



Junior Footy Netball Sign Up Day

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Junior Sign Up Day Brings Community Together

Sunday 15 February was a huge morning for our junior football and netball community, with families turning out in great numbers for the annual Junior Sign Up Day at the Winchelsea Football Netball Club.

It was hard to think about the winter season ahead with perfect blue skies and sunshine overhead, but the excitement for the months to come was clear. Families had the opportunity to meet coaches, connect with other players, and hear about the many exciting plans for the upcoming season.

A heartfelt thank you goes to the club committee and senior players who came along to support the next generation and help make the morning such a success.

The day would not have been possible without the support of local groups and businesses. The Lions Club of Winchelsea once again kept everyone well fed with their much-loved sausage sizzle. Thanks also to Shanley from Fun Farm 2 U, Sharon from Coffee with Amore, and The Athlete's Foot for their involvement and support.

It was a fantastic community morning and a great way to kick off preparations for the winter season.

If you were unable to attend, there is still plenty of time to register your children. Families are encouraged to reach out to the club for further information and to get involved.



COME & PLAY @ WINCHELSEA

• Net-Set-Go
Ages 5 - 10 years

• Under 10s
Born 2018

• Under 11s
Born 2017 - 2015

• Under 13s
Born 2014 - 2013

• Under 15s
Born 2012 - 2011

• Under 17s
Born 2010 - 2008

• Auskick
Ages 4 - 10 years

• Under 9s
Born 2017 - 2019

• Under 10s
Born 2016

• Under 12s
Born 2014 - 2015

Byron ph 0401170854

Shae ph 0409 641 550

New & existing players welcome!

BLUES
WINCHELSEA F.N.C.

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



Connection at the Heart of Community Health



By Hesse Rural Health

Staying socially connected plays an important role in keeping both our minds and bodies healthy, and it's something Hesse Rural Health continues to support across our local communities.

Friendships and social interaction don't just make life more enjoyable – they can also reduce loneliness, lower stress and even improve physical health. Feeling part of a community brings a sense of belonging and purpose, which is especially important for people who may be at risk of social isolation.

Hesse's Social Support Program continues to provide valuable opportunities for older adults and community members to stay connected.

The program runs across Winchelsea, Beeac, Inverleigh, Bannockburn and Rokewood, with participants embracing the chance to meet new people and enjoy time together.

A range of in-house activities are offered, giving participants the chance to enjoy entertainment, build friendships and share freshly prepared, home-style meals in a relaxed and welcoming setting. The program also includes regular outings to local attractions, parks, cafés and events – offering enjoyable ways for people to stay active and engaged with the wider community.

Group exercise has also become an unexpected social highlight. While many join for the physical benefits, the shared

experience often builds strong connections and a sense of camaraderie. In July 2025 a new walking group launched in Teesdale, joining existing groups in Bannockburn, Winchelsea, Beeac and Rokewood. Run in partnership with the Heart Foundation, the Teesdale group meets at Don Wallace Reserve, where walkers can enjoy the natural surrounds – including kangaroos and native plant life – while improving their health and wellbeing.

Social connection is also at the heart of the Winchelsea Community Foodbank. Beyond providing access to food, the foodbank has become a welcoming space for people to gather, often arriving early to share a cup of tea or coffee and a chat. Volunteers, too, say they gain a strong sense of purpose from helping others.

The relationships formed through the foodbank – and strengthened through the food literacy program – are extending beyond the service itself, with participants supporting one another and becoming more involved in community life.

Through programs like these, Hesse Rural Health continues to help reduce social isolation while building a more connected, supportive and resilient community.

If you'd like to know more about eligibility in joining a Hesse social support group or one of the exercise groups, contact (03) 5267 1200 or email communityintake@hesse.vic.gov.au

Country and Waters

SURF COAST SHIRE COUNCIL E-NEWS

SUBSCRIBE HERE



Want to know what's happening across the shire?

From local legends and events to Council decisions and engagement opportunities, our monthly electronic newsletter is the best way to stay across Council news.

Subscribe at news.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/cw-subscribe.

surfcoast.vic.gov.au





WINCHELSEA LIONS CLUB
In conjunction with
Winchelsea Primary School
Are holding a
FREE PICNIC
At Winchelsea Primary School Grounds
SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2026
12 - 3PM
For all children under 12 who reside in 3241
Must be accompanied by a responsible adult
This is a free picnic but you must have a ticket to receive your food
Enquiries: Alan 0476 475 422
CHUCK WAGON COFFEE VAN
FOR TICKET BOOKINGS go to - www.trybooking.com/DIAZC



Have you thought about joining the local Movie Club?
Winchelsea Movie Club enters its ninth year of bringing affordable, entertaining movies monthly to the Globe theatre.

Membership is essential -
10 screenings annually - \$70 Conc \$65
5 screenings Autumn /Spring seasons - \$40 Conc \$35

WHEN -
Movies will be shown third Thursday of each month (except July) at 7.30
Come early.

WHERE -
The Globe Theatre
17-19 Willis Street Winchelsea
Opp Winchelsea Tavern (Top Pub)

Movie List for 2026	
19.2.2026	The Castle
19.3.2026	Tina
16.4.2026	One Life
21.5.2026	Roofman
18.6.2026	Gifted Hands
BREAK	
20.8.2026	Rachael's Farm
17.9.2026	The Book Thief
15.10.2026	Mr Burton
19.11.2026	My Favorite Cake
10.12.26	Thelma

Membership can be paid by CASH on the first night February 19th or by direct debit to bank account.
Enquiries re bank account details to email - movies@growingwinchelsea.com
Jenny 0409672054 Sue 0413487915
Further information about the Movie Club - www.growingwinchelsea.com



YOU ARE INVITED TO
WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY DINNERS
LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
February 28th July 25th
March 28th August 29th
April 25th September 26th
May 30th October 24th
June 27th November 28th
6.30PM HALL ON CORNER OF MERCER & HARDING STREETS
PRODUCE SWAP TABLE CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES
PLEASE BRING FOOD TO SHARE IF YOU ARE ABLE GOLD COIN DONATION AT DOOR MORE INFO- JESS 0409536752



Come support two teams as they shear, spin and knit a jumper in the fastest time.

Watch a woolly jumper materialise in front of your eyes!

Saturday 21 March

8:00am to late

Tarndwarncoort Homestead
5459 Princes Hwy, Warncoort, Victoria

Food. Yarn. Market Stalls. Demonstrations. Bar. Hands-on activities.

Gold coin entry.
www.tarndie.com
Phone 0480 080 248

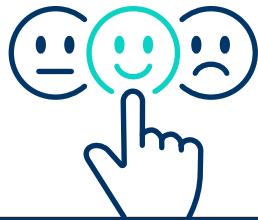


**TARND
WARN
COORT.**

Raising funds for:
rare cancers
Australia



Community Satisfaction Survey On now



You may be contacted by an independent researcher during February/March as part of the 2026 Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

The annual survey, commissioned by the state government, will ask for your perceptions of Council's performance.

Interviews are via phone and online. You'll be asked for basic demographic information, but not personal details such as name and address.

For more information please call 5261 0600.



Slow Clothing Made Fast

Tarndwarncoort Homestead will host two teams in the International Back to Back Wool Challenge on Saturday 21 March.

In a race against the clock, the teams of 7 spinners and knitters plus a blade shearer, will transform wool directly from the sheep's back into a jumper for person's back.

