

Winchelsea Star

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Weekly Community News

Since 1977

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winchelseastar.org.au



Winchelsea Post Office Changes Hands

See Page 2

Photo by Judy Cameron

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I have just read the article on Ken's Memorial which did capture the spirit of the terrific community person that he lived and breathed. Just wanted to congratulate Judy and the Star for covering this. May Ken rest in well deserved perfect peace.

Julie Johnson



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New Owners For Winchelsea Post Office

Words and photos by Judy Cameron



Alan and Gillian left the Winchelsea Post office last Saturday after 16 years servicing our community although they will continue the mail run to Bambra into October.

They will now devote their time to their grandchildren.

Things were getting a little tense when I popped in to say goodbye!

Chelsea from Wurdi Boluc was surprised and disappointed to learn they were going and wished them well.



Here are the new owners – Kamal and Subi. Please make them welcome!





History Month 2026

The Society plan on having “discussion” days once a month on various topics to do with the past history of Winchelsea e.g. school, work and leisure.

Our first discussion day will be about the Telephone Exchange.

Did you work on the Winchelsea Telephone Exchange? Or do you know someone who did?

Come along to the History Centre on Friday October 2nd at 1pm to talk about the exchange. Any memorabilia/photos would add to the discussion.

Tea/Coffee provided

Contact Margaret Reid for further information – 0417 104 627

This October marks History Month 2026, a state-wide celebration of local and community history involving around 100 historical societies, museums, libraries and community groups across Victoria.

The full events calendar is here: historymonth.org.au/events-calendar/

Some are in Melbourne central and accessible by train from Winchelsea.



Voices From Home Winchelsea Workshop Postponed

A Winchelsea workshop for Surf Coast Shire Council's Voices from Home community storytelling project is postponed until October.

Voices from Home is inviting people to share memories and experiences expressing what home means to them in Surf Coast Shire.

As part of the storytelling process, contributors are being invited to join creative writing workshops guided by

acclaimed and award-winning poet and spoken word performer Megan J. Riedl.

The Winchelsea workshop will be on Sunday 11 October, 11am-1.30pm at the Shire Hall. A workshop at Deans Marsh remains on 4 October.

People can learn more about the project and register for the workshop via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/VoicesfromHome





Dahlia Time

by Julia Holohan



I have some dahlia tubers waiting to be planted once the threat of frosts are over which, will be around late October & early November.

There's a small cardboard box of white and dark pink bulbs in the shed that have been resting in sawdust over the winter months. My daughter gave me the pink a couple of years ago, I kept them in a pot, they did ok the first year giving me a couple of flowers without me giving them any attention. I neglected to remove their tubers from the confines of their pot and store their tubers in sawdust the previous winter consequently, they didn't flower last summer. I feel I'm rather a lazy gardener with these sort of high maintenance plants however, I did remember to remove the tubers and store them correctly, in sawdust in a cardboard box, this winter. They've been stored with some white ones my daughter gave me to share with a friend of mine that would like to give dahlias a go in her garden.

My daughter also gave us a pile of dahlia tubers she found in a paper bag in her shed, she wasn't sure how long they'd been there, we assume more than a year as they looked rather sad. My friend was keen to give them a go, they're in



my shed as she was nervous to keep them at her shed with the damp and vermin lurking. Being lazy, I put them into pots filled with dry soil rather than in a box of sawdust & covered them with some green scrim to keep the light out, some of them are now sprouting making me concerned if they'll survive until we can get them planted in the ground after the frosts.

It'll be "pot luck" as we have no idea of their colours, and "pot luck" as my friend hasn't grown them before; she's keen and I'm apprehensive after my failure with them over the last 2 seasons. She will grow hers throughout her garden & is getting her soil ready and I think I'll keep my few in big pots.

After my past failure, I'm determined to be more conscientious with their care.

According to the Gardening Australia article I read:

- They like soil with a pH of 6.5 - I may have to buy a soil testing kit to check my soil!
- They don't like frosts hence removing and storing their tubers over winter.
- They like their lower leaves trimmed as they grow to allow air flow and help keep fungal viruses at bay.
- They like morning sun, afternoon shade & a shade cloth on extra hot days.
- They like regular watering.
- Use a blend of seaweed solution, soil conditioner & a fish based fertiliser. Dahlias are big feeders, this blend forms a sticky solution that helps stop insect attack.
- You can plant up to 12 dahlias in a patch about the size of a standard folding trestle table.

