

Winchelsea Star

Price \$1

Weekly Community News

Since 1977

Vol 49 Ed 30

Tuesday 4 August 2026

winchelseastar.org.au



97 Visit Lions-sponsored Skin Check Van

Lions Don, Graham and Neville assisting in the smooth operation of this project

Subscribe and let us come to you online. FREE. Every edition.
winchelseastar.org.au/subscribe/

Lions Skin Check Van

Linda Carter, story and photos

Winchelsea Lions Club had a very successful week end with the Lions sponsored Skin Check Van.

On Saturday 49 people were checked with 9 being referred for further investigation. Just under half had never had a skin check before.

On Sunday 48 people were checked with 6 being referred for further investigation. 18 had never been checked before.

An extremely worthwhile project, totally sponsored and funded by Lions Clubs.

Many thanks to all who supported us.



Quick Response Grants NOW OPEN

Grants of up to \$3,000 for equipment and community led projects

Grants are open until all available funding has been allocated

To apply: surfcoast.vic.gov.au/grants

surfcoast.vic.gov.au



Thanks Men at the Shed

who fixed our broken outdoor table!

Need furniture repairs or a woodworking job done?

Call in to the Men's Shed, 51 Hesse St on a Wednesday between 9:30am-2:30pm or call Ray on 0407839139 to discuss your need.



An Eventful Feedback Opportunity

Local event organisers, patrons and the community are invited to provide feedback to help Council strengthen the Surf Coast Shire's status as a top events destination.

Surf Coast Shire Council has released an updated draft Events Policy for comment, which outlines its commitment to supporting, partnering and delivering events across the shire.

The updated policy features a greater focus on events being accessible and inclusive, and encourages environmentally responsible practices. It has also introduced a toolkit for event organisers.

Councillor Leon Walker said the Surf Coast Events calendar played an important role in supporting local communities.

"Our stunning environment and the unique character of our towns make the Surf Coast and hinterland the perfect spot for various events: from major international sporting contests such as the Rip Curl Pro Bells Beach, to popular community markets, art exhibitions and concerts," he said.

"Events attract visitors who spend and stay locally as they enjoy everything our region has to offer – all while connecting with other people.

"This draft policy sets out how we will make it easier for event organisers to continue delivering exceptional and safe events that maximise social, economic,

Stitch It Don't Ditch It

by Winch House Craft Group

We had a request to repair a much loved dress up from the occasional childcare group.

One of our craft group members did a great job repairing a shoulder seam on the top. It was a difficult job as there wasn't much material in the seam so it had to be re-enforced using binding. The children should get a few more wears from this favorite dress up.



cultural, and environmental benefits.

"We also want to ensure that organisers consider the impacts on the host community."

To access the draft Events Policy and to provide feedback via a short survey, visit yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/draft-events-policy.

People who prefer a printed version can call Council on 5261 0600 to arrange a hard copy to be posted.

Feedback closes at 5pm on Thursday 27 August.

To stay up-to-date with local events happening this winter and beyond, follow Surf Coast Events on social media or visit surfcoastevents.com.au.

WINCHELSEA DENTAL PRACTICE

**IS THRILLED TO
ANNOUNCE**

**DR ALICIA BARRETT WILL
RETURN FROM MATERNITY
LEAVE ON**

MONDAY 5TH OCTOBER

Alicia will be available
Mondays & Tuesdays 9am - 3pm
To book call 52672071
www.winchelseadental.com.au



News Spotlight

New Owners And Work To Start Soon, Consultant Says

Story by Carmen MacLeod

Construction on the long-anticipated childcare centre at 40 Willis Street is now expected to begin this month, according to the planning consultant who lodged the original permit two years ago.

The update comes after months of inactivity at the site, where a bright yellow “Childcare Coming Soon” sign has stood since mid-2024, and after the property quietly changed ownership in June this year.

Melbourne planning consultant Gurdeep (Benny) Singh, the sole operator of Permits Hub Pty Ltd, lodged the planning permit for the centre in June 2024. The proposal outlined a single-storey daycare facility with capacity for 104 children, with a rear carpark accessed via Bennett Street. The development was estimated to cost \$950,000.

The initial proposal required some amendments, which the applicant has been working through since. It’s understood those changes included lowering the pitch of the roof and changing some windows and doors. Recently, according to the Surf Coast Shire, a stormwater management plan was endorsed and there are only a few other items to work through.

In an interview with the Winchelsea Star, Singh said construction had been delayed due to the property changing ownership earlier this year. According to a listing on realestate.com.au, the land sold for \$1,750,000 on June 5, 2026. The listing also shows the property had previously sold in April 2024 for \$740,000. The recent sale was not publicly advertised in Winchelsea.

Singh said the new owners had now signed a building contract and were preparing to commence works.

“There was a holdup after the planning permit because the property changed owners, but the new owners have now signed the building contract. We’re expecting the building permit any day, and construction should start by August,” Singh said.

He also confirmed the centre would be operated by a private, family-owned Melbourne-based childcare provider, with branding to be announced once construction begins.

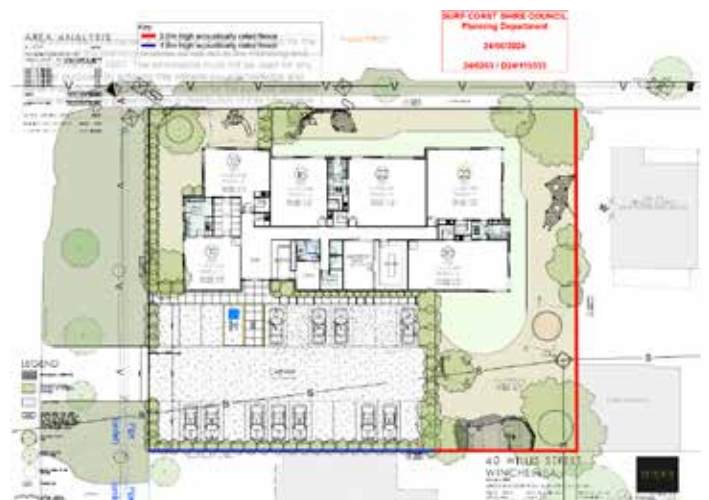
The proposed centre sits beside homes at 1 Bennet Street and 44 Willis Street, separated by timber and galvanised iron fences. To the north, the site fronts the Princess Highway, where fuel tankers, livestock trucks and agricultural machinery



regularly pass through Winchelsea. A noise-impact assessment conducted in May 2024 recommended fencing and glazing upgrades to protect the children from highway noise, and advised that large plant equipment be centrally located to minimise disturbances to neighbours.

Winchelsea currently has some childcare options: Journey Early Learning operates a centre on Hesse Street, Helen M Kininmonth Kindergarten provides early years education, and Kelly Club offers out-of-school hours care at Winchelsea Primary School. Council-run occasional care programs are available in Torquay, Anglesea, Lorne and through Winchelsea Community House, but these only offer short-term, four-hour weekly sessions rather than full-day childcare.

The original planning application for the Willis Street centre argues the centre would meet a local need for childcare and create jobs for educators and administration staff. It also suggests the centre would support Surf Coast Shire’s strategic objectives of community wellbeing, balancing growth and fostering a vibrant economy.



This is a place for passionate foodies. Here we celebrate local produce, seasonal ingredients, simple yet remarkable recipes we've tried, tested and loved.

Alice Cloake



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

Email editor@winchelsea.org.au.

Hello!

Sharing this week's recipe for Cooks Corner - and a new ingredient of the month!

August Ingredient of the month - Potato

We begin a new month with everyone's favourite ingredient, the potato. So versatile, so moreish. Certainly a book could be written on potato recipes, in fact I'm sure one exists. Potatoes are a staple in my house, I rarely complete a grocery shop without adding them. I love to get the big 5kg bags when I can - and I recently spied some at the butcher. I hope you enjoy these recipes as much as I do.



Patates Lemonates from Yiayia Next Door

YiaYia Next Door is a brilliant cookbook with a moving story. I bring it up now because to kick off our month on potatoes I cannot go further than this recipe from the book. Patates Lemonates or as we affectionately call them - Greek Lemony Potatoes - is a fan favourite potato recipe that knocks everyone's socks off. I mean everyone. This is a relatively simple dish filled with flavour that will impress the entire table.

