

PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO

ADVERTISER

YOUR COMMUNITY VOICE!

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

\$1.80 Incl. GST



***Berninneit –
a new age in
island arts***

Come gather together

Berninneit is set to become a beacon of art, culture, and community engagement.

This new arts and cultural centre is a significant initiative developed and built by Bass Coast Shire Council, with additional funding from both the state and federal governments. This Passivhaus designed building will not only stand as a testament to our commitment to sustainability but will also serve as a vibrant hub for artistic expression and cultural celebration.

I'd like to especially thank the architects, builders, council staff and other staff for delivering this massive project in a time where resources, materials and labour were highly constrained – quite the feat!

We look forward to welcoming both locals and visitors to enjoy this masterpiece which houses a theatre, exhibition space, library, gallery, museum, community function rooms, and offices as well as providing a diverse array of spaces to cultivate creativity and bring our community together.

Berninneit is an absolute gamechanger in the visitor economy strategy. It's been built around the existing trees to ensure environmental protection and it will be the jewel in the crown of hospitality and arts industry in Phillip Island and Bass Coast.

The launch program for this cultural haven is now being unveiled – promising a week-

long celebration of free and low-cost family-friendly community events.

The construction of this centre has already generated 99 jobs and will offer approximately 30 ongoing jobs to our community.

Moreover, it is estimated that the centre will contribute around \$76.4 million in economic benefits over the next five decades, reinforcing its significance to our local economy.

A name is the soul of any space – and Berninneit (pronounced burn-eh-neet) which means “gather together” reflects our dedication to inclusivity and unity.

Berninneit will be a dynamic and interactive destination, bridging our past with our future. It will embody the shared aspirations of our community, drawing in visitors and showcasing our history and culture.

This living cultural space will provide world-class, diverse programs enriched with local art and performance, expanding and diversifying existing community programs and services.

I look forward to welcoming you all to this incredible space, which is poised to become a source of civic pride, a place to foster creativity, and a testament to the strength of our community.

With warm regards,
Cr. Michael Whelan
Mayor, Bass Coast Shire Council



Beethoven comes to Berninneit

On Saturday November 4, the Inventi Ensemble brings a world-class musical performance to the brand-new venue.

Step into an enchanted forest with this seven-piece ensemble, who will perform a new arrangement of Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony.

One of the most iconic orchestral works of all time, you will feel the storms, thunder and lush forests in this outstanding performance.

The program includes Beethoven – Symphony No. 6 'Pastorale', Debussy – Prelude to the afternoon of a faun and Melody Eotvos – The Baron in the Trees.

Inventi is a leading force in Australian chamber music.

Award winning performances in Australia's leading concert halls and at festivals around the country have led to an enthusiastic following of their innovative programming and outstanding performance style.

Winners of the Melbourne Recital Centre's Contemporary Masters Award, their shows are an interactive experience, seamlessly combining music, visuals, narration and other effects to produce a fully immersive, interactive and dynamic experience which engage with audiences of all ages and abilities.

Inventi is renowned for their impressive arrangements of large-scale orchestral works for a chamber ensemble.

A deep commitment to community outreach is a core part of their artistic practice. They regularly take their high-quality performances into aged care centres with their 'Music Space' project and perform in regional venues.

Inventi have unmistakably had a positive benefit and impact on the careers of many artists and Inventi's diverse contribution to the Australian arts sector is unparalleled.

Tickets at www.trybooking.com/CKSAD



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PA
PHILLIP ISLAND
APARTMENTS

Chapel St Cowes, corner Bass Avenue.
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Phillip Island's Festival of Stories
Presented by the Island Story Gatherers

SAT NOV 18 / 9.30AM & 7.30PM

Inspiring, uplifting, entertaining, challenging and thought-provoking, no topic is off limits as Phillip Island Festival of Stories empowers a diverse group of people to tell their tales.



Tubular Bells for Two
One Album. Two Men. Too Many Instruments

SAT NOV 25 / 7PM

This multi award-winning sell-out hit at festivals around the world, returns to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first release on Richard Branson's fledgling record label, Virgin Records.



Steph Strings and Friends
Presented by Ocean Sounds

FRI DEC 15 / 7.30PM

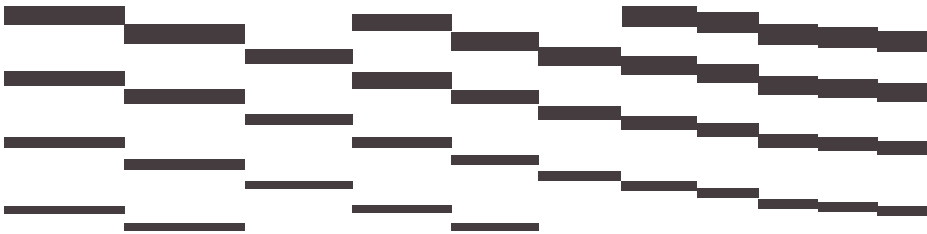
This much-loved San Remo local returns home from sellout shows in Europe and the UK, straight off the plane from a national tour with Cat Empire.



An Evening with Kate Ceberano

SAT JAN 20 / 7.30PM

The ultimate opportunity to experience Kate, up close, in a venue that feels like it was purpose built for such a special performance.



Berninneit

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Island resident Anne Davie has been advocating and working towards a centre for the Phillip Island community since the early 1990s.



Key members of the local arts community joined Bass Coast Shire councillors and staff, Bunurong Land Council representatives and federal and state ministers for the official opening of Berninneit on Saturday, October 28. The building opens its doors to the public on Thursday, November 2.

The long road

The road to Berninneit is a long one, with many twists and turns.

Although the journey towards the building as it stands today only began in 2019 when Bass Coast Shire councillors voted to demolish the old cultural centre and build a new facility, the seeds for a cultural and community centre were sown decades before.

Island resident Anne Davie has been advocating and working towards a centre for the Phillip Island community since the early 1990s.

"I can't believe it's happening after all these years," Anne said.

Back in 1991 she represented the Shire of Phillip Island at a conference on creative communities.

"I presented a paper on community culture on a holiday island," she recalls.

"In 1992 I was a Phillip Island Shire councillor when I proposed a motion to build a community and arts facility.

"When it passed, I called out 'hallelujah'," she recalls.

It took another 31 years before Anne's vision was finally realised.

There were multiple plans and consultations for the redesign of the centre – with six different designs proposed over the decades.

It was in May 2020 that the current building – and all its features – began to take shape.

Jackson Clements Burrows, a Melbourne architectural firm responsible for redesigning the St Kilda foreshore, and multi-award winners for their innovative public projects, won the tender to design the new building.

At the time, the architects described the lengthy consultation process already undertaken by council, and the existence of draft plans as a bonus for the team.

"We're very lucky, there's been five years of consultation and two well-developed designs, so we know where the building functionality needs to go. We understand what the building should be," they said.

For Anne, the new designs

were a cause for excitement, at the time describing it as an opportunity to show what Phillip Island was capable of.

And it would finally be the realisation of a long-held dream.

Back in 1992, a Phillip Island Arts and Cultural Committee was formed. The committee ran until 2018, with Anne at the helm as president the entire time.

"We set about to show how important it is for people to come together and be entertained," she explained, describing the group as very diverse.

But they were united in their desire to have a building in Cowes, "to express us as a community".

"People have put in so much work. I have probably been with it the longest time, but the commitment of other groups has been outstanding."

The previous cultural centre (demolished in 2020) was initially the shire offices, not a custom-built facility that reflected the needs of the community.

She believes Berninneit will strengthen community creati-

ty, by having community groups and creative activities under the one roof.

"This is a very creative community and I think because Phillip Island was on its own as an island for so long, people learned to entertain themselves."

And the location of the new centre is steeped in island history.

"It's a great site for the building. There's so much history ... the old Cowes primary school, the shire of Phillip Island ... and now once again people will be coming together to celebrate ourselves as a community," Anne said.

"I'm very pleased we will be celebrating our First Nations history too."

"The only disappointing part is so many who put in so much over so many years are no longer with us. But they have their legacy now."

When it came to thanking all those who tirelessly campaigned for the new building, she said there were too many to list, but they were all "passionate about arts and culture and

what it does for a community".

The new building will be a great source of pride for the community Anne believes.

"It will ensure a pathway to the future, providing a place where people can participate, interact and enjoy diverse activities that are enhancing experiences."

"The council of the day committed themselves and I'm very pleased with that, and their belief in it."

"You design a building and then it shapes you," Anne said.

"I think it has enormous potential."

She hopes any sceptics in the community will come inside and embrace the opportunities it offers.

"This will be a great place for interaction."

As well as providing a new library, 250 seat theatre/cinema, art gallery, museum, and function spaces, the new Cultural Centre will have Passive House (PassivHaus) certification, only the second public building in Australia to achieve this.

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On the back of international and national tours, San Remo's Steph Strings will play a special show at Berninneit on December 15. Photo: Tommy Williams.

Homegrown talent returns

Helping us get into the Christmas spirit, San Remo's Steph Strings will play a special show at Berninneit on December 15.

Straight off the plane from Canada, Europe and a national tour with Cat Empire, the show is a celebration of the new centre, with support from lifelong friends, local musicians Maddy May and Steve Cousins.

Steph tells a story through her music. With influences from the John Butler Trio, Tash Sultana and Ziggy Alberts, Steph's musical style entails bursts of percussion alongside

Celtic, blues and coastal fingerstyle indie-rock.

The show is presented by local promoter Ocean Sounds, in the lead up to the popular festival on Churchill Island on January 6.

Earlier this year, supporting the release of her new single "Lion", Steph toured the UK and Europe, playing in seven different countries, including support shows with Vance Joy.

She travelled to Europe for the first time in 2022 performing multiple sold out headline shows in London and performing at French Festival Les Escales, Saint-Nazaire to

celebrate the release of her EP 'Wildfire'.

The past year has also seen Steph support Kim Churchill on his national tour of Australia as well as tour Europe with the Pierce Brothers.

Steph has also been breaking on to the festival circuit in Australia having already performed at Queenscliff, Ocean Sounds, Peninsula Picnic Festival and has recently been announced on line-ups for Bass In The Grass and Blues on Broadbeach.

Tickets available at www.trybooking.com/CLXMR

We celebrate our new performance space, Berninneit
Where creativity and community
Gathers together.

phillipislanddancestudio@gmail.com

Children are Stinky
by Circus Trick Tease
SAT 27 JAN 2024 / 11AM & 1PM

5 Star Sell-Out seasons in Melbourne, Adelaide and Edinburgh. This exciting kids comedy is a 50min action packed extravaganza that HAS to be seen.

NEWK – The John Newcombe Story
Starring Damian Callinan
TUE 20 FEB / 2PM

Great value daytime theatre by 'one of the best character comedians in the country' (Herald Sun).

Ralph McTell
Presented by Caravan Club Music
FRI 23 FEB 2024 / 7.30PM

English music legend best remembered for "Streets Of London", going on to become one of the most recorded songs of all time. In Australia to headline the Port Fairy Folk Festival.

Elly Poletti
Jazz & Soul
SAT 23 MAR 2024 / 7.30PM

Hailed by Guy Sebastian as "one of those voices that is so powerful, her voice has no boundaries" For one night only this multiple -Theatre Guild Award winner will be honouring artists like Aretha Franklin, Adele and Amy Winehouse.

Berninneit
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Everyone has a story

November 18

Join our remarkable lineup of presenters and published authors as they take us on their journey, one song, artwork, poem, performance and punchline at a time.

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www.pifestivalofstories.com/2023-festival-of-stories

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Baluk Arts presents Millowl

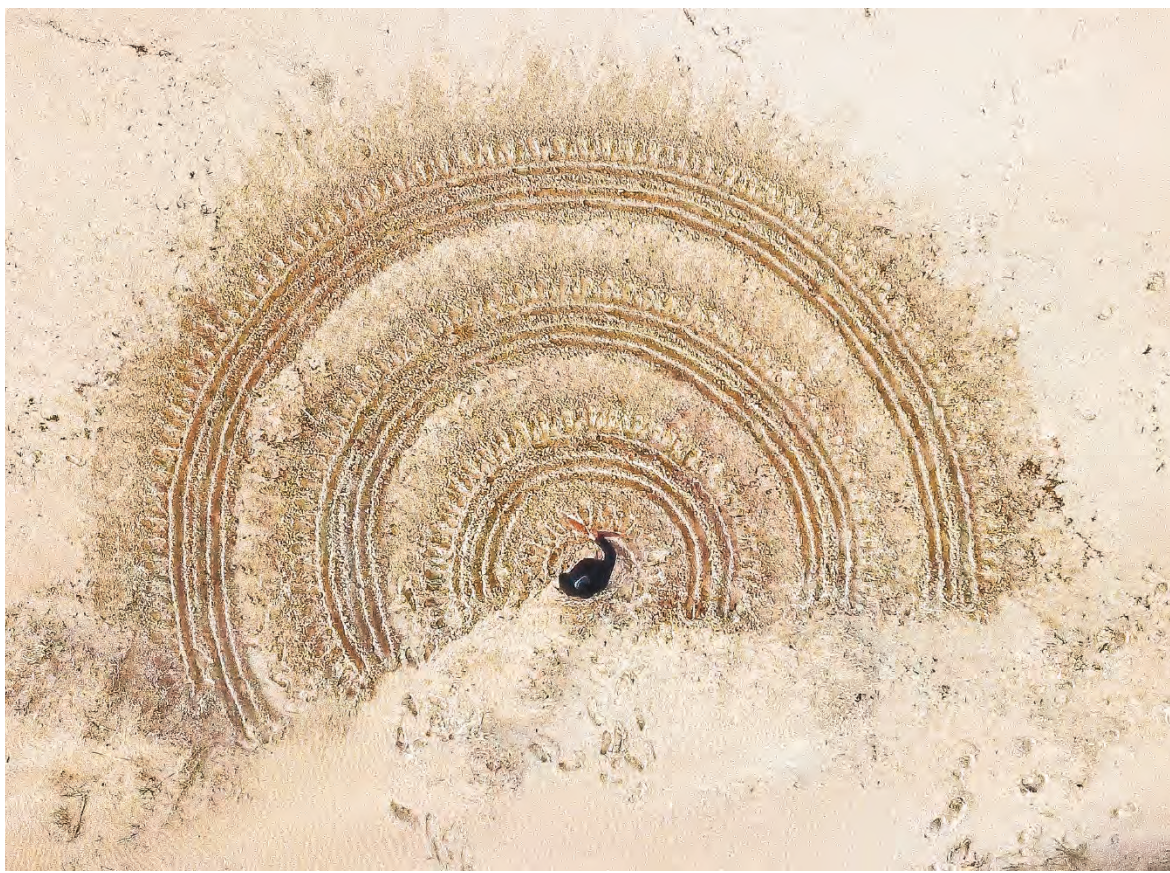
Baluk Arts is delighted to present its exhibition entitled "Millowl" to launch Berninneit, the new Cowes Cultural Centre.

The exhibition, "an immersive, contemporary Aboriginal art experience exploring spirit and place", features five of the country's most talented Aboriginal artists including Bunurong artist Adam Magennis, Nyul Nyul Saltwater man Lowell Hunter (aka 'Salty One'), Boonwurrung/Barkindji artist Mitch Mahoney, Guringai Saltwater woman Charlie Woods (aka 'Charlie Needs Braces'), and local Bass Coast resident Dungutti/Ngayawana artist Patrice Muthaymiles Mahoney AOM.

The exhibition will feature an array of art forms, including a traditionally made stringy bark canoe, contemporary paintings, a sand sculpture, projections, all accompanied by a commissioned musical score. Each piece in the exhibition carries with it a unique story, connecting the viewer with the artist, in celebration of the spirituality and history of the land, sky, waters, and animals of Millowl.

In the lead up to the exhibition, Baluk Arts ran a series of public activations including a beachside workshop by Salty One at Berrys Beach.

"For me ... the sand is ultimately my canvas ... We can learn a lot from understanding how indigenous peoples have looked after and nurtured the lands for countless generations," he said.



In the lead up to the exhibition, there was a beachside workshop by Salty One at Berry's Beach. "For me ... the sand is ultimately my canvas". Photo: Baluk Arts.

The lead up also included a five-day residency with Mitch Mahoney creating a traditional stringy bark canoe which will feature in the exhibition.

"For us First Nations people, art is a way of passing on knowledge. It's through the making of things, through the telling of

those stories that we pass on knowledge to [the next] generation." Mitch said.

For the exhibition, local Bass Coast resident Patrice Mahoney OAM, has created a painting celebrating the wildlife on the island and her connection to it.

"I make work from my con-

nection and respect for the intersection of the landscape. One that is deeply personal, as the iwata (the echidna, my Anēwan country's totem) through to where I am, how I feel, and the always changing chapters in my life."

Adam Magennis is a Bunurong artist, Indigenous activist, archaeologist and Director of Kaptify Art Consultancy. Adam's style is influenced by the works of Salvador Dali, the social sciences of archaeology and anthropology, the natural sciences and ecology and geology and the theory of cultural ecology.

For the musical score, Baluk Arts has commissioned one of the fastest up and coming Aboriginal musicians in the country, Charlie Needs Braces, to create a unique piece that speaks to the artworks in the exhibition and to the island itself.

"There are so many amazing things about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures," the musician said.

"I hope that [the work] evokes joy, happiness [and] celebrations!"

The opening ceremony will feature a Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony by the Bunurong Land Council, providing an opportunity to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land and their enduring connection to it.

Guests will have the privilege of hearing directly from the artists, gaining insights into their creative process and the stories behind their artworks. The opening will also feature a live performance by Charlie Needs Braces.

Event opening: Thursday November 2, 6pm-9pm

The exhibition runs until December 27.



Jazz Ensemble
Royal Australian Navy Band
SUN 7 APR 2024 / 2PM

Classic jazz, swing and samba, to New Orleans and boogaloo. Featuring vocalist and 7 of the Navys finest musicians.



A Little Bit of Blue
Little Wing Puppets
THU 11 APR 2024 / 11AM & 2PM

Jenny Ellis, a children's puppeteer of more than 20 years, weaves a detective mystery that also explores the extraordinary habits of the Australian Satin Bowerbird.



Comedy Festival Roadshow
Melbourne International Comedy Festival
SUN 5 MAY 2024 / 7PM

Australia's biggest and best comedy festival is hitting the road for a huge 26th year. Get ready for a stellar line-up with Roadshow favourites.



Australian Chamber Orchestra Collective
presents The Lark Ascending
SUN 12 MAY 2024 / 2PM

Performing "The Lark Ascending" in a very special concert of beauty and spirit. This eternal favourite is the centrepiece of an uplifting program.



Berninneit

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ASPIR artists are delighted to be at
Berninneit
for the ASPIR
Cup Weekend Exhibition
& Young Artist Award

Daily Thursday 2nd to Cup Day 7th November

Award Presentations
Friday 3rd November 5.30 to 7.00 pm

All welcome

Phillip Island Library: Beyond the books

Are you ready to start a journey of learning, fun, and community engagement like never before? The grand opening of Phillip Island Library marks the beginning of a new era where libraries are not just quiet spaces filled with books but vibrant centres of community life.

To celebrate the library's opening, we will offer a variety of programs, including a StoryTime session with special guest author Andrea Rowe, and a performance by the Flying Bookworm Theatre!

For adults, there's a writer panel discussion on the Friday night: Places We Imagine and then continue your bibliophile interest, with our inaugural 'Berninneit Book Chat,' where we invite you to share your latest reads and get recommendations from the librarians.

The fun doesn't stop there. You can participate in a wide variety of in-branch programs, from StoryTime for the little ones to school holiday events and special interest groups for adults. Author events, book chats, workshops, and more await you, ensuring your calendar is filled with exciting activities.

Discover what's on at the library by visiting myli.au/phillip-island or follow Myli - My Community Library on Facebook.

