



Penny Lapin with Natalie Gray (left), and Steve Lapin, among the domino of trees that have fallen to coastal inundation in the last one to two months on the Silverleaves beach, east of the new rock wall.

“They don’t understand the urgency”

EROSION

Silverleaves’ residents say they are “bitterly disappointed” and “fearful” for properties and human safety after the state government and Bass Coast Shire have yet to deliver a promised erosion study this year.

And the residents say erosion – long believed to be worst in winter – has continued unabated through spring, with a domino of mature trees falling onto the sand since October and the foreshore cliffs eroding as much as 17 metres in some places.

They warn summer tourists will be at risk if they go near the beach – which is east of the new rock wall – not just from unstable, crumbling cliffs, but falling trees, thanks to the increasingly severe erosion.

In July former shire mayor Michael Whelan met with Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale, and Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) representatives – following weeks of pressure and anger by anxious residents – to

discuss actions to stop accelerating erosion.

At that time the government said they would undertake a coastal processes study over the next few months, to examine options to stop erosion.

The shire and government also announced bulldozing of sand and woody debris barricades.

However, a group of Woodlands Avenue residents say they are “bitterly disappointed” and “frustrated” the promised coastal processes study has yet to start, leaving them in a state of uncertainty.

Resident Steve Lapin said they expected the three-month study to be completed by this month and yet there was still no concrete timeframe for it to start.

“The best case now is they start the study in February and finish in May. By then it will have missed the 2024 budget round for the government and the shire,” Steve said.

“Communication has improved between the council, DEECA and residents but I’m disappointed about the delay in

the commencement of the study and the fact neither DEECA nor the council have clearly accepted responsibility for ensuring the foreshore will be protected.”

Resident Natalie Gray agreed. “There’s no commitment to a timeframe and even under the best case no works to stop erosion will be done before early 2025,” she said.

“I don’t think they understand the urgency.”

Bulldozed

The residents say the bulldozing of sand (renourishment) and the woody debris barricades had done little to shore up the hazardous shoreline.

“The sand renourishment lasted one week before it was washed away,” Steve said.

Steve said following strong north winds and high tides in October, sections of cliff had further eroded and multiple mature banksias had fallen onto the beach, which were now acting as proxy groynes.

“Every time we go down the beach there’s a new tree collapsed.

“And when they fall you can definitely hear them falling.”

In August a beach walker reported a “near miss”, with another banksia “hitting the deck”, “missing it by seconds” near the Woodlands Avenue and Ellen Road access to Silverleaves beach.

“Frustrated it is not seen as a priority at the moment. Maybe this will change with the risk to life,” the walker said on social media.

Natalie said since January to November this year a section of the beach had lost 17 metres of sand.

Natalie, who is a town planner, said the shire was failing their responsibilities, especially clauses in the planning scheme relating to coastal inundation and erosion.

“Bass Coast Shire has a responsibility under the planning scheme to ensure future development and use are not at risk from this,” Natalie said.

“They have a responsibility to manage those risks and they need to tell us what they are go-

ing to do, to be transparent.

“The government knows what transparent decision-making is and we are not being given that respect. We need confidence and certainty.”

Natalie said the uncertainty meant homeowners could not renovate, build or sell their homes in the area.

“If works are not undertaken and the erosion continues, existing homes will not be there in five years.

“How can they issue a permit for anyone to develop a house here when there is such uncertainty.”

Earlier this year the Silverleaves Conservation Association unsuccessfully called on Bass Coast Shire to fund a \$60,000 coastal engineering study to understand the “ongoing severe erosion” in this year’s budget.

Read more page 6.

Christmas guide
Page 14-16

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PARTLY CLOUDY	MOSTLY SUNNY	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	SHOWER OR TWO	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY
13 19	13 20	13 25	15 24	15 22	15 19	15 21



Phillip Island Winery was named in the Top 50 Restaurants in Australia through Open Table. Misha Say, Co-owner said it's their team that puts them ahead of the pack.

Winery top of the Table

DINING

Phillip Island Winery was over the moon this week with the announcement of being named in the “Top 50 restaurants in Australia” through the Open Table restaurants of the year awards.

Winners from each state were announced with just 17 of the top 50 coming from Victoria.

Among their peers were Donovan’s in St Kilda, Brown Brothers in Milawa, and

Vue De Monde in the CBD.

Misha Say, Co-owner of Phillip Island Winery, said aside from the winery’s location, surrounds and quality of food and wine, it’s their team that puts them ahead of the pack.

“We have such a diverse bunch of humans working with us, with everyone focused on one thing – providing great hospitality.

“The culture we have created is one of unity, respect and acceptance. Everyone is welcome.

“We genuinely love our work and have fun doing it. I think people pick up on that when they visit.

“It creates an atmosphere that people feel relaxed and welcomed in.”

The Open Table Top 50 is culled from over 110,000 verified diner reviews and dining metrics including diner ratings, percentage of reservations made in advance, and five-star reviews.

The list highlights some of the top spots favoured by diners on Open Table this year.

Regional restaurants made up over half of the venues on OpenTable’s Top 50 Restaurants list, with Victoria narrowly taking the crown as the state with the most featured restaurants.

Phillip Island Winery is opened for tastings and retail sales seven day from 11.30am – 5pm

Restaurant open five days (Wednesday – Sunday 12noon – 4pm).

For bookings head to www.phillipislandwinery.com.au and book through their easy-to-use Open Table platform.

PICAL calls for Christmas hamper help

DONATIONS

This year PICAL is again organizing Christmas hampers for community members who utilise their services.

Over the last few weeks they have been asking their Centrelink and Pantry customers if they would like a Christmas hamper.

The list is growing and PICAL expect to give out 150 singles/couples hampers and 50 family hampers this year.

An additional 15 hampers will be supplied to the Cowes Early Learning Centre for users of their services.

PICAL is now hoping the community can help by donating goods for the hampers.

“Already groups such as Phillip Island Patchwork and VIEW are donating to the PICAL hampers,” said centre manager David Rooks.

“The Anglican Church have also given \$70, coffee and puddings with more to come.

“Woolies has a shopping trolley in store receiving goods.”

This year, Cowes business Brinnie T Home, is giving to the hamper and supporting parents at the same time.

“Brinnie T Home wants to recognise parents who may be experiencing difficulties and who are putting their children first,” David said.

If you purchase a PICAL hamper gift in store for those parents, you go in the running to win a beautiful Splendid Tempest Candle valued at \$175.

This offer runs until De-



Emelda Collier (left) and Lucy Cerantonio holding a PICAL Christmas Hamper. PICAL is calling for donations for this year’s hampers, with goods needed before December 15.

cember 17 and the winner will be notified by phone.

Donations

PICAL is now accepting donations and they can be dropped off between 9am and 3pm weekdays.

PICAL volunteers will also be visiting many businesses in town asking for donations.

Suitable donations for PICAL are food items, toiletries, and pet food.

If you have any queries regarding PICAL Christmas hampers, including organising donation pick-ups, please ring the PICAL reception on 03 5952 1131.

“The assistance from both business and individuals is really appreciated, and this helps support community organisations such as ours to stock the Christmas hampers,” David said.

The cutoff date for donating goods to PICAL is

Friday December 15.

This allows time to pack the hampers before distribution in the week leading into Christmas.

Volunteer

As always PICAL is looking for volunteers to help support the many services they provide.

Recently, a few Pantry volunteers have had to cease their volunteer roles and they need to be replaced.

Do you think you can help?

There are many good reasons why people volunteer at PICAL.

To enquire about volunteering please contact reception on 03 5952 1131 or David Rooks – Centre Manager direct on 0400 655 540.

Alternatively, go the PICAL website and complete the volunteer application form online.

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Tense vote sees Le Serve as new mayor

COUNCIL

The "air was so thick it could be cut with a knife", said one Bass Coast Shire councillor after a shock vote last week saw Cr Clare Le Serve become the new mayor.

For months Cr Rochelle Halstead has been the only contender for the top job and last Wednesday she was nominated for the role by Cr Geoff Ellis, which was seconded by Cr Brett Tessari.

Cr Le Serve was nominated by Cr David Rooks, seconded by Cr Leticia Laing.

But in shock twist, Cr Ellis changed his support to Cr Le Serve, voting alongside Crs Rooks, Laing, Whelan and Le Serve.

Cr Ellis later told the Advertiser Cr Halstead was "well credentialed" but another candidate emerged "so I sought advice from a broad range of people and my vote reflected community feedback".

"We had two good candidates, and everyone knew it was going to be close," Cr Ellis said.

Cr Halstead said she was "very disappointed not to be elected to the top job".

"I just wish the politics not play such a huge part in that decision. But it's the decision and I will respect it," Cr Halstead told the meeting.

She said she believed it would be a "totally different council moving forward".

Cr Ronnie Bauer said "the road forward is never straight and today it can change on a dime and a sixpence".

"Your time is still coming," he told Cr Halstead.

"Don't lose heart. Please stand again."

Cr Bauer later said the vote was an "incredible blindside" and reminiscent of the cutthroat "TV show Survivor".

After the meeting was paused to welcome the new mayor, Cr Brett Tessari commented sarcastically "the air wasn't thick; you couldn't cut it with a knife".

Cr Le Serve, who was recently honoured for her 10 years of service, is the first woman in the role since Pamela Rothfield. This is the second time Cr Le Serve has been mayor of the region.



In what is believed to be a first for Bass Coast Shire, there are two women at the helm, with Cr Clare Le Serve (right) the new mayor, and Cr Rochelle Halstead once again the deputy. They both represent Western Port ward.

Deputy

Cr Halstead was successfully voted in as deputy mayor, with Cr Ellis' support, but division along the same voting block was still largely evident, split into conservatives and progressives.

Initially Cr Tessari was nominated for deputy but he withdrew from the race at the last moment.

Cr David Rooks was nominated for deputy by Crs Laing and Le Serve.

Cr Halstead secured the role with votes by Crs Ellis, Bauer, Tessari, Larke and Halstead.

Councillors paid tribute to Cr Whelan's role as mayor and deputy mayor, and Cr Whelan told the meeting it was a "difficult time at the moment".

"We need to move forward as a team," Cr Whelan said.

"We go into the silly season with those councillors seeking re-election. There's a different wind blows through the place. We need to pull together because there's a lot of work to do and the community expects

that of us."

It is believed Cr Halstead lost the confidence of fellow councillors for the mayoral role in the lead-up to the Voice referendum.

Le Serve

Cr Le Serve was last month recognised by Victoria's local government peak body for a decade of service.

Cr Le Serve – who lives at Corinella – was first elected to what was then Leadbeater ward in 2012, the same year she became mayor.

The mother of two and grandmother of seven has subsequently been successfully re-elected in two further council elections, while also standing as an independent in two state elections, telling the Advertiser earlier this month "at this stage" she did not plan to stand for the 2024 council elections.

Cr Le Serve has a background in community development, and farming, motivated by issues of equality for women and in improving outcomes for

disadvantaged sectors.

"The people of Bass Coast rightly expect first class service delivery above all else and that is what I promise to deliver," she said.

"I am committed to the ongoing review of council's services, to the continuous overall improvement of governance including good financial management, which is critical to keeping rates affordable and delivering quality services and programs, to ensuring smart business management decisions are made for a more transparent and accountable council."

Her other priorities will be the climate change emergency, reconciliation, protecting our coast from erosion, supporting the arts sector and local farmers.

"Farmers create the views and the landscape that we the residential community value. We all live in the country for a way of life and I am committed to supporting our farmers and thank them for caring for this land."

Halstead sets the record straight

Up to an hour before the mayoral vote last week, Cr Rochelle Halstead believed she was set to be the winning candidate.

Speaking this week following the bruising election, Cr Halstead told the Advertiser it was only just before the meeting she was told she didn't have the numbers.

"About an hour before, I was advised the numbers had changed," she said.

"But I always intended to put my hand up in the chamber because I believe it needs to be a transparent process."

Cr Halstead said she understood the vote changed because of back-room lobbying around the issue of reconciliation.

This followed the September council meeting where Cr Halstead did not support a council vote in support of educating the community on the yes vote in the referendum.

"I have heard reports circulating the mayoral vote changed because I was against reconciliation. There's nothing further from the truth."

"I am in support of rec-

onciliation but you need to be comfortable with the vehicle in which it's delivered.

"I think this issue played a role in the mayoral vote."

Cr Halstead said the community had rallied in support of her following the mayoral election and she had received feedback the vote against her was based on reconciliation.

"I think it's unfair that has circulated, that I'm not supportive of reconciliation because I am. I don't want that lie to perpetuate."

"I felt the vote was politicised. You only had to look in the gallery to see where that politicisation came from, who put pressure on Geoff Ellis (to change his vote)."

She said she did not believe the council was necessarily divided along progressive and conservative lines, but a majority of councillors were "in tune with some voices".

"Of course I'm disappointed and it is disheartening, but I will respect the decision of the council."

"Absolutely I will be standing again for council and the mayoral role."



POLICE BRIEFS

Swastikas in Cowes

Police have charged a man following multiple alleged antisemitic graffiti incidents in Cowes.

Officers believe the man allegedly spray painted the graffiti at multiple businesses within Cowes CBD between 7am and 8am on November 13.