SERVES 3-4

6 roasting potatoes (I use red royale), peeled and quartered lengthways

4 garlic cloves, roughly chopped

½ teaspoon dried Greek mountain oregano

¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon

½ teaspoon sweet paprika

1 teaspoon vegan chicken-style stock powder juice of 2 lemons

125 ml (½ cup) extra-virgin olive oil

1. Preheat the oven to 200°C (180°C fan-forced).
2. Place the potato in a large bowl and add the garlic, oregano, cinnamon, paprika and stock powder. Toss to combine, then pour in the lemon juice, olive oil and 500 ml (2 cups) of water and mix well.
3. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the potato to a non-stick roasting tin and pour the lemony liquid over the top. Cover with foil and bake for 40 minutes.
4. Remove the foil, add another 250 ml (1 cup) of water if the tray is nearly dry and carefully tilt the tray from side to side so the liquid is evenly distributed. Bake for a further 30 minutes or until the potato is tender and golden.





Garden Bits

By Julia Holohan

We've had a bit of a disappointing time in the veg garden this winter. We try hard to have carrots all year, we're struggling with one small patch to grow well this winter. The Silverbeet is down to just a measly few self-sown plants. The peas have been dismal as has the rocket and the Spigariello (leaf) broccoli seeds I planted for the first time haven't sprouted. Not to mention my favourite, coriander, I've sown seeds 3 times to no avail!

Not to worry, there's no need to give up, I've been back in the veg garden today sowing another lot of coriander, lettuce & some radishes and, I'll buy another packet of Spigariello broccoli seeds as I really want to try them.

It's not all disappointing, we're eating our broccoli and the leaves as well which is making up for the lack of Silverbeet and we have lots of pumpkin in storage. The garlic is progressing well as is the passionfruit. We planted a new passionfruit early autumn as the current one must be 5 years old, they only live about 7 years, the new one will take a couple of years to bear sufficient fruit & should be fruiting well by the time the current one has had its day.



The fruit trees and berries have been pruned, this is best done when they have lost their leaves and before they start to bud. It was a tricky job this year as they hadn't lost their leaves while they had commenced budding! Our fingers will now be crossed for the them to fruit well this coming season.

The job now is to clear away their prunings to the bonfire while the dropped leaves & mulch, which is best removed to help stop disease will go to the veg garden.

Spring onions- I find it easiest to buy a bunch from the green grocer or the fruit and veg section of the supermarket and pop the bunch straight into the soil, separating them so they're nicely spaced. They'll last for months while you continue to pick only what you need per meal.

Now it's the rhubarb, which has been in a few years and is time to separate off some crowns, there's no need to throw them out, I'm sure you'll find someone to take them. Using your spade, dig out some outside clumps leaving a nice amount for yourself, giving the rest to friends, family or maybe even the op shop.

Rhubarb's yum. How do you use yours? As a crumble dessert, mixed with apples &/or pears, baked in the oven with a drizzle of honey or have you tried adding them to a stir fry, casserole or lentils? Such a beautiful colour, it's wonderful to add to many a dish or just on its own. Don't forget, only the stems are used as the leaves are poisonous!

I've been given some dahlia tubers. A friend gave me spares she didn't have

room for, she hadn't marked them so we have no idea what colours I'll get. I'm not sure where I'll put them & I'm not feeling very confident with growing them. I'll plant them after the last frost which will be about October, until then they're snug in a box of sawdust & I can read up on how to grow dahlias!





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for lunch,
dinner or
freezing!
♥

➤ **PIES** ◀
**FAMILY SIZE PIES
ASSORTED CAKES & SLICES**
for a Good Cause ♥



ORDERS CLOSE
Tuesday 18th August 2026
at 12noon

1 PLACE YOUR ORDER

Head to

[FUNDRAISING.ROUTLEYSBAKERY.COM.AU](https://fundraising.routleysbakery.com.au)



Please ensure you select
Helen Mary Kininmonth Kinder in the
schools/club drop down menu at the checkout.

2 COLLECTION

Collect your order on
Wednesday 19th August from 12noon
at **HMK Kinder**,
32 Hesse Street, Winchelsea.



3 ENJOY & SUPPORT

Enjoy your pie (or something sweet!) and
know that **25%** of your purchase is going
straight back to the kinder.



Please contact Elle for any questions
➤ on **0448 592 174** ◀

HMK Parent Advisory Group



100 Days of Prep at WPS



1st Modewarre Scout Group

Marie McPadden OAM, Group Leader
mcpadden630@bigpond.com



August 1st is World Scout Day – the day we celebrate all things Scouting. It is a day to remember that more than a century ago, a small group of boys gathered around a campfire with the man Scouts call B.P. (Robert Baden-Powell). From that first camp on Brownsea Island in 1907 grew a movement that spread across oceans, crossed borders and changed lives. Scouting began in Australia one year later in 1908. Today there are more than 60 million Scouts worldwide.

World Scout Day is also the day we recognise the extraordinary commitment of our volunteer Leaders and Adult Supporters. This year our Cub Leaders Amy Batson and Lucas Benney received their Special Service Awards, while Jess Loone, our Assistant group Leader was acknowledged with the Meritorious Service Award.

All three received cheers from our Youth members who gathered at Moriac Skate Park to celebrate World Scout Day. The Joeys and Cubs brought bikes, scooters, skateboards and skates, while the Scouts completed a compass trail around Moriac, before enjoying a sausage sizzle.

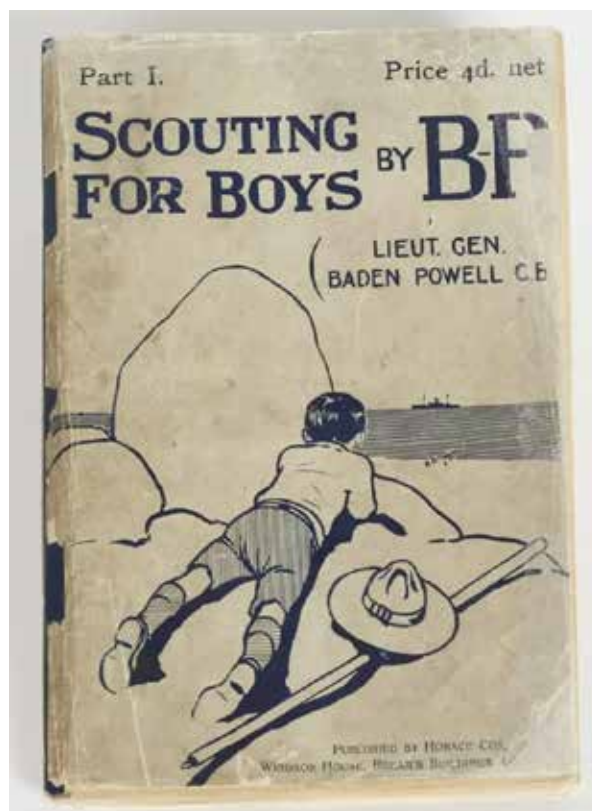
Last week the Joeys competed in their Commonwealth games. The event started with Joeys checking off their addresses with an official, before being announced as they entered the arena. The first event was the tent relay – run down, grab a piece of tent, bring it back and then erect the tent, naming all the parts, take it down and put it away. We also took part in Gymnastics on the mats with forward rolls and star jumps, basketball with a team relay and finished with a medal presentation and singing the National Anthem. There's a rumour of really cold weather for next Tuesday, perhaps even bringing snow!

On Monday, the Cubs played badge Monopoly, tackling lots of different badgework items from their Outdoor Adventure Skills, based on bushcraft, campcraft and bushwalking. This was chaotic but displayed the width of experience the Cubs are exposed to in the Cub program. Next Monday, we are

cooking on trangia hiking stoves, rounding out our camp cooking skills.

Through activities like these, Scouts today continues to support youth in their all-round growth as the Leaders of tomorrow.

The photo is of BP's book "Scouting for Boys", on which he based the Scout program.



Extended 20% Off Rego

Victorians will now have until 31 August to apply for 20% off vehicle registration.

Here's how it works:

- A driver with one car gets up to \$186 back
- A family with two cars gets up to \$372 back
- You get the full rebate whether you pay yearly or in instalments.

To be eligible, Victorians need to have paid their registration for a light vehicle for personal use between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2026.

You can claim for up to two vehicles in your name.

