

Your Weekly Community Newspaper

Since 1977

Vol 48 Ed 20

Tuesday 27 May 2025

winchelseastar.org.au

Winchelsea Primary School is getting a brand new playground!



Back: Jimmy R, Arielle N, Eadie C (School Captains), Nick Keating (Acting Principal)
Front: Theo H,Toby M, Olivia McD.

4 Winchelsea's LOCAL LEGENDS 2025 9

The mysterious deaths of colonial explorers Gellibrand and Hesse

12

What's On Weekly in Winchelsea May/June 2025 Centrespread

21

Winchelsea Primary School reaches its Playground Appeal goal \$\$\$

CONTENTS 27 May 2025

FEATURES		
Cover Story Winchelsea Primary School		
Use of Fire Station siren	Kaylene Stocks	2
Keep the WYLD spirit alive!	Robyn Black	3
Winchelsea place plan	Surf Coast Shire	4
Local Legends	Surf Coast Shire	4
Councillor Catch-Up	Tony Phelps	15
Impact of \$3m super tax	CPA	16
One million hours clocked up in L2P	Vic Government	17
Steps to follow after a collision	RACV	23
ENVIRONMENT		
Reconciliation	Richard Lockie	12
Climate Report	Judy Cameron	13
COMMUNITY INFORMATION		
Community Noticeboard		11
What's On May/June 2025		18
Services & Activities in Winchelsea		22
Winchelsea Facebook Pages		26
HISTORY		
Gellibrand and Hesse	Michael O'Donovan	9
KIDS		
Winchelsea Primary School	Kelly Turner	21
National Simultaneous Storytime	Vic Government	21
Free public transport for children	Vic Government	21
SOCIAL JUSTICE		
New MPs urged to put housing first	Everybody's Home	15
Social homes missing in Vic budget	CHIA	15
Church Services, Thought of the Week	John Bader	23
SPORTS & EXERCISE		
Blues News	Janet Fletcher	25
Parkrun Winchelsea	Neil McInnes	27
Junior Netball	Shae Callahan	28
Winchelsea Tennis Club	Fletcher Allen	31
Winchelsea Golf Club	Rachel Boddington	33
STOP PRESS		

The Victorian Budget 2025/26 makes it free for Seniors to take state-wide public transport on weekends. ------

THIS SATURDAY 31 MAY 10AM Winchelsea Star Production Meeting & Coffee

Sweet Thyme Cafe, Main Street, Winchelsea **EVERYONE WELCOME!**

To the Residents of Winchelsea Use of station siren - 8:00am to 8:00pm



The Winchelsea Fire Brigade would like to inform our community that we do not support the introduction of the Emergency Services & Volunteer Fund (ESVF). This is a charge we believe is unfair and places an additional burden on already struggling communities. It will affect every member of our town—whether you're a homeowner, renter, small business owner or farmer.

We proudly stand shoulder to shoulder with the farming community who will wear the biggest 'levy' (tax) increases and are the backbone of brigades around the State. As a sign of solidarity, you'll hear our station siren sound between 8am and 8pm whenever we are called to a fire or incident. That siren means we're responding as volunteers- leaving work, families, businesses, or farms to help others.

When you hear the siren, we encourage you to use it as a prompt to speak with your family, friends and neighbours about what this 'levy' (tax) means for our community and how it will affect each and every one of us.

With this added financial pressure, we're asking: how will volunteers—especially farmers—be able to keep leaving their farms and businesses to respond to emergencies? What will this mean for you? Our community? And the state of Victoria which is one of the most fire prone areas in the world?

You may see us around town with messages of protest on our trucks. If you would like to show your support please sign Legislative Council Petition #658 calling for genuine consultation process about this tax www.parliament.vic.gov.au/get-involved/ petitions/emergency-services-and-volunteers-fund

Please understand that at this time our commitment to the community remains unchanged —we are here for you, to respond to emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week as we always have been.

#HungOutToDry #StopTheTax #WeStandWithTheFarmers Sincerely.

Winchelsea Fire Brigade

news@winchelseastar.org.au

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Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Winchelsea Star or Committee. The Winchelsea Star reserves the right to edit or not publish any article.



Keep the WYLD spirit alive!

Robyn Black







After much reflection and many conversations, Monique and I have made the heartfelt decision that it's time to pass the WYLD (Winchelsea Youth Leisure and Drop-In) baton on. Like many community initiatives, WYLD was impacted by the disruptions of COVID, and we've realised that new energy, fresh ideas, and passionate volunteers are needed to secure its future.

WYLD began in 2016 in response to the tragic loss of a much-loved local youth. It was clear that Winchelsea needed a dedicated space for young people to connect, belong, feel supported, and have fun in and with their community. With Monique's deep passion for youth work, and my commitment to community events, WYLD was born.

At its peak, WYLD welcomed over 30 young people every Friday night.

Our in-town activities included:

- ☐ Movie and game nights
- ☐ Skate park sessions under SES lights
- ☐ Self-defence classes
- □ Barefoot bowls at the Winchelsea Bowls Club
- ☐ Boxing with Jayden from the Health Club
- Pool parties
- ☐ Tutor sessions always with great food!

One of our proudest achievements was running the canteen at the Winchelsea Football and Netball Club for two full seasons, offering participants real-world experience and a sense of responsibility and team spirit.

Out-of-town adventures included:

- ☐ Geelong Gaol ghost tours
- ☐ Beach BBQs
- ☐ Basketball
- □ 10-pin bowling
- ☐ Mini golf



- Timezone
- · A visit to the inspiring 'Path of the Horse' in Trentham

These shared experiences created lasting memories and deepened connections among Winchelsea's youth.

WYLD has also proudly:

- · Hosted a GenU student placement
- Offered informal referrals, information, and support for parents and families
- Been recognised with awards from the Surf Coast Shire Youth Team
- Named a runner-up in the Geelong Community Foundation's P500 grant

We are incredibly grateful to those who made this possible — including The Winchelsea Lions, our wonderful bus drivers, Bendigo Bank, Surf Coast Shire, Winchelsea SES, Winchelsea Community House, and so many more.

Now, we're calling on the next generation of community champions. We need volunteers to help continue WYLD's legacy — to ensure our youth have a place to feel safe, included, and inspired.



Can you help?

Please contact Winchelsea Community House at reception@winchhouse.org.au to express your interest or learn more.

Let's keep WYLD alive — for our youth, and for the heart of Winchelsea.

Warm regards



Community aspirations to help shape plan for Winchelsea's sustainable growth

Surf Coast Shire

Surf Coast Shire Council invites Winchelsea community members to help shape the town's sustainable growth. A planning project is starting with a 30-member community group to nurture a Winchelsea Place Plan in a series of workshops. The wider community can contribute via a survey and public engagement.

The plan will clarify how growth will be managed in the town in the next 30 years, and guidance on matters of importance to the community related to various growth demands. It will also help shape a more detailed structure plan.

It is forecast that between now and 2051, there will be demand for 9,546-12,051 additional homes in Surf Coast Shire, of which 4.535-7.531 are expected to be in Winchelsea.

Council's recently-adopted Urban Futures Strategy designates Winchelsea and Torquay-Jan Juc, as the Shire's primary locations for population growth, and recommends a new strategic plan for Winchelsea's growth.

The first step is a place plan. Council is calling for feedback and expressions of interest in joining the place planning community planning group.

For more information, to complete the Winchelsea Place Planning survey and/or submit expression of interest in joining the community planning group visit yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/ **WPP**

Surf Coast Shire's 2025 Local Legends Surf Coast Shire

Winchelsea Fire Brigade captain Kaylene Stocks and community contributor Rhani Bayon were acknowledged among Surf Coast Shire's 2025 Local Legends during a presentation ceremony on Thursday.

Surf Coast Shire Council Mayor Mike Bodsworth led tributes during the uplifting event, timed for the heart of National Volunteer Week, and Winchelsea ward councillor Tony Phelps assisted with presentations.

Long-time 1st Modewarre Scout Group leader and community volunteer Marie McPadden was also celebrated as a Local Legend among 19 individual and group recipients.

The Council received record nominations from across the shire for this year's awards.

Read more about Kaylene. Rhani. Marie and other 2025 Surf Coast Shire Local Legends via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/ LocalLegends



Cr Tony Phelps with members of the Sewing For A Purpose group





Help plan future Winchelsea!

Council is calling for expressions of interest for community members to be part of a collaborative working group designing a place plan for Winchelsea.

This process will produce a clear strategic plan for Winchelsea's future, developed with placemaking in mind, as well as influence creation of a more detailed structure plan.

If you would like to be part of the community working group, complete and submit the expression of interest form on the project page via yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/WPP

Community members can also share views via a short survey on the project page.

