Your Weekly Community Newspaper

Since 1977

Vol 48 Ed48

Tuesday 9 December 2025

winchelseastar.org.au

The Brrr-ave and the Bold!

Winchelsea Christmas
Carols in Lions Park next to
the bluestone bridge was
enjoyed by around 300
people, in spite of starting
with grey clouds, cold winds
and occasional raindrops.
Great to see so many come
along!!



Elf Trail Update Winchelsea:

Over the past week Santas Christmas elves have been arriving in Winchelsea and finding a business to hide in, checking in on all that is happening in Winchelsea.

The last of the sixteen Christmas Elves has officially landed in Winchelsea, taking up a cheerful spot at The Vault Ostrich and Gift Shop just in time (actually he arrived a little late) and is so excited to be sitting in amongst the fabulous toys, beautiful colourful feathers and ostrich eggs watching the festive fun continue across town.

All families are invited to take part in the magical Winchelsea Christmas Elf Trail, a community activity that encourages children and parents to explore local businesses while hunting for the visiting elves who have arrived from the North Pole.

To join the adventure and go into the draw to win great prizes. Simply visit the friendly team at the Winchelsea Community Bank and collect your Elf Passport. The passport includes all the clues and locations you will need to track down each of the sixteen elves hiding throughout Winchelsea.

It is a wonderful way to support local traders, enjoy the spirit of Christmas and create special memories with your children. Happy elf hunting.



This little elf has made great friends with the toys at The Vault and is having a fabulous time riding the ostriches and crating lots of merry mischief

Let the treasure hunt begin!

Part 2: How to hunt for Elves

Ready to become a top Elf hunter? Here is everything you need to know to start your Christmas adventure around Winchelsea.

The elves land in Winchelsea on the 5th of December and will find a business to hide in.

Step 1: Ask your grown up to join you. Pick up your Christmas passport from the staff at the local community bank, available from the 1st of December, this is your special tool to track the elves.

Step 2: Use the list to find out which shops and businesses the elves are hiding in. Visit each one, look carefully and see if you can spot the sneaky little elf inside.

Step 3: Each elf has a name, write this in your passport. While your there ask the staff to stamp your passport too.

Step 4: Keep going until you've found all the elves, then return your completed passport to the Christmas Competition Box at the Community Bank.

Bonus Tip: Bring a pen, a big smile and your best elf-spotting eyes.

You will not only enjoy a magical time with your family but you will also go into the draw to win great Christmas prizes.

Lets find those elves before they get into too much mischief.

Entry Deadline Extended – Winchelsea Christmas Lights Competition

The Winchelsea Lions Club has extended the closing date for entries in this year's Christmas Lights
Competition to 17 December 2025.
This change follows strong feedback from local families who said they needed a little more time to prepare their displays, and several late entries received after the original cut-off confirmed the need for extra breathing room.

With so many timber Christmas trees already purchased from the Men's Shed and plenty of homes well underway with their decorating, extending the deadline gives everyone a fair chance to be part of the official Christmas Lights Trail.

Registering ensures your home is included in the competition and we will make sure families know exactly where

to explore and enjoy the festive displays around town through promotion of the later entries on the Growing Winchelsea Facebook page and other Winchelsea social media groups.

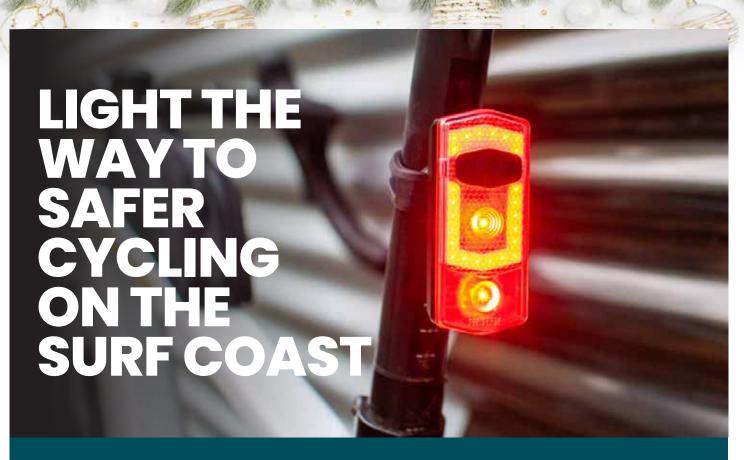
Prizes for the best-dressed house will still be announced at the community BBQ on Sunday 21 December 2025 at 1 pm at the Mud Hut where Krazy Koala's Nicholas Ridiculous will entertain the children in the lead up to announcements. Santa may make a surprise visit too!

Entry forms are available on the Growing Winchelsea website.
Alternatively contact Elaine Atkinson on 0458009616. With the new deadline in place, there's still time to join in, finish those final touches, and help make the trail one of the highlights of the season.

Winchelsea is shaping up for a great Christmas — let's keep the momentum going.

For additional information contact: Elaine Atkinson 0458009616 eatkinson048@gmail.com





CALLING LOCAL CYCLISTS:

Share data from your local cycling experiences to help make our roads more bike friendly.

We're partnering with See.Sense, iMOVE, City of Sydney and TAC to bring cutting edge smart bike light technology to our community as part of the See.Sense Insights Trial, and we want you to be part of it.

JOIN THE TRIAL AND HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SAFE CYCLING IN SURF COAST SHIRE.

200 local riders will be selected to take part in this 12-month program, each receiving a free **See.Sense ICON3 smart bike light** valued at over \$240.

As you ride, the light collects non identifiable real time data about your cycling environment.

This information will help us:

- Improve cyclist safety on our local roads
- Guide future road upgrades
- Strengthen funding applications for better cycling infrastructure.



Apply to be part of the trial by Friday 9 January 2026.

surfcoast.vic.gov.au/SmartBikeLightTrial



Our Native Wildlife is vital for our future! Interview with Barb Reyland

by Abi Gough



Barb Reyland is the operator of Winchelsea Wildlife Shelter and President of Wildlife Rescue Rangers Inc where the dedicated volunteers source donations to fund native wildlife shelters in the south west of Victoria. Barb's passion for our native Australian wildlife started early in life with her family often joking about the multitude of animals that sort refuge. This instinct to care for, rehabilitate and rewild animals led her to work at Jirrahlinga (formerly Helgaland) for four years. Then Barb's strong focus in caring and nurturing native animals inspired her to work as assistant manager for Finnigan Zoo in Ocean Grove for six years.

The importance of native wildlife has always been a passion for Barb though in 2015 she took it one step further by getting her "Certificate IV in Conservation and

Land Management, as well as Wildlife Conservation and Management, all while volunteering at a Wildlife Shelter." Barb became a foster carer for native wildlife in 2016, gaining invaluable experience in how to run a Shelter. Barb's moto is "we are not in this world to serve ourselves but are her to help others."



Winchelsea Wildlife Shelter proudly opened it's doors in 2018 and the native animals that are cared for face several critical health challenges. "These include dangerous motor vehicle collisions, habitat loss, orphaned and displaced individuals, harmful human interventions, exposure to rodenticides and pesticides, acts of cruelty, and unnecessary capture. Each of these issues poses a significant threat to their well-being and survival. Every year, we witness the weather becoming more intense and unpredictable, which can be heartbreaking for wildlife. This disruption leads many animals to breed outside of their natural seasons, resulting in a rise in orphans and displaced creatures in need of care and support. It's a reminder of how

interconnected we are with nature and the challenges these vulnerable beings face."



As the operator, Barb implements a rehabilitation plan often with the local Winchelsea Veterinary Hospital and/or Werribee open range zoo (WORZ) that is "tailored to the animal's specific circumstances" and under the Wildlife Victoria quidelines. She has housed and rehabilitated many different species of native animals "everything from macropods and possums to sugar gliders, echidnas, and koalas, along with beautiful birds such as lorikeets, tawny frogmouths, magpies, currawongs, ravens, hawks, and eagles." Who have been found and "rescued from the Surf Coast, Golden Plains, Colac Otway, and Geelong regions."

All wildlife shelters are entirely self funded and operate with the support of the community and grants. "Navigating grants can be quite challenging, and they are often limited, making community support even more vital. Every contribution we receive, no matter how big or small, makes a meaningful difference. We are immensely grateful for any assistance you can provide. It's important to always keep in mind that these animals are wild beings that rely on our support to help them return to their natural homes."

Barb states, "Sponsoring wildlife shelters that protect common species is a crucial and often overlooked aspect of conservation. While it's easy to focus on highly endangered "poster animals" like tigers or pandas, the health of common species is fundamental to the entire ecosystem. In short, protecting common species is not a secondary concern to saving endangered ones; it is a fundamental part of a healthy, resilient ecosystem. By sponsoring shelters that focus on these animals, you are investing in a

preventative, holistic, and impactful conservation strategy that benefits not only

the animals but also the environment and our own future."



Please consider donating to Wildlife Rescue Rangers Inc by visiting the website https://wildliferescuerangers.com.au and clicking on the Donate button. Otherwise visit https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/ wrridonations We are a registered charity and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.



Probus Christmas Lunch

by Linda Carter

Winchelsea Probus held their last meeting for 2025 last Monday. After a delicious morning tea thanks to Sue , Ann and Mark who brought a delicious chocolate ripple cake we were entertained by carol singing wonderfully organised by Maureen. We could all join in as most of us knew the words.

After the meeting we car pooled to the Moriac Hotel for a delicious 3 course lunch and a bit of fun with a raffle kindly organised by Sue and Kelvin.

A lovely way to finish the year. Our next meeting will be on Monday February 2nd, 10 o'clock at the seniors. So if you are interested in joining Probus please come along, we would love some new members. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year.







The 2026 Surf Coast Community Arts Calendar is here!



Celebrate local creativity all year long with our new Community Arts Calendar, featuring 12 stunning winning artworks plus a special People's Choice cover.

Collect your free copy from 8 December at:

- Council's Municipal Office, Merrijig Dr, Torquay
- Visitor Information Centres
- Community houses & hubs across the Shire



Find your nearest outlet at councils website.



Winchelsea Star

send your stories

news@winchelseastar.org.au

LOCAL NEWS and ARTICLES WELCOME

Email news@winchelseastar.org.au OR Leave hard copy at IGA Supermarket

news deadline

5pm Fridays

4pm Sundays - hard copy left at IGA 6pm Sundays - sports results and weekend events

EDITOR 5273 0295

Leave a message

ADVERTISING 5273 0294

advertising@winchelseastar.org.au

free online subscription

www.winchelseastar.org.au

facebook.com/TheWinchelseaStar



SIMCO PLUMBING SERVICE

Domestic - Commercial - Rural

0400 643 976

- All general Plumbing and Gasfitting Water tanks and Pumps
 - Renovations and Extensions Hot water and Heat pump
 - Split system and Wood heaters
 Roof and Gutter
- Septic and Treatment plants Excavation, Bobcat and Tipper
 - Driveways and Earthworks
 - Blocked drains and CCTV Inspection

Simon Mcgillivray

Lic: 109610 Free Quotes, Fast & Friendly Service

Fire Danger Period NOW

Country Fire Authority

The Fire Danger Period is when CFA restricts the use of fire in the community. This is to help prevent fires from starting.

The Fire Danger Period is NOT the same thing as a Total Fire Ban.

Your local council or shire may have their own local laws about lighting fires. Contact your local council to find out what municipal local laws may be in place. Local laws may be in place all year

Municipality SURF COAST

Start Date 24/11/2025

End Date 01/05/2026

If you need to use fire in the open air during the Fire Danger Period or on a day of Total Fire Ban you may require a permit.

