

# Winchelsea Star

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# The Winchelsea Star

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## 2025 Federal election

### Judy Cameron

Well it is over for another three years.

The Winchelsea Star hopes you enjoyed our coverage - from maps and history of our seats of Corongamite and now Wannon, history of the Election itself, about the candidates, about prepolling, the locations and time of local polling booths, and how to complete the ballot papers.

Here now is the final of our coverage - the outcome of the Federal Election 2025.

The outcome in the House of Representatives for the 150 seats were ALP 94; Liberal Nationals Coalition 43; Others 13.

Here in our electorate of Wannon, Dan Tehan of the Liberal Party retained the seat.

And this is how the local booths voted. The last two columns are after the preferences were distributed.

Polling place	1 DYS	2 FF	3 GRN	4 TOP	5 LCA	6 PHON	7 LIB	8 ALP	9 ATK	Total	DYSON	TEHAN
Deans Marsh	99	1	24	2	5	4	50	20	1	206	71.40%	28.60%
Inverleigh	177	22	71	19	20	44	308	170	5	836	50.70%	49.30%
Moriac	165	10	65	22	20	28	286	176	1	773	46.20%	53.80%
Winchelsea Snr Citz	169	21	47	22	28	60	274	161	7	789	46.00%	54.00%
Winchelsea P.School	155	13	24	14	12	37	172	78	5	510	53.50%	46.50%

The next election will be our State Election on 28 November 2026

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



# Winchelsea Arboretum

We've received  
a grant from the  
Tiny Towns Fund!



## Branching Out – trees for today and tomorrow Surf Coast Shire

Council is partnering with local community groups in the first phase of a multi-year effort to increase the number of trees in Surf Coast Shire towns.

As part of an initiative called 'Branching Out,' Council will help deliver major street tree planting projects in Winchelsea and Deans Marsh this year.

The Winchelsea project, developed in partnership with Growing Winchelsea in line with its Winchelsea Arboretum Trail Concept Plan, will see more than 80 trees planted in priority areas in town.

A further 80 trees will be planted along key streets in Deans Marsh, in a project initiated by the Deans Marsh Streetscaping Group.

Both projects are fully funded through Council's 2024-25 budget, with planting to begin soon.



Councillor Tony Phelps recently met with members of Growing Winchelsea's Arboretum Trail sub-committee. "This is an important investment by the Council, aimed at putting more trees in the ground to help our local towns become greener, cooler, more appealing places to live and visit," Cr Phelps said. "Along with many environmental benefits, Branching Out will boost local economies and contribute to a happier and healthier community."

As well as tree planting projects, Branching Out will also deliver:

- a preferred species list for each town to ensure the right trees are planted in the right places; and
- a canopy cover and heat map assessment to help determine future priority planting areas.

Branching Out is being planned as a six-year initiative, subject to future funding, that would ultimately see around 1200 new trees planted across the shire. Funding of \$160,000 has been included in Council's draft 2025-26 budget for year two.

Cr Phelps said the environmental benefits of trees in urban environments are significant. "Planting more trees will help adapt our townships to withstand the changing climate. Trees are proven to reduce urban heat, air pollution and noise, while supporting biodiversity and improving stormwater filtration. It's a very exciting project and we can't wait to see it unfold."

Community members are encouraged to keep an eye on the Branching Out webpage, [yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/branching-out](https://yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/branching-out), for updates.

## Tiny Towns Fund grant Growing Winchelsea Inc



We're delighted to announce we have received a Tiny Towns Fund grant from Regional Development Victoria to install wayfinding, interpretive and trailhead signage to help people take a tour of our Arboretum Trail.

PROJECT NAME	REGION	YEAR	AMOUNT FUNDED
Growing Winchelsea Inc: Interpretive Signage for Winchelsea Arboretum Trail	Barwon	2025	\$40,000

For more information on the Tiny Towns Fund, visit [www.rdv.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/tiny-towns-fund](https://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/tiny-towns-fund)

### What is an Arboretum?

An arboretum is "a garden where many different types of trees are grown for people to look at or for scientific study"<sup>1</sup>.

### Where is the Arboretum Trail located?

The Arboretum Trail is designed to be an integral part of the Winchelsea environs, within a 2.5km of the town centre. Residents and visitors will be able to enjoy and experience the benefits of trees and nature everywhere they go. The trail will connect a number of mini arboreta, significant trees, and sites throughout the town. Parts of the trail already exist, and other parts are yet to be constructed. Proposed pathways are subject to further investigation and approvals by Council and other relevant authorities and owners.



Concept Plan 2024

In Winchelsea, the trees will not be confined to one large area but spread across the town in smaller reserves to create mini arboreta and treed avenues and streets. Residents and visitors will be able to walk, run, ride or drive to visit these areas. A good example of the positive impact of strategic tree planting can be seen in towns such as Camperdown, Bright and Beechworth to name a few.

### The Winchelsea Arboretum Trail

#### A 5 Pillars Project:

#### People, Place, Planet, Prosperity, Participation

In February 2020, a group of Winchelsea residents registered a community led project proposal with the Surf Coast Shire to develop an Arboretum Trail throughout the Winchelsea township area.

On 23rd June 2021, this proposal was referred to an investigation phase, with Council resources being provided to support the community to explore the proposal's feasibility.

A sub-committee of Growing Winchelsea was established, and work has begun.

Download the Winchelsea Arboretum Trail Concept Plan to read about the project and progress so far.

[https://growingwinchelsea.com/wp-content/uploads/WAT\\_Concept-Plan\\_V1.pdf](https://growingwinchelsea.com/wp-content/uploads/WAT_Concept-Plan_V1.pdf)





## AXE THE TAX: PROTESTING THE ESVF

Alice Cloake

On Saturday 31st of May, hundreds of CFA volunteers and supporters from surrounding communities joined together outside of Winchelsea Shire Hall to protest the State Government's Emergency Services & Volunteer Fund levy (ESVF).

The main road was lined with fire-trucks and the front of the Shire Hall a sea of yellow CFA jackets as protesters descended on the Shire Hall to stand against the ESVF levy. At 10:40AM a co-ordinated chorus of sirens rang out across the town, a poignant and clear response to the proposed tax.

The State Governments proposed ESVF levy (which will replace the existing Fire Services Property Levy that is collected by council through rates charges) is due to come into effect on July 1st 2025 and looks to increase the variable charge to residential and commercial properties by 100% and to farmers by 150% (the latter now postponed until 2026).

As you might have read in last week's copy of The Winchelsea Star, the Winchelsea Fire Brigade is firm on their position against the charge. "This is a charge we believe is unfair and places an additional burden on already struggling communities. We proudly stand shoulder to shoulder with the farming community who will wear the biggest 'levy' (tax) increases and are the backbone of brigades around the State."

It's a sentiment shared by the many protestors on Saturday, with a handout stating "a significant proportion of emergency service volunteers in rural Victoria are farmers. They are now being asked to pay a higher levy than anyone else for the very services they are volunteering their time to."

To have your say:

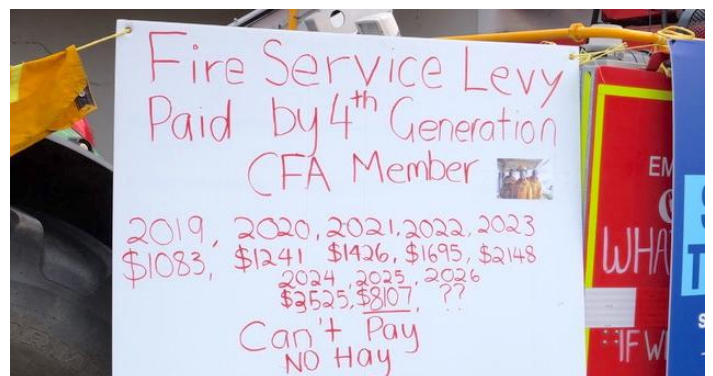
- Contact your elected representatives
- Write to the Premier
- Sign the petition: Legislative Council Petition #658 Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund



## Rally in protest against the Emergency Services Levy

Linda Carter

Winchelsea was inundated on Saturday morning with over 60 CFA trucks and other emergency vehicles for a rally in protest against the Emergency Services Levy. Over 200 CFA members and others held a peaceful but determined rally listening to speakers including Bev McArthur, member for Western Victoria. This was followed by a procession through Main St of fire trucks all with lights flashing and sirens blaring. Quite an emotional sight. Well done all the organisers, it certainly put Winchelsea in the public eye.





