

PHILLIP ISLAND &amp; SAN REMO

## ADVERTISER

Your Community Voice!

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

\$1.60 Incl. GST



# Breakers bring home the Cup

There was jubilation when the Phillip Island Breakers Senior Men's team won the Grand Final on the weekend.

The Seniors defeated Trafalgar Victoria 5-4 in a tough match, the only team to bring home the trophy from the Breakers' three Grand Finalists.

The Under 12B team's match against Drouin Yellow came down to the wire, with Phillip Island losing after penalties when the two teams could not be separated after extra time. The Senior Women's team were defeated by Leongatha. See more in Sport.

## Expect 110,000 for next month's MotoGP: CEO

Phillip Island is well-placed to secure the next Moto Grand Prix contract beyond 2026, despite intense competition from interstate rivals, according to the Australian Grand Prix Corporation CEO.

CEO Andrew Westacott was speaking at last week's Inspire! 2022 Tourism Conference at the Silverwater Resort in San Remo, ahead of the Grand Prix returning to Phillip Island on October 14-16, for the first time since 2019.

Mr Westacott predicted one of the biggest crowds would attend in October, anticipating up to 110,000 people for the third last round in the MotoGP World Championship calendar, with about 55 per cent from interstate.

Mr Westacott was upbeat that Dorna Sports – the commercial rights holder for the MotoGP – would re-sign Phillip Island beyond the 2026 event, which is the last in this 10-year contract cycle.

"Every contract's negotiations start the minute you sign the previous one. Dialogue is happening and on-going," he said.

"The two parties are willing. This is the best place for the race. I think it will stay here because there's a willingness from both parties."

Mr Westacott said there were "major threats" from rival circuits in South Australia and Bathurst.

"Don't worry we're in great shape with Dorna ... They know the most

picturesque and iconic place for racing is the Phillip Island circuit."

### "Magical"

Mr Westacott was speaking to about 60 Bass Coast tourism industry businesses, as well as Bass Coast Shire Council and Tourism Australia.

He launched a new marketing campaign called "Return to the Island with Casey Stoner and Chris Vermeulen" ahead of the October MotoGP.

"We are back where we belong. This is the home of motorcycle racing in Australia. This is the place where memories are made and part of sporting folklore," he said, referring to past champions Wayne

Gardner, Mick Doohan and Casey Stoner.

"We are back here after three years."

"It's a magical place and that is why motorsports fans keep coming back."

### Potholes

He said it was critical for Victoria, Bass Coast and Phillip Island to ensure every part of the supply chain was competitive, from the road trip from Melbourne to the island, through to arrival, with improved track infrastructure including more grandstands built in the last month.

*Continued page 12*

## Island Guide

See page 14-17

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PHILLIP ISLAND 7 day weather forecast	Wed/Sep21	Thu/Sep22	Fri/Sep23	Sat/Sep24	Sun/Sep25	Mon/Sep26	Tue/Sep27
							
	PARTLY CLOUDY 10 17	PARTLY CLOUDY 10 16	SHOWERS 11 16	SHOWER OR TWO 10 14	POSSIBLE SHOWER 9 18	POSSIBLE SHOWER 11 14	POSSIBLE SHOWER 11 14



Phillip Islanders miss the old Isle of Wight pub which was due for demolition when a fire gutted the building in 2010; koalas in gum trees; and “peace and quiet” more than anything else, according to a recent Facebook poll.

## Dream on: locals get nostalgic

Phillip Islanders miss the old Isle of Wight pub, koalas in gum trees and “peace and quiet” more than anything else.

A poll on the Advertiser’s Facebook page



### CARING FOR SAM’S CHILDREN

Please support the fundraiser for Sam Fraser’s children, to help cover the cost of their care and education.

To donate, go to [gofund.me/b6e777cb](https://gofund.me/b6e777cb), or search [gofundme.com](https://gofundme.com) for “Caring for Sams Children”.

asked readers to reminisce: “If you could bring back one thing that no longer exists on Phillip Island or San Remo what would it be?”

More than 10,600 people viewed the poll, with about 370 comments varying from the niche (my grandparent’s dairy in the main street of Cowes), to the political (the Shire of Phillip Island) and the medical (a proper hospital).

But while answers were random, many people agreed the good ol’ days had koalas and a pub, with Jo commenting the Isle of Wight was “a great meeting place with live music and great memories”.

Some people missed the days when there were few cars on the road, with Danny wishing for the 100km/hour zone between Cape Woolamai and Sunderland Bay.

Due to public holidays, next week’s edition of the Phillip Island & San Remo Advertiser will be out on Thursday September 29.

PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO  
**ADVERTISER**

Doug hankered for the Penguin Cafe, “aka Larry’s, run by Larry and Nel, with four pool tables, pinball machines, fish and chips, timber floors, juke box, seating in bay windows”. “Great memories and best hang out for the youth of the 70s,” Doug said.

A cinema, Dutchies fish n’ chips and the earth worm were all missed.

Diane said “councillors that care and actually get things done for the improvement and benefit of Phillip Island”.

But Marion summed up many comments when she said she would like “peace and quiet”, with Gary adding “less people”, and Christine recalling “more natural space”.

“The balance has been removed ... where will the wildlife go with so many houses being built,” Christine wrote.

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## Aqualoyalty anchors off Cowes

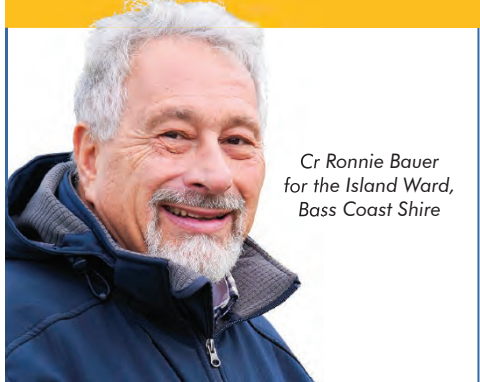
Residents and visitors to Phillip Island last Friday morning would have spotted this large tanker anchored just off Cowes.

The Harbour Master for the Port of Hastings confirmed the ship was the Aqualoyalty and had anchored off Cowes while it waited to berth at Esso, Long Point on September 24 or 25 to load crude oil for China.

Other ships expected in the Port of Hastings (and visible from Phillip Island) this week include the RollDock Sun (next stop Henderson) and the Arago (next stop Lyttelton).



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



Cr Ronnie Bauer  
for the Island Ward,  
Bass Coast Shire

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# Basham sentencing adjourned

The Supreme Court pre-sentence hearing for Adrian Basham that took place on Monday has been adjourned to October 31, after he failed to follow the advice of his lawyers.

In April, the jury in the Supreme Court trial found Mr Basham guilty of killing and staging the suicide of the mother of their three children, Samantha Fraser at her Cowes garage on July 23, 2018.

On Monday Justice Lesley Taylor heard victim impact statements from family and friends of Ms Fraser, in the *King v Adrian James Basham* plea hearing to determine the length of his jail sentence.

While Mr Basham sat motionless as one of his children and the family of his former wife told of their "unrelenting grief", the hearing was later paused while he spoke with his defence counsel Ashley Halphen, who said his client was "highly distressed".

"He is not able satisfactorily to follow the advice that he was given and we infer also he's not following the proceedings adequately," Mr Halphen said.

"I don't feel as though we enjoy his confidence, at least at the moment."

"I don't feel comfortable continu-

ing on with the plea today."

He said medical assistance had not been called but Mr Basham would seek help once back in custody.

Mr Halphen suggested listening to victim impact statements had "triggered" Mr Basham's response.

Justice Taylor said the proceedings "must be heard however difficult Mr Basham finds them".

"We are here because he has been found guilty and there's a live question I must determine - that he now has no input into whatsoever. It's a question of law I will determine based on evidence of the trial and submissions both sides make," Justice Taylor said.

"It's most unfortunate we are in this position. It's evident - if not evident as a matter of logic from the victim impact statements - this event has caused enormous distress to an enormous number of people. These proceedings must come to a conclusion and the conclusion of that is when I sentence Mr Basham."

"But our system demands a person found guilty nonetheless has the right to follow the proceedings."

The hearing was livestreamed to media and unlike the trial Mr Basham could this week be seen on the screen.



The Supreme Court heard victim impact stories from Samantha Fraser's family and friends at the pre-sentencing hearing for Adrian Basham on Monday.

## Intent

While Mr Basham only removed his mask to take sips of water while listening to victim statements, earlier in the day he became animated when Mr Halphen told the court his client had not visited Samantha Fraser on the day of her death with

murderous intent.

"There's no dispute this is an extreme instance of family violence," Mr Halphen said, adding the murder was not premeditated, but "spontaneous".

"There's no evidence Mr Basham was aware of the existence of rope until he was in the garage."

Justice Taylor asked why Mr Basham would have gone to such lengths on the morning of the murder to not use his personal mobile phone, also disguising himself and hiding in the bushes if it wasn't premeditated.

She said Mr Basham's visit to his estranged wife was not only in breach of an intervention order but also a week before they were due to go to court for a separate case involving marital rape, a matter which during the trial was part of a media suppression order.

Mr Halphen said that conduct was consistent with Mr Basham being aware he was breaching an intervention order.

Justice Taylor said evidence from the trial showed Ms Fraser's two mobile phones and handbag remained next to her driver's seat in her car and given she was "petrified" of her estranged husband "the first thing she would have done

would be to pick up ones of those phones, call Triple Zero and lock the car".

Mr Basham raised his hand and attempted to speak to the court, with Justice Taylor then warning him his counsel was speaking on his behalf and "please be quiet".

Following a short break in the morning hearing, Mr Halphen told the court he needed to obtain written instructions from his client, to which Justice Taylor said "he can't be giving evidence now".

Mr Halphen said it was "more complicated".

"Mr Basham doesn't have a full appreciation of the exchange taking place."

The pre-sentence hearing is expected to take one day, followed by sentencing, which can then be followed by appeal, where both Mr Basham can appeal, as well as the Office of Public Prosecutions if they think the penalty was not enough for the crime.

The maximum possible sentence for murder is life in jail.

*If you or anyone you know needs support, contact the National Sexual Assault, Domestic and Family Violence Counselling Service on 1800RESPECT (1800 737 732).*

## Family tells of impact Basham had on their lives

The eldest daughter of Samantha Fraser read an impact statement in the Supreme Court this week, at the pre-sentence hearing for Adrian Basham.

She broke down as she described being bullied by other children who taunted her with cruel comments.

"I'm not the same girl I was but I'm building my confidence back slowly and becoming the person I want to be more and more every day," she said.

She said she came to court this week for three reasons: justice for her mother, as well as her family, friends and for herself.

"I have struggled in the years since my mother was taken from us and even with support it's so unimaginably hard."

"I'm here because I'm a fighter and we will get justice for my mum."

Crown counsel read out a victim impact statement from Ms Fraser's mother Janine, who said even writing the statement had "compounded the trauma".

She said she wakes each morning with "the same sick feeling ... when I remember she is gone", saying she and her husband had tried "to shield the children as much as we can".

Janine said one child suffered trauma-related seizures, another couldn't sleep alone, while a third had repetitive nightmares.

"When they sleep I curl up in bed and howl ... the heartbreak is profound and unrelenting."

The Frasers at one point contemplated fleeing the "horror" but decided to stay on Phillip Island to give the children the only constants in their lives: school, friends, their favourite beach and memories of time spent with their mother.

### "Vibrant personality"

Reading from his statement, Ms Fraser's father Trevor told the court of his family's indescribable grief and trauma and the weight of parenting his three grandchildren.

He recalled the three children - then aged nine, seven and five -

"forlornly" waiting at the school for their mother who "never arrived to collect them" and their "trauma, anger and grief" when they realised it was their father who "ultimately destroyed their lives".

Trevor recalled his daughter was a "vibrant personality": "humorous, intelligent, athletic and attractive".

"Even now four years after her death people tell me of the wonderful help she was to them."

Trevor also read from his youngest granddaughter's victim impact statement, now aged nine, who "put together a few single line statements" with her counsellor.

"I feel like there's a gap missing in my heart, and a shadow over my life."

"My mother will always be the angel that lights up my sky."

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## Friends tell of impact Basham had on their lives

A close friend of Samantha Fraser's spoke directly to Adrian Basham in the Supreme Court on Monday, telling him through tears he was a "monster" and she was "repulsed" he had no "remorse, guilt, shame or feeling".

Lija Matthews - who helped establish Change for Sam, about raising awareness and prevention for ending family - gave her victim impact statement in Mr Basham's pre-sentence hearing, saying the moment she heard of Samantha's death, "I knew you killed her".

"You took her from this earth unwillingly."

"I will never forgive you for murdering Sam."

"You tried so hard to wear her down, but she put up a great fight for the sake of her children."

Lija told the court she had been swallowed by grief and trauma since the murder "and missed out on living."

She said it helped her now knowing Mr Basham had no control anymore and that she was focused on her work through Change for Sam.

"I can go to the beach with my friends and family."

"I'm able to help others and stop another senseless death."

"Sam would be proud of the legacy that lives on."

Lija's husband Peter also gave a statement to the court saying he was seeking medical and psychological help since Samantha's death.

"She was one of the most intelligent, witty and interesting people I have ever known. The world is a far sadder place without Sam in it."

A statement was read to the court from Samantha's friend Nadine who had lived with fear, depression, anger and guilt since her death.

"I can't relate to the rest of the world. I'm very emotional all the time," Nadine said.

"The trauma I feel is irreversible."

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A driver took this photo just as the car caught fire on Church Street last Friday. No one was in the car at the time.

## Car explodes in Cowes street

A car exploded in front of shocked drivers and witnesses in Church Street, Cowes, last Friday afternoon.

The driver had stopped to buy food from the general store and was not in the car at the time, with no onlookers injured, despite the intense flames and black smoke.

A Cowes resident was driving west on Church Street at about 1pm when he said he saw black smoke coming from the car, parked outside the Church Street general store.

"But then it exploded as I drove past. It was pretty hot," the witness said, describing the vehicle as a BMX X5.

"It was fully ablaze."

Church Street was blocked to traffic by fire trucks.

A CFA spokesman said three trucks with volunteer firefighter crews from Phillip Island attended the scene, along with Victoria Police and a San Remo pumper.

The fire was declared under control at 1.18pm.



The fire, attended by three CFA trucks, destroyed the Cowes General Store sign.

## Bonwick battles continue

Residents of Bonwick Avenue in San Remo are now fighting to have their nature strips restored, after new power poles were installed to carry high voltage power through to the new Western Port Views Estate.

Their campaign to have the installation of three-metre-high power poles along their street removed was unsuccessful, and the residents remain furious about the lack of consultation, the loss of amenity and concerned about radiation output from the new high voltage wires.

Now they say they are being treated with "disregard and contempt" and are calling for their nature strips to be restored after they were dug up to install the new poles.

One resident described the state of the nature strips as just dirt, or full of weeds and said

calls to rectify the situation have fallen on deaf ears.

"We have been waiting patiently for our nature strips to be reinstated, but it looks like it's not going to happen," he said.

"I know other residents have been in contact with council, the developer's project manager, the contractors ... all to no avail."

A Bass Coast Shire Council spokesperson said some damage to grass on the nature strips has occurred.

"However it is considered that this will be rectified when the grass grows back."

Residents have also described the speed humps installed in their street as "cheap and ugly" and want to know why the council couldn't compel the developers to install better quality infrastructure.

"The speed bumps are the

standard style of speed bumps used by Council throughout the Shire," the council spokesperson said.

"The speed bumps were installed as a result of design consultation with the residents of Bonwick Avenue, who were concerned about potential vehicle speeds in the area once the new road surface was completed."

One resident has also condemned the "abundance of ugly street signs" installed along the street, however the council defended the signage.

"Council has installed signage to prevent parking along what is a narrow section of road, the signage is appropriate and necessary to enable vehicles, including emergency vehicles, to safely navigate through the area," the council spokesperson said.

## Nurses take care to the community

Mario Bonis of Cowes is full of praise for local nurses. The 101-year-old said because of their care, he is still able to still live in his own home.

Mario's commendation came as Bass Coast Health (BCH) celebrated Nursing in the Community Week, from September 12.