Find the rules at: https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-permits/about-fire-permits

NATURAL GAS CONNECTIONS

M. & L DRAYTON PLUMBING SERVICES

YOUR LOCAL LICENSED

- •PLUMBERS (24356)
- •GAS FITTERS
- •GAS CONVERTERS
- •CARBON MONOXIDE TESTING

MARK 0428 520 142



the Surf Coast

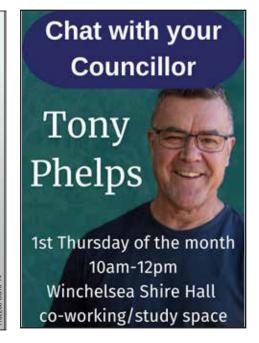
Specialising in all residential electrical work including:

- Switch board & lighting upgrades
- Outdoor lighting
- Electrical safety checks
- Energy efficient LED lighting
- Ceiling sweep fans & ventilation
- Energy saving advice

Phone Martin Wilkinson:

0467 097 101

greenlead@outlook.com





Stitch it don't Ditch it

by Annette Rennie

Another busy time in the Star Room at Winch House on Wednesday. There were two sewing machines working hard and a pattern being cut out using material from our donated stash.

Wednesday, December 10th, will be the last chance to take up that hem, sew a seam or replace a missing button for 2025. Hopefully we'll see you there.





The skills you already have, can help you make a positive impact as a Prison Officer.

Discover a rewarding and secure career as a Prison Officer. Apply now and receive an \$8,000 sign on bonus.*



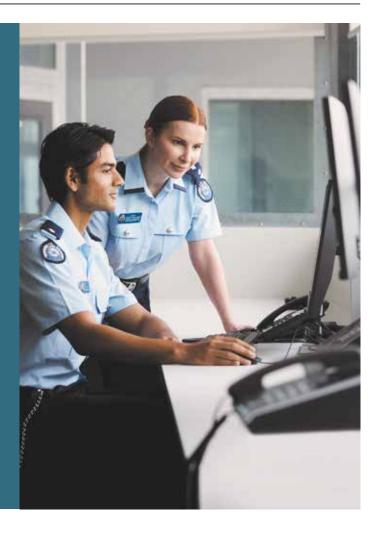
Corrections Victoria

Hiring now

*Conditions apply.



Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne











RENOVATIONS

- **NEW HOMES**
- ALTERATIONS
- CARPORTS
- BATHROOMS
- EXTENSIONS

WINDOW REPLACEMENTS

- PERGOLAS
- DECKS
- VERANDAHS
- RE-CLADS

Leigh Lupton 0438 840 104

LEIGHLUPTON 17@GMAIL.COM

Need tax advice...?

Business & SMSF Tax Planning Specialists

Winchelsea Torquay 5267 2673 5261 2262

surftax.com.au

Winchelsea Taxis is now Surfcoast Taxis

Our fleet of vehicles are growing to all late models and we are covering an extended area including Winchelsea, Colac, Bannockburn, Inverleigh, Great Ocean Road and Geelong.

We have a fleet of 10 seater Maxi Vans, all with capacity to carry wheelchairs.

Surfcoast Taxis Pty Ltd All Bookings: 0408 325 992

Fax: 5267 2699

Email: bannotaxis@gmail.com (Admin or Stan 0429 672 888)

66A Batson Street Winchelsea 3241





Accounts NDIS provider. TAC, DVA etc

NDIS provider number 4050001044 NDIS provider number 4050001048





- Domestic and Commercial hire equipment
 Industrial welding gas
- Digging and Earthmoving equipment
 New trailers and trailer repairs
 - Firewood
 Stockists of Royal Oil Lubricants products
 - LPG for domestic and commercial requirements

Give Chris and the Team a call on 5232 1177 or email info@colachire.com.au

www.colachire.com.au 101 Wallace St Colac 3250





Winchelsea Dental Practice

NEW OPENING HOURS

8am - 6.30pm Monday & Tuesday 8.30am - 6.30pm Wednesday 8.30am - 5pm Thursday (Friday emergencies call 5267 2071)

Find us at 21 Hesse St Call 5267 2071 or book online www.winchelseadental.com.au



ArtsRural



by Zinaida Campion
Handel's Messiah Returns
to Geelong — A
Celebration of Local Talent

To share your stories and inspire the community, please contact Zinaida. 0428 403 784 zinaidacampion@gmail.com

Zinaida Campion is a classical soprano, vocal coach, artist and model raised in Winchelsea. She is an alumna of VOYCE Victorian Opera, a Windfire Vocal Scholar, and Co President of Geelong City Opera. She has a strong background in languages, a love of local history, and an all-consuming passion for promoting the arts in rural areas.

SOLD OUT!

Yes, that's right, if you haven't already bought your tickets for Messiah at the Basilica, you're too late! I've been associated with the music programme at St Mary's for two years now, and while the concerts are extremely popular, I've never known them to sell out so far in advance before. For the lucky ones with tickets, I think you can safely anticipate something extra special...

Jane Bashiruddin, secretary of Music at the Basilica, has very kindly written us a comprehensive introduction to the work, but before that, I'd like to talk a little about my own association with Music at the Basilica, specifically the Windfire Chamber Choir, and it's impact on me as a young artist.

I joined Windfire as a Vocal Scholar back in 2023. As part of my scholarship, I participate in all the concerts, both as a chorister and soloist. The impact this has had on my confidence as a performer is incalculable. Under the tutelage of Frank De Rosso, Director of Music, Jane Bashiruddin, and Jeanette Johnston, Treasurer, I've built up my skills and know-how, and most importantly, made the most wonderful friends in the local artistic scene. Windfire was my first major introduction to the Geelong music world, and it will ever remain close to my heart.

Rehearsals for Messiah have been pretty intense — it's such a colossal work that we needed twice the rehearsals than usual, so lots of late nights! I do believe though, that it will be well worth it, and more rehearsals equals more camaraderie, which is fine by me! Especially as we've been collaborating with the Geelong Chorale, there have been some fun times.

I've included some photos from past performances, including some of my solos which, come to think of it, have been among the most enjoyable I've done. Now prepare to be thoroughly educated by Jane's erudite overview.



For the first time in over 30 years, Handel's Messiah will resound in Geelong under the direction of local musicians. Presented by Music at the Basilica, this performance unites the Windfire Choir and The Geelong Chorale in a grand collaboration that showcases the extraordinary musical talent of our region.

The combined choir features singers from across the greater Geelong area, the Bellarine Peninsula, and the Surf Coast, all coming together to perform one of the most beloved and inspiring works in the choral repertoire.

A stellar lineup of soloists includes Lee Abrahmsen (soprano), a Geelong resident and 2010 Sun Aria winner; Austin Haynes (countertenor), 2023 Sun Aria winner; Robert Macfarlane (tenor), remembered for his moving narration in Bach's St John Passion; and Manfred Pohlenz (bass), a versatile performer and former conductor of The Geelong Chorale.

Under the expert baton of Joseph Hie, Principal Conductor of the Windfire Choir and Associate Conductor of the Heidelberg Choral Society, this promises to be an unforgettable celebration of community, artistry, and the enduring brilliance of Handel's Messiah.

Handel's Messiah stands as one of the most enduring and beloved works in the Western choral tradition. Composed in 1741 in a remarkably short span of just twenty-four days, it represents the pinnacle of George Frideric Handel's

genius for dramatic expression, melodic invention, and spiritual depth. Although often associated with Christmas, Messiah actually spans the entire Christian story of redemption—from prophecy and Christ's birth, through His suffering, death, and resurrection, to the promise of eternal life.

The text provides a powerful narrative arc through its three parts. Part I reflects the joyous anticipation of the Messiah's coming, featuring some of the work's most radiant music, such as "For unto us a Child is born." Part II moves into the Passion and resurrection, culminating in the triumphant "Hallelujah" chorus—perhaps the most famous choral movement ever written. Part III turns contemplative, exploring themes of faith, resurrection, and the ultimate victory over death, concluding with the majestic "Worthy is the Lamb" and a resounding "Amen."

Musically, Messiah is both intimate and grand. Handel's mastery of contrastbetween solo arias, expressive recitatives, and exuberant chorusescreates an emotional and spiritual journey that has captivated audiences for centuries. The work's instrumentation, originally written for modest forces, allows the voices to shine, though modern performances often expand the orchestra and chorus to thrilling effect. The brilliance of Handel's word painting, his ability to translate biblical text into vivid musical imagery, gives Messiah its timeless power.

Today, Messiah remains a cornerstone of the choral repertoire—performed by professional ensembles and community choirs alike. Its combination of profound theology, dramatic energy, and sheer melodic beauty continues to move listeners of all backgrounds. Handel himself once said, "I should be sorry if I only entertained them; I wished to make them better." In Messiah, he achieved both—a work that uplifts, inspires, and transcends time.

Ciao!

Birds in the garden

by Julia Holohan

Our soil is pleasantly pliable at the moment making it easier to pull weeds it obviously makes it easier to pull worms too!

From my kitchen sink window I've been watching a kookaburra sit on a lower branch then dive down and easily tug out a fabulous big wriggling worm which he devours quickly. This kookaburra has been doing this for a good while & I've been watching, mesmerised, so much so, that by the time I thought to take a photo he'd finished! So you only get to see the one of the kookaburra perched on his observation branch taking time to digest his worms.



We love their break of day welcoming laughter. We love all the birds welcoming the dawn but the kookaburras laughter & the magpies argling are my favourites.

We have lots of native birds in our garden. They come and go and often there's lots of bickering like kids do, and also fights between species trying to be the alpha bird species. The native birds can be quite aggressive yet so beautiful to look at.

At the moment there's the kookaburras, magpies, lots of rosellas, wattlebirds, currawongs & wee little finches, followed by just a sparse spattering of bowerbirds!

I'm sure the bower birds will be out in vast numbers eating our produce as it ripens!

We have a love/ hate relationship with the bower birds!



Such a magnificent bird. The metallic navy blue male with his red eye has built many a bower in the garden & we've loved watching the blue adornments grow and depleted as the males steal from each other's bower or pick up the odd blue thing we've left out for them to use for decoration in their bowers to attract the females. Then hearing him trilling madly as the females gather around to inspect his bower. We feel very privileged to be witness to this.

But, my goodness, they can deplete the veggie garden of everything with lightning speed! And when they've done that they eat the lemons and the chillis & chilli leaves!

It's the yin & yang & adventure of our vegetable gardening.

The bowerbird is elusive to photograph especially the male. I can stand on the deck but as I lift my phone he'll fly off, even from inside behind the window, as I lift the phone he's gone. I have managed one photo of a male, a bit blurry as it was taken too quickly and he was further away than I wanted.



Another bit of excitement is a wattlebird nest with chicks. The nest is only about 4 foot of the ground in a spindly protea at the east end of the house. The protea with the nest is surrounded by another small protea, roses, lavender & rosemary but it's easy to see the nest & into it!



We occasionally get the little wattlebird visiting they are a smaller and I find, more attractive version of the wattlebird. Also occasionally frogmouths camouflaged in a tree. Our last lot was an adult and, we asumed it's fledgling, huddled together on a stump, stock still, they blew us away when we spotted them. Down the paddock, a red robin was a surprise visitor, staying only long enough for a quick photo before flying off.

Birds are wonderful to have in the garden, especially like today, being mesmerised by that kookaburra and his worm adventure.



Keep It Green This Christmas: Tips To Reduce Waste And Save Money

The festive season is a wonderful time to come together with family and friends - but it can also be a time when things get a little out of hand.

From excessive food waste to overspending, unnecessary packaging and the temptation of endless sales, the impact on both our wallets and the environment can guickly add up.

The Surf Coast Shire Council is encouraging households to embrace a greener Christmas by keeping celebrations simple, thoughtful and low-waste.

"Often it's the simple things - nice food, good company and thoughtful choices - that make the season feel special," Cr Phoebe Crockett said. "More presents and more stuff doesn't necessarily mean a better Christmas."

"Small choices can make a big difference. It's all about buying local, avoiding excess, getting crafty, supporting creatives, choosing reusables, trying new options, and recycling where you can - all while having fun!"

"You can start by avoiding items that often end up as waste, like single-use gift wrapping. Old newspapers make an excellent option for gift wrap. Also opt for experiences, useful gifts, second-hand or locally made, quality products where you can," she said.