The man was arrested by officers at a nearby car park. The 37-year-old Sunset Strip man has been charged with eight counts of criminal damage, four of intentionally displaying a Nazi symbol, two of resisting police and one of causing damage to property at a police gaol.

He has been bailed to face Korumburra Magistrates' Court at a later date.

Chocolate factory crash

Traffic slowed on Phillip Island Road at Newhaven on Saturday due to a two-car collision near the Phillip Island Chocolate Factory.

Ambulance Victoria confirmed paramedics responded to an incident at Newhaven around 1.15pm on November 18. A man in his 80 was taken to Dandenong Hospital in a stable condition with an upper body injury.

Coghlan Road closed

Police are investigating a crash in Cowes on Tuesday, November 21

Investigators believe the 10 tonne Hino truck left the road and crashed into a tree on Coghlan Road around 9.50am.

The driver of the truck was flown to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The exact cause of the crash is unknown.

Anyone who may have witnessed the incident or has dashcam/CCTV footage is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or file a confidential report online at www.crimestoppersvic.com.au

Community Bank Giving Trees (and branches)

The Community Banks in San Remo, Cowes and Grantville once again have a Giving Tree in each 'branch', collecting gifts for families in need in the local communities.

If you'd like to help, please drop in your unwrapped gift before the 14th December.

Thank you for your support!



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Grantville (03) 5678 8773

Judge rules Basham can't keep Cowes house

COURT

Convicted murderer Adrian Basham has failed in his bid to keep the Cowes house in which he killed his wife.

A jury last year found Mr Basham guilty of murdering and staging the suicide of the mother of their three children, Samantha Fraser, 38, at her Cowes garage on July 23, 2018.

In February Justice Lesley Taylor handed Mr Basham a sentence of life in prison with a minimum 30 years before he is eligible for parole.

Last Tuesday Justice Taylor handed down a separate judgement regarding a forfeiture application against Mr Basham, with Victoria's Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) applying for the house to be forfeited to the state, arguing it is tainted property because he killed his estranged wife there.

The DPP argued Mr Basham had acquired the property under the law of survivorship because his estranged wife had died.

Mr Basham's father James also lost his fight to retain the \$15,000 black 2018 Kawasaki Ninja motorbike used by his son as a getaway vehicle to and from the island crime scene.

Once these items are forfeited to the state, the proceeds are likely to go to Basham's children and Ms Fraser's parents, who are now raising the three children.

Mr Basham appeared in the Supreme Court via video link from prison, representing himself, previously arguing he wanted to use the Cowes property to fund lawyers, including a bid to appeal the guilty verdict.

Refused

Last week Justice Taylor refused Mr Basham's arguments and said the property should be forfeited to the state.

"The objective gravity of Basham's offending and his moral culpability for it are of the highest order," Justice Taylor said.

"It was a premeditated murder that occurred against a background of family violence and seven days before Ms Fraser was to give evidence in the committal hearing of rape allegations she made against Basham."

She said the Cowes property had not been the residence of Mr Basham for about a year before the murder and it was now unoccupied.

"Basham is serving a sentence of life imprisonment with a non-parole period of 30 years and will have little utility for the property in that time."

The judge said while she accepted the forfeiture of the Cowes home would cause Mr Basham hardship – "insofar

as it will reduce his asset pool" – he still retained a Smiths Beach property.

"I am of the view that any hardship is not undue.

"It is immaterial that Basham states that he funded the full purchase price and notable that there is no evidence of that fact. It suffices that he and Ms Fraser were registered as joint tenants on the title."

Mr Basham had argued he would rent the Cowes property to provide income to his children, but Justice Taylor said "there is no evidence that Basham has to date taken any steps to allow his children financial benefit from his interest in the property".

Mr Basham's father James said he had given \$22,367 to Basham for legal fees and to assist with living expenses and the motorbike was payment in lieu of these fees, but the judge ordered the bike also be forfeited to the state.

The judge said the forfeitures would help deter serious crimes.

Justice Taylor noted Mr Basham maintained his innocence and disputed the findings of fact made beyond reasonable doubt in the murder sentence and "he intends to appeal his conviction".

Contents

At last week's judgement, Mr Basham pressed Justice Taylor on how he could claim contents of the Cowes house.

"There's a question of property in the house that is still my property," Mr Basham said via video link.

"How can I get hold of that before the house is forfeited?"

"I have already tried previously to get access to items missing from my property to no avail."

Justice Taylor responded that "it's not something I can assist you with", suggesting he contact the key police officer in the case.

Mr Basham pressed further saying he had no email or phone number for that officer and the judge reiterated it was "not a matter I can assist you with", suggesting a family member could act on his behalf.

The lawyer acting on behalf of Adrian Basham's father then stepped in saying he could act on Mr Basham's behalf and liaise between family and the police officer.

1800Respect (1800 737 732): the national sexual assault, domestic and family violence counselling and information referral service

Lifeline 131 114, or Beyond Blue 1300 224 636.

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A shire planning spokeswoman told the Advertiser in 2010 the property was the subject of a development plan overlay, which means the permit is exempt from public advertising.

The Block plans won't be publicly advertised

REALITY TV

Bass Coast Shire planners have confirmed they are currently assessing a planning permit lodged for Channel 9's The Block, but explained the development plans won't be advertised.

The permit – which was lodged in October – seeks the \$3.3 million construction of five dwellings and removal of vegetation on the property at 113-119 Justice Road, which has a vegetation protection overlay.

A shire planning spokesperson told the Advertiser in 2010 the property was the subject of a development plan overlay (DPO), which sits above the planning permit.

They said a DPO meant the permit was exempt from public advertising, with about 25 DPOs applying to land across Bass Coast including the proposed Grantville supermarket and the Seagrove Estate in Cowes.

"They are applied for

two reasons: to connect separate parcels of land across multiple titles and to give the community an expectation of future built form such as re-zoning," said the planner, who was not at the shire in 2010 when the DPO was applied to the Justice Road land.

"This land (at 113-119 Justice Road) is a bit of both."

They said planners were currently assessing The Block planning permit against the DPO and other planning regulations, with the department recently seeking further details from The Block on the proposal.

"We have received further information and planners are looking through that."

According to rules, planners are required to make a decision on a planning permit within 60 statutory planning days; (although the clock stops, for example, when they re-

quest more information).

They confirmed tradies could be on site at the property to demolish current buildings, with no permit required since the dwellings weren't heritage.

"That work could occur before the planning permit is approved."

"The community could be seeing that work and not realise all work on the land forms part of the planning permission."

The property is home to the former Island Cove Villas, which could accommodate 56 guests on 2.5 acres with a pool, tennis court, and barbecue pavilion.

Channel 9 has confirmed the 20th season of the reality TV show in 2024 will be on Phillip Island.

Island Cove Villas – bought by the previous owners in 2017 for more than \$2 million – was on the market this year for \$9.5 million.

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Love local late nights this Christmas

SHOPPING

To help take the stress out of Christmas shopping this year, Phillip Island traders have banded together to hold two late night shopping events, on November 23 and December 8.

Local shops will keep their doors open from 5pm – 7pm, with family friendly entertainment organised in Cowes.

The idea grew from a similar event by a group of shops in Cowes last year, organised by Jo Viney of Brinnie T-Designs.

This year, the Phillip Island Business Network, assisted by Bass Coast Shire Council, is supporting the traders and promoting the nights, with approximately 30 businesses from across the island getting on board.

Simonne Liberman, from the Business Network committee, said the businesses have been enthusiastic about the idea to help locals get their Christmas shopping done without the stress of racing up to the city.

“Even if a business isn’t able to take part, they are supporting the initiative by displaying posters and helping advertise the two nights,” she said.

“Some businesses that aren’t retail stores are looking at ways to support it. For example one studio will hold special classes on the night, to keep the kids entertained while the parents are at the shops.”

Family fun

The late-night shopping experience is designed to be family friendly, with activities for kids outside of the shops.

Simonne said while the late-night trading has been offered across the island, the focus of the entertainment will be in Thompson Avenue (between Chapel Street and The Esplanade).

Kids will love the face painting stand, and they can get creative themselves with some sidewalk art.

There’ll be buskers and musical entertainment and “we’ve got our fingers crossed that Santa might even fly in, together with Sammy the Seal and Penny the Penguin for a visit,” said Simonne.

She said many of the local cafes and restaurants would be open as well, in support of the



To help take the stress out of Christmas shopping this year, Phillip Island traders have banded together to hold two late night shopping events, on November 23 and December 8.

event.

“Hopefully people will want to stay on, have a meal with the kids, enjoy some takeaway down on the foreshore, or grab an ice-cream.”

Simonne said she hopes the local community will embrace the opportunity for local late-night shopping.

“It’s been a tough few years for local businesses and I know they really appreciate the support from the local community.”

“One of the benefits of retail on Phillip Island is it is largely made up of small, family-run businesses.

“There are very few chain stores, which means a dollar spent in a small local business is a dollar spent on the island.

“It has a real impact on the local economy, because the profit isn’t going out of the shire. It literally sits within our region.

“It doesn’t get much better than that, from an economic benefit perspective.”

For busy parents and those working nine to five, the late-night shopping is an added convenience and the dates have been carefully selected to avoid

clashing with other major community events.

“You don’t have to travel to the city to get great gifts and bargains,” Simonne said.

“Plus think of the money you’ll save on petrol if you’re not driving up the highway to Melbourne.”

To find out which stores are taking part, scan the QR code at the end of this article.

“We’ve been blown away at the reaction to the idea, and it’s great to see the Christmas spirit being brought to the island,” Simonne said.

Phillip Island Late Night Shopping: Thursday, November 23 and Friday, December 8.

/ Sponsored article /



Residents of Surf Beach deal with excessive dust and flooding and are calling for the council to re-engage with the community to find a solution. Flooding on The Esplanade at the intersection of Fern Avenue.

It’s a health hazard

ROADS AND DRAINAGE

The decision by Bass Coast Shire Council to abandon a special charge scheme at Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay has left residents dealing with third world conditions, some residents claim.

Lou Pecora has begged the council not to abandon them.

“If Council is genuinely concerned about people’s health and wellbeing, it must accept responsibility for a model that was set up for failure, and it must not make another monumental mistake by abandoning the scheme,” he said.

Mr Pecora said the lack of adequate drainage in the area is a health risk for residents.

He also said for himself, and other residents that live along the busy Esplanade, the dust from the unsealed road was an added burden.

Mr Pecora has long campaigned for an upgrade to the roads and drainage at Surf Beach, and has criticised the special charge scheme process.

He said despite the differences between those in favour of the scheme and the Say No Group, the two sides shared a common goal: finding a suitable and cost-effective solution to the situation.

“Feedback from “No” voters was abundantly clear the cost was categorically the main objection, and it is imperative Council reduce the cost.”

In the past, Mr Pecora has called for the dust suppressant seal on The Esplanade to be reinstated, and successfully campaigned for temporary speed reduction signage to be installed last summer.

He has called on the council to re-engage with the community to find a resolution.



Surf Beach resident Lou Pecora said the lack of drainage is a health issue for residents. Flooded backyards on The Esplanade and Seaview Crescent.

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Steve Lapin shows another section of the beach where Bass Coast Shire bulldozed a fallen tree to protect cliffs from erosion, to little avail.

Government promises: erosion study this year

EROSION

The state government has responded to Silverleaves residents concerns, saying an erosion study should start “before the end of the year”.

A Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) spokesperson told the Advertiser the tender for delivery of the coastal processes study was currently out.

“We are aiming to appoint a preferred contractor before the end of the year,” the spokesperson said.

“We’re continuing to work closely with Bass Coast Shire to monitor the shoreline at Silverleaves.”

DEECA said sand renourishment works were completed in August and no further works were planned.

“Coastlines are dynamic environments that are constantly changing as natural processes like waves, erosion and tidal currents shape and reshape landscapes.

“Council, DEECA, the community and researchers have actively monitored the Silverleaves area for many years, which has been impacted recently by significant erosion.”

Once started, the coastal processes study will assess risk, inundation, existing coastal protection infrastructure, and pro-

vide options for management, to understand and implement adaptation planning for current and future coastal hazards.

A Bass Coast Shire spokesperson said they continued to monitor the beach at Silverleaves and were “in regular contact with DEECA to review any changes to the shoreline and discuss appropriate management actions”.

“In coming weeks council will conduct some more works on site to manage fallen, dead vegetation to minimise hazards and improve pedestrian access,” the spokesperson said, contradicting the statement by DEECA that no further works were planned.

“The brush and larger trunks will be placed along the dune face to provide some protection against further erosion.

“Council looks forward to the outcomes of DEECA’s coastal study, including clear recommendations to guide management of the foreshore at Silverleaves into the future.”

In July then shire mayor Michael Whelan said a study was the first step.

“Without a sound, scientific understanding of the coastal processes at Silverleaves, poorly considered works could worsen the erosion or transfer the issue further down the beach,” Cr Whelan said at the time.



Due to the high volumes of sand that move through the area, and the shallow seabed, Better Boating Victoria say “some sand clearing will still be required” at the upgraded Cowes ramp.

Government quickly fixes new ramp

ANGLING

The state government has quickly fixed the newly upgraded Cowes boat ramp, after boaties reported problems with rocks at the end of the ramp.