For more information and to apply, download the Service Victoria app or visit service.vic.gov.au/regi-rebate



Services & Groups

VLIN TRAIN SERVICES

TO MELBOURNE:

Mon - Fri 6.41 (coach) 08.07 11.10 14.04
16.58 19.21

Sat - Sun 8.27 10.27 14.04 16.58 19.17

TO WARRNAMBOOL:

Mon - Fri 8.58 11.51 14.46 17.28 (coach)
18.42 20.52

Sat - Sun 9.44 11.41 14.46 18.38 20.38

COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION



7pm second Wed of month
Winchelsea Senior Citizens'
36 Harding St Winchelsea

Winchelsea and District

PROBUS CLUB

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



SURF COAST MOBILE LIBRARY

Cnr Princes Highway & Hesse St,
Fridays 2pm-5pm

Parked in Hesse Street (outside Shire Hall)
Fridays 2:00 - 5:00pm NOT Public Holidays

WINCHELSEA TRANSFER STATION

55 Cressy Road, Winchelsea

Tuesday 2pm-4pm

Saturday 1.30-3.30pm

Thursday 2pm-4pm

Sunday 9.30-12.30pm

Closed Christmas Day, open public holidays.
www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/disposalsites

WINCHELSEA PLAYGROUP

Every second Thursday 10am-12pm

St Thomas Anglican Church Hall

cnr Barwon Tce & Hopkins St, Winchelsea

Danni Menzies 0432019944

winchelseaplaygroup@gmail.com

Facebook - Winchelsea Playgroup 2019

New families welcome

WINCHELSEA GIRL GUIDES

Girls 6yrs-15yrs Welcome!

Mondays 4.30pm-6pm (school terms)

Catholic Church Hall, Harding St

*Fun, friendship, adventure. Teamwork,
leadership skills, achieve goals, improve
communities and grow in confidence.*

3 FREE sessions to come along and try.

Yvonne 0448 672 630



Winchelsea Star COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

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

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY OP-SHOP

10 Willis Street, Winchelsea

1ST MODEWARRE SCOUT GROUP

Exciting programs for Joeys,
Cubs and Scouts.

Vacancies at Joey and Cub levels,
and plenty of room at Scouts.

Marie McPadden 0409 330 147

PINE CONES FOR FIRE PITS \$5

Winchelsea Lions Club

Contact Ray

0406 371 239

WINCHELSEA PICKLEBALL

Leisure Time Centre, Gosney St.

Wed 7 to 8-30pm

Thurs 10 to 11 am.

Great fun, everything supplied,
good cardio workout.

Please wear sneakers.

Lesley Mathison 0438 672 197

Mary Parish 0428 887 219

IGA NOTICE BOARD

Volunteers keep the IGA Notice Board
up to date.

Anything you wish to promote
please leave at the IGA.

Please limit to no larger than A4.

Displayed for a month,
other than business cards.

STITCH IT, DON'T DITCH IT

Finished articles for sale in the Display
Cabinet at Reception Winch House.

The Group meets every Wednesday
9am-2pm at Winchelsea House.

Diamond Dot

Saturday 8th august

10 till 4

\$5 or \$10 including lunch

Senior citizens

Harding street, Winchelsea

See you there!



DEFIBRILLATORS IN WINCHELSEA

**Accessible to the public
24 hours a day**

Winchelsea Lions Club
has compiled a list of public access
defibrillators in Winchelsea.
If you know others, please contact
Linda Carter 0439 817 263.

- Ambulance Victoria 33 Willis St
- Bendigo Bank 11 Main St
- Globe Theatre (Side) 17 Willis St
- Hesse Rural Health 8 Gosney St

- Men's Shed 51 Hesse St
- Modewarre Hall (Porch)
- Netball Courts Hopkins St
- Senior Citizens Club 36 Harding St
- Uniting Church 33 Hesse St
- Winchelsea Bowls Club Hesse St
- Winchelsea Golf Club 13 Anderson St
- Winchelsea Primary School Main St
- Wurdale Memorial Hall 220 Wurdale Rd

Send your Stories
news@winchelseastar.org.au

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and ARTICLES
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or leave hard copy at IGA supermarket

News Deadline
5pm Fridays

4pm Sundays - hard copy left at IGA

6pm Sundays - sports results and
weekend events

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reserves the right to edit or not publish
any article.



Winchelsea Star
Production Coffee Meeting
Last Saturday of each month
All Welcome!

Keeping Your Pets Safe From H5 Bird Flu

RSPCA Victoria is urging pet owners to take simple steps to keep their pets safe following a confirmed case of the highly pathogenic H5 bird flu in Victoria.

Speaking about the arrival of H5 bird flu in Victoria, RSPCA Victoria's Director of Veterinary Services Dr Melissa Meehan said the disease had killed millions of birds worldwide.

"The H5 bird flu strain is highly contagious and causes serious disease," Dr Meehan

"This is highly concerning for our wildlife, with one in six Australian birds already facing the threat of extinction, and the animals in our agricultural industries, with poultry highly susceptible to the virus and dairy cattle infections reported overseas.

"The signs to watch out for are animals dying suddenly, appearing weak or wobbly, having seizures or trouble breathing."

If you see something unusual, don't ignore it, and make sure to:

- **AVOID** contact with sick or dead wildlife, including keeping your pets well away from any sick or dead wild animals,
- **RECORD** what you see, including the number and type of birds/animals, as well as the location, time and date, and
- **REPORT anything unusual via the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline** on 1800 675 888 or report it to Agriculture Victoria via the website vic.gov.au/birdflu

Report clusters of 5 or more sick or dead birds of any species

Report even one sick or dead wild seabird, waterbird, shorebird or bird of prey (e.g., eagles, hawks) or marine mammal (e.g., seal, sea lion, dolphin)

Dr Meehan shared tips for those with backyard poultry or birds.

"Familiarising yourself with the signs and symptoms of bird flu and keeping up to date with the latest from Agriculture Victoria are essential," Dr Meehan said.

"Also, restricting access to open water sources wild birds may frequent, and keeping feeding and water stations under covered areas wild birds can't access helps reduce mingling or contamination risks.

"Practicing good hygiene and biosecurity is also essential, this can look like washing your hands thoroughly, cleaning footwear and clothing, avoiding wearing the same clothing if moving between different groups of birds, and even quarantining any new or returning birds to your property."

While the risk is much lower, there are infrequent cases of dogs and cats contracting H5 bird flu overseas, usually following contact with sick or dead birds.

"To help reduce the risk to pets, RSPCA Victoria recommends keeping your dogs or cats away from wildlife as much as possible," Dr Meehan continued.

"Keeping your dog on a lead if there are wild birds or animals around, and if you have roaming cats, consider transitioning them to being contained on your property (resources to assist can be found here)."

Follow Agriculture Victoria on Facebook for updates and check out birdflu.gov.au for information about the situation across Australia.

Mrs Eva Schroeter

Eva (nee Collins) was born in Winchelsea on 17th May 1930, the eldest of 13 children. She was a rock in life and the centre of family for her siblings when their Mother died.

In 1950 she married Cliff Schroeter at St Thomas's Winchelsea where her parents Syd and Hannah Collins were also married. Eva and Cliff lived on their dairy farm at Deans Marsh for 48 years where their children Russell, Kathryn and Mary were born.

Cliff and Eva moved back to Winchelsea in 1998 after selling their farm. Eva returned to worshipping at St Thomas's, her family church where she was actively involved as her ties to St Thomas' were very strong.

Eva was a tireless worker for the CWA, gardening club and Red Cross Society and the Church Guilds at both St Paul's Deans Marsh and later St Thomas's in Winchelsea where she was a contributor to all forms of fundraising including fetes with vegetables, jams and baking.

As past parishioners at St Thomas' Isobel and Maurie said that "we both certainly admired her gentleness and love for all who knew her". As past Vicar Wendy said "I loved Eva and had many cups of tea and chats at her place".

Past Vicar Lynne said "Eva was a lovely person, so faithful in many ways and full of love for Jesus". After church the tributes flowed as we remembered Eva as a beautiful Christian woman and lovely person, generous and genuine whom we loved.

She was a faithful member of the church even still contributing weekly to St Thomas's after she went into care at Chelsea Lodge. Eva had a clear mind and lived until 96 years of age when she died on 10th July 2026.

Eva was a selfless woman who always had a kind word, a hot cup of tea and a homemade cake for family and friends when they visited. Eva was a kind, caring and humble lady who had



a strong faith in God and who was much loved and will be missed by her family and many friends and her church family and community.

Eva was a wife who totally supported her husband Cliff in an equal partnership for 51 years and a Mother who was always proud of her children. We extend our loving sympathy and prayers for her children and extended family.

A private graveside funeral with Rev Chris Duff was held.

Rest in Eternal Peace Eva.