Top tips for a greener festive season

- Buy local: Support local makers, growers and retailers while reducing transport emissions. Local experiences leave lasting memories and make great gifts.
- Choose reusable over disposable: From cloth serviettes to gift bags and advent calendars.
- Get crafty: Make your own decorations using greenery from the garden, wrap gifts in fabric or reuse old wrapping paper.
- Plan your meals: Write a shopping list and buy only what you need to cut down on food waste.
- Recycle and compost right: Check what can go in your recycling, glass and FOGO bins and explain your bins to any house guests.

To help you keep it green this festive season, Council has compiled ten practical, easy ideas to reduce unnecessary waste. They cover everything from smart shopping and low-waste gifting to creative DIY options and better recycling habits.

Explore the full list of tips at: surfcoast.vic.gov.au/ GiveMoreWasteLess.



Action Plan Sets Clear Path To Deliver Four-Year Council Plan

Surf Coast Shire Council is getting to work on its new Council Plan 2025-2029, with the Year One Action Plan now endorsed.

It follows the adopting of the Council Plan, incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, in September this year following extensive community consultation.

The Council Plan Action Plan describes how Surf Coast Shire Council will address the strategic directions identified,

through the delivery of key initiatives. The Action Plan highlights 43 key initiatives, including:

- Attaining Eco-Destination Accreditation to promote the shire as an environment-oriented tourism destination.
- Develop a Service Review Policy and a program of service reviews.
- Deliver Christmas decorations and activations project.
- Complete the design and award construction contract ready to commence construction of the Karaaf Stormwater Diversion project.
- Deliver a program of road and active transport projects including:

- Speed zone reviews.
- Fischer Street safety improvements.
- Pollocksford Road bridge renewal.
- Spring Creek pedestrian bridge. View the Council Plan and Action Plan in full at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/OurFocusOurFuture.





The Climate Report

Compiled by Judy Cameron

La Niña is here for the summer - but it may not bring what Australians expect

Expert says the weather pattern, which typically brings wetter and cooler conditions, may be weakened by global heating.

The bureau's models suggest rainfall this summer could be roughly average for Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth. Central Queensland, northern parts of central New South Wales and north-western Western Australia could be drier than usual.

For temperatures, most of the country is predicted to have above-average maximum and minimum temperatures between December and February.

Full story: https://www.theguardian.com/ environment/2025/dec/04/la-ninaaustralia-summer-weather - by Graham Readfearn. Environment and climate correspondent

Climate action saves lives. So why do climate models ignore wellbeing?

Climate change is already shaping our wellbeing. It affects mental health. spreads infectious diseases, disrupts work, damages food supplies and forces families to leave their homes because of conflict, hunger or flooding.

Wellbeing refers to everything that enables people to live healthy, safe and meaningful lives. It includes physical and mental health, access to food, clean water, hygiene and income, as well as work, leisure, culture and education.

It also involves personal safety,

freedoms, trust in institutions and how people feel about their own lives. Environmental quality, biodiversity and the degree of inequality in society are part of wellbeing too. Climate change touches every one of these areas.

Research from more than one hundred institutions through the Lancet Countdown – one of the world's leading annual assessments of how climate change is already impacting human health - shows that heat is now responsible for around 550,000 deaths each year. This is 63% more than in the 1990s. Four out of five heatwave days today would not have occurred without climate change.

Climate change is not only about emissions and temperature limits. It affects how people live, work, eat, breathe, learn and feel. When models ignore wellbeing, they underestimate the benefits of climate action and overlook the true costs of inaction.

Full story: https://theconversation.com/ climate-action-saves-lives-so-why-doclimate-models-ignore-wellbeing-269879https://theconversation.com/ climate-action-saves-lives-so-why-doclimate-models-ignore-wellbeing-269879

What do we know about climate change? How do we know it? And where are we headed?

The how and why of Earth's changing climate

The planet we inhabit is changing. That change, especially since the start of the industrial revolution in the 18th century, is largely due to human activities.

Many different forms of data allow us to observe changes to the climate. We have long-running weather stations we

can use to track temperature and rainfall changes, as well as newer technologies such as satellite imaging, which helps us see how sea ice is changing in the Arctic and Antarctic.

We can also make estimates of changes over much longer timescales using environmental indicators linked to temperature, such as tree ring growth, the air bubbles in ice cores, and coral formation.

Just this year, scientists have gone further in showing not only that humanity's collective greenhouse gas emissions are damaging the climate, but even company-level or individual project-level greenhouse gas emissions have detectable consequences. A trio of studies published in April, September and October this year linked emissions from fossil fuel companies and projects with big impacts.

The most recent of these papers showed that the approved Scarborough gas project off the coast of Western Australia is likely to result in hundreds of additional heat-related deaths and millions of lost corals, for example.

So the body of evidence that the climate is changing due to humanity's actions is large and ever-growing. However, we haven't yet taken the required steps to limit these changes by reducing our greenhouse gas emissions on a global scale.

In fact, our emissions remain at record high levels. We are still shifting the planet's climate further away from its pre-industrial state into dangerous new

Full story: https://theconversation.com/ what-do-we-know-about-climatechange-how-do-we-know-it-and-whereare-we-headed-270070



Used with permission of Gary Clark, Swamp Cartoons Cartoon Books available online: swamp.com.au

Safety Of Community And Employees Our Priority On High Fire Risk Days

With an expected hot and dry summer approaching, Surf Coast Shire Council is notifying the community to expect short-term facilities closures and service disruptions during the highest risk fire days.

Council policy aims to protect the safety of employees and the community on days rated by the Country Fire Authority (CFA) as having 'Extreme' or 'Catastrophic' fire danger.

Under the policy, Council employees and contractors will not work or travel in fire risk zones at the highest risk times.

This means services and facilities in high bushfire risk areas (such as Lorne, Aireys Inlet, Anglesea and parts of Jan Juc) and high grassfire risk areas (such as the outer areas of Winchelsea and surrounds), will be impacted on Extreme fire risk days.

Facilities closures and impacts will extend to outdoor facilities in Torquay and other lower risk urban areas on Catastrophic days.

Depending on their location and the fire danger rating on any given day, the following facilities may experience unscheduled short-term closures:

- waste transfer stations;
- Lorne and Anglesea Visitor Information Centres;
- kindergartens and maternal and child health services;
- sport facilities and recreation reserves;
- community facilities, including men's sheds, community gardens and community houses; and
- · health and aquatic facilities.

Kerbside bin collections and emptying of public bins on Council land may be paused or conducted at earlier times (with catch-up collections scheduled as soon as possible), while Council-run events and events on Council land may be cancelled or re-scheduled.



General Manager Community Life Damian Waight said Council was ready to enact its safety policy when needed, with the declared fire danger period now in effect

"We understand that service disruptions and facility closures are inconvenient, but we will always put the safety of the community and our staff first," Mr Waight said.

"The expert CFA advice is clear: people should avoid high risk areas on Extreme or Catastrophic fire danger days. These are the days you should be enacting your fire safety plan.

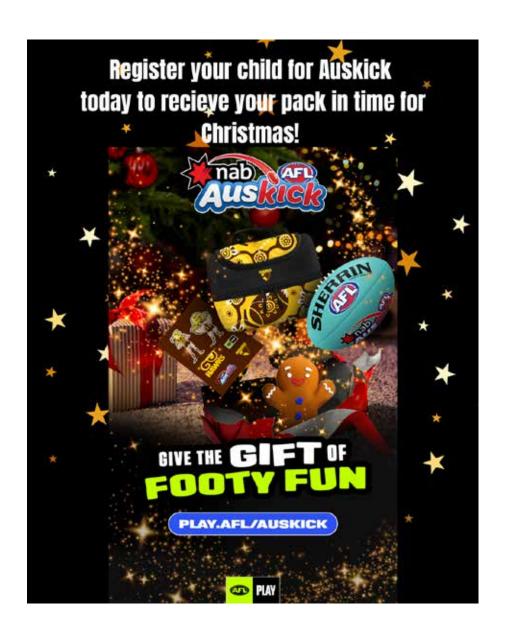
"We will notify the community as soon as we can when closures or service disruptions need to happen, including contacting users directly where possible.

"Sometimes these decisions may need to be made at short notice as weather conditions change.

"We encourage everyone to follow our social media pages for updates as soon as they're available.

"Thanks in advance for your understanding."

More information is available at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/servicechanges.



Services & Activities In Winchelsea

VLINE TRAIN SERVICES

TO MELBOURNE:

Mon - Fri 06.41 (coach) 08.07 11.10

14.04 16.58 19.21

Sat - Sun 08.27 10.27 14.04 16.58

19.17

TO WARRNAMBOOL:

Mon - Fri 08.58 11.51 14.46 17.28 (coach) 18.42 20.52

Sat - Sun 09.44 11.41 14.46 18.38

20.38

SURF COAST MOBILE LIBRARY

Cnr Princes Highway & Hesse St, Fridays, 2pm-5pm

Parked in Hesse Street (outside Shire Hall) Fridays 2:00 and 5:00pm unless it is a Public Holiday.

WINCHELSEA GIRL GUIDES

All girls 6yrs-15yrs Welcome!
.Mondays 4.30pm-6pm (school terms)
Catholic Church Hall, Harding St Winchelsea

Fun, friendship, and adventure. Teamwork, leadership skills, achieve goals, improve communities and grow in confidence.

3 FREE sessions to come along and try. Yvonne 0448 672 630 or Lily 0428 936 441



COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

7pm second Wednesday of month Winchelsea Senior Citizens' Hall 36 Harding Street Winchelsea

WINCHELSEA PLAYGROUP

Every second Thursday 10am-12pm St Thomas Anglican Church Hall cnr Barwon Tce and Hopkins St, Winchelsea

Contact: Danni Menzies 0432019944 winchelseaplaygroup@gmail.com Facebook - Winchelsea Playgroup 2019 New families welcome

scouts 1st Modda & 1st Winch SCOUT GROUP

Joeys: Tues 5-6pm (school terms)
Cubs: Mon 6:30-8pm (school terms)
Scouts: Tues 6:30-8:30pm (school terms)

Venturers: Weds
Modewarre Hall, Cape Otway Rd

Venturers: Walton's Rd Venturer Den
Contact Marie McPadden 0409 330147



Winchelsea and District
COMBINED
PROBUS CLUB

Senior Citizens Rooms, New members always welcome. Enquiries Lorraine 0417 467 927

WINCHELSEA TRANSFER STATION 55 Cressy Road, Winchelsea

Tuesday 2pm-4pm
Saturday 1.30-3.30pm
Thursday 2pm-4pm
Sunday 9.30-12.30pm

Closed Christmas Day, but open on other public holidays. www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/disposalsites







Gift Suggestions:

- Toys & Games: Board games, Lego, beach toys, balls, puzzles
- Gift Vouchers (Mecca, Rebel, JB Hi-Fi, Bounce, Live Wire Park)
- Books (all ages)
- Art Supplies: Craft kits, drawing sets
- Beach Gear: Towels, hats, sunglasses
- Personal Care: Perfume, cologne, skincare packs, deodorant
 sets
- Chocolates/Stockings
- Fashion: Backpacks, water bottles, socks, jewellery, make-up
- Please include wrapping supplies so families can wrap gifts themselves.
- Please drop off your donations by Wednesday 17th December





Winchelsea Star

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

email editor@winchelseastar.org.au or leave a note at Winchelsea IGA

1ST MODEWARRE SCOUT GROUP

Next year we have Cuboree for Cubs in Sept, then Jamboree for Scouts Jan 2027 Marie McPadden Group Leader 1st Modewarre Scout Group 0409 330 147



WANTED: UKULELES

Winch House is looking for unwanted ukuleles to support a coming course "Intro to Ukulele".

If you should have an unloved Uke at home and wish to donate it pls drop off at Winch House or ph 0408502611 to arrange collection.

