

Surf Coast Art Trail 2025

by Veronica McDonald

What an amazing weekend it was in the Surf Coast Shire as local artists opened the doors of their studios to welcome art lovers from far and wide.

Three artists from Winchelsea Riverlee Art Group represented their area of the Hinterland.

Veronica McDonald was delighted with the response to her work of beautiful seascapes and magnificent red gums,a little sad to see them leave home and at the same time delighted that other people would enjoy them.

Laurel McLennan exhibiting in her Shrek Gallery in Gherang welcomed her regular supporters . People can't get enough of her predominately green bush watercolours and the hairy Highlands hanging over the fence.

Dee Matheson surpassed herself once again with her reputation intact as an accomplished painter of local birds and flora.

We are looking forward to 2026 Art Trail with new local artists joining to create more destinations for the public to visit.

The next three months will be busy for these artists as Dee and Veronica work towards their exhibition "Tides and Treetops" at Lorne Community Connect..Melbourne Cup Weekend, at the same time contributing to the Riverlee exhibition at the Winchelsea Shire Hall.



Council Meeting Coming To Winchelsea On 26 August

The Surf Coast Shire Council meeting is coming to Winchelsea's Eastern Reserve Community Centre on Tuesday 26 August.

The meeting will start at 6pm, but everyone is invited to come along from 5.30pm for a cuppa and a chat with councillors beforehand.

"We're so pleased to be holding our Council meeting in Winchelsea this month. It's important for us to be present in our communities and to make local government accessible to everyone across the shire," Cr Adrian Schonfelder, who represents the Winchelsea Ward, said.

"This is a great opportunity for Winchelsea locals to chat with their councillors, listen to the debate and watch how decisions are made."

"Everyone is invited to come along, hear what's happening locally, and see the democratic process in action," Cr Schonfelder said.

The Council meeting will also be livestreamed so people can choose to

Council meeting will be held at The Hub Eastern Reserve, 70 Hopkins St, Winchelsea on Tuesday 26 August. The public is welcome to attend this meeting. Pop in for a chat and cuppa with councillors at 5.30pm, before the meeting starts at 6pm. The agenda for this meeting will be posted prior to the meeting at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings.

You can live stream the meeting with live captions via the above website. A recording will be posted after the meeting. The recording will have captions and a transcript available.

watch it live at home (with live captions) or watch the recording at a later date.

Council meetings are generally held on a monthly basis at Council Chambers in Torquay, but throughout the year meetings are also held in the Winchelsea and Otway Range Wards.

Find out more or watch the Council meeting live at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/ meetings.

The August meeting agenda will be published online on the evening of 21 August.



Council Seeking Community Input On Winchelsea Pool Opening Hours

Planning for the new Winchelsea Pool's first full summer season is well underway, and Surf Coast Shire Council is seeking community feedback on options for opening hours within Council's adopted budget.

Council has launched a short survey which asks for:

- Feedback on longer hours during school holidays, shorter hours during school terms, or consistent hours across both.
- Views on the introduction of a temperature threshold for opening of the pool. Closure on colder days, with notice for the public, would enable longer opening hours in hotter weather.

Cr Joel Grist: "We encourage community members to let us know their preferences as we prepare for the new season. We deliver pool opening hours within the adopted budget, and can't extend opening hours indefinitely, but some adjustments based on community preferences might make positive differences for users."

"We appreciate that the community wants to make the best of this sparkling new facility, and we look forward to a new summer season of activity and family fun."

Council will continue to subsidise operating costs to keep use affordable for the community, will continue to run VicSwim during January, and encourage schools to use the pool for swimming carnivals.

The new summer season is planned to open in late November and close in early March.

Opening hours for the 2024/2025 season were 10am to 5pm on weekends, and 3pm to 7pm Monday to Friday. The former pool was open noon to 6pm, seven days a week.

Community members can complete the survey via yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/winchelsea-pool-20252026-season



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Have Your Say Our Places and Spaces



Surf Coast Shire Council is developing a Social Infrastructure Plan that will guide where and when we invest in playgrounds, arts and culture facilities, community buildings, sports facilities, shared trails and other places and spaces over the next 10 years.

To have your say scan the QR code or visit yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/PlacesAndSpaces

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Councillor Catch-Up

by Tony Phelps, Winchelsea Ward Councillor

Much is happening in and around Winchelsea – not least the Winchelsea Place Plan which has held the first 2 sessions gathering ideas and principles that will feed into coming sessions to form the actual Place Plan. Your input is now being sought on the emerging vision and principles for Winchelsea; I strongly encourage you to take 5 minutes and add your thoughts at yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/WPP. Your next opportunity for feedback will be on the draft Place Plan, but for now please indicate your level of support for each item. Remember, this isn't about setting the future Winchelsea into stone, it's about (strong) guidelines for development in line with what the community want.

And while on the subject of surveys (yes, local government loves a quick survey), the Domestic Animal Management Policy is up for review and here too your input is requested. This particularly applies to dogs & cats and any rules around their ownership. The essential drive is that responsible ownership is good for everyone, but of course penalties need to be available for those that don't or won't do the right thing. There's been a pretty low response from Winchelsea – as a growing town, pet ownership is on the rise, and the survey is looking for feedback from both owners and non-owners to see if any changes to the policy are needed. See yoursay. surfcoast.vic.gov.au/CatsAndDogs

Alas I was interstate for the Arts Trail held around the Shire the weekend before last, but other Councillors and staff have said how amazing it was. It's a fair bit of work to prepare each location, congratulations to all the participants plus a Thankyou to all the visitors. Creative arts are an important aspect of what makes Surf Coast Shire special. I hear Shrek Gallery in particular was a notable venue, albeit for the show-stealing 1-week-old Shetland calf! The Shire is making an increasing number of venues available for arts exhibitions eg. the Shire Hall, Deans Marsh Hall, Deans Marsh Footy Shed and more.

