

Winchelsea Star

Price \$1

Weekly Winchelsea News

Since 1977

Vol 49 Ed 18

Tuesday 12 May 2026

winchelseastar.org.au



**Therapy
Horse
delights
Hesse Health
residents**

Tittie the Therapy Horse Steals the Show

By Hesse Rural Health

Residents at Hesse Rural Health were treated to a very special visitor recently, with therapy horse Tittie charming everyone she met during a memorable visit to the facility.

Officially named Ytka but affectionately nicknamed Tittie by her owners Marrit and Laura, the 10-year-old pure Friesian quickly stole the show with her gentle nature and playful personality.

Friesians are a striking horse breed originating from the Friesland province in the Netherlands – the same region Marrit hails from. Traditionally bred for farm work and pulling carts, Friesians today are known for pleasure riding and dressage; and are increasingly recognised for their calm and affectionate temperament.

Tittie certainly lived up to that reputation during her visit to Hesse. Described by her owners as “more like a Labrador than a horse.” Tittie is incredibly affectionate and would happily come inside and sit on the couch if she could. For this reason, Friesians in The Netherlands are used as therapy horses, and Tittie certainly proved why during her visit. She happily soaked up attention from residents and staff, enjoying plenty of pats and scratches – especially on her rear, which is reportedly her favourite spot.

Tittie can also smile on command, which is a funny sight as she’s lost one front tooth.

While friendly and affectionate, Tittie is also highly accomplished, regularly competing in dressage competitions and often returning home with first prizes.

Marrit, who works as both a nurse at Hesse and disability support worker, has previously invited clients to her farm to meet Tittie, who absolutely loves the attention and connection. In fact, Tittie has played a special role in Marrit’s life in more ways than one – Marrit met her partner Laura through Tittie, after Laura purchased her as a three-month-old foal and visited regularly where Marrit was working as a backpacker at the time.

It was a joy to welcome Tittie to Hesse, and her visit brought a lot of laughter and happy moments to residents and staff alike! Many thanks to Marrit for arranging and bringing Tittie to meet our residents, it was greatly appreciated by all!



Celebrating Your Mum

by Jenny Mathison

Many of us of a certain age think of Mother's Day as a day when children celebrate their mothers.

By our very existence we all have a mother, so the Movie Club committee invited all the ladies who are members to a special afternoon tea to think of our Mums.

With the bubbles flowing, delightful boxes of food, great company and so much chatter an afternoon tea was held at the Globe on Saturday May 9th.

As a movie, who could go past the amazing Judi Dench in *The Last of the Blonde Bombshells*.

Now we have to think what to do for Father's Day!

The Movie Club is now in the ninth year. Membership this year is around 80. A wide variety of movies are chosen for the year and shown on the third Thursday of the month (except July) at 7.30 pm in the Globe Theatre. Anyone can become a member. With the first half year well under way, come along and see if it's for you and maybe join for the last 6 months. Annual membership is \$70 or 6 monthly for \$40.



L-R Rosalie, Sylvia, Luanne, Lyn, Sue, Jenny (behind the camera - Jane) (absent - Wendy)

Enquiries at movies@growingwinchelsea.com or growingwinchelsea.com



Winchelsea Pickleball

Leisure Time Centre, Gosney St.

Wednesday nights
at 7 to 8-30pm

Also

Thursday mornings
at 10 to 11am

\$5.00 cash per person.

Great fun, everything supplied, good cardio workout.

Please wear sneakers.

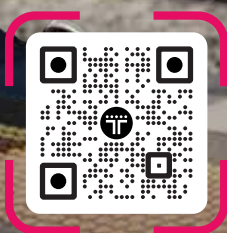
Lesley Mathison ph 0438672197

Mary Parish ph 0428887219



new ways to move to events

The Metro Tunnel opens up new ways
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Plan your journey on the PTV app or visit
transport.vic.gov.au/events

DTP1909/26



Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



This is a place for passionate foodies.

Here we celebrate local produce, seasonal ingredients, simple yet remarkable recipes we've tried, tested and loved.

Alice Cloake



If you have a recipe you'd like to share, a local product to shout out or a suggestion for an upcoming ingredient of the month - we'd love to hear from you.

Email editor@winchelseastar.org.au.

Berberé Spiced Chicken, Carrots And Chickpeas

This recipe is straight from the 'one pan wonder' section of Ottolenghi's Test Kitchen and we've had it many, many times. Berbere is a classic East African spice blend that has strong flavours of chilli, cardamom and fenugreek along with salt, pepper, cumin, coriander, ajowan, ginger, allspice, nutmeg and clove. If you're looking to purchase I'd suggest Gewurzhaus otherwise you can make it yourself!

Ingredients

(serves 1-6)

1 large onion, roughly chopped (220g)
6 garlic cloves, peeled
45g fresh coriander, stalks (25g) and leaves (20g) separated and roughly chopped
2½ tbsp berbere spice
2 tbsp tomato paste
2½ tbsp runny honey, plus a little extra for drizzling
3 tbsp apple cider vinegar
90ml olive oil
800g carrots, peeled and cut into 4-5cm lengths (680g)
2 tins of chickpeas (800g), drained (480g)
8 medium chicken thighs, skin on and bone in
2-3 oranges: 1 left whole and the rest juiced to get 100ml salt and black pepper

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 200°C fan.
2. Put the onion, garlic, coriander stalks, berbere spice, tomato paste, honey, 1 tablespoon of vinegar, 4 tablespoons of oil, 1¼ teaspoons of salt and a good grind of black pepper into a food processor and blitz to a smooth paste.
3. Put the blitzed onion mixture, carrots, chickpeas, chicken, orange juice and 150ml of water into a large roasting tin,

roughly 34cm x 26cm in size, and toss everything together to combine.

Arrange the thighs so that they're skin side up and slightly nestled on top, then cover the dish tightly with foil and bake for 30 minutes. Remove the foil and return to the oven for 40 minutes more, rotating the tin halfway through, or until everything is cooked through and nicely coloured. Set aside to settle slightly, about 10 minutes.

4. Meanwhile, peel and segment the whole orange and then roughly chop the flesh. Put this into a medium bowl along with the chopped coriander leaves, the remaining 2 tablespoons of vinegar, the remaining 2 tablespoons of oil and a pinch each of salt and pepper, and mix to combine.
5. When ready to serve, spoon the coriander salsa all over the top and serve directly from the roasting tin.



Spotlight on Gewurzhaus...

Know a foodie? Here's a great gift. Gewurzhaus 'Five Favourites' gift packs are such a great gift for a food-loving friend and I should know, I've received and gifted them. They include 5 spice packs and five recipes and there's a huge selection to choose from including; Joy of Baking and Australian Flavours. Find them online at gewurzhaus.com.au



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DRAFT 2026-27 BUDGET



View the Draft 2026-27 Budget at yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/budget26-27

I warmly invite you all to have your say on Council's draft 2026-27 Budget.



Like councils across the country, we're working in a challenging economic environment, with costs rising faster than revenue.

This budget seeks to carefully balance financial responsibility with our commitment to delivering the services and projects our community values and depends on.