# Winchelsea hosts fire levy protest

Tony Phelps, Wurdale Brigade



Saturday morning saw around 60 emergency services vehicles converge on Winchelsea town centre, for a protest demonstration against the State government's Emergency Services & Volunteers Fund (EVSF) levy. A crowd of roughly 300 listened to several speakers voicing community opposition to this property-based tax. The Winchelsea Lions Club were flat out providing egg-and-bacon rolls and sausage sizzle to so many.

Organised by Rod Taylor of Winchelsea Brigade, there were fire-trucks and other fire vehicles from all around the region - Geelong to Colac, Bannockburn to Wurdale, between and beyond. Farmers, volunteer firefighters, business owners, home-owners all came along to support an amazingly strong statement against a revised fire levy that not only greatly increases what every single ratepayer will be asked to pay, but also unfairly targets the farming community in the middle of one of the worst droughts on record.

Speakers included State Senator for Western Victoria Bev McArthur, State MP for Polwarth Richard Riordan, Volunteer Firefighter Brigades Victoria (volunteer's union) Tony Winsall, John Callahan AFSM from Barwon Downs CFA, Surf Coast Mayor Mike Bodsworth and myself as Councillor Tony Phelps. Councillors Adrian Schonfelder and Joel Grist were present too, with Leon Walker unable to attend but sending his support. Winchelsea Group Officer Mark Brown emphasised that mental health support is available - from friends, neighbours, over the phone, and online.

The common thread of course was opposition to this EVSF legislation which will increase the fire services levy for commercial properties by 66%, residential properties by 100%, and farm properties by a whopping 150%. Only a fraction of those funds come back to rural and regional Victoria, with the VFBV calculating just 7 cents in the dollar going to CFA. Most funds go to metropolitan institutions such as the State Control Centre in Melbourne. The loud message is that this revised levy needs to be scrapped.

The State government has temporarily backed down by freezing the farming levy for 12 months. This still threatens a huge rise in future, and still puts significant financial burden on all other ratepayers across the state. The levy is required to be collected as part of council rates, which puts a burden on councils too to amend systems and deal with collection with short notice and no choice.

Congratulations to the Winchelsea Group for putting this stirring and very visual event together - when all the fire vehicles drove a couple of laps of Winchelsea centre with lights & sirens on, it was an awesome spectacle that shows this is an issue that the community feels very strongly about. More such demonstrations are expected to continue around the state.



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## A cynical political tactic to defuse public outrage against the tax?

**Bev McArthur MP**

The 'pause' is a welcome admission of failure from the Government, but the fact remains this unjust tax should never have been forced through in the first place.

It should not have taken the incredible protest and public pressure from CFA brigades, farmers, councillors, professional firefighters and regional communities for Labor to realise how offensive this tax was.

Volunteers who have protected their communities for generations were targeted by a government out of touch with regional Victoria.

The fact that 200 CFA brigades felt forced to take themselves offline shows just how deep the anger and sense of betrayal ran.

It is unacceptable that this climbdown only includes farmers in limited LGA areas, worst affected by drought. Support for areas suffering is welcome, but the inherent unfairness of this tax affects farmers across Victoria. It should be cancelled for all LGA areas, and permanently.

This pause has to be the beginning of a permanent reversal of this attack on volunteers and farmers — not a cynical political tactic to defuse public outrage. One year's pause is nothing - we cannot return to the same situation in twelve months.

Taxing CFA volunteers, who are often farmers, more just to keep the government afloat is not only backward — it's insulting.

Let's be clear: this wasn't a tax for volunteers. It is a tax on volunteers.

It punishes the very people who are the backbone of our CFA brigades — farmers and landholders already doing it tough during the worst drought in living memory.

The Premier now needs to rule it out for good.

Regional Victoria deserves respect, not ignorant, offensive tax grabs and piecemeal 'support' packages from inside the tram tracks of Melbourne.

I will continue to stand with farmers, firefighters, Councils and rural and regional Victoria until this tax is gone for good.

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## New plantings to discourage Corellas on the Barwon River at Winchelsea

### Growing Winchelsea

Friday 23 May 2025 GenU planting teams were on site to bring two planting areas to life!

They planted approximately 2,000 native and indigenous plants, all grown from seed especially for the Corella Management Plan – what an incredible contribution. The teams had plenty of help on the day.

Recently, Landscape Architect Pete Wilson visited Winchelsea to meet with representatives of the Project Steering Group to gain input into the Landscape Concept Plan for CWA Park and the highway avenue, where a mix of trees will eventually replace the existing Elms. The elms are diseased and damaged and at the end of their life. Corellas like open space so this plan seeks to increase plantings while maintaining the space as a community park.

Pete has been carefully researching tree and shrub species that are well-suited to Winchelsea and less attractive to Corellas, that is, minimal seed or bark appeal. Pete's early findings suggest that ornamental native species will be the best fit for the highway and parts of the park.

Corella management is a complex issue, and Surf Coast Shire is trialling a long-term strategy to discourage the birds from establishing a permanent roost site during the summer months. Changing the local environment, to reduce open spaces and increase lower-level planting of trees and shrubs that provide a



Rhani Bayon, John Knuckey (Project Reference Group), Naida Hutton (Winchelsea Arboretum Trail subcommittee)

visual barrier from danger, makes the birds uncomfortable and unwilling to stay.

"We will continue to keep you posted. Keep an eye on the nesting box perched high on a pine tree on Barwon Terrace to see if a pair of nesting peregrine falcons have set up house," concludes John Tebbutt, President of Growing Winchelsea.

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## The Climate Report

Judy Cameron

**Parents for Climate put utilities on notice after landmark win against "state sponsored greenwashing"** -  
*from Renew Economy, Anne Delaney May 30, 2025*

The landmark legal settlement secured by the small non-profit group, Parents for Climate, has put Australia's biggest energy companies and corporate brands on notice – and thrown a spotlight on the government-backed certification scheme that enabled years of misleading green claims.

Last week, EnergyAustralia admitted that the pollution caused by burning coal and gas cannot be undone by buying carbon offsets – a core feature of its now-abandoned 'Go Neutral' product, certified under the federal government's Climate Active program.

EnergyAustralia's Go Neutral product was an electricity and gas offering, available since 2016, and marketed as a product that would "cancel out" the climate impact of burning fossil fuels through the purchase of carbon offsets.

"They used words like carbon neutral... and even claimed the product had a positive impact on the environment" said Parents for Climate CEO Nic Seton

**Get ready for several years of killer heat, top weather forecasters warn**

*by Seth Borenstein, Associated Press science writer Wed 28 May*

There's an 80% chance the world will break another annual temperature record in the next five years, and it's even more probable that the world will again exceed the international temperature threshold set 10 years ago, according to a five-year forecast released Wednesday by the World Meteorological Organization and the U.K. Meteorological Office.

With every tenth of a degree the world warms from human-caused climate change "we will experience higher frequency and more extreme events (particularly heat waves but also droughts, floods, fires and human-reinforced hurricanes/typhoons)," said Johan Rockstrom, director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research in Germany.

Ice in the Arctic — which will continue to warm 3.5 times faster than the rest of the world — will melt and seas will rise faster. Lately, after each jump from an El Nino, which adds warming to the globe, the planet doesn't go back down much, if at all. "Record temperatures immediately become the new normal," said Stanford University climate scientist Rob Jackson.

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# 'Incredible' finale for RSPCA Geelong Million Paws Walk

RSPCA



The RSPCA Geelong Million Paws Walk celebrated one last lap on Sunday, with around 1,100 Geelong locals and roughly 700 furry friends raising over \$20,000 to support the fight against animal cruelty in Victoria.