This year's Rates notices have now been sent out, except for farmers whose rates are being finalised in line with the State government's latest drought assistance. There does seem to

be a lot of misunderstanding about how rates are calculated especially around the widespread awareness that the Shire budget increased by 3% but individual rate increases are all over the place. It's a simple enough formula though;

- the total Shire budget is set first (a 3% increase this year)
- then the State government's Value General advises the estimated value of every property in the Shire (yup, each one)
- the budget is divided by the total value of ALL property values to give a per-dollar-value number (the 'rate in the dollar')
- individual property values as set by the Valuer General (which may fall as well as rise) are multiplied by the rate in the dollar to give the Rates
- additional charges (ie. waste including the State government's EPA fee, and the State's new fire levy) are then added

Disagree with your own property valuation? Then have it reviewed by the Valuer General – see ratingvaluationobjections.vic.gov.au but be sure to do it within 60 days of getting your rates. They're friendly and approachable and happy to hear from you but prepare your reasons.

One note about State government charges on the Rates notice. It is NOT an option to pay the rates and not pay the fire levy, because legislation requires any payment be allocated proportionally between the subtotals (ie. rates, waste, fire levy). In other words, whatever you pay will still contribute to waste and fire levy. I encourage you to make your feelings about the fire levy known direct to the State government.

Don't forget, please fill in those 2 surveys referred to.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this communication are my own and do not necessarily reflect the official policy, position, or views of Surf Coast Shire or its staff. They are offered in my capacity as an individual Councillor and should not be interpreted as representing the collective views of the Council or Shire.

Protecting Anglesea River: Council To Express Concerns In Submission To Alcoa Groundwater Application

Surf Coast Shire Council will make a submission to Southern Rural Water (SRW) expressing concerns about Alcoa Australia's application to amend its existing groundwater extraction licence at Anglesea and reaffirming that it does not support extraction unless proven not to have a detrimental impact on the Anglesea River and/or its catchment.

The submission also:

- Raises concerns the proposal does not meet the purpose of the Water Act 1989 that 'water resources are conserved and properly managed for sustainable use for the benefit of present and future Victorians' especially in the light of the drying conditions in the catchment.
- Raises concerns about the health of the Anglesea River and its catchment and possible causal links with Alcoa's past groundwater extraction from the Upper Eastern View Aquifer and the risks associated with further pumping from this source.
- Urges respectful engagement with

the Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation, noting that water extraction is identified as a very high threat to Wadawurrung Country and culture in Paleert Tjaara Dja (Wadawurrung Country Plan 2020-2030).

Alcoa ceased operations at the Anglesea Mine in 2015 and the Draft Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Plan proposes to fill the mine pit with water. Alcoa have applied to SRW to amend their groundwater extraction licence from 4 gigalitres per year to 1.5 gigalitres per year, which will fill the mine pit in seven to ten years. The alternative strategy is a natural fill over a period of 26 years.



Op Shop Book Sale

The Op Shop held a Book and CD Sale recently. Cleverly timed for school holidays with more passing tourists. They sold lots of children's books and adult ones too.

They still have lots at very reasonable prices in the Book and Toys Shed, 10 Willis Street. Get yourself down there between Friday through to Monday for some Winter reading material.





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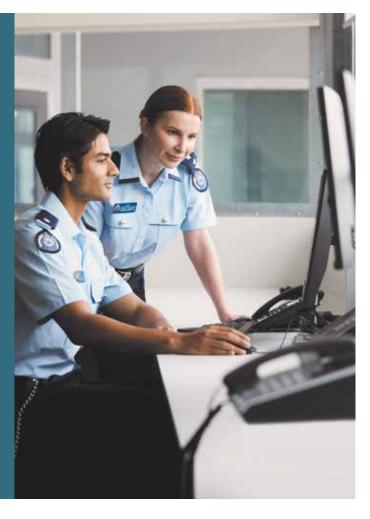
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Out And About In Winchelsea

by Judy Cameron

On my way to the Op Shop the other day I spotted Matt and Aaron from Hamilton's Rock and Roll Earthworks (0438438623). They were hard at work preparing the nature strip at Winanglo, on the corner of Harding Street and Hopkins Street, for the mulching and planting of low growing native plants.

So I decided to have a look around. The shared area in the centre of Winchelsea Community Village is looking good and the planting in the gardens around the units are nearly finished.

The project gives a local option for long-standing residents that meet the needs of seniors or people with a disability. These may include young people with a disability, healthy active seniors, and those requiring minimal help with their care. Six of these ten small homes have been sold already.

The site, next to the Senior Citizens Club, was originally sold for a peppercorn amount by the Church of England to the old Winchelsea Shire with a request that it be used for the wellbeing of the local aged community.

More information at winanglo.org.au





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Mansions that made Winchelsea

Winchelsea Racecourse And Turf Club

Mícheál P O'Dhonnabháin

Thomas Austin, featured in last week's article as the founder of Barwon Park, was one of the founding fathers of the Victorian horse racing industry. Initially famous for its sheep, Barwon Park also became famous for its horses.

Thomas Austin's name is associated with some of the most famous Australian racehorses of the 1840s, such as Petrel and Bessy Bedlam. Barwon Park was considered one of the most important Victorian breeding establishments before the advent of the Australian Stud Book.

The Winchelsea Turf club was a prominent racing club in the 19th century, even after Thomas Austin's death. It originally occupied the site of the current Winchelsea Golf Club. At Barwon Park, Thomas Austin kept a champion racehorse from England who was known by the name of Boiardo. He was trained at Malton, UK by John Scott. After Boiardo went lame due to an injury during the St Leger race in the UK, he was shipped to Australia where he served Thomas Austin as a breeder at the Barwon Park stud.

