fiona Anastasi was thrilled to announce Holly's VCE Textile project would be part of the exhibition.

It's one of 95 works by VCE students selected by panels of expert educators.

The projects come from a range of study areas, including

VCE Media, Product Design and Technology, Systems Engineering, Theatre Studies and Visual Communication Design, as well as VCE VET Creative and Digital Media and Integrated Technologies.

Discussing her work, Holly said the piece "was created as a set to be worn to a festival or music event".

"I designed the fabric and spent hours drawing and hand stitching what is now the finished product. "I started textiles at the beginning of Year 12 and

definitely had no idea what was in store for me but it turned out to be such a wonderful experience with a very happy ending!

"With the issues that we all faced in 2020 I am so excited and honoured that my work has been chosen for Top Designs 2021. We all put so much effort into our pieces over those last 12 months and to have achieved something like this during such a difficult year is very exciting."

The exhibition at the Melbourne Museum runs until July 11.



Newhaven College's Holly Buckley at the Melbourne Museum, where her VCE textile project is on display. Photo: Nicole Cleary Photography.

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## 102 candles for Sylvia



Sylvia Carter celebrates her 102nd birthday with a cake and coffee at the Phillip Island Bakery.

Sylvia Carter celebrated her 102nd Birthday last Friday at Phillip Island Bakery with a cake especillay made for her.

Sylvia was born in Leongatha on April 30 1919 and has lived at Rhyll for 74 years.

She is a regular having coffee at the Bakery each week.

Over the last weeks she has had grandchildren visit and then a lunch with her children, so birthday celebrations were well spread out.

Sylvia fills in her days knitting squares for rugs that the Salvation Army find homes for, and she does crosswords and enjoys her coffees out. It is wonderful she has reached this great age, and is still well.

We wish her many more years of health and happiness.



Dorothy and Graeme Brown (front centre) farewelled by their neighbours. The couple have now moved to a new home in Surrey Hills.

## Island farewells Dorothy and Graeme

Dorothy and Graeme Brown, well-known and much loved Islanders who have lived at RedRocks for more than half a century, were given a big send off last month.

The couple have moved to a new home in Surrey Hills.

Admiring neighbours came together to give Dorothy and Graeme a well-deserved send off.

All say they've been inspired by the couple who, despite their age (87 and 91) have remained engaged and active, never shirking, hail, rain or shine, from their daily walk the full length of

Penguin Avenue and beyond.

Graeme was a multiple award-winning member of the Phillip Island Camera Club while Dorothy was a long-term volunteer with the Salvos, Bill's Book Shed and the Rotary Op Shop. A talented gardener, Dorothy was well known as a spinner, weaver and prodigious knitter.

The couple are already missing the island and their many friends, so anyone who may have missed the opportunity to say a personal farewell, can email memail@bigpond.com and the message will be passed on to them.



Smiths Beachcomber Association members Phil and Irene Wright, Robyn Dale and David Inglis handed out trees and shrubs to new landowners over Easter.

## Free trees for Smiths Beach

Smiths Beachcomber Association provided new landowners at Smiths Beach with free trees, shrubs and grasses over Easter. All plants were purchased from the Barb Martin Bushbank.

Manning the table for the giveaway were Beachcomber members Phil and Irene Wright, Robyn Dale and David Inglis.

At 90, David is the only original member of the Association which began its life in the 60s with electricity connection and free trees. These trees

are now very tall and with the increase in large houses, are being removed.

The handout catered for properties with limited garden space with grasses and shrubs. The intention is to increase native vegetation cover and provide habitat for natural wildlife.

As well as picking up the plants, the message for owners and visitors was to get involved in the Smiths Beach MasterPlan which the Association said is progressing very well with management by Council and involvement of all relevant groups.



Bebe and Bruce Reynolds celebrate their 70th anniversary today (May 5), after meeting as teenagers. "They still adore one another", says daughter Robyn.



The couple were married at St James Old Cathedral in West Melbourne on May 5, 1951.

## Teenage romance lasts a lifetime

When Bruce and Bebe Reynolds met in 1951, they were both teenagers.

Within six months, the love-struck pair decided to marry. Because Bruce was only 19 and Bebe was just 17, the couple needed the permission of their parents and guardian.

Fast forward to 2021 – the pair is still going strong and today celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary.

Daughter Robyn said her parents are "totally devoted to each other" and both share their love and time with family.

"Family is everything to them," she said.

And what a family they've created.

Bruce and Bebe, who married on May 5, 1951 at St James Old Cathedral in West Melbourne, have four children, 11 grandchildren and six

great-grandchildren.

After their wedding, they lived in St Kilda, where their first daughter was born.

The couple bought their first house in Glen Waverley and recalled that back then, Glen Waverley was considered "far out of town" and their house overlooked a paddock.

Bruce's work as a refrigeration and air conditioning engineer took him around the world. Alongside colleagues he developed the very first frozen food case, which Coles bought, and we now see in supermarkets across the country.

While Bruce worked tirelessly in the refrigeration industry, Bebe ran the household and kept the home fires burning.

"Mum was a wonderful home-mak-

er," said Robyn.

"She always kept an immaculate house."

With a family-first focus, there are fond memories of summer nights having beach picnics, card nights and dinner parties with friends.

After a brief move to Maroochydore for work and family reasons, Bruce and Bebe returned to Melbourne and settled in Forest Hills, then Croydon, before moving to Phillip Island in 2014.

As well as catching up with their family (there's been five or six trips to Canada to visit son Scott), tending to the garden, and barracking for Collingwood, Bruce and Bebe are avid readers who like to spend their time together.

"They still adore one another," Robyn said.

## Baby booties for every newborn

There is a baby boom happening across the state, and the Bass Coast is no exception according to Wonthaggi Hospital's busy Maternity Service.

But there's an added bonus for babies born at Wonthaggi.

A new "Baby Bootie" program led by local resident Liz Purvis, means every baby born at the hospital receives a beautifully crocheted pair of booties.

The booties come with a card that says "Every child is a gift. Here is a hand-made crochet gift especially for you. This comes from a local woman, made with love xx."

Tiny Erik Cicala born on April 13, weighing 4.2 kilos, was the first baby to receive the special gift.

His father Ricky, who was also born at Wonthaggi Hospital was presented with the booties by Liz, who has crocheted for fifty years.

Liz said the idea for the baby bootie program came about when her own health deteriorated, meaning



Baby Erik Cicala born on April 13, was the first to receive the special Baby Bootie gift, a new program organised by local resident Liz Purvis. From left: Lauren Yann, Rick and Erick Cicala, Liz and Greg Purvis, Kirsten Weinzierl and CEO Jan Child.

she had a fair bit of spare time.

She decided to dedicate her time to crocheting booties so a pair can be given to every baby delivered in Wonthaggi Hospital.

Liz has won numerous prizes for her crochet work, including at the Royal Melbourne Show.

Nowadays, she makes around 10

pairs of beautiful booties a day and said her aim is to have other crochet enthusiasts, and anyone interested in donating wool, contribute to the "Baby Bootie" Program.

She is keen to create a "Baby Bundle" gift with knitted bunny rugs, jackets, jumpers and of course, the gorgeous booties.



## SPECIAL DELIVERY



Miyah Williams was born on April 6, weighing 2.590kg. Congratulations to proud parents Michelle and Nat of Newhaven. Savannah (3) and River (2) love having her as their little sister.



Jay Allan Sheets was born on April 8, weighing 3.490kg. Congratulations to proud parents Caitlin and Tyrell of Smiths Beach.



Maverick Joel Kent was born on April 29, weighing 3.3kg. Congratulations to proud parents Jane and Joel of Wimbledon Heights.



# ♥ LET'S CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY ♥



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# LET'S CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY



## Claire Uhlich

The owner of Island Healing in Newhaven describes her holistic healing business as her third child, alongside daughters Mahli and Indah.

"It demands so much of my time and energy," she admits.

"Growing it through its infancy stage, especially through a pandemic, has been really challenging."

However she says "seeing my vision of Island Healing start to come to life through all the struggle and consistent hard work" has been the biggest reward.

Juggling a new business with family life takes teamwork, and the ability to work around the kids.

"I try to get the majority of work done during school hours," Claire says.

"And I also have an amazing husband who takes 50 per cent of the load."

Her wish for this Mother's Day?

"To spend the day with my beautiful children! Lots of cuddles and kisses."



## Lawri Piera

Running Phillip Island Swim School, Lawri knows a thing or two about keeping things afloat.

Getting up early she gets the computer work done and lunches made before her three kids wake up.

"My husband does a huge amount to help me with the business, and does all the running around with the kids with their after-school sports. He's become king of the dishes and cooking."

Her biggest challenge is missing out on her kids' activities.

"It hurts when they say 'can you please stop working and come and play with us'. I make sure we do something together on the weekends."