The Guinness World Record to complete the set pattern jumper is held by a Dutch/German team in 4 hours 55 minutes.

This will be the 30th challenge since Birregurra local Wendy Dennis set up the event in 1994.

Public are encouraged to come to Tarndwarncoort to support the teams and enjoy a market, food, bar and handmaking and blade shearing demonstrations

Raising funds for Rare Cancers Australia. All the event information at tarndie.com/tarndie-back-to-back-2026



Black Dog Institute

A Refreshed Walk To Work Day Puts Mental Health In Focus Save The Date: Friday 27 March 2026

The Pedestrian Council of Australia has today announced a new look Walk to Work Day campaign, turning the spotlight on the irrefutable benefits of walking regularly for better mental health.

Now taking place at the start of the year, Walk to Work Day supporting Black Dog Institute will bring a refreshed focus to the national initiative, with the Pedestrian Council of Australia CEO Harold Scruby saying the partnership was a natural fit and an exciting evolution for the campaign.

"We are thrilled to partner with Black Dog Institute. Given the benefits a simple walk can have on mental health issues like anxiety, depression and stress – we hope this simple reminder will go a long way in getting Australia's working population to walk more, not just on Walk to Work Day, but every day," he said.

The latest research from Black Dog Institute highlights the scale of the challenge facing Australian workplaces, with mental illness estimated to cost businesses more than \$39 billion each year through lost productivity, absenteeism and staff turnover. Around one in five Australians experience a mental illness each year, yet almost half will not seek professional help.

Black Dog Institute Fundraising Director, Laura Edwards, said that regular physical activity has been shown to play a powerful role in supporting mental health.

"Engaging in exercise has been shown to significantly reduce symptoms of depression, including major depressive disorder, with studies finding that walking for an hour a day can reduce the risk of major depression by up to 26 per cent. This is because exercise promotes positive changes in the brain, including neural growth, reduced inflammation and new activity patterns that support calm, focus and overall wellbeing," Laura said.

For people looking to improve their mental health, walking can be a simple, accessible and low-cost way to support mental wellbeing as part of everyday life.

Walk to Work Day supporting Black Dog Institute encourages working Australians to get involved in two ways: by getting started straight away and building simple walking habits in the lead-up to the event, walking more often, forming teams and fundraising between now and Walk to Work Day to support better mental health outcomes, and/or by taking part on the day itself on Friday 27 March, through group walks, walking meetings or encouraging staff to walk to and from work, with the option to fundraise on the day. More information, including how to fundraise, is available at www.walk.com.au.



Yoga Immersion

by Rhani Bayon,
Venue & Publicity Administrator
Winchelsea Shire Hall, Winchelsea
Community House

Lisa Grace led a wonderful two hour 'Heart Opening' Yoga Immersion on Saturday the 7th of February in the Shire Hall. A truly beautiful experience. The workshop was offered for free and showcased Lisa's nurturing energy and gentle yet powerful guidance through Yoga practice. The workshop combined Pranayama (breath work), Vinyasa, Yin and Nidra (Meditation) Yoga styles with a focus on opening the heart within and without.

The immersion came to an end with the sanskrit mantra 'Lokah samastah sukhino bhavantu' which means 'May all beings everywhere be happy and free and may the thoughts, words and actions of my own life contribute to that happiness and freedom for all'



Watch this space for more upcoming yoga workshops or come and experience one of Lisa's Yoga flow classes Wednesday evenings at 6.30pm in the Shire hall.

You can follow Lisa on Facebook at 'Grace - Yoga and Belly Dance'

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	Start	End
SURF COAST	24/11/2025	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>



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No fuss here - just simple and effective
musculoskeletal treatments with a relaxed approach.



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**WINCHELSEA
BOWLS CLUB**

0417 114 617

www.kalemazurek.com
osteo@kalemazurek.com

Thurs 10:15 am - 8:00 pm

Sat 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

32-34 Main Street, Winchelsea





Zinaida Campion

Columnist's thoughts:

Community hymn singing, and particularly this hymn program, has such an emotional, spiritual, and personal impact. I have been many times to Victoria's St Leonard's group, and can vouch for the quality! Please try!

On a more personal note, I have worked with Victoria since her return to Australia, in our classical duo, Cecilia's Daughters. She has been a colossal inspiration and guide to me both artistically and personally, and the sounding board I bounce all my ideas for the future of the arts in our region off.

Like family to me, she will be familiar to many of you, from our June 2024 Cecilia's Daughters recital at Barwon Park. Be inspired!

Ciao!

Hymns: Greater Than The Sum Of Their Parts [Part One]

By Victoria Hay

Note: a longer version of this article was published in Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) Victoria newsletter.

What's going on with hymns? Why do people enjoy singing them so much?

At the beginning of the covid pandemic, I was Director of Music for the parish of St John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, in London. When lockdown was looking like a possibility, the parish assured me that they would continue to pay me, no matter what. This was a truly Christian gesture of kindness and caring at a time of great uncertainty and came just before I lost all of my other income overnight when we did eventually go into lockdown. Being the sort of person that I am, I didn't immediately perceive this to be an opportunity to binge-watch Netflix whilst knitting and doing yoga but felt that I wanted to do something to earn my keep. 'What should that be?' I wondered. Having assessed my skill-set and available resources I pondered what I could contribute to the parish's collective spiritual and emotional well-being in this time of crisis, and the answer came, 'hymn singing'.

My job has always involved playing lots of hymns lots of times but the pandemic gave me an opportunity to stop and think a bit more deeply about what I was doing. The first thing I did for the parish

was to set up a Zoom hymn-singing group. All the churches were closed and collective worship in person had stopped but I knew that singing the familiar hymns of Lent – and later, Easter – would bring people a degree of comfort and normality. I was sure that the correct approach would be for me to play the hymns for everyone while they turned off their mics and sang at home. That was my first mistake. People didn't just want to sing hymns, they wanted to do it together. I took this on board and although I felt it had a pretty detrimental effect on the quality of my product, it was a sacrifice well worth making, as the result was a dynamic and joyful connectedness within the group.

My next mistake was to assume that this activity was all about hymns or music or worship or something, whereas it quickly became apparent to me that it was really about being together and doing together; so a bit of chit-chat, as we were outside the normal structure of liturgy, naturally became part of the session. Inevitably, some of what we talked about was hymns, sharing likes and dislikes and discussing why, what, where, when and who.

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

My next innovation, therefore, was to invite a participant to prepare a short presentation on one of the hymns chosen for the session. This might be about the text or the music, the poet, composer, translator or librettist, the context or history of the hymn, or a more personal reflection. I found this absolutely fascinating; it broadened my knowledge and appreciation of hymns more than I could ever have imagined and showed me how much they meant to others too.

HYMNS: GREATER THAN THE SUM OF THEIR PARTS [PART TWO] will be published next week



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.



Rain At Last!

by Julia Holohan

What delight to have a nice down pour of rain for the garden last Wednesday.

Everything looked happy; veggies, garden plants, fruit & garden trees, even the leaves, blades of grass and the soil. All nicely refreshed and clean after having the past few months of heat which dried & burnt their leaves and the fine gravel road dust that covers everything was removed with the last of the rain drops dripping from the leaves. They are now ready for another burst of growth and fruit bearing. And we're ready to pick their offerings to enjoy eating them and preserve any excess.