Thank you

WINCHELSEA PICKLEBALL

The Tennis Club is running Pickleball every Wednesday 7pm at the Winchelsea Leisure Time Centre! Only \$5 a person All equipment supplied Wear suitable footwear Lesley Mathison 0438 672 197

WINCHELSEA TENNIS CLUB

JUNIOR COACHING Mon 3.30pm with experienced Nicole Mullen \$10

WINCHELSEA OP SHOP

Quality clothing and homewares.

10 Willis Street, Winchelsea Vic 3241

WINCHELSEA LIONS CLUB

Large bags of pine cones for fire pits \$5 Lions Club Christmas cakes Available now.

Contact Ray 0406 371 239

Experienced GARDENER required to assist in

Winchelsea farm garden 1 day per fortnight Own ABN

& insurance required

PH: 0404 236 059

FOR SALE

Small bales of good quality hay \$10 per bale

Phone: David on 0410655072

The Saturday Afternoon Crochet Group cordially invites anyone who has attended a session this year to our Christmas Get Together.

Anyone attending should bring a plate to share and a Secret Santa gift to the value of \$10 - \$15. Saturday 13th December at the Winchelsea Community House from 1.00PM.

WINCHELSEA RSL

Change of meeting venue and time for December meeting.

Winchelsea RSL AGM . Friday 12 th December

TIME 11am

VENUE Barwon Hotel (bottom pub)

Followed by Christmas Lunch

David Loone, Sec.

Winchelsea





5234 6585 0417 385 984 For all your domestic & stock water. Also available for road and civil construction Local owned and operated.



SOUTHERN GRAIN STORAGE PTY, LTD.

AG SUPPLIES FERTILISER GRAIN STORAGE SEED CLEANING

(03) 5267 2<u>35</u>1



Café La Hoot

have you tried owl coffee?

1 willis st cefelehoot@gmeil.com 0407 528 999

What's on Weekly

MONDAY-FRIDAY

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY HOUSE

9am-2pm, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea (03) 5267 2028

WINCHELSEA TOY LIBRARY

9am-2pm (03) 5267 2028 Winch Community House, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea

MONDAY-SATURDAY

WINCHELSEA HEALTH CLUB

Accessible - 24 hours Eastern Reserve, 70 Hopkins St 5267 2336

MONDAY

SURF COAST SHIRE FIRE DANGER PERIOD

24/11/2025 - 01/05/2026

GROWING WINCHELSEA WINCHELSEA ELF ON THE SHELF

5-18 December 2025 growingwinchelsea.org

CO-WORKING & STUDYING SPACE

Mon and Thurs 9am-2pm \$10 Winchelsea Community House 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea (03) 5267 2028

MAINLY MUSIC

10-11am (school terms) Interactive Music 0-4yrs St Thomas' 25 Barwon Tce 0407838256

WINCHELSEA GIRL GUIDES



4.30pm-6pm (School term) St John's, Mercer /Harding St Yvonne Orchard 0448 672 630 Lily Dell Rennie 0428 936 441

1ST MODDA/ 1ST WINCH SCOUTS



Cubs: 6:30-8pm (School term) Modewarre Hall, Cape Otway Rd Marie McPadden 0409 330147

VINYASA YOGA

7pm \$25 Winchelsea Shire Hall, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea (03) 5267 2028

TUESDAY



Senior Citizens Centre, 36 Harding St, Winchelsea Elaine Atkinson 0458 009 616

1ST MODDA/ 1ST WINCH SCOUTS



Joeys: 5-6pm (School term)
Scouts: 6:30-8:30pm (School term)
Modewarre Hall, Cape Otway Rd
Marie McPadden 0409 330147

WEDNESDAY

WINCH WALKERS

9:30-10.30am

Mud Hut (Opposite La Hoot Cafe)

Barwon Terrace, Winchelsea
ralexander@hesse.vic.gov.au

WINCHELSEA ZUMBA DANCE

Combined Zumba Fitness and Gold class. 6:30-7:30pm @The Globe Theatre. Simone Dunmore: 0468 375 036

WINCHELSEA MEN'S SHED

9.30am 51 Hesse St, Winchelsea Ray Atkinson 0407839139 winchmenshed@gmail.com

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE

Wednesdays 1- 3.00 pm 36 Harding St, Winchelsea Jean Shinners 52672263, 0427672263 jeanshinners@gmail.com

MOTHER GOOSE SONG & RHYME

2pm (School term) FREE Winchelsea Community House, 28 Hesse St. Winchelsea

WINCHELSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wednesday 1-4:pm, Friday 10am-3pm Hesse St, Winchelsea

STITCH IT, DON'T DITCH IT!

2-4pm Wednesdays from 12 Nov Winch Community House, Hesse St SEWING MACHINE \$ & OVERLOCKER AVAILABLE Gold Coin donation

KIDS ART & CRAFT SESSIONS

4-4.45pm fortnightly Age 5+ \$15 per session or \$60 term Winchelsea Community House 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea 5267 2028

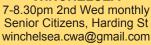
WINCHELSEA LIONS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION

Register by Wednesday 21 November growingwinchelsea.com

MEL'S DANCE CENTRAL

Afternoons/evenings Pre-school - teens Winch Senior Citizens Club www.melsdancecentral.com.au

CWA WINCHELSEA





SES WINCHELSEA

7.30pm 132500 323 Mousley Dr, Winchelsea



THURSDAY

CHAT WITH YOUR COUNCILLOR

10am-12pm First Thursday of month Winchelsea Shire Hall 28 Hesse St,

COWORKING & STUDYING SPACE

9am-2pm \$10 5267 2028 Winch Community House, 28 Hesse St

December

This is a recurring calendar. Please confirm event details with the organiser/venue if you'd like to attend.

To add an event to the calendar, please email news@winchelseastar.org.au

WINCHELSEA PLAYGROUP

10am-12pm (School term) \$5 St Thomas Hall, 27 Barwon Tce winchelseaplaygroup@gmail.com

WINCHELSEA PICKLEBALL

10-11.30am Leisure Time Centre, Gosney St Lesley Mathison 0438 672 197

WINCHELSEA KNITTING GROUP

10.30am-12pm FREE Winchelsea Community House, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea (03) 5267 2028 (03) 5267 2028

MAT PILATES

6.45pm \$25 Winchelsea Shire Hall, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea (03) 5267 2028

WINCHELSEA MOVIE CLUB

7.30 (3rd Thurs each month)
Globe Theatre, Main St, Winchelsea
growingwinchelsea.com/project/
winchelsea-movie-club/

FRIDAY

TAI CHI

9am-10am \$10 5267 2028 Winch Community House, 28 Hesse St

COMMUNITY FOODBANK

12-2pm 30 Hesse St, Winchelsea 0417 848 292

PHONICS WITH ROBOT REG

10.30am (1–3 yrs) 11.30am (3–5 yrs) (School terms) www.robotreg.com.au/pages/shae





10.30am-12.30pm, Gold Coin Donation Winch Shire Hall, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea 5267 2028

WINCHELSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Friday 10am-3pm Hesse St, Winchelsea

WINCHELSEA SENIOR CITIZENS

Fridays 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm 36 Harding Street, Winchelsea Jean Shinners 52672263, 0427672263 jeanshinners@gmail.com

WINCHELSEA RSL

12.00 19 Dec Winchelsea Men's Shed, Hesse St, Winchelsea David Loone 0488 165 109

GEELONG REGIONAL LIBRARY

(MOBILE) 2-5pm Old Shire Hall, 28 Hesse Street 0408384331 (During scheduled stops)

SATURDAY

DAZ'S DEADLY DECEMBER CHALLENGE

Winchelsea Football Oval 9am on Saturday 13 December.

PARKRUN



8am Trebeck Reserve Sussex St, Winchelsea www.parkrun.com.au/trebeckreserve/

WINCHELSEA LIONS CLUB IGA BBQs

9 -12pm first Sat of month outside IGA. Proceeds to IGA Community Chest.

WINCHELSEA POOL SEASON OPENS

12pm to 6pm daily Sat 29 November - Mon 9 March

WINCHELSEA LAND AND RIVERCARE Working Bee Citizen Scientists



First Saturday of the month 9am Meet at Guye Reserve, Barwon Terrace Rod Atone 0428 549318 Stewart Mathison 0428 672054

WINCHELSEA STAR PRODUCTION/COFFEE MEETING

9-11am (Last Sat monthly) La Hoot Cafe, Main Street www.winchelseastar.org.au

WINCHELSEA CROCHET GROUP

1.30pm Every 2nd Saturday \$5 Winch Community House, 28 Hesse St, Vee 0467 219 227

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass 6pm each week Harding St, Winchelsea 0404598558

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY DINNER

6.30pm last Sat monthly, except Nov/Dec Hall, Harding St Winchelsea Bring plate & gold coin donation if you can

SUNDAY

RUNNING GROUP

8am Meet at La Hoot, Main Street Winchelsea



WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY MARKET

9-1pm, 1st Sunday monthly Shire Hall car park, Main St Winch growingwinchelsea.com/project/ winchelsea-community-market/

WINCHELSEA UNITING CHURCH

Service 9.30am each week
Hesse St, Winchelsea 0475 777 301
uca.winchelsea@gmail.com

ST THOMAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH

10am each week Barwon Tce, Winchelsea 0477 672 042, stthomaswac@gmail.com

Award Winning Videos Show What Happens To Household Waste

Surf Coast Shire Council has launched an award-winning video series showing what happens to each of the four kerbside bins (landfill, recycling, glass and FOGO) after they are emptied.

These short engaging videos recently won the Community Engagement Success of the Year Award at the recent national Waste Innovation and Recycling Awards.

They take the viewer behind the scenes to show how our food and green waste, glass bottles and jars, and recyclables are transformed into valuable new materials, and why sorting correctly at home makes such a big difference.

"These videos are an eye opener, you get to see what happens to your household waste after your bin is emptied, and how it is turned back into reusable products, saving valuable resources from landfill," said Mayor Cr Libby Stapleton.

"When we all take the time to sort our waste correctly, we're keeping materials in use for longer, reducing costs and protecting the environment for future generations."

Through our community's efforts in using the four-bin system, 71% of household items have been diverted from landfill to be recycled or composted.

Mayor Stapleton said small changes at home can make a big impact.

"A priority in the current Council Plan is to work towards the best strategic outcome for the closure of the Anglesea Landfill in the coming years."

"Reducing what we send to landfill is becoming increasingly important as the last cell at Anglesea Landfill fills up." "Changing how we sort our waste at home is a change we can make straight away."

The video series is available to watch on Council's website and social media channels, offering a look at the hidden journey of our waste, and how the Surf Coast Shire community is helping to keep valuable resources out of landfill.

Watch the videos at surfcoast.vic.gov. au/KerbsideBinVideos



Elsie Fulton, Acting Circular Economy Coordinator, Surf Coast Shire and Andrew Johnston, General Manager Local Government Contracts and Services, Visy Recycling

mainly music

Fun, Interactive music sessions for pre-school children (0-4 y.o.) and parents/caregivers

When: Mondays from 10 to 11 am (runs during school terms) Where: St Thomas' Hall 25 Barwon Tce.

To Enquire ring: 0407838256

WINCHELSEA MEN'S SHED

For the Community

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Every Wednesday from 9.30am 51 Hesse Street, Winchelsea

KINDLING/OFFCUTS \$7.00 bag Pickup Wednesdays 9.30-2.30

Pickup Wednesdays 9.30-2.30 For delivery, call Bill 0438 083 373

NESTING BOXES Birds/animals

NEED A JOB DONE?

Woodworking, Furniture Repairs Call in Wednesdays to order

Ray Atkinson (Co-ordinator) 0407839139 winchmenshed@gmail.com



- BESPOKE TIMBER FURNITURE
 - TIMBER VANITIES
 - BARNDOORS
- KITCHEN, BATHROOM & WARDROBE JOINERY
 - REPAIRS & RESTORATION

0439013145

worpelsam@yahoo.com.au

25A Alsop Drive Winchelsea







Metro Tunnel now open

To celebrate, enjoy free public transport across Victoria every weekend in December and January.