But she loves seeing her students learn to swim and achieve their goals.

"I may work hard but it's worth it to see so many children learning to swim. It's a tough job when I get sore cheeks from smiling so much."

Lawri's Mother's Day plan is "to spend the entire day on adventures with my children and husband and to also have a cuppa with my own mum."



## Claire Sunderland

Her mobile hairdressing business allows Claire Sunderland to work around the demands of two teenagers and a busy home life.

Plus, the mobile service means Claire's clients get their hair done in the comfort of their own home.

"Sometimes it is a challenge to 'do it all' but the great thing about running your own business is the flexibility you can have," she said.

"It doesn't have to be nine to five every day. I can tailor my day around the needs and activities of my family. Family always comes first."

"The biggest challenge is finding time for everyone and everything. There's never enough hours in the day!"

Making her clients feel good about themselves is the most rewarding part of her job said Claire.

"Everyone deserves a little pampering. It's amazing how good a haircut can make you feel."

In line for a little pampering herself this Mother's Day, Claire said she's dreaming of "a yummy cooked breakfast and no housework!"

# Mother's Day

## Sunday, May 9

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# LET'S CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY



## Elizabeth Ward

Elizabeth Ward says despite the demands of running Cape Winds, a successful homewares and giftware shop in San Remo, family always comes first.

She believes teamwork is the key to balancing the demands of the shop with raising her two daughters.

"With the help of my business partner Cheryl Owens, we have created a unique shopping experience," said Elizabeth.

"But if there's an emergency, either one of us covers.

"I try to be organised on the days I have to work, and have dinner prepared.

"The girls help out with cooking, cleaning, feeding the menagerie of animals ... we seem to muddle through."

She said the biggest challenge is being able to switch off and not work from home – and keeping the house clean!

"The biggest reward of having the business is we are two mums who finally made their dreams and aspirations come true," Elizabeth said.



## Tania Huigsloot

Life can be hectic running South Coast Furnishings and South Coast Flooring Xtra, but "juggling the mum thing is a bit easier as the kids are adults now," Tania said.

"Back in 2000 when we purchased the business, it was difficult and I had to rely on good friends and great childcare workers.

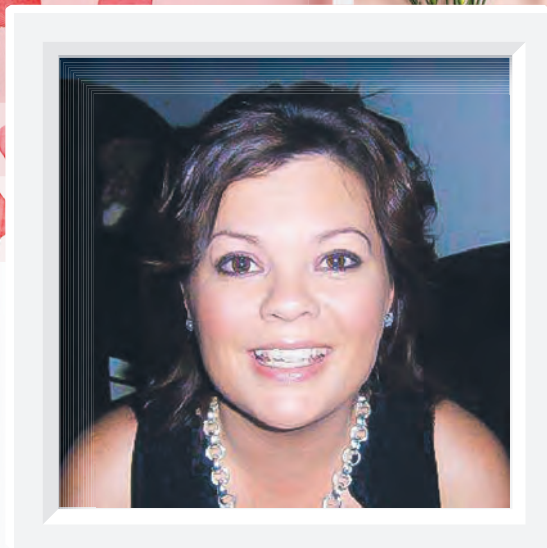
"We couldn't have done it if we weren't a team," she said, of business partner Kerry Scanlan.

"Running a business is definitely a time management challenge. When you're open, you're of service, then there's running the business, managing people and getting things done on time.

"I've learnt that business is fluid – it keeps moving and it's never meant to be 'done' so don't try to finish everything.

"I'm always thankful that we get to connect with clients building upon what's special to them – their homes."

Tania's wish for Mother's Day is time ... "with my special people, maybe watching the sunset together or taking a walk in nature."



## Samantha Parkin

Running the popular Sambreros Tex Mex Cantina certainly puts some spice into Sam's life and she works hard to keep things in balance.

"My children are adults with their own responsibilities, so for me it's about work-life balance and setting time for myself, being present in the moment and learning to delegate when and where possible."

Marketing her business is one of the biggest challenges Sam faces, along with the "uncertainty of what the future holds for small business".

Despite this, she said the rewards of running her own business are great.

"I challenged myself by following a passion that I have had for 20 years and so far, it is working!

"I love that I get to meet a diverse group of people."

Instead of relaxing, she'll be working this Mother's Day, and Sam's keen to share the love with other mums.

"I wish that all the women that visit us on Sunday truly have a wonderful night and allow us to treat them to a delicious meal and complimentary drink."

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# Wonthaggi Arts Centre

May 7 - June 13

LIVE EVENTS

Wonthaggi Secondary College



**HONK! The Musical**

Music by George Fenton Book and Lyrics by Anthony Brown

TICKETS: [www.trybooking.com](http://www.trybooking.com)

Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre

SESSION TIMES: Friday 7th May 2021 7:30pm Saturday 8th May 2021 2:00pm Saturday 8th May 2021 7:30pm

LOCATION: 96 Graham Street, Wonthaggi VIC 3995 Box office P: 5671 2470

## Wonthaggi Secondary College presents, **Honk! The Musical**

Friday, 7 May - 7:30pm

Saturday, 8 May - 2:00pm

Saturday, 8 May - 7:30pm

A gaggle of farmyard characters join the naïve, but loveable, Ugly in his rites-of-passage journey from misrepresented duckling to elegant swan. Peril lies around every corner, usually in the shape of the ravenous Cat, but Ugly receives help from unlikely sources and wins through thanks to his sheer good-naturedness. This musical, comedy is proudly presented by the staff and students of Wonthaggi Secondary College.

Wonthaggi Theatrical Group



**MAMMA MIA!**

28th of May - 13th of June 2021

MUSIC & LYRICS BY BENNY ANDERSSON ROBERT CARLSON

And some songs with Stig Anderson

BOOK BY: CATHERINE JOHNSON

ORIGINAL CONCEPT BY: JIM CRABTREE

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# THE PULSE

Events, entertainment and community news



In a tour of Rhyll's pioneer cottages, organised by the Bass Coast branch of the National Trust, in association with the Phillip Island and District Historical Society, Pamela Rothfield emphasised the ways the current owners are preserving important history while making sympathetic changes to allow comfortable 21st century living – preserving our heritage for future generations.

## Our heritage celebrated

The Australian Heritage Festival came to Phillip Island last week when the Bass Coast branch of the National Trust, in association with the Phillip Island and District Historical Society presented a special bus tour – "Pioneer Places of Rhyll".

The tour was in line with the theme of this year's Australian Heritage Festival "Our Heritage for the Future".

"What a wonderful guide we had in Pamela Rothfield," said Mary-Lu Burt, from the Bass Coast National Trust Committee.

"She explained that it was the first time anyone had put together information on all nine of Rhyll's pioneer cottages

"Her commentary included so many great

stories of the pioneer homeowners, and the connections they shared. She also emphasised the ways in which today's owners are preserving this important history while making sympathetic changes to allow comfortable 21st century living – preserving our heritage for future generations."

A special tour booklet was also put together for the tour.

This is the first time the Bass Coast branch of the National Trust and the Historical Society have worked together formally, and it was a great success.

The day finished with a delicious lunch in the Rhyll Mechanics Institute Hall provided by the local CWA.



Rosie Brewin, leader of the Events Cowes Branch made sure the table settings were just right at the lunch for 40 members of the Bass Coast National Trust Group.

## Serving up some history

The wonderful ladies of the local CWA served up a delicious lunch to members of the National Trust on the weekend.

The CWA Bass Group supported the Bass Coast National Trust Group by providing lunch for 40 guests.

Served in the historic Rhyll Hall, the CWA members made delicious sandwiches and served fresh fruit and homemade cakes and biscuits. The members were from the six branches that form the Bass Group.

CWA has a long history of supporting the community and Group President Sally Matthews said it was a pleasure to be involved with the local members of the National Trust.

If you are wondering what else CWA members do, please contact Sally on 0409 521 825.

"We are so much more than scones, jam and cream, but we are fabulous at that too," she said.

"We are a vibrant philanthropic organisation supporting women, children and families right across Victoria and we would love you to us join us."



Sandwiches, fresh fruit and homemade cakes and biscuits were on the menu, overseen by Penny Wolswinkle (Cowes CWA) and Julie Sanders (President Grantville CWA).

national vietnam veterans museum



**PROUDLY PRESENTS...**

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## Astronomy club flat plans dashed

A call from the Island Astronomy Association (IAA) for a flat pad to be installed at the Lions Park in San Remo has fallen on deaf ears.

The club had asked for a 20 by 20 metre flat gravel section to be installed by council in the north part of the park.

Unfortunately the request was rejected by the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning.

Club Secretary Eden White said installing a flat pad would stop members' telescopes sinking into the sodden grass.

"By having such a strong and firm installation, it would mean all members from IAA would have a firm level base to set up telescopes for a night's viewing," Eden explained.