As reported in last week’s Advertiser, the rocks – not there previously – were damaging boat hulls and propellers, while other ramp users said with no end of ramp markers, some boaties had gone over the edge of the ramp and needed towing help.

Last week a Better Boating Victoria (BBV) spokesperson said rocks at the end of the ramp had now been removed and markers reinstated “so it’s clear at all tides where the extended concrete ramp ends”.

“With the Anderson Road boat ramp open again, we’re working with local boaters to ensure it’s as functional as pos-

sible and is making their boating easier,” the BBV spokesperson said.

Boaties also reported there were “already issues on lower tides with trailers stuck over the end”, with one saying “sand build up is such, every launch vehicle is a four-wheel drive”.

The spokesperson said due to the high volumes of sand that move through the area, and the shallow seabed, “some sand clearing will still be required”.

“However, this will be at a reduced level, minimising disruptions to boaters.”

The new concrete ramp sits a metre higher than before to reduce sand accumulation and was extended 15 metres further into the water, providing access at a greater range of tides.

The adjoining jetty was extended by 20 metres.

BBV oversaw the design process, working with Bass Coast

Shire, who managed construction, undertaken by experienced maritime contractors Bridgewater Marine.

The spokesperson said boaters were able to have their say to help inform the plans through public consultation both online and in-person.

A second pre-construction drop-in session was held to walk local boaters through the detail of the build once designs were finalised and a tender awarded.

The upgrade complements a \$4.5 million upgrade at Rhyll, completed last year.

“While the shallow Cowes ramp caters for smaller boats at high to medium tides, boaters with larger craft can launch at Rhyll to enjoy time out on Western Port.

“BBV is also progressing upgrades for Newhaven boat ramp, with a concept plan nearing completion.”

Repair relief for commuters

ROADS

Delays on the South Gippsland Highway near Lang Lang due to an enormous pothole are now a thing of the past.

Last week, a representative from the Department said the road had been repaired.

Island residents told the Advertiser earlier this month a “crater of a pothole” was creating traffic havoc for people travelling between Melbourne and Phillip Island, with one lane of the highway closed.

“Over Cup Weekend, the traffic was banked up for kilometres,” they said.

When they called Regional Roads Victoria they were told the department was aware of the issue, but nothing was likely to be done for months.

“They said the section of road needed a total rebuild and that isn’t scheduled,” the frustrated motorist reported.

“They told me, if you work in Melbourne, leave an hour earlier.”

Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale, said she met with the Minister for Roads and Roads Safety, Melissa Horne and raised the issue.

“I want to thank community members that have reached out

regarding this stretch of the South Gippsland Highway and for being active and importantly having the safety of people travelling on our network at the core of their concerns and advocacy,” Ms Crugnale said.

“Driving this stretch constantly, it is one that I both raised with the Minister’s office and also formally logged on the Vicroads Feedback form.

“On Tuesday November 14, I met with Minister Horne in person to discuss this very stretch, reiterated the number of calls and emails that I had received ... and the very active conversations that were happening on

Facebook community pages affirming the priority, interest and advocacy from our community.”

She said the Minister confirmed road surface works were underway and would be completed by November 22.

However a Department spokesperson said the works were finished ahead of schedule and the road was now operating with two lanes.

Ms Crugnale said last year’s floods and record rainfall over a number of years has caused unprecedented damage to Victoria’s roads.

She said emergency repairs meant workers, machinery and

materials had been diverted away from planned maintenance and into flood recovery.

Ms Crugnale said the government’s \$770 million road maintenance blitz was now underway, and it was “getting on with carrying out the critical repairs that our regional roads need”.

The road maintenance blitz will be delivered as part of the first phase of a 10-year, \$6.6 billion maintenance strategy.

Ms Crugnale encouraged anyone with concerns about the road network to lodge their requests, concerns and issues at: www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/contact-us/feedback-and-enquiries



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Broadbent on the crossbench

POLITICS

Russell Broadbent lost the Liberal Party preselection for the seat of Monash on November 12, with challenger Mary Aldred easily winning the party vote.

After Mr Broadbent was defeated in preselection (161 to 16) he announced he was quitting the party and would serve the remainder of his term as an independent.

In a letter sent to media, Mr Broadbent stated he “remained a Liberal at heart and my values have not changed”.

“I want to reassure my constituents that moving to the crossbench in no way affects my commitment and capacity to represent them,” he wrote.

“I have strong and genuine relationships with Members of Parliament and Ministers across all sides of politics and I will be well-placed to continue speaking up on issues that are important to my constituents and our region. That hasn’t changed – it is business as usual in my office.”

Broadbent, 72, has been in federal parliament since 2004, after an earlier stint in the 1990s.

Last year’s federal election saw Mr Broadbent’s margin reduced to 2.9 per cent after preferences.

The seat is now officially classified as marginal. He has not confirmed if he intends to contest the seat as an independent in 2025.



After losing the Liberal Party preselection, Russell Broadbent has quit the party and will serve out the remainder of his term as an independent.

Early in his tenure, Mr Broadbent held an unassailable lead in the seat, which was considered a Liberal Party stronghold.

He was well known for his advocacy for refugees and asylum seekers.

In more recent years, Mr Broadbent attracted attention for his stance on the Voice – initially in support, then opposing it, his anti-vaccination and anti-lockdown statements during Covid, and voting

against the Same Sex Marriage proposal, despite the majority of voters in the electorate supporting it.

At the last election, despite an 8.45 per cent swing against him, he held off challenges from the Labor Party, and independent candidate Deb Leonard, who managed to pick up 10.98 per cent of the vote.

Learning of Mr Broadbent’s move to the cross bench, Ms Leonard said she had “hoped

to be the first Independent for Monash, but it appears Russell has pipped me to the post!”

“I will be watching closely to see if, as an independent, Russell listens to and represents his community’s values now that he is free from the constraints of following the Liberal party line.

“Monash has been ignored by the major parties for decades and it is time we are heard on issues that affect us, and receive the funding for housing, infrastructure and health services that we vitally need.

“Monash will definitely be a seat to watch at the next election.”

Community group Voices for Monash said it will also be closely watching Mr Broadbent’s performance for the remainder of his term.

They said the mood for engaged local leaders to run as independent Federal MPs continues to grow across the country.

“Voices for Monash is firmly committed to a new type of democracy; less about politics and focused on climate, integrity, equality and cost of living pressures,” a spokesperson said.

The group will be holding its end of year get together at the San Remo Hotel on December 11, from 5pm – 7pm (see separate story).

Mr Broadbent was approached but did not respond to our request for an interview.

Schoolies due to arrive

SCHOOLIES

The official schoolies celebrations start this week, and will run from November 24 until December 10.

Senior Sergeant Brent Muir, Bass Coast Cluster Manager at Victoria Police said additional police had been rostered on to cope with the expected influx.

However, based on current accommodation bookings, he believed numbers could be down on previous years.

He said police would have plenty of resources to ensure the students were safe and the community was not unduly disrupted.

“There will be a visible police presence in Cowes,” he confirmed.

“We want them to come and have a great time and be safe too, and for the community not to be affected or disrupted too much.”

Teams from Dance Wize and Red Frogs would also be on the island.

Dance Wize volunteers offer peer-based alcohol and other drugs harm reduction programs.

The Red Frogs team “act as the eyes and ears in accommodation venues and out on the streets, providing a positive peer presence to school leavers”.

Snr Sgt Muir said police, ambulance, Dance Wize, Red Frogs and council would all be present at the Jetty Triangle throughout the schoolies period.

He believes the first week (November 24 to December 3) will be the busiest.

Anyone concerned about schoolies behaviour or wanting to report a problem can call the police assistance line (131 444) or the Cowes police station (03 5952 2037).



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Grossard Court resident Jim Lalor says the best thing about living in residential aged care is the people you live with.

A story shared

Sharing stories is a highlight in residential aged care on the island.

BlueCross Grossard Court resident, Jim Lalor, says the best thing about living in residential aged care on Phillip Island is the people you live with.

"They always have such great stories!" says Jim.

Jim has been at BlueCross Grossard Court for over a year now due to realising it was getting harder and harder for him to live by himself at home.

"There is too much danger at home," he said.

"I can't live there. I fell over three times taking the rubbish bins out and knew that I needed more help."

Now that Jim is settled at Grossard Court he can see all the benefits it offers.

"It's a great place to live," he said.

"My bed gets made, my laundry gets done, my meals are cooked for me, the shower is terrific and I have all my knickknacks

around me.

"I always come out for breakfast as it's the best meal of the day. I'll then join the daily exercise classes.

"After that I might play some pool or often, on a fine day, I'll head into town on my scooter which I keep in the shed. The scooter gives me that independence that I need."

Jim also goes on to explain that of great comfort is the 24-hour care he receives.

"If I need a doctor, it will be arranged; if I need a script filled out, it will be arranged; if I need a haircut, it can be arranged. Everything is on call and the staff are so lovely, I can't fault them."

While Jim has everything he needs, the time he enjoys most is chatting with the other residents.

"I have found that I am most interested in other people's stories and everyone has such great stories," he beamed.

"I often sit with a lovely lady called Marge. Marge grew up in the area on a farm with sheep.

"She talks about riding horses and getting to school on her motorbike. I love her stories. There are lots of people like that all with terrific stories."

For anyone looking for more information on residential aged care at BlueCross Grossard Court, please contact Jo Hackett on 0437 900 129.

/ Sponsored article /



Her.Spa has a new lease of life, with new owners and new management, while retaining the exceptional staff, at the popular beauty spa with premises in Cowes and San Remo.

New start for Her.Spa

BEAUTY

Her.Spa has a new lease of life, with new owners and new management for the popular beauty spa with premises in Cowes and San Remo.

When the previous owner liquidated the business on October 17, clients were devastated to think the high-quality services would disappear.

Fortunately local business people who own Island Bay Ranch, stepped up to help keep the doors of the luxurious salons open and purchased the business, retaining the exceptional staff.

They were the biggest creditors in the old business, but said their faith in the services and products of Her.Spa was the motivation behind their decision to invest and subsequently buy it.

Ingrid Langford said "this has been an extremely stressful event for all concerned: Investors, clients and staff.

"We decided to buy the business because we believe in it and will invest further in services, staff and equipment.

"This is a great team who showed us during this process how committed and eager they are for success."

She also said she was overwhelmed by the number of people and local businesses offering their support.

Clients of the salons

can breathe a sigh of relief, with both the Cowes and San Remo premises operating as usual.

Any creditors of the prior owner (Danjae International Pty Ltd), including clients with unredeemed vouchers and pre-paid services as of October 17, 2023, are advised to contact the offices of the Liquidators, Robert Woods and David Mansfield at Deloitte Financial Advisory Pty Ltd, or email: jpolzella@deloitte.com.au.

In a show of good will and commitment, the new owners will honour 50 per cent of the value of vouchers purchased before the October 17 liquidation. Clients are advised to contact the salons to discuss their options.

All vouchers purchased since October 17 will be honoured in full.

Treatments

While there are big changes behind the scenes, what hasn't changed is the quality of the services and treatments offered by the fully qualified staff at Her.Skin and Day Spa.

The exceptional work of the staff was recently acknowledged when they won the People's Choice Award for best customer service at the Bass Coast Business Awards.

For clients, having access to "beautiful and professional" services on their doorstep, is invaluable.

The customer reviews highlight the staffs' dedication to ensuring everyone who walks through the door gets pampered and nurtured, and provided with high quality treatments.

The new owners believe the experience offered at the two salons is unmatched in the area, and the staff are second-to-none.

They also want to reassure customers that the same high-quality products and services are still available, and bookings are open.

Services at the day spa in Cowes include: spa treatments such as luxury facials, massages, body treatments and beauty treatments consisting of brows, lashes and waxing. Additional enhancements include infrared sauna, bathing and LED light therapy.

San Remo Skin Spa provides a more clinical approach with services including clinical facials, beauty treatments such as brows, lashes and hair removal (inclusive of waxing and laser), skin needling, non-surgical laser, skin tightening, pigment removal and skin rejuvenation.

Both locations showcase a variety of skin care products available to purchase under the guidance of knowledgeable therapists.

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Local mum Cassie and daughter Rylee look on as Jarvis (front) inspects the plans for the new playspace, along with Melissa and Cody (right). Resident Graeme Jolly centre back.



Jarred Santurini and Gavin Parker liked elements of the new playground proposal, but were keen to see a pump track established in the area.



Around seven local families came to the park in Sunnyside Avenue in Cape Woolamai to provide feedback on the proposed plans for the new playspace.

Playspaces are serious business

COMMUNITY

A small group of local parents attended the consultation at Cape Woolamai last week on a new playground design in Sunnyside Park.

The overwhelming feedback was a call for a pump track in the area.

However Bass Coast Shire Council staff said the consultation was focused on the playground renewal, while calls for a pump track would be considered as part of a shire wide study which included a community reference group.

While most of the parents, and children, were happy to discuss options for the playground, one mother said she was “furious” the council wasn’t providing more for the Cape Woolamai community.

Another mum, Melissa Drager thought the proposed upgrade for the park was “a really good idea”, but said looking at the bigger picture, there were “a lot of young boys that need something to cater to their ages”, suggesting a pump track or skate park was needed.

“Everyone in Cape Woolamai is sick of not having anything. This is a perfect spot to put a pump track; there is plenty of room.”