The heart of any library is, of course, its collection. At Phillip Island Library, you can explore an extensive range of

books, magazines, and DVDs. Additionally, you can borrow unique items from Myli's Library of Things collection, adding an exciting twist to your library experience. The collection is complemented by Myli's digital collection, ensuring free access to e-resources at any time. This includes e-books and e-audiobooks, digital magazines, newspapers, and even movie and documentary streaming. You can also find resources for homework help, online courses, craft tutorials, language learning, and children's E-Library materials — all at your fingertips.

Phillip Island Library offers printing, copying, and scanning facilities for your convenience, along with free premium Wi-Fi and public computers for library members. Study areas and Zoom booths offer quiet spaces for research or online meetings.

For those tracing their family roots, free access to online genealogy resources is available. Families will find dedicated areas for children and teens, complete with a cosy nook for gaming and hanging out with friends.

Phillip Island Library is more than just a place to borrow books; it's a dynamic space where you can discover, learn, belong, and connect. So, come and visit Myli's Phillip Island Library and be part of this exciting community journey.



Branch manager Jessica preparing for the grand opening of the Phillip Island Library.



Award winning author Andrea Rowe pictured with her CBCA 2022 Winner of Children's Book of the Year 'Jetty Jumping', will be a special guest author at the library opening celebrations.

NEW— PHILLIP ISLAND LIBRARY

Berninneit, Cowes

91-97 Thompson Ave, Cowes

**0-WEEK
FESTIVAL**

2-6 NOV

Free events for
all ages at the
new library

THU 2 NOV

• **StoryTime with special guest
Andrea Rowe**

Join best-selling award-winning
picture book author for a
storytime adventure

FRI 3 NOV

• **Author Panel -
Places We Imagine:
Approaching Place in Fiction.**
Join Ava Dunn, Josephine Rowe,
Eliza Henry-Jones in
Conversation

SAT 4 NOV

• **Flying Bookworm Theatre**
Join us for an interactive
magical journey, where books
come alive

MON 6 NOV

• **Berninneit Book Chat**
Join us for a chat with a cuppa to
connect with other readers and
get recommendations from the
librarians to find your new
literary love.



**EVENT DETAILS
& BOOKINGS**

Call or visit us online
myli.au/phillipisland



1800 44 6954
myli.org.au

A commanding performance

One to mark in your diaries, on June 29, 2024 Kutcha Edwards will take the stage at Berninneit.

The Phillip Island resident is a nationally and internationally recognised and award-winning singer/songwriter.

A proud Mutti Mutti man, Kutcha is our storyteller in the treasured tradition of Uncle Jack Charles and Archie Roach.

His mesmerising music creates connections across cultures, generations and spaces, while his charismatic stage presentation deepens our understanding of Australia's first people.

A one-time member of Blackfire and Black Arm Band, he has performed with some of Australia and the world's finest musicians, including Paul Kelly, Dan Sultan, Archie Roach and Judith Durham.

A regular on the festival circuit, his performances have captivated audiences of all ages.

"Kutcha was incredible and had the audience completely captivated." – Kristen Retallick, Shepparton Festival Director.

"His commanding performance was proof that while festivals may have to market themselves with international headliners, it's when they platform artists like Edwards that they feel most vital." – Nick



Kutcha Edwards performs at Berninneit on June 29, 2024. Photo: Jamie James.

Buckley, NME.

"A lot of people have told me it was a highlight or even the highlight of the festival." – Brian Ritchie, Mona Foma, Tasmania.

Kutcha uses music to create connections across cultures, generations, and spaces.

With an innate ability to communicate, he uses his unique, diverse talents to nurture understanding and self-knowledge amongst all those with whom he has contact.

Kutcha is a Songman, not simply a songwriter.

He draws on a profound sense of all those who have gone before him on this land, along with his own life experiences, to help his audiences understand themselves, reconnect with their culture and promote cultural understanding.

His music touches the soul and through his humour and insights we realise that with recognition of the true Aboriginal history, there can be hope of reconciliation.

Tickets at www.trybooking.com/CLXPB



Swan Lake

Presented by The Victorian State Ballet

SAT 1 JUN 2024 / 730PM

A timeless romantic story of magic, sacrifice and tragedy blending into four famous acts including the unforgettable White Swan pas de deux.



Garry Starr

Greece Lightning

SAT 15 JUN 2024 / 7.30PM

One Hour. One Idiot. All of Greek Mythology. Never before has Medusa been looser, Uranus so heinous. An overzealous idiot performs all of Greek mythology.



Kutcha Band Show

SAT 29 JUN 2024 / 7.30PM

Multi-award winner and proud Mutti Mutti man his charismatic performances deepen our understanding of Australia's first people.



The Sunshine Club

THU 25 JUL 2024 / 7.30PM

Following sellout success at our Wonthaggi theatre, this acclaimed musical theatre production returns, this time to Cowes. Set in 1946 it tells the story of aboriginal soldier, returning home after the war.



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NEW WAVE CONCRETING

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WE'RE PROUD TO BE PART OF THIS PROJECT, LAYING GREAT FOUNDATIONS FOR THE CREATIVITY, CULTURE AND CONNECTION OF OUR ARTS COMMUNITY.

WE HOPE EVERYONE ENJOYS THE OPENING CELEBRATIONS OF OUR NEW CULTURAL CENTRE.



Local trades were used to work on this major local project, which is awesome - thanks McCorkell! We've loved being a part of it.

Enjoy the new Cultural Centre, everyone!!

Thanks from all the team at MK Earthworks
Ph : 0408 515 472



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Pannys

**Phillip Island
Chocolate
Factory**

*Congratulations to all involved
on the grand opening of our new
Cultural Centre!*

The staff at the Phillip Island Chocolate Factory
are delighted to celebrate this exciting
addition to our community.

A space that will inspire creativity,
connection and celebrate
our cultural richness.





PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO ADVERTISER

YOUR COMMUNITY VOICE!

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

\$1.80 Incl. GST

There was a huge cheer at the end of the tour of the new centre, with everyone gathering on the stage of the new theatre/cinema.

Bold Berninneit – “magnificent” and “remarkable”

COMMUNITY

The new cultural centre in Cowes was officially opened on Saturday, in front of a small but enthusiastic crowd, with guests describing the building as “magnificent” and “remarkable”.

The official ceremony preceded the community preview evening on Wednesday, with the doors to the new facility opening to the public on Thursday this week.

At Saturday’s event acting Bass Coast Shire Council CEO, James Stirton welcomed representatives from the state and fed-

eral governments, the Bunurong Land Council, councillors, staff, Russell Broadbent – member for Monash, and members of the local arts community.

Mayor, Cr Michael Whelan said opening Berninneit was a special moment for many.

“It really is an honour to officially open this remarkable building,” Cr Whelan said.

“Berninneit is a testament to the power of a community coming together and celebrating our shared vision and connections.

“It will bring years of performance, visual arts, story gather-

ing and learnings to our community and beyond, entertaining and enriching generations to come.”

Jillian West from Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation delivered a Welcome to Country, explaining “it’s where old relationships are re-established and new relationships are formed”.

Senator Jess Walsh, representing the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, said centres like Berninneit play a vital role in communities.

Continued page 6



On Saturday, Cr Michael Whelan, Senator Jess Walsh and Member for Bass Jordan Crungale unveiled the new name and officially declared Berninneit open.

Fire Season

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Island
HOME

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	 SHOWERS EASING	 CLOUDY	 CLOUDY	 PARTLY CLOUDY	 PARTLY CLOUDY	 PARTLY CLOUDY	 PARTLY CLOUDY
	11 17	11 17	11 16	11 17	11 19	13 21	14 22



Zev said as well as creating a fun and friendly welcome, he hoped the artwork would raise awareness about wildlife and help reduce the roadkill death toll.

MotoGP artwork swiped by fans

CRIME

An artwork installation depicting local wildlife on motorcycles, displayed at the entrance to Phillip Island for the MotoGP, has been stolen.

Created by Cape Woolamai artist Zev Landes, the cute characters were a “fun way to welcome everyone to the island”.

Unfortunately some fans clearly took the characters to heart ... and home, with the artwork stolen from outside the Newhaven Visitor Information Centre on the Monday after the GP.

Zev said he reported the theft to the police and posted about it on social media and said both police and the community were incredibly supportive.

Members of the community reported seeing a black van and a ute stopping and taking the artwork.

Zev, who paid for the installation from his own money, is devastated by the loss.

“I’m going to treat this disaster as a compliment and I’m flattered people wanted the art,” he told the Advertiser.

“I love drawing animals and wildlife as it helps people connect to the nature around us and so I included some of our island’s best known local species.

“I created and paid for the art-



Artist Zev Landes created the fun artwork to welcome visitors to the island for the GP, and is hoping whoever stole the artwork will return it.

work myself and had the permits to display it, with the support of the team at the visitor information centre.”

Zev said as well as creating a fun and friendly welcome, he hoped the artwork, which included penguins, koalas, wallabies and echidnas, would raise awareness about wildlife and help reduce the roadkill death toll.

He thinks excited fans probably souvenirised the pieces, but the theft has left him out of pocket.

“It costs around \$700 in mate-

rials to make the display,” he explained.

“I would love to be able to put them out every year, and it would be great if someone could help do it again next year.”

The staff at the visitor centre said the display was popular with visitors, with a lot of people commenting on them and stopping and taking photos and selfies.

Zev said it would be good if some of the major brands involved in the MotoGP, including the Australian Grand Prix Corporation were open to supporting some “non-commercial ventures” around the event.

“Artists want to get involved. They’ve got the talent, skills and enthusiasm,” he said.

“There’s so many creative voices on the island – we just need the support to bring spaces to life.”

He’s also hoping someone in the community knows where his artwork has ended up.

“If anyone’s mate has them in their pool room, just ask them to drop them back at the information centre, or to contact me over instagram@zevlandes,” Zev said.

If he creates new artwork for next year’s event, he plans to make it “souvenir-proof”.

“I’ll make them bigger, so they can’t fit in a car so easily,” he said.



A group calling itself South Gippslanders for Freedom and Inclusivity erected an anti-Covid vaccination display on the San Remo foreshore on the weekend.

Sign off? Protest group’s illegal display

PROTEST

A display of signs on the San Remo foreshore, peddling a Covid vaccination conspiracy, has raised some eyebrows in the community.

Jane Ross, who helps organise Anzac and Remembrance Day events in San Remo each year questioned whether the group had permission to erect the signs near the San Remo cenotaph.

“Two weeks out from Remembrance Day, I take major issue with anyone who has not donned a uniform and put their life on the line in the service of their nation, being referred to as “the fallen,” she wrote.

The display was organised by the South Gippslanders for Freedom and Inclusivity, which describes itself as a “safe space to connect and find support”, and invited those who felt the Covid vaccines had impacted on their health or family connect with them. Bass Coast Shire Council said the display was not authorised and officers will remove any signs that remained on the foreshore.

While Covid lockdowns are a thing of the past, across the country small groups of protestors continue to rally against vaccinations, lockdowns and other government policies.

The self-described “sovereign citizens” believe they are not un-

der the jurisdiction of the government and the law doesn’t apply to them.

Back in April, a local chapter of My Place tried unsuccessfully to hold an event on Phillip Island.

My Place groups oppose Covid vaccinations and mandates and also consider themselves sovereign citizens. The groups subscribe to global conspiracies including the existence of a cabal plotting to remove ordinary citizens’ freedom and describe the World Health Organisation (WHO) as a risk to national sovereignty.

They also oppose “smart cities” (using technology such as free Wi-Fi, parking sensors, re-charging stations) saying it is a way to track people and establish a 20-minute travel limit without permits.

In April, after two local venues cancelled the group’s bookings, the Phillip Island My Place meeting moved to the San Remo Foreshore, with guest speakers including Café Locked Out members and Darren Bergwerf, founder of the Frankston My Place group.

In a post on the weekend, Café Lockdown warned “the government is preparing to silence your canaries.”

“And once they have snuffed out the voices of the brave, what will the future look like for your soul?” it asked.

PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO ADVERTISER Next week’s edition

Due to the Melbourne Cup long weekend, the next edition of the Advertiser will be out on Thursday, November 9, instead of the normal Wednesday publication. The online version will be available from 3pm on November 8.

Bendigo Bank awarded most trusted bank in Australia, once again.

The Community Banks of San Remo, Cowes and Grantville were thrilled the Bendigo Bank was again voted 'Most Trusted Bank' at the Roy Morgan 'Most Trusted Brand' awards last week. Just another reason to pop into your local Community Bank and say hello - we're open five days a week for your convenience.



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Cheryl Overton, Rhyll Community Association secretary, pulls on the musical chimes at Rhyll's newly opened playground.

Ten out of ten for new playground

RECREATION

A new playground at Rhyll, adjacent to the revamped boat ramp, opened this month. And it's been given a hearty thumbs up by the many young users who tried it out over the weekend.

The playground got off to a shaky start, as it was originally scheduled for development three years ago.

Land was provided by Bass Coast Shire Council for the playground to go ahead, after Better Boating Victoria, which took over the former children's play area for boat trailer parking, did not have the space to replace it.

"Better late than never," says Rhyll Community Association secretary Cheryl Overton, who is delighted with the new facility.

"The result is splendid, and bigger and better than the playground it replaced."

Cheryl said that the community had requested council to theme the playground in line with Rhyll's famous wood carving statue, of a ferry captain looking out to sea.

The ferry captain is carved from the base of a magnificent and historic cypress tree on the Rhyll foreshore, after it had to be cut down.

A wood, maritime and nature theme features throughout the new play space.

Play equipment includes two upper-level towers connected by a bridge; incorporating wooden sea pods complete with lookouts; and climbing frames and slides attached.

Two musical chimes, attached to one lookout, are set off by the pull of a rope from ground level. The musical theme continues with the use of bell gongs on steel instruments, shaped as a stingray and a turtle.

An old wooden boat, salvaged from the former playground, has been given a new lease of life, with disabled access; and a foghorn type arrangement allows "passengers" to speak through a pipe to a mate sitting up on the next level.

And a swing in the shape of a ship's wheel is in place.

A special entrance tunnel can be used by the kids to access the playground (alternatively just walk in) and an indigenous shelter on the foreshore boundary is a special feature waiting to be explored.

Stepping logs, and walkways to the nearby beach, are incorporated.

An attractive boundary fence, built vertically with wooden sugar poles, in keeping with the log theme, was paid for by the Rhyll Community Association with the help of Andy McFee. It is designed to keep children safely inside.

There is plenty of comfortable seating and natural shade for the older generations to use, and no-one will tire of the magnificent Swan Bay views.

According to the shire's website, the total project cost is in the order of \$300,000.

The playground was jointly funded by the Victorian Government's Growing Suburb Fund (\$235,000) and Council's adopted Capital works open space renewal program 2022/23.

Charge scheme battle continues

ROADS

A new online petition is calling for Bass Coast Shire Council not to abandon the special charge scheme for Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay.

Earlier this month, the council announced on its Engage website that the contentious scheme would not go ahead, saying that feedback showed the majority of property owners in the estates opposed the scheme.

Over the years-long campaign, Say No, a group formed to oppose the scheme, had also presented four petitions with over 600 signatures from residents who did not want the scheme to proceed.

The latest petition, created by Surf Beach resident Lou Pecora, states the council can't just abandon the scheme and "force 47 per cent of the community to continue living in third world conditions".

The petition is calling on the council to amend the scheme or offer an alternative model. It claims the scheme was "outvoted by a small margin of six per cent" and that many who voted no don't live in the estates full time, or endure the "terrible wet, muddy conditions of winter, and the insufferable dusty conditions of summer".

It also criticises the format of the charge scheme process, which it claims was created for small urban communities, and was not appropriate for large coastal holiday estates.

"It was not meant for a community where perma-



A new online petition is calling for the special charge scheme for Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay not to be abandoned, saying council has an obligation to provide a safe and healthy environment for residents.

nent residents are significantly outnumbered by absent property owners, who by their absence, have not experienced and cannot appreciate the difficulty of living in these conditions on a daily basis," the petition states.

Council must not be allowed to "walk away from its responsibility and obligation to provide a safe and healthy environment" the petition continues.

The petition suggests that rather than a one-size-fits-all approach, the council should allow individual streets the option to "upgrade their road to their requirements".

It has so far attracted 50 signatures – a long way from the 500+ who opposed the current council proposal – with some outlining their reasons for supporting the petition. But it appears the yes and no groups are united in their desire to see council provide a solution for the two estates.

The Say No group has previously said there were better solutions than the one being presented by the council, and invited council to meet with them.

"Come and chat with us, we are confident that there

is a way forward that could be embraced by all."

In a recent letter to the editor, another Surf Beach resident called for the roads to be fixed, saying residents had been let down by council.

"I've been informed that although the council has admitted the drainage and roads in the area are a health and safety issue, nothing will be done to fix it for at least 40 years," wrote Sam O'Loughlin.

"Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay residents are sick of this mess, please write to your councillors before the December meeting where they plan to vote down the scheme."

Signing the new petition, Ross Jamieson said streets and drainage in the area need to be improved, and if not "council must take action to manage the storm water in the street".

"The dust is not good for anyone's health nor is it good for the local flora and fauna," said Licia Prisco, a non-resident property owner who is also supporting the new petition.

"Please let's do what we can to have this proceed."

View the petition at: chng.it/r7qqd6n85K

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High water pressure queried in flexi-hose flood

FLOOD

Nine months ago, Doug and Janet Hamilton's Smith's Beach home was flooded after a flexi-hose burst.

Two days after this devastating event, a similar house flood occurred nearby at Sunderland Bay.

While going through the long and arduous process of a complete rebuild of their home, the couple have discovered that there are now five, and possibly six properties in their vicinity, that have had the same thing happen in recent times.

"We initially cursed the flexi hose and what we assumed was cheap manufacturing," said Janet.

"But we have now discovered that the water pressure at Smith's Beach is 1200kPa, when in fact the Australian standard for household water pressure is regulated to 500kPa."

The couple are now wondering if the high water pressure in their area is connected with their situation, and that of the other homes affected, and if so, what can be done about it.

"I had never heard of a flexi-hose flood before," said Janet.

"And there is no obvious connection between us and the other flooded homes. Some are old. Some are new. We now wonder if the high water pressure has something to do with what happened."

The couple's nightmare began in January this year when they left the island on a Thursday afternoon expecting to be away for about four days.

On Sunday, they got a call from a neighbour saying the windows of their house were completely steamed up, and water was running out under the doors.

The neighbour turned off the outside hot water service and the water metre, while Janet, Doug and their son rushed down to Phillip Island.

They were met with a wall of water when they opened their front door.

Every room in the house was flooded. They worked well into



Nine months after Doug and Janet Hamilton's Smiths Beach home was completely flooded when a flexi-hose burst while they were away, they are still waiting for repairs to be finished.

the night moving furniture out into the garage, but some of this, including a beautiful antique iron bed, table and chairs, coffee tables and drawers, were later found to be unsalvageable.

Dry out

Their insurance company arrived the next day and declared the house 100 per cent water saturated.

A company specialising in this type of remedial work was brought in to dry the house out, before any rebuild could begin.

It took 26 dryers, a dehumidifier and fans going flat out for seven weeks to achieve this.

Then when architraves were being removed in May it was discovered the subfloor was completely covered in mould.

This meant the entire house, including the bathroom and

kitchen, with all woods, doors and cupboards swollen, had to be gutted.

"We were left with the stumps, joists and bearers," said Doug.

It is only now that new flooring and additional joists are finally going in.

A mould test will be conducted this week, before the plastering can proceed.

If all goes well with the test, plastering can begin.

"Our insurance has been great, but this has been a long and ugly process which I wouldn't wish on anyone," said Janet this week.

"We have told as many people as we can about our experience, encouraging them to replace flexi hoses regularly and to install a pressure regulator valve ... but we can only reach so many people."

Warning

Janet wants the couple's story told to warn others in the community about what happened as a preventative measure.