All going to plan with our experiment to plant them within my friend's existing garden and mine in pots we should be enjoying a beautiful colourful display over the summer and early autumn months..... my fingers are crossed.



Local News Spotlight

This story was produced as part of a partnership between the Winchelsea Star and Deakin University. It aims to provide journalism students with an opportunity to have their work published, and give the Winchelsea community access to local news reporting.

Fresh Calls To Fix Primary School Buildings

by Ehab Fahad

Parents at Winchelsea Primary have renewed their calls for funding to fix “deteriorating”, “falling down” school buildings.

And it appears, in this election year, that those calls have been heard.

The school has a mix of ageing infrastructure, with some buildings up to 100 years old and others dating from the 1960s. Past media reports have suggested some of the buildings contain asbestos materials, and pests are contributing to an annual maintenance bill totaling \$30,000.

School Council president Meghan Morris has been advocating for school building improvements since 2023.

“(Staff and students) don’t want to be working in facilities that are falling down around them,” she said.

“Maintenance and infrastructure is deteriorating ... it’s not great for the kids, it’s not great for the morale of the staff.”



Clare Harper has two children at Winchelsea Primary School

Clare Harper, whose children are in Grade 4 and Grade 6 at the school, said that the infrastructure was disappointing and a poor reflection for the students.

“The nature of the facilities is quite evident ... there’s often repairs and maintenance and patchwork,” she said.

“(They) continually have to get maintenance people in to address issues that the school’s having on an ongoing basis.

“The children are missing out with the poor quality and poor nature of the

facilities. We need some longer-term vision for the community.”

She called on both sides of state politics to come together to recognise the needs of the Winchelsea community.

Opposition Education spokesman Brad Rowswell is scheduled to visit Winchelsea Primary School with Polwarth MP Richard Riordan on Tuesday this week (September 15) to announce a \$750,000 funding pledge for the school, if the party wins the November state election.

A statement said the funding would be for “practical improvements to make the school safer, more secure and more welcoming for students, staff and families, while paving the way for the planning development of a vital new P-12 school for the community”.

Mr Riordan said the school’s facilities had been neglected for far too long. “This \$750,000 commitment recognises this need for meaningful improvements and a plan for a new school,” he said.

According to the Victorian School Building Authority website, Winchelsea Primary School received \$352,000 for upgrades and modernisation works in the in 2017/2018 Victorian Budget, and those works were completed in 2019. The school also received funding in last year’s Victorian Budget.

“The 2025–26 Victorian Budget allocated \$10 million to start planning and design for future upgrades at 20 schools, including Winchelsea Primary School,” a Department of Education spokesperson told the Winchelsea Star recently.



Ehab Fahad is a broadcaster, podcaster, and freelance journalist studying at Deakin University

“A new masterplan was developed in March 2026, and the design phase is currently underway to prepare for future upgrades.”

It is not clear how much funding was allocated for this planning and design phase and, according to the Victorian School Building Authority website, construction of any planned works would require a further funding allocation.

Parents also raised concerns about the absence of fencing along the main road and said they had been told in the past that the school would have to raise funds itself to rectify that problem. However, a Department of Education spokesperson confirmed an application for this funding was currently being reviewed.

“Winchelsea Primary School has applied to the 2026-27 Capital Works Fund round for boundary fencing,” the spokesperson said.

“Applications to the fund, which supports building projects to improve the learning environment, condition, or character of schools, are currently being assessed. All schools will be advised about the outcome of their application from later this year.”

Winchelsea Primary School’s acting principal, Nicholas Keating, declined to be interviewed for this story.



Life On The Roads, With Jimmy Drayton

If you've driven around the Surf Coast Shire over the past two decades, chances are Jimmy Drayton has helped make your journey a little smoother.

Based at the Winchelsea depot, Jimmy operates Council's insulated hot asphalt transport truck, known as a Flocon.