Speaking about the Million Paws Walk, Events Manager Kate Kasby said the day had been an 'incredible' finale for the iconic event.

For more information, or to speak with an RSPCA Victoria spokesperson, please contact 0425 787 243 or [media@rspcavic.org.au](mailto:media@rspcavic.org.au)

## Spinal Health Week

Alarming new data on impact of technology use

Insight Communications

The Australian Chiropractors Association (ACA) has released new national data revealing that Tech Neck - known as Tension Neck Syndrome - is now a serious public health concern.

Women and young people are the most affected, with 68% of women and 60% of men reporting symptoms linked to screen time, poor posture, and non-ergonomic device use.

### Key Findings

- **85% of women who don't take tech breaks** experience neck pain (vs 61% who do break)
- **80% of smartphone users who rarely take breaks whilst using their device suffer neck pain compared to 60% of users who took regular breaks.**
- **78% of respondents take over the counter pain relief and 47% prescription medication to treat neck pain.**
- **73% of women aged 31-40** report neck pain - the most affected group
- 70% of neck pain sufferers reported neck pain impeded their movement or daily activities.
- 64% of Aussies experienced neck pain – 68% of women and 60% of men
- **71% of full-time students reported neck pain with female students 63% more likely to experience neck pain than male students (81.8% v 50%).**
- Sedentary female workers experienced the highest rate of neck pain and were 22% more likely to experience neck pain than men (71.7% v 59%).
- **Male gamers who had regular breaks reported 33% less neck pain than gamers who never took breaks.**
- Female laptop users who stretched/took a break every 2 hours were 24% less likely to experience neck pain than women who only stretched or took a break when they were in physical pain (69.6% vs 86.1)



## Winchelsea Primary School Netball Winners

Nick Keating | Acting Principal  
Winchelsea Primary School



Winchelsea Primary School's Girls Netball Team has taken out the Surf Coast School Sports Association title for the second year in a row.

The team had wins over Moriac PS, Mt Duneed RPS, Anglesea PS and Mirripoa PS.

There has been a lot of preparation and training taking place here at school and many of the girls play together on the week-ends too!

Off to the regional competition at GMHBA Stadium in a few weeks!





# Winchelsea Star COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

email [editor@winchelseastar.org.au](mailto:editor@winchelseastar.org.au) or leave at Winchelsea IGA

## WINCHELSEA TENNIS CLUB

### JUNIOR COACHING

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

### RUNNING GROUP

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

**Sunday mornings 8am at La Hoot.**

## WINCHELSEA LIONS CLUB

### Recycled compressed paper logs

Great for wood burners, fires and fire pits. Burn for over an hour, ash great for gardens, no chainsaw needed.  
Pack of 4 logs \$5, small rolls \$2  
Contact Alan 0476 47522

## WINCHELSEA PICKLEBALL

Pickleball is back at Winchelsea! The Tennis Club are running this every Wednesday at 7:00PM at the Winchelsea Leisure Time Centre! Only \$5 a person Winchelsea  
All equipment supplied  
Wear suitable footwear  
Lesley Mathison 0438 672 197

## WANT TO JOIN PROBUS?

Enjoy fellowship with  
other members  
Enjoy trips & outings  
Listen to guest speakers



**Contact Lorraine  
0417 467 927**

## WINCHELSEA GIRL GUIDES

### Welcomes girls 6-15 yrs

Mondays, 4.30pm-6pm during school term  
St John's Catholic Church Winchelsea  
Guiding provides fun, friendship, and adventure. Developing teamwork, and leadership skills, whilst girls achieve goals, improve communities and grow in confidence.

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

## WINCHELSEA OP SHOP

Winchelsea Op Shop is accepting donations again.

Thanks for your ongoing support  
Winchelsea and community.  
Opening hours Friday, Saturday and Sunday and Monday, 10 till 3.

## DEFIBRILLATOR MISSING

The newly installed Defibrillator outside the Netball change rooms has been missing for some weeks. If it could be replaced asap that would be great, no questions asked.  
These Defibrillators save lives

## 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](mailto:winchmenshed@gmail.com)

## CUBS AND JOEYS

For information, or to get involved,  
contact Marie McPadden 0409330147  
or [mcpadden630@bigpond.com](mailto:mcpadden630@bigpond.com)

## SHOPPING AND A CUPPA AT WAURN PONDS SHOPPING CENTRE

*for Winchelsea Seniors Card Holders*

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

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

We have some new dates:

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

More dates to come for July and August.

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

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

Cost: Gold Coin Donation

*\*Must have a Seniors Card to be eligible.*



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



Help is available  
Speak with someone today  
Available 24 hours

**13 11 14**



# Winchelsea Community Market

Judy Cameron

The weather was perfect!



How lucky is the town to have the variety of things on offer - coffee and fundraiser food to eat there; meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, cheese, fresh pasta, cakes; children's books by a local author; plants; knitted goods, clothing, wood-turned products, cards, and a variety of gifts made by stall holders.

How special to buy from the maker!

The next Market will be Sunday, July 6.



L-R: Francesco, Ineke, Siena and Zelia

Francesco Valente from Anglesea was there with his family and a variety of fresh handcrafted 'Pasta di Puglia'. GOOD NEWS a range of his fresh pasta will be available at the IGA from this week!



Elaine Atkinson

Growing Winchelsea had a presence also. Check out their website to see what they are up to!

*"Growing Winchelsea Inc. is a group of volunteer leaders advocating for, listening to and supporting our community to achieve a thriving Winchelsea."*



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## Victorian schools embracing phonics

Victorian State Government

Victorian schools are embracing a shift to phonics with a recent snapshot showing nine out of 10 government primary schools already using this approach to teach reading, well ahead of the requirement to implement it in classrooms by 2027.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll said Victorian schools had jumped at the chance to introduce the system into schools early, supporting students to achieve stronger reading outcomes.

The Victorian approach to reading, which includes daily systematic synthetic phonics instruction as part of their reading program, is due to fully mandated in Victorian government schools by the start of 2027.

A Department of Education survey shows that 93 per cent of government primary schools have adopted a focus on delivering daily phonics instruction.

There is strong teacher and school engagement with Phonics Plus program. Out of the sampled schools 88 per cent report they have engaged with Phonics Plus and 37 per cent are using the Phonics Plus resources.

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# history of winchelsea

## The Hopkins Family and Wormbete Station

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

The Western District is known for its fertile land, which is essential for successful agriculture and food production. Major Thomas Mitchell described the plains of the area as 'covered with excellent grass; and in many places detached groups of trees... resembling a nobleman's park on a gigantic scale'. For many years, the town of Winchelsea was known as 'The Gateway to the Western District'.



Wormbete Station homestead, 1985

*Image copyright held by the Department of the Environment*

As European settlement stretched out beyond the shores of Port Phillip Bay in the late 1830s, large squatting runs were taken up, often along the region's watercourses. One of the earliest runs selected along the Barwon River and its tributaries, including Wormbete Station which was first established as a sheep run by Henry Hopkins. It is believed the name originates from a local Indigenous term meaning "lake with a black fellow's mound". This name etymology may imply the existence of a burial site or a midden from camping and/or historical inhabitation. Wormbete Station is located on the East side of Barwon River, on the lands of the Wadawurrung People.

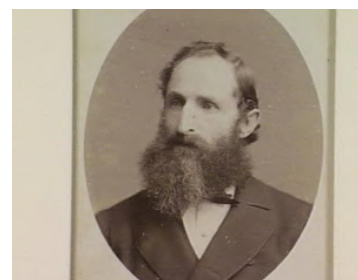
Henry Hopkins is remembered for his business acumen in the wool industry in Tasmania, and for his philanthropy. He was born in Deptford, Kent, England in 1787. Hopkins migrated to Tasmania in 1822 with his wife (also his first cousin) Sarah Rout. Henry and Sarah Hopkins were the first pastoralists to export from Tasmania. They traveled to the Port Phillip District from Tasmania in 1836 and returned to Tasmania to buy Merino sheep to stock Wormbete Station. The Hopkins family left Tasmania for England in 1840 and returned to Tasmania in 1842. Hopkins' business ventures were so successful that he was able to retire By 1845, aged 55. In August, 1851 Henry formally transferred Wormbete Station to his son John Rout Hopkins, at which point it was estimated at 31,000 acres and capable of carrying 3,000 head of sheep.