With more services arriving in February, you can use the new Metro Tunnel this Summer.

more ways to move

Find out how you can try the Metro Tunnel at **bigbuild.vic.gov.au**





Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne





2025 marked a very special year for Deans Marsh Primary School. Birthday celebrations began at the start of November, on the day that our school was formed 150 years ago. In each classroom, students began at the beginning by learning about the early history of the school, including a history day to help imagine what it was like a long time ago at the school, with no electricity, an old school bell to ring, games and activities involving blackboards and marbles, and old-fashioned costumes. The next day, each class focused on what the school is like now in 2025, including looking for evidence of continuity and change and the causes and consequences of these changes. We also spent time showing gratitude for what makes our school unique and special. Then, on the third consecutive day of celebrating, we looked ahead to 150 years in the future and students creatively predicted what the school may look like in the future.





Next, came the party! On Saturday 8th November, the Deans Marsh community came to celebrate the 150th Birthday of their primary school. Led by our fabulous MC and joined by close to 300 current and past students, staff, families, and friends of the school, we celebrated the past 150 years together in style. The Billy Tea Bush Band helped transport us back to a simpler time, when students would walk or ride horses to school. For those who wanted a keepsake from the day, we had mugs and memorabilia books for sale, created especially for the event by a steering committee of staff, parents, and community members. When we could get the kids off the giant inflatable slide, we all came together to hear from past students and principals, after an inspiring welcome to country and traditional smoking ceremony. The party was a great time to reminisce and share stories from the past. Each classroom was setup with keepsakes, photos, and memorabilia and students acted as tour guides to share the stories from the past while we ate delicious scones, pies and popcorn over a cup of coffee or tea. When it came time to cut the birthday cake, our current school captains were joined on stage by the oldest former students in attendance. We then moved to the front oval to be dazzled by a performance by students alongside Nicholas Ridiculous, recreating the Bambra Ghost story from the past. That was the conclusion of our school's 150th Birthday party.

There are many people who contributed to make this birthday celebration a success, and on behalf of us all, thank you. Our school is a special place, and it was great to be able to celebrate the significant positive and lasting impact it has had on many young lives over the past 150 years.



"I sort your recycling, not your rubbish.

Don't make my job harder – keep rubbish
out of the recycling bin."



Australia's Food System Is Under Threat: Food And Farming Festival, 'Grounded 2026', Combines Science And Ancient Wisdom To Offer A Healthier, More Sustainable Way Forward.

Agriculture accounts for over 50% of Australia's land use, 74% of water consumption and produces 90% of our food, but our farming techniques are no longer fit for purpose. Farmers face declining fertility, profits and the brunt of climate change impacts, the corporatisation of processing and distribution networks is impacting food quality and Australians are experiencing an epidemic of diet-related illnesses. The Australian food system is under threat

The annual GROUNDED FESTIVAL is a collaborative, practical response to this challenge, building capacity and taking a holistic approach to improving health and resilience for farmers, landscapes and communities.

Founded by Matthew Evans, best-selling author and farmer, GROUNDED brings together a broad range of international, national and local food and farming experts to explore better ways to manage biodiverse landscapes, grow nutritious food, improve sustainability and build healthier food systems. It combines science and technology with ancient wisdom, providing a respectful place for lively discussion, an audience as interesting as the speakers and an excellent menu of local food, drinks and music, all set on a beautiful, regeneratively managed farm.

Evans, best known for his six-season, TV show 'Gourmet Farmer' and best-selling books Soil, On Eating Meat and Milk, said: "GROUNDED is about real stories, real people, and real solutions. It's a chance to gather on-country and talk about what really matters - from soil health and climate to big-picture systems thinking and community resilience."

GROUNDED is also Australia's only annual, roaming food and farming festival, held in a different farm location every year, so each festival is a unique, unmissable event celebrating local expertise and culture with an inspiring line up of speakers.

Following successful festivals in Tasmania and Western Australia, in 2026, GROUNDED is partnering with the local Upper Barwon and Central Otway Landcare Networks to hold the festival at

leading regenerative farm, Yan Yan Gurt West, in the Victorian Otway Ranges, two hours from Melbourne, in an area renowned for regenerative agroforestry, tourism, local hospitality and great food and wine.

Over a packed, two-day programme, speakers will cover more than 50 topics including soil health, landscape regeneration practices, farming for resilience, landscape hydration, regenerative agroforestry, vertical farming models, succession, young farmer futures, carbon and biodiversity credits, de-risking farms, abattoirs and food distribution, nutrition, consumer education and more. There will be farm tours and demonstration 'walkshops' on topics such as soil health, farm tours and rotational grazing. Festival-goers can camp (or glamp) on the property or take advantage of the wonderful range of local accommodation options.

Previous GROUNDED attendee, academic and regenerative systems expert, Dr Dominique Hes, said; "Food, agriculture, nutrition, carbon, soil, yield, water, microbes, nature, community and life.... GROUNDED offers the best two days if you are interested in all things agriculture and contributing to a thriving, flourishing future."

INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS – confirmed to date

Dr Steven Chen, American food as medicine expert and CEO of Recipe4Health.

Clara Coleman, sustainable four-season farming expert, TEDX speaker, farmer mental health advocate and podcaster.

Cole Mannix, Montana rancher and Co-founder/President of Old Salt Co-op, a regenerative marketplace reshaping the future of American meat.

NATIONAL SPEAKERS – confirmed to date

Joshua Gilbert, NSW Worimi farmer and author of Australia's Agricultural Identity - an Aboriginal Yarn, internationally-renowned food and sustainability advocate.

Jo Lawson and Dan Hunter, the gardener and chef from multiple award-winning Brae restaurant talking about collabora-

tion from soil to stomach.

Rowan Reid, author of Heartwood and local agroforestry expert.

David Watson, ecologist, biodiversity champion and mistletoe expert.

Vince Heffernan, 5th generation NSW sheep farmer, leading biodynamic land-scape regeneration.

Jake Robinson, South Australian scientist with a profound interest in trees and the biome of nature and how it affects

More speakers will be announced as the programme develops in the lead up to April 2026 and updates will be announced via social media and in the fortnightly GROUNDED newsletter – subscribe at the GROUNDED website.

Evans said: "GROUNDED is for farmers, growers, chefs, nutritionists, teachers, investors – anyone who eats and is interested in healthier food systems. It starts with better soil, but apart from that, what does better look like for each of us?"

GROUNDED are offering an Early Bird ticket offer up to 1st February 2026 and a range of affordable ticket options for students, group bookings and GROUNDED 'returners'. For local residents, there's also a discounted Community Ticket sponsored by the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority - full details of all tickets at the GROUNDED website.

GROUNDED 2026 FESTIVAL DETAILS

Tickets: on sale at www.grounded.

com.au

Dates: 22nd and 23rd April 2026

Location: Yan Yan Gurt West Farm, Deans Marsh, Victoria



Winchelsea Community House Inc. A6247K

28 Hesse Street, PO BOX 75, WINCHELSEA, Vic. 3241

Phone: (03) 5267 2028 Email: manager@winchhouse.org.au

ABN: 48 932 340 254

WINCHELSEA

YOGA & MAT PILATES **END OF YEAR CLASSES**



VINYASA YOGA **MONDAY EVENINGS 7PM** 8TH & 15TH OF DEC

MAT PILATES THURSDAY EVENINGS 6.45PM 11TH & 18TH OF DEC

S25 CASUAL CLASS.FIRST CLASS IS FREE!



Flexible Affordable Nurturing Fun



03 52 672028 eception@winchhouse.org.ar



Places now available in 2026











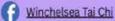
TAI CHI

Friday Mornings

Winchelsea Community house 9am - 10am

\$10 Per Class

Originating in China, Tai Chi and Qigong (Chi Kung) is the practice of slow meditative physical exercise designed for relaxation, balance and health suitable for all ages.



WINCHELSEA KNITTING GROUP

Thursday Mornings 10.30 -12.00 Winchelsea community house.

All Welcome, Learn to knit or bring a project to work on while you enjoy a cuppa and a chat



SHIREHALL@WINCHHOUSE.ORG.AU

Stitch it,

Don't ditch it!

Wednesdau's from

2pm - 4pm

Winchelsea Community House 'Star Room' SEWING MACHINE & OVERLOCKER available.

Bring along a craft project you'd like help with, learn to sew, knit, crochet or repair clothing and homewares yourself with the guidance of our knowledgeable community volunteers

Gold Coin Donation



Chatty Café

Friday's 10.30am -12.30pm

"Sip, Chat, Share, Care"

In the Winchelsea Shire Hall. Everyone Welcome, Gold coin donation.



Winchelsea Community **House Closes** for the year at 2pm December 19th 2025 and will Re-Open Monday January 12th 2026 at 9am.

Craft & Crochet



1pm, every second Saturday in the Winchelsea community house.

Next Session: 13th Dec

reception@winchhouse.org.au

WE NEED YOU! Please get in touch with Winch House and let us know what you'd like to see happening here for our community in 2026 or volunteer with us in the new year.



Conquer The Corrugation

The weekend of the 29th and 30th March 2025 saw an enthusiastic group of Conquerors set off to walk and talk as they made their way from Inverleigh to Winchelsea on the Saturday and return on the Sunday - a change around this year to finish in Winchelsea on the

Saturday night.

Again the event was free and continued support from Winchelsea businesses, IGA and the Bedi family, Knuckey's, Digga, Winchelsea CFA, SES, Lions Club and Community House. All about Mowers and the Bendigo Bank.

Annual Reports 2024/2025

Once again the Lions club assisted in performing an amazing job of setting up the rest stop, cooking the sausage sizzle.

Hesse Rural Health supplied a trained staff member to offer massages at the end of the day. Toilets were available throughout the two days. The Community bus was also there to support the tired or lame kindly driven by Mick Stocks and Jason Gambino.

We had speakers attend and share their stories and knowledge. Lets Talk Colac, Little Emma all the way from Darwin.

Once again we would like to thank our hands on people (committee) that make this weekend possible, Charlie, Jarod, Corey, Colleen, Robyn & Kerry.

Hesse Rural Health's Food Security Project - Auspiced By Winchelsea Community House

Funding for 2024-25 (Auspiced by Winch House)

Give Where You Live Foundation: \$20.000

Wages: Food Systems Officer to coordinate Foodbank 8 hrs per week. Food: Foodbank Victoria: dry goods, weekly (\$120/week)

Rent: \$240/year at Uniting Church.

Geelong Community Foundation: \$25,000

Wages: Food Systems Officer to coordinate Foodbank 8 hrs per week. Equipment such as Personal Duress Button Food costs

VicGov DFFH Community Food Relief Program: \$40,000

Fridge and Freezer upgrades: \$5000: Brand new glass door fridge and freezer which has significantly improved flow of the foodbank and reduces electricity bills due to constant opening and closing of doors.

Food: \$10,000 (for foodbank and food literacy program: Foodbank Vic for foodbank, IGA purchases for Community Kitchen

Building and maintenance: \$20,000;

- New doors with glass panels to see into waiting room from outside and inside foodbank
- · Painting all rooms and repairing roof
- Air con units x 2
- Move de-fib

Food Literacy Program: \$5000

- Community Kitchen Program based off Barwon Health model – adapted for Winch.
- 4 x participants from foodbank have been trained by Barwon Health as facilitators.

- Foodbank participants attend the Community Kitchen and facilitators guide the group through a cooking session at Winch House Kitchen.
- Learn to cook, follow recipes, utilise food from the foodbank, budget, socialise.
- Initially 2 groups of 4-6.
- Only 1 remaining due to a multitude of reasons. We will be advertising for new facilitators and participants in November – a more organised approach will hopefully help this program run smoothly.
- Current participants have been coming along form the beginning, reporting positive experiences. The social element seems to be really important.

General Updates

Transition to a more volunteer-led service:

- The coordinator takes on a lot of the day-to-day work, creating a reliance on funding risking closure if new funding is not secured next FY.
- To mitigate this risk, we are transitioning day-to-day operations to volunteers.
- The paid role has allowed operations to become streamlined and the foodbank is well-placed for this transition.
- We have a fantastic volunteer base who are confident in daily operations.