Expressions of Interest, and the survey, will be





Winchelsea's Local Legends

Surf Coast Shire



Kaylene Stocks with Cr Liz Pattison

COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

Kaylene is the captain of the Winchelsea CFA Brigade. Kaylene is first female captain in the brigade's history. Kaylene has strived to increase female participation in the brigade with terrific success, Kaylene is a leader in the organisation locally and very well respected in the region for her tireless work for the community. Kaylene devotes a huge amount of her personal time to ensuring the winchelsea area and greater surf coast municipality has a reliable and dependable fire service. Kaylene is a volunteer, she does not get paid to do any of the work she does.

Describe your involvement and what you regard as your most important achievements.

I guess my biggest achievement within the cfa is becoming the Winchelsea Captain and the first female Winchelsea Captain. I believe when I was first elected as captain there were 1500 male captain and 50 female captains in Victoria.

I've been in the CFA for 10 years but I've been around CFA since I was 2, my dad John has been involved since then. My whole family is CFA actually, we've got three generations of members.

The volunteering is on a daily basis really as captain, you've got phone calls and emails and the general running of the brigade and then you've got your turnouts on top of that. It is quite busy. I couldn't even begin to say how much time i put into CFA.

What motivates you?

Being in a position to help my community, now that my children are older. I raised my children here in the community and they are still here in Winchelsea, and seeing what my dad got out of CFA I wanted that for myself.

Around the time i was elected captain he was diagnosed with stage four melanoma. Thankfully with good treatment he's still with us, although he's not an active member any more, which I think is probably one of the hardest things he's had to face after 45 years in active CFA roles.

But i know that he's still there for me, no matter what.

What do you love about our community?

I love the fact that when things do go wrong the community comes together – whether they are involved in any emergency services or not, especially for Winchelsea.

We just went through having local people lose their house to fire a couple of months ago and the community really stood up.

Unfortunately for us we know that Winchelsea may be under threat from fire one day and it's good to know that the community is there ready to help if they need to.



Marie McPadden with Mayor Mike Bodsworth

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT AWARD

Marie is central to 1st Modewarre Scout Group running. She was running all sections as well as being the group leader. She also is part of Project Meow and has been part of many community groups in the past.

Describe your involvement and what you regard as your most important achievements.

At the moment I'm mainly involved in the 1st Modewarre Scouts which I've been doing for 30-odd years. I started when my kids were involved and it has come full circle because I now have two grandchildren who have just become involved this year.

Being involved with scouts, I think it's a really great organisation and the aims of supporting kids in their development as individuals is more important than ever. And it's very rewarding. It's not just that the kids get something out of it, I think as adults we get a lot out of it. Being able to provide activities and programs and watch kids mature through the different age sections is really rewarding.

We get to do some really great things as well and have some big adventures with the scouts. I'm now group leader at 1st Modewarre and I also do joey scouts. I've done all the sections at one time or another but at the moment I'm having fun with the five to eight-year-olds and overseeing the group.

What motivates you?

I think you have to volunteer. Without volunteers things don't happen – Auskick doesn't happen, Milo Cricket doesn't happen, scouts-guides don't happen, schools reading support and all that support just doesn't happen.

Over the years I guess I've been lucky to be able to be involved in a heap of different things. I've done school swimming, bike ed, reading, helped with maths, scouts has been a big thing, and other committees like Lake Modewarre Committee and Landcare.

Another has been with Geelong Animal Welfare Society and that has developed into helping a separate volunteer organisation with a focus on helping people get their cats desexed.

I think I've had the time to do it and it has been rewarding personally, but also to see change and success in areas you are helping in, that's really important for the people you do it for.

What do you love about our community?

There are lots of different ways to be involved.

We moved here 20 years ago from Colac Otway and that was a similar situation.

I live out near Winchelsea, so we're out of town and that's where I like to be. It has a lot of opportunities to get involved in different ways.



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Helping regional businesses run better behind the scenes

When letting go still means holding on

By Bec Lane, Business Operations Specialist

As your business grows, it's only natural to bring on help. Maybe you've hired someone, or handed off a few jobs to a trusted team member.

But even after passing things on, you might still find yourself in the thick of it - doublechecking details, answering the same questions, jumping in to fix things.

This is one of the biggest things that slows a business down. It's not that you don't trust your team - it's that you've been across everything from day one, and stepping back is easier said than done.

You've handed something over, but you haven't really let go.

Often, the problem isn't the people. It's the process. No one's ever said clearly what needs your input and what doesn't. So the team keeps checking. You keep jumping in. And you end up carrying more than you should, while your team holds back - either to avoid doing the wrong thing or because it's just easier to get you to do it.

Letting go doesn't mean walking away. It means being clear on what you need to stay across, where others can take the lead.

Here's what that can look like in real life:

- Set clear boundaries. You don't need to sign off on every little thing. Focus on the big stuff (like high-value purchases or new suppliers) and give your team the confidence to run with the rest.
- Be specific about what you want to know.
 You don't need to be copied in on every email. Just ask to be looped in when

- something's delayed, off-track or needs a call you've agreed they shouldn't make alone
- Give proper support when handing things over. A quick run-through won't cut it. Make sure your team has instructions, something they can refer back to and time to ask questions. That's what stops things bouncing back to you later.
- Encourage ownership. If something's gone wrong, don't take the problem. Ask your team for input. Even if it's not perfect, it shows initiative and keeps things moving.

The right systems help too - like being able to see what's been done, what's overdue or where budgets are sitting, without needing to ask every time. But no system replaces good communication. It's the mix of both that makes the biggest difference.

When things are set up properly, your business runs more smoothly. Your team steps up. And you can focus on the parts of the business that really need your attention - not chasing updates or putting out spot fires.

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history of winchelsea

Search parties looking for two colonial explorers, Joseph Gellibrand and George Hesse, lead to the foundation of the town at Winchelsea

Written and Researched by Dr. Paul Michael F Donovan, Federation University, of Winchelsea

In 1837, two colonial explorers, Joseph Tice Gellibrand and George Brooks Legrew Hesse, went missing near Birregurra. Popular history says that their bodies were never found, and the nature of their deaths remain a mystery. Meanwhile letters, records, newspaper articles and early histories such as G T Lloyd's, outline the disappearance and discovery of the bodies without a sense of mystery.

Gellibrand was Attorney-General of Van Diemen's Land from August 1823 until February 1826. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Port Phillip Association, which founded the colony of Port Phillip. Gellibrand was the Author of the Batman Treaty which aimed to purchase land from the Indigenous peoples of Port Phillip. Gellibrand's name is remembered by Mount Gellibrand, the Gellibrand River and Point Gellibrand.

Gellibrand was described in his time as "one of the most earnest and faithful friends the natives of Tasmania and Port Phillip ever had ... one of the first to show by precept and example that the Blacks were human beings ... a defender of the oppressed, champion of freedom, denouncer of wrong ... admired for his benevolence ... The loss of so useful and influential leader was a serious blow to the association and deprived the unhappy natives of their best and most powerful friend." Throughout his memoirs, and discusses conciliation with the Indigenous peoples of the Port Phillip District. He outlined the terms by which he intended to employ William Buckley as a superintendent of Indigenous peoples, given Buckley's cultural understanding of the Wadawurrung and capacity to represent and communicate with them in their language and on their terms. The respect given to Gellibrand by



the Indigenous peoples of Port Phillip was such that during and after his life, several Indigenous people in the colony took the name "Gellibrand" in his honour.

Hesse was born in 1798, at Chichester, UK. Son of a barrister. He gained his B.A. (1823) and M.A. (1826) from Cambridge; and was admitted as a barrister in 1819. Hesse was remembered as "a gentleman of estimable character, and first-class

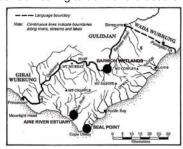
attainments in his profession as a solicitor; and who, during his short but successful career in Tasmania, had earned from his many friends, the title of "the honest lawyer." Hesse's name is remembered in Winchelsea by Mount Hesse, Hesse Rural Health and Hesse Street.

Gellibrand and Hesse disappeared while exploring the western district of Port Phillip near Birregurra along with a Convict whose name may have been Akerman (Also variously referred to as Akers, Acres, and Akehurst). His first name is remembered in different sources sometimes as William, and sometimes Robert.

Following the Barwon River from Dr Alexander Thompson's station in search of George Russel's Station at Shelford with intention to return from there to Captain Swanston's Station near Werribee, the party made a mistake at the Junction of the Barwon and Leigh Rivers, bordering Wadawurrung and Gulidjan Countries. They continued following the Barwon believing it was the Leigh. Gellibrand was convinced that the Warrion Hills near Lake Colac, for which he was headed, were the You Yangs, in the opposite direction, for which he was bound. Gellibrand and Hesse had a disagreement with Akers who left the party near Birregurra following the Barwon, in the direction of the Cape Otway Forest, under the impression they were following the Leigh. From there they ran into trouble, releasing their horses and marching through twenty miles of thick Otway rainforest. Akers returned home to tell the story at Captain Pollock's Station.