"Currently the grass is always long and it's difficult to set up very expensive telescopes on uneven ground.

"As a club, our plans would be to invite the general public in and children to view the night's skies and enjoy what is the wonders of our dark skies in Bass Coast."

Eden said San Remo offered a perfect viewing opportunity and the club would continue to lobby for the flat pad.

"We will persist for this decision to be reversed based on public science education for the local community," he said.

"We are also talking to the local Scout groups to come in for astronomy presentations and sky night astronomy."

For further information about IAA, please call Eden White on 0448 637 172.





# Island HOME

— YOUR PHILLIP ISLAND AND SAN REMO PROPERTY GUIDE —

Photo: Ramble & Drift Creative



With excellent access to Smiths Beach, this three-storey house is located in an exclusive location.

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# Looking to buy your first Investment property?

Just like buying your first home, making the decision to purchase an investment property requires a lot of education and decision making, and often the hardest question of all is should I be doing this?

Investing in property is a proven path to long-term wealth, that brings additional costs that need to be considered as part of your decision making.

While there are the obvious costs such as the mortgage, other expenses such as rates, maintenance costs and insurance also need to be included in the budget. Put simply, you need to speak to your lender/mortgage broker and accountant to understand if this is the best path for you to get ahead financially.

Once you have made the decision to invest and you know the figures all work out, you need to find your property, which is a little trickier than looking for your own home.

If you are patient and do your research to understand the right time and the right place to purchase, it will pay off. Speak to your lender/mortgage broker and local agents to get data on the area you are thinking of purchasing in as they can also advise if the property you are considering fits the demographic of renters in the area.

Many people try to save money on managing their investment property themselves, which is often the equivalent of googling your illness for a diagnosis rather than visiting a doctor.

Property Managers are trained



*The decision to purchase an investment property requires a lot of education and decision making. Finding the right property manager is imperative say Stockdale & Leggo.*

and educated to understand legislation, landlord and tenants' rights, how to find the right tenant and how to keep your investment property in order. Finding the right Property

Manager is imperative to a successful investment and will save you time, money, and stress in the long run.

At the end of the day, property is a

long-term investment and one of the biggest you are committing to. You need to find the balance between investing in your future and being able to enjoy your life today.

If you are looking for the right Property Manager for your investment, contact the team at Stockdale & Leggo Phillip Island on 5922 9300. / Sponsored Article /



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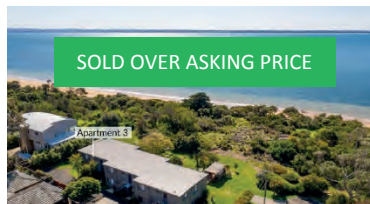
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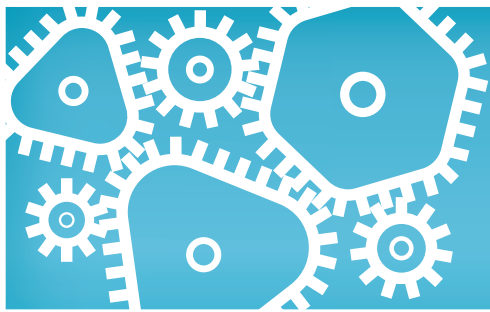
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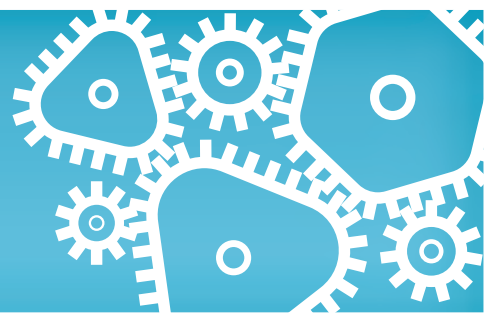
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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



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Email to [advertiser@pisra.com.au](mailto:advertiser@pisra.com.au), or submit online at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)

### Minor works, major impact

A small patch of grass (4m x 2m approx) is taped off on the nature strip of a public thoroughfare in the Shearwater Estate in Cowes. The junction of Shelly Court and Shoalhaven Road is a busy access point for the public to cross on the footpath or on the grass between the barrier poles that block motorised vehicles.

The volume of people who use this access point is large, and their mode of transport is eclectic. Pedestrians, dog walkers, joggers; people on push-bikes, ebikes, scooters, golf carts and disability scooters cross at this junction on a daily basis.

The footpath across this point is short, but has two sharp 90 degree turns. The path is bordered on one side by a high fence which blocks any visibility for the users of the path to see oncoming 'traffic'. The other side of the path is bordered by sturdy poles through which pushbikes etc., can duck through to avoid an apparent collision should the need arise.

However, the Horticulture Department of the Bass Coast Shire has noted that the amount of 'traffic' using the grass to avoid collision and cross the junction safely, is causing the grass to become trampled, indeed "muddy". It is taking action to block people from moving off the path.

This is creating an unsafe junction. A short straight path, to replace the unnecessary sharp turns, is the logical solution for all the people who use this access point.

Madeleine Pitt, Cowes

### The island comes of age

Don't tell your Melbourne friends but one of Victoria's best French restaurants is now on the island.

Anerie Bistro is now open for lunch (and will be welcoming dinner guests in the next week or so).

Having enjoyed a sensational lunch on Sunday, we can assure you this is the best culinary experience the island has had to offer since Poppies (which many long-term Islanders will remember with great fondness).

Our congratulations to Cryss and her team. They seem to have got ev-

everything right. The restaurant is charming, warm and comfortable. The food (and even the coffee) was exceptional.

Marcus and Deb Tarrant, RedRocks

### Please protect the shearwaters

On a short summer break at Phillip Island, I was entranced by the nightly return of the short-tailed shearwaters to their chicks.

Watching them in their tens of thousands stream across Bass Strait, circle overhead and land on the cliffs and dunes was one of the great wildlife experiences of my life.

These birds fly 16,000 kilometres twice a year, from near Alaska to Phillip Island, nesting in the same place – probably with the same partner – before returning to their wintering grounds.

It's a mind-bending feat that's deeply moving, especially when you consider the obstacles to their survival.

Discarded plastic, cars, lights, other bird predators, loss of food sources – shearwaters may be numerous but they are in decline and there are now several documented years when their populations have crashed.

Despite this, the shearwaters are far from well protected on Phillip Island. Some nest near suburban locations where dogs and people approach the burrows every night. Inadequate fencing means dogs can quickly frighten and kill the flightless chicks. Dogs are meant to be on-leash but none were.

As a city-dweller, I appeal to Phillip Islanders to put better fencing in place to protect these birds. And during May, please mind the young birds on your roads. They are learning to fly so they can join the great flocks in the northern Pacific, off Japan, Siberia and Alaska.

They may be the lesser-known of your island's bird attractions, but every summer, short-tailed shearwater breeding is an extraordinary feature of island life, both entertaining and crucial for the survival of the species. Long may it be so.

Debbie Lustig, Elsternwick

# Sustainable waste

Gippsland's councils are working together to improve the way we deal with waste and recycling.

The Gippsland Local Government Waste Forum consists of representatives from each of Gippsland's six shire councils and advises state government agencies on waste and resource recovery matters.

The forum believes valuing waste as a resource and focusing on resource recovery is vital to sustainability and makes sense for Gippsland.

It says these priorities not only bring with them economic, environmental, and social benefits but are key to the region minimising waste to landfill and moving toward a low carbon, circular economy.

Many local residents, facing increasing garbage costs each year, would welcome councils finding ways to work more efficiently and provide a cost-effective waste service.

At its most recent meeting, Latrobe City Councillor Graeme Middlemiss was confirmed as Chair of the Forum and steps into the role at a time when the resource recovery sector is experiencing change, challenge, and great opportunity.

"The Forum plays a critical role in ensuring good debate and consideration of the issues and prospects facing Gippsland's waste management and resource recovery sectors," said Cr Middlemiss.

"Clear and open communication between local government and Resource Recovery Gippsland results in strong advocacy for Gippsland at a state government level."

According to Matthew Peake, Resource Recovery Gippsland executive officer, a key item for examination at the Forum's April meeting was the Gippswide Kerbside project;



Gippsland Local Government Waste Forum Chair Cr Graham Middlemiss (left), former Chair Dick Ellis and incoming Deputy Chair Cr John Tattersson (right).

a collaborative procurement project supported by all six councils.

"With Gippsland projected to be one of the state's fastest growing regions over the next 20-30 years, service innovations and new infrastructure will be required to ensure the waste collection, processing and management needs of the region are met effectively, economically and sustainably.

"We've been working closely with councils to develop a region-wide collaborative approach that will sustainably accommodate this rapid growth and minimise the amount of material destined for landfill.

"Broadly speaking, Gippswide Kerbside will open opportunities

for the waste management and resource recovery sector to leverage market efficiencies, maximise economic development and investment, and provide positive environmental outcomes for the region," Mr Peake said.