Austin bred Aruma from Boiardo and she won the 1863 V.R.C. Oaks. Florence, Banker and Barwon were the best of Boiardo's stock.Bessy Bedlam and Enigma were among Austin's best mares. Brownlock won Austen the 1858 V.R.C. Derby and the 1859 V.R.C. St Leger. The Squire of Barwon Park famously wore the scarlet jacket and blue sleeves. Winchelsea became a major destination for horse racing in the 19th century, with crowds gathering from far and wide for races.

In December 1885 for example the Winchelsea Turf club had arranged for two special trains from Geelong, and one from Camperdown; the event was large and successful. The attendance was estimated from 3000 to 4000 visitors, filling the grand stand and saddling paddock at record levels.

The special trains from Geelong landed nearly 1000 passengers at Winchelsea, while from the west a large number of pleasure seekers wended their way by horse and carriage from Camperdown, Colac, Ondit, and Birregurra. The trains were packed to capacity, with many passengers literally riding in cattle trucks on the train due to the passenger wagons being at capacity. Horse drawn carriages were sent from Barwon Park to help ferry passengers from the railway station to the racecourse.







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

Michael completed a Bachelor in History and Anthropology and a Master of Cutural 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.

Vale Joe Pop

The Winchelsea Lions Club wishes to extend our sincere condolences to the family and friends of our member Joe "pop" Burhmann.

Joe was a member of Winchelsea Lions Club for more than 20 years. He was one of the major contributors to our paper drive traveling down to Torquay most days to pick up papers. He was well known and usually stopped at one or two establishments around Torquay and Bellbrae very often enjoying some refreshment in return for picking up their papers. Not to mention the countless

bags of Merino Marbles (sheep poo) he sold down there. And during our Christmas raffles you could always be sure of him selling five or six books!! He became affectionately known around the club as the Mayor of Torquay, he spent so much time there.

Joe was well known for his dry sense of humour

but unfortunately not one for having his photo taken. Not to mention his other



dedication to the Winchelsea Football/ netball club having spent 60 years as official timekeeper, earning himself a life membership.

You have had a long hard struggle but always had a smile and joke for people, We will miss not giving you a toot and a wave when you were sitting on the verandah with your "dog"

Vale Joe Pop you can rest now and you will be sadly missed.

CONDOLENCES:

Before the Senior game took place last Saturday Club President Daniel Greskie addressed the Winchelsea and Tomson players as well the crowd in honour of Jo Pop. Black armbands worn by Footballers and Netballers alike, and a minute's silence was observed by all present.

The greater Winchelsea Football & Netball Club family mourn the loss of Johann "Jo Pop" Buhrmann who passed

away last week after a gallant fight against cancer.

Jo Pop was a Life Member of the Club, and Victoria's longest serving Timekeeper for our Football Club with 60 years of service, a record that I'm sure will stand forever. He was known everywhere in football circles as Winchelsea's timekeeper, and for his long association with the Winchelsea Lion's Club. Jo Pop was a quietly spoken man who when he did have something to say those around him

tended to listen to what he had to say. He will be missed enormously by all at the Club.

Sincere condolences to his family and friends, and his Lion mates.

It's an honour to be able to cater for the funeral service of Jo Pop having done so much for the Club for so long, his funeral service will be held at Eastern Reserve at 2pm Thursday 14th August.

From all at the WFNC Rest in Peace Jo Pop.

This Week's Winchelsea Star

Editor - Judy Cameron

Designer - Tony Phelps



Next Production Coffee Meeting @ La Hoot Saturday 30 August 9-10am Everyone Welcome!

The Winchelsea Star

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CUBS AND JOEYS

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New players always welcome Elaine Atkinson 0458 009 616

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RUNNING GROUP

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DEFIBRILLATOR MISSING

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Thanks to the community for your ongoing support to the shop once again

SAVE THE DATE

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WINCHELSEA RSL

will be celebrating their 100 year anniversary. Help them celebrate. More details later.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Re Winchelsea Greening and **Stormwater Treatment Project**

I am delighted to read in the Winchelsea Star that the above project is set to proceed this month.

This project will yield multiple positive outcomes including health of the river by treating stormwater before it enters the river, reduced erosion, greening and cooling of the streetscape, enhancing

public open spaces. These are all objectives of the Integrated Water Management plan and will undoubtedly help maintain and improve the wellbeing of locals and visitors into the future.

While working at revegetation on the Barwon in Winchelsea over the past 30 years the Rivercare group has observed the success of the Hopkins St stormwater entry in removing rubbish and piping the water to the river. If this had remained a surface drain the very popular pathway along the river would

not be usable. The works at Armytage St will improve access to the coming pedestrian bridge which is on a well used path to the railway station (when Earl's crossing is accessible).

Clearly the shire is serious about investigating and investing in natural systems to redress environmental degradation.

Sincerely, Stewart Mathison, President Winchelsea Land & Rivercare.

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 5pm Sat. Aug 9, 16, 23, 30 Anakie NO MASS Meredith 9am Sun. Aug. 10, 24 Bannockburn 11am Sun. Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24 Inverleigh 4pm Sun. Aug. 17

St Thomas' **Anglican Church**

0477 672 042

Rev Barbara Colliver stthomaswac@gmail.com Barwon Tce, Winchelsea Service 10am Sundays

Thought for the Week

"It's easy to grow downhearted, when nothing goes your way, It's easy to be discouraged when you have a troublesome day, but trouble is only a challenge to spur you on to achieve. The best that God has to offer, if you have faith to believe!"