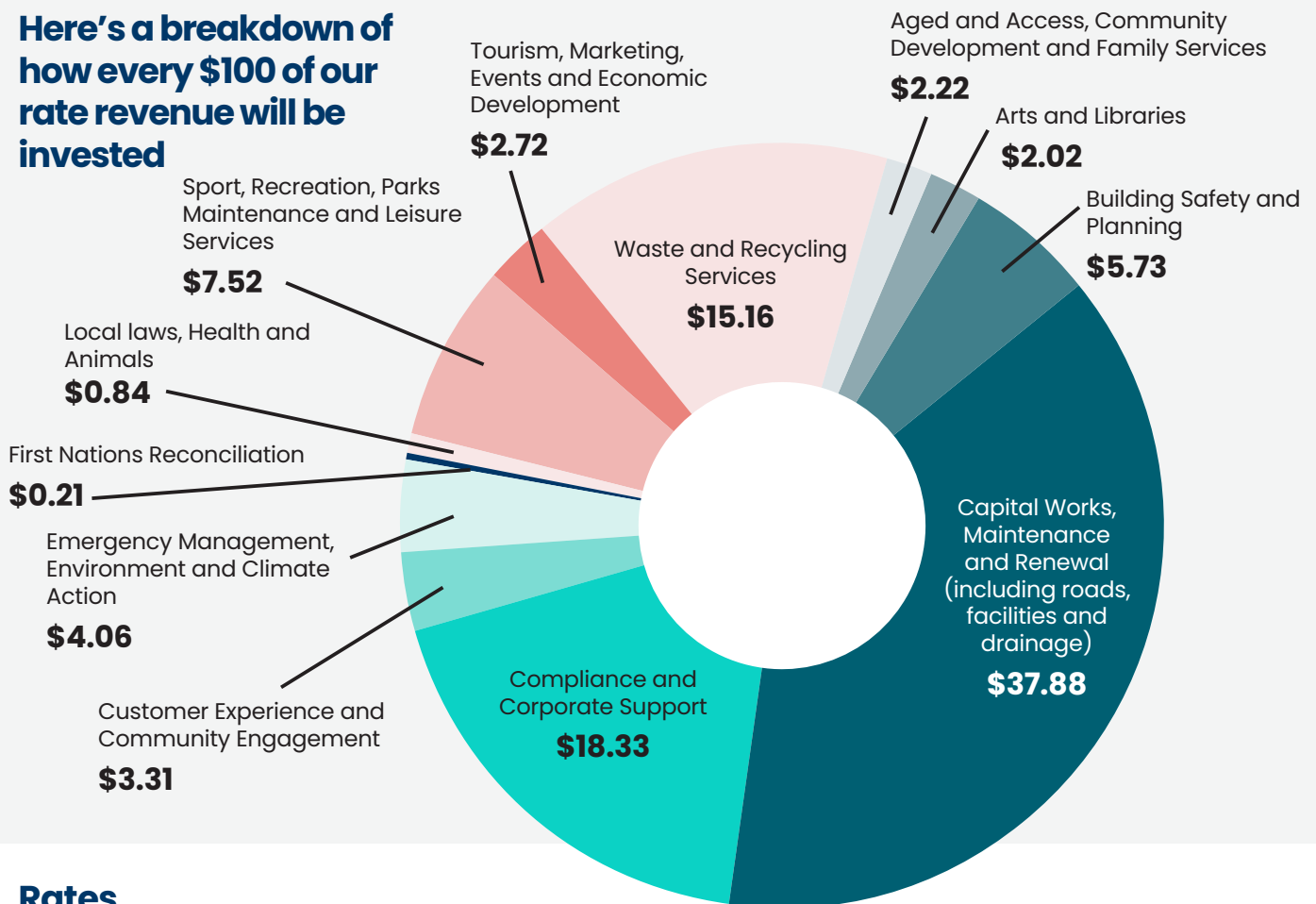
Guided by the Council Plan 2025-29, we're continuing to invest in roads and community facilities, while advancing priorities such as

environmental leadership and supporting community wellbeing.

As we consult on this draft budget, we are also closely monitoring the implications of the global fuel crisis and may need to make adjustments to the final budget as the impacts become clearer.

Cr Libby Stapleton
Mayor Surf Coast Shire

Here's a breakdown of how every \$100 of our rate revenue will be invested



Rates

Rates are Council's largest revenue source. The proposed total average rate rise of 2.75 per cent, which is in line with the Victorian Government cap, will help us cover the rising cost of delivering our services and projects.

Relief for business and farmers

We will maintain the lower rating differential for Commercial/Industrial and Farm Land, introduced last year.

Hardship Policy

Our Hardship Policy is in place to support ratepayers experiencing financial pressures. Please reach out to us for a confidential discussion.

yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/budget26-27



Capital Works Investment

Our \$41.73 million capital works budget will deliver new and upgraded public assets. In 2026–27 this will include:

\$16.99 million

Buildings

\$1.79 million

Drainage and sewerage

\$4.32 million

Recreation and leisure facilities

\$1.28 million

Bridges

\$1.02 million

Footpaths and cycleways

\$687,000

Parks, open space and streetscapes

The Budget invests in maintaining and renewing our local roads.

Total roads investment is \$21.21 million, taking in:

- **\$12.56 million** for road upgrade and renewal projects
- **\$7.43 million** for Civil Maintenance (repairs and maintenance of sealed and unsealed roads)
- **\$1.21 million** for road safety projects

We're increasing our dust suppression program budget by \$50,000, with a focus on high traffic unsealed roads.

Dust suppression helps maintain moisture, improving the driving experience.

YOUR SAY

Key Dates

29 APRIL 2026

Draft 2026–27 Budget released for community feedback

25 MAY 2026:

Submissions close at 10am

2 JUNE 2026:

Online hearing of submissions at 6pm (if required)

23 JUNE 2026:

Council to consider final 2026–27 Budget

View the Draft 2026–27 Budget at yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/budget26-27



Gladman St, Winchelsea

Council is preparing for population increases in Winchelsea over the coming years as it gradually takes the baton from Torquay as the shire's main growth front.

Following completion of the Winchelsea Place Plan, a budget of \$100,000 for a Winchelsea Structure Plan will guide future development to meet the community's needs.

Completion of the Barwon River Loop Walk project will continue to improve access to the river and celebrate this important natural asset, while increasing active transport connections in Winchelsea.

Key transport upgrades in the broader area include renewal, widening and safety improvements on Cape Otway Road between Gherang Road and Parishes Lane, a \$1.34 million upgrade to Barwon Terrace in Winchelsea, new kerb and channel works on Smith Street in Winchelsea (\$52,000), and the long-awaited repair and re-opening of the Pollocksford Road bridge in Gnarwarre.

Significant road renewal works will also take place on Ervins Road in Mount Moriac (\$209,000) and Waltons Road in Modewarre (\$114,000).

We'll continue the establishment and upkeep of new street trees planted in Winchelsea through our multi-year 'Branching Out' program.

Community facilities remain a priority, with funding to support operation of the Winchelsea pool, health club, kinder, community house, and senior citizens centre.

During this financial year we'll see the re-opening and operation of the Winchelsea Visitor Information Centre, and design and investigation works for renewal of the Winchelsea Toy Library (\$50,000).

At Eastern Reserve, we'll deliver a \$33,000 irrigation upgrade featuring a new pump set and sprinklers.

We're supporting community groups to deliver a Bennett Reserve landscape upgrade and new signage for the Winchelsea Arboretum Trail, via our Community Projects program.

Operational funding has also been included to grade and maintain unsealed roads and civil assets in the Winchelsea and Moriac areas.





LOCAL LEGENDS AWARD CELEBRATION

Thursday 21 May, 10am-12pm
Council Chambers, 1 Merrijig Drive, Torquay.

Join us at the 2026 Surf Coast Shire Local Legends Award Ceremony! Listen to the inspiring stories of award recipients, celebrate their contributions and connect over lunch.

National Volunteer Week
 18-24 MAY 2026
 YOUR YEAR TO VOLUNTEER

Winchelsea Sustainability Conversation and Coffee

Wednesday 20 May, 10.30-11.30am
Winchelsea Shire Hall, Winchelsea.

Join us to celebrate Winchelsea volunteers and hear about inspiring ways to increase sustainability in your community programs at the Winchelsea Shire Hall.

Lorne Volunteer Afternoon Tea

Thursday 21 May, 2.30-3.30pm
Lorne Historical Society, 16 Mountjoy Parade, Lorne

Lorne Community Volunteers are invited to afternoon tea at the newly refurbished Lorne Historical Society. Join us to celebrate the Lorne Community, volunteering, and to reflect on a huge year of resilience and connection.

Anglesea Community Celebration

Friday 22 May, 10am-12pm
Anglesea Bowling Club, 15 Cameron Road, Anglesea

Volunteers from Anglesea and Surrounds are invited to attend a FREE community event at Anglesea Bowls Club. A fun bowling tournament between volunteer groups, morning tea, and a chance to connect as a community is planned.

Volunteer Thank you Drinks & Nibbles & Recognition Wall

Friday 5 June, 5pm-6pm
Deans Marsh Hall, 10 Pennyroyal Valley Road, Deans Marsh.

Before Community Dinner (no bookings required)

EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

For further information, scan the **QR code** or visit surfcoast.vic.gov.au/volunteerweek or email bdixon@surfcoast.vic.gov.au or call 5261 0600.

We are committed to making this event accessible and inclusive. If you require any support or adjustments to participate, please let us know when you RSVP.



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Zinaida Campion

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



Photographer Phil Thomson: Through the Lens of Longing

Some photographers take pictures; others capture the world as they feel it. Local photographer Phil Thomson is unmistakably the latter. Known for his breathtaking nature photography — dawn light, shifting skies, the quiet majesty of the landscape — Phil brings the same instinct for wonder to the world of performance. His theatre work spans opera, symphony orchestras, and staged productions, each image marked by emotional clarity and a deep respect for the moment unfolding before him.