Our tomatoes seemed to struggle from seeds sprouting in punnets then to seedlings in tubes. But, once in the ground, with the warming spring, the gentle early summer sun and sufficient rain, they burst forth, spreading their roots and growing in height without the confines of punnet or tube.

Then, the intense heat and lack of rainfall over summer burnt them & sadly set them back. They stoically have produced some tomatoes, still green, & we may not get a bumper crop, but we can now hopefully be picking those luscious red ones soon.

It wasn't to be "T" tomato month for us in January but we are looking forward to "T" tomato month in February. I can't wait to try Alice's tomato recipes. We've had a few cucumbers and I loved adding the cumin in Alice's raita recipe. I've made tzatziki but it doesn't have the cumin.

The zucchinis were quick to produce and we've managed to pick them small and have marvelled at ourselves for not allowing any monsters to grow this season! But, without the tomatoes we haven't been able to enjoy a zucchini, garlic & tomato cook up, fingers crossed we'll be there soon.

We water our gardens by hand held hose and watering cans for potplants, the delicate seedlings and freshly planted seeds.

We're on tank water for home and garden. We need to be diligent so we don't run out of water. This often happened when our kids were teenagers, the garden suffered then!

During any drought years we would use the washing machine's rinse water and keep a bucket in the shower to collect water for the garden.

Now, with only the two of us, it's a lot easier. We still need to be careful, thus we find hand watering best.

Paul is the master waterer.

The veggies are watered every second day. Individually they get about 10 to 20 seconds worth of hose water.

The fruit trees, once a week. Like Peter in his article last week, Paul will leave the hose dribbling a "generous for us" amount of water at the base of the trunk. Taking his time each tree will get its ration. They are all well mulched with straw and manure on top so this watering will also give them some nourishment as well as hydration during the hot, dry rainless months.

The Everbearer raspberries are receiving this weekly watering too. The Everbearer are an autumn fruiting raspberry. Some say they aren't as delicious as they're spring fruiting relative but I don't agree and I love being able to be eating fresh raspberries in the autumn.

The garden plants are mostly natives. We are in the habit of buying and planting any new ones in the autumn, we feel there will be enough warmth and rainfall to start them off and have them established & settled by the summer. Then only the new autumn plants that may still be struggling will get a weekly water, the others, an occasional water only if needed.

We try to maintain all our garden areas to a size we can water manage them. It's a strict but loving watering regime for a garden that we get such enjoyment from.



Winchelsea Primary School

Welcoming Prep Families for 2027



Principal Tours for Families

8:45am at the school - please RSVP by phone or email

Families encouraged to come to one tour listed below

Tuesday, March 3rd

Monday, March 30th

Thursday, May 7th

Wednesday, May 27th

Friday, June 5th



Come 'n' Play Evenings for Families & Students

5pm-6pm at the school - no RSVP required

An opportunity for your child to come into our school and familiarise themselves with our classroom and staff

Families and students welcome to attend all of these sessions

Wednesday, February 18th

Tuesday, May 5th

Monday, August 3rd

Contact Bron & Jen in our office - we look forward to hearing from you!

winchelsea.ps@education.vic.gov.au
(03) 5267 2134

Enquiries welcomed from 27th Jan
Enrolment applications from 20th Apr

Winchelsea Primary School



Trivia Night

Save the Date

FRIDAY, 27TH
MARCH FROM 7PM

TICKETS GO ON
SALE FROM 23RD
FEBRUARY



VENUE TO BE
CONFIRMED

ALL FUNDS GOING
TOWARDS EXTRA
LIBRARY AND
READING TEXTS FOR
STUDENTS

\$30 PER HEAD

Car Boot sale \$20 /space

Suitcase full \$15

St Thomas Anglican Church Winchelsea

7th March 2026

Start time

900am- 3pm

33 Barwon Terrace Winchelsea



Book Fair



Sausage Sizzle



Devonshire Tea

To book a site for Car Boot or Suitcase space

Contact Judy Staples 0468415886





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
RE-LOVED MARKET
SUNDAY 19TH OF APRIL
9.30AM - 1.30PM

**PRE-LOVED CLOTHING,
HOMEWARES, ANTIQUES,
BOOKS, COLLECTABLES.**

Do you want to sell your Pre-Loved, Recycled or repurposed clothing or homewares? Book a stall by emailing shirehall@winchhouse.org.au or scan the QR code.

Yoga & Mat Pilates in the Shire Hall



Mat Pilates 6.45pm Tuesdays

Plates original style, on the Mat. Guided movement that supports strength and postural alignment, with a strong focus on building core, balance and flexibility. Move with intention, build resilience, and feel stronger in your body.

Wednesdays Yoga Flow 6.30pm

Inclusive, all levels of experience are welcome and encouraged. You will not be limited by age, shape or by being a beginner. Lisa invites you to unlock the ancient wisdom stored in your being. Build strength, clarity and bliss as you move through a dynamic whole body experience. Expect a playful, powerful class that leaves you feeling refreshed.

Thursdays Vinyasa Yoga 7pm

Kate offers dynamic vinyasa-style class with a strong focus on core strength and balance building. Each session weaves together pranayama (breathwork), meditation, yoga philosophy, and mindful movement. Students can expect to enhance their practice in every class and deepen their connection to yoga.

Casual Class: \$25 or 5 Class Pass: \$100

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



CHATTY CAFÉ

Friday's 10.30am – 12.30pm from Feb 16th.

"Sip, Chat, Share, Care"

Winchelsea Shire Hall.

Everyone Welcome, Gold coin donation.



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 Tai Chi](https://www.facebook.com/WinchelseaTaiChi)

Craft & Crochet Group

\$5 per person.

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

Next session: Saturday 21st Feb

reception@winchhouse.org.au

Phonics with

Robot Reg

Fridays 9.30am

Pre-School – 5 years

'A Fun, high energy class to introduce and teach phonics skills to kids'

Bookings at robotreg.com.au



history of winchelsea

Winchelsea Shire Hall

The Winchelsea Shire Hall is probably the most iconic building in Winchelsea's Heritage Streetscape.

The Winchelsea and District Roads Board was formed on 9 November 1860 and was the first form of local government for the Shire. The original building was completed in 1867. Winchelsea was the administrative centre of the Shire of Winchelsea, which was proclaimed in 1864, and which continued until 9 March 1994 when it was amalgamated with the Shire of Barrabool to become the Surf Coast Shire. The Winchelsea Shire Council met in the Bottom pub from its foundation on 27 May, 1864 until the construction of the original purpose-built Shire Hall in 1867. Names of early councillors such as Austin, Mathieson, Anderson, Hopkins, Stirling, Plant, Prime, and Clark will be familiar to many locals, and many have descendants still living in the town.

The first Shire Hall was built in 1866 to a design by Henry Robert Bastow, member of the Plymouth Brethren and later Head of the architectural branch of the Victorian Education Department. It was demolished in 1907 when the existing Shire Hall was constructed to a design by Seeley and King of Geelong. Thomas Seeley was a member of the Independent Order of Rechabites and it may have been through friendly society associations that Bastow in 1866 and Seeley in 1907 were awarded their commissions to design these buildings. Both architects were not known for their civic architecture.

