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# ADVERTISER

YOUR COMMUNITY VOICE!

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

**\$1.80** Incl. GST



Ghosts and qhouls, angels and devils, vampires, dinosaurs and even superheroes took to the streets as the island dressed up for Halloween. The popularity of Halloween grows each year and there was plenty of laughter and community spirit as kids (and parents) went out trick or treating, including at this combined birthday party and Halloween celebration at Cape Woolamai. See some of this year's best Halloween outfits on page 10.

# Counts underway for new council

### **ELECTION**

Based on first preference counts in the election, it looks likely current councillors Ronnie Bauer, Rochelle Halstead and Brett Tessari will be returned to the council chamber.

The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) said provisional results for Bass Coast Shire Council election are due between November 6 and 8, but the first preference count is already available.

In Island Ward, Cr Ronnie Bauer is leading the count with 34.9 per cent of the vote (2606), which should see him comfortably re-elected.

The remaining two places in the Island Ward are undecided on Friday, November 1. and are likely to be battled out dates, with just 83 votes separat- with voters, which saw a big

ing them. Tim O'Brien received 993 first preference votes, Marnie Chadwick 870, David Rooks 869 and Tracey Bell 850. Darrell Silver is out of the running with just 555 first preference votes. And John Trigt received 723 votes.

The two remaining places in Island Ward will be decided on preferences.

The Island Ward has 12,091 registered voters and the current count represents 61.7 per cent voter turnout to date. This is well down on the 2020 election which saw a turnout of over 80 per cent.

According to VEC figures, there are still 4625 votes to be reported, with the cut off for postal votes to arrive by midday

Ronnie Bauer's first term as between the next four candi- a councillor clearly resonated

jump in his first preference vote from the 2020 election, where he received 22.2 per cent.

David Rooks is the only other sitting councillor recontesting in Island Ward. His first preference vote has dropped from 21.1 per cent in 2020, to 11.6 per cent.

### Other wards

In Western Port, current councillor and Deputy Mayor Rochelle Halstead has polled strongly, collecting 32.6 per cent of first preference votes (2439), with Jon Temby the next highest on (1213) and Jan Thompson just behind on 1083.

Cr Halstead looks set to be returned however, the final two seats will come down to preferences, with just 200 votes between Jan Thompson and the rest of the field: Nikole Schellekens (939),

Glenda Minty (887) and Brian O-Farrell (878). There are still 4027 votes to be reported, with current voter turnout at 64.9 per cent.

Cr Halstead boosted her first preference votes from the 2020 election, where she received 26.5 per cent.

In Bunurong, current councillor Brett Tessari is out in front with 25.9 per cent of the vote (2089), followed by Mat Morgan (1454) and Leticia Laing (1291). Next in line is Meg Edwards (1030). Current councillor Les Larke only received 450 first preference votes and looks unlikely to be re-elected, with Brian Robinson (607), Caitlyn Robinson (499), Prudence Scholtes (381) and Eddie Halaijian (256) all out of the running, but their preferences will decide the final three. The current vote tally of 8057 represents 68 per cent of registered voters.

Cr Tessari's lead is a big drop from his 2020 council result, where he received 49.9 per cent of the first preference votes.

Voting will continue this week, including late arrival votes, with a final count due on November 7.



Remembrance Day Page 12-13

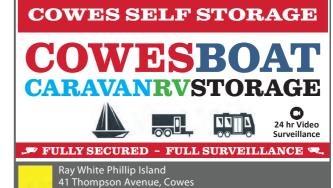


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Council has advised the footpath between 137 and 157 Thompson Avenue in Cowes will be replaced with a new 1.5-metre-wide concrete pedestrian footpath, with minor traffic and pedestrian disruptions expected.

# nompson Avenue footpath replaced

### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

Bass Coast Shire Council has advised work will soon begin on a project to replace the footpath between 137 - 157 Thompson Avenue in Cowes.

A council spokesperson said the project is part of its ongoing efforts to enhance pedestrian access and safety across the shire.

The work, which includes installing a new 1.5-metrewide pedestrian footpath is expected to take approximately two weeks to complete.

"As with all construction projects, completion is dependent on weather conditions

and contractor and supply logistics," council stated, confirming the project will be finished in time for the busy summer period.

The works include:

- Demolition and removal of the existing footpath.
- Installation of a new 1.5-metre-wide concrete pedestrian
- Associated earthworks and infrastructure modifications to ensure long-term asset durability.

Council said an arborist had been consulted in project preparations to ensure the valued Golden Cypress trees are protected, and Friends of the Cypress have been notified of the upcoming works.

"During the project, some driveways along Thompson Avenue will be replaced with reinforced concrete at no cost to property owners," the council stated.

'This is necessary to ensure proper levels and cross falls are achieved for the new footpath.

"Access to affected properties will be restricted for four days after concrete pouring to allow for curing. The contractor will notify property owners in advance of any access disruptions."

The council said through its renewal program it aimed

to provide "safer and more accessible pedestrian pathways for the community"

It also advised access to businesses may be limited at some times and parking bays in the construction zone would be unavailable for the duration of the project.

Traffic and pedestrian control measures, including reduced speed limits, will be in place to ensure safety.

Local residents and emergency services will have access at all times during the works.

Further information as well as project updates are available on engage.basscoast.vic. gov.au/

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### **POLICE BRIEFS**

### False alarm water rescue

The Police Airwing helicopter responded to calls that someone was possibly in trouble about a kilometre from the shore at Cape Woolamai on Friday evening.

However, once they arrived on the scene the crew established it was actually an unmanned research vessel.

No rescue was required a police spokesperson said.

### Scuba diver saved

On Sunday November 3 the Victoria Police Airwing responded to a man in his 50s who became stuck down the bottom of a cliff near Pyramid Rock after scuba diving in the early evening.

The airwing responded after dark around 9.15pm, where the Donvale man had become stuck for around two

The ambulance attended, but the man was not treated for anything and was cleared as safe and well.

### Church Street fire

Police confirmed the fire that destroyed a Cowes house on Thursday October 24 was not intentionally lit.

It is believed the blaze began when a man fell asleep in the building while smoking a cigarette, and Victoria Police said no charges will be laid in relation to the fire. The fire occurred at 3.30pm opposite Coles, with fire crews from Cowes and San Remo quickly dousing the flames of the asbestos building.

### Community safety

Police are holding a free community safety event at Bunnings Warehouse Wonthaggi on Saturday November 9 between 10am and 1pm.

Topics will include fitting anti-theft number plate screws, home security displays and general safety advice, as well as a bbq, face painting and other entertainment.

### e-Scooter education

A new campaign is underway to remind e-scooter riders of their obligations.

Police said while the escooters are now permanently legalised in Victoria, riders must wear a helmet, not ride on footpaths and never carry passengers.

### PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO **ADVERTISER**

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# PICAL dodges a bullet; avoids insolvency

### COMMUNITY

PICAL has avoided insolvency and closure and is now calling on the community to help fundraise for vital services.

The Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre threw the community into upheaval last month after announcing the 44-year-old neighbourhood house would be wound up after being unable to meet debts incurred from an "administrative inaccuracy", underpaying wages to employees.

The Advertiser understood the debt was believed to be more than \$250,000 and dated back more than 10 years but was not a result of fraud or misappropriation of money.

PICAL was subsequently thrown a lifeline with Victoria's peak neighbourhood house group vowing emergency food relief for 300 people each week, Centrelink, and the community garden would continue.

However, on Thursday PICAL Committee of Management president Graeme Turner released a statement saying they were "relieved and pleased" they had "successfully avoided closure and are now on a clear path to stability".

Mr Turner said when they announced imminent insolvency, "the exact details of the impact were yet to be confirmed, but the potential impact was estimated to be greater than PICAL's reserves".

"However, following thorough independent legal advice, we have confirmed our historic financial liabilities are lower than initially estimated," Mr Turner said.

"Although past obligations remain to be addressed, we are optimistic the reduced burden presents a viable way forward, allowing us to draw on our reserves to both manage our liabilities and preserve PICAL's vital services."

The Advertiser posed a range of questions to Mr Turner last week – including details



Following independent legal advice, PICAL's Committee of Management president Graeme Turner confirmed historic financial liabilities were lower than initially estimated and they were "optimistic the reduced burden presents a viable way forward".

of the liability and impact on services – but he did not return phone calls, emails or texts.

Last month a special general meeting of members was called for November 14 and if members agreed to the recommendation to liquidate, the 44-year-old community house would have closed.

However, Mr Turner last week said given they had now avoided insolvency, the previously scheduled meeting was cancelled.

"Instead, we look forward to hosting community events and fundraisers that will provide opportunities for everyone to support PICAL's ongoing recovery and growth."

### **Fundraising**

Mr Turner went on to say with PICAL's "future now secured", the Committee of Management welcomed "financial contributions from those who wish to help us rebuild and strengthen our financial footing".

The community has rallied behind the embattled community organisation, with many mooting a fundraising campaign.

Mr Turner said he was deeply grateful for the support.

"The community's response to PICAL's situation has been nothing short of remarkable, with countless individuals and groups offering assistance and support."

He thanked Neighbourhood Houses Gippsland and Bass Coast Shire Council who were "prepared to step in to support the continuity of services had PICAL been forced to close".

"Their commitment highlights the shared dedication to maintaining essential services for our community.

"To our staff, volunteers, clients, and the wider community, thank you for standing with PICAL through this challenging period," Mr Turner said.

"Your unwavering support inspires us as we work toward a more secure, resilient, and impactful future for all."

### Recap

As reported, debts had mounted up because of "incorrect classifications" of job roles of past and current employees – believed to number more than 20 – "which led to some individuals being paid on an incorrect pay scale", Mr Turner said in early October.

PICAL currently employs centre manager David Rooks – a current Bass Coast Shire councillor who is re-standing in the council elections – for what is believed to be 30 hours per week, as well as a finance officer for one day a week, and a cleaner.

Mr Turner at the time explained enterprise agreements PICAL entered into with staff a decade ago "were quite generic and open to interpretation, which contributed to the error that persisted undetected over the years".

"It is important to note that this was an administrative inaccuracy and not the result of management, misappropriation or fraudulent behaviour by anyone involved with PICAL."

At the time, Mr Turner said the historic debts were "so significant that they far exceed PICAL's financial reserves or capacity to repay, thus making PICAL technically insolvent".



John Methven OAM (right) accepts the artifact from Gary Edwards on behalf of

# Bayonet to join Battle of Long Tan exhibition

### VIETNAM VETERANS MUSEUM

There was a very special presentation at the National Vietnam Veterans Museum last month of a bayonet from the Vietnam War.

Former OC, 2Lt Dave Sabben MG MID 12 Pl, D Coy, 6RAR, 1966-1967, came into possession of the bayonet the day after the Battle of Long Tan.

The bayonet had been issued to an unidentified Australian casualty of the battle. David kept the bayonet in his kit until he returned to Australia.

Approximately 20-25 years ago, David handed it on to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Masonic Lodge. As members of the Lodge are becoming fewer due to age, the decision was made to pass the artifact on to the Na-



The bayonet and scabbard set in marble. The bayonet had been issued to an unidentified Australian casualty of the Battle of Long Tan.

tional Vietnam Veterans Museum, to ensure its perpetuity.