Recruiting new volunteers to fill gaps in the roster;

- 14 current volunteers, with the aim of 18-20.
- 4 new volunteers currently going through on-boarding process, has not been difficult to find community members who are interested.
- On-boarding is taking some time due to

slow WWC and Police Checks

Weekly Stats

In 2024-25, the foodbank opened weekly on Fridays between 12-2pm
Average of 45 consumers in per week, 113 people supported when considering how many in each household, 474kg of food distributed each week.
We are proud that wastage is minimised through;

- Leftover fresh fruit and veg and bread to the Honest and Free stand on Austin Street or to HMK kinder for parents on pick-up.
- Any subpar produce is collected by volunteers for animal feed or compost.

Food

Most of our food comes from Geelong Foodshare - a free service collecting high quality produce from supermarkets/ businesses and delivering weekly to the foodbank.

We were offered eggs from Surfcoast Eggs when they have excess. Geelong Foodshare has kindly coordinated with Surfcoast Eggs and deliver them for us.

Foodbank Vic - approx. \$120 worth of dry goods weekly which is delivered on a Thursday.

Overall, the foodbank has been running really smoothly and is a valued service in the community. We are very grateful to be auspiced by Winch House to deliver this service. We have been granted \$30,000 in funding from Geelong Community Foundation for the 2025-26 financial year to continue operations.

DIRECTORY

Shop local - Support our supporters

ACCOUNTANT		CONCRETERS	our support	NURSERIES	•
STS Accounting	5267 2673	AMA Concreting	0411 871 950	Oz Trees Nursery	5233 6280
AGRICULTURAL		Vince Concreter		OSTEOPATHICS	
Southern Grain	5267 2351	Winchelsea Concreting		Dr Kale Mazurek	0417 114 617
ANTIQUES		DANCE		Winchelsea Osteo	5267 2948
Antique Repairs	0428 672 704	Mel's Dance	0400 874 338	PAINTER	
AUTOMOTIVES		DENTAL		South-West Painting	0431 719 218
SJR Automotive	0423 413 829	Winchelsea Dental	5267 2071	PLUMBERS °	
Winchelsea Auto	5267 3001	ELECTRICIAN		M&L Drayton	0428 520 142
BANK		Green Lead Electrical	0467 097 101	M&B Wood	0418 319 357
Bendigo Bank	5267 3189	EMERGENCY		Simco Plumbing	0400 643 976
BUILDERS		Police	5267 2025	QUARRIES	
Alford Built	0408 583 362	SES	132 500	RAK Davis & Sons	5267 2094
Lupton Builders	0438 840 104	ENTERTAINMENT		REAL ESTATE	
MGT Building	0409 433 687	COPACC	5232 9418	Charles Stewart	5231 5400
<u>CAFE</u> Café La Hoot	0407 528 999	EXCAVATORS		HF Richardson	5229 8017
	040/ 328 999	DownRyte Excavations	0409 447 288	SCHOOL	
<u>CHIROPRACTOR</u> One Body	5267 2240	Trenches & Holes	0427 672 945		5267 2134
CHURCHES	320/ 2240	<u>FENCING</u>		SHIRE	
Anglican	0477 672 042	Direct Temporary	0417 310 800	Surfcoast Shire	5261 0600
Catholic	0404 598 558	• •		SPORTS	
Uniting	0475 777 301	<u> </u>	5267 2192	Park Run	0408 102 802
CLUBS	0-1/0/// 001	FUNERAL	020, 21,2	Pickleball	0438 672 197
Girl Guides	0448 672 630	Tuckers Funeral	5221 4788	STEELWORK	
Golf	5267 2660	FURNITURE		MRP Steelworx	0418 672 234
Lions	4224 0226	Worpel Custom	0439 013 145		
Movie	0409 672 054	<u>GYM</u>		Storage King	5267 3116
Probus	0417 467 927	Sunny Gym	0401 417 387	SUPERMARKET	
Scouts	0409 330 147	HEALTH SERVICES		IGA	5267 2676
COMMUNITY		Hesse Rural Health	5257 1200	TAXIS	
Community House	5267 2028	Winchelsea Medical	5292 8028	Surfcoast Taxi	0408 325 992
Foodbank	0417 848 292	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Winchelsea Taxi	0429 672 888
Mainly Music	0407 838 256		5232 1177	VET	
Men's Shed	0407 839 139	•	0412 840 704	Moriac Vet	0447 781 089
Playgroup	0432 019 944			WATER	
RSL	0488 165 109	,	5221 8777	Water Supply Specialists	5231 1861
Senior Citizens	0427 672 263		F0.47.65.44	Wazza's Water Cartage	
Toy Library	5267 2028	All About Mowers	5267 2266	carrage	

OZ TREES NURSERY & TREE PLANTING SERVICES

- Affordable seedlings—over 200 species
- Complete plantation service—farm forestry, shelter, aesthetics
- Deep ripping & mound ploughing. Rotary bed forming
- Our experienced staff will help you select species for your site conditions and needs
 Also available—tree planting tools, milk cartons, plastic tree guards & bamboo stakes



569 Warrowie Rd. Colac P: 5233 6280 F: 5233 6393 E: info@oztrees.com.au W: www.oztrees.com.au Open Monday—Friday 9am—4:30pm

Phone OzTrees for professional advice,



Antique Repairs

By **Doug Burns** est. 1976

- All Furniture
- French polishing
- Carving
- Veneering
- Wood Turning
- Porcelain



Unusual Requests Welcome

180 Barwon Terrace, Winchelsea

0428 672 704

WINCHELSEA CONCRETING

· Driveways · Sheds · Decorative Concrete · Raft Slabs

Robert Murphy

40438 235 237

winchelseaconcreting@outlook.com

DownRyte Excavations Drilling and Piling • Rock Placement Tree and Stump Removal Mobile: 0409 447 288 Email: downryte@activ8.net.au



GEELONG - BELLARINE - COLAC - SURF COAST PHONE CAM 0417 310 800

M & L DRAYTON

PLUMBING SERVICES

REG No 24356 C/A No C02594

- Domestic and Rural Plumbing
- Roofing
- Sewerage & Septic
- LPG & Natural Gas Connections
- Motorised Drain Cleaning
- Backhoe Hire

Phone Mark 5288 7244 PO BOX 98 WINCHELSEA 3241 Mobile 0428 520 142



DRIVEWAYS, CARPORTS, CROSSOVERS, FOOTPATHS, SHED SLABS, STAIRS HOUSE SLABS, EXPOSED, SEALING & MOR

CONTACT ALISTER NOW FOR A QUOTE

0411871950

AMACONCRETING1@GMAIL.COM

GROUP

Contact us:



0431 719 218



www.southwestpaintinggroup.com.au



matt@southwestpainting.com.au

We specialise in:

- New Homes
- Texture Feature Finishes
- New and Old Cabinetry Coatings
- Commercial Projects
- Maintenance Work
- Residential Work
- Wallpapering
- Pre-Sale Painting
- Timber Decking Rejuvenations

Knuckey's Winchelsea Ph: 5267 2011

Knuckey's have in stock a complete range of batteries to suit tractor, heavy machinery, cars, utes

The largest range of the best oil for your vehicles-CASTROL-'when only the best will do'

The largest range of V belts. A, B, C, D M Sections Bolts and nuts for all occasions Steel cut to size

TIP TRUCK HIRE

- * FRONTEND LOADER 4 IN 1 BUCKET * DRIVEWAYS LEVELLED OFF
- * RUBBISH REMOVAL
- * GRASS SLASHING & RIDE ON **MOWER JOBS**

VINCE 0412 840 704

CONCRETER

- * DRIVEWAYS
- * FOOTPATHS
- * KERB & CHANNEL
- * GARAGES & SHED SLABS * STEPS
 - * WHEELCHAIR RAMPS
 - * VERANDAHS
 - * PATIO AREAS
 - * PLAIN OR COLOURED CONCRETE
 - * CONCRETE CUTTING & REMOVAL

VINCE 0412 840 704

TRENCHES & HOLES PTY LTD.

GENERAL EARTHWORKS DRIVEWAYS TRENCHER KANGA

EXCAVATOR (3.5T & 6T) TIPPER TRUCK ROCK BREAKER POST HOLES & FOOTINGS

PHILLIP ROBERTSON PH. 0427 672 94 A.B.N. 74006896898



Welding Service

- Onsite welding
- Farm maintenance
- Farm machinery & equipment repairs
- Cattle & sheep yards
- Custom built trailers
- Supply & install gates



Annual Reports 2024/2025

Winchelsea Men's Shed

by Frank Jelliff, Winchelsea Men's Shed Secretary.

The AGM for the year 2024-2025 was held on 1 May 2024. All Office bearers from 2023-24 were re- elected for the 2024-25 year. Ray Atkinson continuing as Co-ordinator. Bill Walters continuing as Workshop Manager, Ray King as Treasurer, Clyde Stephenson as Garden Manager and Frank Jelliff as Secretary.

The Winchelsea Men's Shed continues to provide a friendly and inviting meeting place for men in the Winchelsea and surrounding areas. The Shed has a well equipped workshop and welcomes anyone who wants to drop in for a chat and a cuppa.

The Shed is open every Wednesday and holds monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of the month (or as required). We appreciate the support of the community and our sponsors whose contributions help to keep the Shed a thriving environment.

"Women's Workshops" are continuing with expert tuition from Stuart Forbes. We have regular attendance from ladies wanting to learn new skills. Stuart Forbes continues to give generously of his time in running these workshops.

The continued upkeep of the Winchelsea Community garden is overseen by the Men's Shed and made functional and productive by the continued hard work of our members, but special mention to Clyde Stephenson who spends many hours tending to the garden. We would like to remind visitors to the garden that although the vegetables are free, please only take what you need so that others can also enjoy the produce.

The ongoing sale of timber offcuts. kindly supplied by a Geelong business and bagged by the Shed members, continues to earn the Shed a steady income through the colder months. Bags of offcuts can be collected when the Shed is open or deliveries can be made. Details appear weekly in the Winchelsea Star.

The Shed continues to support the community with assistance for projects in around the township. This year we completed and installed a cubby house for the Primary School, also a bbq unit for WinAngLo was constructed and delivered. Although we would like to take on more and larger jobs we are restricted by our small membership. Income from activities and projects goes towards maintaining the machinery and replacing it where necessary. The sale of items handmade by Shed members also contributes to overall income. These are usually on display at the

Sunday Markets.

The Shed continues to run sausage



WINCH HOUS

sizzles at the Winchelsea monthly market when possible. We have not been in attendance at as many Markets in the last year as we would have liked, but hopefully we will be able to increase our attendance in the next 12 months.

Thanks to The Surf Coast Shire for their support and co-ordinating quarterly meetings for the Sheds under their jurisdiction. Terri Hannan (Community Projects Officer) co-ordinates these meetings which sees the leaders of the five Surf Coast Shire Men's Sheds. Torquay, Anglesea, Lorne, Winchelsea and now Moriac gather for what is called "Heads of Sheds" meetings. These meetings are held at the different sheds on an alternating basis. They are a great source of information as well as for sharing ideas and resources across the region. These help to foster a good working relationship for all involved. We appreciate the work Terri puts in coordinating and chairing these catch-ups.

Thanks to The Bendigo Bank who continue to support us with grants and assistance. We cannot thank them enough.

Thanks to our co-ordinator Ray Atkinson who continues to be the first port of call for the Shed. Many thanks to Ray King in his role as Treasurer, and all his other work he does on behalf of the Shed. Bill Walters who oversees the running and maintenance of the workshop ably assisted by Stuart Forbes and a further thanks to Clyde Stephenson our Garden Manager.



Winchelsea Supermarket

Trading Hours

Monday to Saturday 8.30am to 7.30pm

Sunday

10am to 7pm

Ph: 5267 2676

29 Main St, Winchelsea

owers

Repairs to all makes and models of ride on mowers, domestic mowers, pumps, chainsaws, brushcutters and small engines.

