

Marc Marquez took out his fourth win at Phillip Island in a thrilling finish to this year's MotoGP. Locals and fans flocked to the circuit to enjoy all the action, as the island buzzed with bikes across the weekend. Turn to page 24 for a race rundown, and pages 18 and 19 for other MotoGP action. Photo: Alia Schonberg.

### 'Acrimony and distrust": councillors farewell after four years

### COUNCIL

Councillors have taken thinlyveiled parting shots at their fellow councillors, pointing to "acrimony and distrust", at the final Bass Coast Shire council meeting ahead of local government elections this month.

Cr David Rooks, who is restanding, also gave his first comment into his 15-month role as manager at PICAL, since it was declared insolvent earlier this month following a decade of inaccurate payment of employees.

Obviously the recent news is quite upsetting," he said.

He said his previously undisclosed personal battle with stage four melanoma cancer and

the suicide of a family friend had "impacted" the early part of his council term.

Cr Ronnie Bauer, who is restanding, gave the harshest critique of the past four years, saying hope had transformed to acrimony and distrust on the back of councillor ideology and factionalism.

"It could have been the best of

times, but it became the worst of times," he said.

"From Machiavellian machinations of intrigue, to the gates of distrust and factionalism."

Cr Bauer said climate change, renewables and First Nations issues, especially "overreaching" motions on the Voice Referendum - as well as an "obsession with Passivhaus" - had taken

precedent over rates, roads and rubbish, including his failed motions to get weekly red bin collections summer.

While not naming Cr Rooks, he said that councillor's motion early in the council term had "attempted the dismantlement of democracy by eliminating question time".

Continued page 5



### Ron Bauer Island Ward, Bass Coast Shire

A vote for Ron is a vote for our island

- ☑ Build the sporting precinct and aquatic centre NOW 1  $\mathbf{\nabla}$ Collect the red bins weekly in Summer  $\checkmark$ Freeze the waste levy 3 ☑ Ensure responsible use of ratepayers money 5  $\checkmark$ Complete the existing bike paths before new ones
  - $\mathbf{\nabla}$ Preserve foreshore habitat, no bike path Cowes to Ventnor

IS A VOTE TO



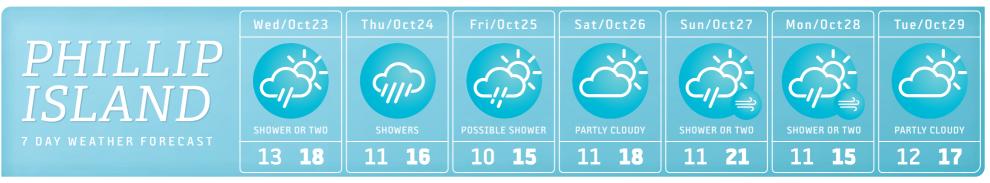
HOW TO VOTE

Voting for the island ward is as easy as 1,2,3 but remember to number every square.

PO Box 996 Cowes 3922 | Tel: 0419 654 151 | email: ronniebauer47@gmail.com

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work, and I pay my respects to elders past, present and emerging Authorized: Ron Bauer PO BOX 996 Cowes VIC 3922

#### THE ADVERTISER | Wednesday, October 23, 2024 2



# Blue line fever

#### ROADS

Residents have exploded on-line over the "embarrassing" remarking of the blue line that splits lanes on Phillip Island Road for major events such as the MotoGP.

According to online reports, a worker with a spray can was "walking out into traffic" to quickly spray the blue paint lines over the Friday and Saturday of the MotoGP.

Phillip Island Road is maintained by the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP), not Bass Coast Shire Council.

Online Facebook comments varied from heated outrage over the nature and timing of the work, to general bemusement and genuine concern for the worker's safety.

Christine said: "I saw this guy with a spray can walking out into the traffic to quickly spray the blue paint lines, then dodging back in. I was concerned for his safety. There were flashing lights, but no traffic control in sight. How does this happen? It's the Grand Prix!"

Kathy said: it was an "embarrassing way to welcome the world to the area."

Greg said: "I think the gentleman mentioned did a fine job. Call in a line marking crew (and) pay thousands on top of thousands to mark it. Then pay thousands on top of thousands to remove it. Whereas this approach will wear off in time." said: "International Kris



Residents have labelled the spray paint touch up of the blue line during the weekend's MotoGP as embarrassing.

event ... two workers walking the road with spray cans on a stick yesterday re-marking and this is the result. What an embarrassment."

Gary said: "All jokes aside he's done a good job, but to watch traffic and paint a line on your own is a bit dangerous."

Ken said: "Yep, we did have a chuckle at those 'lines' as we were heading off the island this morning."

Jessica jested: "What do you mean, it's the Aussie way: beer in one hand spray paint in the other.

#### Response

The Department of Transport and Planning said it worked closely with the council and event organisers to manage traffic flow and road safety throughout the MotoGP.

"Due to the wet weather, our team re-sprayed sections of the line marking to improve visibility and ensure tens of thousands of drivers remained safe over the weekend," a department spokesperson said.

They explained the blue line was deliberately designed to deteriorate outside of major events to avoid causing any confusion to drivers - particularly those not familiar with the area.

The blue line adds an additional lane of traffic for vehicles exiting Phillip Island by utilising the emergency lane, effectively doubling the capacity of the road.



The Block only has a few more weeks on TV screens, with an episode last week showing hosts Shelley Craft and Scott Cam at its Family Fun Fair challenge on the Cowes foreshore.

# The Block: recap

### **REALITY TV**

Missed The Block last week? Then you missed the Family

Fun Fair challenge on the Cowes foreshore.

The event was filmed in May and was open to the local community, with stalls, games, rides and entertainment.

The Wonthaggi Citizens Band performed on the foreshore while contestants' family and friends arrived on Phillip Island on a yacht.

Hosts Scott Cam and Shelley Craft enjoyed mingling with the local crowd before the families headed back to The Block.

The Block only has a few more weeks on TV screens.

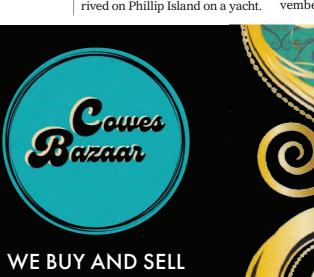
As reported last week The Block won't have a public open inspection because Justice Road has no parking and Phillip Island no public transport.

The auction will be filmed on November 9 and go to air on November 10.

### **RUSSELL BROADBENT**









nt MP, Inde lent Federal M

② 2/181 Franklin St, Traralgon VIC 3844 @ melina.bath@parliament.vic.gov.au <u>()</u> 5174 7066 (f) MelinaBathMLC

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# Jetty petition tabled in parliament

### NEWHAVEN JETTY

The petition to save the Newhaven Jetty was tabled in State Parliament last week by National's Member for Eastern Victoria Melina Bath. Petitions must be initially tabled, or presented, to parliament before they are able to be further debated.

The petition, which was spearheaded by San Remo resident and local fishing advocate Amanda Keilar, was signed by 3587 residents.

Earlier this month, it was revealed in documents obtained by the office of Melina Bath MP under Freedom of Information (FOI) that of three possible options, the decision to "do nothing" was made.

The other two options would have maintained partial access to the jetty, but the costing of repairs remains unclear.

"Reported costs to repair the Newhaven Jetty vary wildly with FOI documents quoting \$120,000, \$530,000, \$2.2 million then \$3 million plus – with the department even labelling the numbers as 'shaky' in its emails," Melina Bath MP said in a media release.

The National's member also said the FOI documents showed the Newhaven Jetty was second on an internal Parks Victoria priority list, but that funding was rejected in the 2024 budget.

"The jetty was second only to Brighton Pier, a public asset which received a whopping \$24 million for maintenance three years ago to maintain public access," Ms Bath MP said in the release.

"Labor deliberately omitted the jetty's investment priority status and has misrepresented its potential for repair from all public communications."

### Community campaign

Amanda Keilar, who spent countless hours with friends and other passion-



The petition to save the Newhaven Jetty was tabled in State Parliament last week by National's Member for Eastern Victoria Melina Bath. From left: Sarah Hughes, George Hughes, Amanda Keilar, Terry Hendrikx, Melina Bath, Peter Walsh.

ate local fishers petitioning for the jetty to be saved, said the community felt "abandoned" by the FOI findings.

"The whole time we were collecting signatures for our petition and asking to have (the jetty) repaired and reopened, it had already been rubber stamped and classified as permanently closed and not negotiable," said Amanda.

Amanda said the closure of the jetty has been a massive blow to the landbased fishing community, especially members with limited mobility.

"We're trying to encourage Victorians to get out for the mental health, get out in the fresh air, go for a fish or a walk on a jetty," Amanda said.

"Not everyone can fish off a beach. What about people in wheelchairs? To go down to a beach and fish, it's just not an option (for them).

"People are crying out for this sort of accessibility. "I hope after the petition is tabled and debated in parliament that our gov-

ernment comes to its senses and helps the local community and doesn't forget the people of regional Victoria."

A spokesperson for Melina Bath said the MP was looking forward to debating the petition in parliament on behalf of the signatories.

Jordan Crugnale MP, local member for Bass, said the jetty was still being prioritised and did not rule out future funding for the public asset.

"This jetty will continue to be prioritised under the Sustainable Local Ports Framework for future investment.

"Engineering assessments revealed structural failures of the jetty meaning it is not safe to access.

"We know maritime facilities deteriorate over time, which is why staff monitor the condition of assets as part of routine patrols and arrange detailed engineering inspections when required.

Ms Crugnale MP said the government understood the important role the jetty played in the local community for recreation, including fishing and walking.



Bass Coast Shire Council's annual fee-free green waste disposal period will run from Saturday November 2 to Sunday November 24 to encourage preparation for the fire season.

# Get ready for summer with fee-free green waste disposal

### WASTE

Bass Coast Shire Council's annual fee-free green waste disposal period will run from Saturday November 2 to Sunday November 24 to encourage preparation for the fire season.

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

Now is the perfect time for property owners and residents to clear their land of bushfire hazards before summer. Bushfire hazards include fuel like leaf litter, plants, and other debris. If left to build up, these materials can feed a fire and make it more dangerous.

With the first weekend of the disposal period coinciding with the Melbourne Cup weekend and waste facilities remaining open on Melbourne Cup Day, Council has advised high demand may lead to queues and delays, particularly on this first weekend.

"Disposing of your green waste in the middle of the fee-free period may help you avoid delays," a council spokesperson said.

"To ensure the safety of our staff and community during this busy period, Cowes Recycling Bank will be introducing a booking system for the first time.

"Those dropping off green waste must book a free 15-minute time slot. Bookings are not required for Grantville, Wonthaggi or Inverloch."

### Those visiting Cowes Recycling Bank should also note:

- Large trucks and trailers (over 8' x 5') are not accepted and will be redirected to Grantville Transfer Station during the fee-free green waste period.
- Cowes Recycling Bank has a new entry point. Please follow the 'Entry' and 'Exit' signs.
- Entry for fee-free green waste disposal is via The Concourse end of Dunsmore Road, not the Settlement Road end, to help manage traffic.
- Weed species including blackberry, English ivy, agapanthus, mirror bush and plants that cannot be mulched such as palm fronds are not accepted as green waste at any council locations, however these can go in your kerbside Organics (green lid) bin at any time.

To book your drop-off time at Cowes Recycling Bank or learn what's accepted, locations, and hours of Council's Waste Facilities, visit www.basscoast.vic.gov. au/greenwaste / Sponsored article /

# Fee-Free Green WasteBASS<br/>COAST2 November to 24 November 2024

Council offers a fee-free green waste disposal period each year to encourage preparation for the fire season.

Residents and ratepayers can dispose of green waste free of charge at any of Council's Waste Facilities in Cowes, Grantville, Inverloch and Wonthaggi.

**Please note**: weeds and species that are difficult to mulch such as palm fronds and yuccas are not accepted. Large tree limbs and stumps only accepted at Grantville.

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### Bookings required for Cowes Recycling Bank

To minimise queues and waiting times, this year Cowes Recycling Bank is introducing an online booking system. Scan the QR code or visit www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/greenwaste to book.

### Trucks or trailers larger than 8'x5' not accepted at Cowes



Large vehicles will be redirected to Grantville.

Visit www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/greenwaste for more information or contact Council on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211.



