

Winchelsea Star

Price \$1

Your Weekly Community Newspaper

Since 1977

Vol 48 Ed 03

Tuesday 28 January 2025

winchelseastar.org.au



The Winchelsea River Loop is coming

Story page 3

Cancer Connection

Partnering with



Weekly group sessions connecting those impacted by cancer through promoting wellbeing, education, exercise and social support.



For those living with cancer, and for those caring for those living with cancer.

Share a cuppa and morning tea.

YOURCAREPATH
Regional Care Partnerships – Chronic Conditions



Introductory Session
Feb 27th & ongoing
Thursdays 10am-12pm



Hesse Rural Health
Community Building
8 Gosney St, Winchelsea

To register your interest please contact:

Email: healthpromotion@hesse.vic.gov.au **Phone:** (03) 5267 1200



Beautiful Winchelsea River Loop

Tony Phelps, Surf Coast Shire Councillor

With a footbridge across the Barwon at the southern end of town at the end of Hesse Street, a second footbridge is about to be constructed at the northern end up in the camping area near the railway bridge. This will complete a beautiful walking loop up both sides of the Barwon right alongside the river. If you haven't done it, you really should – even if you only do it once, you'll have an appreciation of how special this waterway through town is.

There has long been a rough version of a walkway across the Barwon at this place, colloquially known as Earl's Bridge after it was allegedly put there one day in the dim and distant past by someone. The river doesn't have to rise much to cover it, but it



has been a very handy way to get from one side to the other. It's also been flood-proof, hopefully the same applies to the new bridge that's going there. Certainly the footbridge at the south is a simple flat walkway with no handrails to catch floating flood debris and it too has proven itself in a flood.



The highway bridges provide additional pedestrian crossing on either side of the highway, so locals, visitors and rest-breakers can choose how far to walk; the whole loop or half of it. With tranquil wooded parts, open parkland, and several picnic tables, this Barwon River walk is a standout feature for the town. Exercise and mental health boost all in one!

Also to be constructed as part of this Surf Coast Shire project are 2 viewing platforms, one each side. These will feature indigenous artwork and stories, with Wadawurrung on the eastern bank and Gulidjan on the western bank. The eastern version will be located below the renovated and extended playground (now an 'adventure' playground). The western version is currently planned to be more or less opposite, but there are some thoughts that maybe it would be better on the southern side of the bridge. We shall see.

If you want to keep up with this project, the quick way is to search for "Winchelsea river loop" or you can head to [surfcoast.vic.gov.au/About-us/Works-and-projects/Winchelsea-Moriac-and-surrounds-projects/Barwon-River-Loop-Walk](https://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/About-us/Works-and-projects/Winchelsea-Moriac-and-surrounds-projects/Barwon-River-Loop-Walk) to get occasional updates on this project.



**YOU CAN'T CONTROL FIRE.
BUT YOU CAN CONTROL
WHEN YOU LEAVE.**

When the Fire Danger Rating is Extreme or Catastrophic,
leaving early is your safest option. Download the
Vic Emergency app or go to emergency.vic.gov.au



HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW FIRE?

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



NATURAL GAS CONNECTIONS

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YOUR LOCAL LICENSED

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- GAS CONVERTERS
- CARBON MONOXIDE TESTING

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ELGAS



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SUNNY GYM
GYM BUT JOYFUL

**Strength, Mindfulness and
Martial Arts in Winchelsea**

Boxing NEW!
Kids Kung Fu
Group Exercise
Personal Training
Qi Gong
sunnygym.com.au



Café La Hoot

**have you tried
'owl' coffee?**

1 willis st cafelahoot@gmail.com 0407 528 999





Winchelsea Star COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

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

WINCHELSEA OP SHOP

On Friday January 3 we will start to accept donations again.

LIONS CLUB

Environmentally friendly
compressed paper bricks for your fire.
Save on the rising cost of wood.
Pack 4 bricks \$5 - Roll small rolls \$2
Contact Alan 0476 475 422

WINCHELSEA PICKLEBALL

Winchelsea Leisure Time Centre
Wed 7-830pm or Thurs 10-11.30am.
All equipment supplied,
wear suitable footwear.
Lesley Mathison 0438 672 197

WINCHELSEA TENNIS CLUB JUNIOR COACHING

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

SOCIAL TWILIGHT TENNIS

Monday evenings from 6.00pm.
All Welcome!

CUBS AND JOEYS

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

WINCHELSEA GIRL GUIDES

Are you interested in joining an
enthusiastic, self-motivated team
working with girls, 5-15 years?

Winchelsea Guides are seeking female
adult volunteers. Help us provide a
stimulating program giving leadership
development opportunities for girls, as
well as providing fun and friendship.

Phone Yvonne 0448 672630

DIAMOND DOT

Senior Citizens rooms,
Harding Street, Winchelsea

Saturdays, 11am till 4pm
\$5.00 Entry, Afternoon tea supplied
New stock available for sale
See you there



BRIDGE

Social Bridge is played

EVERY TUESDAY

NEW TIME 10 AM - 12 NOON

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE

36 Harding Street Winchelsea

New players always welcome

Elaine Atkinson 0458 009 616

FOR SALE - SINGLE BED

Comes with mattress.

New wooden
underlay and mattress
protector

No stains on mattress
\$50 pick up winchelsea
Ph Tracey 0427500649



ZUMBA DANCE WITH SIMONE

Zumba Fitness & Gold classes available
@ Winchelsea's Globe Theatre
Mondays & Wednesdays 6:30pm-7:30pm
\$15 per class or \$25 for two sessions.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN!

Simone Dunmore – 0468 375 036 or
ZumbawithSimone09@gmail.com

Winchelsea
Community Market



Shire Hall
9am - 1pm

FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

2 February 2025
2 March 2025
6 April 2025
4 May 2025
1 June 2025

**WANT TO JOIN
PROBUS?**

Enjoy fellowship with
other members

Enjoy trips & outings

Listen to guest speakers



**Contact Lorraine
0417 467 927**



WINCHELSEA LIONS CLUB
ARE SELLING ENVIRONMENTALLY
FRIENDLY SHREDDED PAPER
COMPRESSED BRICKS FOR YOUR FIRE
SAVE ON THE RISING COST OF WOOD
BY INCLUDING PAPER BRICKS
AS WELL

PACKET OF 4 ROARS (BRICKS) **\$5**
ROLL OF PURRS (SMALL ROLLS) **\$2**

AVAILABLE AT LIONS PAPER SHED
36 HARDING STREET
SATURDAY MORNINGS
10AM - 12 NOON
FROM 4TH MAY UNTIL SOLD OUT

EFTPOS AVAILABLE
CASH ACCEPTED





25 January 2025

Trebeck Reserve, Winchelsea

Neil McInnes

51 participants completed the course through Trebeck Reserve this week.

7 people completed their Personal Best time for Trebeck Reserve. Congratulations to Fred Royal, Andrew Middleton, Meg Royal, Finnigan Hunter, Peter McCaulay, Lily Del-Rennie and Gary Gibson.

We had visitors from Williamstown, Scotland, Westerfolds, Ararat, Warrandyte, Essendon and Darwin.

This event was made possible by the following volunteers: Helen Woodall * Kate McInnes * David Woodall * Don Smith * Frankie Palermo * Jess Middleton * Murray Bennett * Neil McInnes * Andrew Middleton.

Further details of this week's results can be found at trebeckreserveparkrun.com.au/results

Please check out our Facebook page for today's photos and further information.

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

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





If you wish to join us any Saturday morning as a walker, runner or volunteer please complete the simple online registration at parkrun.com.au/register. This is free, only needs to be done once and can be used at any of the 5,000 plus parkrun events worldwide.