The Shire Hall hosted local civic and community events and celebrations. These included Council meetings, visits by Governors and dignitaries, exhibitions and weddings. One example of these was an event in the shire hall on Friday 18 September 1885, where about forty of the residents of the township held a farewell to Miss Davis, the popular post and telegraph mistress, who had been promoted to the charge of similar offices at Rushworth. A concert was held in the Shire Hall with a programme of dances and supper. Speeches and gifts were presented by Mr. William Stirling, J-P. The pianoforte accompaniments to the vocalists and the spirited dance music during the evening, were performed by Mr W. D. Goodall, of Geelong. Miss Davis was presented with an album of photographs of those who took part in the gathering. Over the years tenders for civic works such as road and bridge works were advertised through local newspapers and applications were delivered in person to the shire hall by prospective tradespeople.

The existing imposing Federation Free style bluestone Shire Hall building at 28 Hesse Street, which we enjoy in the main street of town was rebuilt 1907. The palm, elm and ash trees on the site and the bluestone war memorial planter at the front also contribute to the significance of the place.

On 6 May 1919, part of the shire was annexed to the then new Shire of Otway, and on 31 May 1927, parts were annexed to



the Shire of Barrabool. On 1 April 1989, Winchelsea annexed parts of the Shire of Barrabool, and was re-subdivided into three ridings. On 9 March 1994, the Shire of Winchelsea was abolished, and along with parts of the City of South Barwon and the Shire of Barrabool, was merged into the newly created Surf Coast Shire. During the Shire of Winchelsea years, the Shire Hall was used for court cases and meetings of local government. At its zenith, the Shire of Winchelsea included Armytage, Bambra, Barwon Downs, Benwerrin, Birregurra, Boonah, Buckley, Deans Marsh, Fairholme, Lorne, Murroon, Ombersley, Pennyroyal, Ricketts Marsh, Ripplevale, Wensleydale, Whoorel, Winchelsea, Wurdiboluc and Yan Yan Gurt.

Refurbished in 2022, to its beautiful glory, Winchelsea Shire Hall is a community space for meetings, parties, events and more. Today it is an important community hub and a precious public asset to the Winchelsea community.



Mícheál P O'Dhonnabháin has lived in the Winchelsea area since 2010.

Michael completed a Bachelor in History and Anthropology and a Master of Cultural Heritage at Deakin University, then went on to complete a PhD at Federation University, focusing on colonial and European collections of Indigenous Australian Cultural Heritage. Michael lectured at Federation and Monash Universities, lecturing in World History, Folklore Studies, Indigenous Studies and literary studies. Michael has worked in museums and cultural collections across Victoria, and can usually be seen in and about Winchelsea with his wolfhound.



Surf Coast Business Collective

Business Concierge in Winchelsea

Book the Business Concierge

Got a business idea, need guidance on starting out, or unsure which permits you need?

Surf Coast Shire Council's Business Concierge will be in Winchelsea on Monday 23 March offering free 25-minute sessions for local business owners.

Winchelsea Shire Hall, 28 Hesse St, 8.30am–2pm.

Book ahead or simply drop in for a chat about your business questions.

Build Your Business Skills: Upcoming Workshops & Support

From Clicks to Customers – Optimise Your eCommerce Business

Online retailers can join a hands-on workshop focused on turning website traffic into sales. Participants will learn how to set up Google and Meta Shops, track conversions, create short-form video, plan sales campaigns and boost email marketing.

Torquay – Tues 3 March, 9.30am–12.15pm, Surf Coast Shire Council Offices

Runway HQ Regional Incubator Bootcamp

Aspiring and early-stage founders can take part in a one-day bootcamp designed to refine ideas, understand customer needs and connect with mentors. The workshop also offers a pathway into the full Runway Incubator Program.

Torquay – Fri 13 Feb, 10am–3pm, Surf Coast Shire Council Offices

Free to attend (refundable \$10 booking fee), lunch included.

ATO Small Business Support Webinars

The ATO is offering free online masterclasses covering topics such as business planning, finances, GST, cash flow and paying workers. With more than 30 short online courses and the chance to speak directly with experienced tax officers, the series is ideal for anyone wanting more confidence in managing their business.

The first session, Starting a Small Business, runs on Thurs 12 Feb, 1–2pm, with more topics to follow.

Starting Your Small Business Workshop

New and early-stage business owners can build a strong foundation at this practical session covering business goals, name registration, choosing a location or online presence, insurance essentials and creating a simple action plan. Networking and light refreshments included.

Torquay – Wed 18 March, 9am–12pm, KMCC, 12 Merrijig Drive



Creative Development Grant Program

The Surf Coast Shire's Creative Development Grant supports local artists and creative professionals to test ideas, develop early-stage work and grow their practice.

Eligible applicants can apply for up to \$3,000 as an individual or up to \$5,000 as a group or collective.

To help shape project ideas, the Arts Team is hosting drop-in sessions this month:

Winchelsea: Wed 11 Feb, 11am–1pm

Lorne: Wed 18 Feb, 2–4pm

Torquay: Wed 25 Feb, 2–4pm





New Committee. Fresh Approach.

Growing Winchelsea Inc is entering an exciting new chapter, with a new committee stepping in and a renewed focus on connection, conversation, and community led ideas.

An Open Invitation to Get Involved.

This year marks a deliberate shift in how Growing Winchelsea operates. The new committee is moving toward a more relaxed and welcoming format that prioritises networking, listening, and the sharing of ideas. The aim is simple. To create a space where people feel comfortable turning up, having a conversation, and contributing in ways that suit them, whether that is through big picture thinking, practical suggestions, or simply being part of the discussion.

This refreshed approach comes at a crucial time for Winchelsea. Members of Growing Winchelsea Inc have been actively involved in the Surf Coast Shire Council workshops that are shaping the *Winchelsea Place Plan*. Through an expression of interest process, 29 local community and business members were selected to take part. Together, they have helped shape a shared vision for Winchelsea as it grows toward an expected population of 18,500 people by 2050.

The draft Place Plan sets out what matters most to the Winchelsea community and is guided by seven key principles to support thoughtful and sustainable growth. It also recognises that the success of the plan relies on partnership, with Council and the community sharing responsibility for turning ideas into action.

Looking ahead, the final Place Plan will inform a new Winchelsea Structure Plan in 2026. Growing Winchelsea Inc is committed to working alongside both processes, advocating for local priorities and ensuring community voices continue to be heard as decisions are made about the town's future.

Now is the perfect time to get involved.

This is a pivotal and exciting time for Winchelsea. If you would like to be involved, share your ideas and suggestions, make a commitment to shaping Winchelsea's future, or simply

enjoy being part of a proactive and positive community, Growing Winchelsea welcomes your interest and input. **Let us know by sending an email with your interest to:**

secretary@growingwinchelsea.com

Growing Winchelsea Inc will hold its first meeting of the year at the historical Winchelsea Railway Station on **Wednesday 25 February, 6.30pm – 7.30pm**.

Come along and learn about the current planting and seating project as well as future ideas. The meeting will follow the final Place Plan session and will set the direction and tone for the year ahead.

Everyone is welcome. Be comfortable, bring a chair. Come along, meet your community advocacy group, and be part of what comes next.





The Climate Report

Compiled by Judy Cameron

More Than Polar Bears and Penguins: Why Polar Warming Is Everyone's Problem

By Gregory Andrews* [edited and reproduced with permission]

For the full story see <https://www.lyrebirddreaming.com/blog>

Christmas Day in Iceland set a new temperature record of 19.8°C, extraordinarily warm for winter and a marker of how far “normal” has drifted.. When reflective ice gives way to dark ocean, the water absorbs more solar energy, reinforcing warming and delaying refreezing.