## Councillor costs, borrowings bite the bottom line

### COUNCIL

The cost of maintaining Bass Coast Shire's councillors increased significantly in the past year, while loan repayments on borrowings also rose, according to the 2023/24 annual report.

Councillors - who are currently in caretaker mode ahead of this month's elections – at last week's October meeting voted to support the annual report, which underscored increasing costs across a number of areas. The cost of elected representation per councillor increased from \$50,333 in 22/23 to \$54,737 in 23/24.

Councillor allowances rose to \$381,000 (up from \$360,000 the year before), with the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal responsible for setting councillor allowances.

"Council expenses increased in 2023/24 due to the expenses incurred for the recruitment of a new CEO," the report states, referring to the appointment of CEO Greg Box in January. During 2023/24 total loan repayments (principal and interest) of \$9.7 million were made by the shire, which also borrowed an additional \$12.6 million.

This resulted in an overall net increase in debt of \$3.7 million.

According to the report, the shire's current level of borrowings – \$24.2 million or 32 per cent of rates revenue – is low risk and "means we have no immediate issue with repaying our liabilities when they fall due"

However, the shire has a "medium risk" for financing capital works from internally generated cash. Total employee costs in 2024 are \$35.2 million, compared to \$33 million in 2023, with the CEO in the \$320,000 - \$329,999 band for 2023.

Consultant fees rose from \$3 million in 2023 to \$3.3 million this year.

The report states the 4.4 per cent increase in kerbside garbage - and 0.6 per cent increase in recycling - collection costs was mainly due to inflation.

The details of the expenses including reimbursement of expenses for each Councillor paid by Bass Coast Shire Council during the current term to 30 June 2024 are set out in the following table.

				Number of Committees Cr sits on							
Councillor	Travel Expenses	Other Expenses	Professional Development	2020- 2021	2021- 2022	2022- 2023	2023- Present	Total Expenses			
Cr Clare Le Serve (Mayor 231115 - present)	24,836.56	6,494.99	4,114.13	5	5	4	7	35,445.68			
Cr Michael Whelan (Mayor 211117 - present)	52,721.77	11,804.57	8,555.80	8	9	8	3	73,082.14			
Cr Brett Tessari (Mayor 201115 - 211117)	19,528.62	7,597.28	7,742.41	8	4	3	1	34,868.31			
Cr Leticia Laing (Deputy Mayor 211117 - 221116)	10,562.49	8,738.22	10,153.99	5 10		5	2	29,454.70			
Cr Rochelle Halstead (Deputy Mayor 221116 - present)	22,824.96	6,702.75	15,376.86	3	5	4	4	44,904.57			
Cr David Rooks	10,774.26	5,933.21	10,326.05	5 5		5	2	27,033.52			
Cr Les Larke	1,389.24	5,118.38	712.50	1	1 -		41	7,220.12			
Cr Ron Bauer	584,50	6,034.76	712.50	2	3	1	1.5.1	7,331.76			
Cr Geoff Ellis (sworn in as Councillor 230814)	2,504.33	697.13	-	2	-	1	2	3,201.46			
Cr Bruce Kent (resigned as Councillor 230807)	6,011.08	4,713.73	-	3	3	2	4	10,724.81			
Total	151,737.81	63,835.02	57,694.24	40	44	32	21	273,267.07			

This table shows expenses for each councillor paid by Bass Coast Shire Council during the current term, up to June 30, 2024, as well as the number of committees each takes part in. Retiring councillor and former mayor Michael Whelan clocked up more than \$52,000 in travel expenses.

The cost of animal management service per head of population increased from \$8.63 last year to \$11.95 this year, due to an increase in officers' patrolling.

Cr Rochelle Halstead said there would "always be commentary around the achievements or lack of".

"That's what is so good about living in a democratic society, everyone has a view and is encouraged to share it," she said.

"Did we get everything right? I guess it comes down to perspective and again this is individual."

Cr Halstead encouraged residents to take part in community consultation on the new council plan next year, and "ensure it reflects what the community desires for the next four years are".

#### Transparency

During 2023/24, 10 of 105 decisions were considered at closed meetings of council.

By contrast, five of 183 decisions were considered at closed meetings in 2022/23. Closed decisions include personnel and contractual matters.

The community satisfaction rating for the shire's consultation and engagement decreased by two points from the previous year and is on par with other large rural councils.

In 2023/24, there were 101 councillor attendances at 12 council meetings, an increase on the previous year of 95 councillor attendances. Cr Ronnie Bauer missed the most meetings with an attendance of nine, while all other councillors attended 11 or 12.

Of the 468 planning applications in the past year, there were 22 VCAT decisions, with 20 council decisions upheld and just two set aside.

The shire's total operating expenses for 2023/24 were \$103.7 million, compared with \$96.4 million the previous year.

The capital works program saw 154 projects at a cost of \$38.14 million and the report states a "by-product" of capital works growth is a higher renewal gap ratio "significantly above the recommended level that funds asset depreciation.

The budget's operating surplus of \$20.6 million was above the predicted \$5.2 million, thanks in large part to \$16 million in unbudgeted developer contributed infrastructure assets.

However, the adjusted underlying result is a deficit of \$11.7 million, because of a delay in \$8 million in Federal Government grants.

### Food, dogs

The shire investigated 20 food complaints.

There were only 28 food safety assessments of food premises, significantly lower than past years due to a change in regulations that resulted in the majority of class two food premises being exempt from requiring assessment.

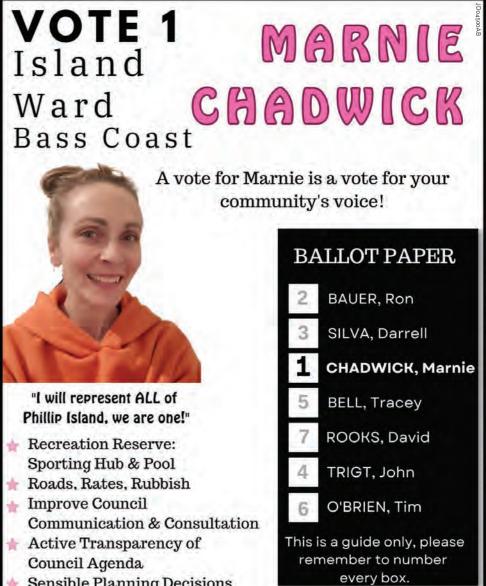
There were eight non-compliance notifications of food premises and all were followed up with an inspection.

In the past year there were 274 animals collected and 140 reclaimed by their owner, compared to the previous year when 470 animals were collected and 104 reclaimed.

Of the 134 unclaimed animals collected, 99 were rehomed.

"This figure is lower than in 2022/23. Implications of changing attitudes towards pet ownership post the Covid-19 pandemic could be an explanation for this data shift," the report states.

All 10 animal management prosecutions were successful.



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Authorised by Marnie Chadwick, PO Box 4076, Cowes 3922 | marnbermegmail.com

## Barking up the wrong "Acrimony and distrust": councillors farewell after four years tree on dog park

### COUNCIL

Dog owners were left scratching their heads last week after Bass Coast Shire stated a dog park strategy was 100 per cent complete, despite no one sighting it.

Councillors at the October meeting voted in support of the quarterly performance report for April to June, which stated "develop a dog park strategy" had been achieved, with "no further action required".

"A draft strategy has been developed," the performance report states.

"It focuses on expanding and improving designated dog areas, promoting responsible pet ownership, balancing environmental protection with recreational needs, and includes a comprehensive framework for inland dog parks."

A shire spokesperson later explained the draft dog park strategy was "on hold due to election (caretaker) period but will go out for consultation later this year".

Cr David Rooks questioned shire officers about the dog park strategy being 100 per cent complete.

A shire officer responded they had created a draft strategy, which examined where parks would be located and different styles of dog parks.

Cr Rooks then said the research component was 100 per cent complete, and it would be released for public consultation "in the near future".

Cr Rochelle Halstead also questioned the completion of the dog park strategy.

"I know there's a huge drive from the community

**INFRASTRUCTURE** 



A draft dog park strategy is listed as complete by Bass Coast Shire, but dog owners are yet to see it. Photo: Lorey Bree Photography.

to have these spaces. I'm of its expanded capital hoping this strategy won't restrain the ability to introduce these spaces," she said.

The performance report gives an overview of 25 activities, of which 19 have been 100 per cent completed, including 24/7 cat containment, detailed designs for Cowes' streetscapes master plan, and continuing the multiyear San Remo town plan.

The shire's transport strategy is 60 per cent complete, with the final strategy to be released early next year, while the delivery of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and the purchase of EVs for Council's fleet is 75 per cent complete.

### Finances

Concerningly, the performance report states the internal financing metric is rated as high risk according to the Victorian Auditor General.

"This reflects council's success in obtaining significant external funding to support the delivery

Mussel Rocks West stairs to be upgraded

works program," the report states.

The adjusted underlying deficit is also rated as high risk "largely due" to the delayed receipt of Federal Government grants.

Overall council's financial position is "secure", 'underpinned by responsible financial management notwithstanding a challenging financial environment"

The performance report has an extensive list of activities from the 2023/24 financial year that have been budget carried over into 2024/25, such as the shopfront improvement program and BMX pump track strategy.

Cr Leticia Laing said council had followed the five pillars of the council plan, which included environment and a healthy community.

She criticised the rate cap, which was not keeping pace with inflation, saying it made it "hard to deliver" projects and the next council would have to find efficiencies.

#### From page 1

Cr Bauer also pointed at his own failings in moving a motion to create a new category for the Nobel Prize.

"From prioritising cars going down Thompson Avenue one way, to not rezoning the sports grounds at the Hilton Chadwick Reserve in Cowes," he said, adding other issues had been traffic and car parking problems and the sidelining of the car ferry.

Cr Rochelle Halstead, who is re-standing for Western Port Ward, took a more practical approach, opening her speech by saying the sustainability of local government concerned her, especially the rate cap not keeping up with inflation, and State Government cost shifting to local government.

"(Also) a desire for big wish nice-to-have items taking centre stage over the basic less sexy but most needed projects and/ or services," she said.

Cr Halstead said state and federal governments needed to step up to support environmental problems, "with this council having punched way above their weight in this space, often sacrificing more traditional projects to rightly fund and assist our communities feeling the direct impacts".

"There is a need for less



Happier days: Back in 2020, at the start of Covid, Island Ward councillors, from left, Ronnie Bauer, Michael Whelan and David Rooks, were sworn in. A new round of councillors will be announced in November.

reports, more action and decision making at other levels of government who should back it up with funding," she said.

She agreed with Cr Bauer, saying she was "disappointed" the council chamber had "at times been used to further the political agenda of those issues better left to other levels of government".

"I hope those who follow us will respect their role and leave the party politics for others.

"I do believe the balance is slightly out of kilter but as with every democracy, this is a numbers game and although at times not agreeing with them, respecting the numbers is part of the role."

Cr Leticia Laing, who is re-standing in Bunurong Ward, said disagreements had kept her "inspired" in council work.

Cr Les Larke, who is re-standing in Bunurong had "fond memories".

Retiring Cr Michael Whelan, who retired at the meeting after eight years on council, reflected on time working with three CEOs, and three mayors, starting with Pam Rothfield, Brett Tessari

Ward, gave no comment.

and Clare Le Serve. Cr Whelan, also a former mayor, concluded progress was only achievable by working with the majority of councillor col-

leagues. Čr Geoff Ellis retired after eight years in council and said personal highlights included progress on First Nations issues and the environment, and the battle against homophobia, biphobia, intersexism and transphobia (IDAHOBIT).

Mayor Clare Le Serve only gave a brief comment retiring after her 12 years with council, saying she



### The needs I have heard from you, the ratepayers: **BUILDING COMMUNITY**

### Progress Sports Complex

- Commonsense Capital Works

Bass Coast Shire Council has advised work will start on Monday October 21 (subject to weather) on a project to upgrade the stairs at

Mussel Rocks West beach. "These works have been scheduled to start after the busy MotoGP end and be ready in weel plenty of time for the sun and beach season," said a council spokesperson. Council said the work includes a new handrail and part of the stairs will be removed and replaced. "The stairs are well used and for the safety of residents and visitors are in need of an upgrade." For safety reasons, the stairs and immediate surrounding areas will be fenced off for the duration of the work. The project is expected to take between one and two weeks.