A builder aware of the couple's experience told them the Australian standard for household water pressure is regulated to 500kPa.

"When he had the pressure tested for us it was 1200kPa. That is a huge discrepancy. New taps are internally regulated to 500kPa. But not everyone has new taps.

"Who is responsible for control of water pressure, and to what standards," is a question she would like answered, in light of their awful experience.

"It has been a terrible nine months for us, and I want people to be aware of what can happen so preventative action can be taken.

"Particularly now that it has come to light that the same thing happened to two neighbouring homes within the last two-year period, and three others that we are aware of more recently."

Janet said she was out walking a few months ago and saw the Steam Matic team that assisted her, working at another Smiths Beach house.

"They commented to us that this was another flexi-hose job. The downstairs of that home had to be gutted too.

"While we initially blamed the hose back in January, we now believe high water pressure played a role."

Westernport Water was contacted for comment and provided a comprehensive response (see separate story) and information on the issue.

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

Cr Ronnie Bauer
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 email: Ron.Bauer@basscoast.vic.gov.au
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Westernport Water responds to flooding query

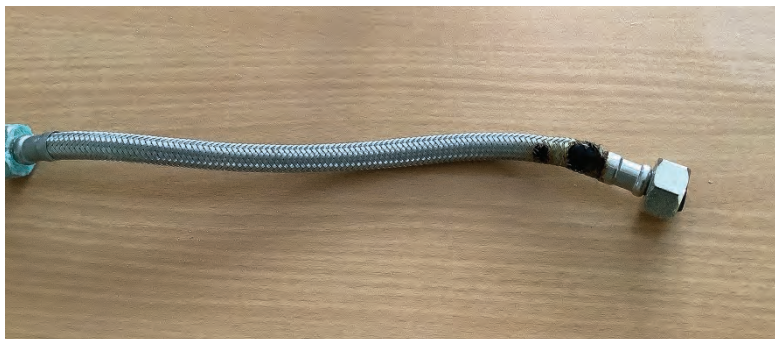
Geoff Russell, Manager Communications and Engagement, Westernport Water, responded to queries raised by a Smith's Beach couple whose home was completely flooded after a flexi-hose burst in their kitchen.

He said Plumbing Standards state the maximum static pressure within buildings should not exceed 500kPa and it is essential for property owners to consult with a licensed plumber who is familiar with the current standards and requirements.

A licensed plumber can determine the water pressure in your specific area and provide advice to ensure compliance with the Building Act 1993 and Plumbing Standards.

Mr Russell provided the following information in response to the flooding of a number of homes in the Smith's Beach area in the past two years.

- Phillip Island customers receive drinking water from an enclosed water storage basin on top of the hill in San Remo. From there, water is gravity fed through the water supply system to customer properties. Water pressure in the region is subject to higher-than-average water pressure due to the nature of the gravity fed system.
- The pressure at any given property can vary depending on its elevation above sea level. Distance from the San Remo water storage basin will also influence water pressure, so it is important to engage a licensed plumber who can provide advice on your individual circumstances.
- Qualified, licensed plumbers are well-versed in Victoria's standards and requirements. If you're facing high water pressure issues, consider discussing the installation of a water pressure regulator for your plumbing system with your plumber.
- Westernport Water aims to provide a minimum water pressure of 300kPa to ensure a reliable and adequate supply of water to homes and businesses and is responsible up until the water meter stop tap. Internal plumbing is the responsibility of the property owner. Further detail can be found in Westernport Water's Customer Charter.
- Flexible braided hoses have a finite lifespan and require



The hole pictured in this flexi-hose was responsible for a huge repair bill following the flooding of a Smiths Beach home after it burst.

replacement by a licensed plumber in accordance with the product standards. (Further information provided below).

- To prevent unexpected high-water use, Westernport Water encourages people to turn off their stop tap when going away for an extended period. This can help to prevent leaks or plumbing issues from causing water damage if left unattended.

Q & A

Q. What do customers need to do when water pressure is greater than 500kPa?

A. It is essential to consult with a licensed plumber who is familiar with the current standards and requirements. They can consult with Westernport Water for the latest information on water pressure in your specific area. They can then recommend and install an appropriate pressure-reduction device after the water meter to meet the plumbing regulation guidelines.

Q. What is a pressure reduction valve or device?

A. This is a mechanism used to reduce the pressure in a water-pipe or system to a lower level. Pressure reduction valves are commonly used to maintain system integrity, safety, and efficiency by ensuring that pressure does not exceed specified limits.

Q. What is a flexible braided hose?

A. Flexible hoses are commonly used in plumbing systems to connect various fixtures, such as faucets, toilets, and washing machines, to the water supply. These hoses can be made of materials like stainless steel or rubber and have a limited lifespan.

Q. How long do flexible hoses last?

A. Quality of materials can differ greatly depending on the supplier, some guarantee their product for 12 months and others 10 years. Like any plumbing component, there are good quality products and cheap inferior products that are likely to develop faults over time, which can lead to leaks and failure.

Q. What causes a flexible hose to burst?

A. pureplumbingpros.com.au/plumber/information/what-causes-flexi-hose-burst

Q. What are the compliance requirements for braided flexible hoses?

A. Consumers should be aware braided flexible hoses are required to be WaterMarked in accordance with AS/NZ 3499:2006 Water supply-flexible hose assemblies. This standard requires each hose to be marked indicating their suitability for different applications.

Q. Should I turn my water meter stop tap off when away from my property?

A. Westernport Water encourage people to turn off their stop tap when they go away for an extended period of time for several reasons. It can prevent leaks, reduce water bills, conserve resources, enhance security, and mitigate the risk of plumbing fixture failures.

Information for plumbers

Plumbers can contact the VBA's plumbing technical advice line on 1300 815 127 to clarify the regulatory requirements relating to maximum water outlet pressure. Monday to Friday, 8.30am – 12pm and 10pm – 4pm.

Maintaining our equilibrium

TOURISM

A new plan looking at long-term tourism in the region is out for public comment.

Destination Phillip Island (DPI) released the draft Destination Management Plan (DMP) last week.

"This document provides a long-term roadmap for tourism in the region and is designed as a framework that will evolve over time to provide strategies and measure success to guide tourism management and its impacts on our community," DPI said.

"This DMP has been informed by, builds upon and supersedes the Phillip Island & San Remo Visitor Economy Strategy 2035 (VES2035), and draws on the most up-to-date collective intelligence across all key stakeholders."

This includes an online survey run in June and July, which gathered more than 280 responses.

Individuals and local community groups made submissions on DPI's "tourism snapshot" and those submissions also informed the draft plan.

"Maintaining an equilibrium for the impact of tourism is paramount, and is the single biggest priority for the destination," the report stated.

Contents

The draft plan said the community and other stakeholders had long campaigned for a "balanced, sustainable approach to tourism", and there was a strong reliance on environmental assets.

The plan's stated purpose is "Tourism for the greater good", stating support for sustainable growth, valuing quality over quantity and encouraging "slowing down".

Sustainability, climate change, digitised travel, economic uncertainty, competing markets and workforce available and skills are some of the key challenges identified in the report.

The report said figures from 2021/22 showed tourism accounted for 26.8 per cent of

the gross regional product and 39.3 per cent of filled jobs.

These figures meant Phillip Island and San Remo was the most tourism-reliant area in Victoria, and the fourth most tourism reliant in the country, behind Lasseter in Central Australia, Kangaroo Island and the Tasmanian East Coast.

The report includes a current visitor profile and says finding the right balance between "sensitive and values-aligned growth and conservation is crucial".

It also stated some community members see tourism growth as having a negative impact on the island.

It recommends working on attracting visitors who "understand and align" with local values, such as responsible travellers who want to care for the land and "give back to the community, and environment".

The report outlines a set of five guiding principles, and associated actions.

- Building a resilient tourism ecosystem
- Caring for country and community
- Sharing our story with impact
- Enhancing visitor experience
- Improving visitor moments

Suggested actions include a program where visitors can contribute money or time to local conservation projects; advocating for coastal, aquatic, dark sky, small group in-destination based tours (cycle, walking), and ev hire; supporting environmentally sensitive accommodation; peak season or location specific parking charges for non-residents; on-demand transport; developing tracks and trails; and improved transport options.

The draft plan is open for feedback until November 8, with the final plan expected to be completed by the end of November. Please email hello@tourismcollective.com.au before 5pm.

You can download the draft Destination Management Plan at www.visitphillipisland.com.au/destination-phillipisland/destination-management-plan

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Kevin Love – PINP Board chair, former councillor Stephen Fullarton and Cr David Rooks at the official opening ceremony for Berninneit.



Bass Coast Shire Council's Jodie Kennedy and CEO of Myli, Leanne Williams. A new library is a major feature of the centre. More photos at pisra.com.au

Bold Berninneit

From page 1

"Investments in these centres are more than bricks and mortar – they are places where stories are told, culture is celebrated, and laughter is shared," Senator Walsh said.

"The spirit of this centre is captured beautifully by its name, Berninneit, a Bunurong word meaning 'gather together'."

Speaking at the launch, Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale said she had no doubt the new building would become the "cultural and social beating heart of the island, and create a beautiful sense of pride and place".

Ms Crugnale was representing Minister for the Suburbs, Sonia Kilkenny.

When the wind blew the cover off the building signage during her speech, inadvertently revealing the new name before the "official" unveiling, Ms Crugnale took it in her stride.

"It will be a bit like an Italian wedding when we just set it up again, the second one with cameras and videos," she quipped, to laughter from the crowd.

She went on to praise the new centre.

"It will provide the community with resources and facilities that will help enrich their lives and build their resilience.

"I want to applaud the local community for the collective and visioning effort over many years to bring us to today," she said.

"This truly is about community and gathering together."

Ms Crugnale said the state government was honoured to be part of "this remarkable project", which was funded by state and federal grants.

She also paid tribute to the council's "significant role, both in time and finances – an astound-



Hannah Eisen was Council's project manager for the huge construction, congratulated here by Jordan Crugnale at the opening.

ing investment".

The new building was declared officially open when Cr Whelan, Senator Walsh and Ms Crugnale unveiled the Berninneit signage on the building's wall.

The \$31.3 million centre was funded by a \$21.4 million investment by council, and supported by state and federal government funding, including \$2.5 million from the Victorian Growing Suburbs Fund, \$800,000 from the Living Libraries Infrastructure Program, a \$10 million loan through the Community Infrastructure Loans Scheme and \$5 million in funding from the federal government's Building Better Regions Program.

Revealed

After the official ceremony concluded, guests were treated to a preview tour of the new facility, which includes a library, historical society display area, visitor information services, function spaces, grand hall, art gallery and theatre.

A courtyard area, built around the mature, existing trees on the site, will provide an exceptional

open space area for the public.

The building has passive house certification, one of the first public buildings in the country to achieve this.

Visitors were unanimous in their praise, describing the building as world-class and "magnificent", while others said it was "bold" and "unapologetic".

"I am just so thrilled with it," said former mayor Pam Rothfield, who was especially excited about the new Historical Society museum.

President of the Artist Society of Phillip Island, Miranda Sage said she loved the new building.

"I like the proportions, the space, the way it brings the outside in," Miranda said.

"It's inspiring."

Many praised Berninneit's environmental credentials and the connection to the island's aboriginal heritage, which was incorporated into designs throughout the centre.

The week of celebrations will continue, with Berninneit opening to the community on November 2 and the inaugural program revealed on November 1.

DAL process extension

ENVIRONMENT

The long process to declare Bass Coast a Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) continues, with the government announcing an extension to the declaration.

It said more time is needed to consider the report from the advisory committee, which was submitted to the government in June.

Last Friday, Jordan Crugnale Member for Bass announced the Bass Coast Shire area had been redeclared under Part 3AAB – Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) of the Planning and Environment Act by the Governor in Council, commencing on October 28.

"I want to assure our community that the DAL is well progressed and that it is being redeclared as the Act requires that a Statement of Planning Policy (SPP) be prepared, endorsed and approved within one year of the declaration commencing," Ms Crugnale explained.

The Bass Coast Shire area contains distinctive rural and coastal landscapes, significant biodiversity and cultural heritage values, productive agricultural land and natural resources, and was first declared under the landmark DAL legislation in 2019.

The draft Bass Coast Statement of Planning Policy (SPP) was prepared by the former Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning in collaboration with Traditional Owners – the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Bass Coast Shire Council, other agencies and authorities, and with local communities.

The draft SPP recommended locking in town boundaries and tightening planning controls to protect significant landscapes, with six areas declared state or regionally significant including the coast and hinterland between Cape Woolamai and Ventnor, as well as the Rhyll Inlet, and areas north of Cowes-Rhyll Road to Newhaven.

During the public consultation in 2022, a total of 747 written public submissions were received and the former Minister for Planning referred the draft SPP and all written submissions to a standing ad-

visory committee for independent advice.

In May the independent planning panel hearings for the DAL closed, after listening to more than 70 parties and 30 witnesses over two months, as well as 750 written submissions.

Panel members carried out several days of site inspections across Phillip Island, San Remo and Bass Coast.

Redeclared

The independent committee submitted its report of findings and recommendations to the Minister for Planning on June 22.

This report is still under consideration, Ms Crugnale confirmed.

She went on to say that "given the significant number of submissions received, the important issues raised and input from local communities and stakeholders, the Bass Coast has been redeclared to allow more time for the SPP to be finalised, endorsed and approved in consideration of the Committee's report."

Ms Crugnale said several factors have delayed the program from when it was first declared back in October 2019 including the pandemic and also the volume of submissions received and the decision to refer it to the standing advisory committee.

"To do this properly and well, having the formal hearings was imperative given just how active, invested and connected our local community is to where they live."

All public submissions and the report of the standing advisory committee are under consideration, which inform the finalisation of the SPP.

"I want to thank our community and all the stakeholders for their active participation in this process," Ms Crugnale said.

"The hearings were a positive step and brought up matters of complexity that need time for the department to consider."

"It goes without saying we want to make sure this beautiful part of Victoria continues to be a great place to live, work and visit, is protected from the pressures of development and ensure we make the right decision to preserve what we value here."

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PUBLISHING

Covid cases rise

HEALTH

Covid case numbers are again on the rise across Victoria and Bass Coast is not immune to the trend.

Bass Coast Health CEO Jan Child said more Covid cases have been presenting to the Urgent Care Centre at Cowes and Emergency Department at Wonthaggi Hospital for treatment and more BCH staff had also fallen ill with Covid than usual.

She said while many people hoped the worst of the pandemic was behind us, the virus has never left completely and the prospect of another outbreak was real.

"Despite the risk Covid poses to the health of our community, we are fortunate that we are now armed with the knowledge about public health measures we can take to protect ourselves as best as possible," she said.

"We can reduce our risk of exposure to Covid by wearing a mask in crowded spaces or avoiding them altogether.

"We can gather with family and friends outdoors instead of inside where possible and if we do gather inside, then we can open windows and doors to im-

prove ventilation and reduce the risk of exposure to Covid should anyone have it and not know.

"It's vital that we ensure our Covid vaccinations are up-to-date as these vaccinations will give you the best protection against the severity of Covid. Vaccinations are available at GP clinics and pharmacies.

"We should all stay home when unwell and symptomatic, but if we do need to go out when we are symptomatic, we should wear a properly fitting mask.

"We should also cover our mouths when coughing and sneezing, dispose of tissues carefully, regularly wash and sanitise our hands, and clean surfaces that are commonly touched by people."

People with respiratory symptoms should also take a Rapid Antigen Test to detect Covid so that if eligible, they can access antiviral treatment that is effective in reducing severity of disease. Rapid Antigen Tests are available at Bass Coast Shire Council's offices at Wonthaggi, Cowes and Grantville, and the visitor information centres at Inverloch and Newhaven.



Covid case numbers are again on the rise in Bass Coast. Wearing a mask, good ventilation and washing and sanitising hands can help protect you against the virus.



Mila, Bridget and Peyton love checking the presents to see what has been donated under the Newhaven College Christmas tree in main reception.



Wardy's Christmas Tree was started by John Ward in 1999 when he called upon Newhaven College families to think of others at Christmas by donating a gift to families in need.

Wardy's Christmas tree returns

COMMUNITY

Wardy's Newhaven College Christmas Tree is a proud Newhaven College tradition of giving that is now in its 24th year.

This year, the tree is back again to bring joy to those in need at Christmas. Anyone in our community is invited to place new, unwrapped gifts for children of all ages under the tree in main reception (before December 7).

The gifts will be distributed to local families in need by St Vincent de Paul to spread some Christmas spirit and show support within our wonderful community.

Wardy's Newhaven College Christmas Tree began when teacher and Deputy Principal

John Ward (now retired) called upon Newhaven College families to think of others at Christmas by donating a gift to families in need.

"Twenty-four years ago, I went to a conference in Wonthaggi where a participant spoke on the hardship some people in the Bass Coast Shire region face," Wardy reflects.

This revelation impacted Wardy and he wanted to make a difference.

"I went back to the College and put up Wardy's Christmas Tree where we collected donated gifts from the College and local Phillip Island communities to give to local children in need at Christmas time."

The number of families donating gifts increases each year and

members of the public also come in and place gifts under the tree. Newhaven College has a tree located in main reception and the students love checking the presents to see what has been donated.

"Learning about the giving tree encourages our students to think of others", John said.

"It is a living example of our College values of Respect, Empathy and Responsibility that they can relate to."

Newhaven College thank San Remo IGA and Aldi Cowes for their support, along with the support of the Newhaven College and the broader community.

Every year the College is overwhelmed by the generosity of families and community members who place a gift under the tree.



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Some students were feeling a little blue about the end of school! Smurfs (from left): Jett Garnham, Luca Gleeson, Toby Challinor, Taj Murdoch, Blake Green, Isaac Seuren, Ben Clements, Jai Williamson and Seth Cummins.

Year 12 celebrations at Bass Coast College

EDUCATION

Year 12 students at Bass Coast College let off some steam before the start of their final exams, with a colourful dress up day.

Students dressed up in costumes of their choice and enjoyed a barbeque breakfast prepared by the staff.

This was followed by a farewell assembly, which included the Year 12 band playing INXS' "Never Tear Us Apart" and

a guitar/vocal solo performance by Lachie Owen. Then a video showing the Class of 23 and their six-year journey through Bass Coast College, produced by Charlotte Howe, was played.

The students had a more formal celebration of their end of school life, with a Graduation dinner at Silverwater Resort.

Congratulations to all the students, good luck with the exams and all the best for the future.



There were some TeleTubbies on campus for the last day of school. From left, Luke Dosiak, Angus Chisholm, Jake Dennerly and Billy Soumilas



It was an excellent adventure chaps! From left: Sam Nichols, Jack Leverington and Isaac Dalton.



Going with a Wonderland theme were Macey Smith, Frankie Murrav-White, and Chloe Hvnd.



Channelling Oliva from her Physical era were (from left) Olivia Murphy, Latitia Pugh, Scout O'Neill, and Lucy Peterson.



Dogga Luke's family was there to cheer him on at the book launch. From left: Glenice (sister), Sarah (daughter), Dogga and Val (sister). More photos at pisra.com.au

Dogga rambles on!

BOOK LAUNCH

Island poet and local identity Dogga Luke launched his book of poetry at the Phillip Island Boardriders Club on Saturday October 28. A prolific writer, his book "Some of Life's Selected Ramblings" contains just a fraction of his poetry, with many inspired by his life on Phillip Island.

The former surfer hung up his wetsuit in his mid-70s but many of the poems celebrated the local waves and surfing culture, so the Boardriders Club was the ideal loca-

tion for a launch.

Surrounded by family, friends and surfing colleagues, Dogga was kept busy signing copies.

Dogga treated the crowd to an impromptu performance of an ode he wrote to the Boardriders' Club, and thanked everyone who worked in the background to make the book and the launch a success.

"Some of Life's Selected Ramblings": available at the Anchorage store in Ventnor and the Phillip Island & San Remo Advertiser. RRP \$20.