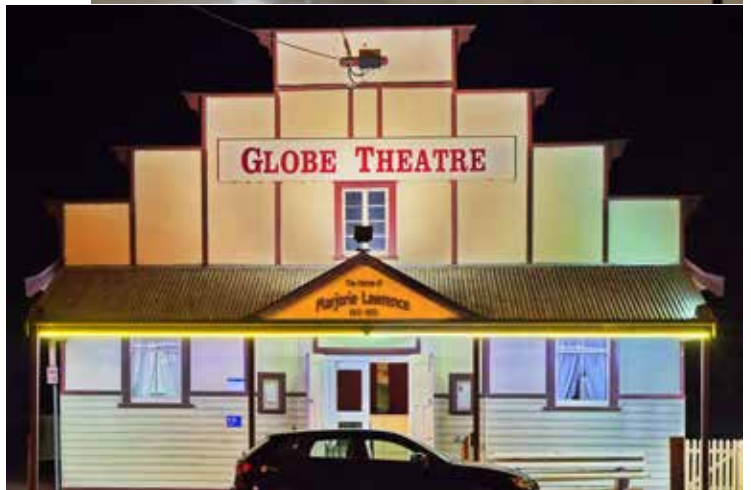
Photography, for Phil, is not just a craft but a way of being. “Behind that lens is where I feel most ‘me’, most alive... I feel at home,” he says. It’s this inner truth that shapes his images of Longing. Under his eye, the Globe Theatre becomes a living, breathing space: shadows moving across timber, voices suspended in light, the audience held in a shared hush. His timing — that instinctive sense of when gesture, expression, and music align — gives his work a rare intimacy.

All of the photographs from Longing shared across Rural Arts Victoria’s pages come from Phil’s camera. They are more than documentation; they are memories made visible. As he puts it, “The only thing we can take with us is memories, so I choose to try and capture as many of these as I can.”

Through his lens, Longing became both a piece of history and a work of art. We are deeply grateful for his sponsorship.

Ciao!

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, Co founder of Cecilia’s Daughters, Vice President of Geelong Opera, Artistic Director of the Winchelsea Music Season, and founder of Rural Arts Victoria. A keen arts writer, she has a strong background in languages and a love of local history. She is dedicated to working with the local community, and has an all-consuming passion for promoting the arts in rural areas.



The Ripple Effect

Madame Butterfly

If there's one thing that's become clear, it's this — Winchelsea doesn't need to reinvent itself.

But it might need to present itself more clearly.

We already have the foundations. The **gateways** are there. The name is there. The **creativity** is there. The **community** is there.

What's less clear is how those pieces come together — especially for the people experiencing the town for the first time.

And that's where small shifts can make a big difference.

Not necessarily projects or major spend — but thoughtful alignment.

Making sure that when someone arrives, they don't just see something... they

understand it. That when they stop, they're given a reason to stay just a little longer. That when they leave, they remember and talk about where they've been.

It's also about timing.

The Twinkle Trees, for example, already create a strong sense of identity — but only for part of the year. Could that story start earlier? Could it be hinted at, built into the way the town presents itself in the lead-up to Christmas?

And more broadly — what do we want people to associate with Winchelsea?

Because whether we shape that perception or not... it's happening anyway.

The difference is whether we take an active role in it.

This isn't about having all the answers. It's about starting the conversation.

What do you notice when you arrive in town?

What do you think visitors see — or don't see?

And what story do you think Winchelsea should be telling?

Because the opportunity is already there.

The next step is deciding what to do with it.

We've started the ripple — whether it leads to change, or disappears, is now up to us.

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1st Modewarre Scout Group News



Marie McPadden OAM, Group Leader
mcpadden630@bigpond.com

Scout Sia Badge Challenges

Scouts at all levels are encouraged to further develop their interests in activities or to be brave, and explore new areas of interest. At Joey level this requires 2 hours of input, then 4 hours for Cubs, 8 hours for Scouts and 12 hours at Venturer level.

Our Special Interest Area (SIA) Badges cover 6 areas of development – Growth & Development, Environment, Adventure & Sport, Art & Literature, STEM & Innovation, and Creating a Better World.

Over the last school holidays, one of our Scouts, aided by his grandmother, set out to make a 'Quillow' – a quilt that can be folded up to make a square pillow. Henry did a remarkable job cutting, pinning and stitching to produce a stunning quilt! He chose to place this project in the Art & Literature badge category, but it could have quite easily fitted into Growth & Development or STEM & Innovation.



One of our Joey Scouts, Atticus, spent a weekend building a new Lego model – one aged well above his 7 years. This fits neatly into the STEM badge but could also have been a Growth & Development target as it was a personal challenge.



By having a choice of badge, each Scout is able to have a personal focus for doing an activity. We ask them what they hope to achieve, and facilitate their thinking into aims and processes. At the end of the project, the Scout then reviews how the project went. As it is a learning process, there are no fails if something didn't go as planned, just an opportunity to work out why, and discuss a different way of tackling it another time. If it went largely as planned, then that's an opportunity to consolidate planning skills and technique. Most importantly, our first aim in any of these challenges is to HAVE FUN!

Soil Acidity and Lime Time

by Peter Groves

It's time to spread the lime!
During my time as a farm real estate agent, I had an interesting day with a Japanese beef farmer looking at a property in limestone country near Mt Gambier. The main feature of the property was the abundant irrigation water. The owner demonstrated the water supply from an underground pump which the Japanese client was keen to taste. His



reaction was immediate. He declared, "the most 'delicious beef' in Japan comes from land with alkaline water like this". This observation follows on from my previous article discussing tomatoes being grown near the Mediterranean Sea. My message is about the importance of adjusting the PH in soil which is a measure of the acidity where a high reading is acid, and a low reading is alkaline. In preparation for spring/summer plantings, it is important to adjust soil accordingly. You can't damage soil by being heavy handed with lime.



Winchelsea Star AGM

The Winchelsea Star 2026 Annual General Meeting is to be held as follows;

- Date: Thursday 21 May 2026
- Time: 7pm
- Venue: Winchelsea Community House

The agenda is as follows;

- (a) to confirm the minutes of the previous annual general meeting;
- (b) to receive and consider—
 - (i) the annual report of the Committee on the activities of the Association during the preceding financial year; and
 - (ii) the financial statements of the Association for the preceding financial year submitted by the Committee in accordance with Part 7 of the Act;
- (c) to elect the members of the Committee;
- (d) to determine the process for setting the amounts (if any) of the annual subscription and joining fee.

You are warmly invited to come along.



Winchelsea Star

This week's Edition

Editor Judy Cameron, Designer Tony Phelps

send your stories

news@winchelseastar.org.au

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Email news@winchelseastar.org.au
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weekend events

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Next Production Coffee Meeting Sat 30 May 9am @ MUD HUT All Welcome!

production

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Reg. No. A0053999F ABN 75 941 529 279
winchelseastar.org.au PO Box 5 Winchelsea 3241
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Accepting Enrolments for Prep 2027



Principal Tours for Families

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Families encouraged to come to one tour listed below

Thursday, May 7th
Wednesday, May 27th
Friday, June 5th



Come 'n' Play Evenings for Families & Students

4:30pm-5:30pm 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

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

National Volunteer Week To Celebrate Selfless Contributors And Local Legends

Surf Coast Shire Council will celebrate National Volunteer Week with a series of events including presentation of the shire's 2026 Local Legends.

A first two-time recipient, a 103-year-old men's shed member and community stalwart and an entire community are among contributors who will be celebrated at a Local Legends awards ceremony in Council's chambers on 21 May.

National Volunteer Week runs from 18 to 24 May. This year's theme is Your Year To Volunteer.

Community members are invited to acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of volunteers at events across the shire.

- Winchelsea celebration:**
 Sustainability Conversation and Coffee, including morning tea and a talk about inspiring ways to increase sustainability in community programs.
 10.30-11.30am, Wednesday 20 May, Winchelsea Shire Hall.
- Local Legend Awards celebration:**
 Award presentations and a light lunch.
 10am-noon, Thursday 21 May, Council Chambers, 1 Merrijig Drive, Torquay.

- Lorne celebration:**
 Afternoon tea and reflection on a big year of resilience and connection.
 2.30-3.30pm, Thursday 21 May, Lorne Historical Society.
- Anglesea celebration:**
 Morning tea and a chance to try barefoot bowling.
 10am-noon, Friday 22 May, Anglesea Bowling Club.
- Deans Marsh celebration:**
 Community dinner and volunteer recognition display.
 From 5pm, Friday 5 June, 10 Pennyroyal Valley Road.

All welcome. Register to attend the National Volunteer Week celebrations or Local Legends Awards ceremony via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/volunteerweek.

Council's Local Legends Awards program was launched several years ago to increase recognition for people contributing to the community.