Contract Awarded For Pollocksford Road Bridge Repairs

Surf Coast and Golden Plains Shire Councils have awarded a contract for repairs to the Pollocksford Road bridge, marking an important milestone towards restoring and re-opening the historic structure.

To keep the bridge open while maintaining public safety, Council introduced a three-tonne load limit and speed reduction.



However, continued use by heavy vehicles placed the structure at risk, and the bridge was subsequently closed to all through traffic.

The bridge is in Gnarwarre on the boundary between Surf Coast Shire and Golden Plains Shire, and the repairs are jointly funded. Surf Coast Shire Council will be managing the works.

The awarded contract amount is \$2,092,601.00 (Ex. GST), with each Council contributing 50% of the project costs as it is a joint asset.

The bridge is protected by a heritage overlay due to its historical significance as one of the earliest bridges constructed over the Barwon River.

The four original bluestone piers and capped bluestone abutments are the key heritage elements. The bridge deck surface and guardrails are not considered to be of heritage significance.

Follow the project at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/PollocksfordRoadBridge





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2nd HAND SCHOOL UNIFORMS WANTED

If you have any good Second-Hand WPS Uniforms at home that can be donated. We would really appreciate any uniforms to re-stock our supply.....

Can you please drop them off to the School Office.

- Track Pants
- Logo Short Sleeve Polos
- Logo Windcheaters
- Shorts



Pop into Men's Shed if you need help with little jobs

Frank Jelliff
Secretary Winchelsea Mens Shed

The Men's Shed will now be open two days a week starting next week, our days will be Wednesday and Thursday, this may help anyone that needs little jobs done if they are working.

Look forward to seeing you all even if you would like to pop in for a chat and a cuppa.

**KINDLING/OFFCUTS
\$7 A BAG**



Pick-up Wednesdays and Thursdays 9.30am - 2.30pm

Delivery available.
Call Bill 0438 083 373




FUNDRAISER TERM 3

Our Chocolates have arrived !

If you would like to purchase a box they are
\$60 per box

Please collect from the School Office

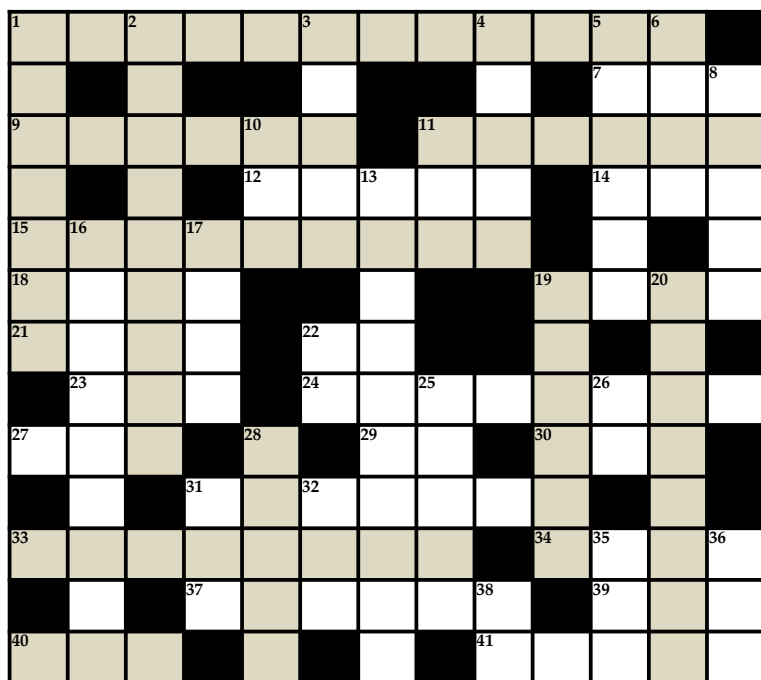
Payment by Cash/Eftpos

Box consists of Cadbury Fun Box with large Freddo /large Caramello Koala - \$1.50 each

Thankyou for your continued support of our fundraising at WPS

Winchelsea Crossword No 5 Set by Greg Ware

Grey squares relate directly to Winchelsea. Solution p.23



ACROSS

- 1 Name the Winch building in the attached pic (5,7)
- 7 Fuss
- 9 Winch street - off 11 across
- 11 Winch street named for pioneer pastoralist family
- 12 Periods of time
- 14 Carole King song "--- Too Late"
- 15 Saline lake near Winch
- 18 As well as
- 19 Tiny fly
- 21 Invalid
- 22 Classic 1961 feature film "Breakfast -- Tiffany's"
- 23 Sheltered side
- 24 Schematics
- 27 Cove
- 29 Animals song "House -- the Rising Sun"
- 30 Female forename
- 31 Early daylight hours
- 33 Winch court/circuit off Riverview Drive
- 34 Style and panache
- 37 Sea bird
- 39 Sense of self importance
- 40 Winch supermarket
- 41 Elected

DOWN

- 1 Winch street name
- 2 Locality near 15 across
- 3 Carried
- 4 Mistreat
- 5 Fixed share of a resource
- 6 Correct & revise text prior to publication
- 8 Initial stage of something
- 10 Cereal grain
- 11 Large wooden ship from the Bible
- 13 Process of selling by way of competitive bidding
- 16 Wailing in a high-pitched wavering manner
- 17 Unemployment payment
- 19 Type of building once operated by Schroeter Bros in Winch
- 20 Winch street name
- 22 TV commercial
- 25 Burning
- 26 Morning hours (abbrev)
- 28 Large town west of Winch
- 31 Melb. sporting venue (inits)
- 32 Sprinted
- 35 Permit
- 36 Signal of approval
- 38 Television (abbrev)

What's on

MONDAY-FRIDAY

WINCHELSEA TOY LIBRARY

9am-2pm (03) 5267 2028
Winch Community House,
28 Hesse St, Winchelsea

MONDAY

1ST MODEWARRE SCOUT GROUP

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

CO-WORKING & STUDYING SPACE

Mon and Thurs 9am-2pm \$10
Winchelsea Community House
28 Hesse St, Winchelsea 5267 2028

MAINLY MUSIC

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

WINCHELSEA GIRL GUIDES

4.30pm-6pm (School term)
St John's, Mercer /Harding St
Yvonne Orchard 0448 672 630

TUESDAY



BRIDGE

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

1ST MODEWARRE SCOUT GROUP

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

MAT PILATES

6.30pm \$25
Winchelsea Community House
28 Hesse St, Winchelsea 5267 2028

WEDNESDAY

WINCHELSEA MEN'S SHED

9.30-2.30 51 Hesse St, Winchelsea
Ray Atkinson 0407839139
winchmenshed@gmail.com

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE

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

MOTHER GOOSE SONG AND RHYME

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

WINCHELSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wednesday 1-4:pm, Friday 10am-3pm
Hesse St, Winchelsea

STITCH IT, DON'T DITCH IT!

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

MEL'S DANCE CENTRAL

Winchelsea Dance Classes
Pre-Schoolers - Adults
Wednesday afternoon/evenings
Senior Citizens Club,
www.melsdancecentral.com.au

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



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Meeting and training every Weds.
7:30pm, 2996 Princes Hwy.
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1ST MODEWARRE SCOUT GROUP

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

THURSDAY

WINCHELSEA MEN'S SHED

9.30-2.30 51 Hesse St, Winchelsea
Ray Atkinson 0407839139
winchmenshed@gmail.com

CHAT WITH YOUR COUNCILLOR

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

CO-WORKING & STUDYING SPACE

9am-2pm \$10 5267 2028
Winch Community House, 28 Hesse St

WINCHELSEA PLAYGROUP

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

WINCHELSEA PICKLEBALL

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

KNITTING GROUP

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



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July/Aug 2026

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

VINYASA YOGA

6.30PM Winchelsea Shire Hall 5267 2028
28 Hesse Street, Winchelsea

WINCHELSEA MOVIE CLUB

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

FRIDAY

TAI CHI

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

COMMUNITY FOODBANK

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

PHONICS WITH ROBOT REG

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

CHATTY CAFÉ

10.30am-12.30pm, Winch Shire Hall,
28 Hesse St, Winchelsea
Gold Coin Donation 5267 2028

WINCHELSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Friday 10am-3pm Hesse St, Winchelsea

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE

Fridays 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm
36 Harding Street, Winchelsea
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GEELONG REGIONAL MOBILE LIBRARY