A dedicated team of nurses from BCH is caring for people in their homes, helping them to lead better lives and remain at home for as long as they can.

The District Nurses provide a range of services from wound care and medication management through to palliative care, and monitoring and support of clinical needs.

The nurses are based at BCH's San Remo site and service the entire Bass Coast Shire, from Cowes to Inverloch, and from Wonthaggi to Grantville and into the hinterland.

BCH District Nurse Mandeep Kaur said, "It's a privilege to be able to meet our clients in their homes and to provide the care they need without them having the inconvenience of travelling to receive treatment."

Her client Mario Bonis of Cowes thanked the BCH District Nursing team, which has helped him to continue living at home despite being 101 years old.

"The key to living to 100 is to work hard and no funny business," he quipped.

Another client, Marie Famularo, said the care of District Nurses such as Steph Wylie was "marvellous".

"I see the community nurses as my guardian angels. The loss of my husband was very difficult but the District Nurs-



Bass Coast Health District Nurse Mandeep Kaur cares for client Mario Bonis of Cowes. Mario says support from the District Nursing team has helped him continue to live at home at the age of 101!

es made it bearable with their support and kindness," Marie said.

BCH often seeks new team members. Opportunities to

join the BCH District Nursing and Palliative Care team are advertised on BCH's recruitment website: [basscoasthealth.mercury.com.au](http://basscoasthealth.mercury.com.au)

## Offshore Wind Forum

With Minister for Energy, Lily D'Ambrosio MP & Michael Watson, Electrical Trades Union.

Hosted by Jordan Crugnale MP

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# Multi-million-dollar pledge for hospital

The Premier Daniel Andrews and Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas visited Wonthaggi Hospital last week and announced if re-elected, the Labor government would fully fund the next stages of the hospital redevelopment.

The \$290 million commitment follows on from \$115 million for stage 1, which is due to open in November this year. Stage 1 includes an upgraded emergency department able to treat an additional 26,000 emergency patients every year.

The newly promised funding will cover stages 2 and 3, including two new wards, increasing patient capacity by up to 64 beds, a new labour and delivery complex and new outpatient clinic with around 25 treatment spaces. This will provide space for patients needing dialysis, chemotherapy and specialist appointments.

"Population is growing on the Bass Coast – so we'll make sure the hospital grows to meet the needs of local families," the Premier said.

He said construction would be completed by 2027.

"Bass Coast Health is one of the biggest employers in the district," Mr Andrews said. "This will not only benefit staff and patients, it will mean 750 construction jobs."

The government said this investment will complete the medical imaging unit begun in the first stage of works, refurbish allied health treatment spaces, administration buildings and training areas, and deliver extra car parking for staff, patients and visitors.

The Premier said investment in health care was a point of pride for the government. "We are doing what matters and finishing what we started."

He said funding for projects like Wonthaggi Hospital redevelopment was important so people could receive treatment close to home.



Don Paproth (BCH Board), Louise Sparkes (BCH), Jan Child (BCH CEO), Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale, Premier Daniel Andrews and Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas outside Stage 1 of the Wonthaggi Hospital redevelopment, after last week's announcement.

"We don't want people to have to travel away from their homes. We want them to get as much care as possible, as close to home as possible."

Bass Coast Health CEO Jan Child was ecstatic about the unexpected announcement.

"It's the best news ever," she said.

## Plans

Ms Child said stages 2 and 3 were part of the hospital redevelopment masterplan, and if Labor won the election there was more work to be done to be ready to commence construction. The plan would need to be revised by BCH and Victorian Health Building Authority.

"Stages two and three will entail

two new 32-bed wards. One will be a medical ward and the second will be a sub-acute ward."

These will be built adjacent to the new hospital building and will be a three-four storey building with an outpatient and day therapy area (including a new dialysis centre) on the bottom and first floors.

Ms Child said this was likely to be built out the front of the existing medical ward and a new carpark built at the rear of the site.

The stages will also involve a new Women's Health Centre including a new labour and delivery complex with birthing suites that will enable more complex births to be performed at the hospital. There are also plans underway for BCH

to expand the footprint of maternity in the interim so that it can increase maternity service capacity in the short term.

Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale said she was proud to be able to deliver the first stage of the hospital redevelopment and this latest promise would ensure the local community got the healthcare it deserves.

The announcement was made on-site at stage 1 of the hospital redevelopment. The building is due to be handed over on November 6, with the new Emergency Department operating from November 28.

## Praise

During his speech Mr Andrews praised the work of BCH CEO Jan

Child and her team on the stage 1 redevelopment.

"To run a hospital and a building site at the same time is really, really hard. So we are very proud of the work that you've done."

He also said the Member for Bass had lobbied hard for the community. "The Bass Coast community could not have a more effective, eloquent and determined champion than Jordan Crugnale."

Peter Paul, President of the Phillip Island Medical and Health Action Group (PIMHAG) said they welcomed the Premier's commitment.

"We would also have welcomed any statement regarding Mental Health and Aged Care development in the Bass Coast."

Mr Paul said the group was strongly focused on the Phillip Island Community Hospital, which is due to commence construction shortly, and open in the latter half of 2024.

"This has been PIMHAG's number one priority for 16 years."

"On Wednesday October 5, at 5.30pm at the Phillip Island RSL, the CEO of Bass Coast Health, Jan Child, will discuss the medical services that will be available to our community, when the hospitals are completed."

"Members of the community are most welcome to attend the talk."

If re-elected, Mr Andrews also promised \$20 million for new 25 Paramedic Practitioners, who will be able to assess, diagnose and treat patients in the field and in their homes, to ease the pressure on busy hospitals.

A press contingent travelled from Melbourne and after the announcements, subjected both the Premier and Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas to intensive questioning about the case of Melbourne woman Kylie Hennessy, who had to travel to South Australia for a vital brain scan.

# New hospital facilities to open in November

After the announcement by the Premier, the Advertiser got an impromptu tour of Stage 1 of the hospital development, which is due to be operational by November 28.

Stage 1 includes an upgraded Emergency Department with the capacity to treat an additional 26,000 emergency patients every year.

The massive new ED area includes 18 cubicles, compared to six currently in operation and is ten times larger than the existing facility.

The new ED is pandemic-ready, with four of the cubicles designed so patients can be isolated and sealed off if needed.

The new building also includes a huge sterilising area and large operating theatres, fitted with state-

of-the-art equipment.

The first-floor ward has 16 single and eight double rooms. While it will ultimately be a surgical and paediatrics ward, initially it will accommodate all patients, while the existing ward is renovated.

Next to the ward is a light-filled patient lounge with enormous windows that overlook Wonthaggi.

Bass Coast Health CEO Jan Child said the building has been designed to incorporate natural light into patient rooms and operating theatres and an internal courtyard will be fitted out by the local Rotary group.

Stage 1 of the hospital redevelopment cost \$115 million.

Ms Child said the building was due to be handed over on November 9, with the new ED opening on November 28.



The reception area of the new ward on the first floor, which includes 16 single and eight double rooms. From left: Jordan Crugnale (Member for Bass), Chris Peterson (engineer), Don Paproth (BCH board), Brendan De Neef (Kane Constructions), Jan Child (CEO BCH) and Stephanie Lancuba (Lyons Architects).

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# Big leap forward in PICAL progress

The journey to create a new home for Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) took a great leap forward last week, when prefabricated modules arrived at the Warley Avenue site in Cowes.

The modules arrived by truck on Monday and Tuesday last week and were then craned into place.

Constructed at a factory in Melbourne, the modular buildings have all the cladding, windows and doors installed, with plastering, insulation and internal painting completed.

The modules also had a mechanical and electrical fit out before being shipped.

On site, in preparation for the arrival, screw piles were installed, and service connections and plumbing works completed.

Footings for the buildings were also installed.

Bass Coast Shire Council said all civil works were completed prior to the arrival of the modules and the contractor was now working on internal finishes and mechanical, electrical and plumbing fit outs.

## Timeline

The new premises is expected to be ready for PICAL to move in by late November.

PICAL general manager Greg Thompson said they were working towards this date and expected to close operations for the last two weeks of November to undertake the move from Church Street.

"We will continue to operate on a business-as-usual basis up until the end of October," Greg said.

"We are telling our community groups and



Island Ward councillors Ronnie Bauer and Michael Whelan met with Abbas Niazi (BCSC Project Manager left) and Richard Magrath (right, Arkit Site Manger) on site last week to inspect the newly arrived modules.

room hire clients we can guarantee rooms will be available up until the end of October. During November it will be on a case-by-case basis.

"In the last week of November we will move to Warley and all operations will close that week."

Greg said all the buildings at the current Church Street site, bar one, are now owned by the Victorian Health Building Authority (VHBA).

He was unsure of VHBA's plans for the existing buildings but described some as "asbestos riddled" and likely to be demolished, while others

might be sold or put into community use.

One portable building onsite is owned by PICAL, which houses the Women Connect program and computer room.

Greg said PICAL hoped another community group or organisation might be interested in purchasing the portable and were in the process of advertising it.

"How we go moving the building we own will dictate how much room we have on site, and also if VHBA are going to move on the other portables."

## Services

Greg said PICAL was working hard to avoid disruption to two essential frontline services – Services Australia agency (for Medicare, Centrelink etc) and the food relief pantry.

"We are acutely aware we want to minimise the amount of time they are not available."

"There has been a huge upsurge in demand for food relief, as the cost-of-living increases."

Greg said it was "fantastic" PICAL is the official charity partner of the upcoming MotoGP.

"It will help our profile, and the profile of all community services throughout Bass Coast, but it has been a lot of work to get organised."

He said any donations to the Food Relief pantry would be gratefully accepted, as the move from Church Street meant the community garden which supplied fresh produce for the food relief pantry, had been dismantled (see separate story).

"Local supermarkets donate left over fresh produce, but as Phillip Island opens up to major events and tourism after a two-year hiatus, there's less left to donate."

"When there's a huge influx of tourists, there's hardly any fresh produce left and it's a double whammy if we don't have our own garden."

Greg said the food pantry can accept fresh produce donations and said they would welcome any backyard gardeners with excess vegetables.

Donations of cash and any packaged or canned goods that are not past the used by date are also accepted.

However the pantry cannot accept any cooked food. [www.pical.org.au](http://www.pical.org.au)

# PICAL need produce as garden dismantled

The PICAL community garden has been dismantled, as preliminary works begin on the site of the new Phillip Island Community Hospital in Church Street.

The Community Garden is due to be relocated to Blue Gum Reserve, but the move is still being negotiated with Bass Coast Shire Council,

leaving the PICAL Food Pantry without a vital source of fresh produce.

The garden and Coel's Shed, which is currently on the Church Street site, have to move so the Victorian Health Building Authority (VHBA) can begin preliminary foundation work for the new hospital.

PICAL general manager Greg Thompson said getting the new garden established as soon as possible was critical.

"Part of the role of our community garden was a supply of fresh vegetables for our food pantry and our meals cooking program."

Greg said the garden had a dual purpose as a part of the supply chain, and also an important mental health role.

"We do have a volunteer team that tends the garden and that team runs programs and conducts tutoring and guidance for anyone that wants to connect with the group from a mental health perspective."

He said members of the team had taken home the smaller garden beds and were tending to them in their own backyards.

"When the new space opens in Blue Gum Reserve, these will all come back."

He said he hoped the council would urgently re-establish the garden at the new site, and said PICAL was also concerned about the safety of Coel's Shed.

"Coel's Shed is due to be extracted from PICAL's current backyard on Monday September 26, by the VHBA at their cost."

"It will be relocated to Blue Gum Reserve to become part of the new Community Garden."



The existing community garden in Church Street has been demolished, so PICAL is currently operating without one. Rudi Coel's shed in the background is due to be moved to Blue Gum Reserve on September 26.

However this will lead to security issues if the council cannot source temporary security fencing for the Blue Gum site, within this timeframe."

He said PICAL was concerned about the security of the shed being relocated to Blue Gum Reserve until the garden is built around it.

## Boomerang worries

Boomerang Bags which currently operates out of the Church Street site is also due to move to Blue Gum Reserve, into a former CFA building that the council is transforming into an arts hub.

Council allocated \$185,000 in the current budget to refurbish the CFA building on Settlement Road, which will also house the Artists Society of Phillip Island (now known as ASPIR), Phil-

lip Island Arts and Crafts Gallery and Phillip Island Contemporary Exhibition Space.

Greg said Boomerang Bags were part of the food relief supply chain, but it wasn't clear when they would be able to move to the new premise in Settlement Road.

He believes the CFA lease runs until March 2023, and it is unlikely to vacate before Christmas, which could leave Boomerang Bags without a home for several months.

"If anyone has a space that might be temporarily available, rent free, please contact PICAL," Greg said.

"It could be a shed, a double garage or even an empty shopfront, and would need power and light."

Bass Coast Shire Council was contacted for comment.

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Police say Cowes police station is “sometimes temporarily unstaffed because it is often more effective for police officers to be out patrolling the community, so they can be where they are needed most, rather than behind a desk at a police station”.

# Police reassure more officers for schoolies, GP

Staff numbers at Cowes and San Remo police stations are “among the highest” on record, with extra officers expected in the next three months, particularly schoolies week, according to police command.

The response follows continued resident concern that Cowes station was frequently not staffed, while the latest annual police statistics show criminal incidents rose in Cowes over the past year to 410, an increase on the previous two years (382 in 2021, and 353 in 2020) (see separate story).

Last week island residents took to social media to voice concerns that Cowes police station was seemingly not staffed at night.

“Twice now I’ve reported people in my yard and when I’ve called it’s gone through to Wonthaggi and by the time they arrive they are long gone,” wrote one person on Facebook.

A respondent agreed saying they ended up calling 000, with a police car called from Wonthaggi, “but never arrived”, and the trespasser was long gone.

Last year the peak group representing residents, Island Voice, called for transparency in police staffing numbers following apparent delayed response times, while a former Fisheries officer, who had worked closely with police, said the level of staff resourcing at Cowes was “far below adequate” on a normal day.

**Increase**

However, Bass Coast’s Acting Senior Sergeant Scott Morison last week said a number of vacancies at Cowes station had recently been filled.

“Staff numbers at both Cowes and San Remo police stations are among the highest they have ever been,” Acting Snr Sgt Morison said.

“The community can expect to see an increase in police resources during busy periods such as the Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix in October, schoolies week in November, and over the peak summer holiday period.

“Schoolies week, in particular is expected to have a larger police presence than ever before, with the number of school leavers visiting the region expected to increase now that lockdowns are a thing of the past.”

Acting Snr Sgt Morison said Cowes police station counter was “sometimes temporarily

unstaffed”.

“This is because it is often more effective for police officers to be out patrolling the community, so they can be where they are needed most, rather than behind a desk at a police station.

“Police officers are always within close proximity to respond to incidents as they occur, with back-up support from larger police stations such as Wonthaggi when required.

“Police are 100 per cent committed to keeping everyone who lives in, or visits, our region safe, with a 24-hour police response across the entire Bass Coast region, including Cowes.”

He said Victoria Police constantly reviewed police numbers, level of offending and peak times when police were required.

Anyone in need of urgent police assistance should call Triple Zero (000). Alternatively, if a non-urgent crime has occurred such as a property theft, call the Police Assistance Line (131 444) or report online via [police.vic.gov.au](http://police.vic.gov.au)

## Concern

On social media, Amie wrote that anyone concerned about police levels should contact MP Jordan Crugnale and police command.

“Locals need to push for this to change not just for our community but for the poor overworked police members who are wanting to be able to do more but don’t have the resources,” she wrote.

Tony said it wasn’t just Cowes that had a problem, with “plenty of places where cops don’t turn up when you call them”.

Kaela said she had found the Cowes station desk was closed to walk-ins, but was still staffed by patrols.

Nicole said she had a “great experience with the Cowes police station”.

“I had three people looking around my house at 11pm and they triggered my cameras. I wasn’t home at the time. I called the station and they arrived within five minutes of me calling. They searched my home for damage and called me back to let me know. I was so appreciative.”

Nick wrote because family violence incidents on the island were “well above most metro areas”, they can take an entire shift to complete.