Trading Hours: Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm Saturday 8am - 12 noon 5267 2266 Cnr Princes Hiwy & Lennox St Winchelsea







www.allaboutmowers.com.au 57/HL @RIGOSASTRATION VICTA accounts@allaboutmowers.com.au



5234 6585 0417 385 984 For all your septic tank, grease traps and interceptor pits servicing. Locally owned and operated

Winchelsea Churches



Winchelsea Uniting Church

0475 777 301 uca.winchelsea@gmail.com Hesse St, Winchelsea 3241 Services 9.30am Sundays

St John the Baptist Catholic Church

0404 598 558 Father Joseph Panackal Harding St, Winchelsea 3241

St. John the Baptist @ 6pm Sat. Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION & MASS Saturday 20 December 5.00pm Christmas Morning - 9.00am

Mass Jan 2026 @ 6pm Sat. Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

St Thomas' Anglican Church

0448 687 588 Rev Christopher Duff Barwon Tce, Winchelsea Service 10am Sundays

Thought for the Week

"A good friend is the one to whom one may pour all the contents of one's heart, chaff, and grain together knowing that the gentlest of hands will take and sift it. Keep what is worth keeping and with a breath of kindness blow the rest away."

Have a Blessed week.

John Bader, Christian Pastoral Carer

More Than Tinsel: Finding Real Hope in Jesus This Christmas

From St Thomas' Anglican Church, Winchelsea.

As the decorations go up and carols fill the air in our towns, it's easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of Christmas—the parties, the presents, the holiday cheer. But beneath the festive surface lies a story that offers something far more enduring: the birth of Jesus, God's ultimate gift to the world.

This isn't just another holiday; it's the celebration of God's "coming near" to us, a tangible expression of His boundless love. Jesus, born in humble circumstances, entered the messy reality of human life, showing us that God isn't distant but intimately involved in our world, our struggles, and our local communities.

The Greatest Gift

Think of all the gifts we exchange, but the greatest gift, the one that truly changes everything, is Jesus Himself. Through His birth, we receive hope—hope for salvation, for reconciliation with God, and for a new life filled with His love; one that begins now and is eternal. Jesus is the light that pierces the darkness, the peace for the troubled heart, and the answer to despair, a message echoed by the prophet Isaiah: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light" (Isaiah 9:2).

A Call to Action in Our Community

Christmas calls us to respond to this amazing gift. If we welcome Jesus into our lives, we become agents of that same transformation in our neighbourhoods, right here in Victoria. We're challenged to become healers of division, relievers of hardship, and bearers of hope. This means extending love and care to those who are lonely, suffering, or in need, much like the early Christians who shared God's love through acts of service and compassion.

Change your thinking

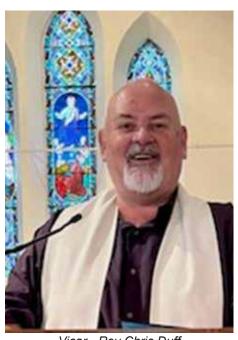
But mostly the good news of Christmas means repentance. Repentance isn't mainly about feeling sorry for our failures and sin, although that's a good thing to. Repentance actual means to

'turn around". The biblical idea of repentance is for us to see who Jesus really is – the Lord of creation, the Messiah, the Son of God, God become human, the ruler of the entire universe. When we see Jesus for who he is, we change our thinking about life, God, ourselves, others, the world, our philosophies and lifestyles. We do a 180% spin and turn our thinking around. We repent, and with the help of the Holy Spirit's power in our lives, our very existence is transformed!

Encountering Jesus Today

The Christmas story isn't just a historical event; it's an invitation to an ongoing relationship starting with a change of heart, a change of mind. Trusting Jesus isn't about blind belief; it's about knowing Him personally, just as you know and trust a loving parent, confident that He is who He claims to be—our Creator and Redeemer.

This Christmas, as you gather with family and friends, consider the deeper meaning. Look beyond the decorations to the stable, to the baby who is Immanuel, "God with us". Open your heart to the greatest gift, Jesus, and allow His light to transform you, so that through you, His love can shine into our communities, bringing genuine hope and peace this season and beyond.



Vicar - Rev Chris Duff

PAPER RECYCLING

Paper depot rear of
Senior Citizens
Rooms
Harding Street
NEWSPAPERS
MAGAZINES
PHONE BOOKS





Interested in Movies?

Join up for 2025 Spring Season.

Movie starts 7.30 pm monthly at Globe Theatre.

Membership \$40 for all 5 nights incl supper.

Contact: Jenny: 0409 672054 Sue: 0413 487915

Movies@growingwinchelsea.com

www.growingwinchelsea.com/projects

December 11thA Street Cat Named Bob

St John the Baptist Catholic Church

Please note

St John's Christmas Mass is Christmas morning 9 am. Not Christmas Eve.

Family and Friends

Marie, Di and Len have a special mother, Phyllis Clissold who is celebrating her 100 th birthday on Wednesday December 17 th.

If you would like to say hello you are welcome to. (Bruno Lounge) Hesse, Gosney St between 2-6 o'clock.



Help is available
Speak with someone today

Available 24 hours

13 11 14



Winchelsea Star



Council Adopts Advocacy Priorities For 2026

Affordable and key worker housing initiatives, increased investment in road maintenance, drought relief funding, and active and public transport funding are among Surf Coast Shire Council's key advocacy priorities for 2026.

Council resolved at its November meeting to adopt an updated set of advocacy priorities aligning with strategic directions in the recently-adopted 2025-2029 Council Plan.

The list highlights opportunities and sharpens focus of Council's advocacy campaigning with Victorian and Australian Governments.

Priorities are grouped under Council Plan strategic directions:

- Assets and Infrastructure
- Climate and Environmental Leadership
- · Community Wellbeing, and
- Sustainable Communities.

Mayor Libby Stapleton: "The Advocacy Priorities 2026 prospectus provides critical focus as we seek to work effectively with Victorian and Australian governments, and other councils, in supporting our community.

"It is important that the priorities align with the directions set out in our new four-year Council Plan.

"Successful advocacy helps us to shape our present and future with delivery of

We'd love to see your

WINCHELSEA
PLAYGROUP

Each Thursday during school testms.

Come along between 10AM - FEPM.

Check out our facebook Page for more information about the happenings of each session.

Playgroup Lender - Danni Mensies

Email:

winchelsea playgroup@ymail.com

St. Thomas's Hall,

27-29 Barwon Terrace,

Winchelsea VIC 3241

Scan to be pert of air Facebook

many key policies and projects which might otherwise be out of reach."

Affordable and key worker housing advocacy, under the Sustainable Communities direction, includes calling on the Victorian Government to trial a land tax exemption encouraging a specific number of Lorne properties to be made available for long-term rental by key workers for a minimum of 24 months.

The proposal aims to help ease Lorne's critical shortage of worker housing.

Council is also seeking funding for design of affordable housing for key workers on suitable public land.

Road funding advocacy, under Assets and Infrastructure, is driven by growing pressure on the shire's roads network, including roads managed by the shire and by the Victorian Government.

Growth in Surf Coast and neighbouring municipalities means roads designed for fewer and lighter vehicles are carrying more and heavier cars and trucks, and funding support is needed to help keep them maintained and safe.

Council recognises the direct impact of drought on primary producers, as well as the flow-on impact on the wider economy, with its advocacy call for disaster relief and concessional loans for affected farmers.

Other 2026 advocacy priorities include:

Fridays, 12 - 2PM 30-32 Hesse Street Winchelsea For more info, contact Tess healthpromotion@hesse.vic.gov.au 0417 848 292 All welcome No eligibility requirements

Assets and Infrastructure

- Funding for infrastructure supporting housing developments, and for timely provision of new sport and community facilities.
- Funding for a new roundabout at the intersection of Messmate Road and Briody Drive, Torquay.

Climate & Environmental Leadership

- Funding support for landfill rehabilitation.
- Disaster relief funding that enables damaged infrastructure to be built back better.
- Recycling and waste management based on circular economy principles.

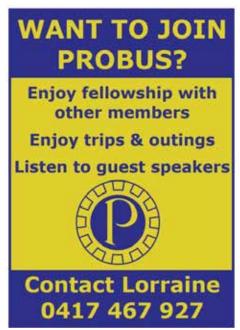
Community Wellbeing

- Review of the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund to identify and adopt a more equal system of funding emergency services, with less impost on primary producers.
- A shift from acknowledging Australia Day on 26 January to a long weekend at the end of January.

Sustainable Communities

- Increased coach services linking coastal towns to Geelong and Colac; more frequent train services to Winchelsea from Colac and Geelong to service its growing population.
- Funding and policy support that builds functioning active transport routes.
- Construction of a safe cycling corridor between Torquay and Geelong.
- Upgrading of Torquay Library.
- Sustainable Tourism along the Great Ocean Road.

Find the complete list of advocacy priorities via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/advocacy.





45 Anderson Street, Winchelsea 3241 Tel 5267 2660 winchelseagolf.com.au

Winchelsea Golf Club



Ladies Captain, Robyn Vesey

Ladies Results

Wednesday 3/12/25 - Stableford

Stabelford, NTP 8th hole

Winner: Lesley Mathison 38 Pts R/Up: Sue Cuthbert 37 pts Best 9: Cheryl Mawson 19 Pts

NTP Robyn Vesey

Wednesday 3/12/25 Weekly Stableford

17 Players.

1st - Peter Bath (29) 38 points

2nd - Nick Stone (9) 36 points

BDL - Stephen Harvey (17) 36 points C/B

BDL - Evan Partridge (22) 35 points

NTP (6th/15th) - Stephen Harvey

Saturday 6/12/25 Stableford

20 Players.

1st - Rod Batson (31) 39 points

2nd - Don Cuttler (16) 38 points

3rd - Brent Kahle (6) 37 points C/B

BDL - Stephen Cole (15) 37 points C/B

BDL - Max Bubb (14) 37 points C/B

BDL - Tom Shaw (18) 35 points C/B

NTP (2nd/11th) - Neil Hickman

Golden Hole - (15th) Peter Bath

Wednesday 10th December - Weekly Stableford

Next Saturday 13th December - Par

The greens are to be renovated this week.

A big thank you to all who volunteer their time to keep our course looking awesome. Love your work.

If possible, book on the Golf Australia App. Register on Bookatee if you're having trouble.

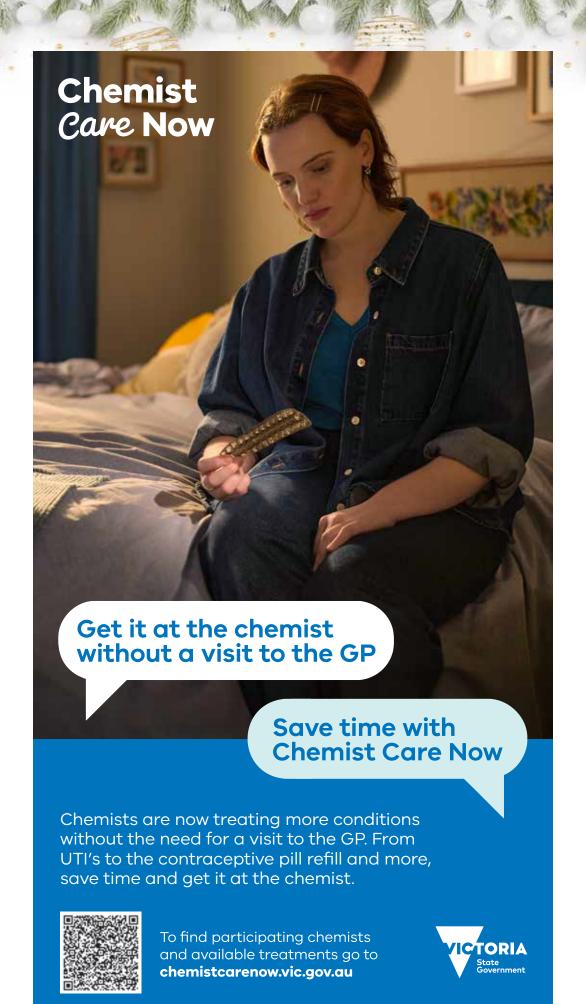


Osteopathic Clinic

Back pain • Neck pain • Sporting injuries • Headaches • Shoulder pain • Sciatica

Ph: 5267 2948 34 Main Street, Winchelsea (within *The Exchange*) Book online at: www.winchelseaosteopathicclinic.com.au





Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafnc@hotmail.com

Blues News

Janet Fletcher



150 Years Celebrations:

Welcome to Blue's News where preparations are in full swing for the 2026 Football & Netball season which incorporates the 150th anniversary of the Winchelsea Blues. Winchelsea is one of the oldest clubs in Victoria established in 1876. The Club's journey has included World Wars, jumper changes, League changes and an awful lot more. A sub-Committee of Life Members, past players and other interested parties has been formed and much research is being carried out to compile a rich tapestry of where the Club is today and of those who played important roles during the 150 years.