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

SATURDAY

PARKRUN

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

DIAMOND DOT

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

WINCHELSEA LIONS CLUB IGA BBQs

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

WINCHELSEA LAND AND RIVERCARE

First Saturday of the month 9am
Meet at River End of Dwyer Street
Rod Atone 0428 549318
Stewart Mathison 0428 672054

WINCHELSEA STAR PRODUCTION/COFFEE MEETING

10am (Last Sat monthly)
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CROCHET GROUP

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

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Mass 5pm Sat each week
Harding St, Winchelsea 0404598558

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY DINNER

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

SUNDAY

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY MARKET

9-1pm, 1st Sunday monthly
Leisure Time Centre, Gosney
growingwinchelsea.com/project/winchelsea-community-market/

WINCHELSEA UNITING CHURCH

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

ST THOMAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH

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What's on at Winch House

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

TEA & TUNES

In the Winchelsea Shire Hall
September 10th 2026
10.30am - 1pm

Twisted TANGO



Tickets \$25 (Includes Lunch, Tea & coffee)

Book via humanitix or Call: 03 52672028 Email:
shirehall@winchhouse.org.au



Adult Art Class 1

GELLI PRINTING

Explore the playful world of Gelli printing in this hands-on workshop. Learn simple Gelli plate printing techniques using layers, texture and colour to create a collection of unique prints and greeting cards, while exploring sustainable artmaking practices using recycled and found materials. **No experience needed. Everyone is warmly encouraged to attend both sessions to build connection, creativity and community.**

Workshop
11am-12:30pm
August 8, 2026

Location
28 Hesse St
Winchelsea Shire Hall

1 session \$75
both sessions \$120
(includes materials)

Tickets
Via QR code



Adult Art Class 2

SHIBORI DYEING

Learn the basics of Shibori and tie dye in this relaxed, beginner friendly workshop inspired by traditional Japanese textile techniques. Create a range of beautiful dyed pieces to take home, including tea towels, handkerchiefs and more. **No experience needed. Everyone is warmly encouraged to attend both sessions to build connection, creativity and community.**

Workshop
10am-12:30pm
August 22, 2026

Location
28 Hesse St
Winchelsea Shire Hall

1 session \$75
both sessions \$120
(includes materials)

Tickets
Via QR code



GET IN TOUCH

We're always here to hear about your ideas and feedback. Let us know what you'd like to see available at the community house and in the Shire Hall and we will do our best to make it happen!

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TUESDAYS

MAT PILATES WITH HANNAH
6:30PM - 7:30 PM
TUESDAYS

VINYASA YOGA WITH KATE
6:30PM - 7:30 PM
THURSDAYS

YOGA FLOW WITH LISA
6:30AM - 7:30 AM
FRIDAYS

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Email: shirehall@winchhouse.org.au

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**Tony
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Winchelsea Shire Hall
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History of Winchelsea

09 Mercer Street – Plum Tree Cottage

Plum Tree Cottage is one of the earliest surviving bluestone cottages in the Winchelsea township and one of a small number of remaining largely intact 19th century bluestone buildings in the central township area.

Built between 1857 and 1864, the original timber shingle roof cladding has survived under the existing corrugated sheet metal roof cladding.

Plum Tree Cottage is associated with the earliest residential developments in Winchelsea after the town was laid out in the 1850s, at a time when the town became an early centre for commerce, education, postal services and social activities, and the retirement location for a number of people from the land.

The early owner was John McDonald, mason and quarryman, who may have been responsible for its construction. From 1876 Bluestone from the Winchelsea quarry was transported to the railway station in Oxen Drays to be loaded onto rail trucks and transported to Melbourne as a sought-after building material, which was a boost for Winchelsea's local economy.

I have also met with members of the Orchard family, after whom Orchard's Road is named, and they have local knowledge that many of the original bluestone cottages such as this were built by their family in the early days.



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

Michael completed a Bachelor in History and Anthropology and a Master of Cultural Heritage at Deakin University, then went on to complete a PhD at Federation University, focusing on colonial and European collections of Indigenous Australian Cultural Heritage.

Michael lectured at Federation and Monash Universities, lecturing in World History, Folklore Studies, Indigenous Studies and literary studies. Michael has worked in museums and cultural collections across Victoria, and can usually be seen in and about Winchelsea with his wolfhound.



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Help The Surf Coast Community Prepare For Climate Change

Surf Coast Shire Council is calling for community members with a passion for the environment, climate action and community connection to volunteer as facilitators for The Adaptation Game (TAG).

TAG is an interactive storytelling experience, played through a board game, that brings conversations about climate change and disaster preparedness close to home, and helps communities connect, learn and build resilience to climate change.

Part board game, part storytelling experience, TAG encourages people to share their experiences, hear different perspectives and better understand how communities can support each other before, during and after a climate emergency.

Councillor Phoebe Crockett said the events of last summer highlighted the importance of preparing for future climate emergency.

"TAG is a safe, engaging and enjoyable way for people to explore how we can support ourselves, our neighbours and our wider community during a climate emergency," she said.

"We're looking for people who enjoy connecting with others, and can guide thoughtful conversations where everyone feels heard, respected and included.

"You don't need previous facilitation experience, just an interest in helping your community build resilience, a willingness to learn or just love board games."

Council is seeking volunteers who:

- Have an interest in the environment and climate issues and a passion for community.
- Can facilitate respectful conversations and navigate sensitive topics with empathy.
- Love board games, workshop facilitation, storytelling, connection with and contributing to the community.

Successful volunteers will receive training and ongoing support to lead small community TAG sessions with support from council staff.

"Climate change affects everyone differently and TAG provides a welcoming space for people to explore what the future can look like for our community," she said.

"Our volunteer facilitators will help lead these important conversations, strengthen community connections and support people to build resilience together."

This initiative supports the Climate and Environment Leadership direction in the 2025-2029 Council Plan, which commits Council to preparing communities ahead of emergencies, strengthening resilience and leading local action on climate adaptation.

Volunteer applications are open now.

Want to know more? Information sessions will be held in Anglesea, Deans Marsh and Winchelsea for all interested community members.

Find out more and apply to volunteer at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/TAG



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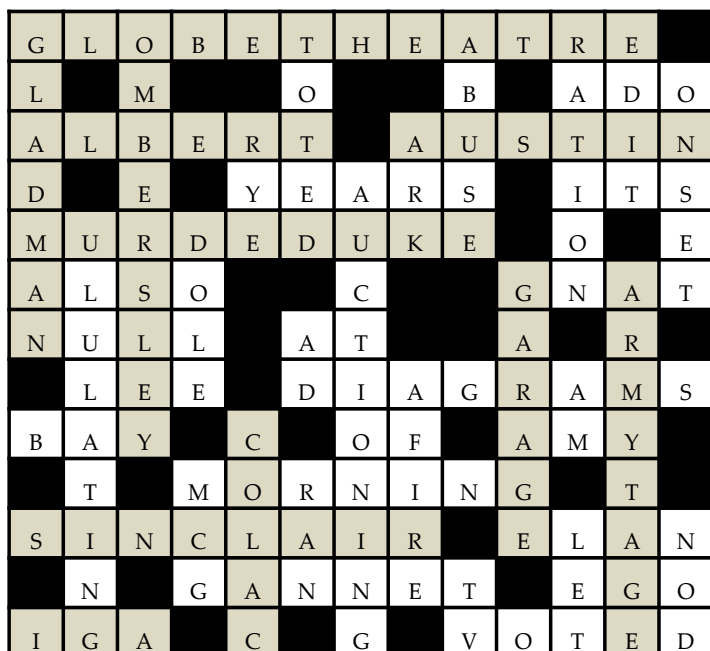
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Kim 0414 482 893

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HF Richardson 5229 8017

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Primary School 5267 2134

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Psalm 23

American Standard Version

**Jehovah the psalmist's
shepherd.**

A Psalm of David.

*23 Jehovah is my shepherd;
I shall not want.*

*2 He maketh me to lie down
in green pastures;*

*He leadeth me beside [a]still
waters.*

3 He restoreth my soul:

*He guideth me in the paths
of righteousness for his
name's sake.*

*4 Yea, though I walk
through the valley of [b]the
shadow of death,*

*I will fear no evil; for thou art
with me;*

*Thy rod and thy staff, they
comfort me.*

*5 Thou preparest a table
before me in the presence
of mine enemies:*

*Thou hast anointed my
head with oil;*

My cup runneth over.