Earth’s poles are becoming less reliable as buffers and climate regulators. That matters for at least three reasons.

First, sea-level rise. Melting of glaciers and the Greenland Ice Sheet is a major contributor to global sea-level rise. For Australia, this translates into higher and more frequent coastal flooding, faster erosion, saltwater intrusion into wetlands and aquifers, and rising insurance and infrastructure costs for coastal communities.

Second, climate volatility. Here in Australia, a hotter, wetter global atmosphere increases the odds of sharper swings between extremes - more intense downpours and flooding in some periods, harsher heatwaves and fires in others. Disaster planning, agriculture, and water management are already becoming markedly harder.

Third, ecological and economic impacts. Practically, it means accelerating losses of ecosystem services that Aussies rely on - more coral bleaching on the Great Barrier Reef, collapsing fisheries, crop failures under heat stress, and higher costs for health systems and at the supermarket.

The implications reach well beyond the polar regions - into coastlines, food systems, infrastructure, and the basic assumption that winter will behave like winter.

*Gregory Andrews is the founder, owner and Managing Director of Lyrebird

Dreaming Pty Ltd. He represented Australia as an Ambassador and High Commissioner in West Africa, and as a diplomat in China, Japan and United Nations negotiations. He was Australia's first-appointed Threatened Species Commissioner.

Point of no return: a hellish ‘hothouse Earth’ getting closer, scientists say

Damian Carrington Environment editor, The Guardian

The world is closer than thought to a “point of no return” after which runaway global heating cannot be stopped, scientists have said.

At just 1.3C of global heating in recent years, extreme weather is already taking lives and destroying livelihoods across the globe. At 3-4C, “the economy and society will cease to function as we know it”, scientists said last week, but a hothouse Earth would be even more fiery.

It was difficult to predict when climate tipping points would be triggered, making precaution vital, said Dr Christopher Wolf, a scientist at Terrestrial Ecosystems Research Associates in the US. “It’s likely that global temperatures are [already] as warm as, or warmer than, at any point in the last 125,000 years and that climate change is advancing faster than many scientists predicted.”

Full story: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2026/feb/11/point-of-no-return-hothouse-earth-global-heating-climate-tipping-points?CMP=share_btn_url

Climate crisis linked to fall in southern right whale birth rates as researchers raise ‘warning signal’

By Petra Stock, The Guardian

After decades of recovery, southern right whales are showing signs of a climate-driven decline in breeding rates.

Instead of giving birth to a calf every three years, southern right whales have shifted to four-year or five-year cycles, says Dr Claire Charlton, a marine biologist.

Charlton, who leads the right whale program in the Great Australian Bight, says southern right whales are “magnificent animals” – “just the sheer size of them, and the fact that they live for 150 years”

“They feed in Antarctic and sub-Antarctic waters during our summer time and then migrate up to our coasts during winter,” she said. “The whales come every year to breed, mate, rest and socialise.”

The researchers said similar trends had been observed in southern right whale populations across South America and South Africa, with other krill-dependent predators also facing pressure from marine heatwaves and declining sea ice.

This was a “warning signal” about how climate change was affecting marine life, Charlton said

Southern rights were like “tractors of the ocean”, said Dr Peter Corkeron, a marine ecologist and adjunct senior research fellow at Griffith University. To feed, the whales would seek out dense patches of zooplankton and “go back and forth like they’re mowing the lawn”.

The change in calving intervals was a sign that conditions in the Antarctic and sub-Antarctic were not as good as they once were, he said.

“Anthropogenic climate disruption affects everything ... It’s just another message, if people choose to pay attention to it, that we’ve got to do something about this.”

Full story: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2026/feb/11/climate-crisis-southern-right-whale-birth-rates>

News Update

January 2026



Household water use is at its highest in summer, rising by up to 25% compared to winter.

This puts extra demand on our water storages, which have been impacted by a record-breaking dry period in the Barwon catchment, with Geelong storages ending 2025 at a 16-year low.

The six reservoirs that make up Geelong's system had a combined capacity of just 47.2% at the end of December. This is the lowest level at this time of year since 2009, when Geelong was in the grip of the Millennium Drought and battling severe water restrictions.

The long-running dry period has impacted catchments on both the Moorabool and Barwon rivers, and we've seen the lowest rainfall over a two-year period this century recorded at 3 key catchment areas – Bostock, West Barwon and Wurdee Boluc – across 2024 and 2025.

Our Geelong storages are currently at 41%.

A range of other water-saving programs and smart initiatives, including an uplift in the use of recycled water, are easing demand for drinking water supplies.

You can read more in our Annual Water Outlook which details how storages in our different water supply systems are tracking and how they handle various climate conditions.

Everyone has a role to play in saving water. Using water wisely in and around our homes plays an important role in helping conserve water supplies.

Small water-saving actions all add up. Simple things like shorter showers, turning off taps while brushing teeth, and watering the garden in the cool of the day, can help save water.

Permanent Water Saving Rules are in place across Victoria, to help us use water wisely outdoors. They include:

- only running sprinklers and watering systems between 6pm and 10am
- any hand-held hoses must be

leak-free and fitted with a trigger nozzle

- cleaning hard surfaces, such as driveways and decks, with a broom instead of a hose
- fountains and water features must recirculate water.

Please note, these rules are not applicable during an emergency such as the protection of people or property during a bushfire.

We also have a range of rebates and grants available for residential and business customers to help save water, including the new WaterSmart Home and Garden Rebate for residential customers.

From our 4-minute shower songs playlist through to grants, rebates, tips and guides, there are many ways you can save water and help secure your community's supplies.

Be a WaterSmart business and save money

We have rebates available to help local businesses improve water-efficiency and save money on their bills.

If you need to update an old commercial dishwasher, single flush toilet cistern, or purchase a pressure washer to help with cleaning, it's worth checking the list of water efficient products your business can claim a rebate for.

Eligible business owners can access rebates of up to \$1,500 to install water efficient products or replace inefficient fixtures and fittings to save water and save money on water bills.

Schools Ready For New Anaphylaxis Treatments For Students

The Victorian Government announced two new anaphylaxis treatment options will soon be available, including Australia's first needle-free adrenaline nasal spray, giving families and schools more choice when managing severe allergic reactions.

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapid and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction that requires immediate emergency treatment with adrenaline and can be triggered by insect stings and foods such as nuts, dairy and seafood.

Currently, two injection-based adrenaline treatment options, EpiPen and Anapen, are available in Victoria.

From 2026, two additional treatment options will be introduced - the Neffy adrenaline nasal spray device and the Jext adrenaline autoinjector, expanding the range of life-saving treatments available to families and schools.

Families wanting to learn more about the new anaphylaxis treatment options, including when they'll be available, should speak to their GP or visit the Allergy and Anaphylaxis Australia website.

To learn more about the anaphylaxis policy in schools, go to education.vic.gov.au/pal/anaphylaxis/policy.





Winchelsea Star

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

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

FOR SALE

Books – best offer in return for a donation to the Wurdale CFA will be the new owners!