Have a Blessed week.

John Bader **Christian Pastoral carer**

Winchelsea's **Weekly Dose** of Strength, Calm, and Connection

by Rhani Bayon

The Winchelsea Shire Hall has been incredibly fortunate to secure three wonderful Yoga and Pilates instructors to bring regular all abilities classes to the community. These classes aren't just about exercise, they're about carving out time for yourself, moving with purpose, and feeling the benefits in your body and mind long after class is over.

From improving flexibility and posture to boosting mood and reducing stress, yoga and Pilates offer huge health benefits. And with three experienced, down-to-earth instructors leading the way, there's something here for everyone no matter your age or experience level.

7pm Monday Evenings – Vinyasa Yoga with Kate

Kate brings over two decades of personal meditation and yoga practice, along with 350 hours of formal yoga teacher training. Her classes focus on pose alignment and weave in breath work, meditation, and gentle yoga philosophy. Every week you'll learn

something new, helping you deepen your practice and discover what your body is truly capable of.

6.30pm Thursday Nights Mat Pilates with Paige

Paige's Pilates sessions are all about helping you feel strong, confident, and connected to your body. With training in both mat and reformer Pilates through APPI, she focuses on form and alignment to help you move with ease and avoid injury. Expect a calm, encouraging space where you can build strength, improve posture, and feel more at home in your body.

8.30am Saturday Mornings Yoga Flow with Lisa

Lisa's warm and inclusive teaching style makes everyone feel welcome. whether you've been practicing for years or are stepping onto the mat for the very first time. Her classes blend strength, clarity, and a touch of playfulness, leaving you refreshed, uplifted, and ready to enjoy your weekend.

All three classes are welcoming and adaptable for all levels. You'll leave feeling better than when you walked in, stronger, calmer, and more balanced.

So, whether you're rolling out your mat to stretch, strengthen, or simply slow down, these weekly classes are a beautiful way to look after yourself and connect with others in the community.

If you're interested in joining in, send an email to shirehall@winchhouse. org.au



Winchelsea Community House Inc. A6247K

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

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Phonics with Robot Reg

Friday Mornings

Walkers – 2 years 10.15am Pre-School 3 - 5years 11.15am

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Mother Goose

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2pm, Wednesdays during school term Winchelsea Shire Hall

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



we Chatz

Friday's

10.30am - 12.30pm

Phonics with

"Sip, Chat, Share, Care"

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



Winchelsea Community house 9am - 10am

\$10 Per Class

Craft & Crochet



\$5 per person.

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

Register your interest at reception@winchhouse.org.au

Next Class, Aug 23rdth

COMMUNITY CO-WORKING & STUDY SPACE

9am - 2pm Mondays and Thursdays \$10 Flat rate no subscription required.



Experiencing Extreme Weather And Disasters Is Not Enough To Change Views On Climate Action, Study Shows

A new study, published in Nature Climate Change, looked at the question of extreme weather and climate opinion using two global datasets.

The first from more than 70,000 people in 68 countries measured public support for climate policies and the extent that people think climate change is behind increases in extreme weather.

The second estimates how much of each country's population has been affected each year by events such as droughts, floods, heatwaves and storms.

This study shows climate impacts alone may not change minds. However, it also highlights what may affect public

thinking: helping people recognise the link between climate change and extreme weather events.

In countries such as Australia, climate change makes up only about 1% of media coverage. What's more, most of the coverage focuses on social or political aspects rather than scientific, ecological, or economic impacts.

The fuel consumption of the US military alone causes more climate damage than most countries. A study published in 2019 by a team of researchers at Lancaster University, led by geographer Benjamin Neimark, found that the US Department of Defense is the world's single largest institutional emitter. Yet its relevance to climate change is seldom discussed, thanks to an exemption won by the US in 1997 that means militaries don't need to report their emissions to the UN. (from The Conversation UK)

Wetlands are described as the kidneys of the Earth for filtering the nasty stuff out of the water we discharge. They are also vast carbon sinks that help keep a lid on runaway climate change. However, they weren't recognised as valuable ecosystems in their own right until fairly recently. From Wikipedia: "Wetlands form a transitional zone between waterbodies and dry lands, and are different from other terrestrial or aquatic ecosystems due to their vegetation's roots having adapted to oxygen-poor waterlogged soils. They are considered among the most biologically diverse of all ecosystems, serving as habitats to a wide range of aquatic and semi-aquatic plants and animals, with often improved water quality due to plant removal of excess nutrients such as nitrates and phosphorus."



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



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10am to 7pm

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Healthy Lemon Trees

by Peter Groves.

Most suburban families enjoy the convenience of having a lemon tree in their backyard. When I moved to Clifton Springs, my lemon tree was in very poor condition, covered in scale, no flowers, yellowing leaves that were falling off and very little fruit.

I was advised the tree had an iron deficiency, consequently I went to a steel works factory and collected iron filings. I washed them in petrol and warm soapy water to remove the oil.

I then spread it out over the root zone of the tree. After about six months of normal rainfall, the results were astounding. There were buckets of lemons to share with neighbours, friends and family. Cooking shows on TV use lemons frequently, therefore my fruit was welcomed.

But you could also bury those old rusty nails in your shed! Iron supplements are available commercially but don't spread them where children and house pets are likely to play.