*6 [c]Surely goodness and
lovingkindness shall follow
me all the days of my life;*

*And I shall dwell in the
house of Jehovah [d]for
ever.*

Winchelsea Churches



**Winchelsea
Uniting Church**

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

**St John the Baptist
Catholic Church**

0404 598 558
Father Joseph Panackal
Harding St, Winchelsea 3241
Winchelsea - @ 5PM Sat.
August 8, 15, 22, 29

Meredith - @ 9am Sun.
August 9, 23

Bannockburn - @ 11am Sun.
August 9, 16, 23, 30

Inverleigh - @ 4pm Sun.
August 16

**St Thomas'
Anglican Church**
0448 687 588

Rev Christopher Duff
Barwon Tce, Winchelsea
Service 10am Sundays

Thought of the Week

"Good character is more to be praised
than outstanding talent. Most talents are,
to some extent, a gift. Good character,
by all means, it is given by God.
We have to build it piece by piece
by thought, courage, and determination."

Have a Blessed week.

John Bader
(Christian Pastoral Carer)

Community Feedback Helps Shape Updated Council Policies

Surf Coast Shire Council has adopted the Strategic Asset Management Policy and Infrastructure Special Rates and Charges Scheme Policy, with community feedback helping to shape both documents.

The policies were reviewed as part of Council's regular policy review schedule to ensure they remain relevant, transparent and consistent with legislative requirements.

Community engagement for both policies was open from 22 April to 27 May 2026, with feedback helping to shape the final policies adopted by Council.

Councillor Mike Bodsworth thanked everyone who took the time to provide feedback during the consultation period.

"Community input is an important part of developing Council policies and helps ensure they reflect the needs and expectations of our community," he said.

"These updated policies provide greater clarity and support consistent, transparent decision-making."

Strategic Asset Management Policy

This Strategic Asset Management Policy outlines Council's approach to managing community assets responsibly throughout their life-cycle.

It guides how Council plans, maintains, renews and eventually replaces or disposes of assets to ensure they continue to meet community needs.

Changes made to the policy following community engagement included a stronger emphasis on accessibility and universal design across all renewal works.

Infrastructure Special Rates and Charges Scheme Policy

The Infrastructure Special Rates and Charges Scheme Policy outlines how Council may fund infrastructure projects such as footpaths, drainage or road sealing works through contributions from benefitting property owners.

Community feedback showed strong support for the policy's principles and led to updates to the Resident Agreement, along with inclusions of additional definitions to improve clarity.

The review simplified governance responsibilities, strengthened implementation guidance, reduced procedural risk and incorporated lessons learned from previous schemes.

Cr Bodsworth said regular policy reviews were an important part of good governance.

"Reviewing our policies ensures they remain relevant, effective and aligned with current legislation, while giving the community an opportunity to have a say before they are adopted," he said.

"Good policies help us manage community assets responsibly and provide a clear, transparent framework for delivering infrastructure that benefits our community."

Both policies have undergone an independent legal review to ensure compliance with the requirements of the local Government Act 2020.

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The Ripple Effect

Madame Butterfly

A space for the issues that start small but matter deeply - because in every community, even the quietest ripple can create real change.

Promoting Winchelsea's Unique Attractions – Turning Travellers into Visitors

The Benefits of Touchscreen Technology and Modern Digital Information Systems in Visitor Information Centres

As tourism expectations evolve, modern Visitor Information Centres are increasingly using touchscreen technology and digital systems to provide up-to-date, accessible, and engaging information for visitors.

For Winchelsea, incorporating modern IT solutions into the reopening of the VIC would help future-proof the facility while reducing the ongoing challenges of maintaining printed information.

Keeping Information Current

One of the greatest advantages of touchscreen systems is the ability to instantly update information, including:

- Local events
- Business opening hours
- Accommodation availability
- Road conditions
- Weather updates
- Community notices
- Tourism maps and itineraries

Printed brochures can quickly become outdated and expensive to replace. Digital systems provide flexibility and accuracy.

Improving the Visitor Experience

Touchscreen technology allows visitors to explore information independently and interactively. Features could include:

- Interactive maps
- Self-guided walking tours
- Videos and local history displays
- Multilingual information
- QR code downloads
- Suggested itineraries

Visitors increasingly expect digital access to information, particularly younger travellers and international tourists.

Supporting Volunteers

Modern digital systems can also assist volunteers by:

- Simplifying information delivery
- Reducing repetitive enquiries
- Providing easy reference tools
- Streamlining visitor assistance

This is especially important given the need to rebuild and support the local volunteer base after several years without an operating centre.

Long-Term Cost and Sustainability Benefits

While initial setup costs exist, digital systems can:

- Reduce printing expenses
- Minimise waste
- Allow centralised updates
- Improve efficiency
- Enhance accessibility

The VIC could also incorporate:

- Public Wi-Fi
- Device charging stations
- Digital event bookings
- Local business advertising screens

By embracing technology, Winchelsea's VIC can become a modern regional information hub that balances heritage charm with contemporary visitor expectations.

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

Winchelsea Golf Club

Rachel Boddington



Results

Wednesday 29/07 - Weekly Stableford Competition

Winner: Tim Parish (27) 38

BDL: Peter Finch (29) 35

NTP (6th/15th): Doug McLennan

Saturday 01/08

Final Round members Cup - Par,

Winner: Lachie Murphy (13) +2

R/Up: Tim Parish (27) -1

BDL: Aaron Wight (17) -1

BDL: Mary Parish (44) -2

BDL: Angus Heathcote (20) -4

NTP (6th/15th) Angus Heathcote

Golden Hole (8th) Aaron Wight

Winner of the Members Cup 2026:

Aaron Wight :50,47.5,48.5= 146

R/up: Andrew Ellery: 47,45,45 =137

3rd David Harvey: 136

Coming up:

Wednesday 05/08 - Weekly Stableford

Saturday 08/08 - Stableford

Winchelsea Golf Club recently wrapped up a successful 6-week coaching program led by PGA Professional Thomas Jefferies from The Golf Lab.

Five ladies participated in the women's group and a number of junior golfers attended throughout the six weeks. A highlight of the program was a session held at The Golf Lab in Ocean Grove, where participants had the opportunity to make use of the simulators and gain valuable insights into their game.

Following the positive feedback from participants, we're already exploring another program in the coming months, with a proposed format of three weeks at The Golf Lab and three weeks of on-course coaching at Winchelsea Golf Club.

Anyone interested in taking part is encouraged to register their interest by emailing secretary@winchelseagolf.com.au.



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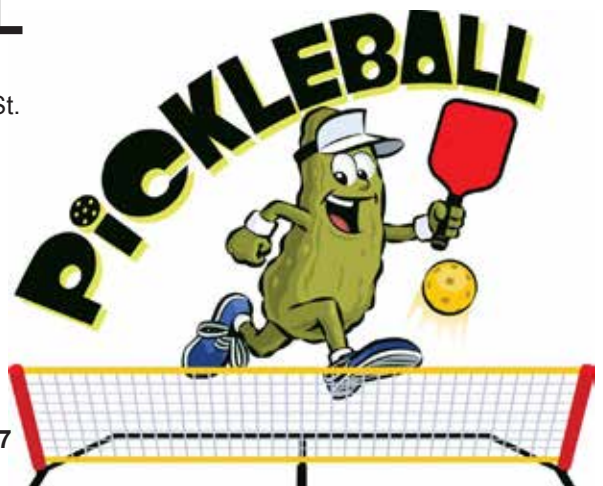
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'Doing the right thing by farmers'

by Deb Campbell

Congratulations to Susan Swaney long-time Deans Marsh farmer, veterinarian, research scientist, and educator. Susan has received the Meritorious Service Award from the Australian Veterinary Association [AVA].

The AVA is the peak body representing veterinary professionals and students across Australia, and has a series of Special Interest Groups or SIGs for areas of practice of special interest: Cattle, Sheep, Camelid and Goats, Small Animals, Research, Business, Education, Small Animal and more.

Susan said she was surprised and honoured to receive the AVA's award. She has been a member since her student days in the late 1970s, and has served as President of the Sheep Camelid and Goat SIG as well as practicing in other fields and taking an active interest in many other AVA SIGs.

Starting her career at a largely Dairy-focussed practice in Timboon in the early 1980s, Susan married Ian Campbell and after living in Birregurra for 5 years moved to Langi Banool in Deans Marsh on which they farm sheep and cattle still today. Susan opened her own mixed small animal and farming veterinary practice in Birregurra in 1985. Later she also worked with Neil Howard's practice in Torquay and ran a branch practice at Lorne – which was where I first met her and learned much about dogs and living with dogs – things I have embraced fully! Thank you, Susan.