An alternate beach access point is Cowes Yacht Work will begin on October 21 (subject to weather) to upgrade the stairs at Mussel Rocks West. Alternative beach access is available at the Cowes Yacht Club beach.

Club Beach Access Point (see map below.)

"This project and all of our Capital Works Projects for the 2024/25 financial vear can be viewed on Engage Bass Coast - engage. basscoast.vic.gov.au," said the spokesperson.

"As with all construction projects, work is al-

ways subject to weather. While our team do our best to mitigate these, potential supply of material issues and contractor availability can also impact delivery times. Thank you for your patience.

"Any schedule updates will be available on Engage Bass Coast."

### PRESERVING COMMUNITY

- Shoreline Erosion Strategy
- Maintenance of road and footpath assets

### **IMPROVING COMMUNITY**

- Phillip Island Parking Strategy
- Holiday Waste Management

My skills and experience in finance and negotiation with government officials and corporations will be a valuable asset for ratepayers and Council alike.

Authorised by Darrell Silva, P.O. Box 996, Cowes 3922 dsilvaforbasscoast@gmail.com

# Surprise resignation: CEO steps down after stellar innings

### HEALTH

Last week, Bass Coast Health (BCH) announced that long-serving CEO Jan Child had resigned, effective immediately.

Eight years into her tenure, Ms Child had already confirmed her current contract, which had almost two years left to run, was her last.

In the short announcement, there was no indication why the successful CEO made the decision not to see out her contract.

During her time at BCH, Ms Child had overseen massive changes to the health service, including expansion of the Wonthaggi Hospital to include a new Emergency Department, new theatres and ward, and the establishment of the L Rigby Cancer Centre.

She had also helped secure funding for Stage Two of the hospital redevelopment, which will see new wards, a delivery complex and outpatient clinic.

Under her leadership, an urgent care centre was established in Cowes, and a new community hospital is due to open its doors in 2025.

In January this year, Jan Child received the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM), for her service to community health.

Before becoming CEO of Bass Coast Health, Ms Child was a registered nurse, and surveyor on the Australian Council of Healthcare Services, and held a range of roles within the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services, including at Peninsula Health, Alfred Health, Community Health and various alcohol and drug agencies.

She said she had one career goal during her nursing career "which was to make a difference", and spent over 43 years in



Last week, Bass Coast Health (BCH) announced that long-serving CEO Jan Child had resigned, effective immediately.

the public health system.

Speaking after accepting her award, she said that while they "don't always get it right", the people working in the public health system "are in my view, extraordinary people who come to work to do their best".

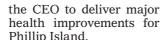
She also said she felt lucky to have been appointed Bass Coast Health CEO and had been "privileged to work with such an amazing group of people".

#### Phillip Island

Despite her impressive list of achievements, her time at the top was not without conflict and criticism.

An early adversarial relationship with the Phillip Island Medical and Health Action Group (PIMHAG) – when she initially rejected their calls for an urgent care centre on the island – grew into a productive partnership.

In the early years, the group was critical of the lack of engagement with the local community on health services, however now they work alongside



In September Ms Child joined with PIMHAG to call for improved mental health services for the area.

At the PIMHAG Mental Health Awareness forum, Ms Child talked about the department's original opposition to a community hospital and praised PIM-HAG for "advocating for what is right for the community".

During the recent government review of health services in Victoria, PIM-HAG supported Ms Child's desire for BCH to be part of the Bayside Local Health Services Network, rather than the suggested Gippsland network.

"PIMHAG was shocked, surprised and disappointed that Jan Child resigned last Friday," said President Peter Paul.

"It was totally unexpected as we have had numerous contacts with Jan over the past month relating to the Phillip Island Community Hospital and Victorian Government



Jan Child with Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale, who praised the former CEO for her "professionalism, friendship, wise counsel".

hospital restructure." best fo

Peter said Ms Child was to have been the guest speaker at PIMHAG's upcoming AGM on Thursday October 31.

"Jan was delighted to be our guest speaker and was an important part of the recent Mental Health Forum and future planning.

"Jan invested an enormous amount of time, energy, and direction of the Community Hospital, ensuring it was on track and ready for an expected opening in June next year," Peter continued.

"Like PIMHAG Jan was totally committed to the Phillip Island Community Hospital and community. Our relationship was genuinely welcoming, respectful and trusting.

"Jan's replacement has enormous shoes to fill. PIMHAG will certainly recognise Jan's contribution to our Community Hospital."

#### Tributes

Bass Coast Shire Council CEO Greg Box said he wished Ms Child all the best for the future.

"I'd like to congratulate Jan on a successful eightyear tenure as CEO of Bass Coast Health.

"Jan has been a fierce advocate for our communities right across Bass Coast and her leadership through the challenges of the COV-ID-19 pandemic was admirable," Mr Box said.

"I regularly met with Jan on important issues for our region and I have really valued her experience and advice as a leader.

"Jan has left a legacy in Bass Coast and our community will be forever grateful for her persistence and commitment."

Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale also paid tribute to Ms Child's achievements.

"Jan Child has achieved an enormous amount and at times under difficult and challenging circumstances and I thank her for service to our community," Ms Crugnale said, also praising her contribution to the broader health sector. professionalism, friendship, wise counsel over our eight years, and her leadership which at the heart is to make sure we have the services, support and care closer to home.

"She has positively enmeshed herself in our community from fundraisers, information roadshows, meeting community groups, speaking at forums," continued Ms Crugnale.

"The upgrade of the Wonthaggi Hospital achieved within the context of Covid restrictions and shortages of materials and labour and no guiding blueprint is an achievement in itself.

"Not only has the Wonthaggi Hospital benefited from her experience, commitment, leadership and care but she has also seen the expansion of facilities at Phillip Island, with the Health Hub and its urgent care centre and now the transformation into a Community Hospital set to open next year."

Ms Crugnale said Jan Child's dedication to the field of health and education was evident in the placements offered to undergraduate nursing, midwifery, medical and allied health students, the training of local students, the visiting specialists, the MOU's with the likes of Alfred Health and Peninsula Health.

"Our pathways for care and treatment are there and I will continue to ensure the local health network formed consolidates this partnership as is the want of our health workers and community.

"At the heart is community, at the heart is the 1000+ team she has led, at the heart is to keep us well.

is praising her contribun to the broader health of her contribution to our ctor. "I thank her also her team."



Cowes toilets: council progress update

tiles will be underway; spokesperson said.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

The contractor completing the Cowes foreshore toilet waterproofing has handrails will be reinstated; and internal painting of the toilet block will start after water proofing

"The slab needs to be as
dry as possible to perform
these works. Temperature
and predicted rainfall had

Jan Child with PIMHAG president Peter Paul and Dr Howard McCormick at the Mental Health Awareness Forum in September. said, weather permitting, they are "confident" the works will be completed by the first week of December, according to a council spokesperson.

On Monday October 21 a temporary toilet block was scheduled to be placed behind the Cowes Rotunda, with other temporary facilities put in place over the MotoGP weekend.

Following the MotoGP, the contractor has said: grinding and filling of the slab will continue; waterproofing membrane will be completed, and paving

is completed.

The Bass Coast Shire Council faced intense criticism over the timing of the foreshore toilet waterproofing, but as a council spokesperson explained the works could not be completed over winter due to the rain.

"The scheduling of this project was deliberate to both allow the works to be completed during the best weather while balancing community need for the toilet to be open during the peak summer season (late December 2024 to January 2025)," a council to be taken into account and therefore this work could not be completed during winter months due to frequent rainfall and the resulting damp conditions.

"These works are to prevent the unplanned closure of the toilets after rain that has occurred frequently over recent years."

A council spokesperson also said they have been "working through what is required for the Cowes Jetty Shed and deck to make it safe, and will be able to provide an update next week".

# Jan Child: Achievements and concerns

#### HEALTH

After the unexpected resignation of Bass Coast Health CEO on Friday, the career of Jan Child has received plaudits and some criticism, including a dispute with surgeons.

In early 2023, a number of Melbourne-based surgeons who had operated privately and publicly in the area for decades, left citing issues with management at the hospital.

Surgeons, including in urology, plastic surgery and orthopedics, as well as anaesthetics, stopped operating at Wonthaggi Hospital and offering consultation in rooms there, allegedly because of Bass Coast Health's (BCH) new focus on salaried staff and contractual arrangements.

At the time a source told the Advertiser they were concerned there was now not the same level of competency or skill as offered by previous surgeons.

One surgeon said he had worked at Wonthaggi Hospital for 20 years but finished after BCH initiated rules and contract changes "completely different to the rest of Australia", which he would not sign.

However Ms Child defended the hospital's approach saying it was in line with the Victorian Elective Surgery access policy, which set out business rules around managing elective surgery in the public health system.

She said meetings had been held with individual specialists with expectations outlined in writing.

"Specialists were invited to continue surgery at BCH, on the proviso that they provide a mix of public and private clinics, and that their contractual arrangements be modified to bring it in



Jan Child has been praised for her handling of the COVID-19 pandemic.

line with the DH requirements, and the Medical Specialists Enterprise Agreement 2018-2021."

### Covid

The Covid outbreak in 2020 saw Bass Coast Health set up community vaccination clinics and testing sites across the shire.

Ms Child took on a highprofile role, urging people to be tested and vaccinated.

When Phillip Island was identified as a potential infection site in July 2021, drive through testing sites were set up in Cowes and San Remo, with many waiting for hours in the queue to be tested.

Ms Child was seen walking the long line of cars explaining the delay to each driver, supporting the frontline workers who were struggling to cope with the demand.

Throughout her career, Ms Child repeatedly praised the work of her team, particularly during in Covid and when the PCR testing sites closed in December 2022.

"Our staff worked long, hard hours in personal protective equipment in hot conditions to help minimise the impact of the Covid pandemic locally, helping to detect Covid before infected people moved within our community, unaware they were spreading the virus.

"By the time our BCH Covid testing teams concluded, they had conducted 68,554 COVID-19 tests at Wonthaggi, Cowes and pop-up sites at Bass and San Remo."

Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale said long after the impact of the pandemic fades from memory, Ms Child's contribution will remain.

She said Ms Child's focus was doing everything needed to keep the community safe, "from the sudden enormity of the chaotic change thrust on our health systems to the detailed infrastructure required for testing sites, monitoring and vaccination supply chains".

### Facilities

As CEO, Ms Child oversaw the biggest expansion of services in Bass Coast Health's history.

The new Emergency Depart-

ment at Wonthaggi Hospital opened in early 2023, stage one (\$115 million) of a multi-stage redevelopment of the hospital.

The new extension includes an 18-cubicle emergency department, 32 new inpatient beds and three new theatres and a procedure room.

The State Government has committed \$290 million to stage two of the redevelopment which is due to be completed in 2027. Stage two includes two new wards, new labour and delivery complex and outpatient clinic.

Phillip Island's new community hospital, due to open early 2025, will include an expanded urgent care centre, day surgery theatres, radiology precinct and an area for chemotherapy and dialysis. It will also offer mental health services, allied health and rehabilitation and pharmacy services.

The existing urgent care centre will be transformed into a public dental treatment area.

Ms Crugnale said Jan Child had left the community with an indelible list of achievements.

"From new builds including the L Rigby Cancer Centre, Phillip Island Community Hospital, to the major expansion of Wonthaggi Hospital, a refurbished Armitage House, maternity suites and an expanded service which sees specialists coming to our area to support, treat and follow up care.

"Her vision for a redevelopment of Griffith Point Lodge, a move to a level 4 Maternity, better mental health supports, Wonthaggi Hospital Stage 2, her strategic and services plan and more – she works as a collective and honours her team and everyone that works at the service at every turn."

# Bass Coast Health farewells CEO Jan Child

### HEALTH

Bass Coast Health's Board of Directors announced the resignation of CEO Jan Child in a media statement last week.

The board said during Jan's eight year tenure, she was instrumental in driving the growth and success of Bass Coast Health as a sub-regional health service.

In a media statement, the board said, "Jan has overseen major milestones, including significant infrastructure proj-



### Hall committee volunteers "over-burdened"

### COUNCIL

Community hall committees face losing much-needed volunteers under more stringent governance guidelines, a Bass Coast Shire councillor has warned.