Surf Coast Shire's 2026 Local Legends are:

- Community Commitment Award**
 Greg Parker, martial arts instructor
 Steve Findlay, Connewarre Community Asset Committee veteran
 Dean Walton, Rubbish Ranger, two-time Local Legend
 Larissa Sichivitsa, Feed Me Surf Coast, community house volunteer
 Jodi Morgan, Anglesea Community House
 Cheryl Reif, Anglesea Community House
 Doug Elsum, Anglesea Community House
 Doug Stirling, 103yo Lorne Men's Shed

member, community stalwart Steve Christou, Surf Coast Football Club volunteer

Community Impact Award
 Sarah Gross, Cass Mackenzie, Storyfolk
 Matty Lawrence, Happy Spaces
 Robert Lytzki, Foundation 61
 Robert Sneddon, Surf Coast all abilities basketball
 George Carman, community arts volunteer
 Barry Davidson, Anglesea Community House
 Daniel Blunt, Surf Coast Football Club volunteer

Group Volunteer Excellence Award
 Lorne community, for flood response
 Anglesea Art House volunteers
 Anglesea Community House Committee of Management

Community Inclusion Award
 Tori's Place Café volunteers

People can view Local Legends profiles via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/LocalLegends.

Cr Tony Phelps: "Where would we be without our wonderful volunteers? They make immeasurable contributions to so many aspects of community life, sharing their time and energy for the betterment, welfare and enjoyment of others.

"National Volunteer Week provides a focus for us to shine a light on their wonderful work and say thank you.

"Our Local Legends presentation ceremony has become a highlight of our National Volunteer Week activities, and testimonies of the devotions and contributions of individuals and organisations never fail to amaze and inspire."



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The Climate Report

Compiled by Judy Cameron

Antarctic Sea Ice Defied Global Warming For Decades – Now, Hidden Ocean Heat Is

Breaking Through

By a team at the University of Southampton

For decades, Antarctica seemed to defy global warming. Since satellites began monitoring the poles in the late 1970s, the seasonal growth and retreat of Antarctic sea ice – frozen seawater that expands around the continent each winter – appeared remarkably resilient. It was often described as the “heartbeat of the planet”.

Unlike the Arctic, where sea ice declined rapidly as the planet warmed, Antarctic sea ice showed little overall loss. It even expanded between 2007 and 2015. But that resilience has now broken.

Since 2015, Antarctic sea ice has declined sharply. In 2023, winter sea ice extent fell to record lows — so far below the long-term average that scientists considered it an event with roughly a one-in-3.5-million probability of occurring by chance.

Antarctica was long considered a part of the climate system expected to change slowly. The speed of the recent sea ice decline has therefore come as a shock.

In our new scientific study, we show that the ocean around Antarctica has undergone a fundamental shift. Heat that had been trapped deep below the surface is now rising upwards, where it can melt sea ice.

The consequences are not only physical. Antarctic sea ice supports one of the world's most distinctive ecosystems. Algae grow on and under the ice, feeding krill, which in turn sustain penguins, seals, whales and seabirds. Low sea ice has already been linked to mass drowning of emperor penguin chicks – putting the entire species at risk. A long-term shift to lower sea ice cover would therefore reshape not only the climate itself, but also the living Southern Ocean.

Emperor penguins are officially endangered, as of April 2026. The animals live almost entirely on Antarctic sea ice.

In the past, Antarctica helped buffer global warming. Our results suggest it may now be shifting in the opposite direction.

Whether this marks a permanent change remains uncertain. But if low sea ice conditions persist, the Southern Ocean could start to accelerate global warming rather than limit it.

Read the full story at https://theconversation.com/antarctic-sea-ice-defied-global-warming-for-decades-now-hidden-ocean-heat-is-breaking-through-282356?utm_medium=article_native_share&utm_source=theconversation.com

Why climate action stalls, despite widespread popular support

By Laurie Parsons, Royal Holloway, University of London

What's the link between the global economy and the climate? Consumption drives extraction and carbon emissions. But there is more.

The inequalities of the global economy don't just shape what goes into the atmosphere. They affect our understanding of the climate and our perspectives when it comes to possible solutions. The lenses through which we see the world reflect the inequalities within it. The greater the centralisation of power, the greater the control over our knowledge about it.

This perspective explains a lot about our seeming inability to escape the environmental status quo.

Successive polls indicate overwhelming public support for resolving excessive carbon emissions and the problems this excessive use of fossil fuels is creating for communities around the world.

Almost every country has a stated commitment to decarbonisation. Wind and solar energy are the cheapest forms of energy in history.

Yet a record quantity of carbon was pumped into the atmosphere last year. And record amounts of coal, oil and gas are still being extracted from the Earth.



Photo: vladsilver / shutterstock.

Statistics like this can make even thinking about climate change a demoralising business. This is precisely the problem. Our overwhelming political will is sapped by being locked into a system that obscures the most effective pathways (phasing out fossil fuels, for example), while continually moving us towards less effective ones.

The populations of the developed world, consumers of most fossil fuels globally, may favour climate action. But as long as they continue to benefit from a global economy that reduces their risk through air conditioning and wealth, tackling climate change will remain alongside world peace and eliminating global hunger: moral aspirations, rather than tangible policy.

It is a testament to the persuasive powers of the fossil fuel industry that this hegemony is sustained – even in the face of precipitously falling renewable energy prices. Campaigns outflank arguments for renewable energy through widespread political lobbying and by support for conservative think tanks and social movements, such as the campaign against net zero.

The changing climate acts not only through emissions, but through everything we do, make and think. With different assumptions about which climate actions are possible, we arrive at different politics and different outcomes.

So, however much it might feel like it, the climate impasse is far from insurmountable. A world of ways to reshape our relationship to the environment are waiting, if only we can learn to see them.

Read the full story at: <https://theconversation.com/why-climate-action-stalls-despite-widespread-popular-support-282002>

Councillor Catch-Up

Tony Phelps, Winchelsea Ward Councillor

As hopefully you've come across one way or another, the Shire's draft budget is out for your review. Much like the State budget last week and the Federal budget this week, there isn't the funding to do everything for everyone and your Councillors have been tussling over what to prioritise next year (in line with the 4-year Council Plan and its resulting Action Plan). Your feedback is genuinely sought - while it may or may not affect this budget, it will register regardless. Last week's Star had a good overview, otherwise see [yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/budget26-27](https://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/budget26-27)

Winch House has long been accepting ink cartridges and spent batteries for recycling, courtesy of manager Wendy. The Shire has now expanded its own collection service and put specialised collection containers in various locations including Winch House. See [surfcoast.vic.gov.au/ewaste](https://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/ewaste). Winch House also offers free tampons and pads (in the unisex toilet), see more about this at [freepadsandtampons.vic.gov.au](https://www.freepadsandtampons.vic.gov.au).



Speaking of Winch House, it was VERY disappointing to see no increase in support in the State budget for Neighbourhood Houses, at all, in spite of a sensible, urgent and evidence-based call for it. I also note that next year is the final year of Shire financial support for the Shire Hall administrator role. What comes next? I hope you'll get involved to work that out.

On a more positive note, the Federal budget is to allocate \$20m to Barwon Water for their FOGO project at Black Rock, recycling organic waste into renewable energy and bio-char (which does all sorts of good stuff for soil). Waste is a big issue everywhere, no less so for Surf Coast Shire as the Anglesea tip heads towards 'Full' status.



Out-and-about, it's been a busy couple of months. From the Rip Curl Pro to the Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race, the Deans Marsh Festival to the Cemeteries and Crematoria Association conference, the opening of the Surf Coast Safe Space to the SES Open Day, Conquer The Corrugations Victoria mental health awareness walk to the Shifty Fifty mountain bike challenge...



As Deputy Mayor I'm certainly getting to see a whole lot more of the great variety and number of events & organisations our various communities are involved with. There's so much good stuff going on for people to join in, connect, and enjoy.

In that vein, it's National Volunteer Week in 2 weeks. The Shire has a number of happenings, see [surfcoast.vic.gov.au/volunteerweek](https://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/volunteerweek).

Come along to the Shire Hall on Wednesday 20 May 2026 for 10:30am to hear about inspiring ways to increase sustainability in your community programs.

To finish off, a shout out to whoever left a bottle of hand sanitiser at Winchelsea's container refund machine on Harding Street. Much appreciated and a nice gesture! :)

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.



What's on at Winch House

28 Hesse Street, Winchelsea Ph: 0352672028 Email: reception@winchhouse.org.au

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- PARENT INVOLVEMENT MAY BE REQUIRED FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN.
- PLEASE BOOK IN PRIOR TO THE EVENT AS LOW BOOKINGS MAY RESULT IN CANCELLATION
- SIGN UP AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE DURING THE TERM AND ONLY PAY FOR THE REMAINING WEEKS.
- THE PROGRAM WILL BE HELD AT THE WINCHELSEA SHIRE HALL.
- SESSION TIMES MAY VARY SLIGHTLY DEPENDING ON ENROLLMENT NUMBERS (PARTICIPANTS MAY BE SPLIT INTO YOUNGER AND OLDER AGE GROUPS)
- ALL BOOKINGS MUST BE MADE THROUGH THE KELLY SPORTS WEBSITE (SEE DETAILS BELOW)

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GEELONG@KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU
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Yoga & Mat Pilates in the Shire Hall

Mat Pilates 6.30pm Tuesdays

Pilates 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.