VEGETABLE PLANTING GUIDE

We have had rain to moisten the soil and warm weather is upon us so time to consider what vegetable seeds we can plant

Southern Vic planting	Aug	Sep
Artichoke, Globe suckers	X	Х
Artichoke, Jerusalem	X	Х
Asparagus crown	Х	
Beans, Broad	Х	Х
Beans, Bush		Х
Beetroot	Х	Х
Broccoli	Х	Х
Brussels sprouts	Х	Х
Cabbage	Х	Х
Capsicums	Х	Х
Carrots	Х	Х
Cauliflower	Х	Х
Celeriac		Х
Celery	Х	Х
Chicory		Х
Chives	Х	Х
Choko		Х
Cress	Х	Х
Cucumber		Х
Endive	Х	Х
Kale		Х
Kohlrabi	Х	Х
Leeks	X	Х
Melons	Х	Х
Onions	X	Х
Parsley	Х	Х
Parsnips	X	Х
Peas	X	Х
Potatoes	X	Х
Pumpkin	X	Х
Radishes	X	Х
Rhubarb, Crowns	X	Х
Salsify	X	Х
Silverbeet	X	Х
Spinach	Х	Х
Squash		Х
Swedes	X	Х
Sweetcorn		Х
Tomatoes	Х	Х
Turnips	Х	Х

Fire Season Preparation Tips

- Clear Dead Wood & Debris: Remove fallen branches, dry leaves, and any flammable materials from around your home and property.
- Burn-Offs: If you're planning to burn off, check local regulations and weather conditions. Even now, the bush can be dry and unpredictable.
- Green Grass ≠ Safe: Just because the grass has greened up doesn't mean the fire risk is low. Shrubs, trees, and undergrowth may still be dry and highly flammable.
- Watch the Weather: Keep an eye on rainfall forecasts. If the rain doesn't come soon, we could be facing an earlier and more intense fire season.
- Community Awareness: Encourage neighbours and friends to start preparing too. Fire safety is a shared responsibility.

PSA: "I'll Do It Next Week" is Not a Fire Plan 🤌



If you're anything like me, you've looked at the calendar, muttered 'oh crap,' and realized fire season is creeping up faster than your motivation to clean up that dead wood pile.

Yes, the grass is green. No, that doesn't mean we're safe. The bush is still dry, the rain is still playing hard to get, and that 'burn pile' you've been ignoring? It's not going to burn itself (legally or safely).

Let's be real:

 That pile of sticks isn't going to turn into a garden gnome

- "I've got months' is how future-you ends up panic-raking in 40 °C heat

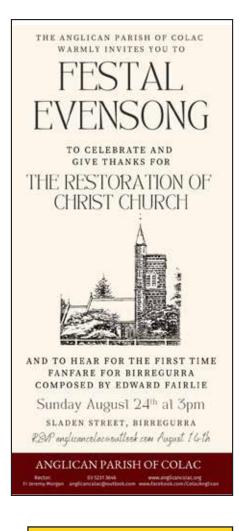
- Burning off now? Still risky. Check the rules. Check the weather. Check your common sense.

Moral of the story?

Start clearing. Start planning. Start now.

Because fire season doesn't wait for your weekend plans.

Stay safe, stay smart, and maybe... put down the remote and pick up a rake. 😂



People who wonder if the glass is half empty or half full miss the point. The glass is refillable.

Victoria is banning machetes from 1 September

A 3 month amnesty will allow Victorians to safely dispose of machetes with no penalties.





Scan to learn more



Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

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

CO-WORKING & STUDYING SPACE

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

MAINLY MUSIC

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

WINCHELSEA GIRL GUIDES

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



1ST MODDA/ 1ST 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, Winchelsea

TUESDAY



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



1ST MODDA/ 1ST WINCHELSEA SCOUTS

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

COUNCIL MEETING IN WINCHELSEA

Tuesday 26 August 5.30 for 6pm The Hub, Eastern Reserve 70 Hopkins Street, Winchelsea surfcoast.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings

WEDNESDAY







What's On

AUGUST

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

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

WINCH WALKERS

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

SENIORS SHOPPING & CUPPA

WAURN PONDS

for Winchelsea Seniors Card Holders 13 August, 27 August Contact Jill 0427 633 277 to book

WINCHELSEA ZUMBA DANCE

Combined Zumba Fitness and Gold class. 6:30-7:30pm @The Globe Theatre. Simone Dunmore: 0468 375 036 zumbawithsimone09@gmail.com

MAT PILATES

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

WINCHELSEA MEN'S SHED

9.30am 51 Hesse Street, 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 www.facebook.com/

MEL'S DANCE CENTRAL

Wed 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 Drive, Winchelsea



THURSDAY

CHAT WITH YOUR COUNCILLOR TONY PHELPS

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

COWORKING & 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 Tce winchelseaplaygroup@gmail.com

WINCHELSEA PICKLEBALL

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

WINCHELSEA MEN'S SHED

For the Community

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Every Wednesday from 9.30am 51 Hesse Street, Winchelsea

KINDLING/OFFCUTS \$7.00 bag

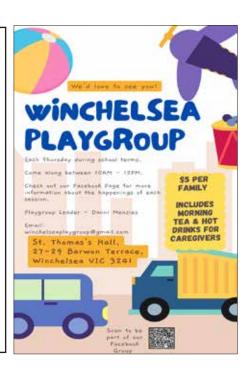
Pickup Wednesdays 9.30-2.30 For delivery, call Bill 0438 083 373

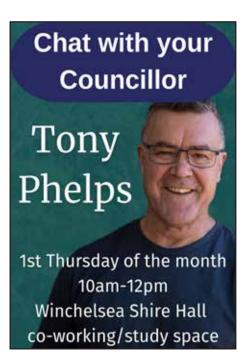
NESTING BOXES Birds/animals

NEED A JOB DONE?