Her friend Cassie agreed with the call for a pump track, saying the kids were really missing the bike track that had been removed from the foreshore reserve.

“The older kids loved it and played on it for hours.”

Jarred Santurini and Gavin Parker also want to see a pump track in the area, suggesting the playground should be left as is, with all money redirected to a

pump track.

“My kids love the playground, and it’s not rusting away,” said Gavin.

“The playground is good for kids up to six or seven, but my son is 11 and won’t be using it,” Jarred said.

Gavin agreed.

“If they delay the pump track for another four or five years, our kids will miss out.”

Council officers said the playground was the oldest in the shire and needed to be upgraded to meet current standards.

Popular features in the design were the trampoline, spider web and ninja wall.

The design tries to cater for a range of ages and included some stuff that is “a challenge” for the children, the officers said.

The older children in the park were more interested in finding

out if the back board and basketball ring would be replaced as part of the upgrade.

The new designs also include removing the playground fences, to create a more inclusive space, in line with current industry standards. While popular with some parents, others described the fully fenced parks as “baby jails”.

Pump it

Council officers present said they were fully aware the community were keen to have a pump track in the area and supported having a skate park, however there was a lack of public open space available.

“There is only one public open space for 2000 people,” they said, noting “historical planning standards” had left the estate well short of public open space in terms of current standards.

Council’s Greg Poulson said a strategy was needed to determine the location of a future pump track.

“An area like this would be considered. We are fully aware that the community is really keen to have one here.”

Other suggestions included a skate park at Woolamai beach, near the Surf Life Saving Club and for a park to be established in Cottesloe Avenue, close to the store. A consultation session was also held in Cowes for the park in Katherine Circuit.

To provide your feedback, go to engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/playspace

Alternatively you can email the team at basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au to vote for your preferred design.

Feedback closes on December 3.

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Subdividing Property

- How and why

By David Caporale,
Investment Manager of Gippsreal Limited

The process of subdividing property from a single piece of land to two or more parts is complicated but with the right professionals and comprehensive research money can be made on the future use of the newly created land. This editorial is written to provide a high level overview, and is relevant for Victorian properties only.

The first step is to determine if the land can be subdivided. This will involve reviewing the certificate of title and plan which you can do yourself if you are familiar with titles, otherwise a solicitor, surveyor or town planner can be engaged. Generally speaking a property with the right zoning can be subdivided if it meets certain criteria and adheres to the rules and regulations set by the local council and planning authorities.

Some factors that should be considered and researched include (1) land size; is it large enough to be subdivided into smaller lots while still meeting the minimum lot size required by local council? (2) zoning; does it allow for a subdivision? (3) access to roads including driveways or easements to ensure each new lot has suitable access (4) shape and topography; is it flat and are the dimensions regular? (5) utilities and services such as water, sewerage, electricity and telecommunications; are they available or do they require upgrading or extending? and (6) are there any special overlays restricting the use or building designs, such as environmental or heritage overlays?

Once the investigation of the above factors is satisfied a feasibility of the subdivision should be the next step to determine its profitability which will involve consulting with surveyors, civil engineers, and town planners for preliminary advice and submitting the application for a planning permit.

The surveyor is the professional responsible for applying for a subdivision permit and drafting the proposed plans. They will guide you through the council application process and obtain approval from the council and relevant referral authorities which may include VicRoads, water, gas, electricity and NBN.

A civil engineer is engaged for a variety of services and reports needed in the application process. There are three main requirements that a civil engineer performs; a connection point for sewer, a connection point for water; and a lawful point of discharge for stormwater.

Once the planning permit has been issued civil construction can commence which includes clearing and grading the land, building new roads and footpaths, and installing and connecting utility services in accordance with the approved plans and permits.

Upon completion of all the civil construction works, the council and relevant authorities will check them and sign off a statement of compliance which then allows for the plan of subdivision to be registered with the titles office and create the new titles. This step is usually undertaken by a solicitor or conveyancer.

The subdivision process involves a number of steps as outlined above and as a result the time it takes from start to finish can often be anywhere from 12 to 24 months for small single stage subdivisions. If unexpected delays are encountered then the timeframe can be even longer and if you are selling after subdivision is registered then the time to sell and settle will be in addition.

The final part of the process to consider is the costs. Depending on the size and complexity of the development the costs can be significant and may also require debt to fund the project. For a simple two lot subdivision the ballpark figure can be circa \$30,000 - \$50,000. Additionally, there may also be tax payable if you make a profit so it is important to seek advice from an accountant to understand any tax implications that apply.

In summary, subdividing a property or land can provide uplift to the owner through the future use of the land, however it is not a simple process and requires the right professionals, time and money to execute correctly.

The information above does not constitute financial or other professional advice and is general in nature. It does not take into account your specific circumstances and should not be acted on without a full understanding of your current situation and future goals and objectives by a fully qualified financial advisor. Before you make any decision about whether to acquire a certain financial product, you should obtain and read the relevant product disclosure statement.

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Claire snaps up the prize

PHOTOGRAPHY

A student from Phillip Island Village School has won a \$1000 prize in this year's MobileMuster competition.

Claire Crane was one of six finalists in the school student creative competition, which asks young Australians to address the issues of caring for the environment, e-waste and recycling.

Claire's powerful photo entry was entitled: Where does your phone end up, once it takes that last selfie?

"I was so excited to win the finalist prize," Claire said.

"As soon as I heard about the competition I knew what I wanted to take my photo of and it was fun to be able to include my friends in my photography.

"My grandad is a photographer too and he has taught me so much. He was so proud of me when he heard."

Claire was one of hundreds of students who took part in the competition to inspire recycling action by creating an artwork and entering a national student competition, sponsored by the non-profit organisation MobileMuster.

This year, students could en-



Claire Crane's winning entry in this year's MobileMuster competition was titled "Where does your phone end up, once it takes that last selfie?" The Phillip Island Village School student won \$1000.

ter a photograph, drawing or short film. With two \$5000 first prizes and six finalists each receiving \$1000, the stakes were high and the judging panel were very impressed with the creative, clever and funny ideas that inspired the entries. The overall primary school winner was Ava Laurance, a Year 5 student from Perth, with a short film titled "Don't be Selfie-ish".

The secondary section was won by Thomas Klebanowski, a Year 9 student from Melbourne.

Their short film was called "We need to Talk".

MobileMuster has been helping Australians recycle their mobile phones for 25 years, tackling the ever-growing problem of electronic waste.

To help educate the next generation of environmentally conscious consumers in 2019 they launched a national film competition for students of all ages. This year the competition was expanded to include photography and drawing.



Newhaven College was thrilled to accept a \$1000 cheque from MaxCare. From left to right: Year 9 student Riley Lawrence, Principal Tony Corr, MaxCare Sales Manager Lesleigh Wright, Year 9 student Mitch White, Year 9 Teacher Carly Heislars and Head of Year 9 Ric Pearce.

National prize for local students

DESIGN

Newhaven College Year 9 students Riley Lawrence and Mitch White have won this year's Cows Create Careers Advertising Competition, winning \$1000 to be spent on educational programs for their school.

Cows Create Careers, in partnership with MaxCare, invited schools across Australia to create an advertisement for the dairy industry. Competing against 98 schools across Australia and receiving 29.65 per cent of the public votes, Newhaven College is delighted by the result.

"Every year our Year 9 students are given the opportunity to nurture two calves as part of our community program," said Elizabeth Hall, Year 9 teacher and program coordinator.

"The experience pairs beautifully with the holistic Year 9 immersive program focusing on our environment and rural location.

"The fact that Riley and Mitch have won this award is fantastic. The funds generously donated by MaxCare will further contribute to our Year 9 experiential program."

The Cows Create Careers program provides a practical and insightful introduction to the Australian dairy industry. This hands-on educational program involved 218 schools and 4798 students across Australia.

Cows Create Careers, Program Manager, Deanne Kennedy said the program educates students on all the different career opportunities available to them in the dairy industry, from working directly with the cows to sales, marketing and advertising.

"It's important to introduce this program into schools at a time when students are thinking about their future," she said.

MaxCare supplies the calf milk replacer which the students use to nurture the calves.

While on campus, the calves stay in the purpose-built Moo-Haven enclosure while they are cared for by the Year 9 students.

This year Riley and Mitch named their calves 'Goose' and 'Moose' and are very excited to have used an image of their calves for the winning advertisement for MaxCare.

Helping hand needed

REFUGEES

The Bass Coast Refugee Sponsorship Group is calling for community support, to help settle a refugee family from Syria in Bass Coast.

The Bass Coast Refugee Sponsorship Group (BCRSG) has sponsored the Al Habra family – parents with three children aged six, 11 and 12. The family arrive this month and the group has been busy preparing for their arrival, organising transport, clothing, medical appointments, bank accounts and everything else you need to start from scratch in a country where you speak almost none of the local language.

"Our biggest hurdle is accommodation," said RCRSG spokesperson Deb Leonard.

"Obviously there is a housing crisis across the country, and Bass Coast is no exception. The family will be in receipt of Centrelink for the immediate future, and we do not know what the earning capacity of the parents will be once they are settled.

"Ideally, the family needs a three plus bedroom home, close to public transport/schools/shops, for under \$450 per week. A big ask, I know!"

Ms Leonard said a home in the Wonthaggi area would be the most suitable, allowing group members to support the family.

"One of the very kind and generous members of the group offered to take the family into her home when they arrived, until more appropriate accommodation can be found.

"But this is a temporary solution only. We want to find the family somewhere they can live autonomously and settle into a space that is their own."

Ms Leonard said if anyone had connections or suggestions for available accommodation, or even short-term rental, they should contact BCRSG. Anyone would who like to donate funds to help support the family, can do so via a Shout for Good page: shoutforgood.com/fundraisers/bcrsg

Donations are tax deductible. www.facebook.com/BassCoastRSG/

Who do you want to represent you?

POLITICS

With yet more preselection issues plaguing major parties, Voices for Monash say the movement for engaged local leaders to emerge as well credentialed independent federal MPs continues to grow across Australia.

In the third deselection since last year's election, Liberal party member and Monash representative, Russell Broadbent has quit the party but will remain in parliament for the duration of his term (see separate story).

What would the residents of Monash like to say in response to this decision, asks Voices for Monash spokesperson Deb Leonard. Presently strategising for a large community push in 2024, Voices For Monash (V4M) said its members are firmly committed to a new type of democracy, less about politics and focused on climate, integrity, equality and cost of living pressures.

In 2022, Deb Leonard ran as an independent for the seat of Monash, picking up more than 10 per cent of the primary vote.



Dennis Ginnivan (second right), an integral part of the Voices for Indi movement, is the guest speaker at the Voices for Monash end of year get together at the San Remo Hotel on December 11

"The next election could be a very close race – it will definitely be one to watch," she told ABC radio after Mr Broadbent's move to the crossbench was announced.

Founded in 2021 by concerned citizens for climate action, integrity and equality, V4M said it is presently focused on cost of living and housing pressures as heard from local residents repeatedly through qualitative and quantitative research and engagement over the last 18 months.

V4M will hold their annual

end of year get together at the San Remo Hotel on December 11, from 5pm – 7pm for all supporters and those curious to hear more about grassroots community action.

Special guest at the event will be Dennis Ginnivan, who was integrally involved in the formation of Voices for Indi, the movement that saw Cathy McGowen elected as the first independent for that electorate.

More information about Voices for Monash activities can be found at voicesformonash.org.



Alana Vanderstaay, Ciara Orr, Maddison Lethbridge and Sienna McFarlane after their final exam, Food Studies. More photos at pisra.com.au.

VCE exams are done

EDUCATION

Newhaven College's Class of 2023 VCE students have completed their final exams and are ready for the next exciting episode of life.

The students impressed their Year 12 teachers with their diligence and hard work over the past few weeks.

Principal, Mr Tony Corr expressed his appreciation for the 2023 VCE students' commitment to their exams.

"We are very pleased with the commitment and dedication

all of our students have demonstrated towards their VCE examinations.

"In what is a stressful time our students approached their exams in a concerted way to give themselves the best chance of success.

"They have worked very hard and now have the opportunity for a well-deserved break", he said.

Newhaven College is proud of this year's Year 12 cohort and wishes them all the best with their results and plans for the future.

FESTIVAL OF STORIES 2023



Stories take centre stage

DEEP LISTENING

In its first year back post Covid, this year's Phillip Island Festival of Stories was low key, but still packed a punch, with an impressive array of presenters and performances.

The first festival to be held at the new Berninneit Centre, organisers hope the new venue will help boost next year's attendance numbers back to their pre-Covid peak.

In the deep listening and truth telling panel Phillip Island's Uncle Steve Ulula Parker said as a surfer and musician he connected to country by "feeling the rhythm of the ocean".

"The whole country is living. One of the best times to connect to it is after it rains," he told the audience.

"We are only here for a short time and the impact humans have on our country is major, so I always ask people to walk lightly and think about what you are leaving behind for your great grandkids.

"If you're walking on the beach or going for a surf, pick up rubbish. Do those little things."

Humour

Author Lorin Clarke gave a humorous talk about her new book, *Would That Be Funny?*, which is a family memoir about life with her father, Kiwi satirist John Clarke, her mother, art historian Helen McDonald, and her sister, Lucia.