"It will be pivotal to the sector's ability to transition to a low carbon, circular economy, an approach that aligns with requirements outlined in the Recycling Victoria Policy."

Cr Middlemiss agreed and added, "The region is well positioned to adapt, collaborate, and innovate in the delivery of quality waste management and resource recovery; the Forum looks forward to being involved in the transition of such an essential service for Gippsland."

## Operation Not Forgotten

The Phillip Island group of Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR) has launched an appeal – Operation Not Forgotten, designed to extend a friendly hand and help create a new life for refugees.

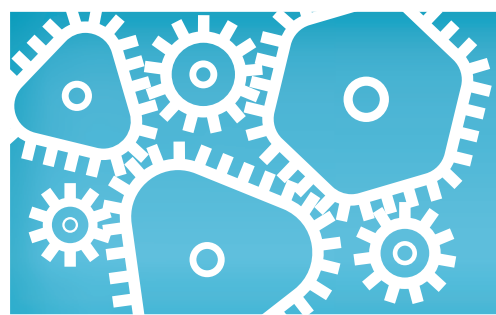
A partnership of Canadian refugee settlement organisations and

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\$18,500 will contribute to the resettlement costs for one year and enable a refugee trapped on Nauru or in PNG for seven or eight years, to resettle in Canada.

Donations to this appeal are very welcome: online RAR Bendigo Bank. BSB 633 000. A/C 123 469140. Email [gabesmahony4@gmail.com](mailto:gabesmahony4@gmail.com) for a Refugee Council of Australia tax receipt.

For further information email Lesley Oakley, [lesley.e.oakley@gmail.com](mailto:lesley.e.oakley@gmail.com).



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THE ADVERTISER, WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021 23



# Around the Bay

WITH JIM'S BAIT AND TACKLE

It's beginning to feel like we are in a time warp, nothing is as it seems!

The weather has been a real kick in the pants. We had a week of storms, easterlies and southerlies that has brought in an absolute haul of seaweed. To be honest if you like the weed fish, head out there is no shortage.

The last week though, a complete 360. Sunny, light winds, perfect (well as close as).

As I write this report there is about five knot northerlies and it 25 degrees!

The bay is swarming with boats like someone just stood on the ant's nest, everyone is moving. Like I said in the last report if you want fish you need to work for them.

Another week of huge tides and low lows sadly hasn't brought with it many fish this week with reports being rather slow.

Again, those pesky weed fish really do discourage people from fishing, a lot of lost gear, breakages, and couple of jammed props really being the common story from this week.

The Calamari has picked up, most land based coming from off the back beach at Woolamai, one of the most underrated beaches on the Island.

Directly out from the carpark you will often see a few people chipping away at the Calamari using either a baited spike or an artificial jig under a float, which is where you need to be.

Sadly, 90 per cent of the bait balls that were keeping the tuna occupied have either been eaten or have moved on with offshore being extremely quiet over the last week. We only had reports of two tuna actually caught.

Although the tuna may have moved on for now, more people are setting up to bottom bash for some flathead, most of which have been

getting their bag in no time. Again not as good a fight as a tuna, and definitely not the same size but they still taste damn good.

That's the thing with fishing, not everyone catches those prized fish every time they drop a line into the water all of the time, not even the guys you see on TV.

It's this thinking that halts individuals' advancements in fishing. If you step outside with this belief than you're not going to enjoy yourself if it takes you more than 30 minutes to catch a bag of whiting so be it. If you went out with the intention of getting your bag as fast as you can, then you were going catching not fishing.

The nice big moons have certainly proven to be a positive in the fight to catch a gummy shark. We have had a lot of schoolies and gummy sharks being caught with quite a few around that 10-20kg mark, which is a positive of things to come.

There is still a lot of undersized fish in-between the keepers.

Snapper, yes snapper.

It appears over the last few weeks a few snapper have moved into the bay, all new season fish around that 60cm to 75cm mark, also another good sign of things to come.

You only need to take a stroll on the water's edge or go for a cruise on the water to truly see how healthy the bay is!

Yes, there is plenty of small fish but as we all know everything has to get big at one point. The water may be weedy but its crystal clear.

Moral of the story – don't get disheartened because a few bad days on the water didn't produce those prized fish. Sometimes a feed is just as important, and honestly you could be sitting here writing this report instead of being out there holding a rod on this glorious day.

Winter is not a time to put away the gear, the best is yet to come!

## Angling fishing competition

The Rhyll-Phillip Island Angling club (RPIAC) held its tenth angling competition on May 1 and 2, to conclude the 2020/2021 season.

Light to gentle winds from the north and bouts of sunshine combined to bring mild autumn weather for the weekend.

Fortunately, Sunday's forecasted rain was delayed and ensured pleasant conditions for the whole weekend. Weigh-in on the final day of the competition was celebrated with a warming combination of barbecued sausages and savoury pastries, followed with an ice cream treat for our younger anglers.

This weekend's post-competition presentation was a special occasion for our Squidgies (anglers aged 9 and under) and Juniors (anglers aged 10 to 16) as their season's participation awards and club champions were announced.

The irony of an adult sharing fishing tips with a youngster and subsequently being out fished is hardly remarkable, however the guidance and time spent together creates lasting bonds and memories.

Indeed, the Squidgies bring great energy and enthusiasm to RPIAC and their experiences ignite an interest in angling for others.

The season's Squidgie competition was dominated by two anglers who taught many of the seniors a lesson too.

Zachary Gomm was announced runner-up in the Squidgie club championship after fishing consistently for the season, often presenting impressive King George whiting and snapper for weigh-in.

Denver Firth was announced Squidgie club champion, defending his title for another year.

Denver continued to impress throughout the season, regularly presenting a bag of multiple and sizeable species for weigh-in.

RPIAC's Junior club championship was also a tale of two keen anglers who persisted and converted time and effort into wellbeing outdoors.

The runner up title was awarded

to Sam Bennett, who continued to develop his skills with a range of techniques. Heath Womersley was announced Junior club champion, adding his name to the honour board for a fourth consecutive year.

Without an adage to describe the relationship between fish activity and a northerly wind, perhaps "Wind from the North, fish come forth" would suffice.

Despite cooler water temperatures a total of 37 fish and two sharks were presented to the weigh-in masters for the weekend, some being very impressive specimens.

These included snapper, King George whiting, leather jacket, flathead, trevally, salmon and a school shark.

The weekend's Squidgie Mixed Bag Points competition saw the tables turned, with the Squidgie club champion, Denver Firth, finishing in second place, catching four eligible species for a total of 65 points.

Zachary Gomm, the new runner up club champion, caught four eligible species worth 75 points, and was delighted with his prize for first place.

RPIAC's Junior competition was another double celebration for Riley Goodwin. Riley weighed-in a monster leather jacket, weighing 1180 grams and a chunky King George whiting worth 1344 points (480 grams) to win the Junior Weight and Junior Points competitions, respectively.

The Senior Heaviest Weight competitions were won by Brendan Garlepp and Carrienne Peatey, who found out where the snapper have been hiding.

Brendan caught a beastly snapper of 5255 grams and Carrienne impressed with her "nearly-as-beastly" snapper weighing 4915 grams.

The Senior Points competitions were won by Chris Leonardos and Deb Orr, who chased and caught impressive King George whiting worth 1540 points (550 grams) and 1204 points (430 grams), respectively.

The Senior Shark competition was claimed by Duncan Firth, weighing in a tidy school shark of 16650 grams.

The Secret Weight prize was awarded to Albert Abram for a 345-



Riley Goodwin claimed victory in the weekend's Junior Weight and Junior Points competitions.



Duncan Firth won the Senior Shark competition with a school shark, weighing 16,650 grams.

gram King George whiting (secret weight 323 grams).

The RPIAC Senior club champions will be announced at the RPIAC Senior presentation night function on May 29.

For further information about the club, events, competitions and rules, please visit [www.rpiac.com](http://www.rpiac.com).



Tate Russell won the Under 18 Boys Longboard event at the Victorian Longboard Titles at Corner Beach.



Andrew Burgan won the Open Men's Longboard event on the weekend.

## Islander's take on the longboard challenge

Phillip Island's Tate Russell, Niamh Moore and Andrew Burgan took out the top spot in their categories at the Victorian Longboard Titles at Corner Beach.

Youngsters Tate and Niamh won the Under 18 Boys and Girls Longboard respectively, with Andrew Burgan winning the Open Men Longboard.

Natalie Van Der Heyden secured second spot in the Over 40 Women's Longboard event, as well as coming in fourth in the Open Women's category.

Fellow islander Jacquie

Chambers came third in the Over 40 Women's Longboards and the Over 40 Women Logger, while Thomas Barrett from Surf Beach took out fourth place in the Under 18 Boys Logger event.

Surfing Victoria described the two-to-three-foot conditions over the weekend as "epic".