Making Your Home Sustainable – A Guide to Retrofitting
The Ecological House – Sustainable Architecture Around the World
Earth Builder's Companion, compiled by John and Gerry Archer
Dirt Cheap – The Mud Brick Book by John and Gerry Archer
Build Your House of Earth – G.F. Middleton

For larger land holders:
The Complete Book of Self-Sufficiency – John Seymour
160 Alternative Farming Enterprises & Ideas – Greg Cahill

Contact Judy on 5288 7005 for more information

WINCHELSEA TENNIS CLUB

JUNIOR COACHING

Mon 3.30pm

with experienced Nicole Mullen \$10

WINCHELSEA PICKLEBALL

The Tennis Club runs Pickleball Wednesdays 7pm at the Winchelsea Leisure Time Centre! \$5 All equipment supplied Wear suitable footwear Lesley Mathison 0438 672 197

1ST MODEWARRE SCOUT GROUP

We have exciting programs for Joeys, Cubs & Scouts this year. We have a few vacancies at Joey & Cub levels, and plenty of room at Scouts. Group Leader Marie McPadden 0409 330 147

Winchelsea Star

This week's Edition
Editor Judy Cameron

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

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MEMBER 2026

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.

Vectors Freepik.com



Local people, connecting with their local waterway - FREE community event

Join Arthur Rylah Institute (ARI), Barwon Water and Corangamite CMA to learn how experts are monitoring fish and waterway health on the Barwon River at Winchelsea.

- ✓ ARI fish survey demonstrations
- ✓ Waterbug sampling with Corangamite CMA
- ✓ Learn to use iNaturalist to record local biodiversity
- ✓ Barwon Water update on local storages + water-saving tips

Tuesday 24 Feb
9:30-11:00am

Alternatively, register by email to
communications@ccma.vic.gov.au

For full details and registrations, use the QR code



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

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 MODDAWARRE SCOUT GROUP

Cub Scouts 6:30-8pm (school term)
Modewarre Hall, Cape Otway Rd,
Marie McPadden 0409330147

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 MODDAWARRE SCOUT GROUP

Joeys 5-6pm (School Term)
Scouts 6:30-8:30pm (School Term)
Marie McPadden 0409330147

WEDNESDAY

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
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

MEL'S DANCE CENTRAL

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

CWA WINCHELSEA

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



SES WINCHELSEA

7.30pm 132500
323 Mousley Dr, Winchelsea



GROWING WINCHELSEA

Winchelsea Railway Station
Wednesday 25 February,
6.30pm – 7.30pm.

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

WINCHELSEA PLAYGROUP

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

February 2026

What's On

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

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

CHATTY CAFÉ



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

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)

PAPER RECYCLING

Paper depot rear of
Senior Citizens
Rooms

Harding Street
NEWSPAPERS
MAGAZINES
PHONE BOOKS



All money raised used
for local community

4224 0226

SATURDAY

PARKRUN



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

DIAMOND DOT DAY

Resumes 7 February
Senior Citizens Centre,
36 Harding Street Winchelsea
10 till 4 \$5 entry, \$10 includes lunch
Tracey 0427500649

WINCHELSEA LIONS CLUB

IGA BBQs

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

WINCHELSEA LAND AND RIVERCARE

Citizen Scientists Working Bee

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

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



WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY MARKET

9-1pm, 1st Sunday monthly
CWA FUNDRAISER 1 FEB MARKET
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



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 Community Market

First Sunday on the Month (except November)

Shire Hall
9am to 1pm



Upcoming Dates:
Mar 1
Apr 5
May 3
Aug 2
Sep 6
Oct 4
Nov 8
Dec 6

Food, Produce, Coffee, Plants, Crafts
Homewares, Candles, Bags, Skincare
Jewellery, Soap + Baby Goods

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
Mass @ 6pm Sat. Jan. 17, 24, 31

St Thomas' Anglican Church

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

Thought of the Week

"Being righteous does not mean a life without struggles. The faithful still face setbacks, but they keep rising, because their strength comes from trusting God.

Each fall becomes a chance to grow, learn, and lean more on God. In contrast those without that foundation are easily overwhelmed when trouble comes and struggle to recover."

Have a Blessed week.
John Bader (Christian Pastoral Carer)



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WWW.MELSDANCECENTRAL.COM.AU

Catholic Parish Of Meredith Mass Times –March 2026

Winchelsea - St. John the Baptist
@ 6pm Sat. MAR. 7, 14, 21, 28

Meredith – St. Joseph
@ 9am MAR. 8, 22

Bannockburn – St. Mary MacKillop
@ 11am Sun. MAR. 1, 8, 15, 22,29

Inverleigh – Sacred Heart –
@ 4pm Sun. MAR. 15

Inverleigh CWA

Inverleigh CWA are a short 15min drive from Winchelsea. Our current members are aged 30-90. We are a social group and do a variety of activities.

We meet monthly last Wednesday of the month 7:30pm at the Inverleigh Presbyterian Church Hall (next to the primary school).

Dennis Waterfall Celebration of Life

The family would like to welcome you to raise a glass to Dennis
Have a drink and share a story

Location. Winchelsea Golf Club (his second home)

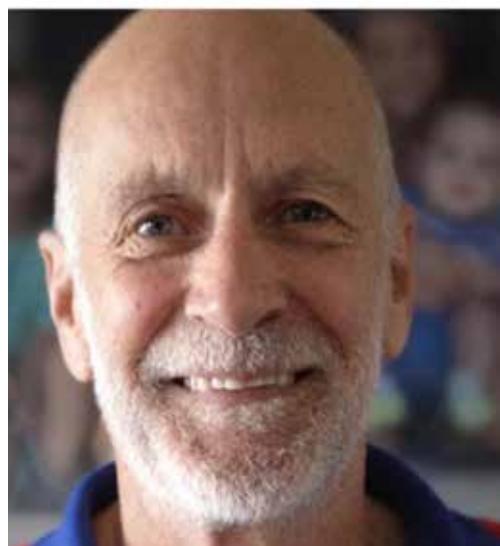
Date. 21 February

Time 4.00 pm

Nibbles provided

RSVP If possible on 0412 439 534

All welcome



Barraobol Hills Uniting Church Jumble Sale

Barraobol Hills Uniting Church is holding a Jumble Sale on Saturday 21st March, 2-4pm. Our aim is to raise funds for the restoration of our Church. The Barraobol Uniting Church has been here for 167 years, beginning as a Presbyterian Kirk, and once the stonework is repaired will be here for another 167 years. It is a huge part of Geelong's church history.

We have paid for a new slate roof and the next step is to replace much of the Barraobol Stone which has flaked away over the years and is now in dire need of massive repairs. So our attempts will be infinitesimal in the scheme of things, as we will only make a few hundred at a time, if that, but 'look after the cents and the dollars look after themselves'!



What's On at the MCN Shed?