The bluestone homestead which still stands today had been erected in the 1840s, with other outbuildings added in the two decades following. Wormbete Homestead is significant for its association with the early development of Victoria's pastoral industry, and is one of the very few surviving pastoral properties in Victoria to contain a principal building dating from the 1840s. The remaining buildings also are early (1850s and 1860s). Additionally, the buildings are laid out formally in a farm court, a practice which is most unusual in Victoria and which has strong links with the earlier Tasmanian and New South Wales farms built before the settlement of Victoria and derived directly from English tradition. The Victorian Heritage Database remarks that the way the large drawing and dining rooms are reached from the glazed front verandah is most unusual, as is, for a nineteenth century residence, the north-facing aspect of the house.



Henry Hopkins c1860's

*Image held by  
the Allport Library and  
Museum of Fine Arts*



John Rout Hopkins c1890

*Image held by the  
State Library of Victoria*

John was a pillar of his local community. An active sportsman and supporter of the Winchelsea Anglican church. He spent many years as a councillor with the Winchelsea Shire (and its predecessor the Winchelsea Roads Board), serving several terms as shire president as well as becoming the first shire president of Barrabool Shire. In addition to local politics, John was also a member of the Victorian parliament, holding the seat of South Grant in the legislative assembly (lower house) from 1864-1867 and then again from 1871-1877. In 1892 he was elected to the lower house seat of Geelong, also taking up the position of mayor of the town in the same year.

John married three times during his life but his first - and longest marriage - was to Eliza Ann Armytage, the daughter of his squatting neighbour George Armytage from Ingleby Estate to the south west of Wormbete. The couple were married in 1850 and before Eliza's death in 1885 raised a family of seven daughters and six sons at Wormbete.



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

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

## Grants for all abilities sport

Victorians living with a disability can look forward to more opportunities to be involved in the sports they love, with the Government announcing the recipients of grants supporting even more people to participate on and off the field.

Minister for Community Sport, Ros Spence today announced 88 grants worth more than \$1.5 million from the Regional All Abilities Participation Grants program for grassroots sport and active recreation clubs, and not-for-profit organisations.

With grants of up to \$25,000, the program aims to increase access, inclusion and options for people living with a disability to reap the benefits of sport and active recreation in regional Victoria.

Shepparton Netball Association will receive \$15,000 for a year-round All Abilities Netball Program co-designed by people living with a disability. The Program will include summer and winter seasons and a Walking Netball program.

Cycling Without Age Gippsland has scored more than \$22,000, to support people living with a physical and cognitive disability to get involved in cycling in their local community.

Murray Human Services will be using its \$20,000 grant to install MultiBall in Echuca, an interactive, all ability sport wall to support adults living with a disability including those with sensory or behavioural needs who are unable to participate in traditional sports.

Disabled Wintersport Australia received more than \$21,000 towards accessible equipment including sit skis, headsets for vision impairment, and outrigger skis to make skiing in Victoria's alpine regions more accessible.

The program is part of the Government's \$40 million All Abilities Sport Fund that is removing barriers for people with disability to get involved in sport and recreation across regional Victoria.

For more information on the grants and a full list of recipients visit [sport.vic.gov.au](http://sport.vic.gov.au)

## Seasonal road closures help keep motorists safe

Visitors to Victoria's parks and forests are being reminded that temporary road and track closures will come into effect on Tuesday 10 June, following the King's Birthday long weekend.

The annual closures make it safer for motorists and reduce damage to remote roads impacted by heavy rain and snow.

Forest Fire Management Victoria, Parks Victoria, and the Conservation Regulator enforce seasonal closures between June and November annually.

Authorised officers will be educating visitors about the upcoming changes in busy parks and forests during the King's Birthday long weekend, followed by increased patrols and surveillance over the 2025 closure period.

Last year, there were more than 307 gate breaches, and over 700 instances of illegal vehicle use across Victoria's parks and forests.

In 2024, 140 infringement notices under the Conservation (Vehicle Control) Regulations were issued, including for driving cars or riding trail bikes illegally off-road or in restricted areas.

Offenders caught driving or riding on a closed road in Victoria's parks and forests face a maximum penalty of up to \$3846 if prosecuted in court.

Visitors are advised to check local road and track closures and weather conditions before heading into the great outdoors.

For more go to [www.ffm.vic.gov.au/permits-and-regulations/closures-of-parks-and-forests](http://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/permits-and-regulations/closures-of-parks-and-forests)

For emergency information, including severe weather alerts and warnings, download the VicEmergency app. Environmental crime can be reported to 136 186.

### Surf Coast Shire Council

## Voting opens for Climate Emergency Grants

Voting is now open for the \$10,000 projects as part of Surf Coast Shire's Climate Emergency Grants. The funding pool of \$20,000 will be split between one \$10,000 grant and two \$5,000 grants. Voting is only required for the \$10,000 grant.

The Climate Emergency Grants program is a chance for the community to partner with Council to enable initiatives aimed at addressing climate change locally.

Community members can vote for their favourite project, and the project with the most votes will be successful for the \$10,000 grant.

"We know our community is passionate about climate action and it shows with the calibre of projects that have been submitted," said Cr Adrian Schonfelder.

"And now it's over to the community who can show their support by voting for their favourite project."

The two projects are:

1. Geelong Sustainability Group and Common Ground Project partnering with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation to deliver local community sessions empowering the community to become active stewards in our shared climate future.
2. Common Ground Project partnering with Winchelsea Primary School to enable all students to learn about regenerative gardening at Common Ground and use this knowledge to create sustainable gardens at school and home.

The funding pool of \$20,000 will be split between one \$10,000 grant and two \$5,000 grants. Voting is only required for the \$10,000 grant.

Voting closes on Tuesday 10 June.

The successful grants will be announced on Friday 13 June.

Find out more about the projects and vote at [surfcoast.vic.gov.au/CEGrants](http://surfcoast.vic.gov.au/CEGrants).



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# What's on Weekly



## DATES TO REMEMBER

**King's Birthday**  
Monday 9 June 2025

**School Holidays**  
5 - 20 July 2025

**mainly music** est. 1992

**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**

### MONDAY-FRIDAY

**WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY HOUSE**  
9am-2pm, 28 Hesse St, Winchelsea  
(03) 5267 2028

**WINCHELSEA TOY LIBRARY**  
9am-2pm (03) 5267 2028  
Winchelsea Community House,  
28 Hesse St

### MONDAY-SATURDAY

**WINCHELSEA HEALTH CLUB**  
Accessible - 24 hours  
Staffed hours -  
Mon/Wed 6am-12pm, 5-7pm  
Tues/Thurs 9am-12pm, 3-7pm  
Frid 6am-12pm,  
Sat 7-11am  
Eastern Reserve, 70 Hopkins St  
5267 2336.