It will eventually have a place in the permanent Long Tan display at the museum.

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# Sporting community "desperate" for second oval

The Cowes Recreation Reserve is again out-of-action, with the Phillip Island Cricket Club (PICC) currently unable to make use of the heavily-strained ground for the second summer running; and PIF-NC players unable to train there in their off season.

The issue has put intense spotlight on the "desperate" need for a second oval in Cowes, with the Phillip Island Football Netball Club (PIFNC) making a public call last week to its players to "save our oval" by staying off it.

The club urged the community to refrain from using the ground in order to give it "every chance" to repair after a season of intense use, where several times a week as many as four different teams would train nightly on the oval at the same time.

PIFNC President Chris Ross said the issue, which has emerged again after last year's six month lockout, highlights the community's "desperate need for another oval".

PICC President Andrew Finlayson said the need for a second oval is "the number one issue for many of the island's junior and senior" sporting teams.

Last season, PICC cricketers were unable to make use of the oval for competition cricket over summer in the Leongatha and District Cricket Association while council undertook \$300,000 "turf establishment and maintenance" rejuvenation works.

The oval's closure immediately after the 2023 football season last year, sold by Bass Coast Shire Council as "short term pain for long term gain", was accepted as necessary by all users.

At the time, a council spokesperson acknowledged that lack of access to the oval was an inconvenience. However, that catchery is wearing thin.

In spite of \$300,000 spent on turf renovation, the oval was a muddy mess within months of it reopening in April, well before the end of the foot-



The Cowes Recreation Reserve has been declared out-of-action over summer by the Bass Coast Shire Council for the second year in a row, with the Phillip Island Cricket Club (PICC) currently unable to use the heavily-strained ground for the second summer running, and PIFNC players unable to train there during their off season.

ball season, which ended with large bare patches across the ground.

Now, seven months after reopening, the oval is again not able to be used by local sporting clubs.

Cricket Club President Andrew Finlayson said being unable to play currently at their home ground is "really disappointing".

He said whether the club will be able to use the ground for cricket matches at all this season is uncertain and "a week-to-week proposition", with the best case scenario being the ground recovers suitably in time for match-day use by December.

A council spokesperson said officers from the open space team are continually monitoring the oval's grass recovery, "and are hopeful that the cricket club may be able to use it for competition before the end of 2024, or if not, in the early part of 2025".

### "We're desperate"

PIFNC President Chris Ross said the state of the oval after the \$300,000 rejuvenation "speaks volumes" to the community's need for a second oval, with lighting included.

"We're desperate," said Chris. "For a football club of our size, we're desperately in need of another oval. We can't fit everyone who plays in where we need to.

"That's what causes the ground to be in the terrible state it is."

In the run up to the current Bass Coast council election, at an Island Voice forum, all Island Ward candidates were asked whether they supported reassessing council's current major project priorities to specifically reprioritise the development of the delayed sports hub ahead of the Cowes streetscape masterplan.

All Island Ward candidates agreed development of the planned Sport and Recreation Hub should take precedence over the \$28 million main street redevelopment project council currently prioritises, as it did not have the degree of urgency the provision of additional sports facilities did.

Council planning currently lists development of a second oval in 20 years time

### Club losses substantial

Andrew Finlayson said while the oval was closed throughout the whole of last year's cricket season, PICC lost out "massively" on revenue raised from selling food and drinks during

"Saturdays are normally our big day, where we'd have home games and you get people coming to watch, and then you get bar turnover on that," Andrew said.

and after home games.

"So obviously we're missing out on that revenue again this year, which we missed out on the whole of last season as well. It's a massive impact."

Andrew estimated the cricket club lost around \$20,000 in sales from food and drink last season alone.

Currently the cricket club uses the nets for training at the recreation reserve, but has to spread its training sessions and matches and games across the oval in Rhyll and the soccer ground

at Newhaven.

Andrew said not being able to use the Cowes recreation reserve essentially splinters the club.

"It has more than a financial impact. This obviously hurts," Andrew said.

ously hurts," Andrew said.
"Normally you would have your junior teams play at Cowes in the morning, and then your seniors play there. You get families to stick around and get involved in the club.

"So we now miss out on that community aspect because (the club) is getting stretched over different places."

### Another season of nightmares

During the football season, President of PIFNC Chris Ross says having to have four PIFNC teams training on the one oval at once means teams are significantly hamstrung in their ability to train adequately.

"When you've got three, four teams on the oval at once, obviously each is limited to a smaller area and that's what it is. So you can't do full ground sessions," Chris said.

"It minimises the fitness of the players, so there's definitely a huge disadvantage to us only having the one oval here."

Charlie O'Garey plays in the Phillip Island Bulldogs under-18 team, which this year won the Grand Final.

Charlie said from a younger player perspective, he sees an "incredible" need for a second oval.

"Our juniors are incredibly strong in the WGFNL competition" Charlie said, "and if we're going to continue to be super strong in the years ahead to continue to win Grand Finals, we need another space to train.

"We're all stuck on this one little oval, deciding on who gets what space, and now we can't even use it at all."

He said that players with aspirations for selection in selective regional sides, such as Gippsland Power, had their opportunities curtailed through lack of access for training at the Cowes oval over the summer period.

Chris Ross said that without a second oval, and business as usual next year will again be "another season of nightmares" juggling training sessions for their 500 plus players.

"We cannot wait twenty years for a second oval to be built. We desperately need it now!"

# Oval deterioration

### SPORT

PIFNC President Chris Ross said after the 2023 refurbishment works, the ground simply wasn't given enough time for the new grass to take and establish.

"Generally for something like that, it takes 12 months for it to establish. Unfortunately we had a couple of hundred people training on it within three months," Chris said.

The PIFNC has long been fit-to-burst on the one oval, with the President explaining four teams would train on the one ground simultaneously multiple times per week.

Often six teams would train on the oval over the course of one night, with the oval being used for training and games seven days a week.

By the end of the season, Chris explained the ground was "buggered."

"The amount of traffic on it that we had as a club probably just killed it," Chris said.

However, other members of the community have questioned how the oval is already out-of-action less than twelve months after the \$300,000 works were completed.

Former councillor Stephen Fullarton said spending over a quartermillion dollars just to have the oval unserviceable the same year is a "total failure".

The contractor for the ground refurbishment told the Advertiser while the scope of the works they were employed to undertake were "completed perfectly", the oval was simply put under too much strain too soon after the works were completed.

"Newly sprigged turf takes 12 months to mature, and got torn apart in three months when the warm season grass didn't have a chance to recover," the contractor said.

"The works were done amazingly well to council specification, but the limited budget council has and still do, always makes it tough.

"Nothing was substandard, it was just that the scope wasn't suitable for the amount of use that (the oval) was going to get.

"No sprig surface could hold up to that amount of wear and tear."

Others have questioned why development of the mooted new Sports and Recreation Reserve was downgraded. It was listed as the community's number one priority in 2016 by the former council, but was downgraded by the current council to low priority; with a new oval and aquatics centre listed in the council plan for development in 20 plus years' time.

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Cowes residents Oli Najdovski (left) and Yvonne Portelli attended The Block locals' open day last Thursday, saying they thought the houses were "stunning" and would inspire everyone in the construction industry.



Phillip Island artists Kirsty Cargill and her mum Margaret Parker both have art

# The Block: the final countdown

### **REALITY TV**

More than 700 local residents attended an invitation-only open day at The Block last week, ahead of auction day on November 9.

It was more than a year ago the rumour mill went into overdrive when The Block purchased 113-119 Justice Road and now – after dominating the pop-

ular culture of Phillip Island for 2024 – the Channel 9 reality TV show is coming to a close, with the auction going to air on November 10.

The open day last Thursday saw invitees from businesses who had worked with The Block this year, from cleaners to caterers, restaurants to artists.

Agents and attendees were focused on whether the five

homes would sell and for how much, each with a price guide set between \$1.7 million to \$1.85 million.

Many speculated Phillip Island had little precedent for how the rapid succession of five auctions in a row will play out.

According to Domain, the price guide is well above the Cowes median house price of \$762,500, which is down 2.9 per

cent in the last year.

Domain chief of research and economics Dr Nicola Powell said it was crucial The Block set the right reserve, which will not be made public.

"The Block has the X-factor and that might be enough to get the five homes sold on the day," Dr Powell said.

"If we use Melbourne as a benchmark, clearance rates are around that 60 per cent mark, which suggests we could see three to five Block houses sell on the day."

The all-important auction order will also be announced ahead of the final.

As previously reported, The Block has not had a public open inspection because Justice Road has no parking and Phillip Island no public transport.

# Isle of Wight coming alive

### **MAJOR PROJECTS**

It wasn't exactly the first turning of a sod.

But it was nonetheless the first signs of life on the former Isle of Wight site in many years, suggesting building is not too far off.

Last week, developer Moda carried out vegetation removal at 2-8 Bass Avenue and 9-10 The Esplanade, Cowes.

A Bass Coast Shire arborist was on site to meet contractors and ensure protection of the heritage listed Moreton Bay fig tree and hoop pine.

The \$130 million Isle of Wight development is due to start construction at the end of this year, or early next year, ahead of an opening in 2027.

In September 2023 councillors unanimously approved the seven-storey (27.5 metres) development, the biggest in the island's history.

There will be a mixed-use hotel to the north with: 163 hotel rooms; four food and beverage premises (pub, bistro, hotel dining, signature restaurant); three retail spaces (including a yoga studio, gym, and wellness centre); two function rooms;

outdoor pool terrace with a bar; outdoor beer garden on the corner of Bass Avenue and The Esplanade.

There will also be a separate three storey tourist/worker hostel (14.5 metres) with: 49 one-bedroom units; a manager's apartment; rooftop basketball and tennis court; retail premises on the north-eastern corner with a 259sqm retail space along the northern frontage.

Earlier this year the Victorian Planning Minister took the extraordinary step of intervening to fast-track the development, in the face of delays at VCAT.



Last week, developer Moda carried out vegetation removal at the Isle of Wight site, 2-8 Bass Avenue and 9-10 The Esplanade, Cowes.



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# \$8m federal funding to Cowes

### **MAJOR PROJECTS**

The Federal Government has announced \$8 million funding to the Cowes streetscape masterplan, which will see Thompson Avenue become a oneway thoroughfare and car parks removed.

Federal Regional Development Minister Catherine King last Thursday chose Cowes to announce \$21 million in Australiawide projects.

The Cowes funding. though, comes at a controversial time.

All seven Island Ward candidates in the council election - (which will see results announced this week) - are critical of the Cowes streetscape masterplan, saying any available funding should instead go as a priority to the proposed sports hub on the corner of Phillip Island and Ventnor roads.

Ms King said the funding would "boost the economy by better connecting the foreshore with retail. dining and accommoda-

"The new Cowes foreshore precinct will rejuvenate the township into a premier tourism destination," Ms King said.

At Thursday's foreshore press conference, Ms King was asked about Thompson Avenue becoming one-way in a northerly direction.

She replied the main street was congested in peak season and the masterplan would improve traffic flow.