The family spent their holidays at Phillip Island since the 1980s and Lorin gave a holiday slide show of photos from around Phillip Island, intertwined with family in-jokes.

"My childhood was almost offensively idyllic," Lorin told the audience.

"And part of that was coming down here.

"This is our family's favourite place to be and always has been."

Change

Former state government MP and Phillip Island resident Kay Setches was a last-minute re-



From left, artist Daniel Church, Phillip Island's Uncle Steve Ulula Parker, Aunt Fay Stewart-Muir and host Dr Laura Brearley, from Phillip Island, who is an intercultural and environmental arts specialist.



Cowes' resident Ian Robinson gets a signed copy of Lorin Clarke's book, *Would That Be Funny?* More photos at pisra.com.au

placement for publisher Sue Hines, who was unable to make it to the festival because of family commitments.

Kay recalled her time working with former premiers John Cain and Joan Kirner, explaining when at the time she was in parliament there were no women's toilets in the Legislative Assembly.

"Acceptance of women in parliament in that time (1980s) was very low," Kay said.

She said she followed Joan as conservation minister, continuing the Summerland buy-back scheme and also the early years of Landcare, with Phillip Island Landcare among the first groups in the state.



Misty the Penguin at the launch of *The Littlest Penguin* book, with PINP CEO Catherine Basterfield (left) and Kaye Setches.

Penguin Foundation launches book

BOOK LAUNCH

The Phillip Island Festival of Stories also hosted the official launch of *The Littlest Penguin*, a collaboration between the Penguin Foundation and Penguin Random House.

Foundation Chair Simone Clancy launched the book, which follows the ocean adventures of one of Phillip Island's penguins, giving readers the chance to join Scruffy, Cheeky and Big Chick as they go out to sea for the very first time and learn everything you need to know about the real-life penguins along the way.

Ms Clancy outlined the aims and purpose of the Penguin Foundation, saying it was "critical to take action to protect the environment", so the actions of today "reverberate positively on generations to come".

She said \$2.9 million had been spent by the Foundation on 68 projects, with current projects including sailing drone sensors, penguin disease risk assessment, work with threatened species, a project for disentangling seals and another for creating a safe haven for Fairy Terns, as

well as steps to future proof the penguins against bushfires and climate change.

The foundation is also currently working on a project using magnetic particle technology to help clean up animals after oil spills.

Using the new technology to clean the animals quickly, in the field, greatly increased their survival chances, Ms Clancy said.

But the star of the show was the Little Penguin, and the beautiful hard cover book, illustrated by Jedda Robaard.

"I am absolutely thrilled to introduce this book, which is a testament to the incredible journey of our little penguins," she said.

"It's where the magic of storytelling meets the wonders of the natural world."

The audience was treated to a reading of the book's first chapter by Nature Parks' Research Scientist Dr Andre Chiaradia, and a scene stealing appearance on stage by Misty the Penguin.

The *Littlest Penguin* is published by Puffin and recommended for children aged 4 – 8 years.

On sale at Phillip Island Nature Parks and Turn the Page bookshop in Cowes.

A night of Brian

COMEDY

It seems there are two kinds of people in this world.

Those who like to see a show safely cocooned in darkness.

Then there are those who happily become part of the action, and jump on stage to impersonate Mick Jagger, reveal they lost their virginity after a Santana concert at Festival Hall, or belt out some Elvis karaoke.

There was a good share of both at Brian Nankervis' show at Berninneit on Saturday night – the finale of the Phillip Island Festival of Stories.

The 100 plus crowd were entertained by stories, poems and warm-hearted interaction with the audience, who became part of the performance.

Young Eli, tasked with being the unofficial score keeper for

the quiz will most likely never sit in the front row or wear shorts to a comedy show again.

Or there was Dave, who saw AC/DC while he was working on a shopping centre extension.

The performance covered Nankervis' six-year stint as a teacher, his enduring love of music, falling into comedy through a job as a waiter at The Last Laugh, then his reoccurring stint on Hey Hey It's Saturday as poet Raymond J Bartholomeuz.

The red beret emerged, and Raymond recited the poem from his first appearance on Hey Hey, which ended with the line: "Today I laugh, joke, I chitter chatter chitter, but tomorrow I go to Phillip Island."

"I've been waiting 30 years to do that here," he quipped, after finishing the poem to enthusiastic applause.

He also read "Hitch Hiking Story 212 – Bald man and the afro" – a tale of travel in New Zealand, a lawyer with a love of Bob Dylan and the musical Hair, a dinner invitation, a drug experience, paranoia and ironing boards.

Midway through the show, there was a special guest appearance by Jane Clifton, who read several poems, including one dedicated to Festival of Stories president Lois Gaskin, who was celebrating her 70th birthday. The MC at Berninneit's opening night, Clifton is performing her own show here in August 2024.

But the night really was all about Brian.

The writer, comedian, actor and producer is well known for his regular ABC radio appearances (on the 774 Friday review)



Post show, Brian Nankervis (second left) caught up with Eli, the night's unofficial score keeper, Phillip Island Story Tellers President Lois Gaskin and Colin (Eli's dad).

and the hit TV series and live show Rockwiz, and aside from front row Eli, everyone in the audience seemed to know – and love – the part time Phillip Islander.

There was laughter, applause

and singing throughout and at the end of the show, people streamed out into the night with smiles on their faces.

Details of upcoming performances at Berninneit: www.basscoastculturalvenues.com



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The bells are ringing for the last show

When Tubular Bells for Two plays at Berninnet on November 25, the Phillip Island audience will be witnessing the end of an era.

After almost 15 years, 500 performances and visiting 20 countries around the world, co-creator Daniel Holdsworth said it was time to say goodbye.

"I'm really proud of what we've achieved, it's been a great journey," he said.

"On the 50th anniversary of the release of Tubular Bells, it felt like a good time to say goodbye."

Part musical performance, part physical theatre, part comedy and with a dash of high-wire tension thrown in, Tubular Bells for Two has won awards at the Sydney, Adelaide and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals.

It's been hailed as "mesmerising", "a tour de force" and "truly virtuosic" by critics around the globe.

That's quite a feat for a show that started out with two friends nerding out with a new musical gadget back in 2008.

Daniel described himself as a "typical session musician", playing in bands, writing music for film and television, picking up work wherever he could.

He and his friend Aid-

an Roberts had played in bands together and were record collectors who shared a love of music from the late 60s and early 70s.

They were listening to Mike Oldfield's Tubular Bells album – released in 1973 and going on to sell 30 million copies – when they bought the new toy, a loop pedal.

As a bit of fun, the pair decided to try and reproduce a section at the end of side one of the record.

"As a challenge we thought we'd get a bass loop, set up all the instruments and run between them and play them all," Daniel recalls.

"We notated out the whole record from start to finish. Then we started to think – who has a spare limb to play what. It's more like choreography the way it all comes together."

"It is about the sum of the parts. All the individual bits are not too stressful, but put it all together and it comes down to absolute precision."

When the friends took their act to the stage, they realised the "fun challenge" had morphed into something different.

"During the performance, everyone was laughing. The audience was onside, it was so tense, they could feel we are on a knife's edge."



Multi-instrumentalists Daniel Holdsworth and Tom Bamford bring the award-winning Tubular Bells for Two to Berninnet on November 25.

"That's when we realised this was something cool."

The pair got invited to perform at the Sydney Fringe Festival in 2009 to rave reviews.

They then headed for a sold-out season at the Ed-

inburgh Fringe.

"It's a great show for a Fringe Festival," Daniel said.

"There is a duality to what we are doing. The task is to perform the music, but simultaneously the music becomes the soundtrack to the task we're undertaking."

"We're not a circus act, but it has the same feeling of a high wire tension act."

That tension comes from the two musicians racing around the stage juggling instruments from guitars and mandolins to keyboards, drums, glockenspiel, percussion ... and of course the famous tubular bells.

In 2017, when Aidan decided to stop touring, the task became to find a

musician with the skills to take his place.

Enter multi-instrumentalist Tom Bamford.

"We did a lot of auditioning to find Tom," Daniel admitted, saying finding someone who he had a great rapport with was essential.

"The two most important aspects were, could we read each other musically, and how did he go under pressure?"

"Once we play that first note, we have to keep going to the end. When things go wrong (and they do), how do we get it back on track?"

Daniel said the audience at Berninnet can expect a show to delight music buffs, as well as lovers of physical theatre, drama

and comedy.

"There's a combination of all those things. I've met so many people who have appreciated the show that come away from it with a totally different experience."

And you most definitely don't need to be a fan of the original record to enjoy the show.

"During the festival circuit, we had young people coming along who had never heard of Tubular Bells before."

Daniel said while he believes the time is right to retire the show – "I'm 42 now and it's already starting to hurt my body, it's definitely a young man's game" – he's grateful for all it has delivered for him.

"On a completely self-ish note, the show has been successful and given me the capacity to work on passion projects that might not see the same commercial success."

"The show is nothing like a tribute show or a cover band. It is something very different."

"Of course we love the record and give it the honour it deserves, but the show is about the situation we've built on stage."

He's looking forward to the chance to perform in the new theatre at Berninnet and to catch up with relatives.

"I have family who live there, and I haven't been to Phillip Island for about 20 years."

Unfortunately there won't be time for much exploring, or a visit to the penguins.

"We'll probably get half of Sunday to visit my cousin, so we'll be looking for good coffee."

"People can let us know café recommendations on Saturday night."

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The Phillip Island Bass Coast Dog Owners Association is holding a Christmas Walk for people and pooches on November 26, starting at 10am at the Cowes Yacht Club.

Walking the dog

The Phillip Island Bass Coast Dog Owners Association is holding a Christmas Walk for people and pooches on November 26.

This is the association's inaugural Christmas Walk and dogs and their owners are invited to meet at 10am at the Cowes Yacht Club.

The group will then walk to the An-

derson boat ramp and back – but you can walk as much, or as little as you like.

Dress your dog and kids (and yourself) in Christmas outfits to win some prizes.

Get into the spirit of the festive season and have some fun with the local dog community.

"Come and show our community that dogs have an important place on our beaches," an association spokesperson said.

Find the Phillip Island Bass Coast Dog Owners Association on Facebook.

Summerfield screening

MOVIE

This month's film from the Phillip Island Movie Club is "Summerfield", screening on Thursday November 30 at St Philip's in Cowes.

The film, released in 1977 was directed by Ken Hannam and filmed on Churchill Island and Phillip Island. It stars Nick Tate, John Waters, Elizabeth Alexander, Michelle Jarman, Charles 'Bud' Tingwell and Geraldine Turner, with some local talent also on screen.

The film is the story of a teacher appointed to a small-town school, who becomes curious about the unexplained disappearance of his predecessor.

While investigating, he is drawn into the strange world of a reclusive family whose daughter lives on Churchill Island.

At the time, the Australian Women's Weekly wrote: "Pat Lovell says it is not a thriller in the Hitchcock sense, but describes it as having an underlying uneasiness building up the horror in the realisation that what appears as normal is not really so at all."

The Movie Club screening kicks off with a special introduction from John Waters and guests on the night include those who were in the film or had contact with the filmmakers.

"They will share their



This month, the Phillip Island Movie Club presents "Summerfield" on November 30. Filmed on Churchill Island and Phillip Island in the 1970s, it featured a line up of Australian stars, including John Waters and Charles "Bud" Tingwell.

experiences with us," said Movie Club secretary Margaret Byrne.

"We will also have a copy of a book made by the students at Newhaven Primary School about the making of the film. All in all, it will be a night to remember."

This screening is for 2023 members only and the film will start at 7.30pm, instead of the usual 8pm.

Doors will open at 6.45pm for drinks and nibbles prior to the film.

"This evening is also a celebration of our club being in operation for 40 years," Margaret said.

"The Q & A is at the end of the film so as not to disclose the plot of the film."

Program

6.45pm: Welcome Drinks and Nibbles

7.30pm: Welcome from

Anne Davie and Elizabeth Mulhern

7.40pm: Short video Introduction from John Waters and Screen Film

9.20pm: Drinks and supper

9.30pm: Q & A. Marg Byrne will lead the session, including a description of the short documentary that was made 28 years later

10pm: Approximate conclusion of evening

"Summerfield" runs for

95 minutes, is rated M, and is categorised as thriller/drama.

Please bring a small plate to share and drinking glasses or cups.

Entrance to this film is by 2023 membership only, not 2024 members.

The Movie Club's next film "Past Lives" will be on Wednesday December 13 at Berninnet – for 2024 members only.



Teddy Tahu Rhodes and Guy Noble are joining forces for a performance of popular opera arias and Broadway show tunes at Berninnet on December 2.

Broadway comes to Berninnet

MUSIC

Phillip Island will host two of Australia's most amazing Broadway entertainers on December 2.

Two of Australia's most popular entertainers Teddy Tahu Rhodes and Guy Noble are joining forces in a thrilling program of popular opera arias and Broadway show tunes at Berninnet.

Audiences will hear Australia's favourite bass baritone and one of Australia's most charismatic pianists perform spine-tingling renditions of Some Enchanted Evening, If I Were a Rich Man, Oh What a Beautiful Mornin', The Toreador Song from Carmen, Largo al factotum from The Barber of Seville, a surprising Gilbert and Sullivan hit and much more.