He carries out hundreds of pothole repairs every year, as well as larger patches on damaged sections of sealed roads.

"It's challenging. Every job is different, none are the same," Jimmy says.

"It's rewarding to see a hole in the middle of the road and fix it.

"I don't like hitting potholes myself, so I don't expect anybody else to hit potholes."

Each morning starts with a trip to Lara to collect hotmix asphalt before heading out to the day's jobs.

Work is grouped geographically where possible to maximise efficiency, allowing crews to complete multiple repairs in the same area.

On the day this publication caught up with Jimmy, he was part of a crew digging out and patching a damaged section of Smith Street, Lorne, before returning to the Winchelsea area for a series of pothole repairs.

"The Flocon has everything we need to do a job on the road – it's got jackhammers, crowbars, shovels, brooms, blowers," Jimmy says.

Potholes can be repaired solo. Patching requires a team, including an excavator or backhoe driver to dig up damaged sections.

"Once they dig it out, it's up to me to put the emulsion and asphalt down, whack it down and make it safe," he says.

"I do the best I can to make every job level. I'm not perfect but I do my best."

Council maintains around 1,089 kilometres of local roads across the Surf Coast, with just over half sealed and the remainder unsealed.

Road maintenance is not driven solely by community reports.

While residents play an important role in alerting Council to issues, dedicated staff also proactively inspect roads and identify repairs before they become larger problems.

Jimmy and his team's workload can escalate during winter, when persistent rain quickly creates potholes and other road damage.

Water seeps into pavement cracks, weakening the road surface and accelerating deterioration.

The numbers tell the story of how large the task is: Council completed nearly 2,000 road maintenance jobs during the 2025-26 financial year, and will invest \$21.21 million in maintenance, renewal, upgrades and safety projects in 2026-27.

After 35 years working in shearing sheds before joining Council, Jimmy still enjoys the daily task of keeping Surf Coast roads safe for the community.

"I've just had my 20 years' service for Council – 20 years on the truck, and I'm still happy doing what I'm doing."

Have you noticed a pothole or a Council-managed road in need of repair or maintenance? Lodge a request anytime via Council's website.



Australians Are Not On The “Pulse”: The Heart Condition Only 2% Of Australians Can Correctly Identify The Key Signs Of

Hearts4heart

This Atrial Fibrillation Awareness Week, leading heart health charity Hearts4heart is launching PULSE, a new national awareness acronym, in response to latest research revealing significant gaps in Australians' recognition of atrial fibrillation (AF) and understanding of its potentially serious consequences.

AF is a heart rhythm condition in which the heart beats abnormally and does not pump blood as regularly or efficiently as it should.³ It is estimated to affect more than half a million Australians and can

increase the risk of stroke.

New research* commissioned by Hearts4heart revealed just 2% of Australian adults can correctly identify all four key AF signs – a pounding or racing heartbeat, unusual tiredness, light-headedness or dizziness, and skipped or fluttering beats.

AF can cause blood to pool in the heart and form clots, which may travel to the brain and cause a stroke. One in four strokes are attributed to AF, and these are generally among the most

debilitating cases. Awareness of that risk is also low, with less than half (41%) of Australians knowing an irregular heartbeat can increase their risk of stroke.

Tanya Hall, CEO and Founder of Hearts4heart, said the findings highlight an urgent need to make the signs of AF easier for Australians to recognise and remember.

“It’s incredibly concerning that only two per cent of Australians over the age of 18 can correctly identify the four key signs of atrial fibrillation. People may recognise a racing heart as something to pay attention to, but AF can present in less obvious ways too. Symptoms such as unusual tiredness or feeling light-headed can be easy to dismiss as a busy lifestyle.

“That’s why we’re launching PULSE with Atrial Fibrillation Awareness Week. It gives Australians a simple way to remember the signs, become more familiar with their own pulse and recognise when something may need further attention,” said Ms Hall.

PULSE is a simple acronym to help Australians recognise the key signs of AF and understand why they matter:

- P – Pounding or racing heartbeat
- U – Unusual tiredness
- L – Light-headed or dizzy spells
- S – Skipped or fluttering beats
- E – Elevated stroke risk if untreated

The research also revealed that recognising a symptom may not necessarily translate into action.