She was also asked about reductions in car parking, with Thompson Avenue between the Esplanade and Chapel Street to lose 42 car parks – down to 24 from the current 66. But Ms King referred the question to the shire.

The funding announcement comes in response to Bass Coast Shire's 2024 Federal Advocacy Priorities report, which requested \$25 million total investment for the Cowes streetscape masterplan, also listing \$12 million investment to deliver stage one and two of the project.

Earlier this year a delegation from council travelled to Canberra to meet with politicians to present the funding wish list.

Stage one will see The Esplanade become oneway between Warley Avenue and Bass Avenue from Thompson Avenue.

Stage two is to "reimag-Thompson Avenue north, "where outdoor dining and trading and open space facilitate a people focused town centre".

Stage three to six requires detailed design before construction for Thompson Avenue South, Chapel Street, Church Street, Bass Avenue and Olive Justice Place.

In 2021, ahead of the last state and federal elections, the advocacy priorities put to government included \$66 million for two pools; one for Phillip Island and one for Wonthaggi; but this time under the current council, there was no mention of aquatics or the sports hub in the advocacy report to government.

### Jewel

Shire CEO Greg Box said Cowes would be pedestrian-friendly under the masterplan, which will also encourage longer stays and increased spending from tourists.



Federal Regional Development Minister Catherine King, with Bass Coast Shire's major projects manager Damian Prendergast and CEO Greg Box walk up the Cowes main street.

At the press conference, Mr Box was asked about the reduction in car parking and he said the aim was to prioritise people.

He said the funding followed many years of community engagement and consultation, dating back to the development of the Cowes Activity Centre Plan in 2015 and the Cowes Streetscape Master Plan in 2022.

"The masterplan project has been discussed and planned for more than 10 years, so it is exciting to finally see the community's ideas to make Cowes great come to life," Mr Box said.

"Cowes is a jewel in the Victorian and Bass Coast regional crown, and this project will ensure it continues to shine.'

Mr Box said the project would connect the town to the foreshore and complement the jetty triangle upgrades, transit centre, Berninneit and the \$130 million Isle of Wight accommodation and retail development.

"The profile of Cowes has never been higher," he

### **Controversial**

At a meet the candidates event in October, council candidates were asked whether they supported reassessing current major project priorities; specifically reprioritising the delayed sports hub ahead of the Cowes' streetscape masterplan.

All candidates agreed the sports hub was the priority, and that the main street project did not have the degree of urgency that the provision of additional sports facilities did.

As reported earlier this year, more than 500 customers rallied in support of a Cowes Priceline Pharmacy petition urging the shire to re-think plans to reduce carparking in Thompson Avenue.

Last week Priceline managing partner Greg Kossena said while shire officers had subsequently been in contact with him, "they said it was going ahead regardless".

"There was a possibility of wheelchair parks, but I've not seen any details," Greg said.

"The answer they gave was people more or less have to walk down the main street from the transit centre.

"I'm still not satisfied with the whole project. It will be a nightmare."

Details: infrastructure. gov.au/regional

engage.basscoast.vic. gov.au/streetscapescowes

### Cowes CBD: what to expect and Chapel Street to

### **MASTERPLAN**

Cowes streetscape masterplan project timelines, starting from 2022:

### Projects in the first three years include:

- formalise one-way vehicle traffic east and west from Thompson Avenue;
- implement trial for one-way vehicle access northbound only on Thompson Avenue from Chapel Street;
- transition car parking on Thompson Avenue between Church Street

short-term managed parking restrictions (length of stay, time limits);

- reduce speed limit to 20km/hr along Thompson Avenue north of Chapel Street; and
- reduce speed limit to 30km/hr along Thompson Avenue between Church Street and Chapel Street.

### **Projects in** three to 10 years:

• transition vehicle traffic to one-way access northbound on Thompson Avenue from Chapel Street;

- retrofit Chapel Street roundabout to accommodate change to vehicle access to Thompson Avenue;
- install a new public toilet at Olive Justice Place, ensuring the design and location can be incorporated into a future overall upgrade to the broader Olive Justice Place area.

### 10-plus years:

• design and construct a permanent pocket park at Olive Justice Place.

### Finally, Mad Cowes set for post-fire fix

### **BUSINESS**

A popular Cowes café that has been closed since 2021 following a fire, looks set for a long-hoped-for reopening, with new planning permits for building

Mad Cowes café on The Esplanade has been battling a bureaucratic nightmare since the March 2021 blaze, with repairs to the building negotiated by three separate insurance companies, covering the building, the contents and the owners' corporation.

But a planning permit currently out for community feedback - details \$450,000 new exhaust ducting system works to enable the café "to trade repairs to the building. again".

TS Constructions has submitted planning details for 17 The Esplanade, with associated letters from the owners' corporation confirming owners have approved the works.

There are four retail premises, one restaurant,



Sharon Bridge, with staff member Mary, pictured last year outside Mad Cowes café, which has been closed since 2021 following a fire. Planning permits have now been submitted for

four apartments and two penthouses in the build-

Construction will include a framed clad structure to the adjoining terraces of the penthouses "to conceal mechanical exhaust ducting".

"The new route of the ductwork is required to enable the ground floor premises of Mad Cowes to be able to trade again after the existing ductwork was destroyed by fire," the permit states.

"It is not possible to replace the damaged ductwork in its current built-in location through the existing building."

As reported last year, ad Cowes owner 9 Bridge and her team operated from a caravan next to the premises for a time before it too was closed.

Sharon said as tenants they were not a party to any of the negotiations around the future of the building, which had dragged on for years, with no resolution.

The fire in the exhaust duct of the café kitchen damaged around 25 per cent of the building and unfortunately a replacement of the duct at the time was not an option, as the system did not meet current fires codes.

### **Discover how** transitioning to an electric home can help save you money



Come along to a webinar to learn about Solar Savers. Whether you're a homeowner, renter, or landlord, Solar Savers is committed to assisting you in transitioning to an all-electric home. With Solar Savers, you'll have access to affordable, reliable, and high-quality solar panels, battery systems, heat pump hot water systems, and split systems for heating and cooling.

### Wednesday, 13 November

12.30pm to 1.30pm or 7.00pm to 8.00pm

Visit thecap.com.au/events to register or contact our Climate Emergency Project Officer on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211.



## Ventnor health farm, golf course permit extended?

### **PLANNING**

The owners of a Ventnor property that received approval more than 20 years ago to build a health farm and golf course have confirmed they have applied to extend that permit.

In 1999, an 18ha property on Pyramid Rock Road received a permit for a mixed-use development including a convalescent or health farm, host farm, golf course, and 24 dwellings, known as "Wintersun".

That permit was due to expire at the end of this year, but the owners have now confirmed they have lodged a request with Bass Coast Shire Council to extend the expiry date.

The request is part of a separate permit to build a house on the property, which is currently out for community feedback.

As reported last month, in the case Pyramid Rock Pty Ltd v Bass Coast SC, VCAT overturned the shire to approve a home on the land - despite concerns about its visual impact because a permit had already been approved under the 1999 permit.

The owners are now seeking final planning permission for the construction of the house, which also details Wintersun's long history.



This diagram shows the layout proposed under the 1999 permit which is still live – showing a golf course, host farm and 24 dwellings.

In the permit, the current owners explain the property received planning permission for the farm and golf course development following a "negotiated settlement between the then Minister for Planning and the then owners".

'The owners relinquished a large strip of coastal frontage land in return for the Minister granting a number of in principle approvals for the use and development of the land," the permit explains.

"Separate to this planning permit application, we note that a separate request has been lodged with the council to extend the expiry requirement of the permit."

### House

The current permit, out for community feedback, is for a single storey home on the land, which is zoned farming and has a significant landscape overlay.

Because the site is less than 40ha, it requires a

No vegetation will be removed for the proposal.

The home will be built within 500 metres of the scenic Red Bluff Lookout, but "will not be visible from this vantage point" and "does not impact on the scenic views to the ocean, coastal dunes and coastal cliffs", according to the owners.

According to the VCAT finding, the shire did not argue a home couldn't be built on the site, but instead their refusal was based on the appropriateness of the siting of the proposed home.

## BCC Students explore 'Innovative Energy Solutions'

### **EDUCATION**

Students in year eight and nine at Bass Coast College took part in an 'Innovative Energy Solutions' project in September, collaborating with Gippsland Tech, Iberdrola Energy Company and students from a Hong Kong school.

The three-day project, held from September 17-19, aimed to harness the student's 'design thinking' skills and prototype a new energy idea.

On day one students were placed into diverse teams and fostered initial connections through icebreaker activities. Assistant College Principal Emma Harris said the first day of the project "set the foundation for the collaboration and creativity, allowing students to share their unique perspectives and ideas".

Over the following day, the students broke off into brainstorming sessions to collaboratively generate innovative energy solutions. With a focus on sustainability and practicality, students then began prototyping ideas.

Ms Harris said the final day "was a showcase of creativity and hard work".

Each team presented their prototypes to representatives from Iber-



Students in year eight and nine at Bass Coast College took part in an 'Innovative Energy Solutions' project last month, collaborating with Gippsland Tech, Iberdrola Energy Company and students from a Hong Kong school. From left, back: Casper, Christian, Archer, Noah, Lewis, Jayden, Kaylah. Front: Ryan, Declan, Evelyn, Jazmin, Owen, Luka, Bella.

drola Energy, members of Gippsland Tech, and fellow participants from all 11 teams.

A team of Bass Coast College students Luka, Owen and Bella, along with two students from Hong Kong were awarded third place for their presentation.

"Their innovative concept featured an environmentally friendly power pole designed to resemble a tree, blending energy infrastructure with nature," Ms Harris said.

"The collaborative at-

mosphere encouraged out-of-the-box thinking, leading to exciting energy solutions."

The Assistant College Principal said the project "not only highlighted the importance of teamwork and creativity in problemsolving, but also emphasised the potential of young minds in address pressing energy challenges".

"The student's ity to envision sustainable solutions exemplifies the power of international collaboration in driving inno-









EDUCATION STATE





Margaret Knight, Shirley Collins and Barb Owens from the ASPIR Textile Group in front of the tapestry they created and presented to the community in 2018 to celebrate the 150 years of Phillip Island settlement. Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.



The Offshore Theatre cast, along with Director Melissa McMillian (far right) take a bow at the end of a magnificent performance of "My Sister Jill". Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography. More photos at aisra.com.au

# Community arts shines at birthday bash

### **BERNINNEIT**

Berninneit's first birthday was a celebration of local talent, which as Bass Coast Shire Council CEO Greg Box rightly pointed out, is what has breathed life into the award-winning building.

From the art on show at the ASPIR exhibition, to the extraordinary photography of San Remo's Matt Bagley to the performance of contemporary Australian drama by Offshore Theatre, the first birthday celebration showed how enthusiastically the building has been embraced by the local arts community and the impressive level of creative talent in our community.

The Arts Society of Phillip Island Region (ASPIR) celebrated the opening of the Melbourne Cup Long weekend exhibition, announcing the prize winners across five different categories, as well as Best in Show and the Young Artist awards.