The show has attracted rave reviews across the country.

"Teddy Tahu Rhodes is ... unbeatable. His O What a Beautiful Morning, It Might as Well be Spring and especially his Some Enchanted Evening were crowd

pleasers. Guy Noble ... is a willing accomplice, with a wicked sense of humour... The audience roared with laughter." – Advertiser (Adelaide)

Teddy Tahu Rhodes has starred with opera companies in Hamburg, Munich, Paris, Philadelphia, Covent Garden in London and the Metropolitan Opera in New York. His big voice and presence have made him an audience favourite in both opera and musicals such as The King and I and South Pacific.

Guy Noble has conducted all the major orchestras of Australia and has worked with a great variety of international artists including Olivia Newton John, Randy Newman, Harry Connick Jr and Glenn Frey from The Eagles. A charismatic and witty performer, Guy will delight with some wickedly updated lyrics to a Gilbert and Sullivan classic.

Tickets available at www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1116019

Details of this and upcoming performances at Berninnet at www.basscoast-culturalvenues.com

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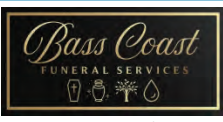
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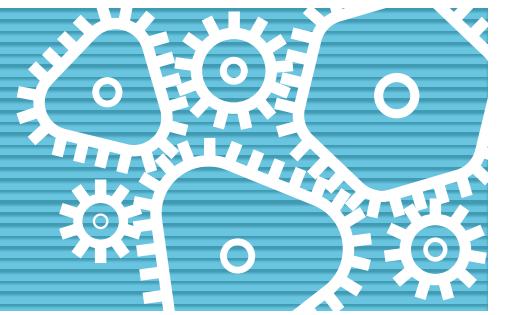
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Students take to the streets

Students across the country took to the streets last week to protest the lack of action on climate change.

At the forefront of the Victorian protests was Phillip Island student Joey Thompson.

Joey was one of three students who unfurled a banner and sang in the Victorian Parliament on November 14.

The students were protesting the Labor Government's continued approval of coal and gas, and announcing the student strike on November 17.

Parliament was adjourned while security re-

moved the students from the building.

The students told the media they were frustrated the government continued support the fossil fuel industry.

"The government is supposed to protect its people but instead it's allowing and funding the continued extraction, exportation and burning of fossil fuels driving the climate crisis which threatens every species on the planet, including us."

"We have come to Parliament today to demand an end to all new coal and gas projects in Australia,"

they said.

Joey told the media the students had created a climate doctor's certificate, so students could take the day off school and join the November 17 protest.

"This is a different kind of sick note, signed by a doctor who recognises the need to stop fossil fuels," he said.

"If your school questions your absence on Friday present them with your certificate as a powerful symbol of defiance, showing that the climate is more important than the classroom."

On November 17, thousands of students across the country took to the streets.

Melbourne protesters marched from Flagstaff Gardens to the Victorian Labor Party office in Docklands.

Students cover the windows of the office in sticky notes with messages for the government.

Joey said around eight students from Bass Coast attended the Melbourne event.

Protestors in Sydney targeted Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek's office.



Phillip Island's Joey Thompson being interviewed by ABC TV at the School Strike in Melbourne on Friday.

It's cool to be kind

EDUCATION

San Remo Primary celebrated World Kindness Day on November 13.

The school described it as an important day for the school on its Respectful Relationship calendar.

"As part of the teaching and learning the students discussed and completed activities on how to be kind, and what it means to be kind to others and yourself," said Principal Karen Bowker.

"They were exposed to the idea of the small acts of kindness having a domino effect on the community, that one small thing can spread to the next person and then the next.

In the garden a display was installed to represent the students being the 'i' in kind.

Students jumped at the chance to be in a photo.

"The students were interviewed at lunchtime and were asked 'What would you do as a small act of kindness for someone else or yourself?'" Ms Bowker said.



Grade 5 student, Evie, standing Proud and tall as the 'i' in Kind.

"Responses varied from giving someone a hug, to helping an elderly person across the road, to helping someone if they were hurt or crying.

"They also said that sometimes to be kind to ourselves we need to give ourselves some time out and even hug a tree to be kind to the environment."

During assembly a poem of kindness was read out as students sprinkled a little kindness on the families in the audience,

who received little treats with little sayings on them.

"This really put a smile on the students and teachers faces and certainly did for the parents as well.

"Thank you to our Student Support Leaders, Amy, Pat and Asha for helping put together the assembly idea and making the treat packs," said Ms Bowker.

"It sure does feel good being kind!"



Mrs Wilson, the prep teacher at San Remo Primary had a big smile on her face when Monty gave her some flowers. More photos at pisra.com.au

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Sand mining

Bass Coast Shire Council is allowing sand extraction companies to ride roughshod over the community by failing to implement the Regional Sand Extraction Strategy, Lang Lang to Grantville.

Former Mayor, Michael Whelan said he 'is not interested' in talking about the issues. The Shire has ignored a requirement in the sand strategy - which forms a key part of the Bass Coast Planning Scheme - To establish an Environment Review Committee for each company operating on the resource. It clearly states that a committee "shall be established" for every new extractive industry, membership must include the Council and the local community. The committee is required to monitor compliance by the operator and provide feedback on any environmental problems. A dubious committee was established and referred to as The Grantville Quarries Reference Group but this does not meet the requirements of the Sand Strategy. Membership of the committee has been hidden. There has been no oversight of actions on site which damaged regional wildlife habitat and compromised water flows on adjoining land and into Bass River, threatening platypus, blackfish and other aquatic species.

Phil Westwood, Grantville

Broadbent explains

On Tuesday 14 November 2023 I resigned from the Liberal Party and joined the crossbench as an Independent where I'll continue to represent the people of Monash until the next election.

As I have stated in the media over the past few days, I remain a Liberal at heart and my values have not changed.

I want to reassure my constituents that moving to the crossbench in no way affects my commitment and capacity to represent them. I have strong

and genuine relationships with Members of Parliament and Ministers across all sides of politics and I will be well-placed to continue speaking up on issues that are important to my constituents and our region. That hasn't changed - it is business as usual in my office.

It has been an honour to stand in the parliament as the Liberal member for Monash and I sincerely thank those who elected me to represent them.

Russell Broadbent MP, Federal Member for Monash

Say No majority

It is interesting the voting numbers for the Sunderland Bay Surf Beach Special Charge Scheme are now available to the public and not solely to the minority yes group for the scheme who have been in possession of facts and figures for some time through council involvement with them only. Of those ratepayers that voted in the scheme, there were 559 votes against and 133 who were for the scheme out of a total of 692 ratepayers who voted. That is 80.7 per cent against the scheme, an overwhelming majority.

Council and the ones for the scheme would have us think that the voting was 54 per cent against and 46 per cent for the scheme. This group are assuming the 33 per cent who did not vote were all yes votes, some possibly because they couldn't care less or as some of the yes group have stated they just plain forgot to vote. The minority group have told the no majority group throughout the process, to abide by the umpire's decision, but now that the numbers are in and they do not like the voting outcome, they appear to be lobbying council to change the result. This same group believe, if you own land or home in the estates but are not a permanent resident then you do not deserve a vote. Others of the same group

state there should be a preference system, permanent resident a primary vote, holiday houses secondary vote, B&B bottom of the pack on their voting hierarchy. But everyone still has to pay the special charge tax. Is this democracy or something else?

Philip Davy, Surf Beach

Backflip question

I have always voiced my opinion that the community and councillors have the right to freedom of expression. But after what I witnessed at last Wednesday Bass Coast Council I feel for Cr Halstead. Cr Ellis nominated her for mayor and when it came to the vote did a backflip. Politics may be accepted in government cycles but why should we allow it in council matters? We don't have a say in who should be mayor but our representatives should be aware of our community feelings before they commit to a vote, not as shown at this meeting.

John Trigt

People have spoken

The results of the ratepayers vote on the SBSB special charge scheme are done and dusted. 53 per cent No, 13 per cent Yes and 33 per cent didn't vote. I think that's called emphatic.

Over the last two years, the Say No group, representing 80 per cent of the voters in the suburbs concerned, have fought an honest, democratic and ultimately successful campaign resulting in a victory for the majority.

During this period the Say No group was demonized by proponents of the scheme on all fronts. Door knocking, petitions, letters to the editor and so on, were deemed inappropriate and undemocratic. The lowest point of this period was when a councillor publicly labelled opponents of the scheme as bullies of elderly citizens; an accusation which remains unsubstantiated to this

day. The Say No group wore all of this and remained focussed on our purpose and goal.

Now that the democratic process is completed, the Yes group is seeking to reverse the result, embracing what they formerly claimed to be unreasonable and undemocratic. Door knocking and a petition, being first and foremost. Having heavily criticised and questioned the No group for the makeup of the No petition signees based on ratepayer composition, the Yes group has launched their own petition which is open to anyone worldwide to sign. Not just ratepayers or locals. Not just shire residents.

So, the No Group, simply stayed the course and fairly and democratically won. Now the Yes group refuses to accept the result of this democratic process. The name-calling and criticism have continued on social media. I can imagine the situation were the outcome and responses reversed.

BCSC and its newly elected Mayor, has continued to provide Yes proponents with hope and public support for this overwhelmingly rejected scheme.

Simply put, it's time for all concerned, including our councillors, to move on.

The people have spoken.

Ross Bencraft, Surf Beach

Please don't abandon us

There are about 500 households with over 1000 people devastated with the thought of Council walking away without fixing the problems they reassured would be fixed with the Special Charge Scheme. If Council is serious about improving the amenities, then it must not abandon the people that persevered with the dreadful conditions knowing the SCS was imminent.

Council's expectation for a 70 per cent community request for specific streets is unrealistic and impossible for many lo-

cations with an exceptionally high number of absent property owners who come infrequently, particularly in winter, to experience the horrendous conditions. There is no hope of gathering the numbers particularly when absent property owners are predominantly opposed to the cost.

If Council is genuinely concerned about people's health and wellbeing, it must accept responsibility for a model that was set up for failure, and it must not make another monumental mistake by abandoning the scheme. It needs to heed the community's plea to provide appropriate options and reduce the cost to property owners. Feedback from "No" voters was abundantly clear the cost was categorically the main objection, and it is imperative Council reduce the cost by;

1. Increasing Council contribution.

2. Seeking government funding by having The Esplanade declared a tourist road, and the main north-south roads declared State main roads. All carry over 95 per cent of non-local traffic.

3. Capping the cost to individual properties and not impose a possible 10 per cent increase.

4. Treating the roads as a Shire asset, so any cost escalation and interest on the loan can be borne by the Shire as it does with other infrastructure projects. The Shire will easily recoup the cost with increased property rates from the improved asset.

Council must show its resolve and make the difficult decisions for the project to proceed not only for the residents, but for all who visit the area. Many have decided to sell if the scheme is abandoned, while many unfortunately do not have the means to do so.

Please re-engage with the community so an appropriate solution can be developed.

Lou Pecora, Surf Beach



The Wonthaggi Little Athletics club has moved to the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve for this season.

Wonthaggi Little Aths on the move

ATHLETICS

The Wonthaggi Little Athletics club is on the move and will call Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve home from this season.

The move was facilitated through talks with Gippsport and Bass Coast Shire Council and is a positive one for the club and its members, as it will increase the number of sessions available and will hopefully boost overall numbers.

The club has called Wonthaggi Secondary College Dudley Campus home since 2011.

The wet surface has caused a delay to start of the season over the previous few seasons.

So when the move to the recreation reserve was made possible it was an opportunity too good to refuse as Club President Mark Rowe explains.

"We are extremely grateful for the partnership we have had at the Dudley campus and it has been a great base for us over the last 12 years, but it's been a battle to get started in October/November because it's been just too wet.

"This move will ensure we can start as early as possible and give our athletes a full season."

Bass Coast Shire Council is also excited about the move and sees great benefit in welcoming the club,

"We don't have a summer tenant on Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve 1 at the moment so this will ensure we are maximising our major asset in town during this time of the year," Kelly Boyd Recreation Liaison and Project Officer commented.

"Having an athletics track marked on the oval will hopefully

encourage any other residents to take advantage of it outside of the use from the club."

Gippsport Program Coordinator Gene Parini believes it is a huge win on many fronts.

"This move will allow the club to grow and build for future years.

"We are excited to work with the club to do this, giving more people a chance to get involved in the sport. It also provides informal running on the oval with the marked track."

The club is in the process of informing members of the move and started at its new home on Saturday, November 18.

For more information on how to become a member please visit Wonthaggi Little Athletics Facebook, email wonthaggi@lavic.com.au or call 0432 540 723.

New members welcome!



The move to the recreation reserve will increase session availability and hopefully boost club numbers

The bowls light up

BOWLS

Phillip Island Bowling Club has just installed new lighting to their bottom green.

The project would not have been possible without the generous support from the Bendigo Bank.

Phillip Island Bowling Club would like to thank them for their continued support.

The club is now in the position to hold night competitions and to extend their corporate bowls and barefoot bowls competitions.



From left: Peter Paul (Bendigo Bank), John Mathews (Phillip Island Bowling Club) and Wayne Barr (Phillip Island Bowling Club Chairman).