# Bass Coast crime stats down

The latest statistics from the Crime Statistics Agency recorded no increase in criminal incidents in Bass Coast in the past year.

There was one less criminal incident reported in the year from June 2021 to June 2022 compared to the previous year, and Family Violence incidents dropped by 9.1 per cent.

Recorded offences were down 6.3 per cent and Alleged Offender incidents down by one per cent.

The only rise was in the number of Victim Reports, up 2.1 per cent compared to the previous year.

Wonthaggi and Cowes again were the top two areas for criminal incidents, with Cowes seeing a rise from 382 incidents in 2020/21 to 410 in the past year.

The statistics show that charges were laid in 38 per cent of cases. In 25.5 per cent of cases no charges were laid and 36.4 per cent remain unsolved.

A breakdown of the top five crime locations showed a drop in all areas except retail, while Cowes recorded a drop in Recorded Offences from 611 to 578.

Breaches of family violence orders continued to be the top offence, but with a significant drop from 630 to 507.

Overall, the shire recorded a lower incident rate than the Victorian average. However the number of Family Violence incidents per 100,000 population remained well above the state average.

## State-wide

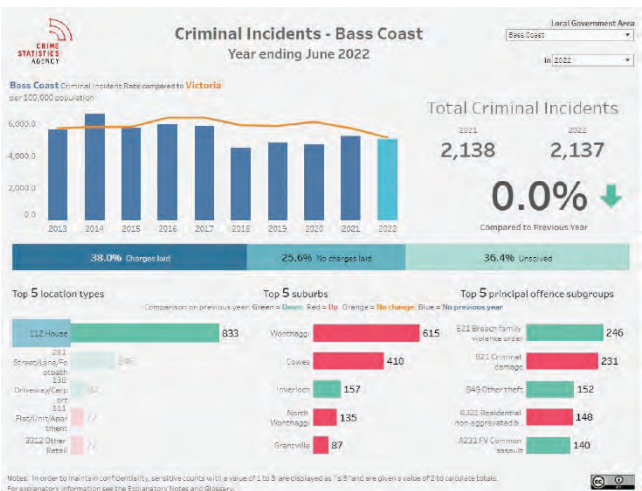
Victoria Police said it was incredibly positive to see a steady decline across the majority of offence categories state-wide.

The police said serious and violent crimes across Victoria were also down, with a 3.7 per cent reduction in the overall number of crimes committed against another person.

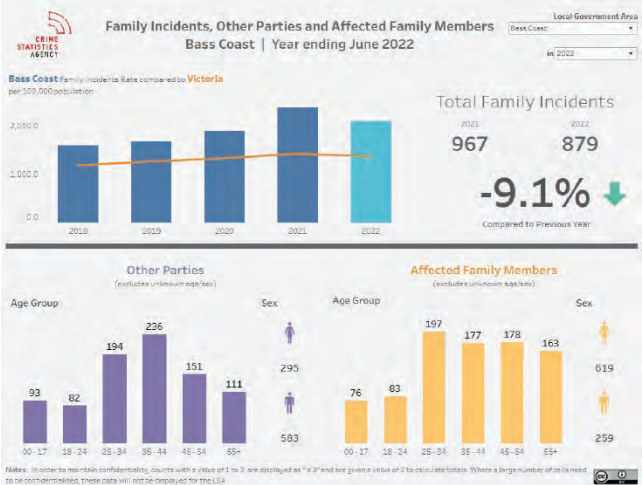
Robberies were at their lowest rates since 2005, with Family Violence down 3.1 per cent.

Residential burglaries were at their lowest levels since the introduction of the Law Enforcement Assistance Program in 1993.

“There are plenty of encouraging signs – the lowest number of home burglaries since 1993, least robberies since 2005, lowest number of cars stolen since 2011, decreasing family violence rates, less assaults, and reduced numbers



In Bass Coast there was one less criminal incident reported in the year from June 2021 to June 2022 compared to the previous year.



Family Violence incidents dropped by 9.1 per cent in the past year, but Bass Coast’s figures are still well above the state average.

of firearm and weapon offences,” said Deputy Commissioner Regional Operations Rick Nugent.

“Our focus will remain steadfast on ensuring the community is not only safe but feels safe.”

**Concerns**

Despite the police reassurances, in recent weeks locals have taken to social media to voice their concerns about the lack of police presence on Phillip Island (see separate story).

However a University of Queensland Researcher, Renee Zahnow recently told the ABC that reporting of minor crimes against property on social media can make residents feel their neighbourhood is less safe.

Dr Zahnow’s research focuses on place-based patterns of crime and said the posts on

social media can magnify behaviour and create a false impression of crime levels.

She said many people relied on social media to gauge how safe their suburb was, but her research had showed this “virtual exposure” could create a false impression of criminal or deviant behaviours.

Police encourage everyone to report incidents by calling Triple 0 in an emergency, calling the Police Assistance Line 131 444 for non-urgent crime, or report crime information confidentially to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online at [www.crimestoppers.vic.com.au/report-a-crime/](http://www.crimestoppers.vic.com.au/report-a-crime/)

To see the full breakdown of crime statistics for Bass Coast, visit [www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/crime-statistics/latest-crime-data-by-area](http://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/crime-statistics/latest-crime-data-by-area) and select Bass Coast in the Local Government drop down menu.

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# Floating wetlands and improved water security

Last week, Minister for Water Harriet Shing visited Cowes to inspect a wetland carbon storage project in Cowes, and officially open the restored San Remo Basin.

The Restorative Wetland Carbon Storage pilot project run by Westernport Water is studying how floating wetlands can be used to manage treated effluent and emissions produced from wastewater treatment.

The state government has invested \$250,000 towards the project as part of the Integrated Water Management grant program, which co-invests in wastewater and stormwater projects that can contribute to water security, public and environmental health, and urban amenity.

The findings of the study being run by Westernport Water will be shared with the broader water industry and community and is one of 11 metropolitan and 17 regional projects to receive funding under the first round of the Integrated Water Management grants program.

Westernport Water said the project included installing a floating wetland on a wastewater storage lagoon at the Cowes Wastewater Treatment Plant, and testing its function by assessing how it can improve water quality and provide biodiversity while also sequestering carbon.

"The Floating Wetland Pilot at the Cowes Wastewater Treatment Plant will support ground-breaking research into the performance of wetlands for both improving water quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions," said Westernport Water's Managing Director, Dona Tantirimudalige.

"The pilot project will help address a common challenge for the water industry in managing treated effluent and emissions produced from wastewater treatment plants.

"The project involves community and industry engagement to refine project co-benefits, and findings from the pilot will inform future



Dona Tantirimudalige (MD Westernport Water), Harriet Shing (Minister for Water), Meg Humphrys (Westernport Water) and Chris West (Westernport Water) at the site of the Restorative Wetland Carbon Storage pilot project.

wetland design at Westernport Water's Corinella Wastewater Treatment Plant."

Ms Tantirimudalige said the wetlands used plant species suspended on the water column with roots submerged in the water.

The plants take up nutrients and carbon from the water and the project will assess how effective these plants are at both removing nutrients and improving water quality, at the same time reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the water.

She said the plants will need to be harvested every six months.

The plants will be tested to assess

if they are suitable to use for restorative programs, such as planting on farm dams, or if it would be more suitable to put them through a thermal drying process (to remove unwanted contaminants) and reuse as biochar product at another site.

## San Remo basin

Minister Shing also visited the San Remo Basin, where a new liner and cover has been installed.

Westernport Water said this will ensure the basin can provide consistent and reliable drinking water services for another 30 years.

The \$2.6 million project will help

prevent evaporation of the water supply from the San Remo water storage basin. The works were finished three months ahead of time and under budget without any impact to customers.

The San Remo Basin can store up to 30 million litres or about five days of supply and is an important part of the water supply system, providing a safe and reliable storage for Phillip Island and surrounding areas.

"The renewal of the basin ensures that the water future of one of Australia's most popular tourism destinations remains secure," said Minister Shing.

The San Remo Basin was originally constructed in 1961 as an uncovered earthen water storage basin, and upgraded and fully enclosed with a poly-ethylene (PE) liner and floating cover in 1999.

Westernport Water said the theoretical useful life of the San Remo Basin previous liner and the cover was 20 years.

Beyond this point, it was susceptible to deterioration, which could impact the continuity of water supply and quality, and regular maintenance inspections had shown increasing deterioration.

"Long-term infrastructure planning is essential to meet the growing demands for water and wastewater services as we see people moving to the region," explained Ms Tantirimudalige.

"The San Remo Basin is Westernport Water's main drinking water storage in our water distribution system and essential to providing reliable water services to the communities of San Remo and Phillip Island.

"The renewal of the basin will provide Westernport Water with enhanced operational flexibility to cater for the spike in demand experienced during peak holiday seasons."

Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale congratulated Westernport Water on the pilot program and the upgrades at the San Remo Basin.

"Nature-based solutions are important to the community and this pilot is just one example of many local innovations that will ensure the Bass Coast is well-positioned to meet future challenges," Ms Crugnale said.

"Renewal of critical assets like the San Remo Basin is essential to the ongoing supply of water services that meet, or exceed customer expectations – meaning reliability for families, businesses and the local community."



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# Smiths Beach store's liquor licence curbed

Plans by the Smiths Beach store to become a licenced venue have been restricted, following a ruling by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

And the objector to the VCAT case has called on Bass Coast Shire Council to create a liquor strategy, to ensure an overview of the growing number of alcohol licences on the island and their social impacts.

Earlier this year councillors voted to approve a planning permit for a \$30,000 upgrade to the Smiths Beach store that would see the current café serve alcohol from 5pm to 11pm Wednesday to Saturday and from 11am to 6pm Sundays and public holidays for up to 60 patrons.

The plan received 17 submissions, with objectors saying it could change the family atmosphere of the hamlet and argued against granting an alcohol licence.

"Smiths Beach is a quiet, residential area, not really a place for a pub," wrote one objector.

Another said when a late-night licence had been given to a past owner of the café, it resulted in "police intervention due to unruly behaviour".

Following the approval, one objector took the shire to VCAT to fight the liquor licence.

This month VCAT ruled the sale of liquor should be limited, between 5pm to 9pm, Wednesday to Sunday.

Objector Bruce Wilson said he would prefer no liquor licence but the compromise was a better outcome than the original proposal.

"Smiths Beach is unique in that the store is surrounded entirely by residential properties. I can think of no other community in Bass Coast Shire where there is a liquor licensee surrounded by homes," Bruce said.



"Smiths Beach is unique," says the objector to the VCAT case. "The town's store is surrounded entirely by residential properties. I can think of no other community in Bass Coast Shire where there is a liquor licensee surrounded by homes."

"We get truckloads of visitors to the beach during the day but after dark you can hear a pin drop. It's peaceful. Kids can wander around safely after dark."

"There are terrific places on the island such as the wineries to have a drink and they don't cause grief to anyone."

Bruce said his "beef" was with the shire and not the store owner, calling for a liquor licence strategy.

"There are about 100 liquor li-

cences between San Remo and Cowes, did we need another one?"

"I would prefer council was thoughtful about the process, that they have a liquor strategy that states where people can enjoy a drink with a meal, rather than a random scattering when proposals pop up."

"There are dry areas in Melbourne and it wouldn't have hurt to have one in Smiths Beach."

Bruce added lengthy community consultation around the

recently finished Smiths Beach masterplan made no mention of wanting a bar or licenced venue.

## Shire response

The Advertiser asked whether the shire would consider creating a liquor strategy.

A shire spokesperson said requirements for liquor licensing were in the Bass Coast Planning Scheme, with the decision guidelines requiring "consideration of the cumulative impact of multiple approvals".



Phillip Island Nature Parks says there is no evidence of another fox on Phillip Island, despite an uptick in the number of reported fox sightings. Photo: Alex Glebov, Unsplash.

## Fox cunning or hare-brained?

Phillip Island Nature Parks says there is no evidence of another fox on Phillip Island, despite an uptick in the number of reported fox sightings.

"There is no further evidence of a live fox on Phillip Island," a Nature Parks spokesperson said.

"Our conservation team is continuing to closely monitor the situation and will update the community if anything changes."

In July Nature Parks said DNA samples collected from the fox that was caught were matched to the scats and tracks of the fox responsible for the attack at Bimbadeen egg farm, when dozens of chooks were killed back in May.

But this month locals took to social media to report various sightings, including at Hells Corner, Ventnor.

One person suggested it was a fox killing a friend's chickens, while Kimmy commented "they can say we don't have foxes here but that's my second out here around Ventnor".

Several people remarked the sightings could be a large hare or a ginger cat.

A sheep farmer said they had just finished lambing season with "not one fox attack".

To report fox sightings on Phillip Island call 0419 369 365.

FSA/DETS1029



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San Remo students Lily and Lexi took part in R U OK Day activities, which were held across three local primary schools.



Students, like Cowes Primary's Silas and Kingston wore yellow for R U OK? Day.

# Schools ask R U OK?

On September 8, local Phillip Island schools, staff, students, and families dressed in yellow to raise awareness for, and throw their support behind, National R U OK? Day. The R U OK? initiative aims to “inspire and empower everyone to meaningfully connect with the people around them and to start a conversation with those in their world who may be struggling with life”. It has a strong emphasis on reminding you that “you don’t have to be an expert to reach out – just a good friend and a great listener”. “A day like this allows staff to reflect and check in on each other and ensure we are creating environments where students feel connected, a sense of belonging and that they are truly cared for and supported by the staff. This message is more important than ever,” said Lauren Hamer, San Remo Primary School teacher and Wellbeing team member. Cowes Primary, San Remo Primary and Newhaven Primary all use the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationship wellbeing program, that aims to equip students with the help seeking strategies they need when faced with challenges. Emotional Literacy,

Positive Coping and Stress Management and other topics are explicitly taught by staff to ensure their students feel safe and supported in times of uncertainty. Throughout the day, all classes from all schools engaged in a variety of activities linked to kindness, empathy and ways to start the conversation of ‘are you okay?’. All schools are encouraging members of the wider community to take time to connect and reach out to a mate. Remember, it’s a conversation that could change a life. Four simple steps you can follow are: 1. **ASK** – ask your friend if they are OK? 2. **LISTEN** – let your friend tell you how they feel. 3. **ENCOURAGE ACTION** – tell a teacher or trusted adult. 4. **CHECK IN** – ask your friend if they are feeling better. Simply listening and giving someone your time might be just what they need to help them through. For more information, visit [www.ruok.org.au/](http://www.ruok.org.au/) More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)



While the existing Phillip Island Health Hub provides many health services to the Island community now, many more services will be added when the Phillip Island Community Hospital opens in late 2024.

# Discover your health service at Bass Coast Health’s Community Forums

**By Bass Coast Health** Bass Coast Health (BCH) is taking to the road to present a series of Community Forums across the municipality in October. The forums will be the community’s chance to learn more about the exciting Wonthaggi Hospital Expansion (WHE) that will open in December this year, as well as the Phillip Island Community Hospital that is scheduled to open in late 2024, and also our plan to grow our services. Forums will be held at Corinella, Grantville, Cowes, Newhaven, Wonthaggi and Inverloch, as well as online via Zoom for those people unable to reach our in-person events. The forums will be hosted by BCH’s Community Advisory Committee and our fabulous Auxiliaries: the Bass Coast Health Ladies Auxiliary, Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary, San Remo Opportunity Shop Auxiliary and the Inverloch Fundraising Auxiliary. BCH CEO Jan Child said these are exciting times for the local health service and the community. “We are so proud of the Wonthaggi Hospital Expansion and the first-class facilities that it will bring to our community, as well as the additional services that we will eventually be able to offer from this bigger and better building,” she said. “The Phillip Island Community Hospital will be built next to the existing Health Hub at Cowes and will also offer a greater range of healthcare services to the Island community, saving residents from having to travel to Wonthaggi Hospital or Melbourne. “We’re thrilled to be presenting these information forums to our community so that they can find out more about our services.” To find a Community Forum near you, refer to the advertisement on this page.