Judge Lyn Mellady's meticulous explanations of the calibre of the exhibition entries and the category winners was lengthy and some of the young artists (and their families) were increasingly restless, alongside other audience members keen to get inside to view the art on display.

Best in Show went to Heather Towns for her painting "Natives & Crystals", and she was presented with a \$1000 prize cheque by John Matthews on behalf of the Bendigo Community Bank.

The Best Young Artist award, initiated by ASPIR to encourage young people's creativity was won by Sam Bowtell.

Other winners included Deborah Hill (Nature, Environment & Wildlife), Joe La Pira (Best Painting), Leigh Wicking (Best 3D), Jillian Mitchell (Best Digital Artwork or Photography) and Chris Farrell (Best Other Medium).

### On stage

Offshore Theatre's first performance in the theatre at Berninneit was a triumph, with a full house for opening night.

The play, written by Patricia Cornelius, was an at times confronting examination of the impact of war on the men who returned home, and their families.

The cast were all excellent but special mention must go to Simon Furniss who managed to convey moments of vulnerability and likeability to the thuggish Jack, a man damaged by his experience in the war.

Marni Johnston was stunning as youngest daughter Christine who quite literally threw herself into the role; her physical transformation into a young girl obsessed with her dad's war stories was fantastic.

As the audience filed into the show, director Melissa McMillan was standing at the back of the theatre filled with opening night nerves. But she had nothing to worry about. Her cast delivered an absorbing and thought-provoking performance that everyone involved should be very proud of.

Hopefully this is just the first of many Offshore Theatre presentations at Berninneit.

There are three more performances of "My Sister Jill" at Berninneit on November 7, 8 and 9.

Tickets are still available at: www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1234743 or visit www.basscoastculturalvenues.com/live-at-berninneit-cowes.

Tickets can also be purchased at Berninneit, open from 9.3am – 5pm weekdays and 10am – 4pm weekends.



Mat Bowtell with daughter Lisa and son Sam, who won first prize in the Young Artist Award at the ASPIR Cup Weekend exhibition, which opened on Friday night.



ASPIR president Miranda Sage in front of the Young Artist entries at the Cup Weekend Exhibition at Berninneit.



Artist Lisa McLure with one of her entries in the ASPIR Cup Weekend Exhibition.



Heather Towns won Best in Show for her painting "Natives & Crystal".



Bass Coast Shire Council staff were on hand to enjoy the Berninneit birthday celebrations. David Burrows, Laura A'Bell, Greg Box and Justin Stephens. Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.



Former director of Phillip Island Early Learning Centre Karen Treppo, with Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale enjoying the work on display at the ASPIR exhibition.

### ASPIR Cup Weekend Exhibition results

Best in Show: Heather Towns, "Natives & Crystal", \$1000, Bendigo Community Bank.

Nature, Environment & Wildlife Award: Deborah Hill, "Facing the Light", \$500, Phillip Island Nature Parks.

Best Painting: Joe La Pira, "Free to Fly", \$500, Phillip Island RSL.

Painting Highly Commended: Kevin Burke, "Stormy Sunset", \$100, Bendigo Community Bank.

Best 3D: Leigh Wicking, "New Growth", \$400, Phillip Island Winery & Western-

3D Highly Commended: Margaret Knight, "Hanging in the Balance", \$100, Bendigo Community Bank.

Best Digital Artwork or Photography: Jillian Mitchell, "On Golden Waters", \$400, Brinnie-T Design and Flowers of Phillip Island.

Digital Artwork or Photography Highly Commended: Malcolm White, "Cowes Summer", \$100, Bendigo Community Bank.

Best Other Medium: Chris Farrell, "Habitat", \$400, Alex Scott & Staff.

Other Medium Highly Commended: Lori Head, "Blue Gaze", \$100, Bendigo Community Bank.

### **Young Artist Award:**

Five local primary schools participated in the Young Artist Award which were sponsored by the Bendigo Community Bank.

First: Sam Bowtell, "Berry's Beach", \$100. Sam is a student at Newhaven Primary

**Second:** Frankie Leary, Untitled, \$60. Frankie is a student at Newhaven College. Third: Edie Rowbottom, "The Chase", \$40. Edie is a student at Our Lady Star of the Sea.



The "Heritage Snapshots" session presented by Phillip Island and District Historical Society at the library in Berninneit was enthusiastically received and the society hopes to organise similar events in the future.

# Snapshots of island life

Last month, Phillip Island and District Historical Society hosted a special event to celebrate History Month in October, in collaboration with the Phillip Island Library MYLI.

"Heritage Snapshots," the event featured eight engaging 15-minute presentations, each supported by a display of photographs and accompanied by morning tea for attendees.

Community members were treated to a variety of fascinating topics, beginning with Bruce Procter's exploration of the history of the Cowes post office.

Russell Cleeland followed with an enlightening presentation on the eradication of foxes on the island, shedding light on the ecological impact of this important effort.

Anne Davie shared the story about her family's farm, Bimbadeen, highlighting its rich legacy, while Phil Dressing outlined the inspiring journey of how the National Vietnam Veterans Museum was

Elly Berryman evoked nostalgia with her touching account of a family wedding at St John's Church nearly 75 years ago and even showcased the original wedding dress from that special day, adding a tangible connection to the past.

Pam Rothfield delved into the tragic tale of Esther Buckingham, whose mysterious death in 1884 raised eyebrows in the local community, and Doug Waugh shared the fascinating story behind a letter received in 1925 from Prime Minister Stanley Bruce to an island resident.

Organisers said the stories resonated deeply with the audience, sparking lively discussions and leaving attendees eager for more.

President Doug Waugh said the positive feedback has led to requests for more events, underscoring the community's enthusiasm for its history and the importance of preserving these narratives.

"Heritage Snapshots proved to be a valuable celebration of local history – one that we will surely repeat due to popular demand."

## Lions seated at new hospital

Last month, 11 members of the Lions Club of Phillip Island were invited to tour the construction site for the new Community Hospital in Cowes, Phillip Island.

The club has donated \$15,000 to purchase two dialysis chairs to be used for patients requiring chemotherapy treatment and other patients requiring kidney

The club members were guided through the new building by Bass Coast Health staff.

"Kerrin, a long-term nurse with Bass Coast Health, was our tour guide; and Steve Fuery, Community Relations Officer, was our contact person who organised the tour," a club spokesperson explained.

"We wore hard hats and fluoro vests; and we all felt important and appreciated."

The one hour tour left the members well informed of the medical facilities that will be available to the community when the hospital opens next year.

"The donation from our club has certainly been most appreciated and we plan to continue our support for Bass Coast Health," the spokesperson said.

"Our second-hand outlet Steptoe's generates these funds to provide support for our community.

"We thank everyone who has donated goods for resale, without which we couldn't offer this support."

Over \$40,000 was donated by the Phillip Island Lions last financial year.

Visit Steptoe's at the Lions yard at 100 Dunsmore Road in Cowes and find your

They only accept items in reasonable condition with resale potential. To donate please provide photos with text to 0433 191



### HALLOWEEN



The Preppy Loraxes (from left): Isla Bennett, Lani Edwards, Millie Brewin and Auralia Wallis. Photo: Annie Brewin.



Parker and Austin were a colourful, cute and slightly terrifying combination. Photo: Pharrah Underwood.



In San Remo, ready for some Halloween fun, were Ruby, Millie, Mila, Winsley, Ruby, Huntley, Lucy, Georgia, Andie and Coco. With Mark masked up at the back, keeping a close eye on the band of terrors. Photo: Pharrah Underwood.



Kylie Blyth bringing some Beetlejuice mayhem to Halloween.



Kurt, Duke and Mack were a ghostly trio. Photo: Alissa.



A scary pair – Archie and Ned.



Reagan and Lucille were trick or treating together.



The angel and the devil joined forces for Halloween: Olive Moule and Sailer James from San



Georgie, Jones and Livy dressed up as the main characters from Monster High and enjoyed trick or treating in Sunderland Bay. Photo: Jillian Sands.



Dallas Latham, Luca Cohoe and Nate Kondarios were having a fantastic time together trick or treating in Cowes. Photo: Hayley Webster.



Killer Bunny Joel Geiberras and T-Rex Max Ward were a gruesome twosome. Photo Brya Biggs.



Reubeen Moule, 11 from San Remo wasn't going to lose his head over Halloween! Photo: Simon Moule.



Great Halloween costumes from Catwoman Airlie Minter and Ash Evil Dead Avaleigh Oxley. Photo: Cristy Oxley.



While many trick or treaters went for the horror factor, little Phoebe was enjoying Halloween with her pumpkin too much to be scary. Photo: Kylie Odgers.



Wolverine Aiden Artis-Brewin was keen to get his claws into some candy. Photo: Annie Brewin



Friends and family of Tony 'Spu' Susic, who has MS, have started a GoFundMe campaign for a new accessible bathroom for the father of two, so he can remain in his home with his family.

# Community rallies for a beloved mate

### **FUNDRAISER**

The community is getting behind Tony 'Spu' Susic, a long-time local of Phillip Island, with his friends and family seeking donations so the father of two can remain at home with his family.

Over two decades ago, Spu was diagnosed with relapsing remitting Multiple Sclerosis (MS) - a degenerative chronic neurological disease which affects the central nervous system.

Spu is now in a wheelchair, and unless his bathroom is renovated to be more accessible, the father of two will be forced to leave home and go into care, where he will be separated from his wife and children.

Spu and wife Mandy have been trying for nearly a decade to receive NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) funding to renovate their bathroom, and have been knocked back on every appli-

After seven years of trying for funding and several rejections, Spu's wife Mandy said she "has to give up".

"I just couldn't handle Mandy said.

"It was very disheartening, but we just have to try and look forward and do what we can to make it as easy as possible."

Mandy explained that Spu has already had several falls while trying to use the bathroom, and his illness is reaching a stage where living at home without an accessible bathroom will simply become untenable.

### Fundraiser

Now, however, a community fundraiser has been started for Spu, with several local tradies pledging to help build their friend a new accessible bathroom.

Following the most recent NDIS funding rejection, Mandy said a number of Spu's friends came forward to help the family build a new disabled bathroom in

Just over \$10,000 of a \$25,000 goal has already been raised to build the new bathroom at the time of writing.

The \$25,000 goal is to cover the costs of materials, with the tradespeople donating their time.

"It's very emotional, and we're very grateful," Mandy said.

"I can't believe the community comes together like that.'

Peter List, who first met Spu in the late eighties through surfing on the island, spoke about his friend with obvious love.

"Everyone loves him," Peter said "Spu's one of the originals down here, and he's a great guy.

"He's the easiest going guy you could ever imagine. Nothing ever fazes him, never does, never did, never will."

Peter also said that his friend had been severely affected by MS, especially in re-

"It's hard for Spu, because he's severely disabled in a wheelchair. (The MS) hit him really hard, it's very sad."

Peter, who started the online er, said every donation will make a "massive difference" to help keep Spu living with his family.

"If people put their hearts out, every little bit of every cent, every dollar helps. Twenty five grand is what we estimate everything to cost, with all the disability stuff and the rest of it.