Well behaved dogs on a short hand held leash are welcome (no waist harnesses please)

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.

parkrun was conducted at around 500 locations across Australia this week.



	466 kg food a week
	47 households a week
	114 individuals a week
	17 foodbank volunteers



Winchelsea's New Foodbank: A Boost for Local Families

Hesse Rural Health

The Winchelsea Community Foodbank (WCF) opened in early June 2024, in response to community identified need. In 2022 and 2023, data was collected via a community needs assessment and environmental scan conducted by Hesse's Health Promotion Officer (HPO), that indicated Winchelsea is poorly serviced by food relief agencies. Additionally, access to affordable food is limited with only one independent supermarket located in town and access to a larger retailer 30 minutes by car.

This data was in addition to the data presented from the Surf Coast Shire's Winchelsea Community Action Plan 2023-2026, where a survey conducted revealed more households were requiring food relief and assistance than ever before. The survey also indicated need for affordable access to healthier and more convenient food options.

Following a successful grant from the Give Where You Live (GWYL) Foundation in 2023, the Healthy Communities Team established the Food Access Action Group. Using co-design principles, the action group developed a suitable food relief model for Winchelsea. This action group comprised 12 community members who provided experience in the food relief sector, lived experience of accessing food relief, general interest or were well connected community members.

The working group met five times over six months and established the Winchelsea Community Foodbank with the support of Hesse's HPO. Everything from the model of food relief to the location and operational hours of the foodbank have been designed in collaboration with the community. The operational procedures which included eligibility criteria, or lack thereof, were also agreed upon by the Food Access Action Group. Robust discussion by the working group ensured that the chosen food relief model and procedures best addressed the needs of this specific community.

The foodbank is currently coordinated by Hesse's Food Security Project Officer and is supported by 17 active volunteers. The WCF is open weekly on each Friday between 12-2pm, supported by volunteers, deliveries and donated food items that arrive each Friday morning.

The volunteers diligently sort, organise and unpack all the deliveries, setting up the foodbank shelves to resemble that of a supermarket. You can feel the pride each volunteer takes in making sure the shopping experience is as comfortable and as normal for consumers as possible.

The WCF sees an average of 47 people through the door each week. This equates to feeding an average of 114 people per week and distributing over 466kg of food and household items per week. Foodbank consumer feedback includes 'I don't know where I'd be without this service' and 'I'm now eating fruit and veggies, as I haven't been able to in months.'

Each week all excess food from the Foodbank is taken to the Honest and Free stall in Barwon Terrace for the community to access. Most weeks this food has been taken within a few hours of it being delivered.

The impact the WCF is already having on the community is immense and far extends beyond the provision of food. The co-benefit of the project includes social connection for both the consumers and volunteers. The level of social connection shared between the volunteers was not an anticipated impact but has been fantastic to witness.

Since our original GWYL Foundation start up grant, further grants were secured via the GWYL Foundation and the Geelong Community Foundation, to support ongoing work into 2025. In December 2024, we received notification our application for 2024-2025 Community Food Relief Program – State Government Local Grants was successful. We look forward to further building the skills and capacity of our community to address food insecurity.

Hesse is very grateful for the generous donations we have received from our community and wish to thank the Winchelsea Neighbourhood House, the Auspice of the program and the Uniting Church for its ongoing support.



Thanks to the many helpers of the Lions Club and also celebrating Sam Inglis being awarded an OBE

Linda Carter

On Friday night Winchelsea Lions Club held their annual appreciation dinner at the Golf Club.

This event is where we like to show our appreciation to all non Lions who have helped us during the last year to do what we do for the community. Without their help we couldn't possibly do all we do.

We were incredibly fed by Robbie and Lynette Clark's unbelievable spit roast (would love your secret Robbie) and amazing salads and desserts provided by members. We missed our usual barman Greg, but Jeff Morgan did an amazing job keeping us all refreshed. Many thanks Jeff.

We were entertained by the amazing "Human Jukebox" Don Fisher with his wonderful music and hilarious humour.

We also celebrated our past President Sam Inglis obtaining his OBE "over bloody eighty" with a beautiful cake.

A special thank you to Danny and Nicola from Sweet Thyme who have provided us with so many happy nights and delicious meals for our dinner meetings. We wish you well in whatever your future "retirement" brings. Keep hitting those golf balls Danny.

Many thanks also to all of you who supported our Australia Day Breakfast on Sunday morning. Our motto "We Serve" means everyone in the community and further afield.

We can't do it without your support.

OBE is the second highest ranking Order of the British Empire. It was established by King George V in 1917 to honour those who had served in a non-combative role and was expanded to reward contributions to the Arts, Sciences, Charitable work and Public Service.



Celebrating Past President Sam Inglis being awarded an OBE



Don Fisher



**Mother Goose Children's
 song and Rhyme**
 2pm-3pm Wednesday's
 School Terms starting Jan 29th
 Winchelsea Shire Hall

WINCHELSEA KNITTING GROUP

Thursday Mornings, starting February 6th

10.30 – 12pm

welcome, come along and learn to knit or bring a project
 to work on whilst enjoying a cuppa and a chat.

Winchelsea Community House

Tai Chi

Friday Mornings starting back Feb 7th

9.00am – 10.00am

In the Helen Verity Room,
 Winchelsea community house

\$10 per session

CHATTY CAFÉ

Fridays 10.30pm – 12.30pm

“Sip, Chat, Share, Care”

Winchelsea Shire Hall

Everyone Welcome Collection tin for donations.

Carers Corner

Come along, connect with other carers, have a cuppa
 and a chat, and share useful resources.

Friday 28th Feb 11.00am – 12 noon

Winchelsea Shire Hall -Collection tin for donations.

WINCHELSEA
Children's
FAIR

SHIRE HALL
FRIDAY
7TH FEB
2PM - 5PM

**8am Saturday
 Morning Yoga**

 With
LISA GRACE
 Qualified Yoga and Belly Dance
 instructor of over 12 years.
 8 Week term \$160 (\$20 per class)
Classes begin Feb 8th
 Bookings essential:
shirehall@winchhouse.org.au

Crochet Group

1.30pm in the Winchelsea Community Centre

Every Second Saturday, Next Class 8th Feb

\$5 per class

Book your spot at reception@winchhouse.org.au

Get in touch!

**We're always keen to hear your ideas
 and welcome new volunteers.**

The Winchelsea Community House aims to provide a space to connect with others in our
 community through a wide range of programs and activities.

There are many opportunities to learn new skills or further develop existing ones for fun, for your
 resume or for your confidence and mental health.



Letter to the Editor

Library Service

Dear Editor

Is anyone else getting frustrated with our ever-dwindling Library Service? For the last 18 months or more we have endured a variety of vehicles appearing on a Friday afternoon with a somewhat limited array of books, DVD's and magazines to borrow.

This year we have only had the option to request books online or by telephoning a library and hope that they come on that week's small transit van – no browsing available.

It appears that the large mobile bus we have had for over 10 years is nearing the end of its life. Does this also mean the end of a library service to Winchelsea along with 7 other small towns in the area.

Are there other options that may be considered?

What can we as a community do to ensure a quality, reliable library service? I have emailed the Geelong Regional Library; the Winchelsea Ward Councillors and the Surf Coast Shire and am awaiting replies. More people asking questions and voicing their concerns may help to raise the profile of an essential service many take for granted.

Helen Davie

WANTED Winchelsea Girl Guides needs girls

We welcome girls 6-15yrs.

We meet Mondays 4.30 pm-6pm
at St John's Catholic Church Winchelsea
during school term.