Councillors at the October meeting voted in support of the annual report of Community Asset Committees (CAC), which were established by council in July 2020 as a requirement under the Local Government Act to manage community assets on behalf of council.

There are 10 Bass Coast



There is concern volunteers of committees that manage community assets, including halls like Rhyll, are quitting because of being swamped by

ects such as the redevelopment of Wonthaggi Hospital, establishing an urgent care centre at Cowes, the building of the L Rigby Cancer Centre at Wonthaggi, and the forthcoming Phillip Island Community Hospital".

Under Jan's leadership, BCH's community have been able to access more services closer to home, BCH Board Chair Ian Thompson said.

"Informed by patient and community needs, Jan has secured important clinical partnerships, and introduced a range of new services and improved pathways of care," he said.

"BCH is a vibrant sub-re-



Jan Child was instrumental in driving the growth and success of Bass Coast Health as a sub-regional health service during her eight-year tenure as CEO.

gional health service and has experienced growth in its staff and volunteers, increased its activity levels and actively engaged and connected with its community.

"On behalf of the Board, I want to thank Jan for her dedication and drive to improving health outcomes for our community. She leaves BCH with all

our best wishes for her future. "In the short term, Bass Coast Health Board has appointed long-serving executive Shaun Brooks to the Acting CEO role. We thank Shaun for stepping into the role, effective immediately, to provide our staff and patients with continuity ahead of a formal recruitment process." Hall and Rhyll Hall and reserve.

Cr Rochelle Halstead asked shire officers why four community asset committees had resigned in the past year, including the Newhaven Hall and Corinella Hall committees.

An officer responded the reasons were varied, with some having difficulties recruiting volunteers, while others had difficulties with new governance requirements.

The officer said committees each received varying funds from council, as well as various maintenance and guidance help from council.

"I have concerns about community asset committees bebureaucracy.

cause we've seen so many resign after changes to the governance around them," Cr Halstead said.

"A new council will consider this. It does need to be monitored. Getting volunteers to volunteer these days is a difficult thing.

"I wouldn't like the changes to governance to impact further on people wishing to volunteer, because it's too regulated and too many hoops they have to jump through."

Cr Geoff Ellis agreed saying "we need to do whatever we can to encourage people to sign up for those committees" and "we don't want to overburden them".

# Peak groups unite to fight

### **PLANNING**

In an historic first, the Phillip Island Conservation Society (PICS) has joined with local group Island Voice to oppose the expansion of town boundaries across the island and San Remo.

The two groups - who have not always been like-minded last week released a joint statement ahead of this month's Bass Coast Shire council election, also sending a clear message to the State Government ahead of its soon-to-be-finalised Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) project.

"Both organisations are deeply concerned about town boundaries," the statement explains.

"They can no longer be sliced and diced without a permanent negative impact."

The groups called for definitive statements from all council candidates on their position to town boundaries (see separate article), arguing Phillip Island was at a critical juncture.

Island Voice president Peter Paul and PICS president Greg Johnson agreed successful Island Ward candidates must work together to scrap the shire's controversial Bass Coast Unlocking Rural Tourism strategy (BURT), and put a halt to rapidly accelerating growth.

"We want to keep the island as unique, an icon for Victoria and Australia, and not kill the golden goose," Mr Paul said.

"Greg and I on behalf of PICS

and Island Voice agree Phillip Island has reached a tipping point, in terms of permanent population, tourism and developments already approved.

"By many measures we are already regularly exceeding our infrastructure's carrying capacity."

Both groups say that Phillip Island is feeling the squeeze now, even before major developments have been opened or started, including the hot springs, the Isle of Wight development, a planned five-storey hotel next to Berninneit and a new distillery at Rhyll.

Mr Paul said unlike in any other area of Bass Coast, there was just one road in and one road out.

"Even if you double that, you just have different points where you're cramming and jamming. That doesn't give you any more fluidity in moving traffic."

### BURT

The two groups are also united in their opposition to the shire's Bass Coast Unlocking Rural Tourism strategy (BURT), which makes way for rural land to be rezoned for tourism developments.

As reported, in September a public meeting organised by farmers and PICS voted for the shire to scrap BURT, because they say it will damage the environment and lead to overdevelopment outside town boundaries.

BURT was passed by council in March 2023, but farmers and conservationists were alarmed by its full impact after the Vic-



Two of Phillip Island's peak community groups say the island has the highest population of any single area in Bass Coast, is responsible for hosting the greater part of the area's 3.1 million annual tourists, but has only 11 per cent of the land mass.

torian Planning Minister intervened to approve the Vietnam Veterans Museum at Newhaven (rejecting a previous VCAT decision), citing BURT as "effectively identifying all of Phillip Island as being suitable for tourism uses".

Mr Paul said BURT had now been discredited and must be "scrapped".

"BURT could be a run-away train, horrendous, threatening to encroach on town boundaries," he said.

Mr Johnson agreed, saying a "small island arguably already over-developed" did not have enough redundant rural land to give for tourism.

"Phillip Island's environment and landscape is what makes it so special. It is central to the visitor economy," he said.

### As reported this month, the State Government again extended the

DAL

deadline for finalising the DAL, after first declaring Bass Coast a DAL in 2019, aiming to lock in town boundaries, and tighten planning controls to protect significant landscapes.

But the DAL's final hurdle, the Statement of Planning Policy (SPP), which must first be endorsed, was expected last year but was extended to October this vear.

Now the draft – as well as publicly-available details - are expected to be finalised by next month (November), with the final public SPP expected in April

PICS and Island Voice said the delays to the DAL had be-

come "farcical", but agreed now was the time for successful candidates and residents to send a clear message to the State Government about the need to lock in all town boundaries.

They added they were prepared to protest if the government allowed expansion, including at the controversial Ventnor West land (see separate article).

They said there should be a study of the island's carrying capacity and a cap on growth, with more development off-island across Bass Coast and South Gippsland to "spread the load".

We have the highest population of any single area in Bass Coast, responsible for the greater part of the area's 3.1 million annual tourists, but 11 per cent of the land mass."



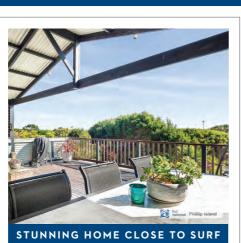
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### Town boundaries in the spotlight

### **PLANNING**

Developers will be keeping a close eye on the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) project when it is finally released, hoping to get the green light for vast new housing developments at Cape Woolamai, Newhaven West, Smiths Beach, Ventnor and San Remo.

The Planning and Environment Amendment (Distinctive Areas and Landscapes) Act 2018 established a new benchmark to guard against inappropriate development in sensitive areas across Victoria and safeguards their unique features for future generations.

But instead, long-term planning observers described last year's DAL planning panel hearing as a developers' "picnic" and a "forum to expand town boundaries", with proposals including:

- The 48ha Phillip Island airfield site (owned by Glen Waverley Real Estate);
- 34ha adjoining Smiths Beach to the east of the current hamlet: "in our view it is a logical inclusion within the Smiths Beach settlement boundary", according to the lawyers representing the developer;
- Lawyers for landowners from Potters Hill Road to Punchbowl Road argued this area should be included in the proposed town boundaries, including land owned by the Chinese-backed Springway Corporate Group;
- The controversial 24-hectare land (also owned by Springway Corporate Group) in Ventnor is also proposed for subdivision under the DAL. A decade ago the land embroiled former state



Ventnor town boundaries could be opened to allow housing development on this 24-hectare site, along with land at Smiths Beach, Cape Woolamai, Newhaven West and San Remo, under the soon-to-be-finalised Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) project.

Liberal leader Matthew Guy in an imbroglio that resulted in a confidential taxpayer funded settlement against the state said to be worth \$3 million;

• The town boundary for Newhaven currently ends at Boys Home Road, but landowners are seeking to rezone for future subdivision their land behind Panny Letchumanan's Chocolate Factory down to the water's edge overlooking Churchill Island, to be called Newhaven West.

In February councillors voted on a submission, supplied by the Department of Planning, which provides new landscape details suggesting Ventnor and San Remo in particular could be expanded.

Under the new details, San Remo looks set to almost double in size, extended through to Punchbowl Road; and the government could potentially recommend expansion for Ventnor West.

Local residents were shocked by Bass Coast Shire's own submission to the DAL planning panel last year, which said while protected settlement boundaries were supported for Cowes, Silverleaves, Newhaven, San Remo and Grantville, further strategic work was needed.

A planning lawyer representing the shire council at the hearings said while the shire recognised the importance of the DAL and largely agreed with the proposed protected town boundaries, larger settlements such as Cowes "is where the shire differed to the proposed boundaries".

He said it was "premature" to lock in protected settlements without further planning work.

"In essence, we're not saying we're against it, it's about timing," the shire's lawyer said.

"There are locations where more work needs to be done. It's about providing for adequate growth, needing to manage landscape ecology, issues around coastal inundation and erosion. So it's a balancing act that needs to be achieved ... then settlement boundaries can be locked in in a more permanent way."

# Candidates unite in opposing boundary expansion

### **PLANNING**

Following the joint statement by the Phillip Island Conservation Society and Island Voice, Island Ward election candidates were asked to give a definitive statement on whether they support town boundaries remaining where they are currently defined.

All seven gave support, some with caveats.

- Tracey Bell: Yes I support the town boundaries staying where they are. We are already on the map as an eco-tourism destination and we should be building on that. If the DAL can lock down the town boundaries and the BURT be rescinded, for large scale developments in particular, then we have half a chance of protecting the ecosystems and wildlife that make this island so precious
- Marnie Chadwick: Yes, I wholeheartedly support maintaining Phillip Island's town boundaries. They are essential to Phillip Island's future.
- John Trigt: I fully support the town and hamlet boundaries. Any change in the town boundaries will affect Phillip Island environmentally and its wildlife.

• Tim O'Brien: Yes, town boundaries must be "do-not-cross" hard red lines. Developers and their proponents who seek to change this do not recognise one simple inescapable fact: Phillip Island is an enclosed cul-de-sac; you cannot keep pouring in cars and houses without destroying its character, without damage to the environment and without risking year-round gridlock. Darrell Silva: Yes I support the current town boundaries remaining in place. The delay to the DAL creates planning uncertainty for the many parties involved. The attraction of Phillip Island is the rural aspect in proximity to the coast, and this aspect should be maintained.

- Ron Bauer: Yes I support maintaining the town boundaries. However be careful what we wish for. We could end up with the "Monaco principle". If we don't go outwards eventually the only thing we can do is go up and end up like the Gold Coast.
- David Rooks: My platform is to maintain our town boundaries to protect our rural environment.





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# **Celebrating 150 years of education**

### **COWES PRIMARY SCHOOL**

This year, Cowes Primary School proudly commemorates a remarkable 150 years of educational excellence since its establishment in 1874.

Last Wednesday, the school embraced its rich history by inviting students to don 1800s attire, stepping back in time to experience a day without modern technology.

Throughout the day, students engaged in a variety of activities that harkened back to simpler times, forgoing pens and digital devices to immerse themselves in traditional games. The school also hosted lively bush dancing sessions, celebrating the cultural heritage of the region.

The festivities culminated in an enchanting afternoon as parents joined their children for an old-fashioned bush dance, accompanied by the humorous and melodic tunes of the Billy Tea Band. among families and students alike.



Students donned 1800s attire as part of the 150 celebrations at Cowes Primarv: Byron, Taz, Augie, Ethan, Alex, Travis and Owen. More photos at pisra.com.au/education



Aliza and Hudson at the bush dance rehearsal for  $\,$  Zarah in the sanctuary, channelling some pioneer Cowes Primary's 150 years celebration.

spirit during the celebration at Cowes Primary.



Cowes Primary staff in 1800s attire, as part of the 150 years celebrations at the school.

# First exhibition marks 150th school anniversary

### HISTORY

12 3 11 27

The Phillip Island and District Historical Society last week launched its first exhibition since Berninneit opened almost a year ago, celebrating the 150th anniversary of both Cowes and San Remo primary schools.

The exhibition will run for the next three months, and was opened by Peter Paul, former Cowes primary principal, who led the school for 16 years starting in the 1980s.

Peter said one of his proudest achievements was securing funding for the school's swimming pool, also highlighting challenges, including community opposition to the project.