"But it's fantastic that we've got all the tradespeople putting in their time to build it, which will stretch the money out a lot further. They're all good friends of Spu and willing to put their

hands up.' Donations can be made online through the QR code or at: www. gofundme.com/f/tonyspu-susic-new-disabledbathroom



# Silverleaves thrown an erosion lifeline

A sandbag wall will be built by the State Government as a temporary solution to Silverleaves' erosion emergency.

However an expert has cautioned the wall, which is yet to be funded, could have an impact on erosion downstream.

Following an "angry" community meeting in August where residents demanded answers to accelerating erosion in a "hotspot" near Sanders Road, the government last week fulfilled its promise to deliver an interim solution.

The proposal is to build a geotextile revetment – or a 2.6m high wall with interlocking small sandbags, that can be "modified, relocated or removed in the future".

'We are continuing to seek funding for the revetment through grants and budget bids and we will keep the community updated as things progress," said a statement by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA).

The statement included a 20-minute video by FSC Range consultant Andrew Pomeroy, who was part of the engineering team to write the August report Observation Point to Silverleaves: Gippsland West Coastal Processes Studies, for DEECA.

In the video Mr Pomeroy explained the sandbag wall would hold the line of erosion in the current location, but would not recover previously lost land.

"That does not mean there might not be erosion in other areas not managed by this particular intervention," Mr Pomeroy states.

"Hopefully there will be minimum impacts downstream, although impacts may still occur.

"Where the works end we will probably expect to see impacts at that location as well."

Mr Pomeroy said the sandbag wall could - depending on funding – be up to 350m long, with a longer wall preferred, ending at an area that has more stable, accumulated sand.

The proposal hadn't considered pedestrian access to the beach as that "added a layer of complexity".

He said the interim wall would not protect against



team who wrote the new report Observation Point to Silverleaves: Gippsland West Coastal Processes Studies, for the Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action (DEECA). Andrew has recorded a 20-minute video to explain the interim works.

inundation from very large storms, which occur about one in 20 years, and it wouldn't survive large storms without sustaining damage.

Mr Pomeroy said four interim solutions options were considered including a larger rock revetment wall, but that would not be an interim measure and would be difficult to adapt in the future.

He said sand renourishment – or bulldozing – had also been considered but consultants did not have confidence it would "stay in place".

Groynes had also been considered but were not viable because there was not enough sand in the area.

### Next?

The interim solution will be carried out in parallel to the larger adaptation planning for Silverleaves, as detailed in the FSC

As previously reported in the Advertiser, the report showed there may be significant loss" of private property and public assets at Silverleaves and an area of Cowes East in the short-term, while the "hotspot" zone near Sanders Road has eroded about 16 metres since 2022.

Following the release of the report, a survey asked residents their perspectives on how to respond to increasing erosion.

DEECA said they re-

ceived 216 responses to the survey, which was being reviewed and would inform adaptation planning, with full results to be released in November.

DEECA will also establish a Community Reference Group to support adaptation planning at Silverleaves, which will include key organisations and community members, but will not have decisionmaking powers.

Adaptation planning allows for a range of actions to reduce coastal risk, including, timing and triggers for implementation.

Cowes East Foreshore Preventative Action Group (CEFPAG) chair Ken Hailey welcomed that a "plan to urgently protect the area between the rock wall and Sanders Road" had been developed.

"The destruction worse by the week with more erosion and trees continuing to fall," Ken said.

Resident Steve Lapin agreed, saying he supported geotextile sand bags as a temporary solution to the erosion hot spot next to Woodland Avenue, adding he hoped there would also be back filling behind the sand bags with sand and possibly rocks.

Steve said he hoped securing funding for the project wouldn't delay the process.

Details: www.marineandcoasts.vic.gov.au/coastalprograms/gippsland-projects



This diagram shows the probable diminishing future shoreline of Silverleaves if no interim solutions are implemented.

### REMEMBRANCE DAY 2024

# Veteran event in Cowes

### COMMUNITY

A free sausage sizzle for veterans and their families is being organised for November 17 on the Cowes foreshore.

The event, which will run from midday to 2pm at Erehwon Point, is the brainchild of Cowes resident Will Dwyer, who was in the army from 2019 to 2021.

Will earlier this year started a Facebook page -Phillip Island Veterans - to connect with other local veterans and build a support network, with the sausage sizzle the first event for the group.

"This is the first organised event, with the focus on families but everyone is welcome. Down the track we will hold more activities like surf days or yoga classes, we're open to suggestions," Will said.

The 40-year-old fatherof-four said in the army there were a range of support networks and once veterans leave it can be difficult.

"The army is very community oriented. When you need help, people are there for you, so when I left, the lack of that network was one of the first things I noticed," said Will, whose wife Julia is currently studying to be a speech pathologist.

"The complexities of post service life are unique, especially while trying to raise a young family.

"Being able to connect with those in similar situations to share advice and lived experience can be a great help.

### Service

Will has a paramedic degree but said growing up he always wanted to join the defence forces, with one grandfather in the army and the other in the air force.

"It looked like an excit-



Will Dwyer with two of his four children Brin (standing) and Paddy. The army veteran runs Phillip Island Veterans and on November 17 is running the group's first event.

ing job, and it was about serving your country," he

Will joined in 2019 aiming to be a medic, but during a training exercise when recruits get "hardly any sleep or food and have to march for days on end" his foot was injured, which led to serious back and neck injuries.

In 2021 during Covid he was medically discharged, leaving Canberra to move to Phillip Island, where he had holidayed as a boy.

Will continues to suffer injuries and can be bedridden and unable to walk for days at a time.

With the injuries, which leaves me unable to do dayto-day tasks, comes mental health issues.

"I went in expecting a life-changing career and it was but not in the way I was expecting.

"It was a punch in the gut for me."

So aside from the Face-

book group, Will has also helped organise funded psychology visits for veterans locally.

"There are also other services available to veterans that they may not be aware of," he added.

Will said according to the Phillip Island RSL there are 600 service people on the island, including younger members with families.

He said Remembrance Day could be a "triggering time for veterans".

"So I thought having a social event the weekend after would be good to decompress and be there for anyone who needs it.

"Come and have a sausage, let the kids run around and if you want to talk about the services or the weather, it's up to them.

"It's about getting to know the community.'

Details: www.facebook. com/groups/308056489047 285/?ref=share&mibextid= NSMWBT



A Remembrance Day ceremony will be held at the San Remo Cenotaph, starting at 10.45am on

# Chance to pay respect

As we watch the horror of the Middle East imploding and the war in Ukraine grinding on, it's pertinent to reflect on our freedom.

That liberty, which includes the democratic right to protest, has come at great cost.

World War I took over 60,000 Australian lives out of a population of around five million; a toll that has reverberated for generations.

MelinaBathMLC

Remembrance Day offers the opportunity to pay respect and gratitude to those who ensured the way of life we all enjoy.

Each year at the Cenotaph on the San Remo foreshore, a brief Remembrance Day commemoration is organised by a small community committee under the auspices of the National Vietnam Veterans Museum Sub-branch.

It will begin at 10.45am on November 11, conducted by Vietnam veteran John Methven OAM. All are welcome and there will be an opportunity to lay a wreath or flowers.

San Remo's hotels generously support the event by providing post-commemoration morning tea. This Remembrance Day, it is the San Remo Hotel's





melina.bath@parliament.vic.gov.au

# Australian war story collection

A remarkable collection of 110 ebooks, each charting the personal story of an Australian who served in the First World War, is being released and made available for free in public and school libraries.

Publication of the 110 stories commemorates the 110th anniversary of the start of The Great War, in which 416,000 Australian soldiers and 3,000 nurses voluntarily served.

The collection is published as part of the Australian War Stories project, a custom-book initiative undertaken by the Australian media services company Mediality Pty Ltd. Hundreds of individual wartime biographies were created for the project and now the most engaging 110 titles have been converted to ebooks, for mass distribution.

Mediality has partnered with leading audiobook publisher and innovator Bolinda, whose digital library platform BorrowBox is available in all Australian public libraries and most schools.

The Australian War Stories ebook collection can be accessed by BorrowBox users. (BorrowBox can be accessed by downloading the app on iOS and Android devices using an active library membership.)

"Publishing the collection and making it available through the BorrowBox platform means all Australians can now access



 $Australian\ War\ Stories\ eBook\ collection\ is\ now\ available\ free\ through\ libraries\ through\ the\ digital\ platform\ BorrowBox.$ 

these extraordinary and unique stories," Mediality project co-ordinator Philip McLean said.

"It creates a rich and lasting legacy to the courage and sacrifice of a selfless generation of Australians."

The ebook collection is complemented by a study guide for the Year 9 history curriculum, providing a bridge for students between an individual soldier's

experience and learning more broadly about the "war to end all wars". (The study guide can be downloaded at *australianwarstories.com.au*).

The Australian War Stories

ebook collection is generously supported by the Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program, which is funded by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.





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This stunning property has all the bases covered, from Parents retreat to work from home studio, the light filled environment just creates a very warm and inviting setting. Excellent beach access and ideal for entertaining family and friends or just relaxing. CONTACT MICHAEL MCLEOD 0412 712 034



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Nestled in this exclusive foreshore complex is the perfect low maintenance home. Set over a single level with no steps from the secure undercover garage. With access to all Cowes has to offer, walk on the beach, watch the sunset and relax with friends.

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2/14-16 OSBOURNE AVENUE, COWES \$ 749,000

This spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom townhouse offers the perfect blend of comfort and convenience. Located just a short walk from the beach and vibrant Cowes shopping and restaurant precinct. With its prime location, this townhouse is perfect.

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# Current Listings

4/2-4 WARLEY AVENUE, **COWES** 

\$560,000 -



4/20 THE ESPLANADE, **COWES** 

\$999,995 -\$1,099,990



15 SHETLAND HEIGHTS RD, SAN REMO

\$958,000 -



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property listings



284 SETTLEMENT ROAD, COWES

\$1,099,000 -\$1,150,000



27 HILL STREET, **SUNDERLAND** BAY

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182 SMITHS BEACH ROAD. SMITHS BEACH

\$848,000 -\$899,000



13 PANORAMA DR, CAPE WOOLAMAI - \$980,888 20 DAFYDD ST, COWES - \$850,000 98 SCENIC DR, COWES - \$599,000 2/19 CHAPEL ST, COWES - \$948,888 12/146 THOMPSON AVE, COWES - \$580,000

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Real Estate Executive

### THE BLOCK

# Celebrating community and resilience: Maddy and Charlotte at The Block House

The excitement surrounding The Block House 1 reached new heights last weekend as OBrien Real Estate hosted two remarkable events that not only showcased the stunning properties but also celebrated the inspiring journey of contestants Maddy and Charlotte.

On Saturday, October 26, OBrien Real Estate broke the record with their strong database and networking skills, resulting in over 140 attendees, plus agents from various offices and members of their corporate team for a VIP event that set the tone for the highly anticipated auction on November 9.

The day began with an exclusive tour of Houses 1-5 and the shared spaces that make The Block a unique living environment. Guests marvelled at the architectural brilliance and design choices while appreciating the vision behind each home.

However, the true highlight of the event was the Q&A session featuring Maddy and Charlotte, hosted by Peter Clark, Regional Direc-



The OBrien Real Estate team with Block contestants Maddy and Charlotte, at the special VIP function on October 26.

tor of OBrien Real Estate.