After two weeks three search Parties were sent out, none of which

came upon the missing bodies. Armytage and Ricketts formed the first rescue party at the expense of £700 from Mrs. Gellibrand. Thomas Roadknight searched Colac and Corangamite and then Buninyong rather than heading into the Otways. Rumours surrounding the disappearance of Gellibrand and Hesse, and the consequent vengeance by search parties inflamed antagonism between Indigenous and colonial peoples. Retribution was erroneously inflicted upon a Gulidjan man at Lake Colac, who was executed for Gellibrand's death on the grounds he was found in possession of some personal effects of Gellibrand's. The items were on the horse that Gellibrand had turned loose before as he entered the Otway Forest, which was too dense for riding. The Gulidjan man who was executed for the murder admitted to having speared two horses matching the descriptions of those taken out by Gellibrand and Hesse but had nothing to do with the deaths of the men.



Twenty miles into the Otway Forrest, Gellibrand and Hesse met the Baradh Gundidj people of Girai Wurrung country. Hesse died of starvation on the river now named after Gellibrand and was unable to be rescued by the Baradh Gunditj. According to accounts from the Baradh Gundidj, Gellibrand lived with them for two months in perfect friendship, until he was murdered by Gadubanud people near the mouth of Gellibrand River. During those months they cared for Gellibrand and buried him after witnessing his murder. Accounts of those who guided the search parties to the grave sites confirmed the identities of the bodies, reporting the circumstances of their deaths. A woman from the Baradh Gundidj who was present at the murder and burial of Mr Gellibrand said he had lived among her people, who built him a home of his own among theirs, prior to his murder.

Lieutenant Superintendent Charles Joseph La Trobe mentions 'poor Gellibrand's grave' in his personal Letters from 1846 and sketches a map to the location of the grave. In 1846, Henry Allan of Allandale showed the grave sites to Governor La Trobe while on an expedition to find the site of the future Cape Otway Lighthouse. Henry's brother John Allan spoke fluent Girai Wurrung and was able to collect testimony from eyewitnesses to the murder. Gellibrand's grave was pointed out to the Allan Brothers by an old Baradh Gundidj man who buried the body along with his hat, trousers andc., which Henry Allan excavated along with the skeleton. The skeleton was wearing breeches with leather straps, a wide leather belt round his waist, a brace of pistols and watch in his pockets all matching Gellibrand's. Allan salvaged buttons from the grave but was unable to retrieve the pistols and watch due to a storm. The Baradh Gundidj people pointed out the location of the grave of George Hesse, which due to the storm, they helped him find later. Gellibrand's Skeleton was identified by the fact that of one of his teeth had been stuffed with gold.

The bodies were finally posted back to the Gellibrand family in Hobart for a post-mortem examination by a coroner. There was speculation by some descendants of Gellibrand that the bodies were not those of Gellibrand and Hesse, but the account of the people who buried them indicated that they were. The search parties looking for Gellibrand and Hesse lead to the foundation of the town at Winchelsea.

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WINCHELSEA TENNIS CLUB

JUNIOR COACHING

Mondays from 3.30pm with experienced Nicole Mullen, \$10

RUNNING GROUP

Winchelsea has a small run group. Its more of a social run, jog and chat. We wait for slower runners and walk when one of us needs a rest. The aim is 10k with the option of 8 or 5k it's up to you. To finish, a coffee at La Hoot.

Sunday mornings 8am at La Hoot.

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WANT TO JOIN PROBUS?

Enjoy fellowship with other members

Enjoy trips & outings

Listen to guest speakers



Contact Lorraine 0417 467 927

WINCHELSEA GIRL GUIDES

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Thanks for your ongoing support Winchelsea and community.

Opening hours Friday, Saturday and

Sunday and Monday, 10 till 3.

DEFIBRILLATOR MISSING

The newly installed Defibrillator outside the Netball change rooms has been missing for some weeks.

If it could be replaced asap that would be great, no questions asked.

These Defibrillators save lives

WANTED HOUSE AND DOGSITTER

House sitting and dog minding person for 32 Lauders Lane, Winchelsea; would need to mind an 8 week old puppy who has had one injection for his parvovirus only. Person would need to be a driver, and/or have experience with young dogs and be able to entertain him a few hours a day, using his lead/collar to take him out every 2 hours for his toileting and 3 meals a day; can either sleep here or go home and back in morning for 5 days as he's unable to go to a kennel too young!

Phone Kathryn on 0439 728 128.

CUBS AND JOEYS

For information, or to get involved, contact Marie McPadden 0409330147 or mcpadden630@bigpond.com

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for Winchelsea Seniors Card Holders

Do you find it difficult getting in and out of Geelong to do your shopping?

Would you like to meet and connect with other Winchelsea Seniors and do your shopping or have a cuppa?

We have some new dates:

- Wednesday 28 May contact Jill on 0427 633 277 to book
- Wednesday 11 June contact Neil on 0408 102 802 to book
- Wednesday 25 June contact Jill on 0427 633 277 to book

More dates to come for July and August.

Pick up from your home between 9am and 10am, leave Waurn Ponds at 1.30pm and drop off at your home. You will get a reminder call.

Vehicle: 12-seater Surf Coast Shire Council community bus so spots are limited!

Cost: Gold Coin Donation

*Must have a Seniors Card to be eligible.



Social Bridge is played
TUESDAYS 10 AM - 12 NOON
Senior Citizens Centre
36 Harding Street Winchelsea
New players always welcome
Elaine Atkinson 0458 009 616



Help is available Speak with someone today Available 24 hours

13 11 14

Reconciliation

Richard Lockie hypha culture

Reconciliation - "renewal of friendship after disagreement or enmity, action of reaching accord with an adversary or one estranged" https://www.etymonline.com/word/reconciliation
What came out of this basic search for me is some key words that prove to me intrinsic if reconciliation is to be achieved in a genuine way. Mediator, accordance, atone, settle, cooperation.

What does this mean inside the body? How do you feel about these words? In a conflict situation do you sweep things under the rug or do you work through them to a place of true resolve? What does this mean on the land, on Country? Will this ever be resolved?

I was born in South Africa during apartheid, at three years young my parents returned to Zimbabwe and I was raised there on a small farm. At 29 I returned to my place of birth and was welcomed to learn a traditional healing practice. I will never be Zulu in blood but I am Zulu by birth. This means there is a door way which is always open for me to connect with my roots as a Zulu or in Zimbabawe as a Manica, if I choose it and approach with humility.

Every place has its stories. Some stories can help some places to grow beyond their inherited narrative. Mediators from other cultures can support this transition on a human to human relationship. Such as the Hawaiians have Ho opono pono which supports forgiveness. To wait for the shire, state or federal governments to find accord will potentially out see our lives. Having a local response. A local plan as a community that we stand behind would be a necessary and honourable action. It gives us a place for these feelings and thoughts.

Australia is young and is still in times of transition. The way this occurs depends on participation. As it stands, those participating seem to be the Aboriginal mob and the government. It is hard to participate in something you are not invited into.

Is there a non Aboriginal component to treaty and reconciliation? The way I romantically look at this scenario is how I would imagine conducting myself if I arrived on a boat to these shores and had to negotiate with a local settlement of people. How would I conduct myself if I wanted to build a home and start a life. I would be defining my intentions. Communicating what I had to offer. When my children were born they would be welcomed and could



experience and connect with the culture of their birth. They would grow with culture. Culture would grow with them.

In Zimbabwe there was a war which facilitated a transition, in South Africa they had the truth and reconciliation commission. What will Australia be known for in its transition?

Keep opening your hearts and minds to what this could look like as it will build a future of peace and honour that families can live within, be proud of and a future of inner freedom for all.

In Love and Optimism.
Richard Lockie admin@richearth.love



Richard Lockie is a 6th generation African farmer, he was born in Kwazulu-Natal South Africa and grew up in Manicaland, Zimbabwe. He lives with his family in Winchelsea.

Being one of the 'born free generation' he enjoyed show jumping, rugby and motorbikes. He was blessed to live on a farm close to a small town and go to a good school. He went to University in CapeTown to study fine art then went overseas. Completed an apprenticeship as a Biodynamic farmer. Completed Itwasa to be a Sangoma, a traditional healer. He has worked on and is passionate about earthen home building. Richard Loves life and being of service to the community through systems thinking and action . He loves karate, to dance, dig the earth and share a meal with friends. Bringing people together.



Scientists issue dire warning

It's part of the broader trend of Arctic sea ice melting rapidly and disturbingly.

by Michael Muir, writing in The Cool Down, May 17, 2025

A remote Alaskan island is reeling from the effects of warming ocean temperatures and providing a stern warning for the rest of the world. The disappearance of sea ice has devastated its wildlife and the small native population's way of life, according to reports by The Washington Post.

St. Paul Island is one of the most isolated places in the United States; it's a three-to-four-hour flight from the nearest city, Anchorage. Most of the island's population is Aleut, the descendants of workers forcibly relocated to the island by Russia in the 19th century.