### MONDAY

**WINCHELSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL  
MEET THE TEAM**  
16 June 2025, 23 June 2025  
9-10am  
La Hoot, 1 Willis Street Winchelsea  
52672134

### CO-WORKING AND STUDYING SPACE

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

### JUNIOR TENNIS COACHING

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

### GIRL GUIDES

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

### 1ST MODDA/1ST WINCHELSEA SCOUTS

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

### VINYASA YOGA

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

### TUESDAY

**SOCIAL BRIDGE**  
10-12pm  
Senior Citizens Centre, 36 Harding St  
Elaine Atkinson 0458 009 616

### 1ST MODDA/1ST WINCHELSEA SCOUTS

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

### WEDNESDAY

**BUS TO WAURN PONDS SHOPPING  
CENTRE FOR SENIORS**  
**Wednesday 11 June, 25 June**  
Neil 0408 102 802, Jill 0427 633 277

### WINCH WALKERS

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

### WINCHELSEA MEN'S SHED

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

### WINCHELSEA SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE

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

### MOTHER GOOSE SONG AND RHYME

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

### WINCHELSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

### 1ST MODDA/1ST WINCHELSEA SCOUTS

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

### CWA WINCHELSEA

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

### SES WINCHELSEA

7.30pm 132500  
323 Mousley Drive, Winchelsea

### THURSDAY

### COWORKING AND STUDYING SPACE

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

### WINCHELSEA PLAYGROUP

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





# JUNE/JULY

This is a recurring calendar. Please confirm event details with the organiser/venue if you'd like to attend.  
To add an event to the calendar, please email [news@winchelseastar.org.au](mailto:news@winchelseastar.org.au)

## PICKLEBALL

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

## TEA & TUNES

19 June 10-1 \$20  
Winchelsea Shire Hall  
Lunch & Entertainment  
[52672028@winchhouse.org.au](mailto:52672028@winchhouse.org.au)

## 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](mailto:healthpromotion@hesse.vic.gov.au)  
0417 848 292

## MAT PILATES

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

## WINCHELSEA MOVIE CLUB

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

## FRIDAY

### TAI CHI

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

## PHONICS WITH ROBOT REG

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

## CHATTY CAFÉ

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

## WINCHELSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

## WINCHELSEA SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE

Fridays 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm  
36 Harding Street, Winchelsea  
Jean Shinnors 52672263, 0427672263  
[jeanshinnors@gmail.com](mailto:jeanshinnors@gmail.com)

## WINCHELSEA RSL

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

## GEELONG REGIONAL LIBRARY (MOBILE)

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

## SATURDAY

### TREBECK RESERVE PARKRUN

8am Trebeck Reserve  
Sussex St, Winchelsea  
[www.parkrun.com.au/trebeckreserve/](http://www.parkrun.com.au/trebeckreserve/)

### FLOW YOGA

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

### WINCHELSEA LAND AND RIVERCARE MONTHLY WORKING BEE

9am First Saturday of each month  
At the River. Rod Stone 0428 549318  
Stewart Mathison 0428 672054

## WINCHELSEA STAR

### PRODUCTION/COFFEE MEETING

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

### CROCHET GROUP

1.30pm 2nd Saturday each month \$5  
Winchelsea Community House,  
28 Hesse St, Winchelsea  
[reception@winchhouse.org.au](mailto:reception@winchhouse.org.au)

## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

## WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY DINNER

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

## SUNDAY

### RUNNING GROUP

8am Meet at La Hoot

### CHEESE MAKING WORKSHOP

14 August Shire Hall  
[shirehall@winchhouse.org.au](mailto:shirehall@winchhouse.org.au)  
52672028

### GARDENERS MEET and PRODUCE SWAP

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

## WINCHELSEA UNITING CHURCH


Service 9.30am each week  
Hesse St, Winchelsea  
0475 777 301 [uca.winchelsea@gmail.com](mailto:uca.winchelsea@gmail.com)

## WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY MARKET

9-1pm, 1st Sunday each month (except Nov)  
Shire Hall car park, Main Street  
[growingwinchelsea.com/project/winchelsea-community-market/](http://growingwinchelsea.com/project/winchelsea-community-market/)

## ST THOMAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH

10am each week Barwon Tce, Winchelsea  
0477 672 042, [stthomaswac@gmail.com](mailto:stthomaswac@gmail.com)



**MEET THE WPS TEAM @ CAFE LA HOOT**  
1 WILLIS STREET - WINCHELSEA

**WHEN:**  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE 9 to 10am  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 9 to 10am

**ALL FAMILIES WELCOME !!**  
COME & MEET THE STAFF LEADERSHIP TEAM AND OUR STUDENT LEADERS  
Any families that have children under 5 years of age - please come along as well & meet us & have your questions answered!



**WINCHELSEA RSL MEETINGS**

20 June	1-30pm Mens Shed
18 July	1-30pm Mens Shed
15 August	7-30pm R.S.L
19 September	1-30 pm R.S.L
17 October	1-30 pm R.S.L
21 November	7-30 pm R.S.L
19 December	12-00 pm R.S.L

(AGM followed by Christmas Lunch)

All enquiries  
David Loone (Secretary)  
0488 165 109



**Urgent Care Services**

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# Ray Jansen

The Home Maintenance Handyman

Yvonne Stevens



When something breaks or needs fixing around the house- a leaky faucet, a squeaky door, or a cracked tile-many of us reach for the phone, hoping to find someone reliable to help. In Winchelsea, one name that locals trust for home maintenance and repairs is Ray Jansen, a handyman with a wealth of experience and a genuine commitment to quality service.

Ray grew up in Geelong and has lived in Winchelsea since marrying in 1982. After spending 23 years working at Centrelink and another eight years with the Geelong Council, specialising in aged and disability home modifications, Ray decided to focus on his passion for hands-on work. His time with the council involved building ramps, modifying stairs, installing grab rails, and fitting chair and bed raisers—skills that highlight his attention to detail and care for the community.

As someone who recently worked with Ray, I can personally attest to the difference he makes. Twelve months ago, I was completely overwhelmed at the thought of starting to fully renovate my house. The sheer number of decisions and tasks felt daunting, and I did not know where to begin. Ray stepped in and gave me the support I desperately needed. He shared his expertise, worked patiently alongside me, and never made me feel rushed or pressured. His calm, methodical approach made the renovation process not only manageable but enjoyable. With Ray's guidance and encouragement, I found the confidence to tackle each stage, knowing I had a skilled and supportive tradesman by my side.

What made Ray stand out was his broad skill set. He was a true jack-of-all-trades, comfortable handling everything from carpentry and joinery to basic plumbing and small concrete jobs. Whether it was fixing leaks, unclogging drains, or installing fixtures, Ray's plumbing skills covered the essentials. He was also adept at painting and tiling, ensuring neat, even finishes that brightened up any room. Beyond repairs, Ray's talents extended to picture framing, furniture making, basic welding, and mechanical work, making him a versatile choice for a wide range of home projects.

Reliability and trustworthiness were key qualities Ray brought to every job. He understood that inviting someone into your home required confidence, so he prided himself on punctuality, clear communication, and respect for your space. Ray made sure to explain the work involved and any costs upfront, and he always cleaned up after completing a job.

Experience had taught Ray to be a creative problem solver. Not every repair was straightforward, and he was prepared to handle unexpected challenges with practical solutions that avoided unnecessary expenses. His years of work in various roles helped him avoid rookie mistakes and deliver results that lasted.

Good communication was another hallmark of Ray's service. He spoke plainly and honestly, providing clear estimates with no hidden fees and following up to ensure customer satisfaction. For larger jobs requiring permits or specialised expertise, Ray knew when to refer jobs to licensed professionals, always being upfront about what he could and could not do.

For Winchelsea residents seeking a handyman with a combined skill set, professionalism, and a personal touch, Ray Jansen will offer peace of mind. Whether it is a simple repair or a weekend project you would rather not tackle yourself, Ray is ready to help.

If you need a trusted local handyman, you can contact Ray Jansen on his mobile number—0414672192. With Ray, you are not just hiring a fixer—you were gaining a reliable tradesman dedicated to quality and care in every job.



# Surfcoast for Reconciliation

Jen De Neefe, Co convenor of Surfcoast for Reconciliation

If interested in joining our mailing list please contact the email below and we will add you to our mailing list. [surfcoastforreconciliation@gmail.com](mailto:surfcoastforreconciliation@gmail.com)



On Friday, the 16th May, the convening group of **Surfcoast for Reconciliation** met in Winchelsea to familiarise ourselves with Indigenous Stories of our region.

We visited the Gerard Black Art piece at Hesse Health with Auntie Jenny Murray Jones and Winch resident Jess Butler, an ally for First Peoples, who facilitated the meeting.

We are doing this as a learning experience to learn more about First Peoples in the Surfcoast Region.