Ray Young (left) gets his copy of "Some of Life's Selected Ramblings" signed by Dogga Luke at the book launch on the weekend.



Some old surfing buddies lined up for a book signing. From left: Laurie Thompson, Hoges, Steve Fullarton, Matt Ryan and Phil Wright.

Nominate your 2023

COMMUNITY
AT HEART Gems!



WHO HAS MADE YOUR HEART SING THIS YEAR?

I really want to hear about it, so I can thank them too!

It could be an act of kindness small or big.

A caring and thoughtful gesture seen in your school, work, street, club or town.

Exceptional service at your favourite shop, servo, local market, on the bus, at the servo, a volunteer, a community member going above and beyond to help others.

Also 5 hampers filled with beautiful local products, produce and vouchers to gift in appreciation.

SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION

You can send me an email, post a letter, fb message or call my office.

Please include their name, an address + contact details as well.

Open to all ages living or working in the Bass electorate.

Nominations close Thursday 30 November

jordan crugnale mp
STATE MEMBER FOR BASS

jordan.crugnale@parliament.vic.gov.au
T 03 5672 4755 [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/JordanCrugnaleMP) JordanCrugnaleMP
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HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW FIRE?

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Bushfires: a local perspective

The Captain of the Phillip Island brigade, Lino Drazzi answered questions and busted some myths about the fire season on the island.

We live on an island and we're surrounded by water, so bushfires aren't really an issue here.

We live on a great island which offers some great environmental features which we all love to visit and explore, from our beautiful beaches and their coastal reserves such as Cape Woolamai to walks through our bushland reserves such as Oswin Roberts. The Island also has extensive farming and grasslands and of course tree and coastal scrub lined areas of Silverleaves, Red Rocks and Ventnor to name a few places. With these beautiful environmental features, there is also a risk of bushfire.

We do not get those long running fires, such as the ones we see in East Gippsland which spread over large distances, however we are just at risk for fires starting and spreading throughout our area.

We are unique in that we have only one exit point. Generally, when the fire season is upon us, we have large numbers of visitors to the area who really are not aware of the bushfire risk. This does complicate the situation when we do have fires and those from outside the area panic as they don't think of bushfire as part of their visit to the Island.

I don't have an evacuation plan. If there's a fire, we'll just go to the beach.

We hear this one a lot! Going to the beach is a plan, but is it your best plan?

You have got to remember, bushfires occur on hot, dry and windy days and in many cases, access to the beach is through a bush lined area. You may end up stranded at the beach in extreme heat and windy conditions. There may be heavy smoke and your exit via the coastal scrub lined walking track may not be available due to fire.

There is also the issue of tides, which again can be dangerous and leave you completely isolated. You are likely to be stuck out there for hours and will need to be prepared with water, shade, masks, etc. Also escaping to the beach may be the plan for many Australia wildlife, so you may be sharing your beach with local snakes and other dangerous animals.

Check out some photos from the 2019/20 Mallacoota Fires and im-



The beach during the 2019/20 Mallacoota Fires. Image been stuck on the beach for hours in soaring temperatures covered with smoke. There are better options.

age being stuck for hours in soaring temperatures covered with smoke. There are better options.

Are there any bushfire prone areas on Phillip Island?

Yes, there are. The Victorian Government as a recommendation of the 2009 Victorian Bushfire Commission mapped the state of Victoria in respect to bushfire risk.

Actually, quite a large area of Phillip Island is Bushfire Prone Area (as per the map – see the light brown area).

The red areas are mapped with the Wildfire Management Overlay, which means a higher risk of bushfire. More information about Bushfire Prone Areas and a Wildfire Management Overlay can be found on the Victorian Government Department of Transport and Planning website.

I live in Silverleaves. There are a lot of trees around my house. What do I need to do to prepare for fire season?

Silverleaves offers a beautiful environment in which to live and enjoy, however it must be remembered that the area is considered a high-risk area for bushfires.

Your first step in how to prepare for the fire season is to have a bushfire plan. Make sure your family knows it and sticks to it. Consider your individual circumstances and align your decision points on leaving and staying with the Australian Fire Danger Ratings.

With a Fire Danger Rating of Extreme or Catastrophic,

leaving early before the fire has started is the safest option. To find out more, check out the CFA Website about planning and preparations.

Cleaning up and maintaining your property is also an essential part of living in the area and can reduce the chance of property loss during a fire. Cleaning up gutters, removing fine fuels in and around your home, cleaning tree limbs over your house and developing a fire safe garden are just some of the steps you could take.

People have lost their homes due to simple things like embers landing on their doormat. Again, check out the CFA website for more information about preparing your property.

If there was a bushfire, I'd stay and protect my home.

Staying and protecting your home can be your plan. Whilst CFA recommends leaving early, under the Emergency Management Act, if someone has a financial interest in the property, they can decide to stay. Anyone making this decision should be aware of the risks it involves.

- Defending your home requires at least two fit adults who are physically and mentally able to work for long periods in difficult conditions.
- If defending, CFA recommends that you have at least 10,000 litres of firefighting water, protective clothing, and appropriate firefighting hoses and pumps.
- Homes in high-risk bushfire areas are not defensible under Catastrophic conditions.
- Defending your home is very risky – you could die or be seriously injured.
- During a fire event, emergency vehicles and aircraft may not be able to attend your property.

Have there ever been any serious bushfires on Phillip Island?

Fortunately, Phillip Island has avoided any major fires over the past many years. There have been numerous smaller fires, such as the five-acre fire in Ventnor last year, but this does not mean we should sit back and relax and feel safe.

Limited fires over the last few years means increase in fuel loads, which means if we do get

fire, there is more to burn. Climate change is also an issue, with CFA continuing to research the effects of climate change on fire weather, vegetation and more, and working to find the solutions to how we fight fires in the future. Findings so far suggest:

- There has been an increase in extreme fire weather across Australia with the greatest change in the south and east.
- Fire weather in Victoria is expected to increase by a further 10-20 per cent.
- Some areas could see a tripling in the number of 'Very High' fire danger days.
- These changes in fire weather are due to an increase in temperature and reduction in rainfall.
- The fire season is more regularly starting earlier. Typically starting one to three months earlier and ending two to six weeks later.

I'm making a fire evacuation kit. So far, I have a woollen blanket, a torch, some masks and a bottle of water. What else should I include?

Your plan and your personal circumstances will help decide what you need to include in your evacuation kit. That said, there is a useful CFA guide on possible items you can include.

It's rained so much recently. Everything will be too wet to burn.

The last couple of years has seen Victoria wetter due to increased rain. However, you may have noticed recently in the news, Australia has headed into a El Nino. This means reduced rainfall, warmer days and nights and consequently an increase in the fire danger for Southeast Australia.

Locally, yes there has been a lot of rain recently. However, rain followed with warmer, sunnier conditions will see more growth in our vegetation. As we head into summer, this vegetation will dry off. More growth and dry vegetation means more fuel for fire to feed off and travel through.

I live in Cowes. I don't need to do anything to prepare for the Bushfire season.

Even living in Cowes, you should look into planning for Bushfire Season. Keeping your home and garden maintained for summer is essential. An ember from a fire quite some distance away does have to potential to spark a fire at your home. During these times, CFA resources are limited as they attack the current fire and therefore response to a fire at your home during this time could be limited.

So, maintenance is key. You should also think about what you do on those days of Extreme or Catastrophic fire danger. Think about what your plans are for the day which may take you into an area of fire risk. Think about if roads are blocked or closed and therefore may limit your ability to move around or access services that you require.

Planning and preparation are vital wherever you live or holiday. With Victoria being one of the most fire risk environments on Earth, thinking about, planning, preparing and discussing your plan with your family is vital.



To help prepare for the fire season, Council's free green waste disposal period will run from November 4 until November 26.

Fee-free green waste period starts soon

Bass Coast Shire Council's annual fee-free green waste disposal period will run from Saturday, November 4 until Sunday, November 26 to encourage preparation for the fire season.

During this time, Bass Coast residents and ratepayers can dispose of green waste free of charge at Council's Waste Facilities in Grantville, Wonthaggi, Inverloch and Cowes.

Bass Coast Mayor Cr Michael Whelan said that it is important for property owners to take steps to clean up their property before the start of summer.

"We've already seen bushfires in other parts of Gippsland," Cr Whelan said, noting these were before the official fire season had even begun.

"We're encouraging all property owners to take advantage of this fee-free disposal period to ensure they're prepared before summer begins."

With the first weekend of the disposal period coinciding with the Melbourne Cup weekend, high demand can result in queues and delays, particularly on this first weekend. Disposing of your green waste in the middle of the fee-free period may help you avoid delays.

To ensure the safety of staff and community during this busy period, Cowes Recycling Bank will be limited in the loads and vehicles it can accept.

Cowes Recycling Bank will:

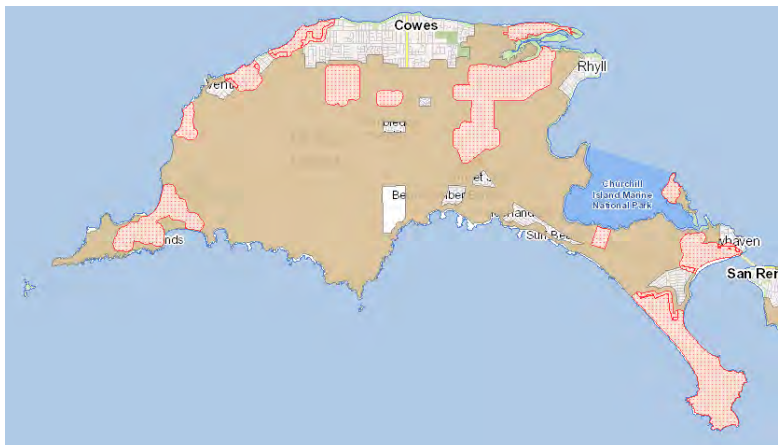
- Only accept green waste loads up to a maximum of 2m³
- Only accept cars, utes, vans and single axle trailers. Larger vehicles (including trucks and tandem trailers) will be redirected to Grantville or Wonthaggi

Entry to the Cowes Recycling Bank will be via The Concourse end of Dunsmore Road (rather than the Settlement Road end) to assist with management of traffic.

Weed species including blackberry, English ivy, agapanthus, mirror bush and plants that cannot be mulched such as palm fronds are not accepted as green waste, however these can go in your kerbside Organics (green lid) bin at any time.

Locations and operating hours of Council's Waste Facilities are available at www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/wastefacilities.

Details: www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/greenwaste or contact council.



Map showing Bushfire prone areas across a large area of Phillip Island, with the red section showing areas with a Wildfire Management Overlay, which means a higher risk of bushfire.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW FIRE?

Plan. Act. Survive.
vic.gov.au/knowfire

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The CFA says safety during fire season is a shared responsibility, so it's vital that you understand your local risks and take actions to prepare your family and property.

Will you leave early?

An alarming number of Victorians living in high-risk bushfire areas say they would stay at their properties until they felt threatened by a bushfire, or would wait for an official warning, a CFA survey revealed.

CFA's annual Bushfire Community Survey, undertaken since 2009-10, showed 30.9 per cent would wait for emergency authorities to tell them what to do, 28.6 per cent would stay until they felt threatened and 13.8 per cent would stay and defend their property.

Victoria has experienced many damaging fire seasons in recent memory such as the February 2009 bushfires and the 2019-20 fires, and with the prediction of a warmer spring and earlier start to this year's season, CFA is concerned that not enough people are preparing themselves for fire season and heeding CFA's advice.

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan said it's concerning knowing around half of all Victorians in high-risk bushfire areas are risking their lives if a bushfire was to occur.

"Victoria has had quieter fire seasons the last few years but now is not the time for the community to become complacent," CO Heffernan said.

"And while our firefighters are always well prepared, your safety during fire season is a shared responsibility, so it's vital that you understand your local risks and take actions to prepare your family and property.

"We've seen in the recent release of the spring seasonal outlook that weather patterns are changing and we're expecting warmer and drier conditions across the state leading up to summer.

"Fires spread quickly and they threaten lives and properties. The community needs to be prepared and they need to know their triggers to act.

"Please don't rely on one source of information, utilise the multiple channels available to you. Use common sense and protect yourself and your loved ones."

The AFAC Seasonal Bushfire Outlook for Spring released in



The predicted development of an El Niño weather pattern will contribute to higher fire risk in some parts of Victoria this season compared to the last three years.

August, outlined that fire risk in the coming months is expected to be normal across most parts of Victoria.

The predicted development of an El Niño weather pattern will contribute to higher fire risk in some parts of Victoria this season compared to the last three years.

"Now is the time to sit down with your family or household and make sure you have a bushfire survival plan. Practice this plan and be ready," CO Heffernan said.

"On hot, dry and windy days, don't drive into or through high-risk areas. Plan an alternate route or postpone your travel if possible. Continue to monitor conditions every day."

The survey also showed 44.4 per cent believe CFA is responsible for protecting them during a bushfire, and 43.8 per cent say CFA is responsible for protecting their home.

"We simply can't get a truck to every house during a major bushfire. Fire safety is a joint effort and the community need to also take on this responsibility when living in a bushfire prone area," CO Heffernan said.

"Our promise is to continue with our mission to protect lives and property and we are lucky to have some of the best firefighters in the world to do this."

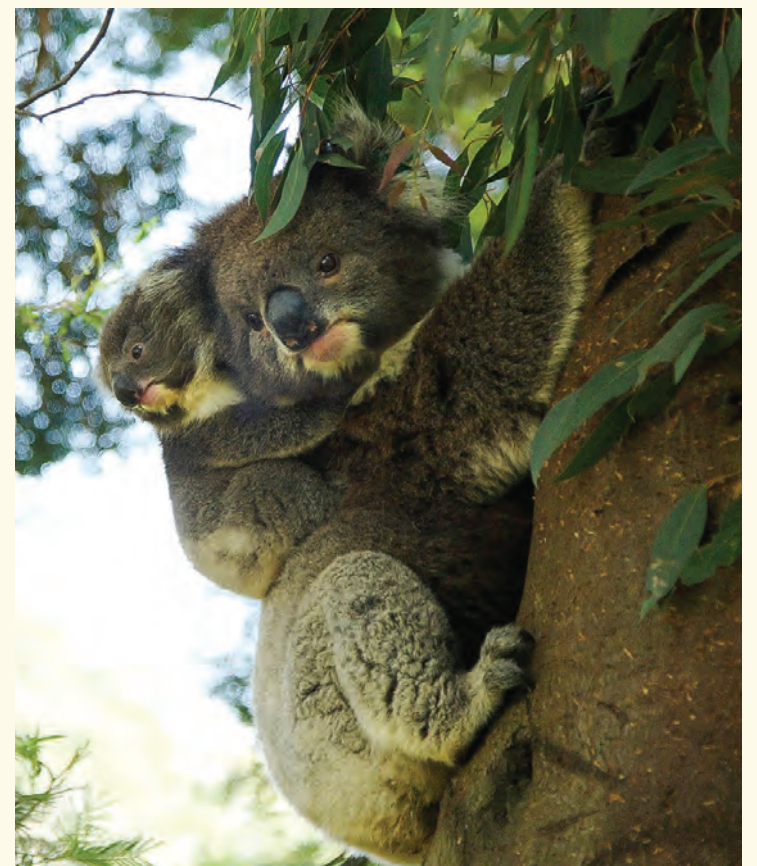
Victorians should know

where to find the best information to stay safe and never rely on just one source of information.

Victoria's integrated warning system includes the Vic Emergency website, app and social media channels, VicEmergency Hotline 1800 226 226, emergency broadcasters including ABC radio, Sky News TV, commercial radio and select community radio stations.

Warnings are issued when an incident is occurring, and you need to act. Make sure you understand the three levels of warnings and additional messages such as 'Evacuate Now'.

- Advice – An incident is occurring or has occurred. Access information and monitor conditions.
- Warning (Watch & Act) – An emergency is developing nearby. Conditions are changing and you need to act now to protect yourself and your family.
- Emergency Warning – You are in imminent danger and need to act now.
- Evacuation – An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate. We're asking people to take the following actions:
- Move your winter woodpile away from the house or sheds.
- Prune tree branches so they are not overhanging the roof or touching walls.
- Clear your gutters.
- Keep grass shorter than 10cm.
- Remove leaves and twigs from around your property.
- Test anything that is part of your fire plan such as sprinklers, pumps and generators.
- Check that your home and contents insurance is current and includes a level of cover in line with current building standards and regulations.
- If you are burning off to remove green waste, register your burn-off online at Fire Permits Victoria at www.firepermits.vic.gov.au, or call ESTA on 1800 688 511.
- Make sure your household has a Bushfire Survival Plan. Find out how at www.cfa.vic.gov.au/bushfireplan.



New blueprint will help Phillip Island Nature Parks manage the risk of bushfires this season. Fire can have devastating short and long-term effects on nesting species' colonies, including penguins and short-tailed shearwaters, as well as koalas who have limited ability to escape fires.

Nature Parks new plan to manage fire risks

A new blueprint will help Phillip Island Nature Parks manage the risk of bushfires this season, amid concerns that hotter, drier conditions will pose a more significant fire hazard.

The Bushfire Management Plan 2023-2028 sets out a range of fire preparedness initiatives being undertaken by Nature Parks to safeguard iconic wildlife, conservation areas and local communities on Phillip Island as we edge closer to the summer season.

Among the initiatives detailed in the new plan are the use of fire to maintain or improve biodiversity, reducing the risk of fire ignition within Nature Parks sites through education and restricted access areas, hazard management strategies, and having adequate resources to patrol for and respond to fire events promptly.

The plan builds on Nature Parks' Future Proofing Little Penguins initiative, which is helping to protect the widely loved animals by modifying penguin habitat to reduce flammability and land temperatures in high-risk areas, strengthening firebreaks and replacing vegetation with "penguin friendly" plants to reduce the speed and intensity of a bushfire.

As part of the strategy, Nature Parks conducts pre-season inspections to check its asset protection zones and fuel management is carried out in accordance with appropriate standards, and ensures sprinkler systems at the Penguin Parade and Koala Conservation Reserve are fully functional.

Nature Parks staff also participate in property advice visits with the Country Fire Authority to support adjacent landholders with their fire preparations, and is investigating the feasibility of extending sprinkler systems around at the Penguin Parade Visitor Centre as additional emergency shelter.

Phillip Island Nature Parks Ranger-in-Charge Ben Thomas said climate change and the threat of more frequent, destructive bushfires had ensured a comprehensive fire preparedness plan for future fire seasons.

"While bushfires are relatively uncommon on Phillip Island and most fires are quickly detected, with 65 per cent contained to 1ha or less, we cannot be complacent. We must be prepared," Mr Thomas said.

"The reality is climate change is making heat stress events and bushfires worse, not only in Australia but globally.

"These fire events are becoming more frequent, more intense and more dangerous – and they have the potential to decimate communities, conservation areas and vulnerable populations of the treasured wildlife we are fortunate to have on Phillip Island.

"In particular, fire can have devastating short and long-term effects on colonial nesting species, including penguins and short-tailed shearwaters, as well as koalas who have limited ability to escape fire – not to mention the knock-on effects on business continuity and the local economy."

BASS COAST BUSINESS AWARDS 2023



The winners of the 2023 Bass Coast Business Awards. Photo Kim Keltie.

Award-winning businesses celebrated

BUSINESS AWARDS

Local business achievements were celebrated at the 2023 Bass Coast Shire Council Business Awards, announced on Friday night.

Bass Coast Boat and Caravan Storage from Glen Forbes took out the coveted Business of the Year award, with the judges praising the quality of the submission, noting that “research, planning, and education is key to delivering a new product”.

Thirteen Phillip Island and San Remo businesses were on the winners and runners up list.