As they shared their stories, Maddy and Charlotte's authenticity resonated deeply with the audience.

They opened up about the challenges and triumphs they faced throughout their time on The Block, giving guests an intimate glimpse into the emotional rollercoaster of reality television. From late nights of hard work to the joy of seeing their designs come to life, their experiences serve as a reminder that behind the glamour lies grit and determination.

Adding to the excitement, OBrien Real Estate announced that Paul Tzamalis, recently crowned the 2024 Real Estate Institute of Victoria (REIV) Senior Auctioneer of the Year, is the chosen auctioneer for House 1.

This decision reflects OBrien's commitment to excellence and highlights the importance of having a seasoned professional guide the upcoming auction.

Following the Q&A, guests enjoyed delightful food and drink from Nick and Mish at Phillip Island Winery, creating a festive atmosphere filled with conversation and

connection. The event was not just about showcasing properties; it was about building relationships within the community and celebrating the journeys of individuals like Maddy and Charlotte.

On Thursday, October 31, the spirit of community continued as Channel 9 hosted a Local's Day at The Block, inviting Phillip Island residents to tour the

beautiful houses and common areas alongside OBrien representatives.

As OBrien Real Estate gears up for the auction, the excitement surrounding Maddy and Charlotte's journey only adds to the buzz. Their resilience and genuine spirit remind us all of the importance of community support and connection.

With the upcoming auction, it is clear that OBrien Real Estate's dedication to fostering relationships and celebrating personal stories will create a memorable event. Maddy and Charlotte's experiences, intertwined with the mission of OBrien Real Estate, exemplify what it means to be part of a community that is not just about real estate, it's personal.

As the countdown to the auction begins, we look forward to celebrating not only the properties but the remarkable stories that make The Block a truly special place.

If you are interested in this amazing property, please reach out to OBrien Real Estate on 03 5952 5100.







### **McGrath**



**AUCTION SATURDAY** 9TH NOVEMBER FROM I I AM

### House 4 113 Justice Rd Cowes

Luxurious Family Living

Beds Baths

**Greg Price** 0419 337 441 Michael Townsend 0406 823 776 Josh Stirling 0432 071 806





### **BLOCK ISLAND**

Advertising Feature

















4 등 3 → 4 등

### **AUCTION**

2/113-119 Justice Road, Cowes

- Opulent modern mediterranean design theme
- Exquisite attention to detail
- Artfully crafted with premium fixtures and fittings
- Light filled spacious rooms
- Spectacular Club House Facilities
- Impressive depreciation schedule

### Auction

Saturday 9th November 2024

### Yvette Tancheff

0414 506 795 yvette.tancheff@raywhite.com

### Sam Clark

0417 351 935 sam.clark@raywhite.com

# A slice of an island paradise

Escape to paradise and own a slice of French Island.

Are you ready to trade the hustle and bustle of suburban life for an extraordinary retreat?

A stunning property on French Island is up for grabs, and it's an opportunity you won't want to miss.

This remarkable estate is about 400 times the size of a standard block and boasts breathtaking water views - all just a stone's throw from Melbourne, even closer than Phillip

What sets this property apart? For starters, it's completely off the grid, meaning you'll enjoy zero power bills.

But that's not all – there are no council rates to pay, either.

Imagine securing a piece of paradise for the average price of just a couple of suburban houses.

With French Island properties tightly held due to their unique allure, this is a rare chance to claim your own slice of tranquil-

### A natural haven

Nestled adjacent to a national park - which spans more than 70 per cent of the island – this pristine 100-acre property offers endless possibilities.

Whether you're looking to farm, establish a tourism venture, or simply escape for peaceful enjoyment amidst a symphony of wildlife, including koalas, bandicoots, echidnas and an array of bird species, this is the ideal location.

Located at 59 Barge Access



The house includes a fully equipped chef's kitchen, and an expansive living area highlighted by an atrium-style foyer.

Road, French Island, this gem is available for Expressions of Interest, closing Friday, November 15, at 5pm (unless sold prior).

Don't let this incredible opportunity slip away.

### The perfect getaway

Perched high on a hill, the property offers priceless water views and ample space for relaxation.

Enter through the elegant double gates and meander up the newly gravelled driveway to discover a stunning, fully furnished home that combines style with comfort

This double-storey residence is perfect for either a permanent abode or a luxurious weekend retreat.

The upper-level features two bright bedrooms, both with captivating bay views, and the main bedroom includes a newly renovated ensuite.

On the ground floor, you'll find a third bedroom with scenic views, a stylishly renovated main bathroom, a fully equipped chef's kitchen, and an expansive living area highlighted by an atrium-style foyer.

Additional conveniences include a large laundry and a mudroom.

### **Eco-friendly**

Step outside to enjoy timber decks that extend the living space outdoors.

The property is equipped with ample water storage, a state-of-the-art off-grid power system, and a security system for peace of mind.

Éxplore established gardens, generous shedding, and work-



Nestled adjacent to a national park - which spans more than 70 per cent of the island - this pristine 100-acre property offers endless possibilities.

shop areas.

The expansive grounds also feature a private gumtree forest and a fenced paddock complete with a dam, presenting an idyllic eco-tourism opportunity with two additional bathrooms and another kitchen.

### French Island

French Island is an unincorporated paradise, boasting a unique status that means it operates outside conventional council jurisdiction.

You can revel in the privacy and seclusion this substantial freehold property offers, all within about 80km of Melbourne.

Here, you can live in harmony with nature, free from power bills and council rates.

This eco-paradise maintains

its pristine beauty and rich biodiversity, including rare and endangered wildlife.

Accessibility is a breeze, with passenger ferries operating from both Phillip Island and the Mornington Peninsula.

Plus, the nearby barge landing allows for easy vehicle transport, and with ample space on the property, arriving by helicopter is also an option.

Don't miss your chance to become the envy of your friends as you immerse yourself in this natural haven of peace and quiet.

For more details on this incredible freehold lifestyle opportunity, contact French Island resident and licensed agent Phil Bock at 0438 497 715.

Secure your dream escape on French Island before it's too late.



### Off-Grid French Island Beauty on 100 Freehold Acres

59 Barge Access Road, French Island

3 🚐

3

1.800,000 - 1.980,000

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST** CLOSING FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15 AT 5:00PM (UNLESS SOLD PRIOR)

Contact French Island resident Licensed Agent Phil Bock on 0438 497 715

James Hatzolos, RTEdgar0418 518 694









# **FOR SALE**

92 Mcfees Road, Rhyll







### **PANORAMIC BAY VIEWS**

First time offered, this magnificent farm situated at 92 McFees Road, Rhyll has been held by the same family since settlement.

43.9ha (108.5 acres approx.) with a natural North facing slope, adjoining foreshore reserve, and taking in sweeping views of Rhyll, French Island and Westernport Bay. Opposite the famous Purple Hen Winery, this property has so many options. Inspection by appointment only.

Call Alex Scott & Staff today on 5952 2633 to arrange your private inspection.

Contact Greg Price 0419 337 441

## **AUCTION**

### 35 BONWICK AVENUE, SAN REMO





- Elevated brick home in the heart of San Remo, just a short stroll to shops, cafes and beach
- Set on an expansive 998m² (approx.) corner block with two secure entry points and postcard perfect views over the bay, extending to Newhaven Yacht Squadron and further along to French Island
- 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, high carport perfect for the boat or caravan, workshop, double lock up garage

### **AUCTION SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER @ 12PM ON SITE**

# **AUCTION**

### 24 MCRAE AVENUE, COWES





- A magnificent coastal property offering absolute foreshore reserve frontage with amazing water views and access to beach via sandy track
- Sun soaked open plan living upstairs and large main bedroom with ensuite, leading to a huge deck, perfect for entertaining
- 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 living areas, wood fire, downstairs kitchenette, lock up garage, 2 north facing decks, fully fenced yard

**AUCTION SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER @ 2PM ON SITE** 



Russell Kent said in 1986 the landscape of Phillip Island exerted an influence on his work. The Looking for the Tiger exhibition features over 24 works and runs from November 15 to 26.



Russell Kent Looking for the Tiger 1998 Oil on Canvas - the eponymous piece for the exhibition at Berninneit.

## Christmas tree sale. Get ready for

For one weekend only, Saturday November 30 and Sunday December 1, the Phillip Island Scouts Club is holding its annual

Christmas is just around the corner, and once again Phillip Island Scouts invite you to give your family the gift of a freshly cut premium Christmas

1, the Phillip Island Scouts Club is

Five-foot trees are \$70, six-foot trees

Delivery and collection service can be organised on the day and cash and

The sale runs from 9am until 3pm

Mark the weekend in your calen-

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Christmas

For one weekend only, Saturday November 30 and Sunday December

holding its annual Christmas tree sale. There are three different sizes of

\$80 and seven-foot trees cost \$90.

Proceeds from the sales will be used to fund essential equipment for

on both days or until sold out, at the Scout Hall, Dunsmore Road, Blue

# Looking for the Tiger exhibition

Looking for the Tiger is an exhibition of selected art works over four decades by local artist Russell Kent, showing at Berninneit, Cowes from November 15 to 26.

The name of the exhibition has been taken from the title of a 1998 painting Russell did about the demise of the Australian Thylacine.

Over 24 works have been selected from 1976 to 2016; paintings, drawings and a couple of cameo sculptures.

Russell was born on Phillip Island and lived most of his life in Ventnor, except for early childhood years in Wonthaggi and five years in Perth in his early twenties.

He died in Wonthaggi in December 2019.

In Perth he found his feet as an artist living in studios, disused office space in the city and in High Street, Fremantle. He worked in proximity with other artists and developed his distinctive self-taught style, a blend of realism, imagination and storytelling, sometimes quirky and other times factual.

In 1980 he moved back to Phillip Island and the island began to influence his work.

"In Perth my ideas had been more surreal and to do with city living; landscapes were regarded with contempt," he wrote in his journal in 1986.

"Now I am living within a landscape and like it or not, it is exerting its influence on me."

fascination with the surreal with a romantic bent. Talks about the surrounding landscape and its history, the demise of species and wish for a better return. His practice of life drawing and landscapes blend where bare hills simulate bodies.

He strived for mastery of medium and truth to his initial vision and made studies from past sketches, photos and his imagination.

Josephine Allen, curator, widow and fellow artist says: "I chose the art from those available at home and in good condition that showcased his journey as an artist. It will be an intimate exhibition in the small community space. There

Russell's art shows this are some pieces that have nev-scination with the surreal er been exhibited before, some golden oldies and a few tigers!"

The majority of the art is for sale and the exhibition is on between November 15 and 26, at Berninneit, 91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes.

The exhibition is open Monday to Friday 9.30am-5pm, and weekends 10am-4pm. Free entry. Presented in partnership

with Bass Coast Shire Coun-Details: www.basscoast-

culturalvenues.com/ event-details/exhibitioncelebration-looking-for-thetiger-by-russell-kent

www.islandinflu-Website: ence.com.au/russell-kent /Sponsored article/







# Newhaven College School Fete - this Friday! Pancreatic Cancer Awareness

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

Newhaven College's Parents and Friends Association (PFA) have been working hard to prepare for this year's annual Newhaven College School Fete to be held at 3.30pm-7.30pm on Friday November 8.