## Bass Coast Health invites everyone to our Community Forums

- Join us for an opportunity to hear about:
- The \$115m Wonthaggi Hospital Expansion
  - The Phillip Island Community Hospital
  - Our growing services

Tuesday, October 4	.....Online via Zoom, 10.30am-12pm. Call to register
Tuesday, October 4	.....Corinella Hall, 2pm-3.30pm
Wednesday, October 5	.....Phillip Island RSL, 5.30pm-7pm
Monday, October 10	.....Grantville Hall, 1.30pm-3pm
Wednesday, October 12	.....Online via Zoom, 2pm-3.30pm. Call to register
Wednesday, October 12	.....Wonthaggi Workmen’s Club, 6pm-7.30pm
Thursday, October 20	.....Newhaven Yacht Squadron, 10am-11.30am
Monday, October 24	.....Wonthaggi Golf Club, 1pm-2.30pm
Tuesday, October 25	.....Phillip Island Golf Club, 12.30pm-2pm
Tuesday, October 25	.....Online via Zoom, 5.30pm-7pm. Call to register
Thursday, October 27	.....Inverloch Community Hub, 5.30pm-7pm





Celebrity chef Shane Delia (far right) is pictured at last week's tourism conference in San Remo with Australian Grand Prix Corporation CEO Andrew Westacott (middle) and Fergus Cameron, former managing director of the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit.

## Celebrity restaurant for island?

A top Australian celebrity chef – who has a holiday house on Phillip Island – has confided he has long considered starting a restaurant here.

Shane Delia – chef and owner of restaurants Maha and Biggie Smalls and host of his own TV shows Spice Journey and Recipe For Life – last week told the Inspire! 2022 Tourism Conference at the Silverwater Resort in San Remo the island was his “sanctuary”.

“This is my happy place,” said Shane, who has a holiday house at Newhaven and added that after the conference he was going for a pie in San Remo.

“When the world gets too much for me ... I go for a walk down Cape Woolamai and feel like I can deal with Melbourne again.”

Shane was speaking as part of a panel hosted by North Pier's Kimberley Brown, along with Australian Grand Prix Corporation CEO Andrew Westacott, in front of an audience of about 60 Bass Coast tourism

industry insiders.

He told the audience “many times” he had considered setting up a restaurant on Phillip Island.

“But my wife says if you do that you'll turn it into work.”

Kimberley quipped she didn't “need competition” for her own hospitality business.

Shane told the audience this year's restaurant bookings were up 30 per cent on pre-pandemic levels.

“Customers want premium at all levels. I think premium products are back.”

However while he agreed that while local and seasonal produce was important, the customer was not always willing to pay for it.

“There's a fine line between profitability and desirability.”

Shane is the author of several books, including of Maha Middle Eastern Home Cooking and Spice Journey: Adventures in Middle Eastern Cooking.

# Cruise ships are returning

Cruise ships are coming back to Phillip Island, with more than 12,000 passengers expected on 14 stop-overs over four months in summer.

Last week's Inspire! 2022 Tourism Conference at the Silverwater Resort in San Remo heard the first post-pandemic cruise ships were set to return, with the first – Seabourn Odyssey – arriving on December 1 with her maiden voyage carrying up to 450 passengers.

The largest ship will be the Grand Princess on December 15 and then again on March 22 – which is the final

cruise for the season – which can carry 2590 passengers and 1100 crew.

In total there will be potentially 12,600 passengers on-board all cruises, with 6400 crew.

Destination Phillip Island's general manager Kim Storey told the conference she had attended the Australian Cruise Association conference in Townsville earlier this month.

“New luxury ship brands such as Viking and Windstar will be visiting the Island in 2023.”

The conference heard the

itinerary for stop-overs to Phillip Island included:

### 2022

Dec 1, Seabourn Odyssey  
Dec 4, Westerdam  
Dec 7, Seabourn Odyssey  
Dec 15, Grand Princess

### 2023

Jan 3, Seabourn Odyssey  
Jan 8, Seabourn Odyssey  
Jan 10, Regatta  
Jan 24, Star Breeze  
Feb 4, Seabourn Odyssey  
Feb 9, Seabourn Odyssey  
Feb 12, Viking Neptune  
Mar 9, Seabourn Sojourn  
Mar 17, Seabourn Sojourn  
Mar 22, Grand Princess



From left: Ted Jeffery, Gwen Jeffery – Phillip Island Rotary's newest member and President Peter Buitenhuis.

## Rotary welcomes newest member

The Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo is in full swing after two years of Covid hibernation.

The club recently inducted their newest member, Gwen Jeffery, a well-known identity on the Island.

Gwen's husband, Ted, has been a member of the Ro-

tary Club for “too long to remember” and thought it about time Gwen formalise her connection to the club.

The Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo hold meetings at their club rooms twice a month incorporating various dinner menus.

The club runs the Op

Shop, Rhyll Twilight markets and various Community BBQs with their specially designed BBQ Trailer.

Visitors and volunteers are warmly welcomed to Clubhouse meetings. For more information on becoming a Rotarian please contact Rob Robertson on 0412 331 218.



**Bass Coast Women Leading Locally Forum**  
Supporting women to become community leaders

The Woman Leading Locally Forum on October 6 is designed to inspire women to become successful leaders in the community.

## Women Leading Locally Forum

Bass Coast Shire Council is hosting a free Bass Coast Women Leading Locally Forum to inspire women to become successful leaders in the community.

The Forum will be held on Thursday, October 6 from 10am to 11.30am at the old Wonthaggi Post Office, located at the corner of Watt Street and McBride Avenue. Morning tea and a child-minding service are provided.

The Bass Coast Women Leading Locally Forum aims to bring current and former women councillors together to share their insights with the community on the benefits and challenges of being a woman on council.

Bass Coast Shire Council said it was excited to announce that Ruth McGowan OAM will be attending the forum.

Ruth McGowan is a gender equality expert in local government and is the author of “Get Elected”. As a previous Mayor of Baw Baw Shire Council and long-time supporter of women in local government, Ruth trains women to campaign for political office and is a sought-after Councillor Coach.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Leticia Laing, Cr Clare Le Serve and former Mayor and Councillor Pam Rothfield will share their experiences as councillors, why they got involved and the benefits of having more women on Council.

Other guest speakers will include Mornington Peninsula Shire Councillor Sarah Race,

who is also a member of the Local Government Gender Equality Advisory Committee. Bass Coast Shire CEO Ali Wastie will be the MC and facilitate the Q&A session.

Attendees will also learn about the Women Leading Locally Fellowship Program. This Program aims to increase the representation of women councillors and mayors in Victoria, with a focus on campaigning as a candidate for the 2024 Local Government elections.

Bass Coast Shire Deputy Mayor, Cr Leticia Laing, said women are generally under-represented in all levels of government and local government is no exception.

“This forum is about providing an opportunity for women who are curious about council as a way to contribute and explore their leadership skills,” she said.

“Women by and large are incredible leaders and offer so much in our community. This is a chance to learn about council as a way to contribute, from women who have already been there.

“It will be a space to ask us a range of questions. Even if you've never thought about running for council and just want to know what it's like, this forum is for you.”

To register your attendance to the Women Leading Locally Forum, visit [www.women-leadinglocallyforum.eventbrite.com.au/](http://www.women-leadinglocallyforum.eventbrite.com.au/)



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water**



## We would like your feedback

An area off the coast of Gippsland, Victoria has been proposed as being potentially suitable for future offshore renewable energy projects.

We are seeking your feedback on the suitability of offshore renewable energy projects in the Bass Strait off Gippsland, Victoria, that includes offshore wind.

The Australian Government wants to manage the offshore marine environment in a way that recognises all users and balances competing interests. Offshore renewable energy projects must share the area with other users and activities.

Your feedback will help inform the decision as to whether the proposed area is suitable for offshore renewable energy developments. To make a submission, visit the Consultation Hub at [consult.industry.gov.au/oei-gippsland](http://consult.industry.gov.au/oei-gippsland) or use the QR code (closes at 11:59 pm on 7 October 2022).



dceew.gov.au



# Generous islanders help stranded GP campers

The travel plans of 1500 campers to the Phillip Island MotoGP in October have been thrown into disarray after some camp site bookings were cancelled last week due to water-logged ground.

However generous Phillip Island residents have quickly responded, offering their backyards to those stranded MotoGP fans for the October 14-16 event.

Australian Grand Prix Corporation (AGPC) CEO Andrew Westacott said the cancellation impacted less than half the MotoGP campers – 1500 campers across 615 affected sites – who were all offered full accommodation refunds.

“We had to make the call with time to allow campers to make decisions on whether they seek alternate accommodation or receive full refunds on their ticketing,” Mr Westacott said.

“Following a sustained period of heavy rainfall across Phillip Island, a significant portion of event campsites have been relocated and a number of sites are no longer available due to unsuitable ground conditions.

“We appreciate this decision is disappointing. However, our priority is to ensure fans enjoy both a safe and world-class experience.

“AGPC will continue to monitor the situation and provide further updates if required.”

While trackside camping remained unchanged, the bogged sites that saw cancellations included highside north sections and parts of highside south.

Impacted MotoGP fans from across Australia took to social media to call for help.

Western Australian Lisa Hill said she was travelling from her home

state for the MotoGP “and don’t have anywhere to camp with our van. So disappointed”.

Queenslander Simone Cook asked if any Phillip Island locals could accommodate a small tent in their front yard.

Shaune Scruffo said he had also paid for motorhome hire “that is not refundable and planned on staying at the track on our booked campground”.

“We have booked a whole holiday around this event with my two sons to also do the Great Ocean Road. If any locals have any suggestions it would be much appreciated,” Shaune said.

### Response

Following the shout-out on social media, many local residents stepped up to offer their backyard or larger properties, privately messaging through Facebook those who were left without a place to stay.

Cathy responded she had small acreage in Cowes that could take about five self-contained vehicles.

“No power but mains water and a shed to congregate in. Good luck and we hope we can help some of you,” Cathy wrote.

One of the stranded campers Noel saw the response from locals and thanked the generous response.

“I should have known that the awesome people on the island would find a way to help the bike fans that had their travel plans tipped upside down by the closure of the camp grounds,” Noel wrote.

“You people are awesome.”

### Q&A

Mr Westacott was last Tuesday in San Remo for a tourism conference

(see separate story) and hinted that the water-logged ground at the circuit was causing problems.

“There are challenges from the campground because the ground is very, very wet,” he said, adding nevertheless “we are very, very ready”.

The [Motogp.com.au](http://Motogp.com.au) website had a question-and-answer page to address concerns by those impacted campers, explaining the campgrounds were the wettest they had been for decades.

“We are currently unable to access areas to commence the installation of infrastructure and amenities, and many areas will remain off-limits to vehicles for an extended period,” the page said.

“This is unlikely to change based on inspections in the last few days, which means that large areas of the campgrounds will not be available for patronage/use at this year’s event.

“In some instances, non-affected campsites have been allocated for the use of event marshals, who are integral to the staging of the event.”

The website said four weeks before the event accommodation options at Phillip Island – hotels, guest houses, rental properties or local campgrounds – “are few and far between”.

“However, we recommend you continue to keep an eye out, as options do come up on an ad hoc basis.

“We also suggest you consider other nearby locations such as Inverloch, Leongatha, Kilcunda or Wonthaggi. Alternatively, there may be availability in outer south-eastern suburbs, including Cranbourne, Pakenham and Frankston.”

Details: [www.motogp.com.au/tickets/campgrounds/update](http://www.motogp.com.au/tickets/campgrounds/update)



CEO of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation Andrew Westacott spoke at last week’s tourism conference at San Remo.

## Expect 110,000 for next month’s MotoGP: CEO

*From page 1*

“When they arrive in town it’s fun and welcoming.

“We are very, very ready.”

A member of the audience asked whether Mr Westacott had leverage to fix the numerous potholes, on the Bass Highway especially around Caldermeade, Koo Wee Rup and Tooradin, to which many in the audience applauded.

“It’s unanimous,” the audience member said, adding “you don’t want a tragedy”.

Mr Westacott said he would raise the issue with the traffic and transport team.

Another member of the audience asked whether – “given we live in north Antarctica” – there was scope to move the Grand Prix dates from October to the warmer months of summer.

Mr Westacott said Dorna Sports – based in Madrid – would like a January or February date because “you need heat in the tyres and if the track is a low temperature it can become dangerous”.

“But these events are so big October is where it will stay.”

He was asked whether it was pos-

sible to “piggyback” off all the infrastructure erected for the October event to create other events on Phillip Island or at the circuit before or after the MotoGP.

“We call that sweating the assets,” Mr Westacott said, adding while they supported the concept, on Phillip Island the logistics were more difficult.

### Demand

Mr Westacott told the audience based on the huge success of this year’s Formula One Grand Prix in Melbourne, there was “pent up demand” for events and entertainment, with AGPC “trying to one up” other events such as Victorian racing and football.

He said it was important to give customers value for money, and “engineer an event to within an inch of its life” with extra entertainment.

When asked to predict upcoming trends, Mr Westacott said the motorsport industry had responded to environment concerns by creating hybrid internal combustion engines, with fuels 100 per cent renewable by 2026 and by 2030 the industry would be 100 per cent net carbon zero.

## Specialist School students get down and dirty

Students from Bass Coast Specialist School worked all term to discover “the dirtiest beach in the Bass Coast”.

They used two different tests at each of the 10 different beaches chosen to survey. The test involved doing a surface count of plastic within a one-by-one metre quadrant, then a 50-metre, 20-minute rubbish pick up.

They found that when looking for microplastic in the sand, the Powlett River was the dirtiest beach in the Bass Coast, followed by Phillip Island’s Smiths Beach.

The students presented their findings at the Kids Teaching Kids Conference earlier this month, taking sand in tubs from these beaches for their activities when presenting to the other schools.

They used water with the sand to draw the plastic to the surface as it floats, and then collected it with strainers.



Bass Coast Specialist School at the Kids Teaching Kids Conference. Back: Hope, staff member Sam with Alex, Jaide and teacher Jack. Front: Natalie, Kaedin, staff member Nicole and Floyd

## Westernport Water’s annual customer survey gets underway

Westernport Water is asking its customers to share their feedback as part of its annual Customer Satisfaction Survey, to be conducted over the next six weeks.

A random sample of customers will receive a phone call and be asked to complete a 10-minute survey to share their thoughts on Westernport Water’s services.

A further sample will be contacted via email with an opportunity to complete an online version.

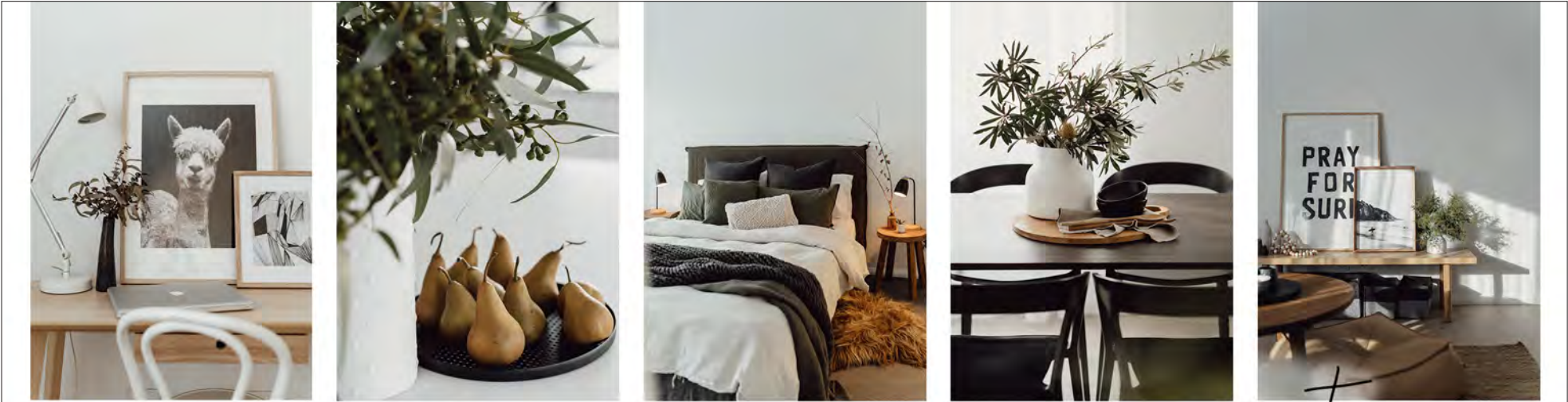
Australian-based contractors Insync and TKW Research will conduct this year’s survey on behalf of Westernport Water and six other Victorian water corporations to save costs.