Guiding provides fun, friendship, and adventure.
Developing teamwork, and leadership skills,
whilst girls achieve goals, improve communities
and grow in confidence.

Many of our girls were from Moriac
so a Unit has been opened at Modewarre to cater for them.

We also had 4 travelling up from the coast,
and now they attend secondary school in Geelong
so they have transferred to a Geelong Guide Unit.

**If interested, girls can attend 2 free sessions.
We commence on Mon 3 Feb,
girls are welcome to come along and try.**

Enqu Coast contact Yvonne Orchard ph 0448 672 630
Or Lily Dell Rennie ph 0428 936 441

Bus service for seniors to Waur Ponds and return. But you must use it or lose it

Cr Tony Phelps

Surf Coast Shire are putting on shopping trips for seniors, to Waur Ponds and back.

The program entails collection of the community bus (drives like a normal car) from Winchelsea at 9:30am, collecting local residents who have booked a seat on the bus from their homes, and taking them in to Waur Ponds. Drivers are then free to do whatever they please until a 1:30 meeting time, when everyone re-boards the bus and the return journey commences. The day should conclude by 3pm.

This program is a meaningful way for older residents to have social connection and access services at Waur Ponds Shopping centre. Once upon a time a similar service was provided by Winchelsea Community House, however it had to be stopped due to the cost of hiring and paying for the bus without any covering income. Surf Coast Shire have now reactivated the service and it will be run by Shebah, an Australian owned, all-women rideshare service that safely transports women and children. Shebah will commence providing a trial community transport service to and from Waur Ponds Shopping Centre for ALL Seniors Card holders (not just women) who live in the Surf Coast Shire. **Please note that male volunteers may be driving the bus.

This initiative is part of a larger community transport project supported by Surf Coast Shire Council to assist people to age well in their communities. The success of the project will depend on community response and feedback.



**To book a spot on the bus,
contact Sarra Stewart 0412 796 868
or email sarra@shebah.com.au**

PLUS – DRIVER(S) WANTED

There's an opportunity for people who can assist with providing transport for local seniors of Winchelsea in group transport to Waur Ponds Shopping centre.

Volunteer Drivers would simply need to sign up with Safe Transport Australia (five minute, simple form), and provide their driver's licence to register. A recent (within two years) police check is required, so if you have undertaken one recently, you are the ideal candidate.

There are currently multiple vacancies, however in the immediate future, drivers are required for 19th February, Winchelsea (bus collection from Hesse Rural Health) 9:30am-3:00pm
If you are interested, email Rose at Rose.Salvo@surfcoast.vic.gov.au or phone Sarra on 0412 796 868.



THE
WINCHELSEA STAR
ORGANISATION INC.

Winchelsea
Star



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I wish to correct an error on p 10 of the Winchelsea Star last week (21/1) acknowledging the role played by Merle Rigby as the original printer of the Star.

As a committee member back in the initial days of the Star, I am sure this is a small case of mistaken identity in confusing Merle, who was very involved in the Winchelsea Community, with Meryl Hill.

Meryl Hill was recruited about 1990 by editor Theresa Napthine, and printed the Star weekly until 2010 through several changes of printing machines and editors.

Regards,
Stewart Mathison.

Winchelsea Star Production Meeting **Saturday 22 February 2025**

Everyone is invited to come along to a monthly meeting - with coffee of course - on the last Saturday of each month @ Sweet Thyme, Winchelsea.

Your comments or suggestions, feedback, ideas for stories or coming events are welcome - or simply to say Hi!



This Week's Winchelsea Star
Editor - Cerrie Forgan
Designer - Susan Corby

send your stories
news@winchelseastar.org.au

LOCAL NEWS and ARTICLES WELCOME

Include name and address of the sender
Email news@winchelseastar.org.au
Leave hard copy at IGA Supermarket

DEADLINE 5pm Fridays

4pm Sundays - hard copy articles left at IGA

6pm Sundays - sports results and weekend events

ADVERTISING

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Advertising: Sasha Gauntlett, Neil McInnes
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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.



Surf Coast Business Survey Results 2024

Surf Coast Shire

The results of our Business Insights survey provides a comprehensive snapshot of the goals and challenges facing Surf Coast businesses.

The survey was open to businesses of all sizes and sectors as designed to find out information about:

- Current Business Environment
- Priorities and Challenges
- Environmental Sustainability - a key focus for this survey

This information enables Council to tailor its programs, services, and policies to better support the business community over the coming years.

It's part of Council's commitment to fostering a thriving business environment and support the economic growth of the community.

Survey results will be used to customise assistance and initiatives for Surf Coast businesses.

OVERVIEW OF RESULTS

Surf Coast business owners shared that the best things about about running their business on the Surf Coast is it's natural environment, community and local support and work-life balance.

The Survey revealed that the top three challenges for local business owners are rising costs, staffing & housing affordability and government and council regulations.

Overall business confidence has declined compared to pre-COVID levels leading businesses to focus on marketing to build a stronger customer base to drive sales while keeping costs low.

There is a strong trend balancing sustainability with profitability, with 80% of business owners indicating a desire to invest in this area. This shows a strong connection to the values of the Surf Coast and a desire to lead the way on environmentally sustainable practices.

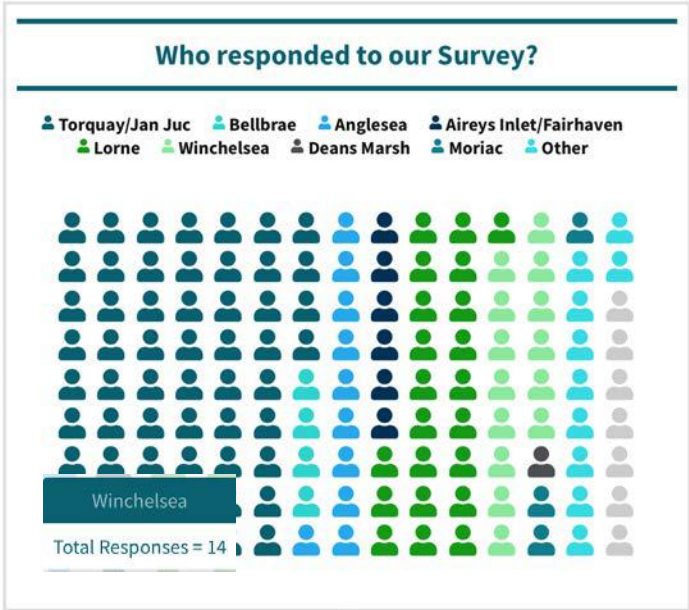
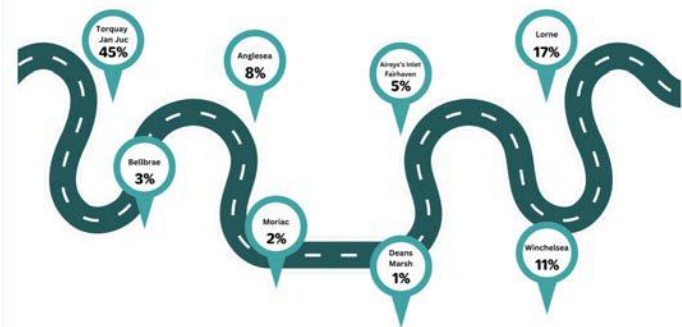
The survey was conducted between July to September 2024 and is the third Business Insights Survey, with 128 respondents, consistent with previous survey participation levels.