In these years, Susan also farmed and raised their three children with Ian, taught students at Marcus Oldham Agricultural College, and completed her Masters of Veterinary Science in 2002. As well Susan also wrote her book 'No Job for a Girl' which was published in 1993. Phew - again themes of education – learning herself and helping others learn.

As if all this was not enough, in 2008 Susan and Ian set off for the Falkland Islands deep in the Southern Atlantic. Ian became the Chief Agricultural officer for the islands while Susan worked in research – exploring parasite management in sheep – by far the predominate farmed species on the Falklands.

This role was a challenging one – again finding herself in an educator, Susan sometimes found herself recommending approaches contrary to, for example, the preferred approach of the local farmers. They were seeking to produce organic certified wool, and were therefore opposed to using chemicals such as parasite drenches to prevent or reduce infestation.

Over time, Susan and the local farmers found ways to make it work with compromises which allowed parasite infestation to be managed in lambs, while still allowing second year wool and beyond to meet organic standards.

Always Susan's approach has been 'Doing the right thing by farmers.'

Her next challenge on return from the Falklands was to join in 2011 VIRBAC, a large international veterinary medicinal research and sales organisation. Again, often, short term financial gain seemed to conflict with best practice veterinary interventions. Again, Susan was able to bring her educational skills to the fore and demonstrate to salesmen and farmers

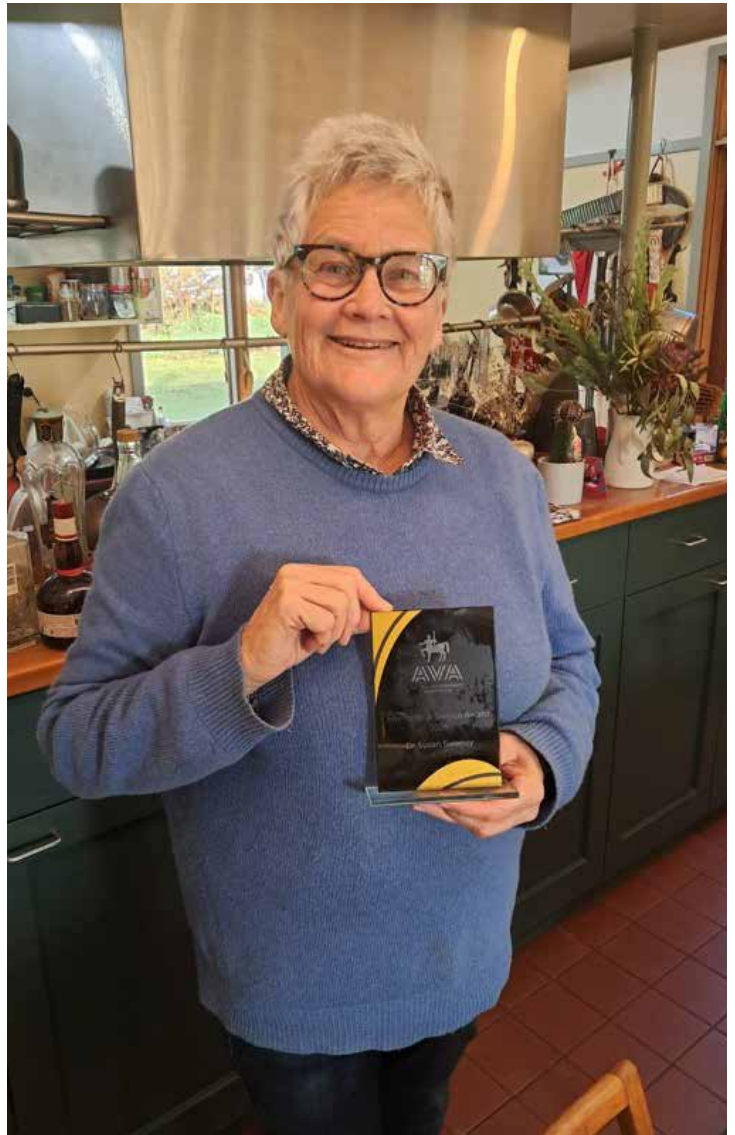
alike that good veterinary care in the measured use of sheep drenches would produce the best results for livestock in the medium and long term. As Susan says 'We even brought the most-money focused sales guys around to understanding in the end!'

She loved many aspects of the VIRBAC job but left after 8 years to turn to another educational role – working with the University of New England providing veterinary parasite advice and education online with ParaBoss to students, farmers and vets all over the country.

We can all see the main themes of Susan's career: educating us – from teaching me with my first dog how to live together, all the way to showing the owners and managers of huge properties with a range of flock and herd animals to better care for their animals, our land and the environment as a whole. Congratulations Susan from us all: you have made significant contributions to your profession and to many of us as well.

Watch here to see Susan comment on her Award:

<https://austvetassoc.wistia.com/s/749bz5kljf0jwvz>





The Climate Report

Compiled by Judy Cameron

Heatwaves And Raging Fires Mark Europe's 'Dystopian' Summer

Western Europe is on fire. From the Atlantic to the Mediterranean Sea.

The fires, which have burnt thousands of hectares did not fall into a vacuum. Back-to-back heatwaves preceded them.

Before summer had officially started, at the end of May, Western Europe experienced daily average temperatures of more than 10 degrees Celsius above average across western France, England and Wales.

Some reports suggest there were more than 10,000 excess deaths during the record-breaking heatwave. The economic toll was estimated to be close to \$2 billion.

Australian National University climate scientist Sarah Perkins-Kirkpatrick said the European summer brought back "bad memories" of what Australia experienced in 2019-20.

"It's eerily similar to what we experienced during Black Summer just six years ago," she said.

Ms Perkins-Kirkpatrick said she felt "despair" for Europe, primarily because the conditions had not come as a surprise.

"We knew this was going to happen in parts of the world which aren't necessarily in tune to these sorts of events," she said.

"Why couldn't we have adapted quicker and more effectively?"

'Thirsty' air creates tinderbox

The extra heat in the system this summer dried out the land surface more rapidly than usual, contributing to an extreme drought across parts of Europe.

Ailie Gallant is a climate scientist with the Centre of Excellence for 21st Century Weather at Monash University.

She said blocking high-pressure systems had trapped warm, dry and "thirsty" air over Europe, which had effectively sucked the land dry.

When the land surface and vegetation dry out, it does not take much to ignite.

Dr Gallant said Australian vegetation had adapted to hotter conditions.

"Big eucalypts have these very, very deep roots that tap right into the ground to access the moisture that's really deep because they know they're going to go through dry periods," she said.

"Whereas, the oak forests of north-western Europe aren't really used to that, so that's also a way that they can become stressed more quickly and really dry out."

What's in store for Australia's summer?

An extreme summer in the northern hemisphere doesn't mean Australia will have an equally bad season, and there are several factors that will determine what conditions in the southern hemisphere look like over coming months.

El Niño, which has been declared by the Bureau of Meteorology, increases the risk of heatwaves, droughts and bushfires in Australia. While some modelling suggests it could become the strongest on record, that doesn't mean strong impacts on the country's climate.

Ms Perkins-Kirkpatrick added that conditions could also depend on sea surface temperatures surrounding Australia, not just in the equatorial Pacific, but she emphasised that it was too early to tell.

"So it's really, let's wait and see, let's hope for the best but I can't stress enough, we also need to prepare for the worst."

Full story: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-08-02/europe-fires-fingerprints-of-climate-change/106967040>

'Was this heatwave caused by climate change?'

Heatwaves have always happened. They are a natural part of our weather, driven by persistent high-pressure systems.

The question is not whether climate change caused the heatwave, but how much hotter and more dangerous heatwaves have become because greenhouse gases, primarily from burning fossil fuels, have accumulated in the atmosphere.

This is the focus of attribution science, which analyses how much hotter a heatwave has become because of these extra greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. It has transformed how climate scientists understand extreme weather. Now our public conversation needs to catch up.

The missing words in the climate conversation are not human-caused climate change, but fossil fuel emissions.

Climate change does not create heatwaves. It loads the dice. Weather variability still determines whether a heatwave occurs, but greenhouse gases released from burning fossil fuels make heatwaves hotter, more likely to break records, and more damaging, to health and infrastructure alike. The same principle applies to heavy rainfall, drought and coastal flooding.

The physics is remarkably simple. The atmosphere doesn't care about politics. It responds to the concentration of greenhouse gases. Every tonne of carbon dioxide released by burning coal, oil and gas adds to that concentration and shifts the odds towards more damaging extreme weather.