“Gaining insight into the customer experience allows us to identify whether we are meeting customer expectations for water and sewerage services,” said Westernport Water’s Managing Director, Dona Tantirimudalige.

“We use the survey results to help shape our plans and outcomes, as well as measure and improve our performance.”

TKW Research will identify themselves and will not be selling any product or service.

More than two thousand customers across the seven water corporations, including Westernport Water, will be surveyed.



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Every day at noon, the local pelicans receive a snack of fresh fish from the San Remo Fisherman's Co-op. An informative talk on the pelican and marine environment is also provided.

## Fresh fish and hungry pelicans

San Remo pelican feeding is a long-held tradition which is fun, free and educational.

Every day at noon, the local pelicans line up on the beach to receive a snack of fresh fish from the San Remo Fisherman's Co-op, who also provide an informative talk on the pelican and the marine environment.

For instance, did you know the Australian Pelican is unique in that its body is almost entirely white, and it has the longest bill in the bird world?

When extended its bill can hold up to 13 litres and when it comes to feeding, the pelicans have been known to work together to drive fish into a concentrated ball, so the whole flock can enjoy the feast.

At the midday feeding, you'll also get a few tips on sustainability and the environmental issues affecting these incredible birds.

Afterwards, you can enjoy your own fresh fish snack with a serve of fish and chips (direct off the boats)



Enjoy your own fresh fish snack with a serve of fish and chips (direct off the boats) from the San Remo Fisherman's Co-op.

from the Fisherman's Co-op. You can take in the view from inside the Co-op, or dine alfresco on the lawn or beach. You can also pre-order your meal online.

Extend your seafood experience and pop in and purchase sustainable fresh seafood from the Co-op's own fleet of fish and lobster vessels.

## Local library presents holiday fun

If you're looking for fun activities for the kids these holidays, make sure you check out what's on offer from Myli, My Community Library.

With the Cowes library temporarily without a home due to the construction of the new Cultural Centre, you'll find the fun at St John's Uniting Church at 86 Chapel Street.

On Tuesday, September 27, author Meg Humphrys presents "Wave of Change" from 10am – 12pm, encouraging movement, artistry and hopeful reflection on the power kids have

to change the planet. To register, go to [myli.au/MHwave](http://myli.au/MHwave).

Kids can get gooey at Slime Time on September 29 (10am -12pm), learning to make slime.

In San Remo, there's a range of holiday activities on offer at 92 Back Beach Road.

Make your own slime to take home at Slime Time, 2pm on September 21.

Create a Marble Run on September 26 (11am – 12pm) using recycled materials or get crafty at Macrame Makers on Wednesday, September

28 from 2pm – 3pm. San Remo library also holds Baby Rhyme Time every Wednesday at 10.30am.

Meanwhile at Grantville, get dressed up for a historical book launch, along with craft, music, food stalls and more on October 1, from 11.30am – 3pm at the Grantville Memorial Park and Library.

Book your spot for any of these great activities at [myli\\_library.eventbrite.com.au](http://myli_library.eventbrite.com.au) or call 56 44 3320 for more information.

[www.myli.org.au](http://www.myli.org.au)

## Take a walk in Alice's Wonderland

A special exhibition on the Coronet Bay foreshore is open these holidays, through until October 1.

The Luminous Galleries exhibition of Alice in Wonderland on the foreshore invites you to mingle amongst the much-loved characters and gaze at the most feared.

The Queen will shout 'Off with your head', but no one listens. The Madhatter sips tea with his buddies, the sleepy dormouse and the wise march hare. The table is set.

Watch the Queen's guards as they wave their swords. Alice changes her size in this land. "Just eat me"

helps her grow and "just drink me" helps her shrink.

There are many other characters to meet and adventures to be had at the Coronet Bay foreshore from now until to Saturday October 1.

Many volunteers contributed their skills, from artisans to construction crew.

A big thankyou to the 25+ volunteers, all with differing backgrounds and talents coming together as one team to create a magical display. A special welcome goes to Chris Petrie and his students who have joined Luminous Galleries for this project.



The Luminous Galleries exhibition of Alice in Wonderland on the foreshore invites you to mingle amongst the much-loved characters and gaze at the most feared.



There are many other characters to meet and adventures to be had at the Coronet Bay foreshore's Alice in Wonderland exhibition from now until Saturday October 1.






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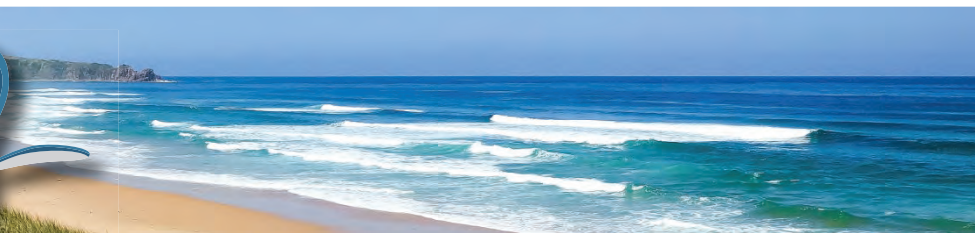
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# A proud indigenous family history

Many family historians hope to find a convict or someone famous in their heritage, but few find a famous Indigenous ancestor from our colonial past.

Krishna Methven is a seventh-generation descendant of Mannalargenna, a leader of the Pairrebeenne/Trawlwoolway clan of north-eastern Tasmania, near Cape Portland.

He was born around 1770 and was held in high regard by his people for being a great warrior, a wise leader and, in the 1820s, had led his warriors against the European occupation. However, by 1830 he agreed to help British Government officials persuade the remaining First Nations people to move from their country to the Bass Strait islands on the promise that it would protect his people, would be temporary and they could return to their homeland to resume their traditional lifestyle.

He hoped, that by putting his people under the Governor's protection, they would not be indiscriminately killed. He himself moved to the Wybalenna Aboriginal establishment on Flinders Island in 1835.

However, he soon realised that he had been deceived and the move was permanent. In response, and as a symbol of betrayal, he cut his long hair and beard which was coated in red ochre and died of pneumonia within the year. Hundreds of his people suffered a similar fate on these islands.

The lineage of Mannalargenna survived as three of his daughters



*Viola, the great granddaughter of Mannalargenna's daughter, who was born Wyerlooberer and known as Margaret, with her children.*

and his sister, were exchanged for dogs, seals and flour to European sealers and lived with them on Bass Strait islands. Sealing was a very profitable enterprise in the eastern Bass Strait at this time and Aboriginal women were prized not only as companions and domestic servants but for their amazing ability to catch seals.

Krishna is descended from Mannalargenna's daughter, who was born Wyerlooberer known as Mar-

garet. Her great granddaughter, Viola, married Gus Lindner, who was from Germany. They had met when Gus went to Flinders Island for the mutton bird season. They are Krishna's grandparents.

Mannalargenna is seen as an ancestral grandfather for Aboriginal Tasmanians today and is celebrated as an honoured ancestor and a symbol of unity for all Tasmanians on Mannalargenna Day at Cape Portland every year.



*Mannalargenna, a leader of the Pairrebeenne/Trawlwoolway clan of north-eastern Tasmania, near Cape Portland.*

## Research your family history these holidays

Are you descended from royalty or perhaps your family comes from "Australian royalty" namely a convict?

Would you like to discover your ancestors?

Phillip Island and District Genealogical Society Inc has resources available to help you.

Everyone is welcome to come in for a chat, discuss their issues and use the society's resources.

Assistance is free for members and the fees for joining the Genealogical Society are \$65

for a family and \$45 for a single membership. Casual visitors are charged \$10 a session.

The Phillip Island and District Genealogical Society is located at 56 Chapel Street (next to Waterboy Café). Open Tuesday 10am-1pm, Thursday 10am-4pm, Friday 1pm-4pm and Saturday 10am-1pm. Research rooms opened at other times by appointment.

For more information contact Malcolm Swaine (secretary) on 0418 178 343.

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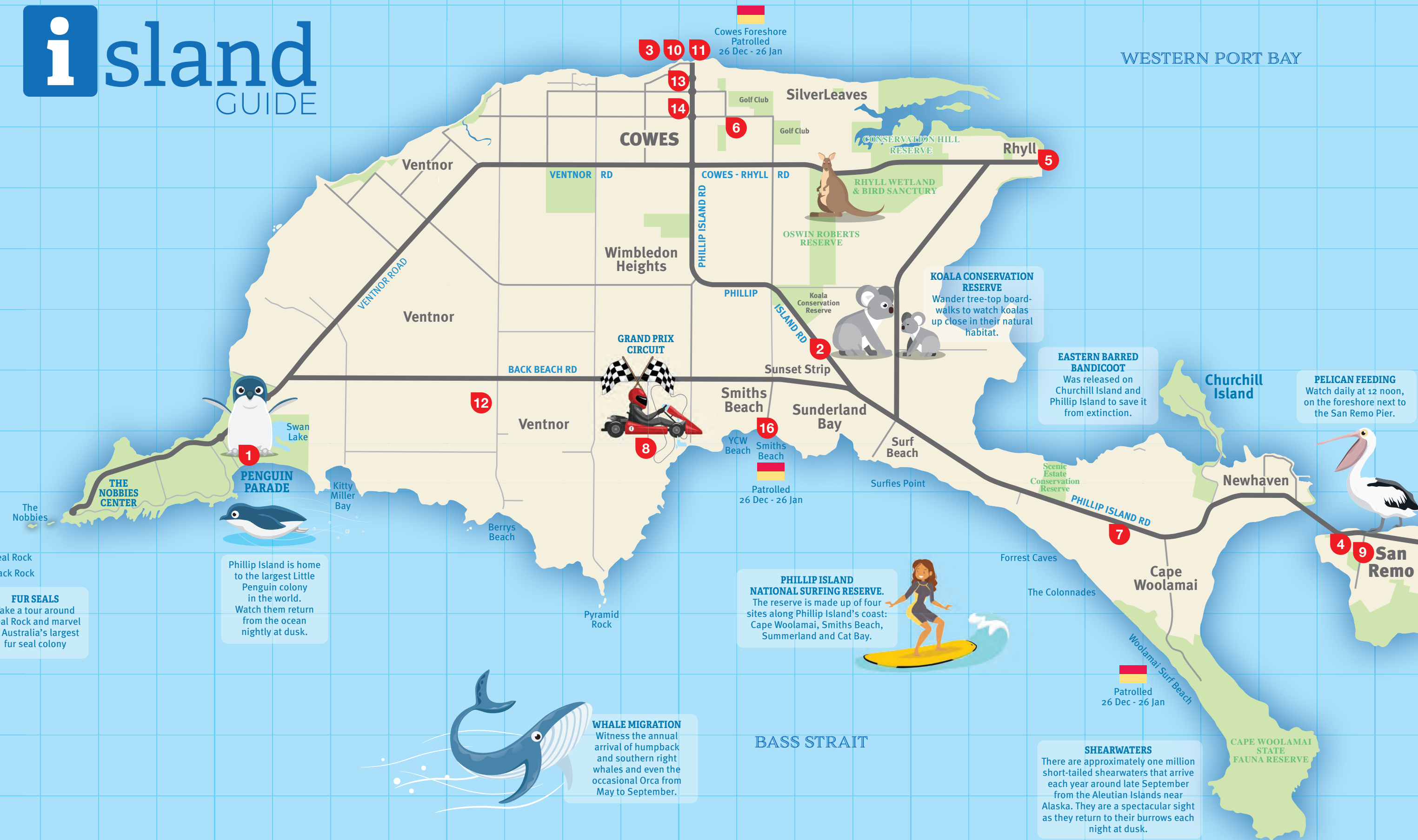
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This stunning recently renovated two storey home in Ventnor looks out across Westernport Bay to Point Leo and into Bass Strait.

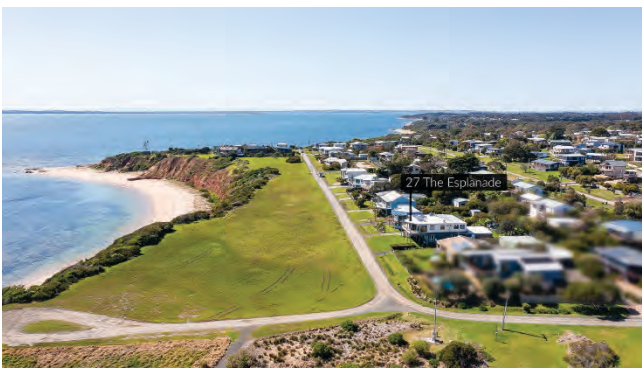
## Breathtaking panoramic water views!

Set on a large 836m<sup>2</sup> block, this stunning recently renovated two storey home sits proudly in the sought-after area of Ventnor that overlooks the adjacent reserve and out across Westernport Bay to Point Leo and into Bass Strait.

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Upstairs featuring two bedrooms, main with ensuite and WIR, huge second bedroom, open plan living, dining, kitchen and spa room taking in panoramic views plus 28m<sup>2</sup> gymnasium space with IR sauna.

Laundry and powder room downstairs with kitchenette and open plan lounge/living taking in views.



Set on a large 836m<sup>2</sup> block, the home has 150-degree views, a three car garage and off-street gated parking.

Separate cinema/studio and four bedrooms (two with water views), separate toilet and bathroom. All bedrooms and living areas featuring split system air conditioning.

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(with power and water) or three cars.

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Contact: Mike Foenander 0408 547 677.

Address: 27 The Esplanade, Ventnor.

5 Seymour Pl

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2

6

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Joshua Dunstan 0407 558 933

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24th of September: 11:00 - 11:30am

2/185 Thompson Avenue, Cowes

3

2

2

\$675,000 - \$695,000

Natalie Archer 0435 073 205

Open for inspection

24th of September: 1:30 - 2:00pm

43 Dolphin Drive, Smiths Beach

5

2

\$1,250,000 - \$1,300,000

Emma Spencer 0499 543 363

Open for inspection

24th of September: 10:00 - 10:30am

2 Seymour Place, Cowes

4

3

1

\$1,850,000 - \$1,950,000

Jenni Kent 0428 566 643

Open for inspection

24th of September: 11:00 - 11:30am

20 Anthony Court, Cowes

5

3

2

\$1,200,000 - \$1,320,000

Greg Davis 0488 279 740

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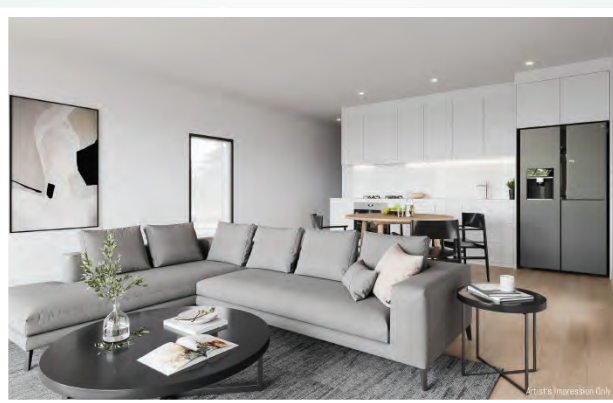


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Rotary President Peter Buitenhuys (left) hands a cheque for \$1630 to Ron Nicholson from Woolamai Beach SLSC. The money was raised at the Rotary Market at this year's Channel Challenge.

## Rotary support for Channel Challenge continues

President of the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo, Peter Buitenhuys, had great pleasure presenting Ron Nicholson from The Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club with a cheque for \$1630. This amount was the takings from the Channel Challenge Markets earlier this year.

The Woolamai Beach SLSC run this well-loved event every year and Rotary assist by running the markets with all proceeds going to the Life Saving Club. The San Remo Channel Chal-

lenge is a major fundraiser for the Woolamai Beach SLSC and proceeds go towards supporting the volunteer patrols during the summer months.

The dates for the 2023 Bass Coast series, which includes the Channel Challenge, the Little Penguin Dash and the Cowes Classic, have now been confirmed.