While 65% of Australians recognise a pounding or racing heartbeat as a possible sign of AF, only 21% say they would see a GP or healthcare professional as soon as possible if their heart suddenly began racing or pounding for no obvious reason.

To learn more about PULSE, atrial fibrillation and how to check your pulse, visit www.hearts4heart.org.au.



Celebrate Positive Ageing Month in Winchelsea and Moriac

From dance and movement to trivia and information sessions, we're proud to support over 30 events and activities to celebrate the Victorian Seniors Festival.

View Winchelsea-Moriac events via
surfcoast.vic.gov.au/PAMWinchelsea

Pick up your free guide to all of the events happening across Surf Coast Shire, from Moriac General Store, Moriac & District Men's Shed, Winchelsea Community House or Council's office, 1 Merrijig Drive, Torquay.

Check out the full calendar of events at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/PositiveAgeingMonth or call **5261 0600**.



Twinkle Tree Season Begins! Mr Winchy Twinkle Confirms 14 October Launch

Mr Winchy Twinkle has just made a quick visit from the North Pole with sparkling news — *A Sparkling Winchelsea Christmas 2026* has received funding from the Community Bank Surf Coast Community Investment Program.



This funding will support the expansion of the Twinkle Trees on Main program to make an additional 50 trees and provide materials for Santa's Mailbox and other festive displays.

The grant ensures Winchelsea can deliver a bright, coordinated and community driven Christmas program for 2026.

New Twinkle Trees Available – From 14 October 2026

From Wednesday 14 October 2026, community members, families, clubs and businesses can collect their Twinkle Tree for decoration to be part of the 2026 display where 100 trees will line Main Street.

Pick up location: Winchelsea Men's Shed

Pick up dates: Each Wednesday from 14 October

Time: 9.30 am – 12.00 pm

These trees form part of the official Twinkle Trees on Main program and are provided free to participating groups.

A small reminder: anyone who still has a 2025 decorated tree awaiting collection should contact Elaine Atkinson on 0458 009 616 or eatkinson048@gmail.com to arrange a suitable time for pick up.

The Men's Shed will also be making fundraiser trees for home decorating or entry into the Lions Christmas Lights

Competition. To purchase one, contact Ray Atkinson on 0407 839 139.

With grant funding secured and preparations underway, Winchelsea is set for its biggest Christmas yet — including expanded decorations, the Hidden Elf Trail, Carols by the Barwon, Santa's Mailbox, Family Photos with Santa and the Christmas Market.

Follow us on Christmas in Winchelsea Facebook page or [@mr.winchy.twinkle](https://www.instagram.com/mr.winchy.twinkle) on Instagram

GRANTS

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STREAMS OPEN
ON SEPTEMBER
1 - CLOSE
SEPTEMBER 30**



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Community Initiative Grants up to \$5,000

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Minor Capital Works Grants up to \$15,000

Health and Wellbeing Grants up to \$5,000



Scan the **QR code** to find out more or call grants team on **5261 0600** to discuss your idea and ask any questions.

surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Grants



1st Modewarre Scout Group

Marie McPadden OAM, Group Leader
mcpadden630@bigpond.com

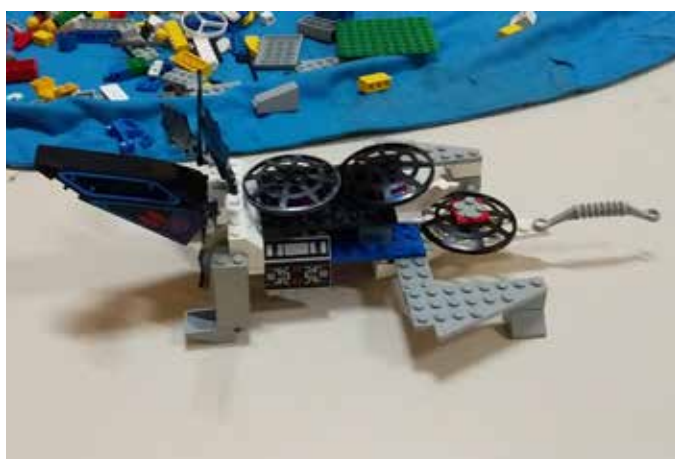


Each year our Scout Group holds Mother's Nights and Father's Nights, where the week after Mother's or Father's Day, Mums and Dads join their children for a night of fun. Our parents and kids look forward to these nights.