Thursdays Vinyasa Yoga 6.30pm

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.

~~\$25~~ **\$22 Per Class** For Term 2 ONLY!

Email: shirehall@winchhouse.org.au or call: 0352672028

CHATTY CAFÉ
Friday's 10.30am – 12.30pm in the Shire Hall

"Sip, Chat, Share, Care"

Everyone Welcome, Gold coin donation.

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



From the chatty Café webpage 'If you're on your own, in a couple, with a friend, if you're a carer with who you care for, mums and babies, dads and babies, grandparents and babies, young people, older people and anyone in between! Everyone is Welcome at our "Have a Chat" table'.

TAI CHI

Friday Mornings
9am - 10am
In the Winchelsea Shire Hall

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 abilities & ages.

Find us on facebook at: winchelsea tai chi group

Please call 03 52672028 or email reception@winchhouse.org.au to register. **\$10 Per Class**

Craft & Crochet Group

\$5 per person.

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

Next session: Saturday 16th
reception@winchhouse.org.au

Get in touch!

Let us know what programs, events or workshops you'd like to see happening in the community house and Shire hall. We're here Mon-Fri 9am to 2pm. Give us a call on 0352672028 or pop in for a chat.

If The Walls Could Talk At The Globe Theatre!

Memories by Yvonne Orchard – Part 1

Wow! What stories would the Globe theatre have to tell us, witnessing all the events that have happened within it's walls over the last 100 years.

The Winchelsea community was blessed when Mr William Lawrence decided to build a substantial hall for his world acclaimed opera singing daughter, Majorie Lawrence, to perform in when she came home to Winchelsea. But how sad that he died, before this wonderful event came to pass, in 1939 and again in 1944 when Majorie performed to a crowded and enthusiastic audience.

The recent concert, 'Longing' with talented local artists Zinaida Campion, soprano, Helen Ling, soprano, and pianist David Stewart, was a wonderful tribute commemorating the Globes centenary 1926-2026, also a fitting launch of the Winchelsea Music Season.

My first memories of the Globe go back to around 1965 when I attended one of the weekly country dances there; of course I had no idea of the history behind the hall then. It has hosted many dances before and since and many balls have been held there from the Debutant balls and the once annual Masonic balls, Lions Club Balls, to the Church balls with different themes and the cabarets in the 70s & 80s, when the hall was so thick with cigarette smoke our eyes were stinging. Just think of all the creative decorations that also adorned its walls and interior. I recall June Duffield (nee Orchard) designed elaborate crepe streamer decorations for the Masonic balls which were so attractive and huge they were left up for most of the year.

Mostly local people provided the music for the dances from McGregor's Orchestra including, piano, saxophone played by Russell Mathison, and Hugh Knuckey on the drums, to the 'Hobiyahs' -with Robert & Denis Knuckey and Harry Schroeter on guitar, and John Knuckey on the drums with Brian Taylor playing the piano. Howard Dandy, a popular local teacher also helped, and his 'Thyme' Band was a great hit at cabarets. The sumptuous country suppers provided at the dances is another fond memory.

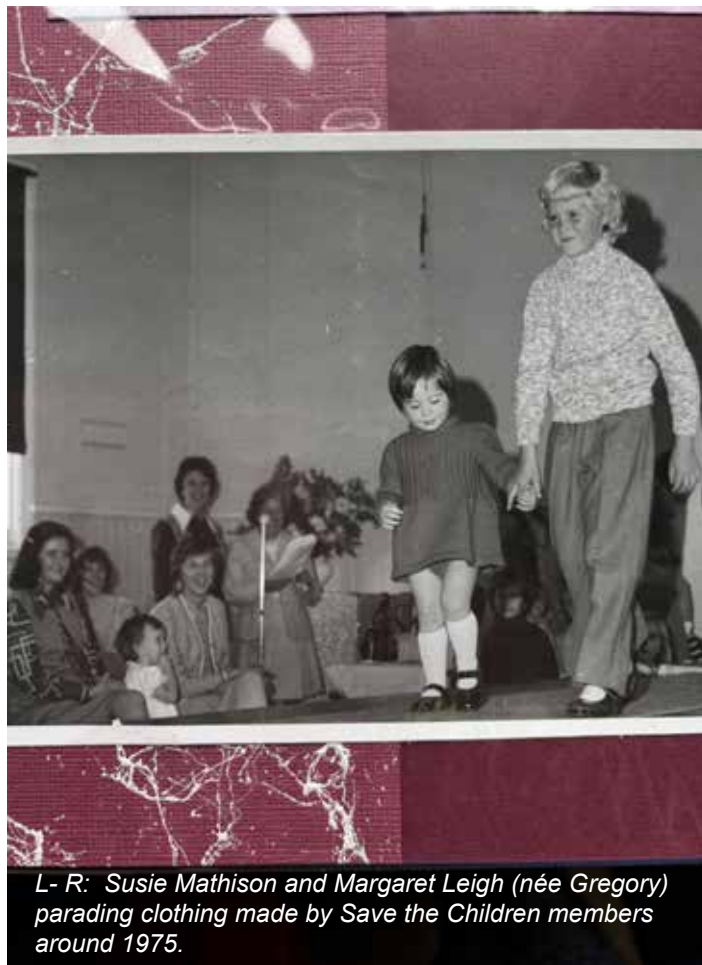
As was the custom in country towns, Geoff & I, and many others, were given a kitchen tea dance in the Globe Theatre, where you found out how many friends you had by the number who attended, with a gift for your kitchen and a plate of supper, as the whole community was invited with notices placed in the shop windows, usually by the family or bridesmaids.

The Globe has been the venue for many weddings as well, including Marjorie's brother Lindsay's in 1931. I'm sure it has seen the horse and carts pull up as well as vintage, veteran, and the motor vehicles of today.

Special birthdays were hosted in the Globe especially 21sts, 70ths, 80ths etc and even 100 year celebrations, one being the birthday of Dulcie Beatty.

The Globe has assisted in fund-raising for many events including Fleece shows, and numerous Art shows. The local

Save the Children Fund ran an annual Fashion Parade, where they sold the articles of clothing they had made during the year, and used the local children as models. I remember my daughters modelling such things as jumpers and pyjamas



L- R: Susie Mathison and Margaret Leigh (née Gregory) parading clothing made by Save the Children members around 1975.

then we had the opportunity of buying these lovely hand-made garments.

Another fundraiser the Parents club of the school organised, inspired by the expertise of Sally Jo Woods was a 'Wedding, Deb, & Bridesmaids' fashion Parade. I was able to donate eleven gowns from my wardrobes to contribute to the display having 5 daughters, who had left all their deb dresses home, and I had a wedding dress and a number of bridesmaids dresses too. They used the young local girls as models, and it was a great success.

We have held Inter-Church Carol Services there before Christmas, and Carols by Candlelight when it rained. I remember the noise of the children when Santa came was deafening, especially with the rain on the roof as well.

NOTE: Part 2 next week. If there are any mistakes or omissions in my article, or you have photos of events held there over the years, please send to editor@winchelseastar.org.au Thank you, Yvonne Orchard

history of winchelsea

Meningoort Private Hospital

Meningoort former Private Hospital 37 Willis Street. AKA Nurse Stephenson's Hospital.

Before the modern hospital now known as Hesse Rural Health was built on Gosney Street, Winchelsea was serviced by local doctors such as Dr Meyler operating out of the private Dr's residence and surgery, 'Balgownie' at 65-67 Main Street, which we have explored in a previous article, until Meningoort (a former private hospital) was acquired in 1918 by George and Annie Stephenson.

In 1944 after public subscriptions and Commonwealth loans were made six acres was purchased from the Church of England on the banks of the Barwon. However a new hospital was built in Gosney Street and opened on 7/11/1956. It cost \$45,000. Meningoort became a private residence after the building of the new hospital.

Meningoort has been restored in recent times and appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street. It represents one of the most intact 19th century Victorian styled timber dwellings in Winchelsea.



Annie Stephenson registered as a nurse and midwife in 1916 and then trained under the local doctor and surgeon, Dr Arthur Eddie (resident medical practitioner in Winchelsea from 1888 until 1930). Annie contributed much to community life in Winchelsea through her treatment of numerous patients at Meningoort throughout the interwar period, including maternity patients and those suffering various illnesses such as broken bones and pneumonia.

Many local people still living in Winchelsea today above a certain age were born in this building. George Stephenson, dearly beloved husband of Annie, loving father of Elaine, Alma and Monica died on 22 October 1922 at St. Vincent's Hospital aged 54.