Jan-April 2026

Men's Shed

Every Wednesday and Saturday - 9am-Midday (reopens Wed 7th Jan
Kindling and Wood Shavings - for sale

Different activities available - contact Kelvin 0414 484 673

Women's Shed

Every Friday - 10 am-Midday - Art Class (limited spaces)
Contact Jeanette 0408 466 122

BYO Craft and Chat 3rd Thursday of the month 7pm
Feb 19th, March 19th, April 16th - contact Kim 0414 482 893

Sustainability Group

'Swap and Share' produce, jars, books, almost anything!
Nothing to swap? No problem - gold coin donations welcome! 😊
4th Saturday of the month 11am-Midday

Feb 28th, March 28th, April 25th - contact Sarah 0407 400 593

Book Club

1st Wednesday of the month - 7.30pm
Feb 4th, March 4th, April 1st - contact Michaela 0418 370 469

MCN monthly meeting

4th Wednesday of the month (Feb-Nov)

7.30pm - Everyone welcome -

Feb (MCN AGM) 25th, March 25th, April 22nd - contact Kim 0414 482 893

Other events- more TBC

Thursday Feb 25th MCN AGM - yearly membership renewals due - \$40 -
a renewal form will be sent to all current members

Tuesday March 3rd - Women's Shed 'International Women's Day' 7 pm and art show. Cost TBC





- Driveways • Sheds • Decorative Concrete • Raft Slabs

Robert Murphy

0438 235 237

✉ winchelseaconcreting@outlook.com

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 <p>COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION</p> <p>7pm second Wednesday of month Winchelsea Senior Citizens' Hall 36 Harding Street Winchelsea</p>	<p>WINCHELSEA PLAYGROUP</p> <p>Every second Thursday 10am-12pm St Thomas Anglican Church Hall cnr Barwon Tce and Hopkins St, Winchelsea</p> <p>Contact: Danni Menzies 0432019944 winchelseaplaygroup@gmail.com Facebook - Winchelsea Playgroup 2019 New families welcome</p>	 <p>1ST MODDAWARRE SCOUT GROUP</p> <p>Modewarre Hall Joeys 5-8yo 5-6pm (school term) Scouts 11-14yo 6:30-8:30pm (school term) Venturers -15-18yo are hosted by Torquay or Highton Units</p> <p>Contact: Marie McPadden 0409330147</p>																																				
 <p>Winchelsea and District COMBINED PROBUS CLUB</p> <p>Senior Citizens Rooms, New members always welcome. Enquiries Lorraine 0417 467 927</p>	<p>WINCHELSEA TRANSFER STATION</p> <p>55 Cressy Road, Winchelsea</p> <table> <tr><td>Tuesday</td><td>2pm-4pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Saturday</td><td>1.30-3.30pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Thursday</td><td>2pm-4pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Sunday</td><td>9.30-12.30pm</td></tr> </table> <p>Closed Christmas Day, but open on other public holidays. www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/disposalsites</p>	Tuesday	2pm-4pm	Saturday	1.30-3.30pm	Thursday	2pm-4pm	Sunday	9.30-12.30pm	 <p>Join us. A role for everyone</p> <p>Nationally accredited training to help our community Pop in to meet your crew Wednesdays 7:30pm</p> <p>Winchelsea Unit 325 Moseley Drive 132 500</p>																												
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If you don't have a machine or an overlocker or if it's just too much trouble setting yours up at home come along on a Wednesday (school term) from 9.30am to 4pm and use the communities.

There are also large tables ideal for spreading out if you need to cut out a pattern or pin a quilt.

If this time doesn't suit ring the reception at Winch House (5267 2028) to make different arrangements.

This week the side seam was repaired on a well loved pair of work jeans saving the owner the discomfort of wearing in a new pair!



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Winchelsea Golf Club

Rachel Boddington

Results 11/2/26 - Mid Week/ Weekly Stableford

18 Players.

1st - Lachie Murphy (12) 34 points C/B
2nd - Neil Hickman (11) 34 points C/B
BDL - Peter Bath (26) 34 points C/B
BDL - Bill Spencer (14) 34 points C/B
BDL - Max Bubb (13) 33 points C/B
NTP (2nd/11th) - Peter Bath

Ladies results, Stroke, First Round Championships

Winner: Robyn Vesey 94-23-94

R/Up: Tara Steward 90-16-74

NTP: Tara Steward

After first round Tara is ahead by 4 shots.

Good luck to all for Round 2

Results Saturday 14/2/26 - 1st Round Club Championship & Stoke competition

27 Players.

1st - Max Bubb - 66 (13)
2nd - Tom Shaw - 67 (16) C/B
3rd - Denis Chappell - 67 (17) C/B
BDL - Greg Batson - 69 (27)
BDL - Stephen Cole - 70 (12)
BDL - Brent Kahle - 71 (6)
BDL - Don Cuttler - 72 (14)
NTP (6th/15th) - Jake Dowsett
Golden Hole (11th) - Tara Steward

Welcome to Jake and well done for winning Nearest to the Pin on your first competition day at WCG!

Men's Club Championships leaderboard after 1st round:

1st - Brent Kahle - 77

2nd - Max Bubb - 79

3rd - Stephen Cole - 82

Coming up:

Wednesday 18th February - Weekly Stableford & Ladies second round of Club Championships

Saturday 21st February - Second Round Club Championships

Next Saturday - 21st of February - We will be holding a Memorial for Dennis Waterfall. Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate the a life a man who never failed to put a smile on our faces. Join us at the club house from 4pm onwards. Nibbles provided.

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

Winchelsea Tennis Club

Fletcher Allen

Saturday Superstars – Round 13: Valentine's Day Edition

Love was in the air... and so was competition! Let's see how our two special teams went.

Section 7 Mixed

Down in Clifton Springs, Jo's husband made his Valentine's Day debut — how romantic! The team had a tough day, but there was plenty of fight.

Jo & Andrew battled hard but fell 5-7, before Josh & Dale spread the love with a 6-3 win.

Established in 1985, this small club includes:

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The ladies went down 2-6 and the men were donuted 0-6.

Dale & Andrew fell 1-6, but Josh & Jo finished strong with a 6-2 win.

Final Score: 2 sets to 4, 20 games to 30

MVP: Jo! Fighting for every game in every set — back-to-back MVPs!

Section 1 Mixed

Our underdogs were chasing a third straight win against Surfcoast — could love conquer all?

Fletcher & Emily fought back from 0-3 to 4-4 before going down 4-6, while Matt & Ange secured a smooth 6-3 win.

Courts are always available to have a hit on - so come down to Hesse St Reserve! For updates to the Club and competitions, information will be on this page and our Facebook page.

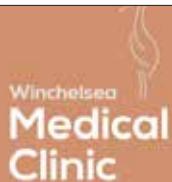
Emily & Ange were strong in the ladies 6-3, Matt & Fletch also got the clutch win 6-4.

Emily & Matt had another close one losing 4-6, before Fletcher & Ange sealed the day with a 6-4 win after a 4-4 comeback battle.

Final Score: 4 sets to 2, 32 games to 25

MVP: Ange! Winning all three sets with pure class and composure





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Winchelsea Bowls Club

Julie Johnson

The finals commenced on Tuesday 10th February with quite warm weather and not too much wind, however Saturday 14th was cooler with stronger blustery winds. As has been the custom all season a good turn out at practice on Thursday and great support for those playing on Saturday.

MIDWEEK RESULTS

Division 1 Winchelsea were def by Camperdown Magpies at Cressy, winning 1/3 rinks 67 shots to 75 shots. On Tuesday the 17th they will play Colac City in the Preliminary Final under the dome at Colac Lake from approximately 1.00-1-30 p.m. start. All Midweek finals have been set for under the Dome as the Corangamite Competitions Committee do not want to risk an uncompleted match due to heat or rain. Current weather forecast around 35 degrees with showers and thunderstorms particularly in the afternoon. Obviously, if it ends up a Total Fire Ban matches will be played the following week.

Division 3 Winchelsea def Colac City winning all rinks, 70 shots to 54 shots.

Congratulations and through to the Grand Final on the 24th February.

SATURDAY PENNANT

Division 1 A Winchelsea def Colac City under Dome winning 2/4 rinks, 96 shots to 92 shots. Congratulations and through to the Grand Final on the 28th February.