There are almost as many bird species (321) as people on the island (338), and both are declining rapidly. Half of Alaska's common murres (4 million birds) have died due to a marine heat wave across Alaska, the largest die-off on record, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Wildlife that used to flock to the area is now dwindling due to the lack of sea ice. Fur seals, for example, have decreased in numbers.

Sea ice loss around St. Paul devastates the local economy as fish and wildlife populations plummet. Warmer temperatures in the Bering Sea have led to the loss of billions of snow crabs and caused the island's primary source of tax revenue, a crab processing plant, to close.

It's part of the broader trend of Arctic sea ice melting rapidly and disturbingly, about 12.2% per decade, according to NASA. This leads to rising sea levels and causes the Arctic to go from one of the planet's key carbon sequesters to a net emitter as permafrost disappears. These problems are attributed to human activity and the emissions caused by dirty energy, which worsen extreme weather events and conditions.



In Australia, more hooded plover parents become empty nesters

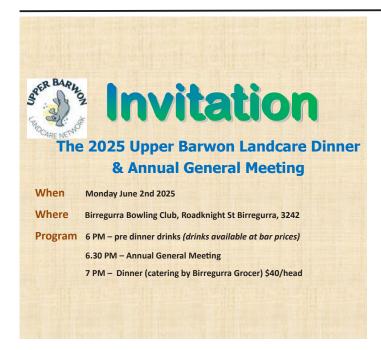
From the Conservation Regulator/Parks Victoria/ Birdlife Australia Media Release - May 21, 2025

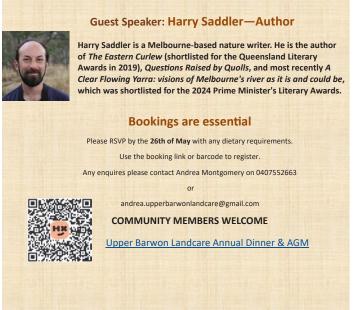
The hard work to protect and monitor Victoria's hooded plovers by the Conservation Regulator, Parks Victoria and BirdLife Australia has continued, with 52 chicks fledged from the 133 breeding pairs monitored over the beach nesting season along our coast.

Survival of the chicks has been the focus of Operation Save our Hoodies (SoHo) over the past four years, supporting breeding hooded plovers with targeted education and enforcement patrols.

Hooded plovers are classified as a vulnerable species, with fewer than 600 individuals remaining in Victoria. Their nests, consisting of eggs laid in shallow sand scrapes, are highly susceptible to disturbances. Chicks have a 1% survival rate, one of the lowest among Australian birds, due to threats like human activity, dogs, and predators such as foxes.

There were 320 patrols conducted on the Victorian coast in the 2024–25 breeding season, engaging with 1072 people. 21 people were fined for offences, including disturbing nesting birds and owners not under control of their dogs in hooded plover habitat.







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Councillor Catch-Up

Tony Phelps, Winchelsea Ward Councillor

As we finish off National Volunteers Week with various celebrations around the Shire (by Council and many other organisations), it is worth reflecting on the 2 sides of the volunteerism coin. On the one side, our communities simply wouldn't be what they are without volunteers. Just imagine what our world would be like if nobody did anything as a volunteer ... On the other side, think of the personal benefit to you and the people that matter to you arising from your own volunteer efforts. It's good to see volunteering rates creeping back up after the Covid hit – so if you have the inclination and can make the time, there is guaranteed to be something that you can do that makes your local community a better place in return for the rewarding mental health benefits you'll experience.

Council's main tasks over the next couple of months is next year's budget and the new 4-year Council Plan. Each require a lot of behind-the-scenes work that I for one didn't realise. This budget is a between-times version with elements continuing from the last term and some adjustments to reflect the new Council make-up. The 2026-2027 budget will reflect the new Council Plan, so keep an eye out for your chance to review that Plan and send in your thoughts.

A reminder that if you see something that needs attention or have a suggestion to make, please do "Lodge a Request" on the surfcoast.vic.gov.au website (right up at the top of the home page). Of course you can phone too, but that's limited to office hours whereas the website is 24/7. Lodging a request is effective and efficient and importantly feeds into Shire statistics which executive management and Councillors keep a keen eye on. And if the issue repeats, please repeat your Request – it helps focus where limited resources should go.

The Council Meeting this week considers a raft of policies, some for us all, and some specific to Councillors. The latter I believe are important for transparency and fairness. I've found that there is a lot of misunderstanding of the role of a Councillor and what s/he gets out of the role. These policies make the benefits and restrictions clear and public and I genuinely hope you would take things further if you came across anything that doesn't comply.

I've had some great conversations with people around the traps recently. We've passed the 6-month point in this Councillor term, it's flown past, and while some of the cogs of local government may turn slowly, I do see some good things happening and coming up on the horizon. It's easy to criticise, a bit harder to propose solutions and then get involved in making them happen. However, it has been uplifting to meet people, volunteers, who want to get involved and build their community to be an even better place to live, work and play. I'd like to thank all those that fill in Shire surveys and in particular the members of Community Panel that provided valuable guidance on the directions we should take in our Council Plan. I see good things.

I'd like to close with a hearty "Congratulations" to this year's Local Legends, which were awarded last Thursday. The diversity of what people do, the good that they do for others near and far, the real difference they make is inspiring. Well done to you all, and to all the nominees, and to all who volunteer around our Shire.

New MPs urged to put housing first



Everybody's Home

Everybody's Home has written to every newly elected Member of Parliament, urging them to make housing affordability a top priority in the next term of government.

The data reveals alarming rates of homelessness, social housing shortfalls, and rising rental and mortgage stress in the very seats that flipped in this year's federal election.

The electorate-level housing snapshots reveal:

- Rents in many electorates are hundreds of dollars above the national average
- · Social housing waitlists stretch beyond a decade
- · Large portions of the electorate are in severe financial stress

Everybody's Home spokesperson Maiy Azize said: "Voters sent a clear message this election: they want real action on housing. This starts with MPs listening to what is happening in their own communities.

"New MPs have a responsibility to the people who elected them. These seats didn't change by accident, people are demanding solutions to cost-of-living pressures, and housing is at the centre of it. The decisions this Parliament makes on housing will shape whether Australians can afford to keep a roof over their heads or whether the crisis continues to spiral. We need more social homes, better protections for renters, and a fairer tax system.

Social homes missing in Victorian budget

Community Housing Industry Association Victoria

CHIA Vic has warned of ongoing housing crisis after the budget contained no new spending commitments from the state on social housing. The budget contained \$249 million in new spending on housing – fully funded by the Commonwealth Government.

Victoria is facing a desperate crisis, with 146,000 families and individuals needing social housing," CHIA Vic chief executive Sarah Toohey said. "We're pleased to see \$60 million to continue essential homelessness programs, but you can't solve homelessness without homes. Building our way out of the crisis is the only real solution. We have to return to a shared funding arrangement between the Commonwealth and State Governments to make sure that all levels of government are pulling in the same direction – to solve this housing crisis," Sarah Toohey said.

Quick facts on community housing:

- Run by not-for-profits: community housing organisations reinvest revenue to provide more homes to renters
- Stretch the taxpayer dollar further: community housing organisations can build homes cheaper due to their charitable status, asset bases and co-contributions
- Form of rent capped housing: community housing rent is set at below-market rates, capped at no more than 30% of household income, or 75% of the market rent.
- <u>Transparent and accountable sector:</u> community housing organisations are monitored against strict performance standards to protect renters, overseen by an independent and dedicated regulator in the Housing Registrar

\$3m super tax will impact more than is being acknowledged

CPA Australia's Superannuation Lead, Richard Webb, says the federal government's extra tax on super balances above \$3 million will impact a greater number of Australians than is being acknowledged.

> The cumulative effect of inflation means that a dollar today has the same purchasing power as approximately \$0.34 in 1985.

"Bracket creep has a silent eroding effect on personal finances. Allowing this further erosion of superannuation savings is contrary to the fundamental principles of our tax system."

Mr Webb added that it's wrong for the issue to be portrayed as older Australians protecting their wealth. "\$3 million will not represent anywhere near the spending power it has today. As awareness of this issue grows, there is a growing realisation that this will not be a fair system for future generations," he said.

"Even an average earner will have more than \$3 million in superannuation by the time they retire. It's inconceivable to think that a young Australian today will see a proportion of their retirement savings taxed at a rate of 30 per cent.

"Policy changes of this nature should be consistent with the legislated objective of superannuation. This appears to be driven primarily by budget repair, rather than a comprehensive approach to retirement savings policy. Today's policymakers have a duty to ensure that the spending power of future retirement savings is preserved. "

"Maintaining the trust and confidence of younger Australians will become harder as the benefits of today's superannuation system are whittled away for future generations."

Responding to the recent media discussion on the government's plan to tax unrealised gains on superannuation funds, Mr Webb

"Taxing unrealised capital gains is a fundamental breach of Australian tax principles. CPA Australia does not support this.

"Australia's tax system is built on the principle that tax is paid on income once it is realised – when it is actually received.