The Channel Challenge will be held on February 4, with the Cowes Classic and Little Penguin Dash on February 18. The Cape Paterson Aquathon will be held on January 15.



Bass Coast College Year 12 Student Leaders Taneisha, Dani, Leit and Hannah sold MDN themed vanilla slices and donuts and FightMND beanies at the San Remo Campus. The school raised over \$2500 for FightMND.

## Bass Coast College students raise thousands to fight MND

Students at Bass Coast College have raised over \$2500 for FightMND.

After a suggestion from Leit Rivers one of the Year 12 student leaders, the group worked for several months to plan the fundraiser, which ran at both the San Remo and McKenzie campuses.

All the money went to FightMND, the foundation established to find effective treatments and a cure for Motor Neurone Disease.

At San Remo, six staff members gamely took on the ice bucket challenge, being doused in icy water by the Year 12 leader, with the rest of the students cheering them on.

Students also learned about the FightMND cause, and how much money had been raised globally, as well as hearing personal stories of families affected first-hand by the debilitating and destructive disease.

At recess, Year 12 student leaders sold FightMND beanies and donuts and vanilla slice, specially decorated in FightMND blue and white and

generously donated by Connell's Bakery.

The students raised over \$900.

The fundraising team then headed back to Wonthaggi.

This time eight staff and the eight student leaders lined up for the ice challenge, while Year 11 student leaders helped with the sale of the beanies and cakes.

The 2022 Student Leadership Group thanked Year 11 student leaders for their help, and all the students and staff who supported the cause.

They also thanked the local businesses that threw their support behind the fundraiser: Watersure donated \$500, Coles provided a \$50 gift voucher, Connell's Bakery donated all the blue and white iced donuts and vanilla slices and Bunning providing the buckets for the ice challenge.

FightMND beanies are still being sold at all three Bass Coast College campuses.

## Flower show – what a Vision!

The Phillip Island World Vision Club's Flower Show returned to St Philip's Church Hall after a two year break due to Covid.

In 2017 club member Ruth Routley initiated and co-ordinated a Flower Show as a fundraiser. Saturday's event was a welcome return, attracting many entries both floral and photographic.

Before the event opened Rebecca (a visiting experienced florist) and Janet van der Heyden judged the flowers, Dan Caswell the vegetables and Paul Lucas the photographs.

Reverend Jo White of St Philip's Church then opened the show, drawing attention to the fact that as a child-focused organisation, World Vision sees that it's not possible to sustain child wellbeing without a healthy natural environment.

The beauty of the plants and vegetables displayed at the show were, she said, a reminder of the beauty and abundance of our environment and how important it is that the earth remain healthy and sustainable.

Visitors enjoyed the displays and refreshments: a gourmet sausage sizzle and delicious Devonshire Teas. The Island Harmony Choir kindly gave their time to give two performances in the afternoon.

Phillip Island World Vision Club is grateful for the generous support of Harmony Choir, IGA Cowes, The Ivy Plant Studio Newhaven, and Terry White Chemmart Cowes.

The Club congratulates all winners, and thanks entrants for contributing to the impressive displays. More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)



Judges Rebecca and Janet had the unenviable task of judging the beautiful flowers on show.



Phillip Island World Vision member Ruth Routley started the Flower Show as a fundraiser back in 2017 and was thrilled to see it return after a two year break due to Covid.



The Island Harmony Choir, with Conductor Cecily, provided two stunning performances during the day.

## Newhaven College Spring Concert

It was time to shine for Year 2 to 12 Newhaven College students taking part in the college's Spring Concert on September 10, at the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre; and shine they certainly did!

The night commenced with the guitar ensemble, followed by Junior, Middle choirs and Senior vocal ensembles. The Junior School strings performed beautifully concluding in Beethoven's Ode to Joy. The evening then took the energy up a notch with the concert bands, with the big band taking on some blues classics including Sweet Home Alabama.

The stage was overflowing with over 70 students, music staff and parent musicians and the audience rightly demanded an encore.

The evening celebrated the result of many years of work to develop the College's music program to such a high standard. The students did both their school and themselves proud with polished performances, displaying an obvious love for music that could be felt by the audience throughout the theatre.

Newhaven College's Director of Music, Matthew Goss is incredibly



Evie Hollings, Ambrose de Gooyer and Ariana Ward perform as part of the Year 5 and 6 concert band at the Newhaven College Spring Concert.

proud of the College's Music students and teachers.

"The Spring Concert is the culmination of not only this year's work but the dedication and passion of each of these students and staff," he said.

"Congratulations to all students who performed. Your dedication to music through the hours of practice, coming to early morning rehearsals

or extra weekend rehearsals is testimony to your character.

"Thank you to our talented and dedicated music staff. I'm constantly inspired by your energy and new ideas. Our College community is fortunate to have such dedicated practitioners in our midst."

Newhaven College's tradition of nurturing the musical soul of each student is now enhanced by the new Performing Arts Wing.

Newhaven College's music students have a place to learn, collaborate and rehearse together and build on what is already a stunning collective of budding musicians.

With ongoing tuition from the College's music teachers and tutors, Newhaven College music students are supported to reach their highest potential. Each student is encouraged to discover their unique expression of music while developing confidence, ease, excellence and enjoyment each step of the way.

The College believes stars of the future are on campus right now, learning their artistry while sharing their talents with other students, parents and the whole community.

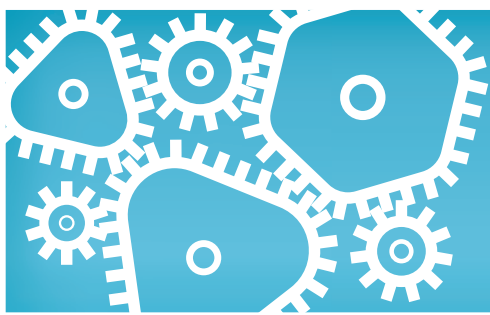


Several of the String Ensemble performers: Charlie Swan, William Murphy, Mitchell White and Finn McLean.



Dean Lyle, Mitchell White, Rory Fuery, Jonah Keys, Mackenzie Cameron, Tyra Trappett and Michael Furniss perform as part of the Senior Vocal Ensemble.





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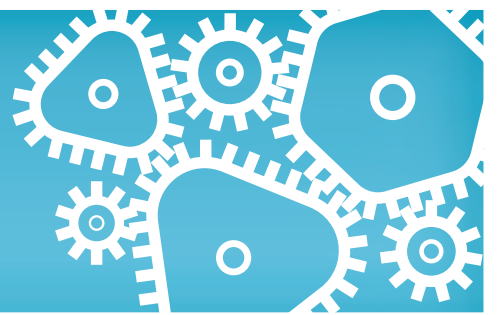
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**LOUEY, Kai Foon:**

Passed away peacefully at home on Sept. 13, 2022 surrounded by his loving family.

Loved husband of Janet (dec.).

Loving Dad to Michael, Vivien, Andrea and their partners Barb, Mick and Chris.

Adored Grandpa to Morgan, Hannah; Damon, Jorja; Danielle and Shaneal.

Great Grandpa to Louis, Remy, Kai, Allora, Maelle, Colette and Hazley.

He will be sadly missed by all the extended family and his friends.

A long life well lived  
As per Kai's wishes a private cremation will be held.

**SULLIVAN, John Joseph:**  
7/3/1934 to 16/9/2022

Much loved husband of Libby.

Father to Darryl and Mark.

Father in law to Rochelle & Meredith.

Grandfather to Adam, Nathan & Tia.

Special friend of Ann and Chris.

Thank you to the Staff at Grossard Court for the care and attention given to John during the last seven years.

Private Cremation

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**Phillip Island RSL Community Men's Shed**  
**REPAIRS AND RESTORATIONS**

From timber to metal – small to large projects  
Reasonable prices  
Open Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9am to noon.

**Contact Tony Ashton, 0499 996 237**

JD0006AA

## SITUATIONS VACANT

**MARIOS BISTRO @ SAN REMO**

requires front of house person, long term position, with experience would be a great.

Contact Mario on Monday at 0439 567 909

## GARAGE SALES

**RHYLL:**

34 Reid Street

Pop up MINI MARKET Friday 23rd September 2022

10:00 am to 2:00 pm only

PLANTS PRODUCE CRAFT HOT FOOD

All proceeds to support World Vision projects.



## PUBLIC NOTICES

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS:** Weekly meetings Bass Coast Shire, Wonthaggi - Tuesday 8pm; AA Cowes Big Book meeting at St Philip's Church (opp. Coles) - Tuesday 7pm, 0417 317 470; Salvation Army building, McKenzie St., Wonthaggi, Saturday 11am, 5672 3627. Phone head office 9429 1833.

**1 in 5 people in Australia will experience depression.**

Find out more at [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au) or call 1300 22 4636.



MSC7939  
Initiative of Phillip Island Masonic Lodge

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### FRIENDS OF THE KOALAS INC.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday September 27th 10.30am.

Chisholm Meeting Room, Koala Conservation Reserve.

All welcome.

For further information, contact 0419 552 385.



#### Notice of the 2022 Phillip Island Medical and Health Action Group Inc. Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Oct 5th 2022 at 5.00pm in the ANZAC room at the Cowes RSL.

The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be conducted from 5pm-5.30pm.

We have a special guest speaker (from 5.30pm-7pm) – Jan Child, CEO of Bass Coast Health who is going to update us on the upcoming developments in health in our area including what is happening at the expansion at Wonthaggi Hospital (building handover this Nov), progress on the Phillip Island Community Hospital and what is planned for future developments in medical, mental health and Aged Care.

There will also be some time available for questions from the floor. There is a great deal going on at the moment, come along and be informed.

Dinner is available at the RSL. You will need to make a booking to avoid disappointment.

Meeting open to members of the public from 5.30pm. All Welcome.



#### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR APPOINTMENT TO COASTAL CROWN LAND COMMITTEES OF MANAGEMENT

Do you want to play a role in managing a valuable community asset?

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, on behalf of the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change is seeking expressions of interest from people willing to nominate for a three-year appointment to the following Committees of Management.

Corinella Foreshore Reserve Committee Incorporated  
Lang Lang Foreshore Reserve Committee Incorporated  
Port Franklin Public Purposes and Recreation Reserve Incorporate  
Shallow Inlet Camping and Recreation Reserve Incorporated  
Walkerville Foreshore Reserve Committee Incorporated

These committees are made up of volunteers who are responsible for guiding the management, protection and development of the Reserve, on behalf of the local and wider Victorian community.

To ensure the best possible management of the Reserve, to work with other public land managers and to participate in planning of the Coastal Reserve's future, applicants will be shortlisted based on their skills, experience and knowledge in one or more of the following areas:

- Marketing, Tourism and Media
- Community Engagement
- Stakeholder Management
- Volunteer & Employee Management
- Secretarial & Administration Skills
- Indigenous Values & Cultural Heritage
- Grant Application and Management
- Financial Management
- Business & Strategic Planning
- Building and Asset Management
- Environmental & Coastal Biodiversity Conservation

To apply visit [www.boards.vic.gov.au](http://www.boards.vic.gov.au) and search for 'Coastal Crown Land Committees of Management' under 'Search board vacancies' and click Apply now.

Applicants with further enquiries or those with difficulties in accessing the documents should contact Tracey Miller-Armstrong on 0473 001 088 or email [tracey.miller-armstrong@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:tracey.miller-armstrong@delwp.vic.gov.au). You may also use the National Relay Service on 1300 555 727 or 133 677 (TTY number) if required.

Expressions of Interest close midnight 25 September 2022

JD01574AA

JD01566AA

892048

## SITUATIONS VACANT

**IGA SAN REMO**

### POSITION VACANT BUTCHER

San Remo IGA is seeking a passionate and motivated individual to join our team. This role will require some weekend work over summer and other peak periods. The successful applicant must be able to work autonomously as well as in a team environment.

If this sounds like you or you would like to know more please get in touch!

**EMAIL YOUR RESUME TO:**  
[shayne@sanremoiga.com.au](mailto:shayne@sanremoiga.com.au)

135 Marine Pde, San Remo, VIC 3925 T: [03] 5678 5337

JD01347AA

## SITUATIONS VACANT



**Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College**

### DIRECTOR, CATHOLIC IDENTITY AND MISSION (COMMENCING TERM 1, 2023)

All Staff must demonstrate an active commitment to the ethos of a Catholic school. Mary MacKillop College is a Child-Safe school.

Further information can be found on our website or contact the Principal's Personal Assistant, Carly Kitchingman [ckitchingman@mmrc.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ckitchingman@mmrc.catholic.edu.au).

Applications close 9am Tuesday 4th October 2022

JD01399AA



The Phillip Island RSL is searching for genuine people to fill the below positions as soon as we can. We are seeking enthusiastic and motivated individuals who are looking for stable employment. If you are interested in making hospitality a career or just after some casual hours we encourage you to apply for one of our available positions. Training will be provided, you will require a Responsible Service of Alcohol certificate for some positions, Gaming and TAB accreditations an advantage but can be obtained during employment for the successful person.

#### Positions available:

##### Chef

– Salary based position

##### Bistro Supervisor/Team Leader

– Salary based position

Experience required

1 x Full Time

1 x Part Time

##### Dishwashers

Permanent or casual hours

##### Gaming/Bar Staff

Full Time, Part Time and

Casual hours

– RSA minimum requirement

##### Bar/TAB Staff

Full Time, Part Time and

Casual hours

– RSA minimum requirement

##### Bistro Staff

Part Time and casual hours

All positions are required to work across 7 days including Public Holidays. If you are interested in working in hospitality and fit one of the above positions or require a position description email [info@pirsl.com.au](mailto:info@pirsl.com.au), please lodge a cover letter with your resume stating the position you are applying for or drop into the RSL.

JD01388AA

## DIRECTOR VACANCIES



**Are you passionate about the Bass Coast community and want to make a difference?**

The Bass Coast Community Foundation is seeking to recruit and appoint suitably qualified people to board vacancies created by retiring directors. Director positions are voluntary.

If you have a range of skills, experience and strengths including an understanding of philanthropy, governance, accounting or law, and a strong connection and commitment to the Bass Coast community, and you can contribute 6 hours per month to the Foundation's activities please apply.

For more about the position and application please visit [www.bccf.org.au/director-vacancies-2/](http://www.bccf.org.au/director-vacancies-2/)

**The closing date for applications is October 7, 2022.**

JD01337AA



## COOKS/CHEFS CUSTOMER SERVICE STAFF JUNIOR STAFF (15yrs+)

Experience preferred but not essential  
Good wages, penalty rates and staff discounts  
Hours somewhat flexible according to your needs  
10-35 hrs/wk (includes some night & weekend shifts)  
Enquiries/applications to [info@srfco.com.au](mailto:info@srfco.com.au)



JD01416AA







# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



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

## Bass River not protected

Bass Coast Shire supports the clearing and subsequent contamination of the Bass River and adjoining land. Its Planning Department says: "The Native vegetation removal by Barro Group was exempt from the need of a planning permit. It was undertaken for fire prevention purposes and an exemption under the Planning Scheme is afforded to them to have undertaken these works." However, the Shire has failed to specify what the fire control measure was supposed to protect and why clearing on the river was not referred to Melbourne as required by legislation.

Philip Westwood, Grantville

## Roadside mailbox history

When I arrived here in 1983, I was asked to see if there was some better method to delivering mail on the island.

At the time the town delivery in Cowes went from Dunsmore Road to Justice Road and the post office had 137 private boxes. Anyone beyond those points had to come to the post office to collect their mail from Poste Restante.

People in areas like Ventnor, Smiths Beach and Surf Beach used the local shops to receive their mail. The shopkeepers whilst happy to be helpful, receive no payment for this service and often little thanks.

Sunderland Bay and Surf beach residents used either Cowes or San Remo post offices. San Remo delivered to San Remo, Newhaven and a small area of Cape Woolamai. Rhyll had its own post office.

I had whilst working at head office planning branch, read about how the Canadian post office dealt with small, isolated communities.

I suggested to the District Manager the ideal of trialling a nest of boxes at Smiths Beach. He agreed and the trial was put in place letting boxes only to permanent residents (no charges were made at that time). It was gratefully received; so commenced the introduction of boxes across the island.