Peter shared how the pool's construction was a divisive topic within the community, but it was the persistence of a group of parents, who worked tirelessly every week clearing the site, that saw the project through.

Peter said the school was on 15 acres, far more than the standard five acres typically given to government schools.

There had been attempts to reclaim some of this land for residential development, but the decision to build the pool on the western side of the property helped preserve five crucial acres for the students.

Current Principal Rod McKenzie highlighted the dedication of school staff singling out Chris Wickes, who has been a devoted teacher at the school for 50 years, and Sue Becker, Cowes Primary School principal for the 21 years prior to his appointment as her successor.

Rod paid tribute to Sue's 21 years as principal, building a great culture within the school, and her work on towards excellence in teaching and learning, which translated into Cowes Primary becoming one of the highest performing schools across Gippsland.

"It is a legacy that I am proud to continue," Rod said.

Rod also secured funding for a \$5 million competition-sized gymnasium, and thanked past school leaders and committees for their work in securing the Early Learning Centre when they did.





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## **ASPIR presents mammoth Cup Weekend exhibition**

#### ART

The Artists' Society of Phillip Island Region (ASPIR) is holding their Cup Weekend exhibition at Berninneit to coincide with the cultural centre's first birthday from Friday November 1 until Tuesday November 5.

The exhibition will feature over 150 works from members of ASPIR (pronounced 'aspire'), with five different award categories: Best in Show, Best Painting, the Nature, Environment and Wildlife Award, Best 3D Artwork, Best Digital Artwork or Photograph, and Best Other Medium.

The winner of Best in Show, sponsored by the Bendigo Community Bank, will be awarded \$1000 while other categories' prize money ranges from \$400 to \$500. Each category, excluding Best in Show, also has cash prizes for highly commended works.

Students in grades five and six from Cowes, Newhaven, and San Remo Primary schools as well as Our Lady Star of the Sea and Newhaven College are participating in the Young Artist Award, with three cash prizes of \$100, \$60, and \$40.

The awards and presentations will be held at 6pm on opening night, with works being judged by Master Pastelist, Lyn Mellady.

Lyn was conferred the status of Master Pastelist by the Pastel Society of Victoria and has artworks in five city government collections across Australia and Japan. One of Lyn's works also hangs in Parliament House, Canberra.



The Artists' Society of Phillip Island Region (ASPIR) is holding their Cup Weekend exhibition at Berninneit to coincide with the cultural centre's first birthday from Friday November 1 until Tuesday November 5.

#### Berninneit

President of ASPIR, Miranda Sage, is "thrilled" about the potential of utilising Berninneit's full facilities, explaining that when the group held their Cup Exhibition in the cultural centre last year finishing touches were yet to be completed.

"(Last year) there was one power-point, and the lighting wasn't perfect, but no one minded because the building hadn't really been finished," Miranda said.

"We were so excited to be there because it's such a wonderful building and it's been really warmly embraced by the community."

But Miranda said now the centre is well-and-truly up and running, the potential for the space was greatly exciting for members of the community and also praised council staff for their assistance with the exhibition.

"Celebrating the first birthday is really marvellous, and the staff at Berninneit have been really fantastic at facilitating the technical side, which wasn't available last time. So we'll have better lighting.

"It's really nice to be part of such a success story, because I think Berninneit has contributed so much to the community, and it's filled that void in the community where (now) we've got something to treasure and be proud of.

"I think it was a brave thing for the Bass Coast Shire Council to do, because it was a huge expense, but it's an iconic awardwinning space.

"The community's certainly responded to all the events and things, the use of the library, in a very positive way. So we're really proud to be here and be part of the first birthday."

The ASPIR President said the exhibition is an incredible opportunity to showcase the "great number of really amazing artists on the island" in a premier purpose-built space.

Artist community "thriving" According to Dr Marian Quigley, an esteemed island painter and life member of ASPIR, the artist community on Phillip Island and surrounding areas is "thriving".

"There's 400 Phillip Island artists approximately, and in Gippsland there's 5000," Dr Quigley explained.

"The Shire's finally come on side with putting up Berninneit and the gallery inside it, but they've also given the old CFA building to a number of artist groups."

ASPIR President Miranda Sage said "hundreds and hundreds" of volunteer hours have gone into the running of the Cup Weekend exhibition and praised the efforts of ASPIR treasurer and exhibition director Gay Mosby.

"Gay does an extraordinary

job, she just works day and night to make (the exhibition) happen."

The ASPIR President said one of the elements of the exhibition she was most looking forward to was for people who will publicly displaying their works for the first time.

"I've been there myself," said Miranda.

"It's a little bit nerve-wracking in a way because you feel very vulnerable when you're painting a work and people are there to see it.

"But it's also exciting, and often people sell works from early hangings. It's very encouraging I think, and that's what ASPIR is about: community sharing and supporting each other."

Across the exhibition, there will also be a People's Choice Award which will be announced at the closing of the exhibition.

ASPIR also thanks their sponsors for supporting each award category, including: Bendigo Community Bank, Phillip Island RSL, Phillip Island Nature Parks, Phillip Island Winery and Westernport Hotel, Brinnie T Design and Flowers, Alex Scott & Staff and Senior Art Supplies.

### Annual choir concert

### ENTERTAINMENT

The Island Harmony Choir will hold its annual concert at St John's Church in Cowes on Saturday November 16 at 2pm.

The theme for this year's final concert is "Songs from Stage and Screen", with 30 voices singing old and new songs in harmony, and the chance for the audience to sing along to well-known favourites from Les Miserables.

The concert is a fund raiser for St John's and will include an afternoon tea.

Tickets are \$15 and available at the door. Children are free.





1 Nov - 10am-5pm, 2-3 Nov - 10am-4pm 4 Nov - 10am-5pm, 5 Nov - 10am-1pm 91-97 Thompson Ave, Cowes Artwork Courtesy of Chris Farrell



# Patchworkers Display Newhaven College VCE Art on Cup Weekend

#### CRAFT

Once again, the Phillip Island Patchwork Club will be showcasing quilts and associated crafts over the long weekend at its annual Patchworkers Display at the Newhaven Hall on Cup Weekend.

The display will be open from Saturday November 2 through to Tuesday November 5 from 10am to 4pm at the Newhaven Hall in Cleeland Street.

Admission is \$8 and children are free. All proceeds going directly to local emergency services and charities to contribute to their fabulous community support.

"There will be the many fine patchwork quilts and other items made by our group of talented ladies, but you will also see the wonderful work produced by the Wonthaggi Woodcrafters," a group spokesperson said.

"There will be a trading table with lots of goodies to purchase, and our famous Devonshire tea available for \$5."

Jeanette Clark from Patchwork Maze will have a shop set up where you can purchase a range of patchwork fabrics, patterns and accessories.

"Jeanette is a great sup-



Debbie Love with her winning Viewers' Choice at last year's Patchworkers Display, which returns again on Cup Weekend.

porter of the club and every year she organises a pattern and donates the fabric for us to create our raffle quilts.

"Have a go at patchwork yourself by assisting our members who will be sewing quilts for our Comfort Quilt program over the weekend. These quilts are donated locally to organisations who support community members in need.

"Our love of craft and friendship is what brings us together," continued the spokesperson.

"We all enjoy what we do, we like to share skills and of course have a chat. Come along and join in the fun and friendship - new members are warmly welcomed."

If you would like more information or would like to join the friendly club please call President Gavle Rowden on 0400 634 282 or catch up with one of the members on Cup Weekend. An information flyer and yearly calendar will be available at the display. / Sponsored article /

# and Design Exhibition

### **EDUCATION**

Newhaven College announced its annual VCE Art and Design Exhibition for 2024, a celebration of creativity and innovation, currently on display in the College's Performing Arts Wing foyer.

The exhibition showcases the exceptional achievements of the College's talented VCE students, who have worked diligently throughout the year to produce an impressive array of works in a variety of media.

The exhibition highlights the outstanding Unit 3 and 4 works from the following subjects: Art Making and Exhibiting; Visual Communication Design; Media; Product Design and Technologies and; Systems Engineering

The college said the ex-



Best in Show award went to VCE student Issey Goss for her stunning painting.

hibition is a true reflection of the students' dedication, creativity and hard work.

"Each piece tells a unique story, demonstrating the range of artistic, technical and design skills honed by students during their VCE journey," a college spokesperson said.

"From intricate design concepts to thought-provoking art and media projects, the display offers something for everyone to enjoy." The proceedings were

presented by Visual Art Captains Chloe Harris and Pip Thompson-Lord.

Art teacher Rebecca Power announced the prizes awarded to Issey Goss for Best in Show and Claire Miron for her hardworking and committed attitude. Ms Power said there was no doubt these two students represented all of the outstanding talent in the VCE cohort.

Newhaven College welcomes all interested future students and their families to contact Bec Anderson, Admissions Officer, at admissions@newhavencol. vic.edu.au or 5956 7505.

More photos at pisra. com.au/education

### Final Red Rocks working bee

### **ENVIRONMENT**

The last working bee for the Red Rocks and Saltwater Coastcare group for the year is on Sunday October 27.

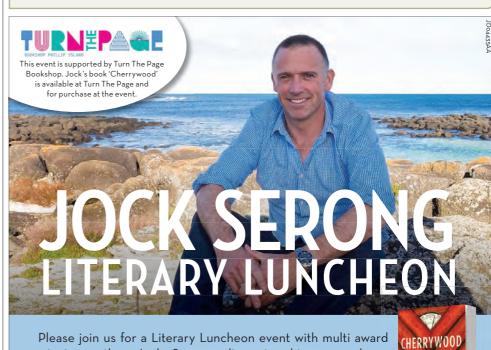
Volunteers are welcome to join the group at Red Rocks to continue removing Blue Periwinkle, thistles and Angled Onion from the foreshore

reserve along the firetrail.

Meet at the Red Rocks carpark at 10am. The working bee runs until mid-day and will be followed by a morning tea in the picnic area. Please bring water bottle, mug for a hot drink at morning tea and gloves (optional), and wear sturdy shoes and clothing for windy conditions.

Gloves and tools will be supplied.





winning author Jock Serong, discussing his new release Cherrywood; and also reminiscing on learning to surf in his early years on Phillip Island.

Ticket includes a drink on arrival, a delicious luncheon, and a memorable afternoon with this acclaimed writer and speaker in the beautiful setting of the Phillip Island Winery.

### FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER, 12.30 PM PHILLIP ISLAND WINERY

414 Berrys Beach Ventnor Phillip Island

### TICKETS \$50: THROUGH TRYBOOKING www.trybooking.com/CVCSE



JOCK SERONG

Organisers: A Book Club on Phillip Island. Anne 0409 216 033 Sue 0417 651 588 Jill 0419 556 266

**ABOUT JOCK SERONG:** Highly acclaimed author of many genre defying books including Quota (winner of the 2015 Ned Kelly award for best first fiction) *The Rules of Backyard Cricket* (shortlisted for 2017 Premier's award for fiction and finalist in the 2017 Indie Book Awards Adult Mystery Book of the Year) On the Java Ridge (winner of the inaugural UK Staunch Prize) and the widely praised trilogy of historical novels Preservation, The Burning Island and The Settlement set in and around the Furneaux Islands in Bass Strait and south-east Australia. Editor of Great Ocean Quarterly and feature stories writer across Australia's surfing media. Jock also enjoys a strong association with Phillip Island, where he first learned to surf at Berry's Beach.





### PET SITTING

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Wednesday, October 23, 2024 | THE ADVERTISER 17







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### \_\_\_\_\_ MOTOGP 2024

# Mick Doohan leads 500 fans to circuit

Over 500 eager MotoGP fans came together to ride alongside some of the world's best riders, including five-time world champion Mick Doohan, local favourite Jack Miller and 2020 MotoGP World Champion Joan Mir, for the Homecoming Ride presented by TAC.

Up-and-coming young Australian riders Senna Agius from the Moto2 grid and Moto3 riders Joel Kelso and Jacob Roulstone also joined the day's activities.

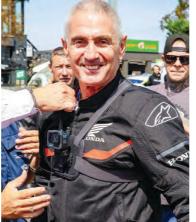
A Q&A session on the San Remo foreshore with the riders provided the gathered crowd with insight into the mindsets and motivations of those at the pinnacle of the sport.

After the Q&A, the riders led fans for the scenic trip across the

bridge to the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit, where they made their way around one and a half laps of the oceanside track.