The Open Men's and Women's Logger events were won by Ben Considine (Barwon Heads) and Bea Conroy (Point Lonsdale) respectively.

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



Niamh Moore (right) won the Under 18 Girls Longboard, with runner up Anna Thompson (Jan Juc).





Reserves player Zack Wagner takes on a pack of Koo Wee Rup opponents.

# Dogs bite back

From page 28

Phillip Island were combining well as a team and live wire Liam Dayson was providing a headache for the opposition.

Early in the final quarter we had most of the play in our forward line but could not convert.

However, the team responded to opposition pressure and ran out comfortable winners.

Phillip Island: 4.2.26, 6.7.43, 8.11.59, 12.18.90.

Koo Wee Rup: 0.2.2, 1.2.8, 4.4.28, 5.4.34.

Goals: Papas 3, Taylor-Eagles 2, Griffin 2, Taylor, Berry, Grace, Dayson and Penry.

Best Players: Matthews, Carpi, Papas, Dayson, Olarenshaw and Smith.

## Under 16s

Magnificent late autumn weather greeted the under 16 bulldogs as they arrived to take on the Koo Wee Rup Demons.

After a massive four-week training block, the coaching staff were keen to see a sharp effort from the boys and if the start of the game was anything to go by, the coaches weren't going to be disappointed.

From the first bounce the boys ball use in the dewy conditions was excellent, moving the ball cleanly by hand and foot.

With Kohen Beaumont working

strongly in defence the ball was forced and Sonny McMillan centred a ball from near the boundary, where Heath Collihole snapped truly for the bulldogs first goal.

The demons replied quickly, however, and it took some brilliant mid-field work from Ollie Hibbert that led to the bulldog answer not long after through Daniel Caffieri.

Unfortunately, the island defence were caught napping and the demons took full advantage levelling the scores at 2.1 apiece.

Back in the centre Jack Johnston, playing with great determination and ferocity, linked up with Blake Olarenshaw and Blake kicked truly to have the dogs up 3.2 to 2.1 at quarter time.

The second quarter was a real battle. Heath Collihole was busy up forward and Zak Walker after dominating in the middle, floated forward but missed two easy chances.

He wasn't on his own however, as the dogs peppered the goals for no result.

That all changed though when Daniel Caffieri snapped two ripper goals in succession to cap off a quarter totally dominated by the island.

After the long break, the coaches would surely have been impressed the way the island boys took up the start of the second half.

Henry Peppard and James McK-

elvy repelled repeated early Koo Wee Rup attacks.

In the midfield Noah Muller stamped himself into the game, linking up with the silky-smooth Blake Olarenshaw who passed beautifully to Sonny Mattock, who goaled. down back again. Jack Huther started getting involved, while in the midfield Sonny Merryfull began having an impact leading to back-to-back goals to Heath and Alex.

Back in the centre, Noah Muller had the ball on a string and with the Koo Wee Rup defence under siege, Jack Johnston capped off a great quarter with a terrific goal.

In the last quarter the under 16 bulldogs were relentless!

Incredible pressure, no space allowed to the opposition at all.

It was a genuine team effort in the end and apart from being a little wasteful in front of goal it was a dominant team-oriented display by the young bulldogs.

Phillip Island: 3.2.20, 5.8.38, 9.9.63, 12.16.88.

Koo Wee Rup: 2.1.13, 2.1.13, 2.4.16, 2.4.16.

Goals: Collihole 2, Caffieri 2, Mattock 2, McMillan 2, Johnston, Barbati, Olarenshaw and Cashman.

Best Players: Olarenshaw, McMillan, Merryfull, Caffieri, Cashman and Mattock.

For more photos of the weekend games, visit [www.pisra.com.au](http://www.pisra.com.au)



Cowes primary school children and Phillip Island Bowls club supporters at the State Final at Sunshine Bowls Club last week.

## Phillip Island Lawn bowls

Well, the Autumn Carnival is now behind us and a full report will be in next week's paper, but it must be said that it was a magnificent week of bowls with the weather being absolutely perfect.

The organisers, so many of them, are to be congratulated on their efforts.

After a season of bowls, students of Cowes Primary School qualified to play in the state final on Wednesday at Sunshine Bowls club.

Despite a very early start, a three and a half hour bus trip via the Monash saw the team, coaches and supporters arrive 30 minutes after start time.

With no time for a stretch or a roll up they commenced their first game against the eventual winners of their section, only to go down by one shot.

The second game was a win by one shot and a win in game three by three shots saw them finish in third position in their section and fifth overall.

What a fabulous effort by the team as well as rewarding for their coaches John Newcombe, Judy Christie, Dorothy and Kevin Wagner, Kevin Brown, Phil Martin and Mike Smith.

It was pleasing to see some par-

ents make the trip to offer support to the group and comments from others reflected very well on the students regarding their sportsmanship, talent and character.

It is also pleasing to know that six of the team plan to continue their journey with Phillip Island Bowls club, and some of the parents have joined the club as well.

Congratulations to everyone involved and the club looks forward to continuing the relationship with our local schools.

The club recently received a lovely letter of thanks from Debbie Barber, wife of club member Steve, who said the family would like to gratefully acknowledge and thank the club for their extremely generous cheque for \$1258.

The funds will be used towards a purpose-built unit to enable Steve to come home from rehab following surgery which now sees him confined to a wheelchair.

These funds were generated as a direct result of the money raised at the recent corporate bowls final night.

It must be said that the community including bowls club members, corporate bowlers, sponsors and supporters were extremely generous. Thank you all.



Midweek bowl winners at Lang Lang bowls club were David Talbot (3), Elaine Fitt (L), Wendy Pownall (S) and Bill Williams (2).

## Phillip Islands Under 17s off to a great start!

The Phillip Island Breakers Under 17's travelled to Drouin on Sunday, for their first game of the season.

With just enough players to field the pitch (11), we knew it was going to be a hard day and it wasn't long before Drouin's Finlay Pinkster found the net at the five-minute mark.

Drouin seemed to be full of run, however to the Island's credit our heads didn't drop, and we got the next four goals.

The main break saw some changes with Liam Fuery coming out of goals and Cadel Tsioulakis putting on the gloves.

The second half Phillip Island were a lot more disciplined, with precise passing and run and carry. With the defence, Midfield and forwards all linking up well together, we managed to put the ball into the net seven more times.

Final score Phillip Island 11 to Drouin 1.

Goal scorers: Hunter Vanderzwet and Jake Munday 3, Adam Dean



Phillip Island's U17 soccer team had a great win for the first game of the season against Drouin. Back row from left to right: Abi McCulloch, Rory Fuery, Jake Munday, Hunter Vanderzwet, Jack Middleton, Liam Fuery and Adam Dean. Front row left to right, Coco Stafford, Oscar Healey, Cadel Tsioulakis and Matt Thornborrow.

and Matt Thornborrow 2, and Liam Fuery 1.

All 11 players worked so hard with no subs to rest anyone and

that's why all players were awarded the best on ground.

Next week we take on Inverloch. Go Breakers.

## Midweek bowls

South West Gippsland Midweek bowls winners were Wendy Pownall, David Talbot, Bill Williams and Elaine Fitt.

Runners up were Tony Heppleston, Sue Wood and Graham Turner.

One Game winners were Peter McWilliams, Laurie Bell and Peter Thorley.

Thursday Midweek bowls was played at Lang Lang with 26 happy bowlers, the last of our summer competition in near perfect conditions.

The green was well maintained which made for a great day's bowling.

As usual laughter could be heard across the rinks where there were some fierce battles for the number one spot as always.

It was done in a friendly manner.

The Royal Children's Hospital donation tin did well with three wrong Bias.

We would like to thank Alan Thomas who is always there to

serve us in the bar and to lend a helping hand wherever its needed. He is a great supporter of midweek.

Thank you to the clubs who support midweek bowls and our club members who faithfully come week after week to support us. It's a great group of people who have built up friendships over the many year's midweek bowls has been running.

Once again high scores were recorded - 33 points for the winners, 32 points for the runners up and 23 points for the one game winners.

Thank you to our members who support the free raffle table with their goods.

Next week midweek will be played at Corinella, please refer to your winter programs.

It will be 10.30am at the venue for an 11am start. BYO lunch, dress Mufti, two games of twelve ends. Everyone welcome.

For more information or to register please contact Peter McWilliams on 5678 5974.

Let's have a great a winter season and make lots of new friends.

See You on The Green.



# Island netballers takes on Koo Wee Rup

## Under 11s

The sun came out for a competitive game again Koo Wee Rup.

Phillip Island did a great job defending but unfortunately Koo Wee Rup were tough competitors and Phillip Island couldn't get the win.

Maisie van der Walt and Verity Rachelle won awards for their performance on the day.

## Under 13s

It was back and forth in the first quarter with Koo Wee Rup, scoring the first goal after two minutes.