Woodworking, Furniture Repairs Call in Wednesdays to order

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







What's on Weekly

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

WINCHELSEA MOVIE CLUB

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

WINCHELSEA ZUMBA DANCE

Combined Zumba Fitness and Gold class Fun for all ages and abilities. 6:30pm-7:30pm @The Globe Theatre. Simone Dunmore: 0468 375 036 zumbawithsimone09@gmail.com

FRIDAY



Friday and Saturday 12 & 13 Sept

WINCHELSEA RSL

will be celebrating their 100 year anniversary. Help them celebrate. More details later.

TAI CHI

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

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 Winchelsea Shire Hall, 28 Hesse St. Winchelsea

WINCHELSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Friday 10am-3pm Hesse St, Winchelsea www.facebook.com/

WINCHELSEA SENIOR CITIZENS

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



WINCHELSEA RSL

7.30 15 August, 1.30 19 Sept, 17 Oct, 7.30 21 Nov, 12.00 19 Dec Winchelsea Men's Shed, Hesse St, Winchelsea David Loone 0488 165 109

GEELONG REGIONAL LIBRARY

(MOBILE) 2-5pm

Old Shire Hall, 28 Hesse Street 0408384331 (During scheduled stops)

SATURDAY



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

FLOW YOGA

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

Landcare

WINCHELSEA LAND AND RIVERCARE

MONTHLY WORKING BEE

9am End of Dwyer St. Rod Stone 0428 549318 Stewart Mathison 0428 672054

WINCHELSEA STAR PRODUCTION/COFFEE MEETING

9-10am (Last Sat monthly) La Hoot Cafe, Main Street www.winchelseastar.org.au 5273 0295

WINCHELSEA 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 Sat each month)
Hall, Harding St Winchelsea
Bring plate &gold coin donation if you can

SUNDAY

RUNNING GROUP

8am Meet at La Hoot

CHEESE MAKING WORKSHOP

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



WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY MARKET

9-1pm, 1st Sunday monthly (except Nov) Shire Hall car park, Main St growingwinchelsea.com/project/winchelseacommunity-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



SERVICES & ACTIVITIES IN WINCHELSEA

VLINE TRAIN SERVICES

TO MELBOURNE:

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

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 and District





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



SOCIAL BRIDGE

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 Sunday 9.30-12.30pm



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

SCOUTS be prepared . . .

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

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Community, Sports, Churches and Non-profits

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Winchelsea FREE	facebook.com/groups/winchelseafree
Winchelsea Community Information	facebook.com/groups/207538644446972
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
The Green Winchelsea Residents	facebook.com/groups/515322772623126
Growing Winchelsea Inc	facebook.com/growingwinch
Winchelsea Star	facebook.com/TheWinchelseaStar
Winchelsea Movie Club	facebook.com/winchelseamovies
Winchelsea Community Market	facebook.com/100083362387611
Winchelsea Land and River Care Group	facebook.com/envirowinchelsea/
Upper Barwon Landcare Network	facebook.com/UpperBarwonLandcare
Winchelsea & District Historical Society Inc	facebook.com/Winchelseaanddistricthistoricalsociety/
Winchelsea Wildlife Shelter	www.winchelseawildlifeshelter.com/
SCARS - Surf Coast Animal Rescue Service	facebook.com/groups/415211698950674
Winchelsea Gardeners	facebook.com/groups/779878518703025
Winchelsea & District Historical Society	facebook.com/Winchelseaanddistricthistoricalsociety/
Winchelsea Repertory Society Inc	facebook.com/winchrep/
Winchelsea Globe Theatre	facebook.com/Winchelsea-Globe Theatre-164790897641678
Winchelsea Uniting Church	facebook.com/winchelseaunitingchurch
St Thomas' Anglican Church	facebook.com/StThomasWinchelsea
St John the Baptist Catholic Church	facebook.com/pages/Winchelsea-Catholic-Church/101775670163180
Winchelsea Mainly Music	facebook.com/groups/668500343953191/
Winchelsea Health Club	facebook.com/WinchelseaHealthClub
Winchelsea Playgroup (School terms only)	facebook.com/groups/551663435367031
Winchelsea/Modewarre Scouts	facebook.com/1stModewarreScouts
Winchelsea Fire Brigade	facebook.com/winchelseafirebrigade/
Winchelsea SES	facebook.com/groups/WinchSES
Country Women's Association - CWA Winchelsea	facebook.com/pg/CWAWinchelsea/
Winchelsea Bowls Club	facebook.com/Winchelsea-Bowls-Club-533783333344345/
Winchelsea Blues Cricket Club	facebook.com/groups/8999049476/
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

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

Winchelsea Tennis Club



Fletcher Allen

Round 8 Thursday Theatrics – Lights Off? Game On!

Our night team faced the Coco Bewares in a drama-filled showdown — with the lights cutting out mid-set at Moriac TC!

Matt & Fletch started strong at 4-1, then play stopped in total darkness! Captain Fletch worked his magic, got the lights back on, and they closed it out 6-3.

Karthik unfortunately went down 0-6, then paired with Fletch for a tight start at 3-3 before falling 3-6.

Matt bounced back with a solid 6-2 win, but he and Karthik also dropped their set 3-6.

Fletch sealed the night with a dominant 6-1 singles win.

Final result: 3 sets all, 24 games each – another draw!

We hold 2nd spot and face Highton "Mid Court Crisis" next week. Go Blues!



Have Your Say On Surf Coast's Community Places And Spaces

Council is seeking the community's help to develop a prioritised plan for new or renewed community facilities and open spaces across the shire over the next 10 years.

The new Social Infrastructure Plan will guide Council in making fair and evidence-based decisions about how it invests in places and spaces such as arts and culture facilities, public open space, playgrounds, indoor and outdoor sports facilities, youth spaces, and shared trails.

In October 2024, Council finalised an 'Our Places and Spaces: State of Play' document identifying all social infrastructure across the shire and its condition, and identifying gaps or areas of need.