On November 11, 1934, Annie and George's daughter Annie Monica married George Stewart Mathieson, of Bona Vista on Mathieson's Road. She died four years later on 13th March 1938 at Colac aged 32 Years. Her body was taken to Meningoort for her funeral and thence to the Winchelsea Cemetery.

There was felt a need for a new hospital after the departure of Dr Nott in 1941 when Winchelsea was without a resident medical practitioner for the first time since Dr Meyler arrived more than half a century before.

It was sold in 2021 and now remains a private residence. Originally Meningoort had a large back yard which was traditionally used for the outdoor rehabilitation of patients from the hospital, but after the recent sale, the property was subdivided and now contains an entire street of townhouses.



Micheál 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.

What's on Weekly

MONDAY-FRIDAY

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 AND 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

1ST MODAWARRE SCOUT GROUP

Modewarre Hall, Cape Otway Rd
Mon-Cub Scouts 8-11yo 6:30-8pm (sch term)
Venturers 15-18yo hosted by
Torquay or Highton Units
Marie McPadden 0409330147

TUESDAY



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

1ST MODAWARRE SCOUT GROUP

Modewarre Hall, Cape Otway Rd
Tues-Joey's 5-8yo 5-6pm (sch term)
Venturers 15-18yo hosted by
Torquay or Highton Units
Marie McPadden 0409330147

MAT PILATES

6.30pm- \$25
Winchelsea Community House
28 Hesse St, Winchelsea
(03) 5267 2028

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 Shinnars 52672263, 0427672263
jeanshinnars@gmail.com

MOTHER GOOSE SONG AND 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!

9.30-2pm Wednesdays
Winch Community House, Hesse St
SEWING MACHINE and
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Gold Coin donation

MEL'S DANCE CENTRAL

Winchelsea Dance Classes
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Wednesday afternoon/evenings
The Senior Citizens Club,
www.melsdancecentral.com.au



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healthpromotion@hesse.vic.gov.au
0417 848 292



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Fun, Interactive music sessions for
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*When: Mondays from 10 to 11 am
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*Where: St Thomas' Hall
25 Barwon Tce.*

To Enquire ring: 0407838256

April/May 2026

This is a recurring calendar.
Please confirm event details with the organiser/venue.
To add an event to the calendar,
please email news@winchelseastar.org.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



1ST MODEWARRE SCOUT GROUP

Modewarre Hall, Cape Otway Rd
Wed-Scouts 11-14yo 6:30-8:30pm (sch term)
Venturers 15-18yo hosted by
Torquay or Highton Units
Marie McPadden 0409330147

THURSDAY

CHAT WITH YOUR COUNCILLOR

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

COWORKING AND 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
winchelseaplaygroup@gmail.com

WINCHELSEA PICKLEBALL

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

WINCHELSEA KNITTING GROUP

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

MAT PILATES

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

WINCHELSEA MOVIE CLUB

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

FRIDAY

TAI CHI

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

COMMUNITY FOODBANK

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

PHONICS WITH ROBOT REG

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

CHATTY CAFÉ

10.30am-12.30pm, Winch Shire Hall,
28 Hesse St, Winchelsea
Gold Coin Donation 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 Shinnars 52672263, 0427672263
jeanshinnars@gmail.com

GEELONG REGIONAL LIBRARY

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

SATURDAY

PARKRUN

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

DIAMOND DOT

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

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)
MUD HUT near the River
www.winchelseastar.org.au

WINCHELSEA CROCHET GROUP

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

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass 5pm each week
Harding St, Winchelsea 0404598558

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY DINNER

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

SUNDAY

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY MARKET

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

WINCHELSEA UNITING CHURCH

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

ST THOMAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH

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



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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 5pm Sat. APRIL 25
MAY 2, 9, 16, 23

St Thomas' Anglican Church

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

Thought of the Week

"True honour is choosing peace over painless arguments. Wise people walk away from strife. Foolish people rush into conflict, and create trouble. Calm, self control, show strength, not weakness."

Have a Blessed week.

John Bader
(Christian Pastoral Carer)

Psalm 11

A Prayer for Help

Help us, Lord! There is not a good person left; honest people can no longer be found. All of them lie to one another; they deceive each other with flattery.

Silence those flattering tongues, O Lord! Close those boastful mouths that say, "With our words we get what we want. We will say what we wish, and no one can stop us."

"But now I will come," says the Lord, "because the needy are oppressed and the persecuted groan in pain. I will give them the security they long for."

The promises of the Lord can be trusted; they are as genuine as silver refined seven times in the furnace.

The wicked are everywhere, and everyone praises what is evil. Keep us always safe, O Lord, and preserve us from such people.

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Starts Thursday 24th April 4pm!

Find out more Shae 0409641550

New Heavy Tanker Delivered For Winchelsea Brigade

Member for Western Victoria Gayle Tierney welcomed the addition of a new heavy tanker for the Winchelsea CFA Brigade, replacing an older vehicle and boosting the brigade's operational capability.

The \$430,000 heavy tanker is a modern firefighting vehicle designed to handle both country and town conditions, helping firefighters respond more safely and effectively.

The heavy tanker features:

- 4,000-litre water capacity
- Four-wheel drive and automatic transmission
- Crew and vehicle protection systems, including radiant heat curtains and water-spraying technology
- Improved operator interfaces, electronic monitors and electric rewind hose reels to reduce fatigue and improve safety

Heavy tankers play an important role in regional Victoria, allowing firefighters to carry more water, handle rough terrain and stay safe during high-risk call-outs.

The Winchelsea Fire Brigade has 63 members with 34 operational firefighters and responds to an average of 84 incidents each year.

Spring Creek Reserve upgrades complete - now open to the community

Two major upgrade projects at Torquay's Spring Creek Reserve have been unveiled to the community ahead of the venue's first match of the new football season.

Female friendly change room upgrade

The reserve's home and away change rooms have been upgraded to modern, inclusive and accessible facilities to better support football and cricket participants of all abilities and genders.

The project included improvements to the shower and bathroom facilities, making them more suitable for female participants, in line with modern standards, canteen upgrade improvements to the spectator toilets, and a new hot water system.

The project was possible thanks to a \$700,000 grant from the Australian Government through the Investing in Our Community Program. The Australian Football League contributed \$75,000 via its Football Facilities Fund, with Council providing \$82,000.

McCartney Oval reconstruction

A \$2.4 million, fully Council-funded reconstruction of the reserve's McCartney Oval has delivered a new playing surface of regional standard.

The oval renewal involved a complete rebuild of the playing surface and centre turf cricket wicket, with all new sub surface and turf installation, improved drainage and irrigation and new fencing, pavement, perimeter kerbing and goal posts.

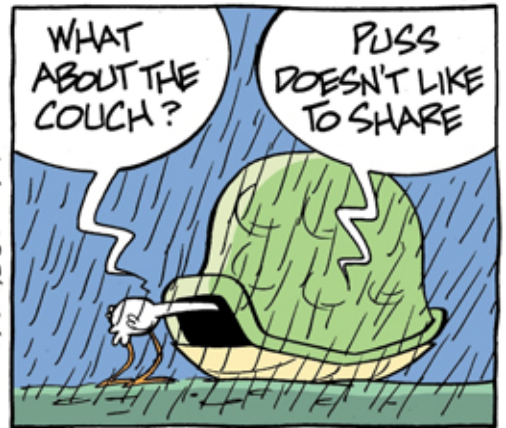
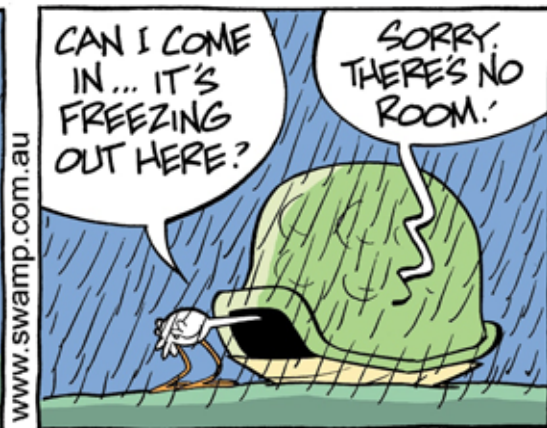
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Making It Easier To Recycle Batteries And Small E-Waste With More Collection Locations

It's now easier for Surf Coast Shire residents to recycle batteries and small e-waste items, with new collection containers spread across the shire in convenient locations.

It's part of a new campaign from Sustainability Victoria on behalf of the Victorian Government to help raise awareness about the safe disposal of batteries and e-waste.

Batteries and e-waste should never go in kerbside bins, so the collection containers are the safest and most environmentally friendly way to dispose of items such as old and broken mobile phones, ipads, electric toothbrushes and vapes as well as loose and embedded batteries.

E-waste has been banned from landfill in Victoria since 2019, but many batteries are still being incorrectly placed in household rubbish bins.