For more details, visit <https://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Community/Businesses/Business-Surveys/2024-Business-Survey-Results/2024-Business-Survey-Results-Section-2-Doing-Business-on-the-Surf-Coast>

BUSINESS CLASSIFICATIONS AND SECTORS

The locations with the highest number of survey respondents were:

- Torquay/Jan Juc 45%
- Lorne 17%
- Winchelsea & Hinterland 17%



The three biggest challenges restricting business performance were:

- **Risings Costs (25.4%)**
The increased cost of running a business (wages, rent, insurance and utilities) and the cost of living driving a downturn in spending poses a big challenge.
- **Staffing and Housing Affordability (20%)**
The lack of availability of staff, retention, and the lack of affordable accommodation remains a major challenge
- **Government & Council Regulations (12.5%)**
Red tape, slow response, high rates and fees, the short stay tax and lack of support for business were common concerns.

When asked which of the following industry classifications best describes your business, the responses were representative of the main industry sectors across the region.



Winchelsea Churches



St John's Catholic Church

Father Joseph Panackal
0404598558
Harding St, Winchelsea 3241
MASS TIMES
6pm Sat, Winchelsea
FEB. 1, 8, 15, 22

St Thomas' Anglican Church

Rev'd Phil Jacobson
0477 672 042
stthomaswac@gmail.com
Barwon Tce, Winchelsea
Service 10am

Winchelsea Uniting Church

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

Thought for the Week

"Negativity is contagious.
Unhappiness is contagious,
fear is contagious,
but so is happiness.
So is optimism.
So is love. Surround yourself
with people
who bring out the best in you.
And strive to be a reflection
of what
you want to receive."

John Bader,
Former U/C Accredited
Lay Preacher

We'd love to see you!

WINCHELSEA PLAYGROU

Each Thursday during school terms.
Come along between 10AM - 12PM.
Check out our Facebook Page for more information about the happenings of each session.
Playgroup Leader - Danni Menzies
Email: winchelseaplaygroup@gmail.com
St. Thomas's Hall,
27-29 Barwon Terrace,
Winchelsea VIC 3241

\$5 PER FAMILY
INCLUDES MORNING TEA & HOT DRINKS FOR CAREGIVERS

Scan to be part of our Facebook Group



17 Alsop Drive

- ❑ LOG BOOK SERVICE
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Upcoming Webinar Understanding Carbon on Farms - Carbon ACCU's Upper Barwon Landcare Network

UNDERSTANDING CARBON ON FARMS

CARBON ACCU'S *Webinar*



Speaker Biography

Dom Walker is a seasoned advisor at leading farmer education business Resource Consulting Services, dedicated to empowering individuals and communities to realise their agricultural aspirations and enhance both profitability and the environment.

Dom's academic credentials include two master's degrees, one in Agriculture Science and another in Food Systems. His scholarly pursuits have taken him across Australia and Latin America, where his research has concentrated on breaking down the barriers to soil health improvement on a global scale.

While Dom's advisory work extends to boardrooms and strategy sessions, he remains deeply connected to the roots of agriculture. His expertise as a soil scientist is exemplified by his commitment to the field, constantly seeking ways to harness the biological forces that boost production, reduce costs, and elevate the quality of food. Currently, Dom's focal points include pioneering soil carbon sequestration methods and integrating systems thinking into farm business operations.

TICKET LINK:

<https://events.humanitix.com/carbon-accu-s-webinar-with-dom-walker>

Contact: Andrea Montgomery
andrea.upperbarwonlandcare@gmail.com

The Victorian Carbon Farming Outreach Program is delivered with funding support from the Commonwealth of Australia through the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water under the National Carbon Farming Outreach Program. The Program is delivered through a partnership between Agriculture Victoria, 10 Catchment Management Authorities and Landcare Victoria and other bodies.

Webinar Topics

- The Carbon Cycle
- What's an ACCU?
- Carbon Farming Initiatives – how can they work for you?
- Focus on Soil Carbon
 - How a project works
 - How to sequester carbon in your farming system

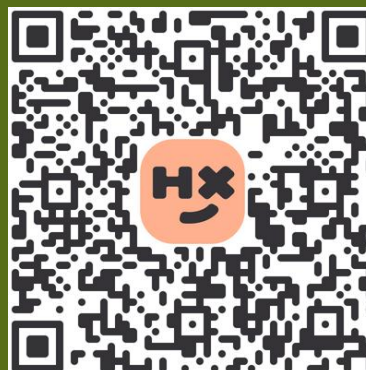
When: 5th February 2025

Where: Online

Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Cost: Free

GET TICKETS HERE:





mainly music
est. 1990

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
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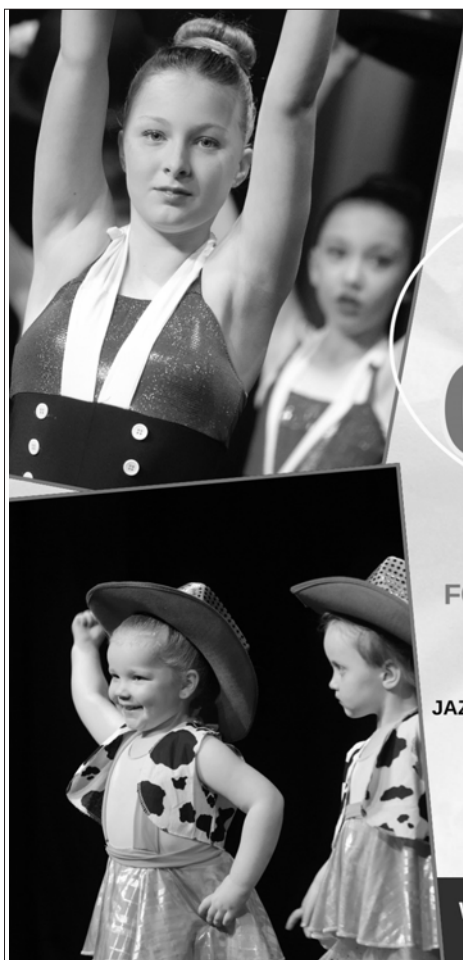
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Vacancies in paid positions here in Winchelsea for AEC

Elaine Atkinson,
Secretary - Growing Winchelsea

Paid temporary jobs at the federal election

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) has up to 100,000 paid temporary jobs available at the next federal election.

Here in Winchelsea more staff are needed with only 10 locals so far expressing interest. To our younger population why not consider putting your hand up and learn from our experienced locals. If there is interest staff from the Electoral Commission can visit Winchelsea during the week commencing 10 February 2025.

Either apply online or contact Elaine Atkinson, secretary@growingwinchelsea.com or phone 0458009616.

More than 9 in 10 previous temporary staff say they'd recommend the work to others – and that they'd do it again. Why not join them?

There are a range of different roles from entry-level to senior positions in metro, regional and remote areas. It doesn't matter if you haven't worked at an election before. You'll get paid to train and on-the-job support.

Most jobs are on voting day, but some roles are for several weeks before or after, making it a great opportunity to earn extra money. You'll also be contributing to your community and working as part of a team.

Many of the people who worked on the last major event, the referendum, enjoyed the experience:

- 'It was an AMAZING team environment where I worked and a great vibe.'
- 'An opportunity to connect with people in my community, some of whom I hadn't seen in decades.'
- 'I was thrilled with my staff. Most had never worked in an election before however they were keen and happy to do any task asked of them.'

As the AEC's role is to deliver the election with the highest levels of integrity and impartiality, you must be and be seen to be politically neutral.

The AEC strives to have a workforce that reflects and supports the diverse community we serve. We encourage people from all backgrounds and locations to join our team, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people with disability and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Tell your friends and family about this work opportunity too.

To register and find out more, visit aec.gov.au/electionjobs.