As the next phase in the project, a new town-based online survey gives the community a chance to see which future projects have been identified, and have a say about what they value most.

Mayor Mike Bodsworth said the plan is a vital piece of work for Council as it contends with challenges such as population growth, ageing assets and rising costs.

"Community facilities and open spaces help build social connection, physical health, community wellbeing and quality of life," Mayor Bodsworth said.

"We want to make sure our social infrastructure provides access for all people, is affordable, and contributes to maintaining the Surf Coast Shire as an amazing place to live.

"This is our community's chance to help shape our priorities in this area for the next decade."

Right now Council is responsible for a network of social infrastructure assets valued at \$243 million, and spends \$7 million each year on maintenance of those assets.

The Social Infrastructure Plan will take into account Council's existing commitments for new and renewed

infrastructure, and its capacity to deliver over the coming years.

"We need to plan carefully for the future to make sure we can continue to provide facilities and open spaces that meet the needs of the community," Mayor Bodsworth said.

"It's also important we balance the cost of maintaining, upgrading and replacing our existing facilities with building new facilities for a growing population."

The survey is open until 30 September via yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/ PlacesandSpaces.

Council will also be hosting in-person engagement sessions at the following days and times:

Anglesea - Thursday 4 September 11am-2pm, outside IGA

Lorne - Friday 12 September 11am-2pm, outside Food Works

Torquay - Saturday 13 September 8.30am-1pm, Torquay Farmers Market

Winchelsea - Sunday 7 September 9am-1pm, Winchelsea Community Market

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WINCHELSEA **LIONS CLUB 022559**

30 Members Last financial year contributed 4000 hours of time and effort which generated in excess of \$24,000 to support local community, national and international projects

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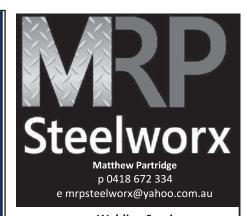
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Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafnc@hotmail.com

Blues News

Janet Fletcher

ROUND 16: WINCHELSEA BLUES VS THOMSON TIGERS.

Perfect conditions for football last Saturday when the Winchelsea Blues hosted the Thomson Tigers at Eastern Reserve. It was a busy day at the Club with the Mental Health Round seeing a Read the Play Forum held in the Members room from 12 - 2pm, as well as the usual game day events happening.

RESERVES:

Winchelsea Blues 23.12.150 defeated Thomson Tigers 1.2.8

The final score says it all really, the undermanned Tomson were no match for Winchelsea, they tried valiantly all day but the Blues had a field day kicking their highest score for the season and the Reserves now sit third on the ladder with percentage slightly higher than North Geelong who the Blues meet in the final round at The Keith Barclay Oval, so that will be an important clash for the Reserves. With a little bit of luck, the Blues may well play Finals this season and if that should be the case it will be the first time in 25 years that the Reserves have made it to the final's series.

Best of luck to Jarryd Messenger, coaching staff and the team for the next 2 weeks.

The downside of that match was a serious injury to Bailey Kahle (Nugget) who was stretchered off after a lengthy 4 minute delay to play in the first quarter. Nugg has unfortunately broken his hip and has required surgery in Melbourne. The Club will rally around Paris and his young family in the coming weeks as it will be tough on them.

Nic Martignano also was taken off injured and all at the Club wish both young men the very best with their recovery.

GOALS: Sam Creighton 5, Angus Leigh 3, Tom Kennedy 3, Dustin Baker 3, Noah Harvey 2, Jack Todd 2, Nic Martignano, Tim Miles, Liam Turner, Patrick Dench, Braydon O'Hanlon all 1 goal.

BEST: Dustin Baker, Paddy Dench, Sam Creighton, Noah Harvey, Michael Bourdouvalis, Jack Todd.

SENIORS

Winchelsea Blues 19.7.121 defeated Tomson Tiger 12.5.77

As the Blues are well aware when a team has a run of injuries to key players it makes life much harder on a Saturday afternoon at 2pm, so the Senior side were prepared to do the best they could not to make the afternoon any easier For Thomson. Winchelsea got off to a good clean start and while both sides kicked 3 goals 2 points in the second quarter, the Blues cemented their lead in the third by leading by 37 points at the three quarter break. Accurate kicking from both sides was a highlight of the game, with the Winchelsea Blues running out comfortable winners.

Local identity Heather McConachy was excited to see the Winchelsea Blues take out the double win, a first for Heather at Eastern Reserve. Birthday boy Don Smith from the Winchelsea Lion's Club was there to see the win after manning the gate with great mate Neville Mawson, happy the Blues were able to deliver the wins. Club Historian Shirley Leak was unfortunately unable to attend the game due to a stay in hospital, hope to see you back up and about very soon.

GOALS: Cameron Primmer 6, David Isbister 3, Rueben James 2, Indi Parish 2, Cassidy Parish, Josh Freeman, Jude Coverdale, Jordan Huff, Jack Symmonds, Fin Kirsopp-Cole all one goal.



BEST: Cassidy Parish, Cameron Primmer, David Isbister, Thomas Rouget, Jack Symmonds, Aaron Cooke.

This Saturday sees the Blues hosting again at Eastern Reserve, Bannockburn will head over to play in the last home game for the Blues, an important match for our Reserves, get to support them if you can!

The Winchelsea Blues Junior teams have a home game as well this week, one of the very few times this happens these days.

It's also the Club's Community Day

– Free entry at the gate, the Canteen
will be making salad rolls only early
on. Thanks to Tan, Hannah, Lesley
and others who have manned the
Canteen over the past couple of home
games, Thanks as well to those who
make the football and netball roster
work so well.