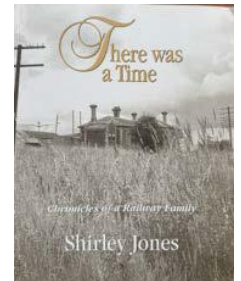
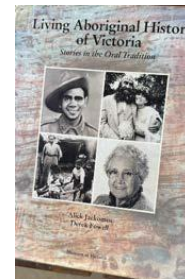
<https://hesseruralhealth.com.au/harmony-of-boundaries-artwork/>



We walked to a few important sites with Auntie Jenny to see trees and waterways in the area. Later, we stopped for coffee at the mud hut near Café La Hoot and we listened to Auntie Jenny's family story, including information about missions in the area that we didn't know about.

The sites are not mentioned out of respect for Traditional Owners of Country.

We became aware of two books. Both are available through the Geelong Regional Library



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## Antique Repairs

By **Doug Burns** est. 1976

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



*Unusual Requests Welcome*

180 Barwon Terrace, Winchelsea

**0428 672 704**

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## Safeguard against growing trend of push-start car theft

RACV

Thieves are increasingly using electronic devices to access vehicles via their on-board diagnostics (OBD) ports, enabling them to start and steal cars without the owner's key. Victoria Police data has shown that 20 per cent of car thefts in 2024 were stolen using this method.

RACV General Manager Motoring Products Jeff Ames explained how offenders were targeting modern vehicles. "By connecting unauthorised devices to a vehicle's OBD port, a thief can communicate directly with the car's engine control unit, allowing them to program a new key or even start the engine without the original key."

In addition to OBD port-related theft, RACV is also warning motorists of 'relay theft' – where thieves use a device to amplify a signal from your car key, tricking a car to unlock and even start. "As vehicle technology advances, so do the methods employed by criminals, so it's crucial for motorists to be aware of these tactics and take appropriate steps to protect their vehicles."

RACV recommends the installation of OBD port locks to prevent push-start car theft. An OBD lock works by physically securing the OBD port, preventing unauthorised access. "An OBD lock is a simple, yet effective tool that can significantly reduce the risk of theft by blocking access to the port," Mr. Ames added.

### How to install an OBD lock

In general, OBD port locks are easy to install yourself. OBD port locks are cheap and readily available from auto shops and vehicle anti-theft websites.

You will need an OBD lock kit, a screwdriver, and possibly a socket set, depending on your vehicle model. Follow this step-by-step guide to ensure a successful installation:

- Turn your vehicle off and remove any keys
- Locate the OBD port in your car, usually found under the dashboard near the driver's seat
- Gently remove any panels or coverings over the OBD port
- Secure the lock in place over the OBD port, following the instructions provided with your OBD lock kit
- Reattach any panels or coverings you removed earlier.

You can test the installation by attempting to connect to the OBD port with a diagnostic tool. The lock should prevent access, confirming that your installation was successful.

In addition to installing OBD port locks, RACV recommends the following precautions:

- Secure your keys: Always keep your vehicle keys in a safe place, away from doors and windows, to prevent relay attacks. Ensure you also keep your valuables out of sight.
- Install physical deterrents: Use steering wheel locks or wheel clamps as visible deterrents to potential thieves.
- Stay informed: Regularly update your vehicle's software with a registered mechanic and be aware of any manufacturer recalls or security updates.

"By staying vigilant and implementing these security measures, vehicle owners can significantly reduce the risk of theft," Mr. Ames concluded.

For more information on car theft prevention, visit the RACV Website.

## Strengthening Winchelsea's Community Op Shop

Hesse Rural Health



Hesse Rural Health's Winchelsea Hospital Auxiliary has played an important part in assisting Hesse and its former entities to make a valuable contribution to the Winchelsea community over the past 60 years.

The group currently comprises of 33 enthusiastic members who work tirelessly to raise important funds for the health service, mainly through the operation of the Winchelsea Op Shop. The Op Shop is a lifeblood for the Winchelsea community, providing low priced items to the community, along with great friendships to the passionate volunteers and their many customers.

In consultation with Hesse, the Hospital Auxiliary volunteers have reviewed their current governance arrangements and are establishing a new entity to operate the Op Shop in Winchelsea, and thus ensuring they remain able to continue supporting health and wellbeing in the Winchelsea community for many more years to come. This new entity will become responsible for the Op Shop and still provide support to Hesse for key agreed projects through its purpose to raise funds, make donations, and provide volunteer support to charitable and not-for-profit organisations that promote health and wellbeing within the township of Winchelsea and/or the broader rural community.

The new entity of Winchelsea Community Op Shop Inc. is planning to take over operations of the Op Shop currently operating from 10 Willis St on the 1st July 2025. Planning with Hesse is focused on ensuring there is no material change to shop operations, and the community continues to receive the same high level of service and support from the volunteers at the shop they know and love.

Hesse also continues planning to redevelop 44-46 Main St, Winchelsea as a future site for the Op Shop, and on completion this building will be made available to the new entity of Winchelsea Community Op Shop Inc.

The Hesse Board of Directors acknowledges the important role the Hospital Auxiliary has provided to Hesse over the many years, and is committed to supporting the new arrangement. They look forward to continuing this important relationship under the new structure as Winchelsea Community Op Shop Inc. and working together to remain supporting the local Winchelsea community.

# 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

**Join us.** *A role for everyone*



Nationally accredited training to help our community.  
Pop in to meet your crew **Wednesdays 7:30pm**

**Winchelsea Unit** 325 Mousley Drive **132 500**

## Winchelsea and District COMBINED PROBUS CLUB



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



## SOCIAL BRIDGE

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

## WINCHELSEA TRANSFER STATION

55 Cressy Road, Winchelsea

Tuesday 2pm-4pm Saturday 1.30-3.30pm  
Thursday 2pm-4pm 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](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/disposalsites)



## WINCHELSEA GIRL GUIDES

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



## 1st Modda & 1st Winchelsea SCOUT GROUP

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



## BUS TO THE HUB

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](mailto:winchelseaplaygroup@gmail.com)  
Facebook - Winchelsea Playgroup 2019  
**New families welcome**



# Winchelsea Churches



## Winchelsea Uniting Church

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

## St John the Baptist Catholic Church

0404598558  
Father Joseph Panackal  
Harding St, Winchelsea 3241  
Winchelsea  
St. John the Baptist 5pm  
Sat. June 7/14/21/28

Inverleigh  
Sacred Heart 4pm  
Sun. June 15

## St Thomas' Anglican Church

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

## Thought for the Week

"Ask, and it will be given to you,  
seek, and you will find, knock,  
and the door will be opened to you.  
For everyone who asks receives.  
He who seeks finds, and to him who  
knocks, the door will be opened."  
(Mathew 7: v7)

Have a blessed week.

**John Bader,**  
Former U/C Accredited  
Lay Preacher

## Farewell Rev Phil & Di Jacobson

### Helen Rolls

Rev Phil Jacobson and his wife Diane came to St Thomas's Anglican Church for 6 weeks as a locum Minister and ended up staying for 2 years! His last service was on 27 April, 2025.

Phil has a good sense of humour and a great singing voice and his sermons and prayers were practical. He had an encouraging and fruitful ministry among us with Baptisms and Confirmations and sadly some Funerals. He took regular services at Chelsea Lodge. He encouraged more parishioners to take part in the services.

Phil donated a screen for our services which was much appreciated and Di controlled the overheads. Phil kept in touch with us all weekly with his emails.

Di with her lovely smile was there every Sunday supporting Phil.

Phil has seen the church through termite damage to the floor and while the floor was redone we worshipped in the hall for 6 months. He has overseen the refurbishment of the church since.

We will miss Phil and Di very much and we all appreciate their wonderful ministry in and among our community at St Thomas's. We wish them every blessing in their retirement and good health and God speed.

We welcome our new locum Minister Rev Barbara Colliver. She will introduce herself in the next Star.