Congratulations to Brinnie T Design, TerraLab, Wildlife

Coast Cruises, Bass Strait Direct, San Remo Hotel, Anchor Belle Holiday Park, NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park, her. Skin and Day Spa, Balance Health Phillip Island, We are Phillip Island, Patricia Jamieson Celebrant, San Remo Butchers and Bass Coast Plastering.

Alongside businesses from across the shire, these 13 businesses were recognised for their excellence at a gala dinner held at the Cape Paterson Surf Life Saving Club.

This year’s awards ceremony showcased a profound commitment to everything local.

“From the delicious food and beverages to trophies, vibrant

flowers – the event incorporated and celebrated the outstanding talents of our region,” a council spokesperson said.

One of the highlights of the evening was the overwhelming response to the People’s Choice Awards categories.

“This year, we received a staggering 2300 votes, nearly doubling last year’s count. The community’s increasing involvement in celebrating local businesses in our region is heartening, and we extend our gratitude to all those who participated.”

Phillip Island and San Remo dominated the People’s Choice Awards, taking out first or second place in six of the seven categories.

The council thanked all 54 applications submitted from businesses across diverse sectors, including construction, hair and beauty, health, hospitality, manufacturing, the visitor economy, retail, and professional services.

“Among these, 35 businesses applied for the awards, and we were thrilled to welcome 25 first-time applicants who took their place on the stage of recognition.”

The judging panel for this year’s awards was comprised of six industry professionals who generously volunteered their time to support the Business Awards. The panel included: Kim Story, Destination Phillip Island; Andrea Evans-McCall, Countries

University Centre; Rebecca Mas-saro, Interchange Gippsland; Heidi Hamm, Sustainability Victoria; Melissa Cashman, Phillip Island Nature Parks; Jennifer Carroll, GoTo Solutions.

The council expressed its sincere appreciation of the sponsors, “whose unwavering support made this event possible”.

Council said the awards celebrated the entrepreneurial spirit and creativity of local businesses.

“The Council is proud to support and promote these exceptional enterprises, and we look forward to seeing them continue to thrive and contribute to the vibrancy of our community,” the council spokesperson concluded.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE.

Sunscape Solar are committed to providing a high quality service for Bass Coast residents who are in need of help to bring their electricity bills down.

The rising cost of power in modern society puts a lot of pressure on families, whose money could be

better spent by investing in the ongoing generation of their own free power.

If you haven’t looked into getting solar yet, we encourage you to contact our office to organise a free quote. The quote will provide you with individualised

data of how much solar could save you in the coming years, so you can make a decision on whether it is a wise investment for your home or not.

Just call 1300 733 332 or email office@sunscaresolar.com.au.

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BASS COAST BUSINESS AWARDS 2023



Triple winners! Bass Coast Boat and Caravan Storage took out the coveted Business of the Year gong, as well as winning the Marketing and Communications award and the People's Choice award for Retail and Services. Photo Kim Keltie.



Cr David Rooks, with We are Phillip Island's Judi Pay, who won the People's Choice award for Online, Mobile and Home-based Business. Photo Kim Keltie.



Cr Clare Le Serve (right) with Lynn and Des Gow from San Remo Butchers, runner up in the People's Choice award for Retail and Services. Photo Kim Keltie.

BASSCOAST

PLASTERING

Premium plastering company Servicing Cardinia, Bass Coast & South Gippsland

Bass Coast Plastering is a premium plastering company located on the Bass Coast working alongside some of South East Victorias leading custom builders, along with many great private clients.

Offering a superior finish in the plaster industry Bass Coast Plastering is a family company that consistently aims to provide a quality service with a great client experience.

Established in 2018 with over 15 years in the plastering trade Bass Coast Plastering covers all aspects of plastering, Residential & Commercial modern, ornamental, partitions & suspended ceilings.

JD02956AB

“We are incredibly humbled to win this year’s People’s Choice Award in the Accommodation and Tourism Attraction sector!”

For over six decades, Anchor Belle Holiday Park has been a family-owned gem. The People’s Choice Award nomination is a

nod to our team’s dedication and the trust of our cherished visitors. It signifies a strong connection with our guests, reflecting their appreciation for the warm hospitality and exceptional customer service we provide. To our guests who have taken the time to vote for us, we are extremely grateful for the recognition of what we strive to achieve.

BASS COAST BUSINESS AWARDS 2023



The team from NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park were runner up in the People's Choice award for Accommodation and Tourism Attraction. Photo Kim Keltie.



Wildlife Coast Cruises won the award for Environmental Sustainability. Photo Kim Keltie.



The team from Anchor Belle Caravan Park celebrate their win in the People's Choice Award for Accommodation and Tourism Attraction. Photo Kim Keltie.



Bass Strait Direct was runner up in the Environmental Sustainability award. Photo Kim Keltie.



Jo Viney and her team from Brinnie T Designs won the Access, Equity and Inclusion award. Photo Kim Keltie.



San Remo's TerraLab continued its award-winning run, picking up the Business Innovation award. Photo Kim Keltie.

Judged Category Awards

Business of the Year sponsored by Harman Wines

- Bass Coast Boat and Caravan Storage

Access, Equity and Inclusion sponsored by Interchange Gippsland

- Brinnie T Design, Winner
- YES Youth Hub, Runner Up

Business Innovation sponsored by Corio Generation

- TerraLab, Winner
- Wonthaggi Allied Health Centre, Runner Up

Environmental Sustainability sponsored by Westernport Water

- Wildlife Coast Cruises, Winner
- Bass Strait Direct, Runner Up

Event Excellence sponsored by rEVENTS Academy

- NYE on the Hill, Winner
- Bass Coast Cycle Challenge, Runner Up

Marketing and Communications sponsored by Destination Phillip Island

- Bass Coast Boat and Caravan Storage, Winner
- San Remo Hotel, Runner Up

Resilience sponsored by Small Business Mentoring Service

- Wonthaggi Allied Health Centre, Winner
- San Remo Hotel, Runner Up

People's Choice Awards

Sponsored by Bass Coast Shire Council.

Accommodation and Tourism Attraction

- Anchor Belle Holiday Park, Winner
- NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park, Runner Up

Food and Beverage

- Harman Wines, Winner
- Merindah Hill Farm, Runner Up

Hair and Beauty

- her. Skin & Day Spam, Winner
- Hair by Sarah Azzato, Runner Up

Health and Lifestyle

- Wonthaggi Allied Health Centre, Winner
- Balance Health Phillip Island, Runner Up

Online, Mobile and Home-based Business

- We Are Phillip Island, Winner
- Patricia Jamieson Celebrant, Runner Up

Retail and Services

- Bass Coast Boat and Caravan Storage, Winner
- San Remo Butchers, Runner Up

Trade

- Rotaret Hydraulic Engineering, Winner
- Bass Coast Plastering, Runner Up

The Awards night was sponsored by Food and Fibre Gippsland, with nbn Local providing photography.



We are both Excited and Grateful to once again be a part of the Bass Coast Business awards!

Each year gets more exciting and we are so Thankful of the continued and unwavering support from our customers.

Good Luck to all Categories and Business that have been acknowledged this year.

Bass Strait Direct
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SAT 11
NOV 2023
INVERLOCH, VIC

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www.WeArePhillipIsland.com.au is a business and community directory and an EVENTS calendar.

Phillip Island has an ever-increasing number of new residents and holiday homeowners. This scenic island is home to a diverse group of businesses and this directory showcases them, making it easy to find information.

This is also where you can find the many community groups/clubs, and volunteer groups along with other information that makes this unique Island.

The website is supported by daily social media posts on FB and Instagram with an ever-increasing number of followers.

We Are Phillip Island promotes the "buy local" campaign which supports our community.

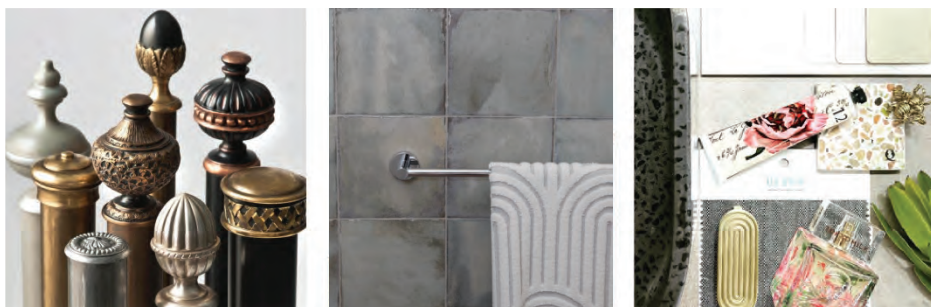


Brinnie T Design is honoured to be a Finalist in the Bass Coast Business Awards again this year – a reflection of our passion in relation to Equity, Access and Inclusion.

This is represented not only in our Thompson Avenue Gift & Homewares store, Brinnie T Home, but also with our work in Accessible Design – creating functional spaces that feel like home.

Brinnie T Design now has showroom studio in The Concourse, Cowes where you can view or purchase anything from fabrics and wallpaper through to basins, taps, tiles, vanities and more. Visit us on line or contact Jo for a studio appointment.

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Being named a finalist in the 2023 business awards really means a lot to us. Thank you very much to everyone that voted for us, we are very humbled and grateful!

We have been established in the local area for fourteen years supporting a wide range of local businesses including tourism, fishing and agriculture just to name a few. We are passionate about our local community and strive to achieve the best possible outcome for our customers weather it

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Iconic, award-winning house

This is an award-winning house by architect Peter Maddison of Grand Design fame and has to be the most photographed and written about house on the island.

Its groundbreaking design was the winner of RAIA in 1995 and continues to attract attention today. It is the most recognised house on Phillip Island for good reason.

The property sits on the cliff top of Surf Beach, with arguably the best view of the ocean you will ever see. Positioned to look straight out to Pyramid Rock, one is captivated by watching the waves crash along the island's rugged coastline. A boardwalk across the road allows easy access to the ocean beach. 184 The Esplanade is an incredible location of natural beauty.

The house sits on a corner allotment of almost a quarter acre, surrounded by a well-established garden. The main house was designed to take full advantage of the views. It was designed to open up and embrace summer living and close down and snuggle up for wild winters. Standing like a sentinel on guard, it sees everything from Cape Woolamai to Pyramid Rock and is a full three stories high. With a spiral staircase that links the floors, it gathered the name the 'Lighthouse' from the local surfers.

The home features a ground floor master bedroom and bathroom that opens out through French doors to a private courtyard complete with a circular

saltwater heated plunge pool.

Up the spiral staircase and you are immediately greeted with a 18ft high ceiling, with double French doors that just beckon you out to a large entertainer's deck, that just soaks up the view. It is here, that you can feel like you are actually on a boat, the ocean is so close, you can actually hear the waves crashing on the shoreline.

The room is open plan living, with a contemporary kitchen, complete with Miele appliances and of course an open fireplace.

On the third level you will be greeted with a full roof top deck. This allows for a full 360-degree view of the island, captivating ocean, rural and bay views. At night to entertain under a galaxy of stars, is something incredibly special.

There is a separate fully contained guest pavilion, also designed by Peter Maddison. This was added in later years and allows space for visiting friends and family.

The Pavilion opens to a linking courtyard that is the perfect place to retreat and entertain and enjoy the beautiful designed garden, that features spectacular lighting by the renowned Gardens at Night company.

Call Alex Scott & Staff Phillip Island on 5952 2633 to arrange a private inspection of this magnificent property. You will not be disappointed.

Sale by Expression of Interest (EOI) closing 4pm, Thursday December 7.




This award-winning house by architect Peter Maddison was the winner of RAIA in 1995 and continues to attract attention today.




The large entertainer's deck just soaks up the view, and you're so close to the ocean you feel like you are actually on a boat.



On the first floor, the room is open plan living, with a contemporary kitchen, complete with Miele appliances and an open fireplace.



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weekend success

Congratulations to our amazing holiday team, who facilitated our most successful GP to date! Their proactive approach and effective use of technology resulted in a 99% occupancy rate, by the beginning of MotoGP week, with zero issues arising.

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Island
HOME

Advertising Feature

YOUR PHILLIP ISLAND AND SAN REMO PROPERTY GUIDE



This stunning rural property is set over five acres, with extensive views across Westernport Bay, French Island, Bass Strait and surrounding farmland.

Stunning rural property

This stunning property is set over five acres and designed for growing families and entertainers/
It's an easy drive to both San Remo or Wonthaggi and Bass Coast beaches.

The home captures all natural light and has a north facing orientation, with extensive views across Westernport Bay, French Island, Bass Strait and surrounding farmland.

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FIRST NATIONAL PHILLIP ISLAND

54 WAIKIKI CRESCENT,
SMITHS BEACH
\$1,150,000

The ideal beach house awaits, with excellent access to both beaches in Smiths beach, with two large decks makes this the entertaining paradise for family and friends. Set over a large block with water views from the rear deck and kitchen just adds to this ideal setting. With so many options this could be a perfect holiday rental investment or just use for personal use.

CONTACT MICHAEL MCLEOD
0412 712 034

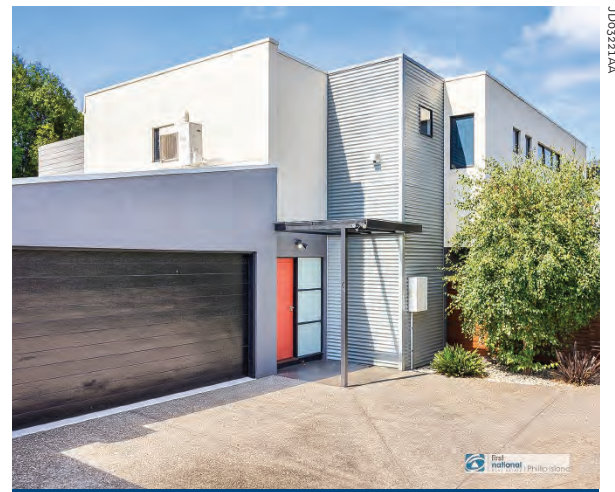


PERFECT BEACH HOUSE

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Nestled in this perfect location is the ideal property for entertaining family and friends. With excellent access to Cowes Foreshore is just the start to all the features and benefits this property holds. The stunning north facing living and entertaining area is flooded with natural light and flows to the alfresco area. The perfect floor plan awaits permanent living and still having ample room ...

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COMPLETE LUXURY/ PRIME LOCATION

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Just move in and enjoy, this extremely well planned and designed home has all the creature comforts you could require. Set over a single level with a large north facing deck that flows from the living area is perfect for entertaining family and friends, Extra parking abuts the large parkland which just adds to the overall package. Even the 6.6kw solar power means little to no power bills.

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COWES
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If you are after a well-located low maintenance property well look no further. This spacious single level property is ideal for holiday or permanent living comprising 3 bedrooms, Master with ensuite, built in robes to other 2 bedrooms, huge kitchen, dining and living area, reverse cycle heating and cooling, garage & courtyard all this within an easy walk to the beach and shops.

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599 DENSLEYS RD,
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\$2,100,000

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST This stunning property is set over 5 acres and designed for growing families and entertainers, an easy drive to both San Remo or Wonthaggi and Bass Coast beaches. The home captures all natural light and has a north facing orientation, and captures extensive views across Westernport Bay, French Island, Bass Straight and surrounding farmland.

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FALL IN LOVE WITH THE LIFESTYLE

22 TERRY CRESCENT,
WIMBLEDON HEIGHTS
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Tucked away in quiet pocket you can escape to your own space to enjoy. This 3 bedrooms home currently has a secure tenant in place and would make the perfect investment property or first home. Other features include reverse cycle heating and cooling, built in robes, verandah & carport fully fenced and spacious rear yard.

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TOO GOOD TO MISS

232 THE ESPLANADE,
SURF BEACH
\$1,850,000

Enjoy spectacular views at this wonderful double-story house, centrally located at Surf Beach on stunning Phillip Island. This home is within walking distance of breathtaking beaches and is close to major attractions. A highlight of this property is its privacy as it's mainly surrounded by farmland & coastal dunes. A nature reserve lines the property on one side, so no neighbours!

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ASPIR's Cup Weekend Art Exhibition will be on display from November 2 - 7, at Berninneit, the newly opened cultural centre in Cowes.

Latest news from ASPIR

ART

ASPIR (Artist Society Phillip Island Region) committee and members are thrilled to be invited to hold the Annual ASPIR Cup Weekend Art Exhibition at Berninneit, the new centre in Cowes.

As part of the opening celebrations the works will be on display for a week from Thursday November 2 right through until Cup Day on Tuesday November 7.

Over the years this annual showcase of the creativity of ASPIR members has become a much-anticipated event.

Dr David Ashley Kerr, Senior Curator at Latrobe Regional Gallery is coming to judge, and the Awards will be presented on Friday November 3 from 5.30pm.

The Cowes Bendigo Community Bank is a major sponsor with the Best in Show Award of \$1000 and Highly Commended Awards. Other sponsors include Alex Scott Real Estate, Brinnie T Design, Phillip Island RSL, Phillip Island Winery, Senior Art Supplies, Westernport Hotel, Westernport Water, and the Wild Food Farm.

"We at ASPIR commend all these sponsors to you, their support makes all the difference and ensures a successful event," said ASPIR president Miranda Sage.

As all works are for sale; it is an opportunity to acquire a wonderful piece to take home and enjoy.

This year will also see students' work displayed from four local primary schools in the Young Artist Award.

The Cowes Bendigo Community Bank is providing cash prizes and students will be encouraged in their artistic endeavours to see their works displayed in such an amazing space.

In other news ASPIR is excited Bass Coast Shire has found a way forward for the four participating groups to move into the old CFA building at 119 Settlement Road to create an Arts precinct.

ASPIR, The Art and Craft Gallery, PIC-ES, and Boomerang Bags will each receive a licence to occupy their own and shared spaces.

"Not having to wait for major funding to be found for a full refit means that we now have the opportunity to bring together the ideas, energies and skills of our members and really create a home for ASPIR with our partners without further delay," Miranda said.

"It has been a 29-year journey to this point and all the hard work by previous committees and members has now paid off."

/ Sponsored article /

Movie Club welcomes 2024 members

FILM

In a series of first, the Phillip Island Movie Club is screening the 2023 film "Shayda" at the newly opened Berninneit centre in Cowes on November 8.

The film is also the first for the 2024 membership of the club.

The 2024 season begins on January 17, with 10-12 films scheduled throughout the year.

"However, the Bass Coast Shire Council has generously offered us two extra screenings this year, on November 8 and December 13," explained club secretary Margaret Byrne.

The PIMC 2024 members will attend the new Cultural Centre Berninneit on Wednesday November 8 and the film will begin at 7pm. It runs for 117mins and is rated PG.

"Shayda" (2023) is a drama directed by Noora Niasari, who was born in Teran but raised in Australia, after coming here when she was six.

The story begins in 1995 with Iranian woman Shayda (Zar Amir Ebrahimi) and her six-year-old daughter Mona (Selina Zahednia) finding refuge in an Australian woman's shelter.

But her path to freedom



Phillip Island Movie Club is screening the 2023 film "Shayda" at the newly opened Berninneit centre in Cowes on November 8.

is jeopardised when her estranged husband arrives. It is based on the unpublished memoirs of the writer-director's mother.

Cate Blanchett saw that potential in Niasari, coming on board as executive producer in 2021. Blanchett's endorsement also gave other financiers confidence, which helped secure further funding which ensured the film would be made. As a result, this deeply personal yet universal story is going to have a truly international audience.

The film has been announced as Australia's official submission for Best International Film at next year's Academy Awards.

If you have paid and registered for your 2024 PIMC tickets you can collect them at the first film you attend.

Please note that you can only attend as a 2024 PIMC member if you present your membership ticket, otherwise you could attend as a fully paying member of the public. The 2023 membership tickets do not cover you for this film. The next 2024 members film, "Past Lives" will be on Wednesday December 13.

The PIMC 2024 Calendar

A provisional schedule of PIMC screenings to be held on Wednesday evenings in 2024: January 17, February 14, March 6, March 27, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 31, September 4, October 23, November 6, December 11.