Charles Stewart and Company has opened an office in the newly built Winchelsea Ag, Horse & Pet store on Murrell St, Winchelsea

The Charles Stewart office opening coincided with the launch of the newly built Winchelsea Ag, Horse & Pet store on Murrell Street.

Charles Stewart agents operate throughout the wider South West Victorian community with many livestock and real estate clients within the greater Winchelsea district. The newly formed office provides a presence within the thriving Winchelsea community as well as a central meeting hub.

The office is staffed by appointment with real estate and livestock agents and property managers utilising the office space predominantly.

Being situated within the Winchelsea Ag, Horse & Pet store, our office offers easy off-street parking and clients can browse the extensive retail offering within the store whilst visiting.



School saving bonus still saving money for families

Victorian State Government

The popular School Saving Bonus continues to provide cost-of-living relief to thousands of Victorian families, paying for uniforms, textbooks and activities ahead of the 2025 school year.

A reminder to government school and eligible non-government school families that they can still spend their \$400 Bonus up to the start of Term 1 and beyond. The Bonus can be used to buy school uniforms and textbooks or can go towards school activities such as camps or excursions. Around 700,000 students statewide will benefit from the Bonus.

School uniforms have been the most popular item with over \$32 million spent so far. School activities were also favoured with over \$22 million allocated and nearly \$26 million going towards textbooks.

The Bonus can be used at second-hand uniform and textbook shops run by schools as well as approved suppliers. Any unspent Bonus money will automatically transfer to a family's school account once the uniform and textbook voucher period expires on 30 June, with parents able to use the remaining funds on future school activities.

For more information about the School Saving Bonus, visit vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus

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Winchelsea Shire Hall Community Feedback Survey and the year ahead

Rhani Bayon

Thank you to all the members of our community that participated in the survey that we ran last year requesting feedback about the use of the Shire Hall.

As most long term Winchelsea Locals are aware, in 2019 The Shire Hall ceased to operate as the long running tea rooms where many locals and visitors enjoyed regular coffee tea and cake. Due to an increase in costs the Tea Rooms could no longer keep running as the Surf Coast Shire sought out a replacement private enterprise to run in the Hall. Before a new business could complete negotiations and begin trading at the Hall the Covid 19 pandemic struck and all plans to operate out of the hall ceased. In 2022 the Surf Coast Shire agreed to hand management of the Shire Hall over to the Winchelsea Community House to be run as a space for our community. This has been part of a 3 year plan to see the Hall reach a self-sustaining level of use by Winchelsea community groups and members of the public.

The current arrangement is up for review in June of this year as we continue to increase use of the Hall for varying different activities and events.

Below is an excerpt from the survey indication what Community members would like to see more of happening at the Hall.

In response to the survey results we have introduced a Saturday morning Yoga Class and in the process of confirming an additional evening class during the week.

Mother Goose song and rhyme starts next Wednesday 29 January and Library story time sessions will also be starting in the Hall very soon.

The Winchelsea children's fair on 7 February is a wonderful opportunity for Parents and care givers to learn about many of the wonderful children's activities and services already available to them in the hall and externally.

The Hall will host a second Re-Loved Market on March 23

open to all second hand and recycled goods, not just clothing. Although the community house and Shire Hall run in the Surf Coast Shire we are not funded to run subsidised programs as some other community and neighbourhood houses are. We can only continue to offer new events and activities with the support and participation of the community.

If you have further feedback, an event idea, want to run a class, workshop or want to collaborate to start a program at the Hall, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Rhani at shirehall@winchhouse.org.au or give us a call at the Community House on 03 52672028.

Truth-telling journey continues as thousands gather for Pilk Purriyn

Surf Coast Shire

Around 2,500 people gathered on Wadawurrung Country at Cosy Corner Torquay today, 26 January, as the sun rose at Warri Dja – Sea Country.

Wadawurrung Traditional Owners shared testimonies and reflections seeking to deepen understanding of the stories of the past, and knowledge of Wadawurrung People and Country.

Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation hosted the event for a third time with the support of Surf Coast Shire Council and Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority, providing opportunity for members of all communities to gather and deeply listen at this free event.

Proceedings included a traditional Welcome to Country, Smoking, Song and Dance ceremonies, conducted by Wadawurrung People.

Members of one of seven Wadawurrung Traditional Owner families, including Ngarweet – Wadawurrung Senior Male Elder – Uncle Mel, aged 95, spoke in person and via a pre-recording played on a big screen.

Their testimonies added another chapter to a story started at the inaugural Pilk Purriyn event in 2023, and continued in 2024.

The event also included performances by Yirmal, phenomenal First Nations vocalist and storyteller, and songs sung in Wadawurrung Language by Wadawurrung Women.

Pilk Purriyn supports the entire First Nations community by acknowledging the deep sadness, harm and loss experienced



through colonisation.

It also recognises the proud survival and resilience of First Nations people, the preservation of a culture which has endured for tens of thousands of years, and the ongoing impacts of 26 January on First Nations people.

Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Greg Robinson: "Pilk Purriyn is important because gathering together to reflect as the sun rises honours our Ancestors and the full history of Wadawurrung People and Country. 26 January is not a date we celebrate."

"We say nyatne (thank you) to all who joined us this morning, for sitting and deeply listening to what we have to say, hearing our truth and for 'koling wada ngal' (walking together with us) into a reconciled future where there is a unification of our histories and our people and Culture are celebrated."

Surf Coast Shire Council Mayor Mike Bodsworth: "Respectful deep listening is fundamental as we seek to grow our understanding of the deep sadness, loss and dislocation experienced by First Nations people since colonisation of the traditional lands they nurtured for millennia."

"Once again we thank Wadawurrung Traditional Owners for their strength and grace in having provided our community with that opportunity through the sharing of truths at Pilk Purriyn. Their continuing story helps us acknowledge past wrongs and strengthens our resolve for reconciliation and healing."

~A Dance Style for All Ages~

When did you commence dance classes?

Our initial Zumba Fitness and Gold classes began in November last year at Winchelsea's LTC, before relocating to our permanent premises at The Globe Theatre.

Why did you decide to become a Zumba Instructor?

Being a professional Highland dancer in my youth, I have always loved world dance and music. I discovered Zumba 14 years ago and have participated in dance classes in Melbourne, Western Victoria and Geelong. Since relocating to Winchelsea with my husband in January 2024, my instructor friend and now colleague encouraged me to gain my instructor's license. I followed her advice and gained my certificate for Zumba Fitness & Gold. I am also qualified to teach Strong Nation, Zumba Kids and Kids Junior.

Why did you choose to bring Zumba Dance to Winchelsea?

I have always been a community-minded individual. I love to be an active member and give of my time and talents to people. Working with the school children of Winchelsea as their on call teacher last year, I really wanted to get to know their families and other locals. Furthermore, I am an advocate for positive mental health. I love to bring joy to people's lives, and Zumba dance is a style of dance that decreases cortisol levels and increases endorphins. I feel privileged to bring Zumba Dance back to the town, assisting people to not only get fit, but to socialise, get involved with events and raise money for local organisations and charities.

What occurs in a Zumba Dance session?

For 45 minutes to 1 hour, participants will enjoy dancing to a variety of Latin beats, including Salsa, Merengue, Cumbia and Reggaeton. Zumba also incorporates choreography from other world dance, including Belly Dancing, Bollywood, African & Rock 'n Roll. Zumba Fitness classes are all about cardio, muscle conditioning, improving coordination, and flexibility. It is a medium-intensity workout. Zumba Gold gives you an all-body workout, yet the choreography is low-impact and gentler on your joints.