"Taxing unrealised capital gains would mean taxing people on the paper profits they haven't yet accessed, which is not only inequitable but also administratively burdensome.

CPA Australia believes this approach is inconsistent with good tax design and could have significant unintended consequences for investment and confidence.

"If this precedent is set, where are the limits? Opening this Pandora's Box could ultimately lead to the imposition of capital gains tax on other assets and investments, even if today's policymakers insist otherwise. It is not fair, and not healthy for the economy, if individuals are pushed into selling their investments to avoid paying tax on a hypothetical profit."



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One million hours clocked up in L2P learner driver's seat

Victorian State Government

The Victorian Government is getting young learner drivers, who don't have had access to a car or supervisor behind the wheel – as the L2P program reaches one million hours.

Coinciding with National Volunteer Week, this program wouldn't be possible without the 7,500 volunteers at the heart of the program.

Since 2009, the L2P Program has given more than 23,000 young drivers across the state the vital skills needed to drive confidently on our roads.

The program matches learner drivers aged 16 to 21 years old who don't have access to a car or a supervising driver with a fully licenced volunteer mentor and car to help them get the driving experience needed to gain a probationary licence.

The program not only benefits learner drivers but also gives volunteer mentors an opportunity to connect with their community.

Volunteer mentors are provided with comprehensive training and access to a L2P Program car.

The TAC funded L2P Program supports the Government's Graduated Licencing System (GLS) which makes it compulsory for learner drivers aged under 21 to obtain a minimum 120 hours of supervised driving practice.

"We're looking for more enthusiastic people to commit 1-2 hours a week to help young learner drivers gain the experience they need to get a license." said the Head, Road Safety Victoria, Marcelo Vidales

For more information visit the transport.vic.gov.au.







SURF COAST SHIRE COUNCIL E-NEWS

Want to know what's happening across the shire?

From local legends and events to Council decisions and engagement opportunities, our new monthly electronic newsletter is the best way to stay across Council news. Subscribe at **news.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/cw-subscribe**.

Prefer a hard copy? You can collect one from Anglesea, Lorne, Torquay and Winchelsea community houses, Moriac and District Shed, Deans Marsh Community Cottage, or the Council office in Torquay at the start of each month.

Ratepayers who currently receive their rates notices electronically will be automatically signed up to the eNews.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

King's Birthday Monday 9 June 2025

> **School Holidays** 5 - 20 July 2025





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

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 Winchelsea Community House, 28 Hesse St

MONDAY-SATURDAY

WINCHELSEA HEALTH CLUB

Accessible - 24 hours Staffed hours -

Mon/Wed 6am-12pm, 5-7pm Tues/Thurs 9am-12pm, 3-7pm Frid 6am-12pm,

7-11am Eastern Reserve, 70 Hopkins St 5267 2336.

MONDAY

Sat

WINCHELSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL **MEET THE TEAM**

16 June 2025, 23 June 2025 9-10am La Hoot, 1 Willis Street Winchelsea 52672134

CO-WORKING AND STUDYING SPACE

Mon and Thurs 9am-2pm \$10 Winchelsea Community House, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea

JUNIOR TENNIS COACHING

3.30pm \$10 (03) 5267 2667 Tennis Club, Armytage St, Winchelsea

GIRL GUIDES

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

1ST MODDA/1ST WINCHELSEA 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

TUESDAY

SOCIAL BRIDGE

10-12pm

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

1ST MODDA/1ST WINCHELSEA SCOUTS

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

WEDNESDAY

BUS TO WAURN PONDS SHOPPING CENTRE FOR SENIORS

Wednesday 21 May, 28 May Wednesday 11 June, 25 June Neil 0408 102 802, Jill 0427 633 277

WINCH WALKERS

9:30-10.30am Mud Hut (Opposite La Hoot Cafe) Barwon Terrace, Winchelsea ralexander@hesse.vic.gov.au

WINCHELSEA MEN'S SHED

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

WINCHELSEA SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE

Wednesdays 1 00 pm- 3.00 pm 36 Harding Street, Winchelsea Jean Shinners 52672263, 0427672263 jeanshinners@gmail.com

MOTHER GOOSE SONG AND RHYME

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

WINCHELSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wednesday 1-4:pm, Friday 10am-3pm Hesse St, Winchelsea www.facebook.com/ Winchelseaanddistricthistoricalsociety

1ST MODDA/1ST WINCHELSEA SCOUTS

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

CWA WINCHELSEA

2nd Wed each month 7-8.30pm Senior Citizens Rooms, Harding St winchelsea.cwa@gmail.com

SES WINCHELSEA

7.30pm 132500 323 Mousley Drive, Winchelsea

THURSDAY

COWORKING AND STUDYING SPACE

Mon and Thurs 9am-2pm \$10 Winchelsea Community House, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea

WINCHELSEA PLAYGROUP

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



MAY/JUNE

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

PICKLEBALL

10-11.30am. Lesley Mathison 0438 672 197 Leisure Time Centre, Gosney Street, Winchelsea

WINCHELSEA KNITTING GROUP

10.30am-12pm FREE Winchelsea Community House, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY FOODBANK

12-2pm 30 Hesse St, Winchelsea healthpromotion@hesse.vic.gov.au 0417 848 292

MAT PILATES

7pm \$25 Starting 15 May Winchelsea Shire Hall, 28 Hesse St

WINCHELSEA MOVIE CLUB

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

FRIDAY

WINCHELSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL TOUR

30 May 2025 8.45am 60 Main Street Winchelsea 52672134

TAI CHI

9am-10am \$10 Winchelsea Community House, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea

PHONICS WITH ROBOT REG

10.30am MINIS (1–3 years) 11.30am PRESCHOOL (3–5 years) (School terms) Starts 2 May: www.robotreg.com.au/pages/shae

CHATTY CAFÉ

10.30am-12.30pm Donation Winchelsea Shire Hall, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea

WINCHELSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

WINCHELSEA RSL

1-30pm 20 June, 18 July Winchelsea Men's Shed, Hesse St. David Loone 0488 165 109

GEELONG REGIONAL LIBRARY (MOBILE)

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

SATURDAY

TREBECK RESERVE PARKRUN

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

FLOW YOGA

8am, \$25 Winchelsea Shire Hall, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea

WINCHELSEA LAND AND RIVERCARE MONTHLY WORKING BEE

9am 5 June 2025 At the River. All welcome Bring gloves and long trousers Rod Stone 0428 549318 Stewart Mathison 0428 672054

WINCHELSEA STAR PRODUCTION/COFFEE MEETING

10-11am (Last Sat each month) Sweet Thyme Cafe, Main Street www.winchelseastar.org.au 5273 0295

CROCHET GROUP

1.30pm 2nd Saturday each month \$5 Winchelsea Community House, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea reception@winchhouse.org.au

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass 5pm each week (Winter season) Harding St, Winchelsea 0404598558

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY DINNER

6.30pm (Last Saturday Monthly) Hall, Harding St Winchelsea Bring plate and gold coin donation if you can

SUNDAY

RUNNING GROUP

8am Meet at La Hoot

CHEESE MAKING WORKSHOP

14 August Shire Hall shirehall@winchhouse.org.au 52672028

GARDENERS MEET and PRODUCE SWAP

9-10am (Second Sunday monthly) 5 Main Street Winchelsea

WINCHELSEA UNITING CHURCH

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

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY MARKET

9-1pm, 1st Sunday each month (except Nov) Shire Hall car park, Main Street growingwinchelsea.com/project/winchelseacommunity-market/

ST THOMAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH

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





WINCHELSEA RSL MEETINGS

20 June 1-30pm Mens Shed 18 July 1-30pm Mens Shed 15 August 7-30pm R.S.L 19 September 1-30 pm R.S.L 17 October 1-30 pm R.S.L 21 November 7-30 pm R.S.L 19 December 12-00 pm R.S.L (AGM followed by Christmas Lunch)

All enquiries
David Loone (Secretary)
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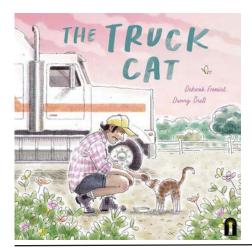


National Simultaneous Storytime

Victorian State Government

National Simultaneous Storytime is an Australia-wide event that takes place in libraries, schools, kinders, childcare centres, family homes and bookshops.

Each year, the Australian Library and Information Association chooses a book that is age appropriate and explores meaningful themes, with the book read on the same day and at the same time across the country.



This year's book - The Truck Cat.- was written by Deborah Frenkel and illustrated by Danny Snell, The Truck Cat explores themes of immigration and identity, and touches on loneliness and the idea of home, through a special bond between a human and their cat.

The event highlights the benefits of literature by showcasing a new story that teaches young Australians about important and timely issues in a fun and vibrant way. More than 2.3 million children in 21,000 different locations took part im the event in 2024.

Geelong Regional Library Corporation supports a network of 19 community libraries and three mobile libraries that house a diverse collection of print, multimedia and heritage items.