Then with Phillip Island bringing the ball right back with the next centre and another two quick goals after good work out of the centre.

At the end of the quarter Koo Wee Rup lead one goal. The girls continued to challenge their opponents.

At the beginning of the third quarter Koo Wee Rup shooting so accurately, they scored the first six goals. The Island girls scored the next two after that, with a massive effort out of the centre.

The three-quarter time score was 23 to 8 – Koo Wee Rup's way.

The girls played so well and challenged their opponents all day, there were plenty of positives to take away and things to work on as a team.

Final score: Koo Wee Rup 33 V Phillip Island 9

Best on: Pepper Bourke and Jya Donohue.

## Under 15s

The sun was shining on Saturday and so were the Phillip Island 15s netball girls.

The first quarter started as a tight tussle, but the Island girls quickly found their game, forging a five-goal lead at quarter time.

In the second quarter, defenders Ruby and Sienna tightened the screws, and the magnificent mid court of Maya, Isla and Hazel moved the ball with pace and precision.

Attackers Lily and Isabella worked harmoniously together and capitalised to grow Island's lead to 21 to 12 at half time.

In the third and fourth quarters, Meika expertly read the play and was able to feed the ball into goal and add to the scoreboard herself, while Paige combined her mid court and defensive skills to help achieve another successful outcome.

Congratulations to the girls on their 17-point win and thank you to Vicki for stepping in to coach the girls for the day.

Final score: Phillip Island 39 V Koo Wee Rup 22.

Best on: Isabella Santorini and Hazel Burke.

## Under 17s

U17 had another nail biter fantastic game and really continued to work hard as a team. It was tight for the entire game with only a few goals in it.

At three quarter time the girls had a three-point lead, but Koo Wee Rup picked up their intensity in the last.

The girls tried hard to maintain their lead but a few minor plays didn't go their way and in the end, they lost by two.

A really great competitive game to watch. Well done girls.

Best on: Zoe O'Garey and Makayla Morris.

## D Grade

D grade started well with strong defence across the court.

With some big names out, the team had to work hard with some new combinations on the court.

The game was hard fought from start to finish and the final score didn't reflect how close the competition was.

Best on: Jade Anderson for her flying intercepts and great pressure, and Ruby Bond for amazing defence in the ring.

## C Grade

After some wise and inspirational words from the coaches and captain (Steph Krainer), the C grade girls came out strong and really showed Koo Wee Rup that they could match it with the best of them.



U11s netballers played a great team game against Koo Wee Rup on Saturday.

The sun was out in force and the girls suffered an early injury with Chloe Moxey subbed out in the first quarter.

The defensive duo Tori Legg and Bella Ross stepped up to the challenge causing havoc with intense pressure on the ball, shutting down movement in the goal circle and taking advantage of every rebound that enabled the team extra attempts at goal.

Alice Chaston, Brooke Blundy, and Steph Krainer provided the speed and dominance through the mid court, feeding fast and accurately into the goalers Steph James and Hayley Moxey.

At half time they were seven goals up and feeling the heat, but with some position movements from Koo Wee Rup they saw some young, fresh legs take the court and some early consecutive goals in the third from Koo Wee Rup.

The scores aligned, and the crowd had a tough game on their hands.

Hayley Moxey and Steph James battled hard against the experienced defenders with many shoots put up,

but accuracy let them down in the second half and rebounding wasn't an option with the height from the opposition dominating under the goals.

With minutes remaining Steph Krainer, Chloe Kalis and Hayley Moxey lead an intense come back with several intercepts and turnovers, however the clock beat us in the end, falling two goals short.

These girls are determined and hungry for a win and with every game they just keep getting better.

Keep showing your support for these talented ladies lead by Jodie Ross, Jules Morris and Pete Chaston ... they are coming!

Final score: Koo Wee Rup 20 V Phillip Island 18.

Best on: Hayley Moxey and Tori Legg.

## B Grade

This was one of those contests where both team's line-up and went toe to toe for the entire 60 minutes.

Despite the heat, B grade dominated through the mid court which provided opportunities for the goals to

work their magic. With hands over everything and flying intercepts through the defence, the girls managed to turn over three centre passes which built up the team momentum.

Koo Wee Rup put up a hard fight but the grit from the Phillip Island bulldogs B grade prevailed.

A special thank you to the juniors Lexi Walton and Sophie Gysberts, who were thrown in the deep end with minutes remaining in the game.

Sophie Gysberts debut in her first senior game and created two turnovers.

Final score: Phillip Island 49 V Koo Wee Rup 37.

Best on: Maddy Taylor and Abbie McCaughan.

## A Grade

Another hard task for A grade this week with injuries resulting in another new line up and a debut A grade game for Kylie Hammond.

The Island started off sluggishly, with Koo Wee Rup coming out and stamping their authority in the first half. Debutante Kylie was consistent with her shooting and took up most of the shots for the team.

Hayley Roberts in C was a steady target, working hard defensively and getting lots of ball onto the circle.

Defensively Lucy and Anthea were solid and gained possession, but it was the inability to convert from turnovers which kept the team down at half time.

Changes were made at 3/4 time with some impact, but the last quarter was promising as the girls fought back.

Young gun Ella Duggan was moved into GA and had immediate impact shooting 3/3 early in the quarter.

The intensity and urgency to move the ball in attack lifted the team, but they were unfortunately unable to put enough score board pressure on to secure the win.

Final score: Koo Wee Rup 46 V Phillip Island 40.

Best on: Hayley Roberts and Lucy Monahan.

# No Superbikes for the island in 2021

In another blow to Phillip Island's tourism industry, the MOTUL FIM Superbike World Championships won't be returning to the island this year.

Announcing the 2021 calendar for the Superbikes, FIM Supersport and Supersport 300 World Championships, FIM and DORMA WSBK Organisation confirmed that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it's been agreed there will be no Australian round on the 2021 calendar.

The plan is to return to the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit with the first event of the 2022 Championship.

This year's calendar is due to start on May 21 in Spain, with events being held in Portugal, Italy, UK, Netherlands, Czech Republic, France, Argentina and Indonesia.

The dates, events and attendance of spectators are subject to the pandemic situation and the approval of the relevant governments and authorities.

David Bennett, Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit General Manager said: "Phillip Island has hosted more



Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no Australian round of the 2021 Superbikes calendar. The plan is to return to the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit with the first event of the 2022 Championship.

World Superbike events than any other circuit in the world. We agree that now is the time to focus our efforts on the official test and season opening round in 2022."

Mr Bennett said the decision not to run a round in 2021 will not adversely

impact the continuation of the event.

"The event is secured for the Phillip Island Circuit until 2027."

The latest calendar is available at [www.fim-moto.com/en/news/news-detail/article/worldsbk-provisional-calendar-update](http://www.fim-moto.com/en/news/news-detail/article/worldsbk-provisional-calendar-update)

# Phillip Island golf

Tuesday, April 28, Men's Stableford: Alan Schache H/c (6) won with 38 points from Neil Williams H/c (18) 37 points on countback from James Fowler and Ron Davies.

NTP: 5th James Fowler, 7th Howard Black, 10th Alan Schache and 17th Ron Davies.

Nine Hole competition winner was David Schofield H/c (21) with 19 points from Laurie Petrusch H/c (23) 18 points.

Wednesday, April 29, Ladies Stableford: Jill Tyrrell H/c (28) was the winner with 37 points from Barb Hayden H/c (32) 36 points, Janice Baker H/c (32) was third with 35 points.

NTP: 5th Di Ray, 7th Glenda Longshaw, 10th Zoe Frost, 17th Zoe Frost and 12th Jill Tyrell.

Nine-hole competition winner was Shannon Trumper H/c (24) with 15 points from Desley Taylor H/c (37) 14 points.

Thursday, April 30, Open Stableford: Art Lyons H/c (26) had a good score of 40 points to win from Fred Arden H/c (20) 37 points on count-

back from Matt Brown H/c (8).

NTP: 5th Lawrie Downward, 7th David Henstridge, 10th Rod Ward and 17th Kristian Phillips.

Open Nine-hole competition winner was Peter Matthews H/c (31) with a great score of 23 points from John Swarbrick H/c (39) 20 points on countback from Charles Mizzi H/c (30).

Saturday, May 1, Men's Stableford: A Grade: Ray Smith H/c (7) 36 points from Ray Pobjoy H/c (10) 35 points c/back.

B Grade: Rob Sparkman H/c (13) 39 points from Mario Amato H/c (18) 37 points.

C Grade: Terry McGregor H/c (20) 40 points on countback from Karl Eise H/c (20).

NTP: 5th Trevor Thornhill, 7th Reece Jamieson, 10th Max Disher and 17th Trevor Hamilton.

Next week's event is J. Niven 4BBB Stroke round 1:

Ladies Stableford: Ira Septiana H/c (32) won with 37 points from Janice Baker H/c (32) 36 points.