The local community is encouraged to come along. The day promises to be bigger and better than last year, with plenty on offer, including:

- Food trucks, such as Twisted Potato, OMG Decadent Donuts, The Jersey Milkshake Van and delicious arancini balls from Isola di Capri
- · Food stalls including fairy floss, popcorn, snow cones, the canteen, BBQ sausage sizzle and a wonderful preserves and lemonade stall
- Amusement rides including Chair-O-Plane, Rockwall, Tea Cup Ride, King Croc Slide, Jungle Adventure and a petting zoo
- Lucky Bottles, Lucky Dip and Chocolate Coin Toss
- Stalls such as crazy hair, face painting, showbags, second-hand book and uniform stalls
- Musical entertainment from our students and teachers
- · Bar stocked with the best local beers and wines
- Market Stalls
- Silent auction with amazing offerings!
- Local CFA and police
- Teacher Sliming for students who won a PFA Colour Run award!

Entry to the fete is free, however, attendees are encouraged to pre-order via TryBooking: www.trybooking.com/ CVRJV

• Cash passports in \$10 or \$20 denominations to allow children the ability to purchase items or play games at school



Remy Russo, Lucy Pirouet and Yuri Chaselina enjoyed the Tea Cup ride at the 2023 Newhaven College fete. This year's fete is on this Friday, November 8 from 3.30pm until 7.30pm

operated stalls only

- Discounted ride wristbands for \$15 to allow for unlimited rides and entry to the animal petting zoo. Wristbands can be purchased on the day for \$20
- There is also \$10 entry into the Newhaven College Stars Lotto, our annual raffle for the following amazing prizes:
- 1st Prize: \$500 Cash Gift Card and 3-Park Super Pass (Penguin Parade, Koala Conservation Reserve & Churchill Island) from Phillip Island Nature Parks
- 2nd Prize: Amaze'N Things Family Attraction Pass
- 3rd Prize: Wildlife Coast Cruises Family Cruise
- 4th Prize: A hamper from Engaging Engraving
- 5th Prize: Family Pass to Grumpy's Golf

The Newhaven College PFA sincerely thank all sponsors and contributors for their generous donations and assistance to make this an event to remember! /Sponsored article/

STAR LOTTO & SH PASSBODES

CASH PASSPORTS 🔳 🖫

# Locals unite to walk for

### **FUNDRAISING**

On Saturday December 14, those who know firsthand the heartbreak of a pancreatic cancer diagnosis will gather at Phillip Island RSL for a community hosted walk in support of PanKind, the Australian Pancreatic Cancer Foundation.

The event, called Put Your Foot Down aims to raise awareness and crucial funds for pancreatic cancer, a disease claiming more Australian lives than ever before.

Each year, PanKind brings the pancreatic cancer community together through their Put Your Foot Down walks, a nationwide series of heartwarming and hopefilled events which unite thousands of supporters.

Dressed in their best purple outfits, they take on a 5km walk to honour those lost and support those living with pancreatic cancer.

On December 14 this year, we will see the inaugural Put Your Foot Down Community Walk in Phillip Island, hosted by local Kirri Harvey, who lost her husband Andrew to pancreatic cancer just three months



The Put Your Foot Down event, raising money and awareness to support the Australian Pancreatic Cancer Foundation, starts at 10.30am from Phillip Island RSL on December 14.

### A silent killer

Pancreatic cancer is not as rare as many believe. It claims as many lives each year as breast and prostate cancer but receives only a fraction of the funding.

Michelle Stewart, Pan-Kind CEO explains.

"This silent killer is notoriously challenging to detect early because its initial symptoms are vague and non-specific. Without early diagnosis, many patients are diagnosed when their disease is at an advanced stage, leaving them with limited treatment options."

The impact is devastating: eight out of 10 people diagnosed will lose their life within a year, and only 12.5 per cent survive five years or more.

For the thousands of Australians impacted, these statistics are simply unacceptable - and PanKind is determined to change them.

It is the only charity in Australia dedicated exclusively to pancreatic cancer. Its mission is to triple survival rates by 2030 through cutting-edge re-search focused on early detection and the development of new treatments.

The Put Your Foot Down event starts at 10.30am from Phillip Island RSL on December 14.

Registration for the event is free.

For more information and to sign up: www.putyourfootdown.org.au/ phillip-island

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**Community Walk Team** 



REDJELLY.

# Fishy Stories set to

### **LITERARY**

Building on the waves of success from previous years, the Fishy Stories Festival is back again on November 17.

The one-day event is shaping up to be a magical experience full of free activities where children can engage in special events focused on story-making and storytelling alongside recognised authors, illustrators, and performers.

The 2024 Fishy Stories Festival promises an impressive lineup of events.

Myli - My Community Library's stories, adventures and funny games will be on the Bendigo Bank Village Green with the opportunity to enter a competition to win an iPad!

Fish Creek's Alison Lester will be celebrating her shop's 10-year anniversary with a range of activities, and a workshop for budding authors.

Andrew McDonald and Ben Woods from the Real Pigeons and the engaging Andrea Rowe and many more authors and illustrators will host workshops and activities throughout the day.

The amazing Box Wars will return for some cardboard combat as well as



Alison Lester will be celebrating her shop's 10-year anniversary with a range of activities, and a workshop for budding authors as part of the Fishy Stories Festival on November 17.

the Fish Creek Primary School UV Treasure hunt.

The popular Fishy Stories Writing Challenge will be brought to life in the Fish Creek Hall. The talented members of FAMDA will perform twenty selected stories from across Victoria and New South Wales. Additionally, picture stories will be on display, showcasing amazing visual stories.

Fishy Stories has one performance, Luigi Zucchini, the hilarious international man of magic comedy. Children's tickets are \$12.50, \$20 for an adult and \$60 for the whole family. Be prepared to laugh out loud with Luigi's goofy Italian antics. This is a session not to be missed. Head to Try booking to secure your seat.

Fishy Stories Festival is a day dedicated to celebrating storytellers of all ages and a date to pop into your tackle box.

The full program is at Fishystories.org.

/Sponsored article/

# Wardy's Newhaven make a splash in 2024 College Christmas Tree

Wardy's Newhaven College Christmas Tree is a cherished tradition of giving that has brought joy to the community since 1991.

This year, the College once again invites everyone to help brighten the experience of Christmas for many. New, unwrapped gifts for children of all ages are welcome. Please place gifts under the tree in the College main reception before Monday December 2.

The gifts will be distributed to local families in need by St Vincent de Paul, sharing the spirit of Christmas and extending support throughout our wonderful community.

Wardy's Newhaven College Christmas Tree began 25 years ago when teacher and Deputy Principal John Ward (retired) called upon Newhaven College families to think of others at Christmas by donating a gift to families in need.

"After attending a conference in Wonthaggi where a participant spoke on the hardship some people in the Bass Coast Shire region face, I put up a Christmas Tree where



Students Isabella Whyte, Ava Marshall and Tavish Mahon show off some of the gifts already donated under the Wardy's Newhaven College Christmas Tree.

we collected donated gifts from the College and local Phillip Island communities.

"They were then given to local children in need at Christmas time," Wardy reflects.

The number of families donating gifts increases each year and members of the public are also welcome to come in and place gifts under the tree.

The tree is located at Newhaven College's main reception and the students visit regularly to see what has been donated.

"Learning about the

giving tree encourages our students to think of others", Wardy said.

"It is a living example of our College values of respect, empathy and responsibility that they can relate to."

Newhaven thanked San Remo IGA and Aldi Cowes for their support, along with the College and broader communities, saying every year it was "overwhelmed by the generosity of families and community members who place gifts under our tree".

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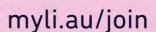














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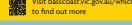
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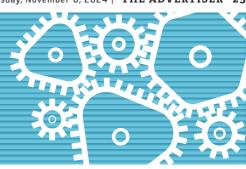
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### **DEATHS**

### McDonald, Gregory James:

8/12/1946-15/10/2024

On the 15th of October 2024, Gregory James McDonald passed away peacefully at the Austin Hospital with his daughter, Penelope, by his side

Gregory was the father of both Penelope and her older brother Matthew

Gregory was also a much-loved resident of Hilltop Nursing Home for the last five years of his life and his family are ever grateful for his care leading up to his recent passing

Gregory was privately cremated on the 18th of October, as per his request.

If you have any questions, please contact The Last Hurrah Funerals at admin@lasthurrahfunerals.com.au

### **DEATHS**

### **HAMMOND**, Christine:

Phillip Island World Vision Club members are saddened by the passing of their friend and colleague, Christine.

She became our very efficient Secretary, and supported Club activities, in recent years assisted by Peter.

We will remember her for her positivity, and her friendship, and extend our loving condolences to Peter, Tracy, Michelle and Paul and to their families.

### **PUBLIC NOTICES**



The next market is on Sat, Nov 9 9am-2pm

Inquiries: Monica 0412 710 276

### PUBLIC NOTICES



### FRIENDS OF CHURCHILL ISLAND SOCIETY'S GENERAL MEETING

will be held on Saturday 16th November at 1.30pm.
Venue: Churchill Island Visitor Centre.
Guest speaker, Mike Cleeland will talk about
the historical geology of Churchill Island.
Members and visitors will be warmly welcomed.
Afternoon tea with yummy cakes will be provided.



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SITUATIONS VACANT

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

### Construction Officer - Full time

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Facilities Officer - Full time, Part time and Casual roles available

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### Sales Supervisor - Full time

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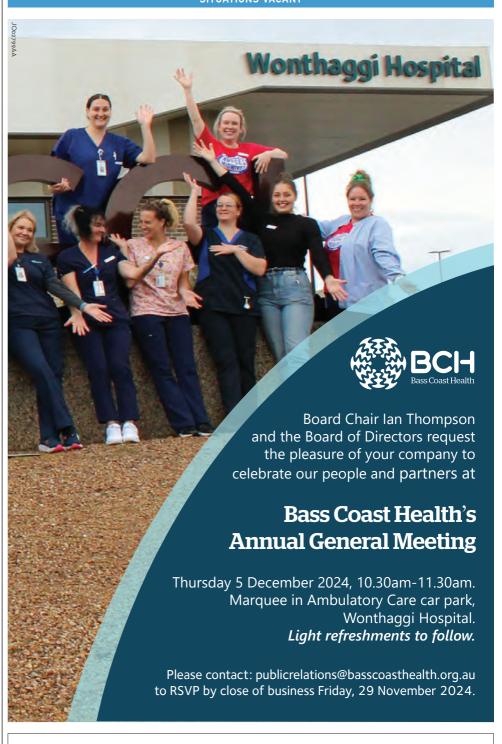
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### SITUATIONS VACANT



### NOTICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 181(5)(B) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989 (VICTORIA)

TAKE NOTICE that the Bass Coast Shire Council of 76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi, Victoria, 3995, in accordance with Section 181 of the Local Government Act 1989 (Victoria), intends on or after 4 December 2024, to sell or transfer to itself, ALL THAT piece of land described in Lot 85 on Plan of Subdivision 053015, being more particularly described in Certificate of Title Volume 08474, Folio 025, being the land situated at 66 Bass Horizon Promenade, Coronet Bay, Victoria, 3984.