In 2024-25, the Victorian Government provided more than \$2.3 million to Geelong Regional Library Corporation through the Public Libraries Funding Program, and a further \$56,000 through the Premier's Reading Challenge Book Fund.



Winchelsea Primary School Playground

Kelly Turner, Community Bank Surf Coast Photo Judy Cameron



BACK: Jimmy (WPS Captain); Murray Bennett; Neville Mawson (Lions); Kealy Parke; Lisa Hicks (Bendigo Bank); John Hutton (Lions); Toby Martin (Bendigo Bank)

FRONT: Theo, Toby; Olivia (WPS Preps)

Winchelsea Primary School is finally getting a brand-new playground – a big deal for the school and the town. It's an old school, and this upgrade will bring a new lease on life to the space and the community.

The school has worked hard to fundraise, and now, with help from:

- Winchelsea Lions Club (\$5,000 donation), and
- Winchelsea and District Community Bank – Bendigo Bank, who matched community fundraising with a \$12,500 sponsorship, the project has reached its funding goal. The total value of the new playground is \$57,763.00.

Free public transport for every child, every day, everywhere

The Victorian Budget 2025/26

Families right across Victoria are doing it tough – every dollar counts.

With this year's Budget, we're on their side – making public transport free for every young Victorian under the age of 18 – every single day of the year.

That means cheaper school runs, more affordable weekends – and one less thing for families to worry about.

SERVICES & ACTIVITIES IN WINCHELSEA

VLINE TRAIN SERVICES

TO MELBOURNE:

6.21(coach) 07.55, 11.10, 14.04, 16.58, 19.21 Mon - Fri

Sat - Sun 9:34, 14.04, 16.58 19.18

TO WARRNAMBOOL:

Mon - Fri 8.58, 11.51, 14.46, 17.28 (coach), 18.43, 20.53

Sat - Sun 8:48, 11.41, 14.46, 20.38



COUNTRY WOMEN'S **ASSOCIATION**

7pm second Wednesday of month Winchelsea Senior Citizens' Hall



Winchelsea Unit 325 Mousley Drive

Winchelsea and District COMBINED PROBUS CLUB



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



SOCIAL BRIDGE

Every Tuesday 10.30 am - 1.00 pm Senior Citizens Centre 36 Harding Street Winchelsea New players always welcome Contact Elaine Atkinson 0458009616

WINCHELSEA TRANSFER STATION

55 Cressy Road, Winchelsea

Tuesday Thursday 2pm-4pm 2pm-4pm

Saturday 1.30-3.30pm 9.30-12.30pm Sunday



Closed on Christmas Day, but open on other public holidays that fall during their normal operating hours. www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/disposalsites



WINCHELSEA **GIRL GUIDES**

Our Unit meets at the Catholic Church Hall, Harding St Winchelsea each Monday 4.30pm-6pm All girls 5yrs- 15yrs Welcome! Contact Yvonne Orchard 0448 672 630 or Lily Del Rennie Ph. 0428 936 441



1st Modda & 1st Winchelsea SCOUT GROUP

Joeys: Tuesdays of school term 5-6pm Cubs: Mondays of school term 6:30-8pm Scouts: Tuesdays of school term 6:30-8:30pm All at Modewarre Hall, Cape Otway Rd Venturers: Wed at Walton's Rd Venturer Den Contact Marie McPadden 0409 330147



For reservations on the weekly bus to the Eastern Reserve Hub, please phone 52671202.

SURF COAST MOBILE LIBRARY

Hesse St, Fridays, 2pm-5pm Surf Coast Mobile Library parked in Hesse Street (outside Shire Hall) Fridays 2:00 and 5:00pm unless it is a Public Holiday.

WINCHELSEA TAXI

0429 672 888 or 5267 2888

Wheelchair accessible 10 seater bus available.

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

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

0404598558 Father Joseph Panackal Harding St, Winchelsea 3241

Winchelsea St. John the Baptist 5pm Sat. May 31 June 7/14/21/28

> Inverleigh Sacred Heart 4pm Sun. June 15

St Thomas' Anglican Church

0477 672 042 stthomaswac@gmail.com Barwon Tce, Winchelsea Service 10am Sundays

Thought for the Week

"What would it be like if you lived each day, each breath, as a work of art in progress?

Imagine that you are a Masterpiece unfolding, every second of every day a work of art taking form with every breath.

So thank God for the gift." Have a Blessed week.

John Bader, Former U/C Accredited Lay Preacher

Steps to follow after a collision

RACV

RACV is reminding motorists of the important steps to take if they are involved in a minor car collision, to ensure their safety and assist with a potential insurance claim.

RACV was notified of more than 69,000 claims that originated from a minor vehicle collision last year.

RACV's Jeff Ames said knowing what to do in the event of a collision can make a stressful situation easier to manage. "Being involved in a collision, even a minor one, can cause great stress and confusion – whether you're at fault or not. The first thing to do is try and remain as calm as possible and check on the health of your passengers."

"Your safety and the safety of others should always come first after a collision so ensure you check on the health of your passengers and if it's safe to do so, move your vehicle out of traffic to prevent further incidents," Mr Ames said.

If your vehicle is too damaged to move and you are blocking the road, ensure your hazard lights are on and call the police for assistance.

Mr Ames also reminded motorists that it is a legal requirement to exchange details with all involved parties. "It's essential to collect names, contact numbers, vehicle registration details, and insurance information. If another driver refuses to share their details or leaves the scene, contact the police as soon as possible,"



he said

You will need details from the other driver/s involved to claim on your car insurance: name, address, phone number, car registration number and insurance details. It may also be useful to collect driver's licence number, car make, model and colour and the vehicle owner's details (if different from the driver) and details of any witnesses (including name and contact number).

"Taking clear photos of the scene, vehicle damage, and road conditions will also help ensure an accurate record of what happened," Mr Ames said.

"Once all information is gathered, motorists should notify their insurer as soon as possible. The more information you can provide, the smoother the claims process will be."

"Being prepared before an accident happens can make all the difference. Knowing what steps to take will help you stay in control and protect yourself and others on the road."

For more information, visit RACV's dedicated webpage.

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 For delivery, call Bill 0438 083 373

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

48 932 340 254

Mother Goose Song & Rhyme

Every Wednesday at 2pm

During school terms Free for parents and caregivers with children of all ages. No bookings required come and join in!

Winchelsea Knitting Group

Thursday Mornings 10.30 - 12pm

All Welcome, Learn to knit or bring a project to work on whilst enjoying a cuppa and a chat in the Winchelsea Community House.

Tai Chi

Friday Mornings, 9.00am - 10.00am

In the Helen Verity Room, Winchelsea community house \$10 per Class

Chatty Café

Fridays 10.30am - 12.30pm

"Sip, Chat, Share, Care" in the Winchelsea Shire Hall. Everyone Welcome, Gold coin donation.

Phonics with Robot Reg

Friday Mornings

Walkers – 2 years 10.15am Pre-School 3 – 5years 11.15am 'A fun, High energy class to introduce and teach Phonics Skills to Kids'

Bookings at robotreg.com.au

Craft & Crochet Group

1pm in the Winchelsea Community Centre

Every Second Saturday, Next class May 31st

> \$5 per person Book your spot at reception@winchhouse.org.au

> > Host your next event right here in the heart of Winchelsea.



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Please Register at shirehall@winchhouse.org.au or call us 03 52672028



At the Winchelsea Shire Hall

<u>Vinyasa Yoga Mondays 7pm</u>

Mat Pilates Thursday Nights 7pm

Yoga Flow Saturday Mornings



Email: shirehall@winchhouse.org.au for more information

The Winchelsea community House is always here to support you with a wide range of things. Come in chat with us about your needs or ideas.

Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafnc@hotmail.com

Blues News

Janet Fletcher

ROUND 7

Welcome to all Blue's News readers with the results and washup of Round 7 where the Winchelsea Blues hosted North Geelong at Eastern Reserve in what was a big day for the Club.

Last Saturday the W.F.N.C. welcomed both Past Players and Sponsors to the Football and Netball Club where they have been a Past Player or Sponsor and in many cases both. The weather continued to be mild for the time of year, and the big crowd predictions proved correct which was marvellous to see, and a testament to those younger Committee members who worked hard to put the day together.

None of these events for the Football and Netball Club just "happen" – lots of thought and the manual execution of such a day takes many and quite dedicated hours put in to making the day a success for the Winnie Blues.

Before the Reserves game an inspiring talk by 1995 Reserve Premiership Coach Phillip Wilson had the entire room in silence as the Past Players and onlookers listened in awe to his riveting speech. Phillip was attending the day as a past Player, Coach and current Sponsor for the 30 year reunion of the Reserves Grand Final win. Phillip's address to the room was significant and set the tone for the day.

RESERVES:

Winchelsea Blues 5.5.35 were defeated by Nth Geelong Magpies 8.13.61

With a big crowd to spur them on the Blues were in front at half time and still right in it at the three-quarter time break, but the Magpies drew away in the last with some undisciplined play by Winchelsea which is sure not to please the Coaching Staff.