One of the most successful Australians in the sport's history, Doohan is celebrating 30 years since his first championship victory. On Sunday, he rode a celebratory lap of the circuit in front of the race day crowds.

The current Australian riders across all three international categories were given plenty of encouragement from Homecoming Ride participants. Local residents and school students lined the roads to cheer for the procession as they made their way across the bridge and onto the circuit.



Motorsport legend Mick Doohan suited up to lead the Homecoming Ride from San Remo to the circuit on Thursday. Photo: Regina Magner, MagnerMedia.



Students from San Remo Primary were keen to get riders' autographs, including Aussie rider Jack Miller. Photo: Regina Magner, MagnerMedia.



The Homecoming Ride crosses the bridge on Thursday morning. Photo: Regina Magner, MagnerMedia



The MotoGP's number one ticket holder, Pino's Rosa Scarlato with one of the greatest GP riders, Giacomo Agostini, who rode a "Legend Lap" at the track on Saturday



Jason and Samantha (Dead 4 Eva Designs), Chris (The Ventnor Store) and Janita (Ladasha Jewellery).





Kimberley Brown (North Pier) and Jess Janson (Easton) at the Brake-Fast Club with the winner's trophy. Kimberley is also on the board of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation and Jess was the former marketing officer for PIBN.



# Rosa's our No. 1!

Pino's Trattoria in Cowes, Rosa Scarlato was named the number one ticket holder at this year's MotoGP on Phillip Island.

For decades, MotoGP riders from around the world have made Pino's their home-awayfrom-home during the annual Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix. Since opening in 1991, Pino's has become a staple among locals, as well as a mainstay of the MotoGP calendar. Memorabilia lines the walls, including

Local legend and matriarch of Australia's own Jack Miller who traded his race suit for a table on a busy night – one of many tactics used by riders and fans alike over the years to score a seat at Rosa's place.

Rosa made the most of her poll position, heading out to the track to get close to the action and the riders.

And of course, the doors of Pino's were open wide welcoming riders and the spectators who flocked to Phillip Island for the event.

From left: Daniel (Sunscape Solar), Rosa (Pino's), Stephen (Stephen Fullarton Designs) and Sam (Sunscape Solar) enjoying the Brake-Fast Club.

Movember is the official charity of this year's MotoGP. From the Movember team: Lou Elkerton, Trav Garone (Co-Founder) and Kieran Rvan.

# he Brake-Fast Club

Phillip Island Business Network (PIBN) and the Australian Grand Prix Corporation hosted a special business breakfast - The Brake-Fast Club - at the circuit on Thursday morning.

Guest speakers on the day were former Superbike cham-

pion Chris Vermeulen, Kieran Ryan and Travis Garone from Movember, the official charity of this year's MotoGP, and Moto3 rider Joel Kelso.

PIBN said the event was a way to celebrate local businesses.

"It was a pleasure to be a

part of the Brake-Fast Club again this year," said PIBN President, Jess Patman.

"We really appreciate the recognition and continued support of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation for our local businesses, and it was fantastic to see so many in attendance."



Marc Marquez does a victory lap after winning the 2024 Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix at Phillip Island for the fourth time.



Spanish rider Pedro Acosta crashing out during the MotoGP Tissot Sprint on Saturday. Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.



Dedicated fans were finally rewarded with a day of sunshine and a thrilling race at this year's MotoGP. Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.



Monster Trucks entertained the crowd at this year's MotoGP.



Eric Bana spotted enjoying the MotoGP.



Moto2 winner: Fermin Aldeguer. Photo courtesy of Katrina Lawrence.



Locals Mark and Heather Johnson presented Marc Marquez with a box of Tim Tams. They've done this three other times, and it's clearly a lucky charm, as Marquez went on to win the race. Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.



Mick Doohan trackside at this year's MotoGP.

### Slow start to the week

### TRAFFIC

Traffic was bumper to bumper m on Monday morning as vehicles fr crawled off the island after the to MotoGP.

Phillip Island Road and delays were expected throughout the morning, with traffic banked up from the edge of Cowes through to the bridge. According to traffic reports, the longest delays were experienced around the Cape Woolamai roundabout and Newhaven.



Aussie Moto3 rider Joel Kelso with Katrina Lawrence. Photo courtesy of Katrina Lawrence.

Kim Storey from Destination Phillip Island showed her brother around the MotoGP. Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography. The Department of Transport and Planning advised there were traffic controls in place along



Traffic was bumper to bumper on Monday morning as vehicles crawled off the island after the MotoGP.

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SITUATIONS VACANT

#### PHILLIP ISLAND WORLD VISION CLUB BARGAIN PLANTS

STALL TO BE HELD SATUR-DAY 26TH OCTOBER, 2024 at Cowes Market on Church at St Philips AnglicanChurch, CnrThompson Avenue and Church Street, Cowes

### **REGENT CARAVAN**

23 Ft. With annexe. Lots of extras. \$35,000 O.N.O Phone Brian 0421 130 049



### Phillip Island Boomerang Bags AGM to be held on 20/11/2024 at 3.30 113 Settlement Rd. Cowes 3922 Contact: violetpittorino@hotmail.com



SITUATIONS VACANT

### Chillip Liand Tenpin Bowling Venue Manager

We are looking for someone with experience to complement our hard-working team. Overseeing customer liaison, reception, general café/kitchen duties, cleaning, computer literate, marketing, cash handling skills, RSA, friendly, able to cater to our varied clients. Working alongside another manager and reporting to the 2 managing directors.

Availability must include evenings, weekends, and public holidays. Would start on a 3-6 month probation/trial period leading into a full time position min 38hours per week but overtime expected over busy periods school holidays, long weekends etc.

Salary negotiable for the right person with the right experience, someone with a proven track record, great people skills, both managing teams and customer service is preferred.

- Permanent, Full-time • Afternoon shift
- Evening shift
- Public holidays
- Weekend availability
- Ability to commute/relocate:
- Cowes, VIC 3922: Reliably commute or planning to relocate before starting work (Required)
   Work Authorisation:
- Australia (Required)
- Work Location: On site

Email tenpin@pitenpin.com.au or drop in your resume to 91-97 Settlement Rd Cowes, 3922 or Phone 5952 3977

### PUBLIC NOTICES



PICES Annual General Meeting 2024 will be held at the Newhaven Visitors Information Centre 895 Phillip Island Road at 2pm on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

Business will include a Special Resolution to change the Model Rules to include the following: '76(3) Subject to the Act and any court order made under section 133 of the act, if the organisation is wound up, or its endorsement as a deductible recipient is revoked (whichever occurs first), any surplus of the following assets shall be transferred to another organisation with similar objects, which is charitable at law, to which deductible gifts can be made. (a) gifts of money or property for the principal purpose of the organisation (b) contributions made in relation to an eligible fund raising event held for the principal purpose of the organisation (c) money received by the organisation because of such gifts and contributions.

All welcome



### SITUATIONS VACANT



Corinella and District Community Centre

### Community Engagement Coordinator

Corinella and District Community Centre is a not-for-profit organisation based in Corinella looking for a part-time Community Engagement Officer to join our team.

### 8.5 hours per week 10am-1.00 Wednesday and 10.00am-4.00pm Thursday

Responsibilities will include implementation of new and innovative programs and activities while supporting current programs, producing, printing and distributing the quarterly program and newsletters.

Support core marketing materials and website content scheduling, and administrative duties working alongside and under the direction of the Manager.

We are looking for someone with 2-3 years experience in a small office environment and must be familiar with Microsoft Office programs. Experience with volunteers a bonus.

For further information about this role and to request a position description please contact the President – Corinella and District Community Centre on

president@cdcc.asn.au using the subject line: Community Engagement Coordinator.

Applications close Monday 4th November



### **Business Manager**

Leongatha Secondary College is seeking a Business Manager to join our team. This ES1-5 role is full time and would commence 25/11/2024. Refer to www.leonsec.vic.edu.au for full details and role description. Applications can be made via DET Recruitment

Online. Job Vacancy ID 1441629. Applications close October 30, 2024.

JD04579.

### SITUATIONS VACANT



Newhaven College is an independent co-educational school on Phillip Island offering quality education for students from Prep to Year 12

### Newhaven College is seeking applications for: WOODWIND SPECIALIST &

### BAND PROGRAM

Part Time (approximately 2 days) Temporary, fixed term contract. Commencement 2025.

### **EDUCATION SUPPORT**

Part Time (0.80FTE - 4 days) Temporary, fixed term contract from now to 4 December 2025

For more information and details on requirements, duties and responsibilities, visit our website or contact Human Resources Manager, Leisa Lomax on 03 5956 7505.

### Applications to be submitted to: recruitment@newhavencol.vic.edu.au Applications close Friday 25 October 2024 at 5 pm

Newhaven College is a child safe environment. Every child has a right to be safe, and at the College we have a zero tolerance for child safety risks (including child abuse and reportable conduct). As such, preferred applicants will be subject to child protection screening, background and reference checks, verification of identity checks and must adhere to the College's child safe practices, as outlined in the Child Protection Program policies available on the College website.



### Join us at the Nature Parks

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

### Construction Officer - Full time

As a key member of the Construction team, you will deliver capital infrastructure projects that enhance safety and compliance while protecting environmental and cultural values. Your efforts will improve the visitor experience and contribute to the sustainability of Phillip Island Nature Parks.



have been breached, you may approach the newspaper itself or contact the Council by email info@presscouncil.org.au

or by phone (02) 8261 1930.

For further information see w.presscouncil.org.au

# ISLAND VINTAGE

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### Phillip Island NATURE PARKS

### penguins.org.au





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

#### A very special thankyou

I take this opportunity to thank the community of Bass Coast. It's been a wonderful and fulfilling time in my life to be able to represent my community and to be your councillor and your Mayor.

It's been incredibly rewarding to be a part of the many special projects and events that make our communities amazing places.

You are the remarkable people that make up our communities and that make Bass Coast a special place to live and work and play. You are the ones that truly need to be thanked because you are the 'volunteer army' that supports our communities. I thank you all wholeheartedly.

We have had many durations of Mayors and Councillors over my 12 years in Council and I thank you all as well, for your stewardship, guidance and support.

To the outgoing council, we know that it can feel frustrating at times to be a councillor. I believe we have created a better Bass Coast during our term.

I feel blessed that I've had this experience, to meet and work with so many amazing councillors who have been very dedicated to their communities. It's extremely difficult to keep everyone happy and to those Council Watch people, I look forward to when you put up your hand and stand for council, as it takes more courage to take action, than just words of criticism.

Thank you to all the current councillors for stepping in when I needed you. I thank you for your support. It's not always easy having different points of view, but it's how you deal with things in a professional manner that makes the difference.

I wish the new team of councillors all the very best in building a vibrant and bright future for Bass Coast.

Cr Clare Le Serve, Mayor -Bass Coast Shire Council

#### **Community involvement vital**

There are only a few days remaining for the community to post their votes for the upcoming election of a new Bass Coast Shire Council, with particular emphasis on the Island Ward.

It is crucial to highlight the importance of community representation. All residents and visitors, children, teenagers, adults and elderly, need to have ample access to parks, in addition to our beaches and coastline, providing an opportunity for play and exercise in secure outdoor settings. While there are existing parks on the Island, many lack sufficient rubbish bins, water and shade. Our council must ensure these parks are there for perpetuity as land is precious. These should be adequately maintained and available to use all year round.

As the Recreation Reserve is a priority for Bass Coast, many people have contacted me with suggestions to incorporate a vegetated tourist park with play equipment and areas where people from all walks of life can sit, have a BBQ and enjoy the surrounding facilities. Concern has also come up a couple of times that when the current football oval is not needed for sport, as Crown Land it could be sold or residentially developed. We must advocate to keep this land, and for it to remain as a recreation/leisure venue.

We also have unmade road reserves that act as corridors for wildlife and pedestrians. Growing up here and now as an adult. I see the importance of community involvement, encouraging equality, inclusivity and the importance of mental health. Creating a place where everyone feels safe, included and supported.

Phillip Island is a special area with the ability to improve and find solutions for our community and environment, to make use of what we currently have. Our outdoor spaces are precious, and they provide wonderful, attractive, and free venues for residents and tourists alike to enjoy, and scenically add to Phillip Island's famous 'natural attraction'.