This changed the method of delivery to all points. The mail contractor delivered the mail into the boxes, only stopping on the roadside for rural properties. His delivery points went from 120 to nearer 800.

In Cowes, delivery was extended to Red Rocks Road and additional private boxes were installed at Cowes. This reduced the use of Poste Restante to travellers passing through town.

On the average mail day, all mail, both town deliveries and contractors around the island was delivered by 1pm. A vast improvement for the local people.

But I have to make an apology now to the gentlemen who were complaining in your newspaper recently about RMB delivery. If in 1983 I had known that you were coming to live on the island, I would have installed the gold band service you had at Broadmeadows, Preston and Toorak.

Bruce Procter, Postmaster Cowes, 1983-1997

## Fabulous production

I was fortunate to see the fabulous production of "Brains Trust" by Newhaven College on Thursday September 15, at the Wonthaggi Theatre.

The children from prep to grade 4 were very professional, they had great voices and costumes.

Congratulations to the teachers and the kids it was a wonderful night, thank you.

Jan Fleming – proud great grandmother, Surf Beach

## Where's the tree protection?

We have had this magnificent native gum tree in our front yard for many years.

The house next door was built about four years ago and over that time our tree has slowly died.

An arborist tells us it's due to the tree's roots being damaged during construction.

1.The underground power supply to the new pit has damaged the root system

2.The new underground cabling from the pit to the house has also damaged the tree root system.

As I understand it, all new constructions require a tree root protection management plan. I have asked the council why this was not put in place to protect this tree and they basically told me it's not their problem, (regardless of them owning the nature strip), speak to the builder, AusNet and get advice from a lawyer.

If I had killed or removed a native tree or cleared it for any reason without Council planning approval, we would have been prosecuted! Looks like a rule for some and another rule for others.

Now we have to pay for the tree removal, and a tree replacement costing several thousands.

David Thorogood, Cape Woolamai.

## Walk in other people's shoes, not yours

Per old saying - there's nothing so certain as change and nothing so uncertain as what change and when.

In recent letter, "Walk in my shoes", an elder demands no further change. This was demanding access, everywhere, by car. Cars have been changing Cowes for decades, and are now a menace.

Some people insist "something must be done" while others disagree. The "smart parking system" might make sense in city shopping mall car park, with steady, all day, small volume, arrivals and departures. But why did Council approve? They didn't. During Covid, CEO was able to grant herself big increase to how much she can spend solo. When will the previous limit apply?

In Cowes most of the year there are no worries parking. Then Christmas/New Year impossible congestion, nowhere near enough parking spaces to satisfy demand for mostly long day parking. How will billboard and smart phone displays handle this, "No parking, go away"?

Gary and his wife have hip replacements. Me too. They insist on provision to drive everywhere. I don't. For me, "use it or lose it" is the order of the day. It can be painful, good days and bad days but I avoid medication. I'll always be walking, managing pain, thank you very much.

There's plenty of news these days about economic revival in Australia, and worldwide, by urban areas excluding cars. If you can't walk or ride a bike, why not do yourself a favour, enjoy a mobility scooter?

Inevitably change is coming. Isn't it finally time to make our town more people friendly? Folks succumbing to dependency on cars can't understand how unpleasant they are for the rest of us.

Bernie McComb, Cowes

## Editor's note: Clarification of CEO quote

In last week's edition a letter titled "Walk in our Shoes" stated Bass Coast CEO Ali Wastie suggested residents should "walk under 5km rather than drive for shopping".

In the interview, Ms Wastie said: "What we find is most people who park in Wonthaggi and Cowes are making very short trips so they are actually coming from less than 5kms away. So we always say if you can, be healthy, walk. Sometimes that is not possible and there's an absolute need for parking."



The \$4.5 million redevelopment includes the replacement of the existing three-lane boat ramp with new concrete panels and extension of the lanes deeper into the water – enabling all-tide access.

## Rhyll celebrates: damp boat ramp opening

The wet weather couldn't dampen the spirits of the fishing and boating community that turned out to celebrate the opening of the Rhyll boat ramp on Saturday, September 17.

The opening comes after a seven-month, \$4.5 million redevelopment that included the replacement of the existing three-lane boat ramp with new concrete panels and extension of the lanes deeper into the water – enabling all-tide access.

Additional works formed stage one of construction in 2021, including the installation of new fixed and floating pontoon jetties to assist with launching and retrieval, an improved parking layout and longer car and trailer bays.

There are also new fish cleaning tables and a dedicated kayak/yacht/canoe launching area.

The finishing touches last week included line marking and asphaltting, with a spokeswoman for the state Fishing and Boating Minister



To celebrate the opening on Saturday there was a free fishing and boating festival including kids fishing clinics.

Sonia Kilkenny – who visited the ramp earlier this month – telling the Advertiser the ramp would be open in time for school holidays.

To celebrate the opening on Saturday there was a free fishing and boating festival along the foreshore

from 10am, with live music, markets, and kids fishing clinics.

Despite the dismal weather, there were plenty of people keen to get out and cast a line from the new ramp and enjoy the festival entertainment.

More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)

## OLSS students take to the streets ... and the shops

Throughout term three all of the students at Our Lady Star of the Sea have been looking at 'how one person can make a difference'.

Earlier this month, prep students took advantage of the sunshine to hand-deliver letters to neighbourhood businesses in Thompson Avenue, thanking the shop keepers for making a difference in their lives.

The school said the goal of the excursion was to make sure "we thanked the people who serve us every day when we go shopping".

Students were able to demonstrate their gratitude to some of the people who make a difference in their lives, visiting Turn the Page bookstore, Youki's Sushi Shop, Coffee Co., Phil-

lip Island Bakery, Bass Coast Shire Council, Tenpin Bowling, Mitre 10 and Bakers Delight.

Ryan M thanked Caitlin in a letter to Coffee Co. for making his mum's coffee every morning. Several kids, including Mia, Savannah, Jackson, Jaxavier, and Dion wrote to Youki's Sushi Shop to express their gratitude for the delicious lunch orders they deliver to the school.

Blake and Riane expressed their gratitude to Brendan for providing our school with lovely books for our library in a letter to Turn the Page Bookshop.

Caden expressed his gratitude for the delicious food in his lunch box in a letter to his mother, who works at



Mia, Savannah, Jackson, Jaxavier and Dion delivered a letter to Youki's, thanking them for the sushi lunch orders delivered to the school.



James from Bakers Delight with students Olivia, Ryan and Liliana, who thanked the staff for the lovely bread teachers use to make fairy bread whenever they have a class celebration.



OLSS students Blake and Riane thanked Brendan at Turn the Page bookshop for the books the store provided for the school library.



Caden expressed his gratitude for the delicious food in his lunch box in a letter to his mum Emma, who works at the Phillip Island Bakery



# Soccer Grand Finals



The senior women's team lost to Leongatha despite giving their all during their match.



Under 12Bs were defeated, after penalties when the two teams could not be separated after extra time, despite this, it was a ripper game with the players giving their all.



Adrenaline was running high before the big match.



The Senior men kept their cool during their tough game against Trafalgar.



Jackson Henderson was awarded player of the match of the U12B team.



Seniors reigning in the celebrations of their well-deserved win.





Emma Barclay, Lola Denver, Bec Barclay and Scarlett Denver get in some kilometres at Cape Paterson beach.

## Wonthaggi road runners complete virtual challenge

It's a long way from Broken Hill to Sydney by foot, but that's how far 41 Wonthaggi road runners, divided into three teams have walked and ran over the past 19 days in the annual Run Against Violence challenge.

The event encourages people to help raise awareness of the issues many face due to violence and raises funds to help run prevention programs.

The event is based on a run Kirrily Dear did in 2014 along the same route, to raise awareness of intimate partner violence.

The teams logged each run or walk they did,

with the team's progress monitored online.

There was much rivalry between the teams, with the WRR pacemakers finishing first, followed by the WRR Waterline team, 18 hours ahead of the WRR Inverloch team. Participants don't have to be super fit, just committed to doing some kilometres each day for the team.

Ages ranged from ten-year-old, Emma Barclay who walked to and from school each day to older members adding 42km, including Etsuko who ran an amazing 314km in that time.

The participants also raised \$500 towards the event's love bites program.



Under 12 boys podium: Phillip Island's Angus Kennedy (second left), with Kai Coleman, Jacques Callebaut and Jesse Woods. Photo: Noah Clifford/Surfing Victoria.

## Finals success for Phillip Island Groms

Congratulations to Scarlett Rennie and Angus Kennedy who made it through to the Under 12 girls and boys finals at the Rip Curl Gromsearch competition on the weekend, both placing third in their respective events.

The competition was held over two days at Jan Juc, in two-to-three-foot waves.

Surf Coast local Kai Colman (Mount Duneed) blitzed his way through the Under 12 boys' draw to take the win, while Evie Wilson (Marcus Beach), took out the Under 12 girls.

In the Under 16 girls division Lani Cairncross (Kiama Downs) came out on top in the final.

On the other side of the draw, in the Under 16 boys Jimmi Hill (Anna Bay) put on display a range of powerful hacks and carves which earned him the win.

Heat draws and final results at [www.surfingvic.com/live](http://www.surfingvic.com/live)



Under 12 girls finalists: Winner Evie Wilson and Phillip Island's Scarlett Rennie (on right), with Rose Holland and Elise Chapman. Photo: Noah Clifford/Surfing Victoria.

## Westernport Field and Game target shoot results

Westernport Field and Game held their monthly shoot on September 18, with 82 shooters attending.

Two rounds of 38/37 were shot; Andrew Opie and Jarryd Passarin both shot a perfect round of 25.

The day was sponsored by Alex Scott & Staff.

### Overall scores:

High gun, Jarryd Passarin with a score of 71.

### Grade winners:

AA grade: 1st Doug McLeod (67), 2nd Robert Passarin (65) and 3rd Matt Hall (64).

A grade: 1st Don Sgarbossa (66), 2nd Daniel Fritsch (63) and 3rd Brian Sartori (63).

B grade: 1st Justin Treacy (57), 2nd Joel Passarin (55) and 3rd Brendan Goodman (54).

C grade: 1st Giuliano Tiziani (54), 2nd William Brereton (49) and 3rd Brian Witkowski (44).

Juniors: 1st Will Witkowski (58), 2nd Thomas Brereton (43) and 3rd Christian Gigliotti (32).

Ladies: 1st Deb Bradley (62), 2nd Brooke Tangley (58) and 3rd Danielle Pace (48).

Veterans: 1st Warwick Cumberland (62), 2nd Danny Genovese (55), 3rd Len Box (55).

Our next shoot is a 75-target event on Sunday, October 15, with the nomination's office opening at 9.30am.

Self-nominations will be available through MCMS before the event.

Check out our Facebook page for further details.

Clay target shooting is suitable for all genders, ages and fitness levels with juniors shooting for free.



Gippsland swimmers from the Victorian team line up.

## SGB swimmers shine in sunny Queensland

The warmth of Queensland was a delight for the six South Gippsland Bass (SGB) swimmers who represented Victoria at the School Sport Australia national meet held at the Brisbane Aquatic Centre last month.

Over a two-week period, Archie Smyth, Rex Brocklesby, Zac Sherar, Olivia Holmes, Rahni Matheson and Sophie McKenzie represented Victoria as part of the 120 strong team.

Sophie was selected as Vice-Captain of the team, a great honour.

Racing against the best swimmers in their age groups gave them invaluable experience and a chance to see some of the people they have heard or read about.

Archie Smyth represented Victoria in the relay, earning second place in the medley relay.

Other finalists were Rahni Matheson (7th in 100m Breaststroke and 8th in 50m Breaststroke), Sophie McKenzie (4th in 100m Breaststroke and 6th in 50m Breaststroke), Zac Sherar (8th in 100m Freestyle), Olivia Holmes (5th in 100m Freestyle) and Archie Smyth (6th in 50m Backstroke).

The club is immensely proud of the effort they have all put in and for their selection.



Archie Smyth displays his silver medal from the medley relay.

The swimmer's range in age from 11 and under, through to the open aged events and it was a real achievement for so many to make the finals.

More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)



# HAVE A BLAST

### Get into Woolworths Cricket Blast

It's a fun and active program for kids of all abilities, whether it's your first time with a bat or you're a backyard Cricket star!

**Phillip Island and District Cricket Club 'The Sharks'**  
4-5pm at the Cowes Oval  
Thursdays 6th Oct- 15th Dec '22  
Reg: [www.play.cricket.com.au](http://www.play.cricket.com.au) Mick 0439 309 269

### JOIN YOUR NEAREST CLUB

Q Play Cricket

PROUDLY  
PRESENTED BY







In her first time competing, Year 5 student Isabella Lynch won a stunning third place in the U13 girls.



Jack Wightman (left) came second while teammate Kade Rigby (right) came first in the U19 males category.

## Newhaven College Mountain bikers ride the wave

It was smiles all around from 25 Newhaven College students who competed in Round 4 of the Alpinestars School MTB (Mountain Bike) series at the You Yangs MTB Park in Little River.

With over 200 riders competing in the round from over 100 Victorian schools, the newly formed Newhaven College MTB Team is already exceeding expectations, proving once again that Bass Coast kids don't need mountains to mix it with the state's best.

Winning an outstanding first place for the College in the U19 males, Year 11 student Kade Rigby was on the podium for the second time, after bringing home the team's first ever medal in Round 3 of the series at Haunted Hills MTB park in August.

Year 11 student Jack Wightman also brought home an impressive second in the U19 males and for her first time competing, Year 5 student Isabella Lynch won a stunning third place in the U13 girls.

There was improvement across all students with almost all year levels of the College represented, from Prep to Year 11.

Newhaven College MTB coordinator Michael Wright firmly believes the opportunities presented by mountain biking extend well beyond the podium.

"Newhaven College is proud to be leading in this space," he said.



The Newhaven College MTB Team performed brilliantly at Round 4 of the Alpinestars School MTB series.

"There are literally hundreds of kids right across the Bass Coast who, particularly during the pandemic, developed a real interest in mountain biking and riding bikes in general. Why would we not want to maximise these opportunities?"

"It's time for Mountain Bike specific facilities in Bass Coast."

Mr Wright said mountain biking is one of the fastest growing recreational activities enjoyed by families globally.

Accelerated by the pandemic it has become a \$630 million industry in Australia and governments at all levels are starting to recognise the significant market potential of mountain biking by developing strategies and policies to guide investment and planning.

vestment and planning.

To date, the Victorian state government and the Bass Coast Shire Council have shown little interest in engaging with or responding to the growing needs of the local biking community, Mr Wright said.

With the predicted growth for the region and the need to provide basic recreational spaces for young people, he said it will be interesting to see whether governments will continue to ignore the enormous economic, health and social benefits of mountain biking.

The final Round of the Alpinestars School MTB series will be held in Bendigo on Sunday, October 23.

More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)



L-R: Bianca Hellmuth Pask (Coach), Tess Wingfield (Breaker on the rise), Immy Bradford (G&D award), Tess Angarane (G&D award), Stacey Poke (R/U B&F and best in finals), Kelly O'Neill (B&F), Kate Caughey (Coaches award) and Chelsea Connell (R/U B&F).

## Bass Coast Breakers presentations

The Bass Coast Breakers celebrated a successful year which saw them come from fourth to make the Grand Final.

The Breakers farewell coach Bianca Hellmuth Pask after three seasons with the club.

Taking on the role at the start of the 2020 season she was at the helm for a whole year before getting to coach her first game due to Covid.

While the team wasn't playing, she was still doing a power of work supporting each of the players and maintain team morale.

This was instrumental in continuing the welcoming and inclusive culture that the Breakers pride themselves on and led to two successful seasons on the field where the team were minor premiers in 2021 and Grand Finalists in 2022.



Ella Angarane (Breakers best club person award) is pictured with Alan Bolding (Wonthaggi club president) and Bruce Procter (Director Bendigo Community Bank San Remo) two of the club's long standing sponsors.

## Phillip Island Golf club results

### Tuesday, September 13, Mens stableford

Trevor MacFarlane (26) won the day with 37 points from Rob Purcell (25), with 36 points on countback from John Wiseman (18) and Mike Fitzmaurice (19).