When single use batteries and electronics end up in kerbside bins or landfill, they pose serious risks. Lithium-ion batteries can ignite when crushed in garbage trucks or recycling facilities, causing dangerous fires that endanger waste workers and the community. They also leach toxic chemicals into the environment.

"By providing more accessible recycling options, we're helping prevent harmful materials from entering landfill and

protecting our local environment for future generations," Surf Coast Shire Cr Leon Walker said.

"We know many people want to recycle the right way, but we get that convenience matters. These new locations will make it easier to take that extra step and recycle responsibly."

Residents can now drop off batteries and small e-waste items (roughly the size of your hand) for free at:

- Anglesea Community House
 - Deans Marsh Community Cottage
 - Feed Me Surf Coast, Torquay
 - Lorne Foodworks supermarket
 - Torquay residential waste drop off site
 - Torquay Community House
 - Torquay Library
 - Surf Coast Wholefoods, Torquay
 - Winchelsea Community House
 - Wurdi Baierr Stadium, Torquay
- This is in addition to the current battery and e-waste collection locations:
- Anglesea Transfer Station
 - Lorne Transfer Station
 - Winchelsea Transfer Station



Cr Leon Walker dropping off batteries for recycling

- Surf Coast Shire Council Office, Torquay
- * Large e-waste items can be dropped off for free at the transfer stations.
- Find out what items are accepted at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/ewaste.

The e-waste and battery recycling project supports delivery of Council's Circular Economy Action Plan (2024-2027).

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 36 Harding Street Winchelsea

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Case Study – Avocado And Domestic Ducks Don't Mix

By Liz Hancock, District Veterinary Officer, Warrnambool

In April 2025, Agriculture Victoria investigated the sudden deaths of ducks in a backyard setup in south west Victoria.

While the deaths were caused by avocado (persin) toxicity, this case study provides a working example of how reports like this are urgently assessed to rule out an Emergency Animal Disease (EAD).

It all began when the Agriculture Victoria duty veterinarian received a call via the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline from a backyard poultry farmer reporting that 7 of their 18 ducks had died that day, all within minutes of each other.

The duty veterinarian asked the owner to carefully double bag all deceased animals and store them in a secure area, and keep all remaining live poultry isolated from wild birds until an investigation was done.

These initial steps help reduce the risk of disease spread while an investigation is underway.

The Agriculture Victoria on-call District Veterinary Officer (DVO) was notified, who went to the property to conduct a post mortem, collect information and samples to rule in or out Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and determine the actual cause of the deaths.

When the DVO arrived at the property, the owner of the poultry explained that 7

ducks had died in the past 24 hours. The ducks were co-housed with 10 chickens and 11 ducks, most of whom appeared clinically normal. There had been no prior illness in any poultry on the farm, and no dead wild birds had been seen.

Discussion with the owner uncovered that the last feed, approximately 6 to 7 hours prior to the deaths had included 6 whole avocados.

At this stage, a suspected diagnosis of avocado toxicity was made, and swabs and samples were collected and sent to Agriculture Victoria's Veterinary Diagnostics Laboratory at AgriBio for analysis.

Our pathologists at AgriBio performed a number of tests, including one to rule out HPAI.

Avocados are known to contain persin which is toxic to mammals and birds. Birds which have ingested it often show lethargy, difficulty breathing, loss of appetite, swelling around their neck and chest and sudden death.

Diagnosis is made by history of access to avocado and clinical signs in the duck. However, it can also be supported by tissue examination and testing, as this case was. Treatment involves supportive care only and is often unsuccessful and/or cost prohibitive.

This case shows how important it is to report sudden or unusual animal deaths promptly, even if the cause turns out not to be an emergency animal disease.

The community is encouraged to report any unusual signs or suspected cases of emergency animal disease immediately to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.

Find out more about Agriculture Victoria's emergency animal disease preparedness at agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/animal-diseases/emergency-animal-diseases

Geelong Comes Together For People Impacted By Dementia

Geelong community members tied up their laces and showed up in force last weekend for the 2026 Geelong Memory Walk & Jog - throwing their support behind people impacted by dementia whilst getting active to improve their brain health.

More than 720 people walked, ran and jogged to the finish line to raise an impressive total of \$97,791.

This event was one of 14 Memory Walk & Jog events to be held across Australia in 2026. Each event offers a wonderful opportunity for people impacted by dementia and their supporters to come together, walk or run, at any fitness level, and to raise money and share stories.

Missed this event but want to be involved? Organise your own group or individual walk or jog, with a MyWay event. Choose your own date and location and register at www.memorywalk.com.au/get-involved/mw.

Urgent Care Clinics

The Victorian Government announced the 2026/27 Budget will continue to fund the nine Urgent Care Clinics (UCCs) in the state.

Delivering care closer to home, they are reducing pressure on Emergency Departments in hospitals by treating urgent, non-emergency cases.

UCCs are free for anyone with or without a Medicare card and provide care for things like sprains, broken bones, mild burns, and minor infections.

The UCCs Closest to Winchelsea are:

- Torquay Medicare Urgent Care Clinic, 85 Surf Coast Highway, ph. 5296 0509
- Belmont Medicare Urgent Care Clinic, 75 - 77 Roslyn Road, ph. 4206 7366



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On behalf of our school community, we warmly welcome new families to our annual Open Day.

To celebrate Education Week, our school and classrooms will be open from 9:00am to 11:30am. Visitors are invited to observe learning, ask questions and join in classroom activities. We encourage families to stay for the full session.

This is a great opportunity to experience Deans Marsh Primary School and see what makes our school unique.

If you are unable to attend, please contact the Principal to arrange another visit.

WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY 2026

deansmarshps.vic.edu.au 52 363 264

Treaty And Reconciliation In Focus At National Reconciliation Week Event

Surf Coast Shire Council will recognise National Reconciliation Week with an event exploring how Victoria's Treaty can help move reconciliation beyond symbolism into tangible, lasting action.

Guest speaker Gunditjmarra/Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung man John Clarke will reflect on the theme and the importance of Treaty in providing opportunity to set objectives and identify benefits that matter most to Aboriginal communities.

In 2025 Victoria became Australia's first state to enshrine Treaty with First Nations people into law, ensuring they have a say over policies that impact them and their families.

National Reconciliation Week runs from 27 May to 3 June, following National Sorry Day on 26 May.

Council's free event will be from noon to 3pm on 4 June at In The Skies at Lorne Bowls Club.

Mayor Libby Stapleton: "Council is continuing its journey towards reconciliation, and while our commitment and actions are year-round, we welcome National Reconciliation Week as a time to reflect and focus with our community.

"This year's theme All In reminds us that we all have roles to play in achieving reconciliation, and that we need to show up as allies, respectfully walking beside First Nations people and growing our understanding.

"We look forward to sharing in John Clarke's insights at our event, and encourage community members to attend and learn about meaningful ways to move forward towards reconciliation."

Council will run a free bus from Torquay Community House to the event, stopping for pick-ups at Anglesea Community House and Aireys Inlet Community Hall.

People can register to attend the event and reserve a seat on the bus via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/FirstNationsReconciliation

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A Taste of India Comes to the Shire Hall

Last Friday night, the Shire Hall was filled with the incredible aromas and vibrant flavours of India as Rohit and his family hosted a special dinner for 50 local guests.

Currently operating from their home kitchen, Delhi-licious took the opportunity to create a full restaurant style experience for the community and was a great success. Supported by Winchelsea community house staff, Guests enjoyed an evening of outstanding food, drinks and a sense of community.

The feedback from the event has been overwhelmingly positive, with many praising the authentic flavours and excellent quality of Rohit's Food.

We look forward to welcoming Delhi-licious back again soon for another memorable evening.



Delhi-licious offers freshly cooked Indian food weekly from their home kitchen. You can find them and order via facebook for your next Friday night indian dinner.





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Winchelsea Golf Club



Rachel Boddington

Wednesday May 6th - Weekly Stableford

12 Players.

- 1st - Rob Wilson (19) 37 points
- 2nd - Tara Steward (16) 34 points
- BDL - Geoff Morgan (20) 33 points
- BDL - Denis Chappell (18) 33 points
- NTP (2nd/11th) - Greg Rigby

Coming up:

- Wednesday May 13th - Weekly Stableford & Ladies Quarterly Medal (Stroke), Putting
- Saturday May 16th - Mike Barron Trophy (Par), Ladies Quarterly Medal (Stroke), Putting

Ladies Results 6/5/26

3rd Rd Jess Budge Trophy

- Winner: Elizabeth Alston 34 pts
- Best 9 hole Score: Cheryl Mawson 20 pts
- NTP (15th): Elizabeth Alston

Saturday May 9th - Greg Drayton Memorial 4BBB

Board Event - 13 Teams

- 1st - David "Fly" Lewis & Ed Body 45 points
- 2nd - Stephen Cole & Don Cuttler 42 points
- BDL - Neil Hickman & Max Bubb 40 points C/B
- NTP (6TH/15th) - Dale Morgan
- Golden Hole (8th) - Don Cuttler



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parkrun 114



Saturday 9 May 2026

Trebeck Reserve, Winchelsea
parkrun.com.au/trebeckreserve

25 participants completed the course through Trebeck reserve this week in chilly conditions. Two people completed their very first parkrun. Welcome to Jimmy and Anthea

7 volunteers made this event possible. Thanks to Kate McInnes, Neil McInnes, Don Smith, Brian Vagg, Anthea Reinen, Bert Pelgrim and Ann Jones.