GOALS: Bailey Kahle 2, Tom Kennedy 1, Jack Todd 1,

Zach Ross 1.

BEST: Bailey Kahle, Sam Creighton, Dustin Baker, Zach Moules, Nic Martigano, Zach Ross.

SENIORS:

Winchelsea Blues 7.10.52 were defeated by Nth Geelong Magpies 14.15.99

The Blues started against League Ladder leaders Nth

Geelong well in the first quarter going in at the first change 3 goals 4 points to 1 goal 3points, certainly making the large home crowd show plenty of interest, Nth Geelong edged ahead at half time and there was 4 points the difference North's way at the last change. The game was providing plenty of entertainment for the crowd at Eastern Reserve but hope for the home side to cause a huge upset faded as the Magpies took control in the last quarter. The Blues were over run in the final 30 minutes – a disappointing finish after being able to go with the ladder leaders for the first 3 quarters.

GOALS: Indy Parish 2, Josh Freeman 1, Jack Sampi1,

Jack Symmonds 1, Tavae Sauni1.

BEST: Tavae Sauni, Harry Nagle, Mitch Thomas, Luke Henry, Alex Gubbins, Jackson Timms.

All in all, a very successful day as a Club for the Winchelsea Blues, great attendances from both past Footballers and Netballers and Sponsors to enjoy catching up and supporting the W.F.N.C. which has been around since1876 making it one of the oldest Clubs in Victoria and still run by Volunteers!

CANTEEN

A special mention to those who put up their hand to assist in the Canteen on this very busy day. Lynda and Trevor, Elaine, Flo, and Nik all worked long and hard for the Club, thank you very much. Also, thanks to the Footballers and Netballers who came in early and stayed much later than their required rostered time, this is what helps keep the Club ticking over.

This week sees the Club travel to Werribee Centrals home ground fortress Galvin Park where the Centrals are always tricky to win against, having said that the Blues will be keen to get back on the winners list – both Reserves and Seniors. Hopefully some of our injured players will be back on the field to strengthen both sides. Make the trip up the highway if you can, always good to see lots of navy blue in the crowd.

THE BLUE'S BISTRO:

This week's menu will feature – Seafood Baskets, Mrs. Wilson's Meatloaf,

Chicken Carbonara.

Chicken Nuggets and chips / Fish and chips for the Junior Blues.

GO BLUES!!



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WINCHELSEA FACEBOOK



Community, Sports, Churches and Non-profits

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Winchelsea Classifieds 3241	facebook.com/groups/216942861684082
Winchelsea Lost and Found	facebook.com/groups/768187693217518
Winchelsea Op Shop	facebook.com/HospitalAuxiliaryOpShopWinchelsea
Winchelsea Shire Hall	facebook.com/WinchelseaShireHall
Winchelsea Community House	facebook.com/winchelseacommunityhouse
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Winchelsea Star	facebook.com/TheWinchelseaStar
Winchelsea Movie Club	facebook.com/winchelseamovies
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Winchelsea Bowls Club	facebook.com/Winchelsea-Bowls-Club-533783333344345/
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Winchelsea Blues FC	facebook.com/WinchelseaFNC/
WYLD Winchelsea Youth Leisure and Drop in	facebook.com/groups/569737570027065/
Lions Club of Winchelsea	facebook.com/LionsWinchelsea
Winchelsea Probus	facebook.com/893535194971083
Winchelsea Golf Club	facebook.com/winchelseagc/ facebook.com/groups/1324943804676697

parkrun 64



Saturday 24 May 2025

Trebeck Reserve, Winchelsea



L-R Kristen Czerkiewicz, Murray Bennett, Kate McInnes, Neil McInnes, David Woodall, Ann Jones, Don Smith

21 parkrunners enjoyed the course through Trebeck Reserve this

Seven people completed their personal best time for Trebeck Reserve parkrun. Congratulations to Meg Royal, Brook Pay, Ross Caldow, Melody Philpott, Kylie Thornton, Lillian Logan and Deb McDonald.

This event was made possible by the following volunteers: David Woodall, Kate McInnes, Neil McInnes, Ann Jones, Kris Czerkiewicz, Murray Bennett, Don Smith and Helen Woodall

It takes a minimum of six people each week to safely conduct an enjoyable event. Please email trebeckreserve@parkrun.com if

you are able to volunteer some of your time. Tasks are simple, sociable, fun and very much appreciated.

We are currently seeking people interested in sharing the role of Run Director each 4-6 weeks or so.

It involves coordinating volunteers, setting up for the event and making sure things run smoothly.

The role is easy to learn and there is plenty of support.

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

Movers & Chainsaws

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 accounts@allaboutmowers.com.au



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Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafnc@hotmail.com

Junior Netball



Shae Callahan Photo credit with thanks to Jason Nogueira. Nogueira Photography.

Net-Set-Go

Calling all future netball stars aged 5-10 years!

Winchelsea Football Netball Club is proud to be running a Junior Development Program alongside NetSetGo – the perfect introduction to netball for children aged 5-10 years who want to learn the basics, make friends, and have fun! We know many of our local children have been loving netball during PE at school - now's the perfect time to build on that excitement and take the next step!

Program Highlights:

- Fun, inclusive, and supportive environment
- Learn the basics of netball in a structured, play-based format
- Build confidence, coordination, and teamwork
- Make new friends and feel part of a community
- Sessions led by passionate, experienced coaches
- A great stepping stone into competitive club netball with new under 11 and under 10 teams being created
- Focus on fun, participation, and development-not just winning!

Location: Winchelsea Netball courts

When: Thursday 4-4.45pm

Interested? Comment below, message our page, or phone Junior coordinator Shae on 0409 641 550. Register your interest and receive more info! Let's get our young netballers on the court and loving the game!

We're also seeking Expressions of Interest for our beginner Under 10 and Under 11 teams. Whether your child is brand new to the game or keen to develop their skills, we'd love to hear from you.

JUNIOR NETBALL AGAINST NORTH GEELONG

Under 11s Shine in First Home Game Victory

The Under 11s netball team had plenty to smile about over the weekend, claiming a memorable win in their first game in front of a home crowd. There was an extra buzz in the air as the youngest players took to the court, cheered on by an enthusiastic group of supporters — including their senior club heroes, who watched from the sidelines offering encouragement and support. The girls rose to the occasion, playing with energy, teamwork, and determination. Their excitement was contagious, and it was clear how much the moment meant to them. This is a very promising young team, showing noticeable improvement each week as their skills and confidence continue to grow. A fantastic performance in front of a proud home crowd — well done, girls!

Under 13s Show Grit in Tough Match-Up

The Under 13s netball team put in a courageous performance over the weekend in what proved to be a tightly contested and physical match. While they narrowly went down on the scoreboard, the team's development and determination were on full display. Facing a much taller and more physically dominant opposition, the girls stood their ground and played with heart from the first whistle to the final siren. Coaches and

spectators alike noted the clear signs of improvement, with training efforts translating into strong passages of play on the court. Despite the loss, this young team continues to show promise, with each week building their confidence, skills, and teamwork. A great effort all round - well done, girls!

Under 15s Celebrate Second Win at Home

The Under 15s netball team secured their second win of the season over the weekend — both victories proudly earned on home soil. This developing team, while still gaining experience, continues to impress with their growing confidence and commitment on court. The match saw the return of Ester, who made a strong comeback after injury and added valuable strength and composure to the team lineup. Despite their inexperience, the girls are showing increasing cohesion and resilience each week, with improved passing, defensive pressure, and teamwork all evident. It's a promising start to the season for this young side, and supporters can look forward to seeing more strong performances as the team continues to grow. Well done, Under 15s!

Under 17s Adapt and Overcome for a Strong Win

The Under 17s netball team showed impressive adaptability and determination over the weekend, securing a well-earned win despite being two key defenders down. With several players stepping into unfamiliar positions within this team, the team demonstrated great versatility and teamwork. The mid-court and attacking units rose to the challenge, adjusting quickly and working hard to cover the gaps left by their missing teammates. It was a true team effort, with players supporting one another and executing their roles with focus and resilience. The result is a testament to the team's depth and growing maturity on the court. A great win under testing circumstances — well done to the Under 17s for stepping up and getting the job done!

The Winchelsea Under 19s took on North Geelong in a tightly contested match, going down in a defensive battle. The team has been working hard to implement a strong, 100% start to each game, and while this focus showed early, lapses in fitness during the first two quarters proved costly. Each player brought a personal focus into the game, helping lift intensity and concentration. New recruit Caitlin was a standout through the middle, producing key intercepts and controlling the midcourt with poise beyond her experience. In defence, Kalarni Boddington held strong in the ring and pulled off some impressive turnovers, but despite the team's best efforts, they couldn't close the gap on North Geelong. With a tough match against Werribee ahead, the team is already focused on sharpening their preparation on the training track this week.