Screening time is 7pm for all films. Note these dates are subject to change given last minute programming considerations.

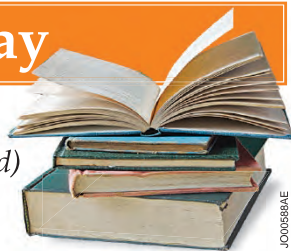
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SPRING MARKET



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Sunday Nov 5

(Cup Weekend)

10.00 am to 1.00 pm

Palm Lake Resort Hall

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(Next to Golf Course)

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SAT 2 & SUN 3 DEC '23

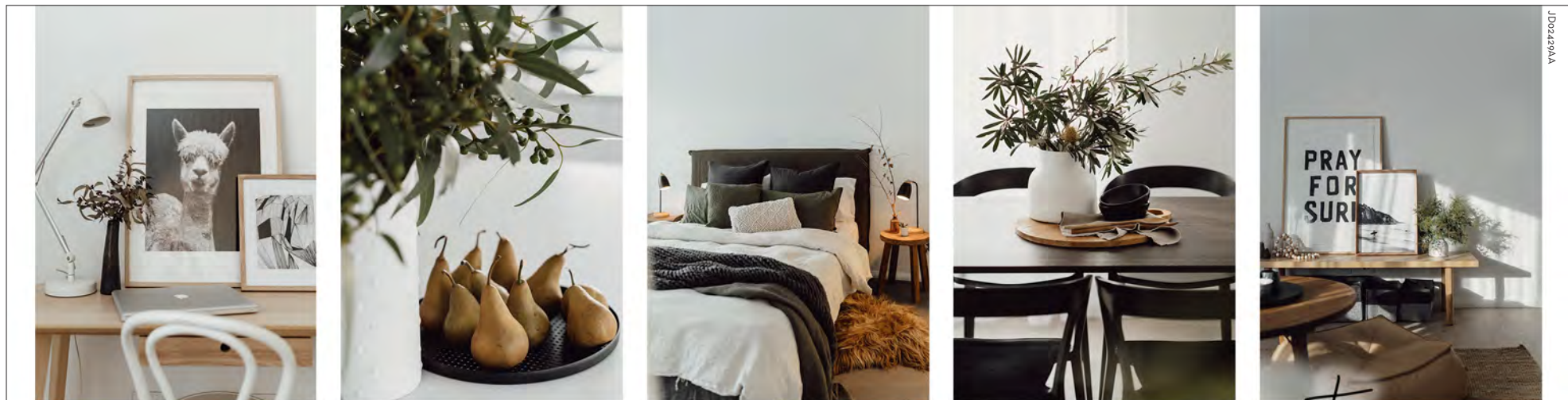
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Seniors gear up for Christmas

COMMUNITY

The Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club is gearing up for its last two lunches of the year.

Members will be very happy with what Santa has delivered for the Christmas lunch raffle on Friday December 1.

"Santa has been tirelessly working with our local businesses and has obtained so many great gifts for our members to win," said club secretary Liza Lee.

"At last count I think we have over 25 beautiful businesses who have very generously donated their products for our members to win and enjoy.

"We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have given and continued to give throughout the year for our regular monthly lunches raffles: RSL Cowes, HBomb Barber-shop, Putters Cafe @ Cowes Golf Club, Penny Lane, Priceline, Terry White Chemist, Ladasha Jeweller Cowes, G'day Tiger, Cowes Bazaar Pizza, San Remo Butchers, Jeni Jobe, Sue Jacobi, Grazing Phillip Island, Cowes Marketplace, Green Gully Microbrewery, Phillip Island Bakery and Bakers Delight."

Liza said the club wanted to extend a special thank you to Phil and Konnie and staff at Cowes IGA "for always giving us a great deal for our meat and vegetables and anything else we need for our lunches".

"To all our sponsors, our committee, members and club in general we are so very thankful and grateful for your awesome



The Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club is holding its annual Garage Sale this week (November 4) and taking bookings for Christmas lunch on December 1. Photo: Brooke Lark, Unsplash.

generosity and kindness.

"We hope to continue business with you in the coming year."

The club will be having its annual garage sale on Saturday November 4 (Cup weekend) with many different and varied stall holders including the world famous sausage sizzle by the Rotary Club in Cowes.

"They will be raising money for all the great causes they donate money to, so please come along and support not only Rotary for raising money for great causes, but also our locals who have stalls on the day too," said Liza.

"If you're a paid up member don't forget to book in for our Christmas lunch on Friday December 1. Call or text me on 0431 867 058 to reserve your seat for Christmas, and for anything else you want to know about."

Liza also said the club would not be running a lunch on Christmas Day as it has on previous years.

"We don't have the manpower to run it and we've hired our hall out for a couple weeks which includes Christmas day."

She said the club would provide details of alternative Christmas Day lunch options shortly.

Palm Lake springs into action

MARKET

The residents of Palm Lake Resort are having their Annual Spring Market on Sunday November 5.

All the stalls will be under cover in the hall at the Resort, so don't worry about the weather.

Palm Lake is located at 48 Settlement Road, next to the golf course.

Doors will be open from 10am till 1pm, and all types of goodies will be on sale from artworks,

craft, gifts, etc, just in time for Christmas!

A yummy sausage sizzle will be running all day, with onions of course, or perhaps a delicious Devonshire tea.

Get there early – it's the early bird that catches the worm!

Enter at Gate 2, nearest the golf course, and parking attendants will direct you to the nearest spot.

See you on Sunday November 5, at 10am.

/ Sponsored article /



The Palm Lake Resort Annual Spring Market is on November 5, with all types of goodies on sale, as well as a sausage sizzle and a delicious Devonshire tea. Photo: Alexandra Kusper, Unsplash.



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

COWES CENOTAPH

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11TH 10:45AM

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11

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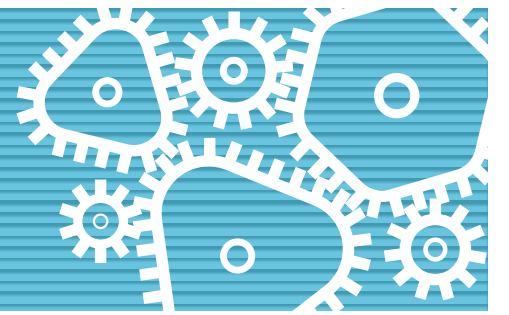
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Carols by Candlelight fundraising trivia night

ENTERTAINMENT

Last week's fundraising trivia night held by Island Voice at the Phillip Island RSL was a great success.

The night raised money to help fund the end of year Christmas Carols by Candlelight event, complete with free pre-entertainment for all the kids.

The sum of \$2300 was raised which will be a great help, said Island Voice president, when announcing the tally this week.

Donations and sponsorship toward this hugely popular and free annual community event, which concludes with a magnificent fireworks display, underwritten by the Bass Coast Shire, would be much appreciated by Island Voice.

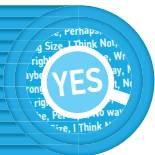


The winning trivia team at the RSL Island Voice fundraiser last week: Phil Ross, Carol Fraser, Ann Finger, Mary Brown, Helen Andrews, Matt Brown, Riley Ross-Bryant and Steve Ross-Bryant.



At the Island Voice Trivia night to support the annual Carols by Candlelight event are (back from left) Lorrae and Laurie Grayden and John and Carol Taylor, and front, Jo Free and Tuppy and Clarry Cleeland.

CLASSIFIEDS SEEK, BUY AND SELL



DEATHS

Phillip Island and San Remo War Widows Club regret the passing of:
CLEMENTS, Betty:
A long time member and past president.
Loved by all and will be missed by Legatees and members alike.
Rest in Peace

STEWART, Dianne Frances:
26.12.1951 - 28.10.2023
Loved mother of Kimberley and Jacqueline.
Adored Nanny to Ashton, Ahlee, Jarvis, Emma and Hamish.
Beloved sister to David.

WENHAM, Ian George:
13.4.1936 to 29.10.2023
It is with deepest sadness that we announce the passing of Ian.
Much loved husband to Doreen (dec).
Father to Richard (dec.), Melissa and Elizabeth, loving grandfather to Kyle, Taya, Alice and Tilley.
Love you always.

FUNERALS

STEWART:
The Funeral Service for Ms. Dianne Frances Stewart will be held at St. John's Uniting Church, Chapel Street, Cowes on
Wednesday
Nov. 8, 2023
commencing at 11:00am.
A Private Cremation will follow.
Dianne's service will be live streamed.
Please go to www.handleyandandersonfunerals.com.au for details.

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FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Unit 10/11, 120-122, Esplanade, Phillip Island

PUBLIC NOTICES

Interested in Cosmology? Why not join our new Cosmology group on Phillip Island. Talks starting November 2023.
For further information please contact Eden White 0448 637 172

GARAGE SALES

CAPE WOOLAMAI:
18 Palm Beach Ave.
Sat 4th, Sun 5th & Mon 6th, 8am to 2pm.
Moving house, lots of antiques, old tools and Kids toys.

SMITHS BEACH:
228 Smiths Beach Road, Sat Nov 4, from 8am - 2pm.
All funds go towards Cambodian children.

SAN REMO:
San Remo bowls club car park
From 7.30 am on Saturday 4th Nov
Fishing rods, camping gear, surf boards and lots of stuff.
SUNSET STRIP:
26 Sunset Drive, Sat Nov 4, from 8am onwards.
Household goods.

Phillip Island World Vision Club
GARAGE SALE
Saturday 4 November 2023
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Reid Street, Rhyll (look for the flags)
Sales of goods, Devonshire tea, sausage sizzle, preserves, jam & much more!
MAD HAT PARADE AT 2:00 PM
ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT WORLD VISION AUSTRALIA.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of AGM
Sunday 26th November 2023- 1pm
San Remo Recreation Centre
westernporttennisclub@outlook.com

PHILLIP ISLAND FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUBS AGM
Monday 13/11/22 at 6pm
at Football Club Rooms.
For info email info@pifnc.com.au

SITUATIONS VACANT


Our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School Cowes
TENDER NOTICE
Our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School Cowes is accepting tender applications for Lawn Maintenance.
All tenders must be submitted to:
Catherine Blackford – Principal
PO Box 444
Cowes Vic 3922
or info@olsscows.catholic.edu.au
Please contact the school on 03 5951 1700 for further information.
Tenders will be received until Friday, November 10, 2023 at 4pm
A current Working with Children Card and Public Liability must be held for the successful application to be considered.


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For further information please contact
Darren Parker – College Principal
(5611 4000)


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Information and Role Description available on Recruitment Online or for further information please contact
Nancy Crismanich on 5611 4000

SITUATIONS VACANT

Manager Customer Experience
South Gippsland Water (SGW) are currently seeking an enthusiastic person to join us as a Manager Customer Experience. The key requirements of the role are:

- Leadership: The demonstrated ability to lead and manage customer service employees and processes through periods of change in a manner that maintains team commitment, contribution and productivity.
- Operational Excellence: A track record of leading strategic thinking and implementation of customer experience improvement initiatives, including achieving a single enterprise view of the customer, process digitization, expanded communication and self-service options, improved rates of first-contact resolution, effective communication methods and content, and targeted customer support programs that respond to financial hardship and other factors that impact customer ability to access products and services – all at an enterprise level through engaging multiple internal stakeholders
- Commercial Acumen: Proven professional and technical expertise in financial and customer management, customer debt management, business budgeting, commercial costing and pricing relationships, vendor management, and anticipating and forecasting future customer and internal enterprise requirements.
- Stakeholder Engagement: Demonstrated experience building and maintaining long term internal and external stakeholder relationships across diverse service delivery organisations including representing organisations with external customers, community and/or regulatory industry bodies
- Permanent Full Time
- Starting Location Foster, Victoria
- Flexible Work Arrangements Available
- SGW Enterprise Agreement Band SEO

At SGW diversity is celebrated and respected as important for our wellbeing and success. We strive for a workplace that is equitable and inclusive. We welcome diversity in applicants.
Please go to www.sgwater.com.au/careers/ for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply.
Applications Close
Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 9:00am



PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANTS
Join us! We are the leading Victorian provider of aged care! We pride ourselves on supporting and developing our staff!

Here at BlueCross, we are the largest, and leading provider of aged care in Victoria. We pride ourselves on the exceptional services we deliver to our clients within the community as well as the clients that reside within our 31 aged care Residences. We are passionate about our clients, and we love what we do!

We are looking for the “right attitude”.
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WHY WE WANT YOU:

- You are looking for a place where you can make a difference
- Demonstrable experience working in a similar role
- Certificate III in Aged Care or equivalent e.g. Individual Support
- Excellent customer service skills
- A proven ability to take a holistic approach to client needs
- Exceptional communication skills and ability to demonstrate empathy and understanding to our clients and their families
- A positive and proactive approach to working collaboratively within a team and the broader community
- The ability to use initiative and work under pressure

WHAT YOUR DAYS WILL LOOK LIKE:

- Provide personal care to our clients
- Assist our clients with activities of daily living and lifestyle
- Provide clients with nutrition and hydration in a timely manner
- Ensure our client's daily care is provided in a dignified manner
- Provide accurate documentation of daily care notes and observations as required
- Work closely with your team mates to ensure consistent care is provided to all our clients
- Escalate any issues or concerns to your Residence Manager

WHAT YOU WILL GET FROM WORKING HERE AT BLUECROSS:

- High level of support from the BlueCross Corporate team
- Competitive salary package with staff incentives
- A range of career development pathways

We value our culture and share a passion and drive to make a real difference in the lives of our residents and clients. We take great pride in recruiting people who share this passion – after all, it's our people that put the magic into aged care and enrich lives. We pride ourselves on providing a workplace for all our team members that are free of discrimination.
All applications and queries please email JessicaL@bluecross.com.au



CLASSIFIEDS

SEEK, BUY AND SELL



SITUATIONS VACANT

Strategic Maintenance Planner

South Gippsland Water (SGW) are currently seeking an enthusiastic person to join us as a Strategic Maintenance Planner. The key requirements of the role are:

- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in an operations and maintenance environment.
- Demonstrated ability to plan, co-ordinate and deliver complex maintenance programs with effective use of work management, SCADA, IOTA and relevant IT software and systems.
- Ability to assess risk associated with assets and prioritise work programs based on risk.
- Well-developed communications skills with ability to effectively engage with management and other stakeholders.
- Ability to work collaboratively and constructively across an organisation and with external stakeholders.
- Fixed Term (10 Months) Full Time
- Starting Location Wonthaggi, Victoria
- Flexible Work Arrangements Available
- SGW Enterprise Agreement Band OSD-O6C

At SGW diversity is celebrated and respected as important for our wellbeing and success. We strive for a workplace that is equitable and inclusive. We welcome diversity in applicants.

Please go to www.sgwater.com.au/careers/ for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply.

Applications Close
Wednesday 1st November 2023 at 5:00pm



Join us at the Nature Parks

The Nature Parks is an inspiring workplace and, as the largest employer on Phillip Island, offers a range of career opportunities. Our people are enthusiastic, committed, and professional in what they do.

Facilities Officer

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As the Facilities Officer your role is to deliver efficient cleaning and venue presentation services across the Nature Parks precincts.

Senior Wildlife Welfare Officer

Full time

As the Senior Wildlife Welfare Officer, you'll be responsible for managing the Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre and supervising team members.

Experience Supervisor – Koala Conservation Reserve

Full time

As the Experience Supervisor, you will manage the daily operations of KCR including team leadership to deliver an exceptional guest experience.

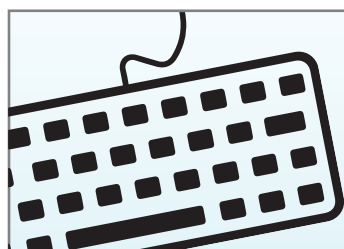
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For further information on this position and how to apply visit our website: www.penguins.org.au/about/employment/our-people-our-work/

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COUNCIL BRIEFS

Wonthaggi arts centre upgrades

Council approved an additional \$40,000 for improvements to the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre.

The work, to be undertaken by Branch Studio Architects, is needed as the existing facilities "in part, do not comply with current Australian Building Regulations".

Work includes upgrades to the box office and kiosk, toilets, office, disability access, lighting and wayfinding.

Cr David Rooks said it was "unfortunate when we have to spend more money than we intended", but praised the work of council officers around the tender process, describing it as "good due diligence".

Statutory reports

The three reports, including information meeting of councillors, planning and building statistics for August 2023

and contracts awarded or extended under the CEO delegation were passed as a block.

There was no discussion on any of the reports from any councillor.

There was one planning permit refused and 32 approved in August, including a second supermarket in Grantville, and changes to the Woolworths car park in Cowes, which would see four less car parks, but the creation of five pick-up parking spaces created.

The report shows there were 39 new applications received in August, with 25 open building enforcement cases.

There were 52 open complaints/cases in planning enforcement.

There was only one contract awarded under the CEO delegation - \$338,000 for a retaining wall and enclosure at the Old Wonthaggi Railway Station.

Details: www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/about-council/council-meetings

Early Childhood leases

New leases were granted for three early childhood centres, in Wonthaggi, North Wonthaggi and Corinella.

A nine-year lease for the White Road centre was granted to the Bass Coast Children's Centre Incorporated, with rent of \$20,124 per annum, increasing annually by four per cent.

A nine-year sub lease was granted to Y Kinders for the centre at Drysdale Street Wonthaggi, with a rent of \$10,000, increasing annually by four per cent.

Uniting (Victoria and Tasmania) secured a nine-year lease for 60 Corinella Road, with rent increment increases set over the first five years (starting at \$5000), then four per cent annually after that.

All providers will be responsible for maintenance of the premises and a program of capital works.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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



Sign of the times?

I am very sorry people have apparently been adversely affected by Covid vaccinations.

I presume those who mounted the emotive display on the San

Remo foreshore on Sunday, within cooee of the Cenotaph, had a permit from the relevant authority.

Two weeks out from Remembrance Day, I take major issue with

anyone who has not donned a uniform and put their life on the line in the service of their nation, being referred to as "the fallen".

Words matter.

Jane Ross, San Remo

Your say on San Remo's future

PLANNING

Over the next 20 years, it is projected that San Remo will grow by between 400 and as much 2100 additional permanent residents.

For San Remo to continue to be a vibrant place to live and visit, Bass Coast Shire Council is developing a structure plan to guide its future growth and development to 2041.

The plan will be shaped by technical reports and community feedback, and will provide direction for planning controls, transportation, infrastructure, and other services.

The council is calling on the community to help with the development of the plan by providing feedback online, or applying to be part of a community reference panel.

The online feedback, at engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/sanremoplan, allows you to place markers on a map, outlining your concerns or ideas under 13 different categories, including natural environment, transport and roads, heritage and culture, economy, housing and utilities



Bass Coast Shire Council is calling on the community to help with the development of a structure plan for San Remo, by providing feedback online, or being part of a community reference panel. Photo courtesy of Garth Lisle Real Estate.

and services.

The community reference group will participate in several in-person workshops in the first half of next year.

"We want the community reference group to represent all of San Remo so we're seeking both permanent and seasonal residents as well as business owners and operators to join the group," council explained.

The consultation aims to identify what the community believes is im-

portant about San Remo, highlight the challenges or issues San Remo faces and identify the opportunities for change and for improvement.

This first phase of consultation is open until December 8.

A pop-up session will be held in Marine Parade on November 6 from 11am - 1pm. Just look for the Bass Coast van.

Details: engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/sanremoplan

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This week's winners: David Smith (S), Margaret Hoy (3), Max Williams (L) and Jim Noonan (2).



This week's runners up: Raffael Merante (2), Sue Stansfield (3), Margaret McConville (L) and Craig Brown (S).



Best one game winners: Terry Floyd (S), Frank D'Unienville (2), Tony Morris (L) and Mark Hanrahan (3).

Tough conditions for midweek crew

BOWLS

A cold and miserable day greeted our family of bowlers with the outlook being fairly bleak.