Changes To Committee:

The W.F.N.C. has a new President in Angus Leigh taking over the reins from out going President Daniel "Dogs" Greskie and the Club wishes to thank Daniel for his tireless work as a player, Committeeman and President for 14 years. Daniel is a Life Member of the W.F.N.C. and received Life Membership last year from the G.D.F.N.L. as well.

All at the Club wish Angus all the very best in his new role and he has been hard at work setting up the coming year with Committee Members, Coaches and players.

Angus can be contacted at the email address of president@winchelseafnc.com.au

Another change on the Executive Committee is to welcome Clare Harper to the role of Secretary for the Club. After 11 years as Secretary Janet Fletcher has stepped aside to concentrate more on the Catering side for the Winchelsea Blues.

Clare has stepped into her new role beautifully and can be contacted at the email address of secretary@ winchelseafnc.com.au

The Club also welcomes new General Committee Members Byron Mathison and Liam Harper, both of whom will be a great asset to the Committee and their Club.

W.F.N.C. CATERING TEAM:

After a long busy season much of which was spent short of Volunteers due to a variety of reasons, the Winchelsea Football & Netball Club Catering Team enjoyed a night out at major sponsor The Barwon Hotel last Thursday evening. The group was very well looked after and relished being waited on and the bonus of no dishes to wash. Thanks to Club Coaches and players who put in to make this possible at the end of the season, we love it!!

Unfortunately, Tilly Kelly was not able to join us being otherwise detained at Epworth Hospital. All thinking of you Tilly and hoping all sorted as soon as it can be!

Christmas is fast approaching and the Winchelsea Football & Netball Club Committee wishes all their players, supporters, sponsors and volunteers a very Happy & Safe Christmas break, and we look forward to what will be a very special year for the Winchelsea Blues.

GO BLUES!!

W.F.N.C. INC. CANTEEN: 2026

The Winchelsea Football & Netball Club is looking for a Manager/s for the 2026 Season, to oversee our Canteen on home game days. This is a paid position.

9 HOME GAMES ~ Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 11, 14, 16, & 18.

Rounds 2, 3, & potentially 4 will be Twilight games.

A roster will be in place for Footballers & Netballers & Catering team to assist.

Preparing and operating of Canteen duties which include

- Knowledge & operation of a deep fryer and being familiar with the part it plays on game days is especially important.
- Foods include ~ chips, dim sims, potato cakes, chiko rolls, chicken schnitzels.
- Assembling of ham/chicken salad rolls.
- Monitoring of pies, pasties & sausage rolls in a pie warmer.
- Hot dogs, steamed dim sims, gravy for chips & gravy, beef & gravy rolls.
- Chicken schnitzel burgers.

All ordering will be done with consultation, no front of house required, no money handling required. All interested enquiries – Janet Fletcher mob: 0400 783 408



1edical

Located at 36 Main Street, Winchelsea 3241

For any enquires or bookings please contact the clinic on 5292 8028. Or visit our website: www.winchmc.com.au

Opening Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5.00pm

(Monday Evening Clinics available and selected Saturdays)





AppStore Our clinic accepts online bookings via the app called HotDoc. Download the app on the App Store or Google Play or head to our website.



- **8** AUTO ELECTRICAL
- AIR CONDITIONING
- **SECUTCH & BRAKES**
- WHEEL ALIGNMENT
- 17 Alsop Drive BATTERIES

CAR, TRUCK REPAIRS & Roadworthys

PH: 5267 3001

Mob: 0417 137 457



CONTRACTORS

WINCHELSEA WAS

SUPPLIER OF ALL QUARRY MATERIALS, TRUCK HIRE **CARTAGE OF GRAIN, LIME, GYPSUM & SUPER**

LANDSCAPE & GARDEN SUPPLIES

56 WILLIS ST, WINCHELSEA

Ph - 5267 2094

Ryan - 0438 672 281

email: rakdavissons@gmail.com



SIMPLE STORAGE SOLUTIONS

- Personal & Business Storage
- Boat, Caravan & Vehicle Storage
- High Security Premises
- Individually Alarmed Units
- Electric Gate Access
- 7 Day Access & CCTV

YOUR STORAGE PROBLEMS SOLVED

5267 3116

6 ALSOP DRIVE, WINCHELSEA 3241

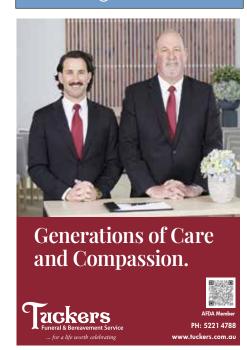


Wightons Lawyers

Dispute Resolution & Litigation **Debt Collection** Property Law Wills & Estates Powers of Attorney **Business Law** Family Law

22 Willis Street, Winchelsea ph. 5221 8777

www.wightons.com.au





Winchelsea Bowls Club



Itulies Johnson week for Winch Bowls Club and our various Pennant matches with our night under lights going very well on Friday 5th. Aaron and Jamie-Lee appreciated the country hospitality and the spectators enjoyed the wonderful bowling throughout the evening. Thanks to everyone who worked hard to bring this great night to fruition and the live stream of Rink 1 was appreciated in many areas of Victoria.

As the Division 1A game was played on Friday night there were many players present at the club on Saturday 6th to support both Division 1B and Division 4. This was really appreciated by all players and they were able to help drag 1B over the line in an extremely close match with Central.

Play still continues with several events and the Singles will not be completed until the 19th December with the 21 Up event just commencing. Bankers is being played on both Tuesdays and Saturdays where there is plenty of interest from players who may not be picking up a game in the squads consistently and thanks to Wendy Knuckey who is running these sessions.



RD₇

Division 1 played second on the ladder Colac City. Winchelsea def City away winning all rinks, 73 shots to 57 shots. Position on ladder 1st.

Division 3 def Cobden away winning 2/3 rinks, 81 shots to 44 shots. Position on ladder strong 1st.

WEEKEND PENNANT RESULTS

RD 8

Division 1A played 2nd on the ladder Camperdown Magpies at home. Winchelsea def Magpies winning all rinks, 102 shots to 82 shots. Position on ladder 1st.

Division 1B 7th played Colac Central 8th at home. Winchelsea def Central winning 2/4 rinks, 100 shots to 97 shots. Position on ladder 7th.

Division 4 def Colac at home winning 2/3 rinks, 72 shots to 46 shots. Position on ladder 1st.

Division 5 Winchelsea had a BYE. Position on ladder 4th.

You can see by the results that players are training well and working together.

May the bowls be with you!!





Winchelsea Bowls Club welcomes all visitors Our Club has a beautiful garden setting in the heart of the town. For the complete newcomer to lawn bowls, looking for a sporting activity that promises much fun and enjoyment with a competitive element, then the friendly, welcoming atmosphere of our Bowling Club is be the place to be





For all your livestock, rural real estate and property management needs, speak to the Charles Stewart team

Livestock

Peter McConachy 0408 522 878 Jamie McConachy 0418 522 879 Matthew Nelson 0428 315 400 Gerard Bohan 0400 005 541 Dougal McIntyre 0439 575 612

Real Estate

Michael Stewart 0418 520 467 Peter McConachy 0408 522 878 Andrew Rice 0457 105 500 Josh Lamanna 0417 586 032 Daryl Oborne 0419 388 341 Anthony McDonald 0418 593 597

Property Management - 5231 5011

Sarah Higgs Nathan Gray Daniella De Rooy



15 Murrell Street, Winchelsea 5231 5400





New Homes, Renovations, Extensions, Bathrooms, Decks & Pergolas



U 0408 583 362



🔀 stephen@alfordbuilt.com.au





Call Matt - 0418 319 357 * mbwoodplumbing.au

Servicing Winchelsea & surrounds

- General maintenance & blocked drains
- Gas fitting & hot water service upgrades
- New homes & renovations





Strength training and martial arts for the whole family in Winchelsea

PERSONAL TRAINING 30)X|N(G

0401417387

sunnygym.com.au evan@sunnygym.com.au



parkrun 92

parkun

Saturday 6 December 2025

Forty parkrunners walked or ran the course through Trebeck Reserve this week in excellent running conditions. There were six volunteers and we had visitors from Port Macquarie, Melbourne and Geelong. There was one firstimer. Welcome Chloe. Six people recorded a Personal Best time. Congratulations to Meg Royal, Sullivan Hunter, Finnigan Hunter, Hayden Smith, Adam Hunter and Claire Mawson.

This event was made possible by the following volunteers: Murray Bennett, Kate McInnes, Dianna Vesey, Liz Bennett, Ann Jones and Kristen Czerkiewicz.

Trebeck Reserve, Winchelsea

Full details of this week's results can be found at trebeckreserveparkrun.com.au/results or check out our Facebook page for more photos.

If you wish to join us any Saturday morning as a walker, runner or volunteer please complete the simple online registration at parkrun.com.au/register, this is free, only needs to be done once and can be used at any of the 5,000 plus parkrun events worldwide.



A family business operating for more than 138 years, HF Richardson services an extensive client base throughout the greater Winchelsea area. Our success is built on a long history of innovation and while we've moved with the times, our basic values of honesty, trust and integrity have remained.

Eric Foster
0429 499 924
Sales Executive

Residential | Rural Lifestyle Agricultural Farms

HF RICHARDSON

PROPERTY

Ken McDonald **0418 524 150**

Licensed Estate Agent

www.hfrichardson.com.au





Life's busy. Let us help you.

Contact us today

We can help you with:

Buying your first or next family home

Saving for your first home

Residential Investment Lending

Refinancing from your current lender

Home loan reviews

Pre-approvals

With extensive banking experience and financial expertise, we'll help bring your financial goals to life.



Ebony Berg 0400 784 249



Josie Kavenagh 0409 564 192

Community Bank Winchelsea and District

Bendigo Bank



Water Supply Specialists

WATER SOLUTIONS

74 Dennis Street, Colac 5231 1861







ALL THINGS WATER:

Winchelsea



DEFIBRILLATORS IN WINCHELSEA

Accessible to the public 24 hours a day



The Winchelsea Lions Club has compiled a list of public access defibrillators in Winchelsea. If anyone knows any others, please contact Linda Carter 0439 817 263.

Ambulance Victoria

33 Willis Street

Bendigo Bank

11 Main Street

Globe Theatre (Side entrance)

17 Willis Street

Hesse Rural Health 8 Gosney Street

Men's Shed

51 Hesse Street

Netball Courts Eastern Reserve Hopkins St

Senior Citizens Club

36 Harding Street

Uniting Church 33 Hesse Street

Winchelsea Bowls Club Hesse Street

Winchelsea Golf Club 13 Anderson Street

Winchelsea Primary School Main Street

Wurdale Memorial Hall 220 Wurdale Road

BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION

NEW HOMES | EXTENSIONS | RENOVATIONS | Ph: 0409 433 687 REGISTERED Building Practitioner