What was the process in creating Winchelsea's new Zumba Crew?

It has taken a lot of my time and finances to set up Zumba Dance. However, I am a very dedicated and passionate person and I have thoroughly enjoyed the process. As with all small business owners, you need to plan, budget and have a willingness to be flexible. After gaining my respective qualifications, I became a ZIN (Zumba Instructor Network) member; I have a lot of support from other Zumba Instructors all around Victoria, Australia and globally. I design choreography specifically catering for participants' dance experience and fitness levels. The music and rhythm are upbeat and exciting - when you dance in a Zumba class, you don't feel like you are doing exercise!

Here's what some of our regular attendees have to say about Zumba:

*I LOVE ZUMBA! Where else can you experience the joy of dance, awesome latin and international music with a great cardio workout? I can't wait for my weekly fix! **Anne, Gherang***

*I love Zumba for the music and movement.
Debbie, Winchelsea*

*I love the music and I get to socialise with others. Zumba makes me happy and I'm doing something healthy for my body.
Deb K., Winchelsea*

*I came to Zumba because it's a great all over body movement, in a fun environment with fantastic music. **Melissa, Winchelsea***

*I really look forward to Zumba each week. Simone has great energy & makes the class fun. Most of us have not done Zumba before, so she tailors the classes to teach us the basic steps & then builds on them each week. I love the variety of dances & doing exercise that is also fun!
Clare, Inverleigh*

*I joined Zumba to have some 'me' time, to socialise and to get fit while having fun. Zumba ticks all these boxes and I am very happy to be a part of it. **Alysha, Winchelsea***

For all new dancer enquiries, please contact Simone Dunmore on 0468 375 036 or via email: zumbawithsimone09@gmail.com

Sessions: Mondays & Wednesdays 6:30-7:30pm



Rachel will be a vet, supported by a scholarship from DemoDAIRY

Terang student pursues her love of animals with DDF grant DemoDAIRY

Rachel Dickson grew up surrounded by one of the top herds in Australia, but it wasn't until she took a gap year and worked on the family farm that she really came to appreciate cows. Now Rachel is pursuing a career in veterinary science that will see her help to keep cows – along with other animals – safe and well. Her studies are being supported by a DemoDAIRY Foundation scholarship.

Rachel's parents Bryan and Jo Dickson's Holstein and Jersey herds have been at or near the top of the Australian Breeding Values for many years. She had always appreciated the need to maintain a healthy herd, but that fact was reinforced during her 2020 gap year. "I finished Year 12 not knowing what to do with myself," she said. "I didn't necessarily think I was going to become a vet, but I'm a real nerd and like science."

Rachel had planned to work on a farm in England across 2020 but that only lasted two months before the pandemic intervened and she had to return home. "Everything works out for a reason," she said. "I came back and worked full-time on the home dairy farm because I couldn't work anywhere else. It didn't feel like a job. I was happy working with the cows and realised I wanted to work with animals in some capacity."

Rachel could have done pharmacy or chemical engineering but ended up going to the University of Melbourne to do a Bachelor

of Science. "In that course I could pick and choose subjects in different areas without locking into one track. I loved learning about the cows and their biomechanics. I understood it and enjoying learning about it."

In 2023 Rachel graduated with a Bachelor of Science majoring in animal health and disease at the University of Melbourne and is about to start studying veterinary medicine at the University of Sydney after managing a farm at Terang over summer.

Rachel wants to be a mixed practice vet to include farm animals.

The DemoDAIRY Foundation scholarship will provide \$6000 a year for the next four years of Rachel's course, which will primarily cover rent and some supplies for her course.

After graduating, Rachel plans to work overseas but has long-term plans to return to Western Victoria.

DemoDAIRY Foundation is keen to sponsor more people in the farming industry. More information can be found at <https://www.demodairy.com.au/scholarships/> or from DDF secretary Ian Teese on 0427 358987 or itag@bigpond.com.



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Giant transformers arrive to drive down your power bills

Victorian State Government

A publicly-owned energy asset is right now preparing to plug into Victoria's electricity grid – powering homes and driving down energy prices.

Today, the acting Premier and the Minister for the State Electricity Commission welcomed the installation of two giant 335 tonne transformers at the 600-megawatt Melbourne Renewable Energy Hub (MREH) in Plumpton – another milestone for one of the world's biggest renewable energy storage batteries.

With all 444 Tesla Megapack 'big battery' components now in place at the MREH, the giant transformers are the final pieces that will connect the battery's power to the grid and allow it to be pumped at higher voltage.

The transformers travelled with an oversized load escort, and over three days last week, a specialised crew undertook a precision 'jack and skate' process, lifting the transformers and gliding them on to their foundations. A third transformer will arrive next month, while work continues to connect the first two transformers.

The big battery will come online later this year. It works by soaking up excess solar and surplus energy from the grid while the sun is shining and the wind is blowing, and releasing it back into the grid during the evening peak to boost supply and put downward pressure on bills. The big battery will store enough renewable energy to power 200,000 homes during peak periods. More than 790 people have worked across all aspects of the project, including 30 apprentices, trainees and cadets.

The SEC will build 4.5 gigawatts of new renewable energy and storage projects – enough to power more than 1.5 million homes – and all profits will be reinvested back into Victorian projects that deliver cheaper renewable energy.

The SEC is now enshrined in Victoria's Constitution.

Unearthing and backing Victorian creative talent

Victorian State Government

The State Government is investing in local creative talent and ideas by backing Victorian artists to deliver new work, build their careers and expand their audiences.

Applications are opening for the Creative Projects Fund which supports Victorian artists, creative collectives and organisations to develop exciting new work and undertake professional development opportunities.

The 2025 round of the Creative Projects Fund has two focus areas, offering pathways for both new and established practitioners to develop their creative projects and careers.

The Uncovering Talent focus area provides grants of \$5,000 to creatives at any career level who haven't received a Creative Victoria grant before, while the Projects focus area provides grants of between \$10,000 to \$20,000 to creatives with a proven track record.

In the last round the program supported 126 creative projects involving more than 1,500 professionals from a wide range of disciplines including theatre, film, photography, literature, dance, podcasts, music and fashion.

Across all disciplines and sectors, Victoria's creative industries employ more than 320,000 workers and contribute \$40.5 billion to the Victorian economy.

Applications for the Creative Projects Fund are now open and will close at 3pm on Thursday 13 February. For more information including eligibility or how to apply, visit creative.vic.gov.au/funding-opportunities.

GP workforce grows as graduate doctors take up grants

Victorian State Government

The State Government is stepping in to fill gaps in the primary care system with the next round of a generous program to recruit more GPs and improve health outcomes for Victorians, now open.

400 grants, worth up to \$40,000 – have now been awarded to medical graduates who take up a career in general practice.

A further 400 grants are available in 2025 for those commencing a GP training program in Victoria. Doctors who commenced their training this year and who had applied, enrolled and were accepted on or after 27 November 2022 are also eligible.

The grants are already making a difference to primary care in Victoria, with a survey of applicants showing:

- 59 per cent of recipients are now doing their placement in regional Victoria
- 13 per cent said they moved to Victoria from overseas or interstate because of the program
- 64 per cent said it had some influence on their decision to enrol in GP training in Victoria
- 44 per cent said they would have pursued a different career path in medicine if the program did not exist.
- Graduates can apply for a grant directly through the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) or the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) once they have been successfully accepted and enrolled into one of the relevant GP training programs.

Applicants are assessed against an eligibility framework and preference is given to applicants who are Australian medical graduates and doctors training in rural locations and areas of workforce need.