However, 38 bowlers turned up to fight it out once again for team(s) of the day.

What a great turnout.

As time went by, bowlers were removing coats and jumpers as the weather improved.

As usual, a lot of friendly banter among our players but this didn't distract from the quality of the bowling which was first rate.

A big thank you to Phil for preparing the green for our members and to Terry for his hard work behind the bar.

Peter, Pauline and John continue week by week to do all the hard work to keep us going.

We thank them very much.

Winners on 36 points were: David Smith (S), Margaret Hoy (3), Jim Noonan (2) and Max Williams (L).

Runners up on 3 points were: Craig Brown (S), Sue Stansfield (3), Raffael Merante (2) and Margaret McConville (L).

Best one game winners on 28 points were:

Terry Floyd (S), Mark Hanrahan (3), Frank D'Unienville (2) and Tony Morris (L).

Next week we return to San Remo, we look forward to a great turnout.

We ask everyone to be on site by 10am to allow enough time for Peter to arrange the teams – this is not an easy or quick process.

Meanwhile, we wish the best for everyone at your Pennant matches, both this weekend, as well as the midweek players on Tuesday.

Teal day on the green

GOLF

On Wednesday, October 25, the Phillip Island ladies golf club held a teal day in support of ovarian cancer.

With the weather not on our side, the ladies marched ahead through the hailstorm, to play 13 holes of golf.

Our committee was approached by Christine Hammond's family whose mother is an ovarian cancer survivor.

We decided an auction was the best way to bring in fast cash.

With various games and raffles on the day, the ladies were getting right into the putt for wine comp.

A huge thank you to our sponsors: Sue Payne from Phillip Island patchwork group and Flowers of Phillip Island.

A thank you to Hammond's family for the delicious cupcakes and all individual donations.

All funds raised on the day will go to ovarian cancer.

Winners were Helen Coghlan, Maureen Ellard, Wendy Hoskins and Vicki Rossmith.



Former island footy coach Beau Vernon won gold with the Australian team at the World Wheelchair Rugby Championships in Paris last month. He was welcomed home by his proud children, Joey (left) and Layla, on his return to Australia last week.

Beau an Australian gold medallist

WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

Phillip Island's Beau Vernon has not let the grass grow under his feet since moving to Queensland earlier this year.

Beau, a former footy great before an on field spinal injury left him a quadriplegic in 2012, and a subsequent three time senior premiership football coach on Phillip Island, notched up a huge win in Paris last month, as a member of the Australian team that won the World Wheelchair Rugby Championship.

Australia's Steelers beat Canada to bring home the international trophy.

Other countries the Steelers played to make it to the grand final were Denmark, England and

Canada. The team then had to play the semifinal against Asian champions Japan whom they hadn't beaten in past four years.

The Steelers Australian Wheelchair Rugby team is for paraplegics and quadriplegics, and is the only footy game quadriplegics can play in.

Beau was introduced to it while in rehab after his accident in 2012. He took an interest in it, but other commitments and especially football coaching on Phillip Island took over during the following years.

It was only when he moved to Queensland's Sunshine Coast in January that he made contact with the Steelers' coach and asked if he could train with them.

A few of the Australian team members are based in Queensland and Beau trains with them weekly in Brisbane.

He brings tactical skill and knowledge of game play with him, thanks to his coaching background.

"It was pretty cool (for me) to put on the Aussie colours and to represent our country," he said as he arrived back on the Sunshine Coast last week.

"To win a gold medal for Australia is a great experience and one that I'm very proud of.

"It's given me a lot of confidence in setting my sights on gaining selection for next year's Paralympics."

The Paralympics Games will be held in France next August.

Results from the green

GOLF

Tuesday, October 24

Men's Stableford 18H Competition
Winners: Stewart Hamilton (18) with 42 pts, Don Thomson (26) with 38 pts C/B and Steven Sloss (15) with 38 pts.

BDL: 33pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Joe Thompson, 7th Terry Crumpton, 10th Robert Sparkman and 17th Terry Crumpton.

Men's Stableford 9H

Winners: Reg Browne (37) with 20 pts and David Gladman (17) with 19 pts C/B.

BDL to 17 pts.

Thursday, October 26

Men's 18-hole Stableford
Overall winner: Craig Morris (26) with 39 C/B pts.

A grade winners: A-1 Tony Shannon (10) with 38 pts and A-2 Rob Haydon (14) with 36 pts.

B grade winners: B-1 Jeff Sellenger (22) with 39 pts and B-2 Dave Egan (21) with 37 pts.

C grade winners: C-1 Craig

Morris (26) with 38 pts C/B and C-2 Rob Chambers (25) with 39 pts C/B.

BDL to 32 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Robert Niven, 7th John Savas, 10th Shane Harding and 17th David Nicoll.

Nine-hole Stableford

Winners: Ian Brown (34) with 19 pts and Clive Scott (23) with 16 pts C/B.

BDL to 14 pts C/B.

Saturday, October 28

Men's 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Gregory Stewart (29) with 44 pts C/B.

A grade winners: A-1 Travis Johnson (8) with 35 pts and A-2 Wayne Morris (10) with 34 pts C/B.

B grade winners: B-1 Max Walton (17) with 41 pts and B-2 Paul Ledwith (15) with 39 pts.

C grade winners: C-1 Gregory Stewart (29) with 44 pts and C-2 Harry Bentley (20) with 41 pts C/B.

BDL to 34 pts.

NTP: 5th Neville Thurgood, 7th Mark Haringsma, 10th Jus-

tin McBean and 17th Mark Hill.

Ladies 18-hole Stableford

A grade winners: A-1 Adrienne Anglin (14) with 41 pts C/B and A-2 Sue Brown (28) with 41 pts.

BDL to 36 pts.

NTP: 5th Zoe Frost, 7th Lesley Meadowcroft, 10th Helen Coghlan and 17th Ros Reid.

Open 9-hole Stableford

Overall winner was Steve Reiger (24) with 20 pts C/B.

BDL to 19 pts C/B.

Sunday, October 29

Foursomes Championships

Nett overall winners: Travis Johnson and Rowan Wales with 68, Mario Amato and Ron Magill with 73 C/B.

Placegetters: Travis Johnson and Rowan Wales with 68, Peter Cartwright and Barry Grazules with 68.5, Mario Amato and Ron Magill with 73 C/B, Scott Lethbridge and Dennis Osborne with 73, James Bain and Tim Duff with 75.5, Max Walton and Chris Ross with 76.

Gross overall winners: Peter Cartwright and Barry Grazules.



A successful round six for both Cru Halliday and Josh Waters – each taking their respective first place victory during Race 1 and 2 of the Australian Superbikes Championship. Photo: Alia Schonberg.



Josh Waters piloted his Ducati to victory during Race 2 of the Superbikes Championship, along with taking the overall round win. He is currently tied for points in the championship against Honda's Troy Herfoss. Photo: Alia Schonberg.

Shared victories for Waters and Halliday

SUPERBIKES

By Alia Schonberg

The sixth round of the 2023 Australian Superbikes season was held at the Philip Island Circuit over the weekend.

The penultimate round saw six categories compete in the sunshine across three days, with free practice Friday taking the honours of getting the weekend underway.

The Alpinestars Superbike Championship, Michelin Supersport's, Supersport 300's, Yamaha R3's, Oceania Junior Cup and Superbike Masters all took to the tarmac and hit the gas in their respective categories.

With the season finale looming, every result and point mattered – rendering the competition fierce with tensions running high.

Alpinestars Superbike

Friday's free practice sessions saw Yamaha Racing's Cru Halliday and Mike Jones dominate the timing charts.

Jones topped the charts in Practice 1 with a time of 1:32.885.

Halliday took timing honours during both the afternoon's second and third sessions, with 1:32.801 and 1:32.651 respectively.

Saturday's fourth and final practice session for the category saw Josh Waters pilot his Ducati to a clean 1:32.436, comfortably topping the charts.

Qualifying would continue to see Waters keep himself in good stead – going on to take second place on the grid for Sunday's races.

Just one-tenth ahead of him however, would be DesmoSport Ducati's, Broc Pearson, who went on to take his maiden pole position

in the category, with an outstanding 1:32.156.

Following on after Pearson and Waters, in third place on the grid would be Mike Jones.

Sunday's highly anticipated races saw the field pilot their way out of the heat haze and into their respective final standings for round six.

Race 1 saw Cru Halliday claim his first victory in six years, closely following behind was Josh Waters claiming second place on the podium, along with Max Stauffer in third.

Josh Waters took out first place in Race 2, followed by Cru Halliday and Mike Jones respectively.

This currently leaves the championship decider down to the wire, with points tied between Josh Waters and Troy Herfoss as the final round for the season approaches in early December.

Michelin Supersport

Olly Simpson topped the timing charts for the Supersport's first practice session of the weekend on his Yamaha, clocking in at a best of 1:36.614.

The afternoon's sessions were dominated by Tom Toparis claiming 1:35.632 during Practice 2 and 1:36.289 during Practice 3.

Toparis would reign supreme during both qualifying sessions, taking pole position on the grid ahead of Sunday's races.

Following on in second would be Olly Simpson, along with Cameron Dunker in third.

Race 1 saw Toparis claim victory with just under a three-second gap emerging between himself and the remainder of the field.

Dunker would lay claim to second place on the podium, followed by Simpson in third.

Dunker would go on to

continue his strong performance and place first in Race 2, tailed by Jonathan Nahlous – just under half a second behind, along with Jake Farnsworth in third.

This currently sets Cameron Dunker as championship leader ahead of the season finale in just under two weeks' time.

Supersport 300

The 300's practice sessions saw Cameron Swain top the timing charts during both the first and third sessions, with best times of 1:49.163 and 1:49.532 respectively.

Henry Snell would claim timing honours during the second session with 1:49.812.

Keeping his good pace, Swain would go on to claim pole position for Sunday's races.

Brandon Demmery would follow on in second, along with Brodie Gawith

in third to make up row one of the starting grid.

Snell would go on to pilot his Yamaha to two wins and one second place standing throughout the three races.

Following on in Race 1, second place was laid to claim by Brodie Gawith, with Ryan Larkin in third.

Race 2 saw Demmery cross the finish line six-tenths behind Snell in second place, following on with Swain in third.

Gawith claimed victory during Race 3, with Snell taking out second place just under six-tenths behind.

Following closely was Marcus Hamod who claimed third place on his Yamaha.

To keep up with Australian Superbikes and the weekend's results on the Yamaha R3's, Oceania Junior Cup and Superbike Masters go to www.asbk.com.au.

This week's league results

TENPIN BOWLING

Phantom: 1st on 17.5pts Dragonfly, 2nd on 15pts Alleygator and 3rd on 14pts Pba9x.

2s Company (Monday): 1st on 30pts King Pins, 2nd on 26pts Tinabe and 3rd on 22pts Him & Her.

ABL (Wednesday): 1st on 165.5pts Knackers, 2nd

on 156.5pts Pinpals and 3rd on 148pts Just Bowl Already.

Business Early (Thursday): 1st on 11pts Balls Deep, 2nd on 8pts Old Timers, 3rd on 7pts Woolly Rollers and 4th on 6pts Happy Hour.

Business Late (Thursday): 1st on 9pts Jds's, 2nd on 8pts Team Rich, 3rd on

6pts Holy Splits and 4th on 6pts Bananas in Pyjamas.

This week's top scorers across each league are:

Men: Nick Harris 224, Riley Weinzierl 221 and Brendon Corvino 200.

Women: Mary Dardha 167, Shannon Felmingham 157 and Karen Klym 155.

Thrilling victories and unexpected surprises!

DARTS

In a night filled with excitement, Round 4 of the Spring Darts Series left no room for disappointment, boasting the best turnout we've seen so far.

With all four boards buzzing with action and 32 players giving it their all, the local darts competition was on fire!

The incredible support from both our seasoned members and new players added an extra layer of enthusiasm to the event.

The evening's champions, Snow, Meredith, Will, and Col, sealed their dominance with a resounding 7-0 victory, making sure they'd be remembered for rounds to come.

It was a performance that sent cheers echoing through the venue.

But the thrill didn't stop on the darts oche.

John Battista won the

coveted meat tray raffle and in a heartwarming gesture, he generously donated it back and an impromptu auction took place with Scotchy bringing home the bacon – metaphorically, of course!

Of course, what's a darts competition without a beer raffle?

David Healey was the lucky winner of the evening, savouring the taste of victory in more ways than one.

We owe our heartfelt thanks to our sponsors: San Remo Butchers and Blake/La Porchetta, whose generous support keeps the darts community thriving.

In addition to the excitement of the night, the Spring '23 Leaderboard had a shakeup.

With four rounds down and four to go, Paul Gleeson took the lead with 23 points, extending his reign as the frontrunner.

Laurie Jones, closely following with 18 points, has certainly not given up the chase.

Tied for the third spot, Allan Stray and Bruce Lindsay, both with 17 points, are ready to make their mark in the rounds to come.

The Spring Darts Series is far from over, and with the competition heating up, who knows what surprises and thrilling victories await in the next rounds?

One thing is certain; the local darts community is alive and well, and it's where all the action is happening this spring!

New players are always welcome. If you are interested in being involved and enjoy a friendly environment with young and old alike, male and female, please contact Scott Lethbridge on 0407 543 154 or email scott@glpc.com.au.

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District 21 officials.



SGB swimmers during the Country District Competition over the weekend.



District 21 captains and SGB swimmers Archie and Emily celebrate the win.

SGB lead District 21 team to victory

SWIMMING

SGB lead the way in the Country District Competition, with 22 SGB swimmers being a part of the 89 swimmers making up the District 21 team.

The team consists of the fastest eight swimmers in each of the 8-11 years age groups from the seven clubs throughout Gippsland.

Emily Croatto and Archie Smyth had the honour of leading District 21 as team captains and were delighted to accept the winning trophy on behalf of the team.

SGB's Lorri McKenzie and Sam O'Keefe helped coach the Gippsland team with Janelle Smyth as Team Manager.

Lorri and Sam both enjoy the district competition and bringing all the clubs juniors from Gippsland together as one team.

Those selected to represent District 21 from SGB were Emily Croatto, Jaya Dowel, Daisy Gilliam-Rodda, Cayden Gunn, Callum Hackett, Hannah Hunt, Ava Lucas, Austin Lynch, Ethan Lynch, Fletcher McRae, Hunter McRae, Reece McRae, Anna Mileto, Brooklyn Packer, Mitchell Packer, Ruby Pirouet, Josie Richer, Mya Richer, Archie Smyth,

Darby Smyth, Jedda Tagell and Mathew Thornby.

The team raced against the best from regional Victoria at MSAC in 50m races in their age groups.

District 21, Gippsland once again won the day.

For many of the younger swimmers, it was their first-time racing at MSAC and has given them valuable racing experience.

D21 dominated the relays, coming 1st in the Freestyle relays for age 8, 9, 10 and 11 Girls along with the 8, 9 and 12 Boys - with 10B claiming 2nd.

In the Medley, 1st place went to the 10 and 11 Girls and Boys along with 2nd to the 8 and 9 Girls and Boys.

Individual winners:

11 Girls: Emily Croatto - 2nd Backstroke, 2nd Breaststroke and 3rd Butterfly.

11 Boys: Archie Smyth - 2nd Backstroke and 3rd Freestyle.

10 Girls: Josie Richer - 3rd Breaststroke.

8 Girls: Ruby Pirouet - 3rd Butterfly.

8 Boys: Austin Lynch - 2nd Breaststroke, 2nd Butterfly and 3rd Breaststroke.

Mathew Thornby: 3rd Butterfly.



Gromsearch U12 girls winners, from left: Navah Holmes, Scarlett Rennie, Ily Fraser and Mila Grainger. Photo: Noah Clifford, Surfing Victoria.

Scarlett scores at Gromsearch

SURFING

Cape Woolamai's Scarlett Rennie took out second place in the Under 12 girls at the 2023 Rip-Curl Gromsearch national final, held at URBNSURF in Melbourne.

With seventy-two of the leading junior surfers from around Australia participating, the quality of competition was extremely high at URBNSURF Melbourne as the groms raised the bar of Australian junior surfing.

Getting to the finals was going to be tough with the field filled with finalists from the recently completed Australian Rip Curl GromSearch series and the wildcards from the #GromSearchOnline event.

Adding to the excitement, the groms were surprised by the ap-

pearance of previous International Gromsearch winner and Olympic bronze medalist Owen Wright.

Finals Results:

U16 Girls: 1st - Olive Hardy (Gnarabup, WA), 16.04, 2nd - Ziggy Mackenzie (Bilinga, QLD), 15.33; 3rd - Sophie Wilkinson (Shoreham, VIC), 13.73; 4th - Grace Gosby (Carlingbah, NSW), 13.70.

U16 Boys: 1st - Ocean Lancaster (Merewether, NSW), 19.47, 2nd - Maverick Wilson (Dunsborough, WA), 17.60; 3rd - Jesse Fergusson (Sunshine Beach, QLD), 14.64, 4th - Mitchell Peterson (Noosa Ville, QLD), 14.53.

U14 Girls: 1st - Lucy Darragh (Kiama, NSW), 16.60, 2nd - Lani Cairncross (Kiama Downs,

NSW), 15.60, 3rd - Talia Tebb (Avoca, NSW), 15.33, 4th - Rose Holland (Dromana, VIC), 11.83.

U14 Boys: 1st - Jaggar Phillips (Matraville, NSW), 17.60, 2nd - Rio Luther Barr (Bundagen, NSW), 15.80, 3rd - Luca Martin (Coolangatta, QLD), 15.33, 4th - Brody Mulik (Burnside, WA), 13.93.

U12 Girls: 1st - Navah Holmes (Tugun, QLD) 16.66, 2nd - Scarlett Rennie (Phillip Island, VIC), 13.63, 3rd - Ily Fraser (Margret River, WA), 13.57, 4th - Mila Grainger (Newport, NSW), 11.03.

U12 Boys: 1st - Jaxxon Sands (Palm Beach, NSW), 16.80, 2nd - Jacques Callebaut (Freshwater, NSW), 15.67, 3rd - Andy Blanchfield (Norah head, NSW), 14.83, 4th - Jasper Glossop (Broadwater, NSW), 13.73.

Longboarders comp hits the waves

SURFING

Phillip Island Boardriders Club held its first Longboard competition for the 2023/24 season on the weekend.

At Cape Woolamai surf beach, the comp ran from 7am until 4pm and saw club members from juniors to masters take to the water.

Thanks to everyone involved in the event and especially Andy McHenry, for taking on the club captain role.

A special shout out to Bobby for his homegrown prizes and Zev @zevelandes for his art.

Results:

Open Mens: 1st Andrew Burgan, 2nd Andrew McHenry, 3rd

Cameron Babare.

Open Womens: 1st Ebony Maier, 2nd Nala Taylor, 3rd Natalie Van Der Heyden.

Style Masters Mixed (45+): 1st Andrew Lidsey, 2nd Natalie Van Der Heyden, 3rd Mark Letts.

Mixed Juniors (U18): 1st Hamish Farman, 2nd Oscar Hughes, 3rd Ry Scott.



Andrew Lidsey took out top spot in the Longboard Style Masters Mixed category. Photo: Jo O'Reilly Stubbs.



Andy McHenry, club captain took out second spot in the Open Mens Longboard. Photo: Jo O'Reilly Stubbs.



Gabe Smith in action at the International Mounted Games, where he was named most outstanding rider over the four day event.



The Australian Mounted Games team (centre) wearing their gold medals on the winner's podium at the International Mounted Games held at Werribee a fortnight ago. Gabe (third left) with fellow team members Taleha Urszulak (NSW), Bree McKenzie (NSW), Rohan Smith (WA), Aaron Suvalijko (WA) and Ryan Bissicks (VIC).