I would encourage community engagement, and support the inclusion of these wonderful spaces, if elected to council.

Marnie Chadwick, Island Ward candidate.

### Vale Peggy Harris

Peggy Harris, formerly of Vent-

nor died in her sleep on Saturday October 12. Peggy had turned 100 on August 1 and was living at Peninsula Grange Nursing Home in Mornington.

Peggy was the wife of the late Harry Harris. Harry was a chicory/dairy farmer whose family have been farming on Phillip Island since 1869 and his cousins continue to do so, the Price family of Ventnor.

Peggy came to teach at Cowes in 1950 and before that was a Physical Education teacher at Ballarat Teachers College. She met Harry at the Parish Hall dance. They were married in 1954 and had three children, Mandy, Jamie and David.

Harry and Peggy were involved in the St Philip's youth group and she introduced women's hockey to Cowes. As there was only one team they played the men's football team in a social match from time to time on a Sunday - always very entertaining.

Peggy trained the debutante sets during the 1950s. She was very proud of the girls and the Debutante Ball was the social event of the year.

Julie Box (sister-in-law), Cowes



Van Der Heyden 3rd. All photos: Geoff Russell, PIBC.

Longboard Open Women: Ebony Maier 1st, Nala Taylor 2nd, Natalie PIBC inducted a new Life Member to the club: David (Dumpy) Thompson.



Aggregate Junior Female: Sarah Seuren 1st, Abbey Clarke 2nd, Zoe Scott 3rd

# **Boardriders trophy presentation night**

### **SURFING**

On Saturday October 12 Phillip Island Boardriders Club (PIBC) celebrated their 23/24 season with their trophy presentation night.

The club thanked their entire committee of this season and last, who contributed to making the season and organising the celebration night (and return bus trip) to the Phillip Island Winery such a success.

On the night PIBC also inducted a new Life Member to the club, David (Dumpy)

**Perpetual Trophies: Open Women Club Champion:** Sarah Seuren **Open Men Club Champion:** Carl Wright Junior Female Club Champion: Sarah Seuren Junior Male Club Champion: Tate Russell Senior Men: Adrian Maier Masters: Adrian Maier Longboard Champion Woman: Ebony Maier Longboard Champion Man: Andrew Burgan Junior Club Woman: Zoe Scott Junior Club Man:

Dumb Bell: Tyler Duell **President Choice:** Natalie Van Der Heyden Club Person of the Year: Joanna O'Reilly Stubbs

### Aggregate Awards:

Cadet Females: 1st Lillian Bassed, 2nd Scarlett Rennie, 3rd Evie Lutz Cadet Males: Equal 1st Angus Kennedy and Hamish Farman, 2nd Sunny Steiner Junior Females: 1st Sarah Seuren, 2nd Abbey Clarke, 3rd Zoe Scott Junior Males: 1st Tate Russell,

Ash Easton, 3rd Harry De Roth Senior Womens (35+): 1st Danielle Baylis, 2nd Michelle Fincher, 3rd Natalie Van Der Heyden

Senior Mens (28-45): 1st Adrian Maier, 2nd Sam Fullarton, 3rd Adam Vyva

Masters (45-60): 1st Adrian Maier, 2nd Dumpy Thompson, 3rd Drew Johnson Legends (60+): 1st Mal Gregson, 2nd Brian Tancheff, 3rd William Yusko

#### Longboard:

Mixed Junior (U18): 1st Hamish Farman, 2nd Scarlett Rennie, 3rd Sonia Seuren Open Women: 1st Ebony Maier, 2nd Nala Taylor, 3rd Natalie Van Der Heyden Open Men: 1st Andrew Burgan, 2nd Andrew McHenry, 3rd Luke Johnson Mixed Style Masters (45+): 1st Andrew Lidsey, 2nd Natalie Van Der Heyden, 3rd Mark Letts

Notable mentions were Sarah Seuren and Adrian Maier taking home two trophies each.

But they were trumped by Natalie Van Der Heyden who took home four trophies: third in Aggregate Senior Women's (35+), third in Longboard Open Women, second in Mixed Style Masters (45+) and the President's Choice trophy. A new record for a PIBC member from a single season, as well as serving as the Clubhouse Manager for both 23/24 and 24/25 seasons. More photos at pisra.com.au/ sport

Thompson.

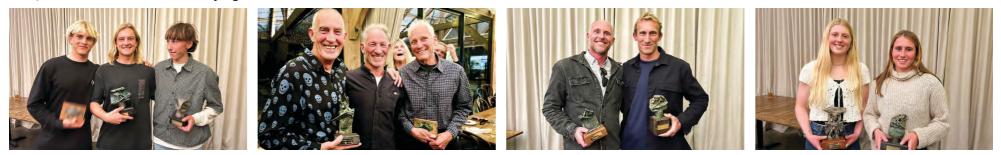
The Life Member nomination process begins with a submission initially sent to the presi-dent of PIBC, and is then voted on by other Life Members.

Lachie Eastwood Most Improved Aggregate: Jai McDonald Most Improved Longboard: Timmi Üngar Gung Ho: Keith Richards

2nd Oscar Dean, 3rd Sam Patterson

Open Women: 1st Sarah Seuren, 2nd Lillian Bassed, 3rd Zoe Adams

Open Mens: 1st Carl Wright, 2nd



Aggregate Junior Male: Sam Patterson 3rd, Tate Russell 1st, Oscar Dean 2nd.

Aggregate Masters (60+): Mal Gregson 1st, Brian Tancheff 2nd, William Yusko 3rd (with excellent photobombing action from Michelle Fincher).

Aggregate Open Men: Ash Easton 2nd, Carl Wright 1st, Harry De Roth 3rd (not pictured).

Aggregate Open Women: Sarah Seuren 1st, Lillian Bassed 2nd, Zoe Adams 3rd (not pictured).

### SPORT



Congratulations to the U14B girls, Korumburra Tournament winners. The little superstars fought so hard right to the very end, with a three-point win against Traralgon.

# Phillip Island RIPS season kicks off at Korumburra

### **BASKETBALL**

As the Phillip Island RIPS season kicks off, parents once again brace themselves to put their lives on hold, ensuring their children's adolescent years are packed with competition, growth, teamwork, and most importantly, lifelong memories.

For these parents, it's not just about wins and losses; it's about teaching resilience, the value



Despite a dominant victory and two hard fought losses, the U16 girls are on a determined path to success for the 2024 season.



Fun times for the U10 Rips girls basketball team.



of teamwork, fostering friendships, and encouraging commitment. In a world where screens dominate and the pressures of school can be overwhelming, sports offer a much-needed escape and opportunity for personal development.

The road isn't always easy

There are moments of pressure, hard work, frustration, and even disagreements.

But when their child brings home a win or fights their way to a grand final, the payoff is unparalleled. There's simply no feel-

ing quite like seeing the fruits of their dedication - both on and off the field - come to life.

A great tournament was had by all our RIPS players and families at Korumburra on the weekend. More photos at pisra. com.au/sport

GOLF Tuesday, October 15 Men's Competition Stroke Monthly Medal 18H Overall Gains (25) 61.

> A Grade winner: A-1 Geoff Daff (13) 68. B Grade winner: B-1

Glenn Botterill (20) 68. C Grade winner: C-1 John Gains (25) 61.

winner:

John

BDL to 74 c/b. NTP: 5th Peter Gray,

7th Gary Skelton, 10th Sean O'Brien and 17th Alf Micallef.

Men's 9 Hole Stableford Overall winner: Ian Barker (40) 24 pts from Steve Rieger (24) 20 pts c/b.

BDL 19 pts.

### Wednesday October 9 Women's Competition

Stableford 18H Overall winner: Susan Brown (26) 40 pts c/b.

A Grade winner: A-1 Susan Brown (26) 40 pts c/b. B Grade winner: B-1 Lynore Mercer (30) 40 pts c/b.

BDL to 36 pts. NTP: 5th and 7th Mel Smith (10) 38 pts c/b.



### Gippsland swimmers descend on Leongatha Splash

### **SWIMMING**

Leongatha Splash was once again full of cheering swimmers and their families as SGB hosted GSI 4 on the weekend.

Over 110 swimmers from throughout the region competed, with the event a great chance for the younger swimmers to compete in a few races at a local event.

"It's just great to see our young swimmers here having a go in the 25m races," said Coach Dylan.

"Being able to get over their nerves of racing and become more familiar with the process in a pool they know well, will enable them to have a lot more confidence going to another pool in the coming weeks.

"Also, several of our older swimmers had a go

The 12 and under boys show off their muscles before racing in the freestyle. More photos at pisra.com.au/sport

at some events they don't get to do in the busy short course season, and it's enabled them to have a try and see what sort of time they would get."

There were plenty of smiles, especially in the mixed relay event, which saw two siblings competing against other families in a relay.

The event was taken out by half the Smyth Family who narrowly defeated the Croattos and the other

half of their own family.

The Over 25 Men's race was fiercely contested with some very close times, with SGB looking forward to having a few competitive relays in the Gippsland championships.

It was also the last chance for the juniors to swim a time to be considered for the district 21 team which competes at MSAC next weekend against other regional teams.

### Results from the green Naismith and 12th Chris-

Overall winner: Barba-

ra Moloney (40) 21pts from

Sara Gordon (45) 20 pts.

Thursday, October 10

Overall winner: David

A Grade winner: Steven

B Grade winner: Mark

C Grade winner: David

5th

Mack, 7th Tony Zoanetti,

10th Steven Duggan and

Winner: Ian Samuel (27)

24 pts c/b from Ian Bray

Stephen

BDL to 18 pts.

**Open Stableford 18H** 

Murdoch (34) 42 pts.

Duggan (8) 38 pts.

White (13) 38 pts.

Murdoch (34) 42 pts.

BDL to 35 c/b.

17th Paul Cashman.

**Open 9 Hole Stableford** 

BDL to 18 pts c/b.

Saturday, October 12

Overall winner: Harry

A Grade winner: Ian

**Men's Competition** 

Bentley (17) 39 pts.

JD04269AA

Stableford 18H

NTP:

(29) 21 pts.

tine Riley.

B Grade winner: Harry Bentley (17) 39 pts. Women's 9 Hole Stableford

C Grade winner: Kai Cashman (21) 38 pts c/b. BDL to 33 c/b.

NTP: 5th Peter Ablett, 7th Mark Dykes, 10th William Haslett and 17th Luke Zoanetti.

#### **Women's Competition** Stableford 18H

Overall winner: Lisa Cochrane (17) 39 pts from Lesley Meadowcroft (16) 37 pts c/b.

BDL 31 pts.

NTP: 5tĥ N/A, 7th Adrianne Anglin, 10th Vicki Roff Smith and 17th Lesley Meadowcroft.

**Open Comp Stableford 9H** Overall, Winner: Patrick Owens (23) 18 pts from Steve Rieger (24) 17 pts. BDL 16pts.

### Sunday, October 20

**Open Comp Stableford** Winner: Harry Bentley (15) 40 pts from Finn O'Brien (17) 38 pts. BDL 36 pts.

**Red Rocks golf results** at pisra.com.au

### Results from the league **TENPIN BOWLING**

Phantom: 1st place on 172.5pts HSB, 2nd place on 164.5pts Filthy Frank and 3rd lace on 163pts Ghan. **2scompany – Monday Evening:** 1st place on 22pts King Pins, 2nd place on 20pts Jail and 3rd place on 18.5pts Pinpushers. ABL (Almost Bowling Legends) Wednesday evening: 1st place on 140pts Dreamers, 2nd place on 137pts Storm and 3rd place on 128.5pts The rollers. Business Early – Thursday Evening: 1st place on 6pts Happy hour, 2nd place on 5pts Old Timers, 3rd place on 3pts Turkey Slappers and 4th place on 3pts Wooly Balls. Business Late: 1st place on 5pts The Big Ds, 2nd place on 5pts Holy Splits, 3rd place on 4pts City Lights and 4th place on 3pts Team Rich. Top scores across each league were: Men: Les Peters and Justin Porthouse 221, Steve R Clarke 199 and Glenn Martin 188. Women: Shannon Felmingham 165, Penyy Wolswinkel 151 and Be Bertram 149.



the court with the U12 girls earning their spot in the grand final.



some teamwork and listening to the coach.





A great experience for the U12 B girls team. The airls showed areat resilience throughout the tournament.