The climate we live in today is the least extreme climate you will experience in your lifetimes because of ongoing fossil fuel emissions.

The public conversation needs to catch up with the science. If we are serious about limiting future warming, we must rapidly reduce fossil fuel emissions while making our homes, infrastructure and communities more resilient to the climate change that is already here.

Full story: <https://theconversation.com/was-this-heatwave-caused-by-climate-change-were-asking-the-wrong-question-288637>



Councillor Catch-Up

by Tony Phelps, Winchelsea Ward Councillor

A quick “Congratulations” to the Winchelsea Lions Club incoming President, Murray Bennett, who takes over from Graham Kenafacke. The changeover dinner featured awards, a review of the year, and a visit by Sergeant Nala from VicPol - their new mascot created with the help of our district's Lions Clubs. Service clubs may not shout about it much, but they do an incredible amount of good in our communities across the Shire.

Another stand-out event to which I was honoured to be invited was the Good Friday Appeal's “Thankyou” held in Torquay. Not only did we hear about the funds raised across the southwest, equally importantly we hear about how those funds are being used (and distributed beyond the Melbourne Children's Hospital across the State). In our Shire, we saw Kerrie at Winchelsea SES drive around \$8,000, Doug & Laurel in Gherang raise \$15,000 and the Torquay Lions across the year add \$85,000 to their lifetime total of \$300,000. Amazing work by all. In our region, the funds went not only to equipment but also training to spread and localise capability. Well done to all involved.



You may have seen that Council has just committed to pursuing a revised libraries service due to changes in State law requiring a different legal structure to Geelong Regional Libraries Corporation. While it is expected that the library service we receive will largely remain the same, the constitution and governance model are now being developed. In parallel with this are investigations into how a library service is provided e.g. in Winchelsea. I'm looking forward to seeing what options are presented in due course.

There's a couple of opportunities for you to tip in your opinion, and I encourage you to take advantage. Always good to have Winchelsea viewpoints in these things, even if the items aren't of earth-shattering impact. A quick check at yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au and you can see what's open - an Events Policy, and if you're quick (4th August) the Engagement Policy.

'Did You Know' - all Councillors are required by the State to sign a Model Councillor Code of Conduct that sets out expected behaviour. Interesting that State & Federal MPs aren't required to do the same! You can find it on the Shire website Councillors page at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/About-us/Council/Councillors. Of note? Every Councillor should act for ALL in our municipality, and should not discredit Council or diminish trust in local government. The State is now looking at something similar for Governance Rules (how meetings are run etc.). We'll see where that goes, there's been a bit of a side-track at State Government of late (!).

Great to see a full room for Growing Winchelsea's recent recap of the Winchelsea Place Plan, and the next steps. I eagerly await the first view of the consequent Winchelsea Structure Plan (the “what goes where” detail), although it's been slowed down a bit. This is due to the unexpected workload arising from Torquay's Messmate Road developments going through the State's fast-track process that could short-circuit Shire wishes.

Disclaimer:

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



Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafnc@hotmail.com

Blues News

Janet Fletcher

ROUND 16

WINCHELSEA BLUES vs INVERLEIGH HAWKS

Welcome to everyone as the 2026 Football & Netball Season draws to a close with only 2 more home & away games left to produce the Finals participants playing at the St. Albans Football & Netball ground. The GDFNL season has been close all season with the Finals being almost anyone's tilt right up to the final 2 Rounds.

Round 16 saw a huge amount of activity at Eastern Reserve with the Club hosting their Sponsors, their Reserves Team and our friends from the Winchelsea Cricket Club. We were fortunate to have a beautiful sunny Winter's day to accommodate our guests and to watch the Football & Netball teams play for the Bendigo Bank's Community Cup. The Club is fortunate also to have such wonderful volunteers to carry out proceedings during the day and into the evening with the Reverse Raffle function taking place as well.

RESERVES:

Winchelsea Blues 10.7.67 defeated Inverleigh Hawks 4.3.27

Both sides started well, the Blues slightly ahead at the first change, with Inverleigh rallying in the second quarter to have the lead by the Blues cut to just 3 points. The third quarter belonged to Winchelsea, dominating and holding the Hawks scoreless for the quarter. The Winchelsea Reserves wanting to get back on the winners list after a couple of losses and continued to hold the Hawks at bay in the last quarter allowing them just the solitary behind and fully deserved their win last Saturday.

GOALS: Jack Todd 3, Josh Freeman 2, Will McNeil 2, Jude Coverdale 1, Timothy Miles 1, Tom Kennedy !.

BEST: All concerned on the day! A real team effort from the Winchelsea Blues, well done.

SENIORS:

Winchelsea Blues 13.16.94 defeated Inverleigh Hawks 8.15.63

Would this be 10 on the trot? After the enormous win over East Geelong at East Geelong the Senior team had to regroup yet again to host Inverleigh – traditional rivals who would be competing for Community Cup honours last Saturday. It was a big crowd who gathered in the sunny conditions for the Senior's match at 2pm.

The first quarter change saw scores all tied up at 2 goals 5 behinds apiece, both sides not making the most of their opportunities in front goal. The second quarter saw the Blues

step it up a notch and with some careful manoeuvring in front of goal saw the home team break out to a 3 goal lead at half time. The Winchelsea side kicked 1 goal 7 behinds to the Hawks 2 goals 1 behind in the third giving supporters (and maybe Coaching Staff) a bit of concern, however it was Inverleigh's turn to kick wayward in the last quarter – 3 goals 6 behinds to the Blues far more accurate 6 goals 1 behind to have them run out comfortable winners by 31 points. The Blues got the job done and now look to the second last of the home and away games, this week the Club travels out to the Corio VIVA ENERGY OVAL where the Corio Devils are capable of causing an upset, the Coaching staff will be wanting a good run home ahead of the Club's Finals Campaign, with plenty of support from anyone who can get to the game!

The quest continues

GOALS: Cameron Primmer 3, Fin Parish 3, Ryan Williams 1, Indi Parish 1, Cassidy Parrish 1, Jordan Gould 1, Jack Sampi 1, Sam Adams 1, Lachlan Carver 1 goal.

BEST: Fin Parish, Jordan Huff, Harry Nagle, Cameron Primmer, Rory Baulch, Lachlan Carver.

A wonderful Saturday for the Club as our players across all grades and level of Football & Netball continue their 2026 season.

Apart from anything else that is happening around the Club, come Finals time it is the Winchelsea Football & Netball Club's turn to operate the GRAND FINAL CANTEEN!!

ANYONE WHO CAN ASSIST IN ANY SMALL WAY, SHAPE OR FORM ON THE DAY – 12TH SEPTEMBER WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!!

THE BLUE'S BISTRO:

This week will see the Blue's Bistro's menu offer Butter Chicken, Flathead Tails, and back by popular demand Silverside.

Dessert: Raspberry & Chocolate puddings.

We look forward to welcoming our regular patrons and remind our younger Blues that the Bendigo Bank Room is not a playground.

GO BLUES!!

WANTED

Volunteers to take photos at the Blues games for the rest of the year for our Winchelsea Star articles



BLUES
WINCHELSEA F.N.C.

WINCHELSEA BLUES

JUNIOR ROCK UP NETBALL

SUNDAY SESSIONS

GAME PLAY. LEARNING EXPERIENCES.
FUN AND FITNESS!

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Enjoy fun, engaging games that build skills, teamwork and confidence on court.

LEARNING EXPERIENCES
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FUN
Make new friends, laugh, play and enjoy the game in a positive, supportive environment.

FITNESS
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WHEN:
SUNDAYS
(DURING THE SEASON)
TIME: 10:00AM - 11:30AM

WHO:
OPEN TO ALL JUNIOR PLAYERS - ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!

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parkrun 125

Sport and Exercise



Saturday 1 August 2026

Neil McInnes

Trebeck Reserve, Winchelsea
parkrun.com.au/trebeckreserve

32 participants completed the course through Trebeck reserve this week in very foggy conditions.

Two personal best times were recorded. Congratulations Tahlia and Damien Barr who completed their personal best times at Trebeck Reserve.

Six volunteers made this event possible. Thanks to Kate McInnes, Neil McInnes, Murray Bennett, Liz Bennett, Sean Cannard and Don Smith.

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

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

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





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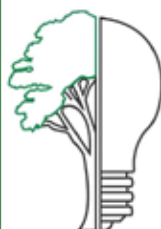
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