Island battles it out at Lang Lang

MIDWEEK BOWLS

Thirty-three of our family met to fight it out at Lang Lang this week. The weather was pretty good, not hot, a bit cool but certainly not cold.

The games were high quality but that didn't stop the laughter from all quarters.

Marianne looked after the bar again and kept many of our bowlers happy.

Pauline, Peter and John once again did a superb job in getting everyone out on the green.

They do a marvelous job week in and week out so a big thank you to them. One or two wrong bias bowls today, good to see the tin slowly filling up.

Today's winners on a score of 35 were: Michael Dady (S), Chris

Brooks (3) and Max Summers (L).

Runners up on 34 points were: Rob Jeffrey (S), David Talbot (3) and Elaine Williams (L).

Best one game winners on 23 points were: Phil Wright (S), Rafaele Merente (3) and Peter Thorley (L).

Thank you also to Vicki for looking after the kitchen.

Along with Kevin and Vern in clearing up the rink after the game. Next week we will be heading to Corinella.

So, if everyone who is playing could be on site by 10am to allow time for Peter to work his magic getting the teams set up.

Meanwhile, have a great week and to all our pennant players we hope you have a good week-end of playing.



This week's winners: Michael Dady (S), Max Summers (L) and Chris Brooks (3).



This week's runners up: David Talbot (3), Elaine Williams (L) and Rob Jeffrey (S).

Adverse conditions for social bowlers

BOWLS

Social bowls was held on November 16, with weather conditions not the best for bowling.

Our bowlers faced cool and cloudy weather with a few showers but they were not put-off by

the conditions and all games were completed.

Runners up for the day: Derek MacDonald, Curtis Fanning and Jenny Johnson. Congratulations to our winners: John Hall, David Saric, Lance Wearne and Bruce Puncher.



From left, winners David Saric, Bruce Puncher, Lance Wearne and John Hall.



The Island took home the win against the Great Whites on the weekend.

Island girls take win in home game

CRICKET

Rhyll hosted its first ever Women's game on Sunday, with Phillip Island playing Kilcunda Bass Great Whites.

The Island welcomed two new players this week, Rach and Katie and after a (not so surprising) loss of the toss were sent into bat.

Sienna and Winnie started strongly with a fantastic 24 run partnership.

Rosanna and Jess piled on the runs, with Rosanna smashing 19 (including three boundaries) and Jess 35 runs (four fours and two sixes).

Jay and Katie brought the

team to 112 with Katie getting 20, including two boundaries, with Jay running well between the wickets scoring 14.

Kate and Emma batted brilliantly, putting on a 31-run partnership.

Emma hit her first boundary and Kate a massive six.

Claudia and Bec finished off the innings taking the total to 169 for the Island.

Sienna and Kate opened the bowling for the island and all the Island women bowled incredibly tightly, restricting the scoring.

Captain Bec claimed the first wicket of the innings caught by Sienna.

Jess then clean-bowled the

batter and Winnie took a great catch, giving Jay her first wicket.

Sienna then took her second catch, to give Rosanna her first wicket.

The whole team fielded incredibly well, creating many run outs.

Bass 86 at the end of the innings.

Congratulations to Jess for being the player of the match.

A massive thank you to all those who came to support the PIDCC Women's team.

We look forward to another home game on Sunday, November 26 at 10am against Inverloch.

Strong weekend for Sharks

From page 28

to fielders also being denied and batsmen refusing to walk, it appeared to be destined to break the Sharks' spirits.

But with some excellent fielding efforts from Henry "The Crackle" Peppard stopping boundaries with his ankles in the gully and some great bowling, the Island managed to pick up multiple wickets leaving them with three wickets required off the last two overs.

With the equation set, captain Kurt continued his excellent spell of bowling picking up a massive wicket leaving the island chasing two more in the last over.

The pressure was on and Andrew Tolley was up to the task, managing to get Leongatha's corpse with pads to edge a ball through to the keeper (with the noise describe as loud as a meteorite hitting earth) much to the Island team's excitement, but the batsman refused to walk.

On cue, the umpire was out to crush Phillip Island's chance of an outright by saying not out, much to the dismay of the Phillip Island team, with Connor "The Walrus" Epifano falling off the proverbial seal rock at bat pad in shock and leading to an outburst from Harry "Baby Shark" Arceo who uttered his first words on the field all day in a fit of rage.

The Sharks ended up falling just short of an outright win with Town 8/115 in their second innings, but after all the celebrations from the Leongatha locals – who anyone would have thought won the flag died down – Phillip Island walked away with an emphatic victory and celebrated an actual worthy cause in the century by Andrew "The Tinman" Finlayson and continue an undefeated season so far.

B2 Grade – week one

With the start of two-day cricket here, B2 were at Rhyll against Glen Alvie.

Phillip Island won the toss and chose to bowl first.

Matt Parsons and Tarryn Allan opened the bowling, Parsons got us away with an early wicket to the Glen Alvie opener.

Glen Alvie dug in a bit, but with some good bowling they weren't able to score runs at a fast rate.

Pete Cleary and Archie Williams came on and bowled extremely well but could not grab a wicket.

Justin Tran then came into the attack and was able to strike with two great wickets which included the other opening batsman. From there, Sachin took his first wicket for the year and Parsons cleaned up the tail end finishing with 5/47 off 17 overs.

Archie Williams took the final wicket with a great C&B.

Glen Alvie finished all out for 177.

With 20 overs left in the day Phillip Island went into bat.

Tharidu and Tom Blackwell opened the batting for the Island.

It only took one ball for Tharidu to get the first boundary for the innings. From there Tharidu just went ballistic.

Twelve fours and two sixes later Tharidu was finally caught on the boundary making 86 from 54 balls.

Whilst the Tharidu show was happening, Tom Blackwell was smashing boundary after boundary at the other end finishing with 68 not out. At the end of the day's play Phillip Island were 1/164.

Week two

Phillip Island were in a fantastic position to try and get the outright win this week.

Daniel McCausland and Ollie Duggan opened the day's play.

McCausland hit a couple of fours to get the score board ticking over while Ollie was also ticking over the runs.

McCausland caught on 18 and Tony Hornsby came in, scoring runs as quick as possible. Ollie's innings ended on a well-made 31, which left Matt Parsons and Hornsby in the centre.

After 20 overs of batting Hornsby finished with 28 and Parsons with 25.

Phillip Island declared 93 runs ahead and threw Glen Alvie into bat.

Matt Parsons and Justin Tran opened the bowling, it was the perfect start for the Island with a run out on the first ball, thanks to Captain Tarryn Allan's horrific misfield.

Glen Alvie were 1/0.

Justin Tran bowled extremely well taking 3/14 off five overs.

Glen Alvie was 4/34 and were staring down an outright loss, but their batsmen dug in and wickets were extremely hard to come by.

McCausland came on to bowl his first overs for the year and bowled a great line getting his first wicket for the year and things were looking positive again for the Island.

Parsons took a wicket in the final few overs of the game with a great catch from Junior Archie Williams.

With 10 overs left, the captains agreed to call it with Phillip Island winning on first innings by seven wickets.

Player of the game went to Justin Tran with his first five wicket haul in senior cricket.

C Grade

C grade returned to Leongatha for day two of their game on Saturday.

Chasing 204, the Phillip Islanders needed a further 113 runs with six wickets in hand.

Steve Niven and Peter Francis were in the middle and steadied the ship slowly chipping away at the score.

Niven and Francis both landed some lusty blows and at drinks had got the score to 178.

Some soft tissue dramas slowed the scoring and the 101-run partnership was broken when Francis was caught behind for 40.

Parry joined Niven and fed Steve the strike, getting him past 50. A colossal effort considering he was playing on one leg after tearing his hamstring.

Parry ended on two not out and Niven on 51 not out, as the Sharks cruised to victory.

Player of the match was Peter Francis with 6/47 and 40 runs.

Second last week of season

DARTS

In a laid-back yet competitive atmosphere, week seven of the Phillip Island and Districts Darts League Spring Series unfolded on Monday, with 24 participants engaged in dart-throwing action.

Team Suds, consisting of Sudsy Knowles, Grummo, Paul Gleeson and Darren, took centre stage, clinching a solid 6-1 win for the night.

Adding to the enjoyment of the competition, congratulations were extended to Vince Palladino for winning the delectable San Remo Butcher's meat tray.

Rumour has it; there's a BBQ at his place this upcoming weekend – an invitation that's sure to be well-received among league members.

On the individual front, Paul Gleeson maintains a comfortable lead in the standings.

While he's cruising at the top, the race for second and third place remains open, keeping the competition interesting for several players.

The final week of the series kicks off on Monday, November 20.

Organisers are hopeful for a strong turnout from members to not only acknowledge

the winners but also to enjoy the conviviality that makes the league special.

"It's been a fun and competitive series," noted a league representative.

"We invite everyone to join us for the last week, celebrate the winners, and enjoy the camaraderie that defines our league."

New players are always welcome, so 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.

Feel the magic

RACING

PIARC's Island Magic 2023 returns to the Grand Prix Circuit on November 25 and 26.

The weekend has something to offer for everyone with great entries in most categories, a sunny spring weather forecast, all perfect components for a fun weekend at the Island.

The 50K Plate Sports Sedans, is the Final Round of the 2023 Victorian Sports Sedan Championship, with loud "Ground Shakers" to rattle your teeth and provide aural delights with V8 growls.

Big cars, big beautiful circuit, all supported by Ramada Resort

Phillip Island.

Michael Miceli has six PIARC Victorian Historic Touring Trophies, can his Boss 302 Mustang, with 30 other vehicles from the 60s and 70s including Camaros, Mustangs, Chargers, Toranos, Cortinas, Mazdas and many more challenge?

CoolDrive Auto Parts Formula Fords and Formula Ford 1600s will feature strongly with over 20 entries confirming legendary popularity and close competition.

The Formula Vees are back with 36 cars for their National Series, battling up to four abreast on the Island's famed sweepers. Who will prevail; be



Island Magic returns to the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit on November 25 and 26, celebrating its 33rd year.

it wise old heads or will it be young Reef McCarthy jousting for a record fifth in a row win?

What a way to pay tribute to the late great SPECO VHT founder Brian Sampson.

Traction Tyres Yokohama Improved Production Cars. Can we expect challenges from Butch-

er's BMW M3 to Poole's twice winning Monaro, or the V8s of Tonks and Timewell or any of the other lurking Mazda's, BMWs, Nissans and Hondas?

Porsche 944s are the loan Sports Cars category with small numbers, but can two time winner Beller continue to desire

the Isola di Capri menu or will Lewis-Williams be re living past glories and aiming for a seventh win.

Formula Open debuted for combined open wheelers last year with great action from Formula 3s, Formula 4 and Formula Renault. What have they in store for 2023?

Don't miss this event as Island Magic 2023 caters for both competitors and spectators alike at Australia's most picturesque and challenging race circuit.

Spectator admission can be pre-booked from Eventbrite, at a budget friendly \$40 for a weekend pass with daily passes also available, and accompanied kids under 16 admitted free.

Tickets on sale at www.eventbrite.com.au (search for PIARC Island Magic).

/Sponsored article/

Results from the green

GOLF

Tuesday, November 14 – Annual PIGC vs Flinders GC Men's 18H Stableford

Ron Davies (21) with 42 pts, Tom Tyrell (10) with 40 pts C/B, Nigel Firth (24) with 40 pts C/B, Stewart Goldsmith (21) with 40 pts, Don Stewart-Uden (29) with 39 pts, Fred Panozzo (16) with 38 pts C/B, Patrick Garry (27) with 38 pts and Chris Hosking (Flinders) (12) with 37 pts.

Ladies 18H Stableford

Jeanette Diss (20) with 36 pts, Pam Rothfield (24) with 34 pts, Sabine Bommer (Flinders) (24) with 39 pts C/B, Vicki Amato

(31) with 29 pts and Trudee Lapthorne (45) with 28 pts.

Wednesday, November 15

Women's 18H Monthly Medal Stroke

A grade winner: Lesley Meadowcroft (16) with 72.

B grade winner: Michelle Pardoe (32) with 68.

C grade winner: Jill Trickey (45) with 70.

BDL: 76 C/B.

NTP: 5th Vicki Roff-Smith, 7th Judy Henry and 10th Taylah Robinson.

Women's 9H Stableford

Winner: Joan Baker (45) with 18 pts C/B.

BDL: 17 pts.

Thursday, November 9

Open 18-hole Stableford

Overall winner: Don Stewart-Uden (27) with 42 pts.

A grade winners: A-1 Dennis Osborne (12) with 40 pts and A-2 Michael Taylor (14) with 39 pts.

B grade winners: B-1 Brodie Mabilia (17) with 39 pts and B-2 Ray Reid (17) with 37 pts C/B.

C grade winners: C-1 Don Stewart-Uden (27) with 42 pts and C-2 Ian Huther (34) with 39 pts.

BDL to 33 pts C/B.

Great score: Rob Haydon – eagle on the 13th.

NTP: 5th Peter Gray, 7th Dennis Osborne, 10th Michael Taylor and 17th Wayne Morris.

Nine-hole Stableford

Winner: Clive Hill (33) with 20 pts C/B and Robert Pascoe

(16) with 20 pts C/B.

BDL to 16 pts C/B.

Saturday, November 11

Men's Monthly Medal

Overall winner: Brenton O'Brien (20) with 66 points.