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



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More places to recycle batteries and small e-waste



It's now easier to recycle batteries and small e-waste, with more free drop-off locations across the Surf Coast Shire.

Batteries and e-waste don't belong in your kerbside bin.

When disposed of incorrectly, they can cause dangerous fires, harm waste workers, and leak toxic chemicals into the environment.

Drop off items (roughly the size of your hand) like old phones, tablets, chargers, electric toothbrushes, vapes and batteries at a location near you.

- ✓ More convenient locations
- ✓ Safer disposal
- ✓ Better for our environment

Find your nearest drop-off point and accepted items:

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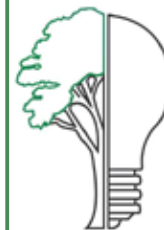
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Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafnc@hotmail.com

Blues News

Janet Fletcher



ROUND 5

Welcome to Round 5 in the GDFNL where the Winchelsea Blues had their first away game for the season travelling to country cousins Inverleigh to compete for the Bendigo Bank Community Cup. There was a big crowd following the Winchelsea Club including sponsors Ray & Lyn Davis recently returned from a 6 week stint at Mallacoota. Many Life Members and Committee also made the trip to Inverleigh for the Football. Both the Reserves and the Senior games were viewed in glorious conditions last Saturday afternoon and both games were close all afternoon.

RESERVES:

Winchelsea Blues 4.5.29 were def by Inverleigh Hawks 4.8.32

This was a low scoring tight affair right from the opening bounce with Inverleigh holding a slender balance at every change although the lead swung back and forth throughout the 4 quarters. The Blues had their chances in the last 6 minutes of the fourth quarter but just couldn't capitalise on the opportunities that presented and so the Hawks came away with the 4 points with a 3 point win.

GOALS: Byron Reid 2, Nick Hughes 1, Joss Church 1.

BEST: Dustin Baker, Zach Ross, Patrick Dench, Nick Hughes, Eamon Dempsey, Tayne Hewson.

Indi Parish was courageous both early and later in the game fully deserving his Best on Ground, brother Finn was receiving a good amount of attention as usual and Ryan Williams provided some real grunt and maturity across the entire game time. The best 6 this week were ably supported by a real team effort, and Coaching Staff would be buoyed by the gritty win.

GOALS: Indi Parish 5, Cameron Primmer 4, Rueben James 2, Jack Sampi 2, Jordan Gould 1, Bailey Mumberson 1, Fin Parish 1.

BEST: Indi Parish, Lachie Gemmill, Rueben James, Ryan Williams, Adam Walsh, Cassidy Parish.

Injury Update

Harry Nagle attended the game last Saturday and was in good spirits after being stretchered off against East Geelong which was great to see.

Caleb Brown A work in progress, the Club wishes you well.

To all our injured the Club wishes you a speedy and successful recovery.

This Saturday the Winchelsea Blues travel to Bell Post Hill at Myers Reserve - such a strong hold over the years with many Premiership Cups in their Trophy Cabinet.

Games are at the usual starting times - RESERVES at 12pm, SENIORS at 2pm.

SENIORS:

Winchelsea Blues 16.9.105 def Inverleigh Hawks 13.18.96

The Blues started well wanting to redeem themselves for the significant loss the previous Saturday to East Geelong. As in the earlier match with the Reserves, the lead went back and forth all game, making it an entertaining spectacle for the large crowd. Inverleigh may rue the inaccuracy of their kicking, but the Blues were courageous in their attack of the ball and their endeavour especially after the odd umpiring call that failed to go their way!!

THE BLUE'S BISTRO

This weeks menu

Porcupine Balls
Battered Flake
Chicken Schnitzel / Parmigiana
Chicken Nuggets & Chips / Fish & Chips \$5 (2 pieces of fish \$8)

DESSERT:

Chocolate sauced puddings with ice cream \$5
Ice cream & Topping (Strawberry, Chocolate, Caramel) \$2
Complementary Coffee & assorted teas.

BAR - open at 6pm.

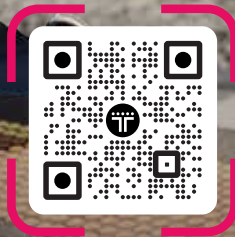
Wonderful feed back for our Roast Beef last week, thank you everyone, we will be sure to have it featured on our menu again some time soon!!

GO BLUES!!



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Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafc@hotmail.com



Junior Football

Clare Harper

This week our under 10 playing group travelled to Teesdale to play the Roos. There is some great team work building amongst the group. Everyone was a part of the action today. Plenty of tackles and handballs. They secured their second win for the season under the guidance of coach Cooper Mumberson, and had another chance to sing the Club song. Smiles all round.

Our Under 12 playing group travelled to Armstrong Creek to play the Sharks. The sun was shining and the atmosphere was buzzing with 2 of our kids playing their 50th game. The Blues got off to a great start with 3 early goals and that stood them in good stead. The Sharks played some great footy, to the credit of our group they rallied around and supported each other and came home with the win.



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Australians Urged To Ask The Big Questions As National Palliative Care Week Begins

by Palliative Care Australia

Australians are being encouraged to start important conversations about palliative and end-of-life care as National Palliative Care Week (NPCW) 2026 begins tomorrow.

Running from Sunday 10 to Saturday 16 May, this year's NPCW campaign, Getting to the heart of it: Big Questions. Real Answers, encourages people to ask questions, seek trusted information and talk about what matters most.

Palliative Care Australia Interim CEO Simon Waring said the week is an opportunity to improve understanding of palliative care and encourage earlier conversations.

"Too many Australians still think palliative care is only for the very end of life, when in reality it can begin much earlier and sit alongside other treatments," Mr Waring said. "This year, we are encouraging Australians to ask the big questions: What matters most to me? What care would help me live well? Who needs to know my wishes? And what support is available for the people around me?"

More than 450 people in Australia die each day from a life-limiting illness and could benefit from palliative care, yet many still miss out or receive care too late.

"National Palliative Care Week is about building understanding in the community and keeping the focus on delivering care when and where people need it," Mr Waring said.

Across Australia, health services, community organisations, workplaces and volunteers will mark the week with events, education sessions, public forums, landmark light-ups and local activities.

Palliative Care Australia is encouraging individuals, families, workplaces and community groups to get involved by attending an event, sharing campaign resources, wearing an orange heart (a symbol for palliative care), or starting a conversation with someone close to them.

For information, resources and events, visit palliativecare.org.au.

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Junior Netball

Shae Callahan

Under 10s

First win since moving up to C grade — and what a game it was!

The ball movement down the court was unreal, and the teamwork from everyone was amazing to watch. It was especially great to see the dodging skills the girls have been working on at training come out on court — such a proud moment seeing practice turn into play.

Player of the Week goes to Piper, our little defensive legend. Her effort never goes unnoticed and she absolutely earned it.

Big thanks to Lucas for stepping in so we didn't have to play short — much appreciated!

Final score: 11–7. Unreal win!



players showed great team work and determination, moving the ball smoothly down the court. Most importantly, every player contributed as part of the team, focusing on strong leads to the ball and getting in front of their opponents. Congratulations to everyone on a well-deserved win!

Under 13s

Despite a tough outing against a strong Inverleigh side this week, the girls continued to show resilience, determination and great teamwork throughout the game. While the result didn't fall our way, there were plenty of positive moments, with the team working hard to apply the structures and skills we've been focusing on at training. Their attitude, encouragement of one another and willingness to keep learning continues to be a huge positive for the group, and we look forward to seeing their continued improvement over the coming weeks.

Under 15s

The girls faced a tough game on the weekend but played extremely well throughout. With many players stepping into positions they don't usually play, everyone adapted brilliantly, worked hard for each other and maintained a positive attitude the entire game. Well done to all the girls on their effort, teamwork and willingness to take on new challenges.

Under 11s

The under 11s had an outstanding game on Saturday, securing their first win of the season with a fantastic team performance. The shooting circle was in excellent form, with our star shooters combining for an impressive 16 goals. In defence, the players worked hard to earn numerous intercepts to regain possession for the team. The mid court



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- 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