The Lions Club will have their famous "Chuck Wagon" operating from around 11 am, the Coffee van will be at the ground as will the very popular Mexican Food Truck from Torquay.

THE BLUE'S BISTRO:

This week - Seafood Baskets, Curried Sausages and Blue's Bistro Hamburgers,

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GO BLUES!!





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parkrun 75



Saturday 9 August 2025 8am

Seventeen parkrunners walked or ran the course through Trebeck Reserve this week in foggy conditions. We had visitors from Werribee and Marybinyong. Three people completed their very first parkrun. Nobody recorded a Personal best time this week.

This event was made possible by the following volunteers: Neil McInnes, Liz Bennett, David Woodall, Helen Woodall, Ann Morsby, Don Smith and Kate McInnes

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

Trebeck Reserve, Winchelsea

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.

Well behaved dogs on a short hand held leash are welcome.

Thanks to Café La Hoot for hosting our post event coffee / breakfast.











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Winchelsea Golf Club



Rachel Boddington

Results 6/8/25: Mid Week - Weekly Stableford

14 Players

1st - Doug McLennan (23) 37 points

2nd - Nick Stone (9) 35 points

BDL - David "Fly" Lewis (22) 34 points

BDL - Craig Harrison (15) 33 points

NTP (8th/17th) - Neil Hickman

The team of Elizabeth, Di and Robyn played in the Inverleigh Open and Bowl.

Barwon Valley won the bowl with 213 pts. Winchelsea just missed out with a score of 215.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Alston for taking out B Grade Gross and to Sally Dyer winning B grade Nett.



Vff And Nutrien Ag Solutions Team Up To Help Drought-Hit Victorians

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) has partnered with Nutrien Ag Solutions to provide Victorian farmers with dedicated drought support resources as they continue to face record-breaking drought conditions.

VFF President Brett Hosking said the initiative aims to act as a 'one-stop-shop' for farmers seeking drought assistance and to identify future areas of support to

lend farmers a helping hand.

"Farmers can directly contact the VFF's Drought Support Advisor, Kim Tupper, who will help streamline individual drought applications, connect farmers with financial counsellors and mental heath services, and provide risk management support."

"We know the impact of this drought is far-reaching and will linger for years. It's so important we have a resource on the ground listening to farmers every day and feeding that back, so we can direct support to where it's needed and most effective," Mr Hosking said.

"By partnering with the VFF, we're

investing in meaningful, practical support that will make a real difference in helping farmers navigate the challenges they're facing today, and building resilience for tomorrow."

Farmer feedback received from the initiative will be used to help guide decision making regarding further drought support administered by the VFF's Disaster Relief Fund.

More information, including drought assistance resources and how to contact the Drought Support Advisor can be found on the VFF website.





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Junior Netball

Shae Callahan

Under 10s Building Skills and Confidence

Our Winchelsea Under 10s are continuing to improve each week, taking what they're learning at training and putting it into action on game day.

Their passes are getting longer and more accurate, showing growing confidence in moving the ball down the court. The team is also starting to create more opportunities in the goal ring, with a few promising shots at goal.

It was also fantastic to see some of our Under 10s on the sidelines on Saturday, watching the "big kids" — their idols — in action, dreaming of the day they'll be out there too.

A big congratulations to Frankie, who took out Player of the Week for her efforts.

Exciting times ahead for this young team!

Under 11s Shine in Midweek and Saturday Matches

Our Winchelsea Under 11s continued their undefeated Tuesday night season with a solid 12 – 6 win over Inverleigh. The girls displayed great teamwork, strong passing, and determination to keep their winning streak alive.

On Saturday, they took to the court for a prime-time exhibition match against a very tall and talented Thomson side. Both teams showcased fantastic skill and composure under pressure, with the game played at a high standard. Despite going down 8 – 12, the Blues showed huge improvement since their last Saturday outing.

The incredible sideline support gave the girls a real boost, and it was clear they are growing in confidence every week.



Well done, Under 11s — you're making the club proud!

Under 13s Gain Valuable Experience Against Thomson

The Winchelsea Under 13s went down to a strong Thomson side 42 – 18. With a few players unavailable, the game provided the perfect opportunity to try out different positions and give players valuable on-court experience in new roles.

It was also great to see one of our Under 11s step up and join the team for the match — a fantastic display of club spirit and a great learning opportunity for our younger talent.

While the scoreboard didn't go our way, the team showed resilience, adaptability, and a willingness to take on challenges head-on.

Under 15s Claim Gritty Win Over Thomson

The Winchelsea Under 15s battled hard to take a 17 – 14 victory over Thomson in a thrilling, low-scoring match filled with plenty of ball movement and skill from both sides.



With a few players unavailable and only four players actually under 15 age group, it was the perfect chance to introduce some of our senior Under 13s to the intensity and pace of U15s competition. They rose to the challenge brilliantly, showing the depth of the junior program, and contributing to a well-earned win in a fantastic game to watch.

Under 17s Power Past Thomson

The Winchelsea Under 17s continued their strong season with a dominant 48 – 7 win over Thomson.

From the first whistle, Winchelsea controlled the game, showcasing sharp passing, strong defensive pressure, and accurate shooting.

The team's consistency and connection on court were on full display, further cementing their place as one of the competition's in-form sides.

Under 19s - Bye

Winchelsea Rising Stars

Our Rising Stars program is gathering momentum for players aged 8-12, helping them to build skills and get ready for the summer competition.

They've been learning rules, positions, and gameplay in a fun and supportive environment, building both skills and confidence.

The group is already looking forward to stepping onto the court in various teams come October.

If you have a child interested in playing netball, contact the club via the Winchelsea Junior Football and Netball Club Facebook page.





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