## WINCHELSEA COMBINED CHURCHES



## PENTECOST SERVICE

**'Come Holy Spirit, Come'**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June 10.00am**  
**Winchelsea Uniting Church**

30 Hesse Street, Winchelsea

**Shared Brunch to Follow**

**More Details: Lyn 0400 649 652 or Marg 0418 983 005**



*Winchelsea Churches Working Together*



**Winchelsea Community House Inc.** A6247K  
 28 Hesse Street, PO BOX 75, WINCHELSEA, Vic. 3241  
**Phone:** (03) 5267 2028 **Email:** [manager@winchhouse.org.au](mailto:manager@winchhouse.org.au)  
**ABN:** 48 932 340 254

# TEA & TUNES

## IN THE WINCHELSEA SHIRE HALL



**THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup>**  
**JUNE 10AM - 1PM**

**TICKETS: \$20**

**TEA, COFFEE, MORNING TEA,  
 LUNCH & ENTERTAINMENT.**

Bookings via Winchelsea Community house 03 52672028  
 or [shire\\_hall@winchhouse.org.au](mailto:shire_hall@winchhouse.org.au)

## WINCHELSEA CHEESEMAKING WORKSHOP

**Sunday 24th August**

SESSION 1 : Camembert, Danish Blue and Danish Feta 9am- 12pm

SESSION 2: Halloumi, Cheddar, Cottage cheese 1pm - 4pm

\$135 For one session

\$240 For both sessions



### Mother Goose Song & Rhyme

**Every Wednesday at 2pm**

During school terms

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

### Winchelsea Knitting Group

**Thursday Mornings 10.30 – 12pm**

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

### Tai Chi

**Friday Mornings, 9.00am – 10.00am**

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

### Chatty Café

**Fridays 10.30am – 12.30pm**

"Sip, Chat, Share, Care" in the Winchelsea Shire Hall. Everyone

### Phonics with Robot Reg Friday Mornings

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

'A fun, High energy class to introduce and teach Phonics Skills to Kids'

### Craft & Crochet Group

1pm in the Winchelsea Community Centre

Every Second Saturday, Next class June 14th

**\$5 per person** Book your spot at [reception@winchhouse.org.au](mailto:reception@winchhouse.org.au)





# Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafnc@hotmail.com

# Blues News

Janet Fletcher

## ROUND 8

Welcome to Blue's News where we find ourselves looking at some disappointing results from the trip to Werribee Centrals Galvin Park last Saturday. Conditions were still very mild to be playing our Winter sport of Australian Rules with out even a hint of a puff of wind on what was a glorious Saturday afternoon.

### RESERVES:

**Winchelsea Blues 5.5.35 were defeated by Werribee Centrals 11.12.78.**

The Reserves started in good fashion with the first three quarters being close and entertaining, however the Werribee side stepped up and took control of the game in the final quarter, running away to finish up in a comfortable win.

**GOALS:** Noah Harvey 2, Robbie Gleeson 1, Tom Kennedy 1, Bailey Forssman 1.

**BEST:** Noah Harvey, Heath Walsh, Bailey Kahle, Sam Creighton, Matthew Sprigg, Joe Fama.

Unfortunately, injuries to Noah Harvey in the third quarter with suspected concussion as well as Joey Fama with a broken foot dampened the result for the Reserves even further.

### SENIORS:

**Winchelsea Blues 9.7.61 were defeated by Werribee Centrals 21.20.146.**

The stunning weather continued to hold for the 2pm game and the Blues started well leading at the first change. The second quarter belonged to Werribee, the Blues came back in the third but as in the Reserves game Werribee Centrals dominated the last and ran out comfortable winners. A disappointing result to what could have been a good close 4 quarter game. Well done to those who tried hard all day.

**GOALS:** Indi Parish 3, Cameron Primmer 3, Jack Symmons 2, Rueben James 1

**BEST:** Mitch Thomas, Tavae Sauni, Harry Nagle, Callum Nankervis, Luke Henry, Fin Kersopp-Cole.

The Winchelsea Blues will Host Belmont Lions at Eastern Reserve in 2 weeks' time on the 14th June.

### INTERLEAGUE MATCH

#### Hosted by Winchelsea Football & Netball Club

The GDFNL / CFNL Interleague games will be held on the King's Birthday weekend Monday 9 June at Eastern Reserve with Netball 17's & Under as well A Grade. It is a great opportunity to showcase our picturesque Football ground, our beautiful new Netball courts and all its amenities.

The event is to be an open gate (no entry fee) with the Canteen & Bar in full operation, the W.F.N.C. encourages everyone to come along and support the players not only from our Club but indeed the best across the Geelong & District Football & Netball League and the Colac Football & Netball League.

Congratulations to those Netballers chosen to represent their League.

The Under 25's Football match will begin at 1.30 pm. Congratulations to the 4 Winchelsea players who were initially chosen for the Interleague squad, Indy Parish, Fin Parish, Lachie Gemmill & Calab Brown. Unfortunately injuries will see Fin and Calab not being able to take part in in the Interleague match at this point. We look forward to a high calibre of Football & Netball being played in front of a big crowd.

### THE BLUE'S BISTRO:

This week's menu will see the ever popular Chicken Schnitzel/ Parmi, Curried Sausages , and Flathead tails. Our Volunteers aim to have meal service up and running by 6pm. Thank you all for your patience when at times we run a little late.

### GO BLUES!!



## Junior Netball Development Program

**Calling all future netball stars aged 5–10 years!**  
Winchelsea Football Netball Club is proud to be running a Junior Development Program alongside NetSetGo – introduction to netball for children 5-10 years who want to learn the basics, make friends, and have fun!

Program Highlights:

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

Location: Winchelsea Netball courts

When: Thursday 4-4.45pm

Interested? Phone Junior coordinator Shae on 0409 641 550.

Register your interest and receive more info!



# WINCHELSEA FACEBOOK



**Community, Sports, Churches and Non-profits**

What's on in Winchelsea	<a href="https://facebook.com/WhatsoninWinchelsea">facebook.com/WhatsoninWinchelsea</a>
Winchelsea FREE	<a href="https://facebook.com/groups/winchelseafree">facebook.com/groups/winchelseafree</a>
Winchelsea Community Information	<a href="https://facebook.com/groups/207538644446972">facebook.com/groups/207538644446972</a>
Winchelsea Classifieds 3241	<a href="https://facebook.com/groups/216942861684082">facebook.com/groups/216942861684082</a>
Winchelsea Lost and Found	<a href="https://facebook.com/groups/768187693217518">facebook.com/groups/768187693217518</a>
Winchelsea Op Shop	<a href="https://facebook.com/HospitalAuxiliaryOpShopWinchelsea">facebook.com/HospitalAuxiliaryOpShopWinchelsea</a>
Winchelsea Shire Hall	<a href="https://facebook.com/WinchelseaShireHall">facebook.com/WinchelseaShireHall</a>
Winchelsea Community House	<a href="https://facebook.com/winchelseacommunityhouse">facebook.com/winchelseacommunityhouse</a>
The Green Winchelsea Residents	<a href="https://facebook.com/groups/515322772623126">facebook.com/groups/515322772623126</a>
Growing Winchelsea Inc	<a href="https://facebook.com/growingwinch">facebook.com/growingwinch</a>
Winchelsea Star	<a href="https://facebook.com/TheWinchelseaStar">facebook.com/TheWinchelseaStar</a>
Winchelsea Movie Club	<a href="https://facebook.com/winchelseamovies">facebook.com/winchelseamovies</a>
Winchelsea Community Market	<a href="https://facebook.com/100083362387611">facebook.com/100083362387611</a>
Winchelsea Land and River Care Group	<a href="https://facebook.com/envirowinchelsea/">facebook.com/envirowinchelsea/</a>
Upper Barwon Landcare Network	<a href="https://facebook.com/UpperBarwonLandcare">facebook.com/UpperBarwonLandcare</a>
Winchelsea & District Historical Society Inc	<a href="https://facebook.com/Winchelseaanddistricthistoricalsociety/">facebook.com/Winchelseaanddistricthistoricalsociety/</a>
Winchelsea Wildlife Shelter	<a href="http://www.winchelseawildlifeshelter.com/">www.winchelseawildlifeshelter.com/</a>
SCARS - Surf Coast Animal Rescue Service	<a href="https://facebook.com/groups/415211698950674">facebook.com/groups/415211698950674</a>
Winchelsea Gardeners	<a href="https://facebook.com/groups/779878518703025">facebook.com/groups/779878518703025</a>
Winchelsea & District Historical Society	<a href="https://facebook.com/Winchelseaanddistricthistoricalsociety/">facebook.com/Winchelseaanddistricthistoricalsociety/</a>
Winchelsea Repertory Society Inc	<a href="https://facebook.com/winchrep/">facebook.com/winchrep/</a>
Winchelsea Globe Theatre	<a href="https://facebook.com/Winchelsea-Globe-Theatre-164790897641678">facebook.com/Winchelsea-Globe Theatre-164790897641678</a>
Winchelsea Uniting Church	<a href="https://facebook.com/winchelseaunitingchurch">facebook.com/winchelseaunitingchurch</a>
St Thomas' Anglican Church	<a href="https://facebook.com/StThomasWinchelsea">facebook.com/StThomasWinchelsea</a>
St John the Baptist Catholic Church	<a href="https://facebook.com/pages/Winchelsea-Catholic-Church/101775670163180">facebook.com/pages/Winchelsea-Catholic-Church/101775670163180</a>
Winchelsea Mainly Music	<a href="https://facebook.com/groups/668500343953191/">facebook.com/groups/668500343953191/</a>
Winchelsea Health Club	<a href="https://facebook.com/WinchelseaHealthClub">facebook.com/WinchelseaHealthClub</a>
Winchelsea Playgroup (School terms only)	<a href="https://facebook.com/groups/551663435367031">facebook.com/groups/551663435367031</a>
Winchelsea Girl Guides	<a href="http://www.guidesvic.org.au/">www.guidesvic.org.au/</a>
Winchelsea/Modewarre Scouts	<a href="https://facebook.com/1stModewarreScouts">facebook.com/1stModewarreScouts</a>
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**Project 2** - Common Ground Project partnering with Winchelsea Primary School to enable all students to learn about regenerative gardening at Common Ground and use this knowledge to create sustainable gardens at school and home.