NTP: 5th Julie Christie, 7th Sue Brown, 10th Julie Christie and 17th Tracey Cuff.

Open Nine-hole winner was Lyn Ward with 19 points.

# TIDE GUIDE

Tidal predictions for Stony Point, Cowes -0.09 Newhaven -0.31   HIGH TIDE IS MARKED IN BLACK						
WED 5 MAY	THU 6 MAY	FRI 7 MAY	SAT 8 MAY	SUN 9 MAY	MON 10 MAY	TUE 11 MAY
LOW 12:25 am 0.99 m	LOW 1:11 am 1.04 m	LOW 2:01 am 1.09 m	LOW 2:59 am 1.10 m	LOW 4:01 am 1.07 m	LOW 5:04 am 1.00 m	HIGH 12:01 am 2.47 m
HIGH 6:35 am 2.63 m	HIGH 7:29 am 2.51 m	HIGH 8:30 am 2.40 m	HIGH 9:41 am 2.36 m	HIGH 10:57 am 2.40 m	HIGH 12:07 pm 2.52 m	LOW 6:00 am 0.89 m
LOW 12:29 pm 0.60 m	LOW 1:15 pm 0.81 m	LOW 2:09 pm 1.01 m	LOW 3:14 pm 1.18 m	LOW 4:29 pm 1.27 m	LOW 5:42 pm 1.29 m	HIGH 1:05 pm 2.69 m
HIGH 7:34 pm 2.87 m	HIGH 8:18 pm 2.72 m	HIGH 9:07 pm 2.60 m	HIGH 10:02 pm 2.51 m	HIGH 11:03 pm 2.47 m		LOW 6:45 pm 1.26 m

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# Perfect conditions for round two of Blue junior footy

**U10 Blue**  
A great team effort from the Under 10 Blues this week.

A rousing speech by this week's captain, Angus Kennedy, put the Blues in good spirits for the game.

It was a tough game against the much bigger Inverloch side, with the backline under constant fire.

Flynn managed to take down one of the biggest members of the Inverloch side in an epic David and Goliath style contest.

The Blues worked hard for all four quarters, managing to nab a couple of goals in the first and fourth quarters (Archie and Jax).

A special mention to this week's award winners for their outstanding efforts: Zac, Ryder V, Seb and Kai S.

**U12 Blue**

While the day initially promised frosty conditions for the match, the sudden (but much welcomed) arrival of the sun chased away the cold with such speed that it left the usually shivering Island bunch with mild confoundment.

Inverloch hosted the Phillip Island blue team, giving them a home ground advantage.

Going by the hum of the crowd pre-bounce, both sides were pumped and anticipating a spectacle.

The first term saw Tilley, Brinkley, Alex and Heater in the centre, helping to spur the blue team into action.

With superior gameplay, forward height advantage and precise goal kicking, Inverloch proved too strong in the second and third quarters and proceeded to take the lead, sending the doggies into minor sorrow.

In the final term, the Bulldogs managed to muster some newfound confidence, with Charlie Fischer, Heater, Harry Bentley and Jacob Solohub managing some sneaky goals to quickly push the team into a motivated state.



U14 Blue captain Yianni Caffieri controls the play against Inverloch on Sunday's game played at Inverloch ground.

Gemma and Cashy soon orchestrated a number of tight manoeuvres to duck and weave around their opponents, sending the already animated crowd into overdrive.

With this concerted team effort, the game came to a close and the Island blue team secured their win against Inverloch in an exhilarating nail biter.

**U14 Blue**

The team was met with perfect conditions at Inverloch for round two on Sunday.

After a win in round 1 against PI Red, the team knew they couldn't afford to be overconfident against the strong Inverloch-Kongwak (IK) side and listened intently as coach Steve Duggan set out the game plan.

At first bounce the island took control of the ball and moved it forward against strong defence. IK held up against PI and it wasn't until seven minutes in that Jasper Cashman put the first score on the board with a quick right snap for goal.

The second quarter saw IK step up their pressure by flooding their back line, PI made good play forward through the corridor, with Chacha Fischer running onto the ball and making clever play to his teammates.

Neither team were showing signs of tiring at three quarter time and PI were kicking into an increasingly gusty wind and a massive wall of IK defenders.

Ryder Evans came out focused on the ball, tackling with all he had, assisting to keep the ball in

the PI forward line.

Yianni Caffieri was able to slip past for a successful shot at goal.

With IK scoreless PI knew they would be out to play hard in the fourth term.

IK came out strong and were able to push through to score a behind.

Sam Schuller took on the coach's advice of celebrating the pressure and supported the forward line enabling three goals.

At the final siren PI Blue 7-5 (47) to IK 0-1 (1).

Well done PI Blue and thanks to all supporters.

Goal scorers. Jasper Cashman (3), Joel Robinson (3) and Yianni Caffieri (1).

For more photos of the weekend games, visit [www.pisra.com.au](http://www.pisra.com.au)

# Phillip Island Red juniors take on Leongatha

**U10 Red**

What a glorious morning to rock up to the kennel with the sun streaming over our immaculate ground, hosting to Leongatha. (If only all Sunday mornings were like this!).

It was the first time PI Red had been able to warm up in the home change rooms and they certainly hit the ground hot.

Led out by the Captain for the week Kolby Carton, the doggies produced a wall of pressure. The ball wasn't even close to getting into Leongathas forward with Dustin "Dusty" Naismith sticking tackles and great clearing kicks.

Cohen Maynard showed immense courage with his head over the footy and under packs whilst big sauce Ziggy Wagner kicked his first goal.

The second quarter produced some quality teamwork with lots of link up handballs with Ethan Hilton and Locky Newstead showing real pace and skill.

The third quarter had Big Baxter Defazio starting in ruck who dominated with lots of taps to advantage and goal assists to his teammates.

The last quarter Jarrah "Jaz" Rutherford starred up forward, with multiple goals after getting great delivery from all teammates.

It was very pleasing to see the 16 kids who helped fill in for Le-



U14s Red captain Charlie O'Garey assisted by Toby Davis in Sunday's game against Leongatha Green on Sunday.

ongatha did so with no issues.

Also shout out to Jamie Naismith who field umpired the whole game solo!

Congrats to this week's award winners Baxter DeFazio, Cohen Maynard, Locky Newstead and Jarrah Rutherford.

Great game Pups!

**U12 Red**

A beautiful morning in Cowes saw Phillip Island Red take on Leongatha.

An opening goal in the first 90 seconds from Felix Bathgate gave us confidence to get up and go.

We showed great pressure all round throughout the quarter.

Another two goals from Caleb Cantwell and Lewis DeFazio, with tough tackling from Sam O'Garey, gave us a good first quarter lead.

Duke Lawrence took a great mark with Zack Hughes clearing the ball from a pack to open up the game. A goal on the siren from Jesse Machetti saw us behind one goal at half time.

The boys came back from half time break ready for a win, with Jackson Allan giving us a clean pick up and kick on the opposite

foot to Flynn Denge who scored a goal keeping us in the game with a two-point lead to Leongatha at three quarter time.

Ollie Parsons started off the fourth quarter with some ruck clearances, Bryce Lawrence was tough around the ball.

We had Angus Mclure kick two exciting goals, great tackling from Archer Bailey. Our last goal was from Sam O'Garey cementing our first win for the season 55-44.

Well done team!

**U14 Red**

It was cracking warm day for Round 2, when Phillip Island Bulldogs U14 Reds welcomed Leongatha Green at home for the first time.

Our boys were ready to go and kept a blistering pace from start to end.

Notable moments were ball movements, holding position, team work all around, sportsmanship towards both sides and talking to each other.

Incredible scoreboard pressure saw us take a very comfortable win, 61 to 1.

Well done Bulldogs on a classy game!

Best mentions to George McCausland, Seth McBean, Cooper Beaton and Billy Caldwell.

For more photos of the weekend games, visit [www.pisra.com.au](http://www.pisra.com.au).