Big congratulations to the U16 boys winning all their games on the first day and their great teamwork.



A first tournament for most of the U10 Boys Rips team, they worked incredibly hard throughout the tournament.

The Under 18 boys displayed great teamwork throughout their games, their synergy on the court will only improve as they continue playing together.

2024 **FOOTBALL CARDS** 

Commons 4 for \$1.00 Silvers 50 cents each Star Powers 50 cents each Rookie/Star/Magic Wild Cards from \$20 each and more cards available. 1000's of swaps – buy bulk and save! Contact Wayne 0435 959 387



Winners of Midweek bowls played at San Remo Michael Dady (S), Margaret Hoy (3), David Talbot (2) and Phil Wright (L).



David Smith (S), Jenny Smith (L), Mick Sheers (3) and Ron Hughes (2) were the runners up of Midweek bowls.

## Sun out for Midweek challenge

### BOWLS

Summer came early as 48 of our family of bowlers turned up at San Remo to compete in our weekly challenge.

Pauline and John signed us all in while Peter once again arranged the teams.

Once the teams were prepared John reminded everyone to use sunscreen and keep out of the immediate sun and out we went. What a fun day we had.

A lot of excellent bowling was observed around all the rinks.

As usual plenty of laughter as well as some fun banter from all corners. When lunch came, many players could be seen to be quite tired because of the sun, but we all headed back out after the lunch break to continue the fun.

Over the course of the day, we did have a few of our charitable players leave a donation to the RCH. We are always grateful for their selfless acts.

As always, we have winners, and we have the others.

Winners on a score of 36 were: Michael Dady (S), Margaret Hoy (3), David Talbot (2) and Phil Wright (L).

Runners up on a close 35 points were: David Smith (S), Jenny Smith (L), Mick Sheers (3) and Ron Hughes (2). Best One Game on 19 points were: Michael Saunders (3), Margaret McConville (L), Vern Elliott (S) and Robyn Dall (2) (inset).

As always, we thank the volunteers who keep our Thursday games going.

People like Mark and Mick who look after the bar as well as Clair, Gwen and a few others in the kitchen for all their help.

This week we will be meeting at Loch and look forward to seeing all our members turn up.

Please remember to be on site by 10am or maybe miss out on a great day's play.

Until next week, stay safe and have fun.

mark.



### **FISHING**

Some MotoGP visitors arrived early to mid-last week to spend some time down here or even teams setting up out at the track. The two things we found this week they all have in common is their love of motorbikes and their love for fishing.

It is always nice to speak to international visitors to gather ideas on how they fish and the rigs and bait they use.

As usual we are hot in the middle of the snapper season and it has been firing from all directions, we are receiving plenty of reports from all areas across the top of the bay and in the channels still.

Rhyll has most definitely been better for our customers who have tried there early in the morning or late in the afternoon till evening.

Plenty of people are reporting fighting the snapper for a bit then once it gets boat side almost masking as a gummy shark and just spitting out the hook and swimming away.

Is our bay so healthy with

The water is still cold for this time of the year. Generally we can expect 17 degrees but a few people have been recording 13-14 degrees max.

Whiting reports have been scattered from during the day, most still coming from early morning till midway when they have been dropping off.

Not a lot of size to them and not a lot of weight to their bodies either.

It has been possible to get a bag of whiting, but it's required some work and a bit of movement with more than one mark required.

Bottom of the bay, Cleeland Bight has almost become void of fish this week, reports of actual catches have stopped, reports of no catches have increased.

Of the many people who have been fishing that area the last week or two, we have only had about 10 percent of those getting fish, most of the catches being small to very small calamari.

### Salmon, gummy sharks

There are still plenty of large schools of salmon in the bay, not a huge number of catches but they are there. to Gummy sharks have also been a targeted species this last week towards Tortoise head, reports from all day, majority are all just over that one-metre Our old friends the three metre plus Bronzies are back patrolling the bay causing a bit of havoc, with lots of people losing gear.

They have been hooked plenty of times but have been snapped off around the prop or just bitten through the lighter snapper gear.

If you're finding this, either run a heavier leader, or use a light gauge wire leader this can also help with those beak teeth of the snapper.

We are now on the run to Christmas, so don't forget to get your order in for presents if there is something in particular you are after we can source it for you. It is also time to place your laybys.

The boat ramps are busy, the jetties are busy, the roads are busy, and the beaches will only increase in popularity as the weather warms up. Execute patience and if you want to avoid the crowds plan your day a little better, be on the water 30 minutes earlier, stay later.

If someone at the ramp is reversing their boat wrong, or if they are casting on the jetty wrong and it's upsetting your fishing experience, offer to help.

They may be a river fisherman; they may be new to fishing. Too many times we see and hear of people abusing each other on the water. Some people just need some education and that doesn't need to come with a negative annotation either.

# Australian SUP titles this week

#### SURFING

Phillip Island is hosting 2024 Australian SUP Titles this week, from October 22 - 26.

The event is a partnership between Bass Coast Shire Council and Surfing Victoria.

The titles kick off with an opening ceremony at the Phillip Island Boardriders clubhouse at Veterans Drive at 5pm on October 22.

It's anticipated hundreds of competitors from across the country will compete in the different disciplines of SUP Surfing, SUP and Prone Technical Racing (between 4-8km of several laps in and out through the surf) and SUP and Prone Marathon Racing (15-20km).

The competition will base itself out of Woolamai, utilising the best beaches and racing options around the island.

SUP Surfing: Wednesday October 23 - Friday October 25

SUP Technical Race: Friday October 25

SUP Marathon Race: Saturday October 26

Details at: australiansuptitles.com/



Phillip Island hosts the Australian SUP Titles this week, from October 22 - 26. Photo: Phill McCudden/PM Ocean Images.

## PIBC Super Groms Information Night

### SURFING

The Phillip Island Boardriders Club (PIBC) is excited to announce its upcoming Super Groms information night, taking place on Friday, October 25, from 5.30pm to 7.30pm at the PIBC clubhouse located at 76 Veterans Road, Newhaven

Join them for a fun and informative evening to kick off the 24/25 Season. This event is a fantastic opportunity for families and young surfers to learn more about the club and the Super Groms Program, designed to nurture and develop the surfing skills of younger members. Attendees will have the chance to explore the clubrooms, meet fellow



PRE-SEASON INFO NIGHT

#### Image: Darren Marks, @curlpi

members, and gather valuable tips on how to support their Groms in the surf. at PIBC. "This is a great chance for new and current members to

food that even the fish don't need our bait anymore?

Those who don't want to chase the reds have had a much slower week with reports very minimal or the quality of the fish has depleted.

Fishing is a great sport, don't let it ruin your day.

"We encourage com all PIBC members ries, to join us and share each the love of our surfing community," said firm Mel Wright, Super and Groms Coordinator com

connect, share stories, and learn from each other."

PIBC will also be firing up the BBQ and everyone is welcome to attend.

		Tidal predictions for Stony Point, Cowes -0.09 Newhaven -0.31   HIGH TIDE IS MARKED IN BLACK													
TIDE	WED 23 OCT		THU 24 OCT		FRI	FRI 25 OCT		SAT 26 OCT		SUN 27 OCT		MON 28 OCT		29 OCT	
	HIGH	6:04 am 3.20 m	HIGH	6:47 am 3.07 m	LOW	12:23 am 0.39 m	LOW	1:06 am 0.59 m	LOW	1:49 am 0.79 m	LOW	2:38 am 0.99 m	LOW	3:39 am 1.16 m	MARINE
GUIDE	LOW	11:38 am 0.87 m	LOW	12:20 pm 0.92 m	HIGH	7:29 am 2.90 m	HIGH	8:09 am 2.74 m	HIGH	8:51 am 2.58 m	HIGH	9:36 am 2.45 m	HIGH	10:30 am 2.36 m	NEW & USED BOAT SALES
	HIGH	5:40 pm 2.77 m	HIGH	6:22 pm 2.69 m	LOW	1:02 pm 0.98 m	LOW	1:45 pm 1.06 m	LOW	2:30 pm 1.13 m	LOW	3:24 pm 1.18 m	LOW	4:29 pm 1.17 m	14 Beach Road, Rhyll OPEN 7 DAYS
	LOW	11:41 pm 0.23 m			HIGH	7:06 pm 2.57 m	HIGH	7:52 pm 2.43 m	HIGH	8:46 pm 2.30 m	HIGH	9:56 pm 2.21 m	HIGH	11:18 pm 2.22 m	PH: 5956 9238
		A	ll materia	l is supplied in	good faith	and is believe	d to be cor	rect. No resp	onsibility o	r liability for e	errors or on	nissions is ac	cepted.		www.phillipislandmarine.com.au

### SPORT



Home hero Jack Miller had a tough weekend, finishing Sunday's race just outside the top 10 in 11th position. Photo: Alia Schonberg.

# Marquez victorious in cat-and-mouse battle

### By Alia Schonberg

### MOTOGP

Round 18 of the MotoGP World Championship kicked off last Friday at the Phillip Island Circuit.

The highly anticipated re-turn of the Qatar Airways sponsored event witnessed 72 hours of jam-packed action both on and off the track.

The world class categories took to the tarmac early on Friday morning for their respective practice sessions.

Friday's premier class practice session finished out the day's schedule after delays and session cancellations due to heavy rainfall.

Prevailing in the adverse conditions and taking timing honours in the wet was Marc Marquez (Gresini Racing MotoGP) with a stellar 1:27.770 setting him up for a strong performance that would continue throughout the weekend and the following morning's Free Practice 2, in which he also topped the time charts.

sessions practice As wrapped mid-morning on Saturday, qualifying sessions for the premier class immediately



Current premier class World Champion, Pecco Bagnaia took out third place during Sunday's 27-lap race. He currently sits second in the points championship (404 points). Photo: Alia Schonberg.

with Maverick Vinales (Aprilia Racing) in third.

Aussie, Jack Miller (Red Bull KTM Factory Racing) struggled to find his footing throughout Q1, slotting into sixth and relegating him to 16th position on the starting grid

All eyes however, were focused on Saturday afternoon's

13-lap Tissot Sprint race. Martin emerged victorious, continuing on from his strong

performances earlier in the day. Taking out second place

over four seconds later (after Martin).

The adrenaline fuelled race was not without drama. The sprint saw seven DNFs after several crashes and highspeed incidents.

Miller lost his footing after a spill during Lap 8 leaving Aussie fans disappointed.

To add to the tense on-track shenanigans, Miller's teammate Brad Binder, Pedro Acosta (Red Bull GASGAS Tech 3), Alex Marquez (Gresini Racing MotoGP) and Johann Zarco (Castrol Honda LCR) all fell

high-speed crash leaving both riders in the gravel.

Saturday afternoon's top three ended the day on a high note as Sunday's main 27-lapper loomed which proved to be just as intense of a battle.

Marquez prevailed triumphant in the Sunday sun after a tight battle for first against pole-sitter, Martin. Martin utilised the pole start to his advantage, breaking away from the field with Marquez tailing closely behind in second.

As the final laps loomed, between the two Spaniards a game of cat and mouse ensued, going overtake-forovertake as a 10-second gap between the remainder of the field emerged.

Marquez got his overtake to stick with just minutes left on the clock, crossing the finish line with a stellar victory and points in the bag ahead of next week's Thai Grand Prix.

Martin followed in second place, nine-tenths of a second later. Heading the 10-second gap was current World Champion, Pecco Bagnaia (Ducati Lenovo Team) in third place.

Martin currently leads the championship standings with 424 points, along with Bag-



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followed suit.

Spaniard Jorge Martin (Prima Pramac Racing) took out pole position during Q2 ahead of Sunday's main 27-lap race, Marquez slotted into second position on the grid, along

in the 13-lap sprint, Marquez powered his satellite Ducati across the line over one-and-ahalf seconds later.

Ducati Lenovo Team's Enea Bastianini rounded out the podium-placers in third, just

victim to crashes throughout the race.

> Lap 12 proved tumultuous in the battle for fifth, with Vinales and Pertamina Enduro VR46 Racing's Marco Bezzecchi colliding at Turn 2 in a

naia slotted into a tight second on 404 points. For the Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix's Moto2 and Moto3 weekend results and information on the upcoming Thai Grand Prix, go to www.motogp.com

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