BDL to 29 points countback. NTP: 5th Phil Foster, 7th Mike Fitzmaurice, 10th David K Taylor and 17th Neil Williams.

Nine-hole winner was Brian Carvell (27), with 23 points from David Gladman (17) with 19 points.

### Wednesday, September 14, Committee Day

13-hole individual stableford and team aggregate.

The winner was Lesley Meadowcroft with 29 points, runner up on countback was Glenda Longshaw, 3rd was Anne Dunk with 27 points on countback.

BDL to 23 points.

Team competition winners were Cathy Jones, Glenda Longshaw, and Anne Dunk with 93 points.

### Thursday, September 15, open par

Fred Panozzo (15) was the winner with +2 on countback from Chris McKinney (22).

BDL to -2 on countback.

NTP: 7th Ron Davies, 10th Christian Zderski, 17th Phil Cooksey.

Nine-hole stableford winner was Jeff Tanner (43), with 20 points on countback to Brian Carvell.

BDL to 16 points.

### Saturday, September 17, 18-hole par

Men's results: A grade winner was Lawrence Ferrari (8), -2 from Mark Jamieson (9) with -3.

B grade winner was John

McKechne (16) with +2, runner up was Daryl Vernon (16) with square.

C grade winner was Aaron Saric (38) with a great score of +6 from Robert Dean (23) with +1.

NTP: 5th Lawrence Ferrari, 7th Ian Smith, 10th Bruce Sherwood and 17th Ian Smith.

BDL to -3 countback.

Ladies 18-hole par: Winner was Dawn Andrews (18) with -2, runner up was Ira Septiana (22) with -3.

NTP: 7th Ira Septiana.

BDL to -6 on countback.

Nine-hole winner was Brian Carvell (18) with 18 points, runner up was Steve Rieger (25) with 15 points.

BDL to 14 on countback.

### Sunday, September 18, Nine-hole stableford

The winner was Phil Reed (28) with 17 points.

## Phillip Island bridge results

### Monday, September 12

Don Stewart-Uden partnered with Monika Poole to finish third with 54.86 per cent, a good effort for a new partnership, but Trish will return next week to reclaim her husband.

Ruth Harvey and Ann Green nudged ahead by 0.7

per cent to come second, and Phillip Chapman and Graham McKergow took out the day on 61.11 per cent.

### Wednesday, September 14

Winning pairs were close on Wednesday with only a percent or so between place-getters.

Clare and Jim Murphy returned from roaming the Rhine to win the day on 59.38 per cent.

Moya Crowley and Shirley Stewart were next in line on 57.29 per cent.

Third place went to Ann Green and Philip Rinder on 56.25 per cent.

### RSL Euchre results

Ladies' winner: Lindsey Henderson on seven wins. Men's winner: Harry Bow-

man on seven wins.

Encouragement award: Tony Fallon.

Tell your friends to come

along and have some fun.

Please contact Bob Hee for any further information on 0418 173 388.

## PIFNC HONOUR BOARD

PIFNC are asking for assistance as the Club are in the throes of having a new Honour Board engraved with Executive i.e President, Secretary, Treasurer plus League Best & Fairest recipients for the Netball Club from 2000 onwards.

Some of the club's records cannot be located and if you volunteered your services for any of the above positions, or you were awarded a Netball League Best & Fairest from the year 2000 onwards, Peter Chaston, 0409 017 800, would love to hear from you so spaces on the Board can be filled in.



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**BULLDOGS**  
FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB

1001794A

## FOOTBALL HEAD COACH 2023

Position description available

Contact Ella: 0438 722 639

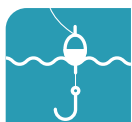
[e.angarane@live.com](mailto:e.angarane@live.com)

Applications close Sunday 9 October



1001814A





## AROUND THE BAY

WITH JIM'S BAIT AND TACKLE

Just when it was looking like we could put the winter jackets in the cupboard and start heading to the ramp with the boat, the weekend threw a bit of a curve ball, reminding us the winter bite hasn't quite gone yet.

This weather is typical of spring of course. This year we had a very ordinary end of winter that has led into to normal unsettled spring.

Despite the bad weather there are always opportunities, you just need to be able to take advantage. It adds to the frustration that many of the breaks in the weather come during the week and not weekends.

There are many other factors leading to the lack of reports lately and one big one is the cost of fuelling the boat.

Lately we have been getting the comment, "Are there many fish around yet because we don't want to waste our time coming down with the price of fuel."

Whilst this is an understandable question, we can only give a report, past tense, what is going to be around in a few days is something that we wish we did know.

It's just the reality of the world we live in and probably why we are selling a lot more land-based set ups.

Again understandably, there will be a lot of people leaving the boat in the shed this season but that doesn't mean you have to stop fishing.

For a tank of fuel, you could get yourself a land based set up or even just a decent couple of rods and some gear, use your boat reels, and spend the day fishing off the many beaches or jetties around this area.

We can help with any information you need, what to use and where to go, so just drop in and see us.

Mel and Amanda, together with Women in Recreational Fishing (WIRF) ran another successful information night for the ladies at the shop last week with over 20 attending.

It was a night of information designed to help those who wanted to hone their skills or simply get started in fishing. There will be another night coming up before Christmas and we will put information in our reports or on our social media platforms.

### Fishing reports

Barrel tuna don't seem to be in too much of a hurry to move on, with several reports still coming in over the last few weeks. They do however seem to have moved to the west with not much east of the Island being found of late.

The way it's going there will be little rest between the barrels and school fish which we would expect to show in another couple of months.

These waters are becoming some of the healthiest and most abundant waters on the

southern coast which only adds concern to what effect a farm of windmills might have.

If it's also a concern of yours, make sure you have your say on the various sites wanting feedback.

The tuna also seems to have moved out to deeper water and not much close to the entrances.

What lure colours and type to use hasn't changed a whole lot, with "anybody's guess" still being the only right answer.

It's the same with all types of fishing; don't get too hung up on what everyone else is doing and create your own methods.

Good reports of calamari from the beaches mostly this week, with the jetties not quite as successful, or with much smaller calamari.

Ventnor, Cleeland Bight beaches were the most successful from those using baited jigs.

From the land, artificial jigs caught a few but worked much better in the boats or kayaks.

While we did get some reports from the jetties, they were a little quiet despite the water being reasonably clean and weed free.

The rest of the reports came from boats that headed out on the handful of opportunities we had, who were chasing snapper and whiting.

Many that did get out found fish and while they got a feed, that was about it.

The quality of the fish was good, whiting to 42cm, gummies to 8kg and snapper around the perfect pan size.

It was the numbers that were down and very few managed anywhere near their limits.

The weather was having a bigger part to play than anything else, limiting you to fish where the conditions were best.

Much of the snapper and gummy reports did however come from the Elizabeth Island to Lang Lang area, with whiting all over the place.

As the weather settles, the water warms up and more get out fishing the reports start to come in greater numbers and we will be able to get a report together every week.

Most of the new season's stock has arrived.

Whether it's a present for someone else or just for yourself, now is the time to get your laybys sorted for Christmas and give yourself plenty of time to pay it off.

Time is also running out to get your rods or reels repaired, firstly because the time we must fix them becomes less but getting parts becomes harder as well as we get closer to Christmas.

The shop is now open seven days a week, nine to five on weekdays and eight to five on weekends. As the weather warms, we will move into our summer hours.

## Midweek bowls results

Another great day this week as 24 players took to the arena to fight it out for team of the day.

Light rain was falling when we arrived at Corinella, but by the time we walked out to do battle the rain had stopped and it stayed that way for the rest of the day.

The draw created some very strong teams, and it was always going to be a hard day's play.

Lots of laughter and sledging could be heard across the green as well as lots of compliments on the quality of bowls both from teammates and opposition players.

A couple of wrong bias blows this week as usual, however it keeps the RCH tin full.

A big shout out to Phil for all his hard work looking after the rest of us, he does an excellent job as our host.

It was a sort of sad day as this will be the last time we will be playing on the present green as in a couple of weeks the carpet will be lifted and replaced.

We are all looking forward to finding out how the new green will feel.

But for the final day we had to make an impression. This week the two best teams both ended up on 35 points and could not be separated on a count back, so, for our final game on the old green we have two winning teams and no runners up.

This week's co-winners (on 35 points) in no particular order were: Tony Heppleston (S), Terry Floyd (3), Chris Coulson (2), Sonya Grant (L), Phil Wright (S), David Talbot (3), Bill Williams (2), and Tony Morris (L).

Best one game on 23 points were: Mark Andreatta (S), Laurie Bell (3), Robin Coulson (2) and Peter Thorley (L).

Once again, a big thank you to Peter and Pauline as well as John, these people go the extra yard to keep our family returning each week.

Next week we will be playing at San Remo at 10am for 10.30am start.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the green.



This week's co-winners were Chris Coulson (2), Sonya Grant (L), Terry Floyd (3) and Tony Heppleston (S).



Best one game winners were Robyn Coulson (2), Laurie Bell (3), Mark Andreatta (S), and Peter Thorley (L).



Also, this week's co winners: Phil Wright (S), David Talbot (3), Tony Morris (L) and Bill Williams (2).

## Phillip Island bowls results

### Summer triples

A fabulous turnout for the first round of the summer triples here on the Island, the weather was splendiferous, and our 84 bowlers soaked up the sunshine and were in great spirits.

But of course, there can only be one winner, being Rod Jackson (Leongatha), Peter Forrest (Phillip Island) and Alan Easterbrook (Leongatha) with four game wins and a +44.

### Social bowls

It was dark and stormy on the Island last Thursday but that didn't stop our merry band of social bowlers getting out there and playing.

Runners up with a +20 were, Joan Farmer, Barry 'Einstein' Grazules and Ken Linton.

Winners with a +24 were, Lindsey Meredith, Tony Steward and Eric Wilde.



Summer triples winners were (L-R), Rod Jackson (Leongatha), Peter Forrest (Phillip Island) and Alan Easterbrook (Leongatha).



Social bowls winners with a +24 were (L-R), Lindsey Meredith, Tony Steward and Eric Wilde.

## Tenpin bowls results

**2s company:** 1st on 20.5pts Jail, 2nd on 18pts Alley Cats, 3rd on 17pts Rockers.

**ABL (Almost Bowling Legends):** 1st on 119pts Pinpals, 2nd on 108.5pts Just Bowl Already, 3rd on 100pts Island Sector.

**Phantom week six:** 1st on 15pts Mac4, 2nd on 13pts PBA9X, 3rd on 12pts Lucky13.

This week's top scorers are:  
Men: Scott Lynch 209, Raff Merante 202, and Brendon Corvino 184.  
Woman: Jacque Kent 154, Chloe Else 154 and Elizabeth 149.

Last Thursday, Holy Splits took out the competition in a knockout round winning this season's business league.

The top four teams from each early league and late league battled it out until Holy Splits were the last team left standing.

The other competitors were Turkey Slappers, Balls Deep, Bettsys, Happy Hour, Coles Cows, Dynamic Painting and City Lights.



Holy Splits won this season's business league competition. From left to right is Anthony Hancock, David Hancock and Glenn Martin.

## TIDE GUIDE

Tidal predictions for Stony Point, Cowes -0.09 Newhaven -0.31 | HIGH TIDE IS MARKED IN RED

WED 21 SEP	THU 22 SEP	FRI 23 SEP	SAT 24 SEP	SUN 25 SEP	MON 26 SEP	TUE 27 SEP
LOW 1:08 am 0.70 m	LOW 1:47 am 0.82 m	LOW 2:38 am 0.94 m	LOW 3:46 am 1.03 m	LOW 5:05 am 1.05 m	HIGH 12:17 am 2.37 m	HIGH 1:21 am 2.56 m
HIGH 8:10 am 2.57 m	HIGH 8:58 am 2.47 m	HIGH 9:57 am 2.40 m	HIGH 11:05 am 2.40 m	HIGH 12:09 pm 2.47 m	LOW 6:15 am 1.01 m	LOW 7:11 am 0.94 m
LOW 1:37 pm 1.28 m	LOW 2:24 pm 1.37 m	LOW 3:28 pm 1.43 m	LOW 4:46 pm 1.39 m	LOW 5:57 pm 1.25 m	HIGH 1:03 pm 2.57 m	HIGH 1:49 pm 2.66 m
HIGH 7:34 pm 2.39 m	HIGH 8:24 pm 2.29 m	HIGH 9:32 pm 2.22 m	HIGH 10:58 pm 2.24 m		LOW 6:52 pm 1.06 m	LOW 7:37 pm 0.86 m

All material is supplied in good faith and is believed to be correct. No responsibility or liability for errors or omissions is accepted.



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Tiffany, Jasmine, Ava, Kate and Miranda, the Gymstar 5 team in their first ever Gymstar Titans competition.

# Gymstar competitors shine in memorable competitions

## Gymstar 4 Competition

A few teammates down, Phillip Island Gymstar 4 bravely took to the floor at Footscray City Gymnastics Club as two teams of three gymnasts, leaving no room for error.

The girls were warmly welcomed by several judges, now familiar with our team as a fun, friendly and supportive group.

A reputation well deserved with the girls picking up a team "spirit award" for showing support to both their teammates and other teams at the competition.

This was not the only award handed out to the Phillip Island team with individual and team awards also being presented: Lacey Rees 3rd on rings, Sommer Haire 6th on bars and 6th on beam, Willow Zamfirescu 1st on vault and 4th on bars, Evie Kimber 5th on floor and 6th on vault, Rori Williams 2nd on vault, 5th on rings and 5th individual overall!

Our Ruby team were awarded overall 3rd place and as an extra

honour that no medal can represent, several of our gymnasts were asked to perform their vault after competition to be officially filmed for coaching and judging training.

We are the only team to have chosen the new and more dangerous vault option and we do it well!

This also got us a second 'spirit award', for their incredible hectic style dive rolls.

## Gymstar 5 competition

It was a most memorable competition for the YMCA Phillip Island, Gymstar 5 gymnasts who competed at the State Gymnastics Centre on September 11, 2022.

Team members Ava Green, Tiffany Clarke, Kate McClausland, Jasmine Campbell and Miranda Howlett competed in their first ever Gymstar Titans competition.

Titans competitions are designed for Gymstar gymnasts, coaches and clubs who prefer a more competitive event.

The first Titans competition brought with it a mixture of

nerves and excitement, but all team members rose to the occasion, each performing outstanding routines on all six apparatus to bring home the gold medal for the club in the team event.

Congratulations girls on a truly magnificent result!

Special mention must be made to Tiffany Clarke, who had yet another stand out competition, coming first place in the individual all around.

Tiffany's beautiful routines have managed to secure her first place in all four competitions she has entered this year. Well done Tiffany, the club is extremely proud of your achievements.

### Final results:

Tiffany Clarke, all-around 1st, floor 2nd, vault 1st, bars 1st, beam 3rd, P-bars 3rd, and rings 1st.

Ava Green, all-around 5th, floor 3rd, vault 4th and P-bars 4th.

Kate McClausland, all-around 6th, vault 2nd, beam 5th and rings 5th.

Miranda Howlett, bars 5th and

rings 3rd.

Jasmine Campbell, floor 6th, beam 4th and rings 6th.

On the previous weekend, September 4, at the State Gymnastics Centre, YMCA Phillip Island Gymnastics again had exceptional results.

The two teams entered in the level five competition took out first and second place.

An outstanding team effort with each individual routine contributing to the overall result.

The individual results were a clean sweep for the club, with the gymnasts from YMCA Phillip Island Gymnastics finishing in 1st to 6th place.

Tiffany Clarke 1st place, Miranda Howlett 2nd place, Ava Green 3rd place, Mia Bowtell 4th place, Jasmine Campbell and Abigail Greenhalgh 5th place and Alexis Osabutey 6th place.

Congratulations to all the gymnasts on such a successful year of competition.

More photos at [pisra.com.au](http://pisra.com.au)



Gymstar 5 competitor Tiffany Clarke had a stand out competition, coming first place in the individual all around.



Competition ribbons were awarded to Gymstar 4 teammates Willow, Mia, Rori, Sommer, Evie and Lacey.

**ALEX SCOTT  
AND STAFF**

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