It comes as 2023/2024 marked Victoria's biggest ever yearly workforce growth, with a massive 6.7 per cent jump in new roles, that saw 7,664 nurses, doctors, allied health professionals and other frontline positions filled.

The State Government has stepped in to ensure Victorians get the care they need, also delivering 29 Urgent Care Clinics, the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department, Nurse-on-Call, and the Community Pharmacist Statewide Pilot.

For more information please visit, health.vic.gov.au/general-practitioners-grant-program.



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Senior Citizens Clubrooms

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Sandra Jones

WINCHELSEA SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

A site was selected in 1974 for new club rooms.

A start was made on the 72 thousand pound building thanks to a grant from the government with the remaining third being raised by the Lions Club.

It was hoped that the new rooms would be opened by Senator George Poyser who was instrumental in getting the government grant.

It will cover 35 squares and incorporate a main hall, stage, library, kitchen, card room, sick room and store room for 90 members.

The first sod was turned by the club president Mr. Jim Hind.

The rooms have been in constant use since and enjoyed by all.



May 2, 1975

From left to right: Arthur Rose, Bert Bone, John Worland, Ron Cronin, Jim McDonald, Bob Stevens, Jim Hunter, Jock Witcombe, Jack Schroeter
Front: Jim Hind



Winchelsea Senior Citizens' Welfare Committee
(Provisional)

*The President and Members
cordially invite*

to attend a

Social Afternoon

*in the Shire Hall, Winchelsea, on
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Community Satisfaction Survey calls about to begin

Surf Coast Shire

Surf Coast Shire ratepayers may receive a phone call in the coming weeks as part of the 2025 Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

Australian based call centre National Field Services will interview 600 resident and non-resident ratepayers, asking for their perceptions of Council's performance across a range of service areas.

The annual survey is commissioned by the state government, with all local governments in Victoria able to participate.

Results are collated and analysed by independent researcher JWS Research.

Calls (to both landline and mobile) will begin on 31 January and are likely to

continue for around a month. The survey provides insight into the community's perception of Council's overall performance, benchmarking against state-wide and council group results.

Themes include:

- overall council direction
- local infrastructure, facilities and services
- community consultation and engagement
- decisions made in the interest of the community
- customer service

Deputy Mayor Libby Stapleton said the results would be used to understand community ratings across a range of services, Council decisions and overall direction.

"This is a good chance for the community to provide feedback on how the Council is

going, including what's working well and what can be improved," Cr Stapleton said. "If you receive a call we encourage you to take the time to participate in the interview and give your honest opinions."

Individual responses are kept confidential, with only the overall results shared with the Council.

Researchers will ask for basic demographic information such as age, gender and location, but will never ask for personal details such as name, address or income.

If you have any questions about the program, please visit www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/request or phone 5261 0600 and ask for the Coordinator Customer Experience.

The survey results are expected to be shared mid-year.

You should do this every day



Vitality Tip from One Body Chiropractic!

Sunshine and Grounding

Sunshine is one of the simplest and most powerful tools for health. A little exposure to natural light boosts vitamin D levels, which are crucial for bone health, mood regulation, and immune function.

When I combine sunshine with grounding—walking barefoot on grass, sand, or soil—it's a double win. Grounding helps reduce inflammation and balance the body's natural electrical charge.

Why It Matters.

Many of us spend too much time indoors, disconnected from nature. Reconnecting with the earth and natural light helps restore our body's rhythm and supports overall well-being.

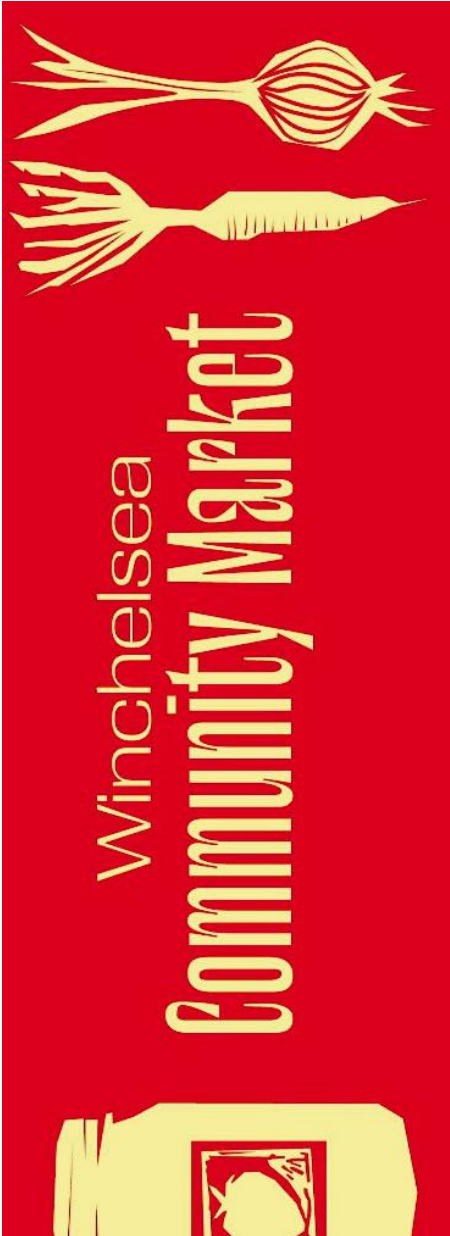
Something you can implement, today!

Spend **at least** 10 minutes a day in natural light and, when possible, go barefoot outdoors. Even standing on a patch of grass in your backyard can help you feel more centered. You'll feel more balanced and grounded in no time.

Hope this brings some LIGHT into your day 😊



Shaina
Chiropractic Assistant



More training offers for Victorian year 12 graduates

Victorian State Government

Thousands of Victorian Year 12 graduates are set to begin their journeys towards rewarding careers through university and TAFE as more young Victorians received offers for post-secondary courses.

Victorian graduates who received an offer from the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) for their preferred TAFE or university course are to be congratulated. VTAC issued 12,938 offers to students for undergraduate and vocational courses. This was the second round of offers, with four more rounds to come.

Including offers made in November and December, 64,780 domestic study offers have been issued for courses starting in 2025. This represents a 5.2% increase compared to the 61,576 domestic offers the same time last year.

There are many education and training pathway options which deliver the skills and qualifications Victorians need to achieve their career goals. TAFEs offer career pathways in a wide range of study areas, from carpentry and electrical trades to health and social care, as well as covering emerging areas to support transition to a carbon free economy – such as electric vehicles and hydrogen technology.

Victorians can access a wide range of TAFE courses without the cost of tuition fees, through Victoria's Free TAFE program. More than 187,900 students have benefitted from Free TAFE since it was introduced in 2019, saving them more than \$550 million in tuition fees and providing them with strong employment opportunities upon completion.

There are now also more Free TAFE places available in construction qualifications and short courses, thanks to the Australian and Victorian governments, who are providing 5,200 more places in Free TAFE construction-related courses, including up to 1,300 pre-apprenticeship places.

Students that haven't received an offer yet can either wait for further rounds of VTAC offers in February or change their preference if they meet course requirements. They can also apply directly to TAFEs without a VTAC offer.

For the full list of Free TAFE courses visit: vic.gov.au/free-tafe

Reduce the risk of cryptosporidiosis this summer

Victorian State Government

The Department of Health is advising Victorians not to swim in public swimming pools for at least two weeks if they have had diarrhoea, as cases of cryptosporidiosis ('crypto') begin to increase across the state.

There have been 87 cases of parasitic infection reported in Victoria so far this year, above the five-year average. It follows a record 2,349 crypto cases reported to the Department of Health in 2024, a 233 per cent increase on the previous year. Cryptosporidiosis can cause watery diarrhoea and stomach cramps for several weeks. People with a weakened immune system are at risk of prolonged illness.