Phillip Island's new world champ

EQUESTRIAN

A love of all things equine since he was a small boy has seen 17-year-old Newhaven College student Gabe Smith crowned World Champion at the International Mounted Games (IMG) which were held at Werribee last week.

Gabe was one of a five member Under 18s team representing Australia over four days of competition, against teams from across the world.

For the first time in the history of the International Mounted Games, which have been run annually for the past 23 years, Australia was the winner, from the 15 international teams which competed here.

Gabe's team took the gold ahead of England (second place) and New Zealand (third).

This year marked the first time that the international event has been staged in Australia.

And in another huge honour for Gabe, he was voted by 13 of the 15 international coaches in Australia for the event, as "Most Outstanding Under 18 rider" throughout the four days of competition.

Gabe's horse Blu was also named by the same international coaches as runner up champion horse in the Under 18 competition, out of the 140 horses competing.

In what has certainly been a hectic few months, Gabe also won the Australian Mounted Games Association National Individual U18 Champion title for the second year running.

Then on the weekend before the World Games, he won the Under 18 National Pairs Championship in partnership with Ryan Bissick, at Ballarat.

The International Mounted Games, originally the idea of His Royal Highness, Prince Philip over three decades ago, have a massive following across Europe, for both competitors and spectators, and is fast catching on here.

The sport is an equestrian discipline in its own right, similar to dressage, showjumping and eventing. Its origins can be traced back to the military in Europe and includes games that hark back to mediaeval times.

Played in three different formats: individual, teams and pairs, it is fast paced and showy,

with athletic ability, agility, precision of riding and horsemanship, all coming into play.

Riders must navigate through various obstacles, often at full speed. A special bond is needed with their pony, with competitors required to vault off and back on their mount, to pick up an obstacle, at speeds that can average 55 kmh.

Several relay-style races require riders to pick up objects from the ground (from the saddle), weave through a series of poles at high speeds, hand items off to teammates without slowing, and dunk objects into buckets. Jousting is also a discipline, and picking up rings with a sword while cantering at speed is another challenge.

Ponies are the preferred mount, as their shorter stature make several of the races easier to play.

Blu, a ten-year-old quarter horse and Gabe have trained and competed together for the past three years.

Future

Gabe has been riding since he was seven, and rides competitively, competes in showjump-

ing, and describes mounted games as loads of fun.

The "fun" belies the skills and training one needs to become a world champion, however.

Gabe says the world games last week took competition for him up to a new level.

Used to winning, he jokes he was quite taken aback when an English competitor kept up with him in a game which in Australia he usually has a clean pair of heels.

The sport is as much for girls as boys, and younger sister Giselle Smith is this year's U15 Australian Mounted Games champion.

Both Gabe and Giselle have been coached and mentored by their mother Tash Robinson, a teacher at Cowes Primary School.

Tash is a keen horsewoman who rode trackwork at the age of 14 and loved bush racing when growing up.

Gabe wants to see Mountain Games included as an Olympic Sport and wrote to the Olympic committee last year suggesting that.

Although the reply was no, he has not given up on the idea yet. His immediate aim now is to

defend his world championship title at the 2024 International Mountain Games in Italy next July.

It will certainly be a busy year in 2024 for this very focused young man.

Gabe will be studying in Year 12 for his VCE, and working to achieve a score that will get him into an equine science tertiary course. He will be training for the 2024 international mounted games in July. And he holds down a part time job breaking in and training horses after school and on weekends.

As part of this job, he has just taken delivery of a six-year-old to train for champion Victorian jockey Jamie Kah, who also loves Mountain Games competition.

And if that is not enough, he is looking forward to his interstate Australian teammates converging on Phillip Island with their horses for his 18th birthday celebrations early next year.

"Who knows," says Gabe. "They are bringing their horses. We could put on quite a spectacular show for Phillip Island."

Gabe is seeking sponsorship to pursue his dream of competing next year in Italy.

Successful week for Sharks

From page 32

After tea Phillip Island went into bowl.

Matt Parsons opened the bowling again and got an early wicket with the second ball of the innings.

With the wind causing grief for the bowlers, Nerrena started a great partnership and the next breakthrough wicket didn't come till the 17th over when Tarryn got a wicket of the other Nerrena opener with an incredible catch from Junior Zack Hughes.

The veteran Tony Hornsby came on and got a wicket first ball to give Phillip Island some hope of defending the total.

Peter Francis and Andrew Tolley bowled extremely well late, to try and keep Nerrena away from 135 but it wasn't enough with Nerrena chasing 135 with two overs left.

Great effort by all but just fell short.

Off to Bass next week to get back on the winners list.

C1 grade

C grade started their title defence at Rhyll on Saturday against MDU. MDU won the toss and elected to bat.

The Sharks opened the bowling with Steve Niven and Sachin, both bowled tight opening spells.

Fall and Cleary replaced the openers and continued to restrict the scoring, but still could not get a breakthrough.

At drinks MDU were 0/31.

Dean Mani came on and got the breakthrough when Jackson Allen took a good catch at mid-off. John Johnston bowled incredibly tightly, frustrating the batsmen and forced an error, resulting in Cleary and Paterson to combine for a run out.

Sachin then got a wicket and cleaned bowled, as MDU limped

to 3/100 off their 35 overs.

Manning and Excell opened the batting for the Sharks and got off to a great start.

Both batsmen were hitting boundaries and scoring freely.

An ugly mix up in the middle saw Jonty run out for 37 and the Sharks were 1/51.

Mani made a duck which brought Sachin to the crease.

Sachin played his flamboyant shots, keeping the score ticking along.

Excell was then bowled for 21, bringing Jackson Allen to the wicket.

Jackson was batting solidly before being given out LBW for 1, followed by Sachin being caught for 15. Fall hit a massive six as he and Cleary guided the Sharks over the line with five overs to spare.

A great start to the season for C grade with a win in their first game.

PHILLIP ISLAND	
0-57	
L.CLELAND 48*	48*
H.WOMERSLEY 7*	7*
IMPERIALS	
56	
TOM NIVEN 3/6/5	3/6/5
SHIRAN 2/14/6	2/14/6
G.MCCAUSLAND 1/0/1	1/0/1
A1 GRADE	
PHILLIP ISLAND VS IMPERIALS	
SAT OCT 20 LEONHARTIA REC RESERVE	
IGA	
SAN REMO	

PHILLIP ISLAND	
5/110	
K.LANE 58	58
T.BLACKWELL 15	15
IMPERIALS	
106	
K.LANE 3/25/8	3/25/8
D.WOMERSLEY 2/8/4	2/8/4
A.BRAYLEY 1/14/5	1/14/5
B1 GRADE	
PHILLIP ISLAND VS IMPERIALS	
SAT OCT 20 NEWMAYEN REC RESERVE	
RSL	
PHILLIP ISLAND	

PHILLIP ISLAND	
7/135	
P.CLEARY 40	40
T.TALLAN 22	22
D.DUGGAN 19	19
B2 GRADE	
PHILLIP ISLAND VS NERRENA	
SAT OCT 20 NEWMAYEN COLLEGE	
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PHILLIP ISLAND	
6/96	
G.EXCELL 30	30
J.MANNING 28	28
C1 GRADE	
MEENYAN DUMBULK UNITED	
SAT OCT 20 RHYLL	
Bowens THE BUILDERS CHOICE	
3/95	
SACHIN 1/12/7	1/12/7
D.MANI 1/18/6	1/18/6

Third competition of the season

FISHING

The Rhyll-Phillip Island Angling Club (RPIAC) welcomed members to the club rooms for the third fishing competition of the 2023/2024 season, held over October 28 and 29.

The weekend was marked not just by the thrill of the catch but also by a significant celebration.

Alongside the spirited angling competition, the club revelled in marking the 35-year anniversary of its inception and the 25-year anniversary of the clubrooms grand opening.

Despite Saturday's challenging windy conditions, the anglers' determination, ranging from seasoned professionals to budding junior and squidgy members, was evident.

Sunday was marked by serene weather, forming the perfect backdrop for the celebrations and the results were as impressive as the participation.

Indeed, it was a hub of celebration and the clubrooms echoed with conversation and live musical entertainment by local talents.

Attendees were enthralled by Ian Huther, RPIAC's first president and life member, who gave an account of the club's history, its illustrious journey and promising future.

The atmosphere was one of camaraderie, where RPIAC founders, life members, past-presidents, and committee members gathered and reflected, reminiscing about a shared love for fishing and the bonds nurtured over the years.

Weigh-in

The weigh-in master, Alex Bowden, and Club Captain, Chris Leonardos, saw many triumphs during weigh-in and a total of 59 eligible species, five sharks, and three calamari met the scales.

Reports were snapper-centric, although king george whiting, gummy sharks, school sharks, trevally, salmon, flathead, and mackerel were also around.

Again, timing and location appeared to be crucial and most of the big fish were caught on Sunday.

With recent reports of huge snapper entering the bay, the \$5000 incentives for angling members with extraordinary catches, during a competition weekend, remains in the bank.

The five eligible species



Celebration was joyous and harmonious at the RPIAC clubrooms, marking 35 years since the club's inception and 25 years at the current location.



No smoke on the water, just a seaside spit roast at the RPIAC clubrooms.

nominated for each first-to-catch \$1000 prize, by equalling or exceeding the nominated weight, are: king george whiting (1000g), snapper (10kg), gummy shark (20kg), mulloway (25kg) and kingfish (25kg).

The squidgie mixed bag competition, for anglers aged nine or younger, saw Byron Griffin back in action to claim second place after catching two fish worth 40 points.

Sage Nicolaci went one better, weighing in three fish for a total of 45 points and taking first place.

Some impressive fish were also caught in the junior category for anglers aged 10 to 16.

Piper Nicolaci caught a snapper weighing 1900 grams to win the junior weight competition and the reigning junior club champion, Denver Firth, won the junior points competition with a trevally worth 1477 points (1055 grams).

Steve Bland and Kate Jinnette

each caught a whopping snapper weighing 7440 grams and 3865 grams respectively, to win the senior weight competitions.

Trevor Gleeson won the senior male points competition with a salmon worth 1965 points (1965 grams) and Debra Orr won the senior female points competition with a king george whiting worth 1302 points (465 grams).

Paul Goodwin earned bragging rights in the squid/cuttlefish category, with a southern calamari weighing 1235 grams, whilst Nicholas Stefanakis topped the shark competition with a gummy shark weighing 8675 grams.

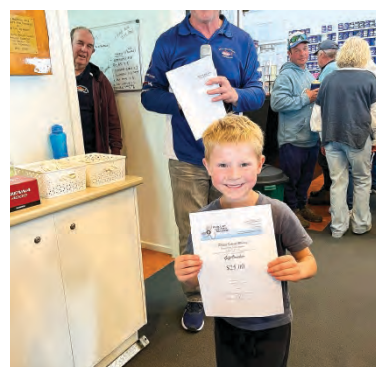
David Soler claimed the secret weight prize after catching a 3415-gram snapper (secret weight 3362 grams).

The post-competition presentation on Sunday was a great celebration of participation, made successful with the efforts of the volunteers on the day.

Many thanks to Frank and



RPIAC's senior male and senior female weight competitions were won by Steve Bland and Kate Jinnette, each catching a whopping snapper weighing 7440 grams and 3865 grams, respectively.



Byron Griffin was back in action and finished second in the squidgie competition.



Sage Nicolaci caught three amazing fish worth 45 points to win the squidgie competition.

Paula who transformed the sea breeze with the tasty aroma of a charcoal spit roast.

Along with the assistance from Jill, Nikky, Marina, Peter and Lorraine ensuring all in attendance were fed and hydrated.

Of course, with the generous assistance from RPIAC's sponsors, including Bakers Delight Coves and Kristos, the weekend closed with a fitting tribute to a club that, for 35 years, has been both a beacon for angling enthusiasts and a cornerstone of the

Rhyll community.

RPIAC encourages participation in recreational angling and children aged 16 and under, receive complimentary membership to the angling competitions to develop skills and an interest in sustainable and responsible angling.

The next competition will be held over the weekend of November 14 and 15.

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

Results from the table

BRIDGE

Monday, October 23, was a great day with seven and a half tables at play.

North/South partners Deb Anglim and Greg Nicholson

came third on 55.56 per cent.

Bron Sund and John Farr nudged ahead by 34 per cent to finish second and Lorrie Read and Neville Chapman charged ahead to win the day for North/South on 67.36 per cent.

Winners for East/West were Marnie Myall and Paul Waylen on an even 61.61 per cent.

Next in line were Ruth Harvey and Ann Green on 56.25 per cent.

In third place were Anne Hodgson and Leng Haggith on 55.95 per cent.

Wednesday, October 25,

was a little quieter with four tables.

Marnie Myall partnered with Shirley Stewart and took first place on 64.88 per cent.

Moya Crowley and Diane Coleman were in the winner's circle on 59.52 per cent, as were Molly Downing and Robert Maclellan on a neat 50 per cent.

Euchre results

Ladies' winner: Josie Billman.

Men's winner: Greg Moran.

Encouragement award:

David Armstrong.

New players welcome.

For further information please contact Bob Hee on 0418 173 388.

TIDE GUIDE

Tidal predictions for Stony Point, Coves -0.09 Newhaven -0.31 | HIGH TIDE IS MARKED IN BLACK

WED 1 NOV	THU 2 NOV	FRI 3 NOV	SAT 4 NOV	SUN 5 NOV	MON 6 NOV	TUE 7 NOV
HIGH 4:15 am 3.24 m	HIGH 4:59 am 3.23 m	HIGH 5:39 am 3.15 m	HIGH 6:16 am 3.04 m	HIGH 6:51 am 2.92 m	LOW 12:28 am 0.59 m	LOW 1:04 am 0.75 m
LOW 9:53 am 0.88 m	LOW 10:36 am 0.87 m	LOW 11:16 am 0.89 m	LOW 11:55 am 0.93 m	LOW 12:31 pm 0.98 m	HIGH 7:26 am 2.78 m	HIGH 8:00 am 2.65 m
HIGH 3:58 pm 2.74 m	HIGH 4:37 pm 2.73 m	HIGH 5:15 pm 2.69 m	HIGH 5:51 pm 2.64 m	HIGH 6:28 pm 2.55 m	LOW 1:07 pm 1.05 m	LOW 1:43 pm 1.11 m
LOW 9:51 pm 0.20 m	LOW 10:33 pm 0.24 m	LOW 11:13 pm 0.32 m	LOW 11:51 pm 0.44 m		HIGH 7:05 pm 2.44 m	HIGH 7:46 pm 2.33 m

All material is supplied in good faith and is believed to be correct. No responsibility or liability for errors or omissions is accepted.

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A grade's, Zac Brown celebrated his 150th game for PIDCC.



A grade's player of the match: Tom Niven who took 3/6 off five overs.

Successful week for Sharks

CRICKET

A1 grade

Heading over to Leongatha for our first hit out on Turf, the A grade boys were looking to make it two wins to start the season against a dashing Imperials lineup.

Losing the toss on a wicket that looked as if it would be tricky to bat on, the Island Sharks were asked to bowl first.

Opening bowling, Simon Kirton under an injury cloud, pushed through with the new ball and was joined by off spinner Shiran for a bit of a different look on the bare wicket.

It paid off as Shiran struck in his first over, removing Ginnane for a duck.

Shortly after, Kirton removed the plucky Higgins for 2, the Sharks were chomping their way through the dangerous Imps top order.

Shiran struck again to further the damage, before the introduction of Big Tom Niven saw the sharks rip the game apart.

A classy runout from young gun Tim Niven, saw the back of the last recognised batsmen.

U17 spearhead George McCausland was brought on with immediate effect.

The long travelling Zac Brown was stingy in his 7.3 overs picking up a wicket whilst also producing a run out off his own bowling.

Eventually the Imps were all out for 56 off 23 overs, with Tom Niven the pick of the bowlers finishing with an impressive 3/6 off 5.

Small totals can sometimes be tricky, however the Sharks opening batsman made light work of the chase.

Lochie Cleeland finished with a classy 48 not out, whilst

future star Heath Wommersley supported him down the other end to finish not out in his best innings of his short A grade career.

A great win by a side that included three U17 players.

A special shout out to Zac Brown who played his 150th senior club game.

San Remo Hotel player of the match: Tom Niven.

B1 grade

Round 4 saw the B1 Sharks take on the Imperials at Newhaven.

Imps won the toss, and the Island were sent into field.

Young-guns Jobe Williams and Harry Arceo took the new rock for the Sharks and bowled an absolute treat.

The two stuck to their lines and lengths and were well supported by their teammates in the field.

After battling away, Harry cleaned up the dangerous Imperials opener for the Sharks' first wicket.

Jobe followed in the next over, with Club President "Tinman" Andrew Finlayson swallowing one with the gloves.

Harry came close to a second wicket but was let down by his brother, who put down a sharp chance at short cover.

The boys were quick to let Max know who the better Arceo was in the team.

The young opening bowlers finished off their eight over spells, ending up with 1/21 and 1/27 respectively.

Dave Womersley and skipper Kurt Lane kept up the great bowling, whilst Connor "Walrus" Epifano contributed with some mobile fielding efforts. The Imperials became their own worst enemy, with two disastrous runouts.

Dave was extremely tidy with the ball, ending up with 2/8 off four, "Tinman" Finlay-

son and Kohen Beaumont assisting him with good catches.

The skipper was joined by A-Aron Brayley who also bowled well.

Consistent wickets fell, despite Henry 'Crackle' Peppard struggling out at cow-corner due to a few rabbit holes.

The skipper led from the front, ending up with 3/25 off his eight, whilst A-Aron cleaned up a tailender with figures of 1/14. An excellent bowling and fielding performance from the Sharks with Imperials all out for 106.

After a well-deserved afternoon tea break, the Sharks began their batting innings with the dangerous combination of Epifano and Beaumont.

Unfortunately, Connor feathered one to the keeper in the first over without troubling the scorers, coming back to the sheds claiming that the Imp's opening bowler was the next Brett Lee.

President Finlayson was quick to remind him that opening batsmen are in fact allowed to leave the ball.

Kohen was joined by Tom "Blackers" Blackwell and the two knocked a few runs around before Kohen was caught for 9.

Dave "Dogga" Womersley came in at number four and along with Blackwell, steadied the ship a bit for the Sharks.

Womersley's innings then ended, and in came the skipper, Kurt Lane - this is when the show began.

Kurt had Big-Bash scouts interested after smashing 58 off 29 balls including a lazy 10 boundaries.

Blackwell stuck with the skipper before being bowled for a well-made 15.

The Imps boys finally held a chance that Kurt produced, ending his brutal boundary fest. At this stage, the score

was 5/90.

"Pork crackle" Peppard and Harry Arceo's brother (Max) slowly finished the job for the Sharks.

They chased down the required 17 runs in about five times as many balls as Kurt would have required.

Henry and Max walked off with 6 (n/o) and 5 (n/o) respectively, handing the Sharks the win.

A very solid team performance from the B1 boys and a 2-0 start to the season.

B2 grade

Round 4 saw B2 play a home game at Newhaven College against Nerrena.

Phillip Island won the toss and chose to bat first.

Matt Parsons opened the batting with Ollie Duggan who has secured his spot as an opening batsman.

Batting was hard going with the Nerrena opening bowler bowling full and straight, giving Phillip Island nothing to work with.

Matt Parsons went out cheaply as did Peter Francis.

Ollie and Tony Hornsby tried to keep ticking the runs along, but with tight bowling and an extremely slow out field it was an extremely challenging task. At drinks Phillip Island were 3/31.

With a lot of work to do Ollie and Tony went out not long after lunch making 19 and 12 respectively.

Daniel McCausland and Tarryn Allan tried to keep the runs ticking over, but with Dan going out for 15 and Tarryn for 22 it was up to Pete Clearly and Andrew Tolley to get us to a defendable total.

Pete finishing 40-not-out and Andrew finishing 10-not-out getting Phillip Island to a respectable 135.

Continued page 30

**ALEX SCOTT
AND STAFF**

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