Division 4 Winchelsea were def by Colac at Cressy, first loss for the year. They won 2/3 rinks, 61 shots to 65 shots. Next week will play in the Preliminary Final at a venue to be decided.

Division 5 Winchelsea were def by Colac at Colac Central 30 shots to 41 shots. A wonderful season by primarily first year bowlers, well done everyone!

AROUND THE GREEN

The attendance at our Barefoot Bowls once again on Friday night was around 200. These are proving to be very successful with many having a go on the green and others just enjoying the entertainment, food and a beverage. Hopefully more good weather for this

coming Friday, all welcome.

Club events are slowly but surely being completed with many mixed pairs matches on the go at the moment.

During the week the Colac Invitation 4's Tournament was played with one team entering from Winchelsea. This is a fairly large and popular Tournament with 28 teams always attending from as far away as the Bellarine Peninsula and Warrnambool. The Winchelsea team of Liz O'Brien, Angela Littler, Pat Lowrey and Helen Davie won all their games and were extremely worthy and excited winners. It was a great achievement which was well rewarded, so smiles all round after defeating Timboon, Belmont and Ocean Grove.

Obviously the two teams playing in Preliminary Finals this week know it is go hard or go home. Everyone will be giving their all, however if the bowls are with us, a little bit of luck won't hurt either!!

GO BLUES BOWLS



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 Bowls Club is the place to be.



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parkrun 102



Saturday 14 February 2026

32 participants completed the course through Trebeck Reserve this week on Valentines Day.

We had visitors from Balyang Scantuary. The first seven finishers were all female.

Seven people completed a personal best time for Trebeck Reserve. Congratulations to Chloe Hroberik, Ella Boyce, Alicia Boyce, Craig Boyce, Bronwyn Walker, Grace Morris and Sandra Dixon.

Eight volunteers made the event possible. Thanks to Liz Bennett, Dianna Vesey, Don Smith, Kate McInnes, Neil McInnes, Murray Bennett, Ann Jones and Maureen Gunson.

Trebeck Reserve, Winchelsea
www.parkrun.com.au

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.

To volunteer please send an email to trebeckreserve@parkrun.com



DEFIBRILLATORS IN WINCHELSEA **Accessible to the public 24 hours a day**

Winchelsea Lions Club has compiled a list of public access defibrillators in Winchelsea.

If you know 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





Junior Netball

Shae Callahan

Under 10s

Our Under 10s are getting ready to start their new season and are approaching it with their usual enthusiasm. Building on what they learned in their first season and the improvement they showed last year, we are looking forward to watching these youngsters continue to develop.

Under 11s Pink (Junior)



U11s Pink

Another big win on the board for Winch Pink, with confidence building every week. Up against a strong and evenly matched Armstrong Creek Sharks side, the girls dug deep, stayed composed and grew stronger each quarter. When it mattered most, Pink regrouped, lifted the intensity and found another gear in the final term.

A few quick tactical tweaks and a strategic move of shooting talent Chloe Nestor into the ring saw Pink surge ahead with a quick three-goal lead that set the tone for the finish.

Player of the Week – Coda Ainsworth

After a few tough weeks away following the aftermath of bushfires, Coda returned with heart, determination and strong shooting confidence. It was wonderful to see her back doing what she loves.

Defensively, Georgia Harper, Neave Tudball and Emilia Warren were relentless, applying pressure with strong hands and fierce intent at every contest. Harper McGregor also stood out with a series of well-timed intercepts. In attack, Sass Payne and Mila Gatti demonstrated excellent spatial awareness and drive, delivering smart feeds and constant movement.

With one more game before the winter competition begins, the team will be looking to finish the season strongly.

Under 11s Blue



U11's Blue

Winch Blue faced a fast and highly skilled North Geelong side and rose to the challenge. After a shaky first quarter, the team reset and came back with purpose, eventually going down by just two goals in a performance they can be proud of.

Player of the Week – Evie Ryan

Calm under pressure and strong in defence, Evie made the goalers work for every possession.

The midcourt group of Grace Morris, Oakley Mathison, Alannah Calleja and

Lilly Janes worked tirelessly to apply pressure and create turnovers. In the ring, Olivia Payne and Ruby Stocks combined well with clever passing and strong holds, even outscoring their opponents in the second quarter. Henry Wynhoven and Maddison Rowe also contributed strongly in defence, applying pressure and cleaning up loose balls when it counted.

It was a determined, team-focused performance full of effort and resilience.

Under 13s Pink (Junior)

Under 13s Pink finished the summer season with a fantastic win. The improvement across this team has been outstanding throughout the season. They worked cohesively, played a strong and competitive game, and showed how far they have come as a group.

Under 13s Blue (Senior)

The senior Under 13s played an exceptional game on Friday, taking on Bannockburn with only six players in a very physical contest and going down by just one goal. The effort through the midcourt was outstanding, while the goalers and defenders went the extra mile to support the team. Every player should be incredibly proud of their performance. Bring on the finals!

Under 15s

The Under 15s secured another strong win and have successfully made it through to finals. Having previously faced Bell Post Hill earlier in the season, their individual improvement and teamwork were clearly evident. The growth in confidence across the group has been impressive and well deserved as they head into the finals series.

Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafnc@hotmail.com

Blues News

Janet Fletcher

Welcome to this edition of Blue's News as the summer rolls on and the Football & Netball season draws closer.

JUNIOR REGISTRATION DAY:

What a great outcome in the continuation of the rebuild of Junior Football at the W.F.N.C. to see the success of the Football & Netball Registration Day, held last Sunday morning at Eastern Reserve. Well done to everyone concerned, Byron Mathison and his team are committed to this rebuild and are doing a wonderful job. Special thanks to the Petting Zoo and the Winchelsea Lion's Club for supporting the morning so well. Great to see so many of the Senior playing list there to help out and Darcy Parish and family supporting as well.

150TH YEAR CELEBRATIONS:

SAVE THE DATE!!

The Winchelsea Blue's are excited to announce the weekend dates of JUNE 27TH & 28TH for a big weekend of celebrations, there will be more on this as we get closer to the season opening Round .



OPENING ROUND APRIL 11TH:

The opening Round will see the Winchelsea Blues host Werribee Central at Eastern Reserve – after the Senior Game the Winchelsea Football & Netball Club will be holding their SPEED SHEAR COMPETITION commencing at 6pm. Open and Intermediate categories are available - entry fees apply Intermediate \$50, Open \$60

FREE ADMISSION TO SPECTATORS!

Another date to remember is the Club's Season Launch on the 28th March ... more details to follow.

The announcement of the Canteen Position's successful applicant will be in next week's Star.

We wish all our older Blue's Community good health for the coming season so they can join in the 150th year Celebrations!

GO BLUES!!

POSITION VACANT, W.F.N.C. CANTEEN

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 and Netballers, and Catering team to assist.

Preparing and operating Canteen duties will include:

- Knowledge and 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 and sausage rolls in a pie warmer.
- Hot dogs, steamed dim sims, gravy for chips and gravy, beef and 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 0400 783 408**

Thank you to those who have responded. The advertisement will run for another 2 weeks and the announcement will be made by the Winchelsea Blues at that time.

GOOD CLEAN FUN

PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK

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Eastern Reserve

Thursdays, 5:00-5:45pm

Season Commence 30th April

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