Chief Health Officer Tarun Weeramanthri confirmed that chlorine kills most germs in treated public pools but some, such as cryptosporidium, were highly resistant to chlorine at normal concentrations and can present a health risk. "It's important to

remember that you remain infectious for several weeks after your diarrhoea stops," he said. "So don't swim until two weeks after your symptoms have stopped," Dr Weeramanthri added.

"And of course, avoid swallowing the pool water if you can.

Five simple steps people can take to help keep the water clean:

- Do not swim for two weeks after diarrhoea stops if you have had cryptosporidiosis or diarrhoea of unknown cause.
- Shower and wash with soap, especially your bottom, before swimming.
- Wash your hands with soap after going to the toilet or changing a nappy.
- Change nappies in nappy change areas only.
- Avoid swallowing pool water.

Find out more about how to be prepared for cryptosporidiosis and practise healthy swimming.

Joint statement on treaty negotiations

Victorian State Government

The State Government and the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria have agreed the focus for the first round of Treaty negotiations in Victoria. This follows close to a decade of preparatory work by the parties, including Australia's first Treaty legislation passed by the Victorian Parliament in 2018, and the Treaty Authority Act which received bipartisan support in the Victorian Parliament in 2022.

Treaty is about making a better and fairer state for every Victorian. Treaty will achieve practical change, with the initial round of negotiations focusing on securing a foundation for Treaty in Victoria that recognises the relationship between the State and First Peoples.

Key areas will include structural measures to support reconciliation, truth, education and healing between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Victorians. The Victorian Government and the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria have agreed to discuss the following topics:

- The principles and objectives for Statewide Treaty
- The legal recognition and effect of a Statewide Treaty
- The creation of an ongoing First Peoples' representative body, including:
- Evolving the First Peoples' Assembly into an ongoing representative body
- Governance and oversight of a representative body
- The role of a representative body in decision-making relating to Victorian Government programs and services for First Peoples
- Interaction between a representative body and the Victorian Parliament and Government
- Implementing the accountability mechanism under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap
- Work to support ongoing truth-telling, education, healing and reconciliation in Victoria
- Dispute resolution under a Statewide Treaty
- Processes for negotiating future iterations of a Statewide Treaty
- The parties have also agreed to add additional subject matters by agreement as negotiations proceed, and these will also be shared with the public.

The Victorian Government will be represented by senior Department of Premier and Cabinet executives, and appointed Member Negotiators will represent the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria.



Winchelsea Bowls Club

Julie Johnson

With only two rounds remaining in both Midweek and Saturday Pennant the pressure is really on for some Divisions to lock in the double chance by finishing in either 1st or 2nd position on the ladder. Although just finishing in the 4 is a wonderful result the double chance is certainly something to aspire to achieving.

PENNANT RESULTS MIDWEEK

Round 11

Division 1 def Colac Central at home, winning 2/3 rinks 78/66 shots.

Division 3 def Colac Central at home, winning all rinks 79/55 shots.

Rd 12

Division 1 def Colac City away, winning 2 rinks and drawing 1 rink 84/61 shots.

Division 3 were def by Colac City away, winning 2/3 rinks 66/71 shots.

PENNANT RESULTS SATURDAY

Rd 11

Division 1 def Colac away, winning 3/4 rinks 94/83 shots.

Division 2 were def by Cobden away, winning 1/4 rinks 74/101 shots.

Division 4 were def by Lorne at home, 44/72 shots.

Rd 12

Division 1 def Simpson away, winning 3/4 rinks 107/79 shots.

Division 2 def Lorne at home winning 3/4 rinks 105/97 shots.

Division 4 were def by Colac at home, 1 win, 1 draw 53/56 shots.

Worth noting for those reading from distant places is that both Lorne and Cobden were dropped from Division 1 as they finished in the final two on the ladder last season into Division 2 this season. The premise behind this reasoning was to make the competitions as equal as possible with 8 teams in each Division and it has certainly proved to make all competitions stronger and closer in points and percentages.

LADDER POSITIONS WITH 2 ROUNDS REMAINING

Midweek 1 2nd

Midweek 3 4th

Saturday 1 2nd

Saturday 2 3rd

Saturday 4 7th

Winchelsea Bowls Club welcomes all visitors. Our Club has a beautiful garden setting in the heart of the town. For the complete newcomer to lawn bowls, looking for a sporting activity that promises much fun and enjoyment with a competitive element, then the friendly, welcoming atmosphere of our Bowling Club is the place to be.

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Brooke Robbins Music

Our lighting project is well on the way to completion and has not really placed too many limitations on the club in terms of scheduling. It will all be worth it in the end with expected delivery date by 7th March 2025.

Please note enclosed flyer on your calendar for Barefoot Bowls this year as we are once again hoping for a great attendance, giving the community a bowls experience and a fun evening.

For all those involved in Pennant, Tournaments and Regional Finals, may the bowls be with you!!



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6:45pm, 8:50pm
Sat - Sun 8:47am, 2:46pm, 8:34pm



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7pm second Wednesday of month
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Scouts: Tuesdays of school term 6:30-8:30pm
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Vasey RSL Care calls on Government to act with urgency on Key Royal Commission Recommendations

Vasey RSL Care

Vasey RSL Care is calling on the Federal Government to act with urgency on the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide, following the government's official response on December 2, 2024.

Of particular concern is Recommendation 88, which calls for a national funding agreement on veterans' wellbeing. Rather than accepting this critical recommendation, the government has 'noted' it — a move Vasey RSL Care says falls short of the critical need highlighted in the Royal Commission's findings.

"Recommendation 88 is a call to action, not a suggestion to be shelved," said Vasey RSL Care CEO Janna Voloshin. "We call on the Government to move decisively from 'noting' this recommendation to 'accepting' it, and follow up by supporting ex-service organisations like ours, who are doing everything we can with limited resources to help veterans who might otherwise slip through the cracks."

Ms Voloshin pointed to the vital role of community organisations in saving lives, as recently highlighted in Channel 7's coverage of Vasey RSL Care's V Centre, see story here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SfyT1JMdcco>.

With the Federal Election just around the corner, Vasey RSL Care is urging the government to make a national funding arrangement for veteran wellbeing a top priority and ensure discussions with the states commence immediately.

"We need action, not just words," Ms Voloshin said. "Accepting 104 recommendations is a good step forward, but supporting innovative projects that deliver frontline solutions is equally essential to saving the lives of vulnerable veterans."

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Elizabeth Alston

NTP: 17th Carol Stanesby

Mens Midweek Comp

Stableford

Dennis Chappell (18) 36 pts

Rob Wilson (21) 35pts cb Greg Rigby (22) 35 pts

cb Kel Boddington (16) 35 pts

NTP: 8/17th Cam Parke

Saturday January 25

Stableford (24 players)

David Lewis (21) 43 pts Tav Sauni (5) 38 pts cb

Nick Stone (10)

NTP: 2/11th Neil Hickman

Golden Hole (6th) Kel Boddington



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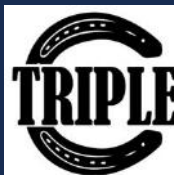
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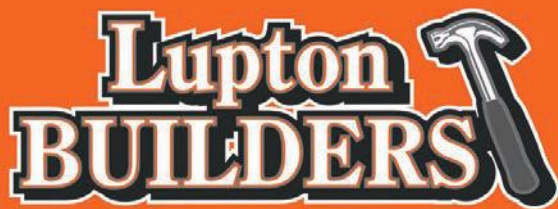
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