Find out more about each project and vote at [surfcoast.vic.gov.au/CEGrants](http://surfcoast.vic.gov.au/CEGrants)

Voting closes at **5pm Tuesday 10 June 2025.**



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# parkrun 65



Saturday 31 May 2025

Trebeck Reserve, Winchelsea



Twenty four parkrunners enjoyed the course through Trebeck Reserve this week. We had visitors from Studley Park and Brisbane. Welcome to first time parkrunners Irene and Andrew. Four people completed their personal best time for Trebeck Reserve parkrun. Congratulations to Brook Pay, Jack Steel, Lillian Logan and Grace Logan.

This event was made possible by the following volunteers: Kate McInnes, Neil McInnes, Ann Morsby, Don Smith and Ian Wakeman.

It takes a minimum of six people each week to safely conduct an enjoyable event. Please email [trebeckreserve@parkrun.com](mailto:trebeckreserve@parkrun.com) if you are able to volunteer some of your time. Tasks are simple, sociable, fun and very much appreciated.

We are seeking people interested in sharing the role of Run Director each 4-6 weeks or so. It involves coordinating volunteers, setting up for the event and making sure things run smoothly. The role is easy to learn and there is plenty of support. Further details of this week's results can be found at [trebeckreserveparkrun.com.au/results](http://trebeckreserveparkrun.com.au/results) or check out our Facebook page for more photos and further information.

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](http://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.

You do not need to be a runner, wear fancy Lycra or the latest high-tech shoes. Around one third of participants walk the course.

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## Rethink Roaming: Don't let curiosity kill your cat

RSPCA

RSPCA Victoria is urging cat owners across the state to rethink letting their cats roam.

While letting cats roam might seem natural, they're up to 3 times more likely to die, can lose up to 10 years off their life, and cat owners who allow their cats to roam face 400% higher vet bills and visits.

RSPCA's Rebecca Cook said "We know animals make our lives better, and we also know Victorians love their cats, but the reality is, allowing them to roam takes years off their lives. From being hit by cars, getting into fights, or catching diseases, the risks are so much greater than people expect."

"The majority of councils have or intend to introduce cat containment rules or curfews, but we know keeping your cat safe isn't simply about locking them indoors; it's about creating a fun, enriching environment where they can live a longer, healthier life and we want to support people doing this."



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RSPCA Victoria's Rethink Roaming online tool gives cat owners a simple, interactive way to:

- Learn about the dangers their cat faces when roaming in their own neighbourhood
- Get practical tips to transition cats to a contained lifestyle
- Explore enrichment ideas to keep indoor cats stimulated and satisfied

"In addition to the risks pet cats face, free-roaming felines are also a major threat to our native wildlife," Ms Cook said.

To find out more and try the tool, head to: [rethinkroaming.com.au](http://rethinkroaming.com.au)

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# Junior Netball

Shae Callahan

### Net-Set-Go Stars Shining Bright

The future of Winchelsea netball is looking bright, with our Net-Set-Go participants improving each week. The young players are growing in confidence, developing their skills, and most importantly — having fun on court. Coaches and families are noticing growing excitement among the children, many of whom are starting to talk eagerly about taking their skills into competition. From ball handling to teamwork and movement, every session brings progress — and plenty of smiles. We're proud of our Net-Set-Go stars and can't wait to see them competing for WFNC.

### Winchelsea Under 11s defeated Grovedale 11 – 7.

Winchelsea's Under 11s kept their momentum going with a solid 11–7 win over Grovedale. The young team is showing impressive improvement week by week, gaining experience with each game. Their teamwork, enthusiasm, and growing confidence on court are beginning to shine through. It's been a fantastic start to the season for this developing side, and with continued effort and support, they're shaping up to be a team to watch. Well done to our Under 11s on another great performance!

### Winchelsea Under 13s defeated Werribee Centrals 33 – 8.

Winchelsea Under 13s netball team had a dominant 33–8 win over Werribee. Facing a side stacked with top-age players and bigger bodies, the young Winchelsea team showed no signs of intimidation, rising to the challenge with impressive composure and skill. A highlight was the spread of goal scorers, with four different players contributing to the scoreboard — a great reflection of the team's depth and attacking versatility. The win was built on solid defensive pressure, quick ball movement, and excellent teamwork, and the result is a clear sign that this talented group is continuing to grow in confidence each week. A fantastic team effort — congratulations, Under 13s!

### Winchelsea Under 15s defeated Werribee Centrals 25–17.

Winchelsea Under 15s put in a strong determined performance, going down 25–17 to Werribee Centrals in a game



much closer than the score suggests. With two experienced players rested for senior duties, the team relied on its younger members to step up — and they did. The girls competed hard in every quarter and showed promising signs of growth. Moo once again led by example, using her experience to guide and support her teammates on court. Her leadership helped steady the side and ensured the girls remained competitive throughout the match. While the result didn't go their way, the Under 15s continue to improve and gain valuable experience each week. The effort and teamwork on display are setting strong foundations for the rest of the season.

### Winchelsea under 17s defeated by Werribee Centrals 31 – 15.

Winchelsea Under 17s experienced a rare loss, going down 31–15 to a strong and composed Werribee Centrals. With two key defenders unavailable, the team was forced to adapt quickly, testing their depth and flexibility. Moo stepped up from the Under 15s, playing strongly across multiple positions and offering valuable support throughout the match. Milly also made a significant impact, transitioning from her usual attacking role into defence, where she used her height to great advantage, disrupting play and applying pressure in the ring. This match will serve as a learning experience, and with the full squad hopefully back in coming weeks, the Under 17s are sure to bounce back.

### Winchelsea Under 19s defeated by Werribee Centrals 40 – 9.

The Winchelsea Under 19s faced a challenging outing, falling to Werribee Centrals 40–9 in a tough match marked by limited player availability. Illness claimed several key players, forcing last-minute changes to the lineup. In a great show of club spirit, several Under 17s stepped up to fill the gaps and showed determination against a well-established Werribee side. Despite the score, the effort and commitment from the team was commendable. The match provided an opportunity for younger players to test themselves and for the group to come together under pressure. The Under 19s will look to regroup with a healthier squad in the coming rounds, and take positives from the resilience shown in testing circumstances.

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