A grade winners: A-1 Tim Duff (8) with 69 C/B and A-2 James Bain (7) with 69 points.

B grade winners: B-1 Daniel Hall (18) with 67 points and B-2 Rob Haydon (14) with 68 C/B.

C grade winners: C-1 Brenton O'Brien (20) with 66 points and C-2 John Monk (23) with 69 points.

Great score: Scott Fullarton – eagle on the 14th.

BDL to 74 C/B.

NTP: 5th Ian Smith, 7th Chris Reynolds, 10th Phil Ellard and 17th Alf Micallef.

2023 medal of medallists

winner: Tony Gay.

Ladies 18H Stableford

A grade winners: A-1 Sheryl Smith (23) with 42 pts and A-2 Maria Kirwan (39) with 38 pts C/B.

BDL to 34 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Pam Rothfield, 7th and 10th Helen Coghlan, 17th Vicki Roff Smith.

Open 9-hole Stableford

Overall winner: John Rodakis (32) with 19 pts C/B.

BDL to 16 pts.

Sunday, November 12

Open Comp 18H

Overall winner: Phillip Smith (9) with 31 pts.

Open comp 9H

Gwen Mather (46) with 23 pts C/B.

BDL to 21 pts.

ISLAND MAGIC

www.piarc.com.au 2023

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Formula Open



Sports Sedans



Formula Vee



Historic Touring Cars



Formula Ford



Porsche 944 Challenge



Formula Ford 1600



Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit

25 / 26 November

- Admission Tickets Available via www.eventbrite.com.au - Saturday \$30.00 - Sunday \$35.00 - Weekend \$40.00

- Kids under 16 free - gates open at 8am each day - track action 9.00am to 5.00pm each day





Angus Kennedy (12)

2023 State Ranking: 5th

Why did you start surfing? I had a groms lesson with Island Surfboards just before I started school. I loved it and I've been hooked ever since.

Favourite surf trip: Indonesia or Snapper Rocks.

Surfboard: Island Ringa NXT.

Favourite surfer: Morgan Cibilic and Mikey Wright.

Favourite local wave: Wooli on a good day.

What do you love most about surfing? Every wave is different and unpredictable. Days in the surf are never alike.



Evie Lutz (13)

2023 State Ranking: 4th.

Why did you start surfing? Just watching my uncle (Stuey Campbell) and other locals like Joe (van Dijk) in the surf, it looked like a lot of fun.

Favourite surf trip: Lennox Head.

Surfboard: Channel Islands Happy Everyday.

Favourite surfer: Mick Fanning.

Favourite local wave: Woolamai.

What do you love most about surfing? It's a great break from the everyday.

Our juniors take on the best

SURFING

Three Phillip Island surfers, and two from Inverloch are part of the Victorian Junior Surfing Team that will compete at the Australian Junior titles at Phillip Island starting this weekend.

Scarlette Rennie, Evie Lutz and Angus Kennedy have

been selected, along with Arch and Dusty Raynor of Inverloch.

Rye Cicero, Lillian and Eva Bassed from Sandy Point are also members of the team.

The Opening Ceremony will be held at the Phillip Island Penguin Parade on Saturday November 25 with surfing to begin on Sunday

November 26. The event will be completed on Sunday December 3.

The seven-day event will feature over 180 competitors from across the country.

Phillip Island surfers Evie Lutz and Angus Kennedy answered a few questions for The Phillip Island Boardriders Club in the lead up to the titles.



Woolamai's Nippers program gets back up and running this December and registrations are now open.



The program is a great opportunity for kids to learn essential lifesaving skills, and runs from December 29 until January 5.

Sand, sun and smiles: Nippers is back!

SURF LIFE SAVING

Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club's Nippers program is back again this summer, running from December 29 to January 5.

Surf Life Saving is a great activity for growing a child's confidence, knowledge and skills in the beach environment.

Not only will Nippers have fun and meet new friends, they will become part of an iconic organisation that has served the Australian community for over 100 years.

Nippers at Woolamai Beach SLSC is a beach education program that introduces children aged six to 13 years to lifesaving.

The Nippers Education Program is a seven-day intensive program held each year over the Christmas/New Year period.

Delivered at two prominent beaches on Phillip Island – Cleeland Bight Beach and Smiths Beach – Nippers is not a 'learn to swim program', it is about children participating in safe, fun and organised activities in a beach environment, whilst de-

veloping lifesaving skills for the future.

Activities have been designed to progressively develop the essential skills of Nippers as they move through each age group.

Nippers is a key initiative of the lifesaving movement and its continuous success is of vital importance to the growth of Woolamai Beach SLSC and surf lifesaving.

Registrations are now open at www.woolamaibeach.org.au/nippers-registration

For more information: www.woolamaibeach.org.au/nippers.

Duel in the pool – SGB divided for fun

SWIMMING

Family and club loyalties were put aside in the pool on Sunday, with all swimmers divided up into four teams of equal ability for the "duel in the pool".

Siblings and parents donned coloured caps as well as colourful clothing for their teams and raced each other.

There were over 100 swimmers from the seven Gippsland clubs competing.

Competitors competed in 50m races in all four strokes, as well as some novelty events, such as the butterfly kick 50m and the mixed order individual medley.

One of the most popular for the crowd to watch was the skins event, where the selected eight swimmers raced 25m and the slowest from each heat being eliminated till there was just two left.

There was a lot of cheering as friends became fierce rivals to try to bring the points home for their team.

The other popular event was

the final one, the 10 x 50m relay, which saw one swimmer from each age group compete for the team.

The team chose their order, so that at times an eight-year-old may be doing their leg against a 16-year-old.

The result for the day was decided in this final event with the red team bringing home the relay win which meant they were the champions for the day.

The focus of the day was increased involvement for the younger swimmers who are still learning how to race and they were able to do so in a pool that is so familiar to them. The atmosphere was one of happiness and fun and all the young swimmers went home excited about being a part of the sport.

The raffle was also drawn, with the winners of the Blue Salt necklace: P. Perczyk.

The Inverloch Air BnB accommodation: G. Cook.

The \$300 RACV voucher: G. Perry.

Photos at pisra.com.au

Results from the table

BRIDGE

Monday, November 13, was the first week of the club pairs red point event.

Top team of the day on 60 IMPs were husband and wife team, Don and Trish Stewart along with Wendy and Graham Mckergow. It would seem you can play bridge with your spouse and remain married!

Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour teamed with Lois Dywer and Anne Gibson to come second on 49 IMPs.

In third place were Bron Sund, John Farr and Lorrie Read along with Neville Chapman on 39 IMPs. The final results for the

competition will be determined next Monday.

Wednesday, November 15, was Nationwide.

Judy O'Connell and Molly Downing won the day with 61.31 per cent, a great effort for a first-time partnership.

Bron Sund and Shirley Weaver achieved 58.33 per cent and collected some master points, as did Caroline Shaw and Marnie Myall on 57.74 per cent.

Not to be left out, Moya Crowley and Diane Coleman finished fourth with 52.98 per cent.

Bron Sund and Shirley Weaver finished 23 out of 208 players Australia wide.

Well done.

Bridge in the Ballroom

BRIDGE

On Wednesday, October 15, Her Excellency Professor, the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC, Governor of Victoria, hosted an afternoon of bridge at Government House.

A total of 65 clubs across the state were represented at this extraordinary gathering.

Phillip Island Bridge Club was delighted to receive an invitation.

The committee elected to send two lifetime members Karen Klym and Don Stewart Uden.

Both considered it a great honour to represent the club at this momentous event and found the experience most enjoyable.

It is wonderful to see the game we love being promoted and supported at this level.



Don Stewart Uden and Karen Klym outside Government house.

TIDE GUIDE

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

WED 22 NOV	THU 23 NOV	FRI 24 NOV	SAT 25 NOV	SUN 26 NOV	MON 27 NOV	TUE 28 NOV
LOW 1:02 am 0.59 m	LOW 1:54 am 0.77 m	LOW 2:54 am 0.95 m	LOW 4:04 am 1.10 m	LOW 5:23 am 1.18 m	HIGH 1:06 am 2.86 m	HIGH 2:08 am 3.03 m
HIGH 8:02 am 2.80 m	HIGH 8:47 am 2.70 m	HIGH 9:39 am 2.61 m	HIGH 10:38 am 2.55 m	HIGH 11:42 am 2.52 m	LOW 6:39 am 1.19 m	LOW 7:46 am 1.14 m
LOW 1:46 pm 0.93 m	LOW 2:38 pm 0.87 m	LOW 3:36 pm 0.79 m	LOW 4:42 pm 0.68 m	LOW 5:48 pm 0.55 m	HIGH 12:46 pm 2.52 m	HIGH 1:45 pm 2.54 m
HIGH 8:10 pm 2.49 m	HIGH 9:22 pm 2.48 m	HIGH 10:41 pm 2.54 m	HIGH 11:58 pm 2.68 m		LOW 6:50 pm 0.43 m	LOW 7:46 pm 0.34 m

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Club President Andrew Finlayson made a rapid fire 105 not out in B1 on the Leongatha turf.



John Manning (L) made 56, Peter Francis 40 and Steve Niven (R) 51 not out in C Grade's win over Leongatha. Peter was named Man of the Match, with 6/47 and 40 runs.

Strong weekend for Sharks

CRICKET

A Grade

Chasing Leongatha Towns respectable 225 the Sharks were greeted with overcast conditions at their temporary home at Newhaven.

The experienced Lochie Cleeland and young gun Heath Womersley opened the batting.

With a big shout for caught behind off Heath's first ball, it looked like the Town bowlers might be out for revenge after last year's Grand Final loss to the Sharks.

However, from there the batting team hardly put a foot wrong as the two openers had the runs ticking over with ease after getting through the tricky new ball period.

As the partnership eased past 50, Womersley was starting to find the boundary in what was his best A grade innings to date, eventually falling for a well-made 28 including six boundaries.

The 73-run opening stand ended right on the first drinks break, leaving the reigning premiers in a commanding position.

Captain Mock strode to the crease next and looked to work the ball around and get Cleeland on strike. A short, pitched bowling barrage was next, although to no avail as the boundaries began to flow.

An 81-run partnership saw the target being reigned in quickly, before the captain was dismissed as Cleeland was near his century.

At 2/154 the Town boys were beginning to look defeated and as Cleeland struck another boundary to bring up his chanceless hundred in front of many adoring family and friends, the fielding team knew it wouldn't be long before this match was over.



The centurions: A Grade opening batsman Lochie Cleeland (left) 124 and B1 wicketkeeper/batsmen Andrew Finlayson 105.

Shiran Rathnayake joined Lochie at the crease and made short work of the remaining runs, finishing on 45 off just 37 balls, to go with his six wickets the week before, completing a great match for the all-rounder.

But the story of the day was the entertaining and classy hundred of Lochie Cleeland, who finished unbeaten on 123 off 145 balls, which included 21 boundaries, further adding weight to the argument that he is the premier opener of the competition.

An eight wicket win with 31 overs remaining was the end result in what was a clinical display of two-day cricket.

Player of the day: Lochie Cleeland.

B1 Grade

Having already secured a first innings win after dismissing Leongatha for 61, Phillip Island's B1 side made the journey to Leongatha to attempt a rare outright win.

With captain Kurt Lane tasked with the tough decision on when to declare, he decided a few more runs were required and called upon Andrew "The Tinman" Finlayson and youngster Jobe Williams to pile on some quick runs in the hopes of breaking the opposition's spirit as the Island resumed on 8/145.

With the instructions of 'have a crack' and the Tinman greasing all his joints, the pair quickly put on 60 runs in the space of 11 overs to put the Sharks 142 runs ahead.

The highlight of the innings was Andrew Finlayson hitting his second ever ton for Phillip Island, ending the innings on 105 not out.

The path to his century was virtually flawless until he was stranded on 99 for a couple of overs by the now known as "Farmer" Jobe Williams, who proceeded to farm the strike and finish on a fantastic 30 not out himself.

Captain Kurt Lane then

made the call declaring, with the Island ending on 8-203 leaving 59 overs to attack Leongatha's batting order and a lead of 142.

After a quick change up and inspirational speech from the "Walrus" Connor Epifano, the team took to the field with an attacking mentality knowing that it was well and truly game on.

Leongatha Town did not seem to get this memo as they came out and shut up shop early on, with the senior batsmen of the club deciding it was a great idea to send the kids out to the slaughter, with Phillip Island's bowlers chasing blood.

Tim Niven opened the bowling with a rapid spell of left arm bowling, picking up two early wickets and was well complimented by Harry Arceo, who was tidy and unlucky not to get a wicket of his own.

The lack of intent by the Town batsman was reminiscent of council workers and this let Phillip Island continue to apply the pressure with the ball and in the field, at some stages having three fielders under the lid and a minimum of three slips, much to the delight of the well-educated Leongatha crowd.

At this point skipper Kurt Lane brought himself onto bowl, picking up another two wickets before lunch was called.

The lunchtime spread provided by Leongatha Town was immaculate, but in hindsight seemed to be the only part of the day they incorporated the spirit of cricket in their mindset with what was to follow.

Shortly after lunch several dubious umpiring decisions, including multiple LBW's being given not out, catches hit

Continued page 25

**ALEX SCOTT
AND STAFF**

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