## THIS WEEKEND DRAWS

### WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION Round 5, Saturday 8th May

Phillip Island vs Bunyip  
Kilcunder Bass vs Inverloch-Kongwak

### SOUTHERN GIPPSLAND JUNIOR FOOTBALL COMPETITION Round 3, Sunday 9th May

Phillip Island Blue vs Kilcunder Bass  
Inverloch-Kongwak vs Phillip Island Red

### YOUTH GIRLS FOOTBALL COMPETITION Round 2, Sunday 9th May

Drouin vs Phillip Island

## WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION LADDERS

### SENIOR FOOTBALL

	W	L	%	PTS
Phillip Island	3	1	263.24	12
Inverloch-Kongwak	3	1	163.36	12
Tooradin-Dalmore	3	1	160.96	12
Garfield	3	1	121.83	12
Nar Nar Goon	3	1	113.73	12
Cora Lynn	3	1	96.04	12
Warragul Industrials	2	2	135.71	8
Bunyip	2	2	123.08	8
Dalyston	1	3	70.99	4
Kilcunda Bass	1	3	59.06	4
Korumburra-Bena	0	4	43.32	0
Koo Wee Rup	0	4	31.29	0

### RESERVES FOOTBALL

	W	L	%	PTS
Bunyip	4	0	559.09	16
Warragul Industrials	4	0	196.40	16
Tooradin-Dalmore	3	1	298.13	12
Cora Lynn	2	1	196.59	8
Inverloch-Kongwak	2	2	173.81	8
Phillip Island	2	2	98.06	8
Nar Nar Goon	2	2	85.28	8
Koo Wee Rup	2	2	62.82	8
Kilcunda Bass	1	3	55.00	4
Korumburra-Bena	1	3	54.38	4
Garfield	0	3	36.12	0
Dalyston	0	4	14.25	0

### THIRDS FOOTBALL

	W	L	%	% WON
Inverloch-Kongwak	3	0	1127.27	100.00
Garfield	3	0	260.29	100.00
Phillip Island	3	1	313.22	75.00
Korumburra-Bena	2	1	388.06	66.67
Nar Nar Goon	2	2	97.41	50.00
Bunyip	2	2	92.86	50.00
Kilcunda Bass	1	1	38.01	50.00
Cora Lynn	1	3	30.18	25.00
Koo Wee Rup	0	3	41.42	0.00
Dalyston	0	4	11.48	0.00
Warragul Industrials	0	0	0.00	0.00
Tooradin-Dalmore	0	0	0.00	0.00

### FOURTHS FOOTBALL

	W	L	%	% WON
Tooradin-Dalmore	3	0	800.00	100.00
Phillip Island	3	1	225.00	75.00
Cora Lynn	3	1	206.84	75.00
Inverloch-Kongwak	3	1	171.89	75.00
Garfield	2	1	271.64	66.67
Bunyip	2	2	88.08	50.00
Nar Nar Goon	2	2	60.71	50.00
Kilcunda Bass	1	2	69.92	33.33
Korumburra-Bena	1	2	42.01	33.33
Dalyston	0	4	22.65	0.00
Koo Wee Rup	0	4	17.14	0.00
Warragul Industrials	0	0	0.00	0.00

### NETBALL

A- GRADE	P	%	C- GRADE	Pts	%
Dalyston	4	158.18	Warragul Indu	16	246.67
Bunyip	4	223.53	I-Kongwak	14	114.02
Kor- Bena	4	179.65	Bunyip	12	159.38
Tooradin-Dal	3	157.14	Nar Nar Goon	12	157.84
Cora Lynn	4	95.30	Dalyston	12	148.09
Nar Nar Goon	4	68.24	Cora Lynn	12	145.21
Warragul Ind	3	130.25	Tooradin-Dal	10	150.00
Phillip Island	3	109.43	Phillip Island	4	128.89
Koo Wee Rup	4	65.07	Koo Wee Rup	4	71.74
I-Kongwak	4	55.42	Kor-Bena	0	73.57
Kilcunda Bass	1	0.00	Garfield	0	28.91
Garfield	4	37.66	Kilcunda Bass	0	22.35
B- GRADE	Pts	%	17 & UNDER	Pts	%
Phillip Island	16	229.25	KOR-Bena	16	140.86
Tooradin-Dal	16	135.76	Warragul Ind	12	276.19
Bunyip	12	151.58	I-Kongwak	12	165.75
Warragul Indu	12	147.29	Koo Wee Rup	12	161.63
I-Kongwak	12	107.23	Phillip Island	12	151.61
Kor- Bena	8	121.05	Cora Lynn	8	155.07
Dalyston	8	104.94	Dalyston	8	136.63
Cora Lynn	6	82.22	Bunyip	8	86.78
Garfield	4	91.72	Nar Nar Goon	4	115.60
Koo Wee Rup	2	76.54	Tooradin-Dal	4	66.89
Kilcunda Bass	0	44.62	Kilcunda Bass	0	33.80
Nar Nar Goon	0	43.54	Garfield	0	9.80





Seniors – Hayden Bruce, Eli Richards and Jesse Patullo, help lead their team to a convincing win against Koo Wee Rup. For more photos of the weekend games, visit [www.pisra.com.au](http://www.pisra.com.au).

# Dogs bite back

## Seniors

Stinging from their first loss since around the time stops were nailed in, the Island senior team ventured away to Koo Wee Rup eager to prove it was not going to become a habit.

A magnificent warm day and perfect ground was a plus.

Major building work made the temporary change rooms look a bit like the Gilligan's Island set but all in the name of progress.

The first quarter commenced evenly, and the initial indication was this was going to be a tight struggle.

A couple of majors to the dogs had them pinching a 15-2 lead mid-term but a gimme to the opposition courtesy of a 50m penalty brought the home team within reach at 15-9.

This seemed to spark the Island who then dropped the hammer and ran amok.

Bruce, Tomada, Pederson and Youle were doing as they liked.

Max Walton was showing his first senior game was going to be a ripper with his runoff half back and his Gippy Power teammate Mitch Moschetti was also getting his hand on plenty through midfield.

After quarter time the Bulldogs settled right into it.

Jordy Patullo's return was gaining some traction as was the input of his brother Jason, playing his first senior game for the Island.

Not only are they so similar in description that they look like

they were cut from the same biscuit cutter, they both bear the same first initial so good luck getting the goal kickers accurate!

Regardless, they were both causing the opposition headaches.

At half time the dogs way in control leading 99-15.

More of the same in the second half. The mid-field were doing as they liked and the forwards ruffling the ball there was so much forward entry.

Tomada and Walton were getting into it, attacking from half back in such a dominant display the remaining defenders could have held a chess tournament in the opposition goal square.

Redders finally opened his 2021 account.

The Wizz Richards was rueing a few missed shots and came to the bench seeking out goal kicking tipping tips. A short hypnotherapy session later and he returned to the field and hit a major immediately.

The J's (Patullos brothers) were starting to find each other like the Krakouer brothers in the 80s.

The trend continued right to the end with the dogs surging to a huge win.

In fairness to Koo Wee Rup, they appear to be rebuilding their stocks and while competing with energy, they were completely overwhelmed in the end.

Phillip Island: 5.5.35, 14.15.99, 20.18.138, 28.23.191.

Koo Wee Rup: 2.3.15, 2.3.15, 3.3.21, 3.3.21.

Goals: Pedersen 5, Blake 4, Vernon 4, Taylor 3, Patullo 2, Bruce 2, and singles to Officer, Redmond, Moschetti, Anderson, Jessie Patullo, Richards.

Best Players: Pederson, Moschetti, Walton, Bruce, Tomada and Jessie Patullo.

## Reserves

The reserves headed to Koo Wee Rup full of pep after bouncing back to the winners stall last week hoping to get a bit of consistency into their performance.

Easy to say but much harder to implement it would appear.

Starting into a reasonably stiff breeze the Island did not exactly jump straight into action.

Koo Wee Rup were able to put three majors on the board quickly – one being an inspiring long bomb from long range and the home team was looking like they were going to run away with it.

Dale Larkin got on the end of one from Big Henry Shawcross who was trying his heart out, to peg one back but this was met with a quick reply from KWR who were certainly looking a bit more vibrant than our boys.

Koo Wee Rup went to the quarter time break leading 43 – 6.

The second quarter came and went and the hope of a with breeze recovery did not eventuate.

A more even performance across the board, but the Demons went into the main break leading 59-14.

As much as they tried to get back into the game, Koo Wee Rup

were all over our boys and continued their way.

Henry Shawcross tried hard all day to stand out for the dogs.

Kirby Fuller continues to progress, and Max Mattock's return was a bit rusty but showed he is only going to get better.

Koo Wee Rup too good running out comfortable winners.

Koo Wee Rup: 7.1.43, 9.5.59, 9.6.60, 10.8.68.

Phillip Island: 1.0.6, 2.2.14, 5.3.33, 5.5.35.

Goal: Larkin 2, Simpson, Cleeland, Cook.

Best Players: Shawcross, Fuller, McLachlan, Mattock, Cook and McRae.

## Under 18s

On a day perfect for football, the Under18s opened the first quarter in fine style with Kyle Griffin posting our first major after some great team play.

Our backline defended strongly and pushed back any opposition attack. It was more of the same in the second quarter with Phillip Island combining well and attacking the goals, but inaccurate kicking negated our good forward play.

Leon Marshall was unstoppable in the midfield and led many Bulldogs attack.

It was clear that Koo Wee Rup approached the third quarter with renewed energy, however, the Bulldogs responded to the challenge through the good play of Coby Olarenshaw and Max Carpi.

*Continued page 25*

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AND STAFF**

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