Rising Stars Alert! A huge congratulations to our three incredible netballers who are proudly representing GDFNL and Winchelsea Netball at the Central West Associations Netball Championships in Melbourne today! Lexi Czerniawski U15s, Millie Patridge and Reani Mawson U17. We're so proud of you - have an absolute blast out there!

U11's









Winchelsea Local Legend

Surf Coast Shire



Rhani Bayon with Cr Liz Pattison

COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD Describe your involvement and what you regard as your most important achievements.

When I moved to Winchelsea in 2022 I knew I wanted to be active in the community. I have tried to immerse myself in the town and all it has to offer. I have grown to value the variety of people and groups here. I am a people person. I enjoy meeting different people learning what they're passionate about. I enjoy trying to put people in touch with like-minded people or groups who share ideas and interests.

I am one of a handful of younger people in Growing Winchelsea, and am on several sub-committees. I listen to members of our community, Il walks of life, about what they're passionate about and what they want to see in our town. I represent what people want to the appropriate committees or groups.

I feel like I'm a throughway for ideas. A lot of people my age with young kids are commuting for work, so they don't have time to go to community meetings or speak up for things they care about. I'm passionate about helping people be heard, and actively trying to make things happen for our community. I'm a busy mum of two young boys myself. I'm grateful I can work part time and still squeeze in time for community meetings and volunteer groups. On Sunday mornings I volunteer at the Winchelsea Rescue Rangers Wildlife Shelter, which I love.

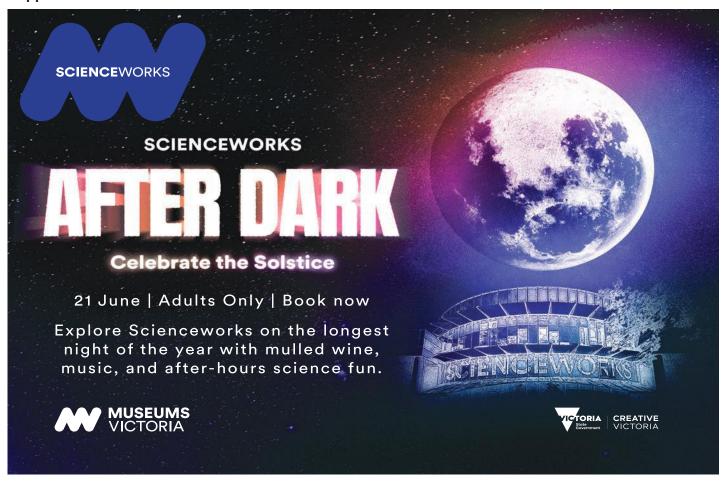
I feel my greatest achievement is being an ear to the community, listening and trying to create connections and make things happen. I'm certainly not the only one, but I think I'm one of the youngest, and newest who is doing it. My focus right now is advocating for the sustainable growth of Winchelsea, incorporating the different voices of our community members, and our wildlife and natural areas.

What motivates you?

I am an amateur naturalist. Moving to a smaller more rural town has been a goal of mine for years. I really value Winchelsea's natural spaces and I am motivated to play an active part in improving and protecting them as our town grows. I've moved a lot and lived in many different towns and suburbs, but moving to Winchelsea is the first time I've felt a real part of a community, not just living in a community. That sense of belonging is my biggest motivator.

What do you love about our community?

I have a background in natural resource management so I love our natural environment. We have such a variety of beautiful natural areas here in the shire. I love the plants and wildlife. There's a lot of special places here that are important to me. I also love the wonderful people and groups I've come to know and become a part of. For the most part, people on the Surf Coast are welcoming and kind.





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Winchelsea Tennis Club 21 Armytage St Winchelsea https://www.facebook.com/groups/770786371589798

Keep up with our Facebook page; https://jo.my/winchelseatennis

Sport & Exercise



Winchelsea Tennis Club

Fletcher Allen

Round Recap - FINAL ROUND

On Tuesday, our Winchelsea Ladies wrapped up their season in the Tennis Geelong Midweek comp, taking on the top dogs—Barwon Heads. Tough ask, but our girls were up for it!

On a freezing morning, Anna and Sue came out swinging with a slick 6-2 win. Meanwhile, Allison and Lesley gave it everything but lost a nail-biter in a 6-7 tiebreak. So close!

Things heated up (sadly not the weather) with Barwon Heads grabbing the next set 6-1, but Anna and Allison weren't having it—cruising to a 6-2 win to even it up.

Two sets all. Game on.

It all came down to the final sets of the season. Anna and Lesley fought tooth and nail but went down 5-7. On the other court, Allison and Sue battled hard but lost 4-6. Final score: 2 sets to 4, just 2 games shy at 28-30.

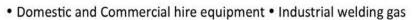
While the scoreboard didn't go our way, the ladies finish a proud 5th—just missing finals. They're now taking a well-earned winter break (hot choccies and all), but don't worry—they'll be back in summer, ready to swing big again. Congrats to this champion Winchelsea Team!











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Accounts NDIS provider. TAC, DVA etc

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Winchelsea Golf Club



Rachel Boddington

RESULTS

MENS Mid Week - Weekly Stableford 14/5/25 16 Players

1st - Stephen Harvey (28) 38 points 2nd - Geoff Morgan (20) 37points NTP (6th/15th) - Stephen Harvey Birdy Hole (9th) - Neil Hickman

Register for competition or social play on Bookatee.

WOMEN'S Mid Week - Stroke Competition 14/5/25 1st RD Silverspoon & Putting comp

Winner: Elizabeth Alston 93-21-72

On a count back

R/Up Lesley Mathison 110-38-72

Puts: Tara Steward 29 on CB from Lesley Mathison.

MENS Mid Week - Weekly Stableford 21/5/25 21 Players

1st - David "Fly" Lewis (22) 39 points 2nd - Doug McLennan (23) 38 points 3rd - Bill Spencer (17) 36 points NTP (6th/15th) - David "Fly" Lewis

LADIES Mid Week - Stableford Competition 21/5/25 ~ 2nd RD Jess Budge Trophy ~

Winner: Elizabeth Alston 37 pts R/Up: Sue Cuthbert 32 pts

MENS Saturday 24/5/25 - Stableford 12 Players

1st - Evan Partridge (20) 35 points 2nd - Neil Hickman (10) 33 points NTP (8th/17th) David Harvey Golden Hole - (11th) - Jackpot



Corangamite Vets at Birregurra

A huge congratulations to Tara Steward for taking out the B Grade at the Corangamite Vets at Birregurra on Tuesday and Elizabeth Alston with Runner up, great effort!



Durbridge-Bate Challenge Bowl at Lara By Robyn Vesey

Winch ladies played in the Durbridge-Bate Challenge Bowl at Lara on Monday and bought the silverware home with them.

The team consisted of Di Bartel with a great 40 pts, Carol Stanesby with another great score of 41 pts and Robyn Vesey with 36 pts. Di won B Grade individual Score with Carol taking out the C Grade. A great team effort. Our neighbours BEEAC where going for back to back wins but managed runner ups, they had a combined score of 108 so our girls had blitz the field.

A bit of history. This was the 4th time Winch have won the cup with some great names of the past.

The other wins were 1984, 1991 and 1994. Marg Avon played in the 3 wins with Jess Budge and Nola Worland participating in 2 wins, should be noted Nola had 44 points in the 94 win and the remaining team members were Mardi Banham and Pat Lloyd. Some very handy players in that group.

Carol also came home with a raffle prize also sitting on the lucky seat along with Robyn so their hands were full working out the door.

Golf Club Working Bee

Our Golf Club working bee was held Saturday before the competition and we had a great turn out! Thanks to all who turned up to help present our best course for the upcoming Open Week.

~ WINCHELSEA GOLF CLUB 68TH ANNUAL OPEN WEEK ~

Our Ambrose event on Friday 30th May is full.
Other events are filling up quickly.
Get your entries in now

If you're looking for entry forms to our open, head to our website at winchelseagolf.com.au



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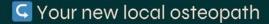




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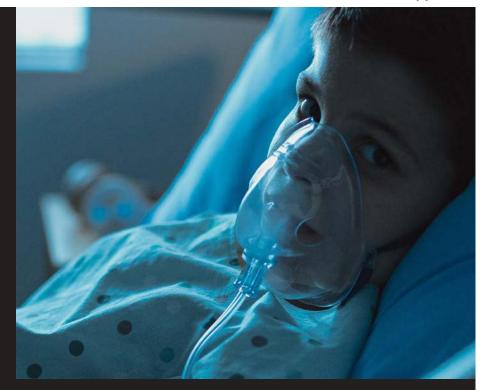
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> > **Bendigo Bank** 11 Main Street

Globe Theatre (Side entrance) 17 Willis Steet

> **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 St.

Winchelsea Cemetery McConachy St

Winchelsea Golf Club 13 Anderson Street

Winchelsea Primary School Main Street

Wurdale Memorial Hall 220 Wurdale Road