### **CLH LAWYERS**

Level 2, 577 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000 Ph +61 3 9628 2801; mcc@clhlawyers.com.au; Ref 1138395.



The Annual General Meeting for 2023/24 is to be held on: -

Tuesday 26th November 2024 at 7.00pm

This meeting will be held via zoom, you should contact
Peter McMahon on 0418533256 to obtain the necessary connection
details.

All welcome and feel free to nominate as Committee Members, or become an active participant in helping to drive the building of the Aquatic Centre for Phillip Island Residents and become a subscriber "TODAY".

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# Midweek at Lang Lang

### **BOWLS**

Last Thursday proved another great day for the midweek bowls crew who met at Lang Lang to fight it out for team of

Players were welcomed by Pauline and John whilst Peter and David arranged teams.

The weather was cool and the sun shone through the clouds as excellent bowling was displayed across all quar-

There were one or two wrong bias bowls throughout the day. The charity tin is now full and close to overflowing.

Congratulations to last week's winners on a score of 38: Jenny Smith (L), John Nicholson (S) and Sue Stans-

Runners up on a score of 35: Lou Capsulis (L), Margaret Hoy (3) and Vern Elliott (S).

Best one game winners on a score of 18: Peter McWilliams (S), Bev Elliott (2), Phil Wright (3) and Ron Hughes (L).

The club gives its thanks to Peter for his work behind the bar, along with Bev in the kitchen and David, Jenny, Vern and Laurie for the endof-day pack up.

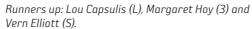
This week the club will meet at Corinella.

Until then, they wish all players good luck with their pennant teams.



Congratulations to last week's winners: Jenny Smith (L), John Nicholson (S) and Sue Stansfield (3).







Best one game winners: Peter McWilliams (S), Bev Elliott (2), Phil Wright (3) and Ron Hughes (L).

# Results from the green

### Tuesday, October 29

Men's 18H Stableford Overall winner: Ian Young (26) with 42 pts.

A Grade winner: A-1 Mark White (12) with 37 pts.

B Grade winner: B-1 Greg Hyndman (13) with 35 pts.

C Grade winner: C-1 Ian Young (26) with 42 pts.

BDL: 34 pts C/B. NTP: 5th Jim Brown, 7th Ron Owen, 10th Mario Amato and 17th Syd Hadley. Men's 9H Stableford

Overall winner: Col Cordery (27) with 19 pts from Ian Brown (33) with 17 pts C/B. BDL: 16 pts C/B.

### Wednesday, October 30 Women's 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Joanne Disher (22) with 40 pts. A Grade winner: A-1

Joanne Disher (22) with 40

B Grade winner: B-1 Alice Schofield (25) with 40 pts.

C Grade winner: C-1 Lyn Dunne (42) with 40 pts. BDL: 35 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Kim Rippon King, 7th Anne McCallum, 10th and

17th Lesley Meadowcroft. Women's 9H Stableford Overall winner: Gill Scrase (41) with 23 pts from Rose-

mary Bailey (42) on 22 pts. BDL: 19 pts.

### Thursday, October 31

Open 18H Stableford Overall winner: Harry Sterling (21) with 43 pts.

A Grade winner: Craig O'Neill (10) with 38 pts.

B Grade winner: Chris McKinney (14) with 38 pts.

C Grade winner: Harry Sterling (21) with 38 pts. BDL: 35 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Daniel Pearce, 7th Ray Mathews, 10th Fred Panozzo and 17th Ben Walsh. Open 9H Stableford

Winner: Peter Pilar (35) with 24 pts from Richie Nettleton (29) on 20 pts.

BDL: 17 pts C/B.

### Saturday, November 2

Overall winner: Ken Wallace (19) with 43 pts.

A Grade winner: Max Walton (11) with 41 pts.

B Grade winner: Mark Beaton (17) with 41 pts C/B.

C Grade winner: Ken Wal-

lace (19) with 43 pts.

BDL: 37 pts C/B. NTP: 5th Paul Walsh,

7th Travis Johnson, 10th John Shaw and 17th Ryan

Great score: John Shaw hole in one (10th, 6 balls). Great score: Steve Morris -

eagle hole (12th, 6 balls). Women's 18H Stableford Overall winner: Jan Daff (26) with 43 pts from Dawn An-

drews (19) on 42 pts. A Grade winner: A-1 Jan Daff (26) with 43 pts.

B Grade winner: B-1 Patricia Jamieson (31) with 40 pts. C Grade winner: C-1 Lyn

Dunne (42) with 40 pts. BDL: 35 pts C/B.

NTP: 5th Joanne Disher, 7th Liz O'Neill and 17th Rhonda Boyd.

Open 9H Stableford

Overall winner: Patrick Owens (17) with 23 pts from Harold Jackson (32) on 18 pts. BDL: 16 pts C/B

### Sunday, November 3 Open 18H Stableford

Overall winner: Jack Huther (12) with 39 pts from Isaac Batty (-1) with 38 pts C/B. BDL: 36 pts.

## results **GOLF**

Red Rocks

### Saturday, November 2

Par: 1st Thomas Cameron -HCP 22 +3, 2nd Ian Murray – HCP 20 +1 and 3rd Craig Rumble - HCP 15 -1 C/B.

### Sunday, November 3

Stableford: 1st David Pearce (17) with 37 pts, 2nd Peter Crock (16) with 36 pts C/B and 3rd Ray Pobjoy (5) with 36 pts.

### Euchre results

Ladies' winner: Bev Baulderstone with six wins.

Men's winner: Les Walton with seven wins Encouragement award: Laurie

As the club gets closer to wrapping up another year with only six weeks of cards left, both the men's and ladies top spots remain open.

New players always welcome, Thursday nights at the Phillip Island RSL.

For further information contact Bob Hee on 0418 173 388.

Tidal predictions for Stony Point, Cowes -0.09 Newhaven -0.31 | HIGH TIDE IS MARKED IN BLACK TUE 12 NOV **WED 6 NOV** THU 7 NOV ● SAT 9 NOV SUN 10 NOV FRI 8 NOV 4:59 am 5:35 am 6:12 am HIGH LOW LOW HIGH HIGH HIGH LOW 3.06 m 0.54 m 0.64 m 0.78 m 10:40 am 11:15 am 11:49 am 7:26 am 8:05 am 8:50 am LOW LOW LOW HIGH HIGH HIGH HIGH 2.53 m 4:36 pm 2.62 m 5:11 pm 5:47 pm 6:26 pm 1:03 pm 1:45 pm HIGH HIGH HIGH LOW LOW LOW 8:05 pm 2.44 m 10:31 pm 0.41 m 7:10 pm 2.48 m 9:16 pm 2.44 m LOW LOW HIGH HIGH HIGH All material is supplied in good faith and is believed to be correct. No responsibility or liability for errors or omissions is accepted



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### **LIFESAVING**

A father-son lifesaving duo at Woolamai Beach Surf Lifesaving Club (WBSLSC) last season racked up over 280 combined volunteer hours, or the equivalent of 35 typical working days.

Mark Bain joined the club as a Nipper parent in 2012, and shortly thereafter acquired his Bronze medallion and began patrolling Woolamai and Smiths beaches.

His 17-year-old son, Nathan, completed his Bronze medallion in 2022 and the pair now keep the beaches safe together, although Mark laughed, acknowledging that "no kid likes their dad hanging around like a bad smell".

However, Nathan recounted being out in the boat with his father as the first time he knew for sure that he wanted to continue his path in lifesaving.

"The first time I went out in the IRB (Inflatable Rescue Boat) was with Dad and one of his friends," Nathan said.

"We were around Cleeland Bight, and it wouldn't have been more than 20 or 30 minutes, and yet that was enough time to make me certain that I wanted to keep going at it."

Similarly, Mark said some of the most special moments in his long stretch at the lifesaving club were the first patrols with both his sons, Lachie and

"I guess as a parent, it's pretty special if your kids want to hang out with you, and I'm lucky enough that both of them actually want to be around me," Mark said.

"And I love having them around, they're my best mates."

### Beach safety

**EDUCATION** 

Both Mark and Nathan said giving back to the commu-

Students from Years 3 to 6 at

Our Lady Star of the Sea Cow-

es enjoyed an unforgettable

sporting experience, thanks to a visit from the Gipp Sport

The event introduced the

students to wheelchair bas-

ketball, a sport that combines

South Gippsland team.



Mark and Nathan Bain, a father-son lifesaving duo at Woolamai Beach Surf Lifesaving Club (WBSLSC) last season racked up over 280 combined volunteer hours. Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.

nity and spending time with friends was one of the main reasons they volunteered at the lifesaving club.

Nathan, who racked up 150 volunteer hours, said: "I don't really see it as volunteering.

"I'm just doing what I enjoy, especially with my friends, but I guess it does look good on a resume."

Nathan said "at least 99 per cent" of what lifesavers do on patrol is taking pro-active measures, called "preventative actions", to avoid rescues happening altogether.

Last summer patrolling members of Woolamai logged nearly 5500 preventative actions.

"If someone is drifting out of the flags, or if someone looks like they might need a bit of help getting back in, you either swim out with a tube or a board or on a boat, and have a chat with them," Nathan said.

"Then you can ask what's going on and tell them they might want to head back into the flags.'

But Nathan also said things can go from zero to 100 very quickly in the surf.

"It doesn't take a lot for a sandbar to give out or a wave to hit someone on the head and they don't come back up," the 17-year-old said.

### "A few seconds"

Mark said it can take "literally a few seconds" before someone is in serious danger.

"I've done a rescue where there was a guy in his 20s who had a surfboard with the leash on his ankle," said Mark.

"He'd taken about a fourfooter (wave) on the head and he just got terribly scared and lifelong friends from it."

went into shock. So in that case, it was less than three seconds.

"I was on a board for that rescue, and when I got to him he actually couldn't move, so in that case it literally was a few seconds from when he was safe to when he was at risk of drowning.'

A significant number of other volunteers at WBSLSC also logged over 100 volunteer hours, and speaking to the strong volunteer culture at the club Nathan had a clear

"I personally think most people see it as a bit of a family down there, we like to spend time together and we like to learn and grow together," Nathan said.

"We do just enjoy each other's company, and I've made

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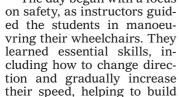
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Taj was all smiles during the wheelchair basketball session at OLSS.



inclusivity with physical chal-The day began with a focus

their confidence on the court. As the students became

Students experience wheelchair basketball more comfortable in their wheelchairs, the excitement ramped up with the introduction of the basketball. They practised dribbling and shooting while navigating the court, honing their coordination and teamwork skills.

The highlight of the day was the highly anticipated game of wheelchair basketball, where students showcased their newfound skills in friendly competition.

Overall, the event was a reounding success, leaving students with lasting memories and a greater appreciation for adaptive sports. The school community looks forward to more initiatives that promote inclusivity and active participation in various sports.



More photos at pisra.com.au/education



PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO ADVERTISER