The Joeys usually have a games night. They choose some games and play with or against their parents. At this age, the Mums always pretend to let the Joeys win, while the Dads are a bit more competitive, but let the Joeys win sometimes. Either way, the Joeys have a great time, as do their special adults.



At Cub age – so 8-11 years - the Mums are more competitive but happy to have fun with their Cubs. Dads, however, take competition to a whole new level, especially playing hockey. We do have a rule preventing them from breaking their Cubs, but last week had to tell Dads they weren't to pick their Cubs up and run away from goal with them! This year we had a Cubs v Dads Oreo challenge – place an Oreo on your forehead, and without using your hands, wriggle it down into your mouth. The Cubs love these nights, the noise level is high and the energy boundless. It's like having 34 Cubs in the hall!

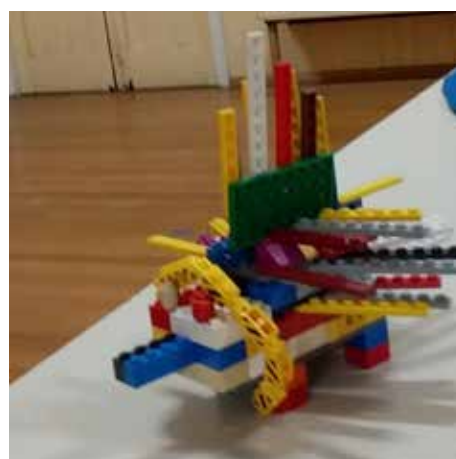


The Scouts love a good Nerf War against their Dads. Cardboard forts are constructed and foam missiles fly everywhere. Ten pin bowling is also popular with Mums and Dads. One particularly enjoyable night with Mums v Scouts was "Lego Masters", with some amazing creations produced.

At the end of each night, everyone gathers for supper. It's a time to socialise and refuel after a busy night.

Of course, not every one can bring a Mum or Dad on the night, so we welcome Mum or Dad substitutes, or Leaders will fill in to make sure everyone has a partner.

This tradition has been going on for years. It's such a great way to bring parents in and get to know each other a bit better. Parents get to see some of what we do on a meeting night. Most of all, it's so much fun!



Services & Groups

VLIN TRAIN SERVICES

TO MELBOURNE:

Mon - Fri 6.41 (coach) 08.07 11.07 14.03
16.57 19.15

Sat - Sun 8.29 10.28 14.02 16.55 19.14

TO WARRNAMBOOL:

Mon - Fri 8.56 11.50 14.44 17.30 (coach)
18.42 20.52

Sat - Sun 9.42 11.40 14.45 18.37 20.37

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



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

BBQ OUTSIDE WINCHELSEA IGA

Every first Saturday of Spring/Summer,
9 - 12pm. Come along and support
your local community.

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.

Winchelsea Star COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

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

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.

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY OP SHOP

D.V.D, CD and book SALE
18th Sept until the 6th Oct

DVDs and CDs 5 for \$2.00

Box sets 1/2 price

All books 1/2 Price

Adult's and Children's
Fiction and Non-Fiction

GARAGE SALE

WINCHELSEA MEN'S SHED

Saturday 10 October

Starting time 9.00am (no early callers)

Sausage sizzle will be running



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

Council To Launch Refund Scheme For Overcharged Parking Fines

Surf Coast Shire Council will launch a refund scheme after discovering a historical administrative error that means it has over-charged on 11 types of parking infringements.

The scheme will offer refunds on the overcharged portion of the fines, which will be between \$30 and \$60 depending on the year of issue, with Council records for the affected infringements going back to 2003.

The Road Safety Act 1986 enables Councils to set the penalty for 11 'green sign' parking offences up to a maximum of 0.5 penalty units, and many councils do this.

But a specific Council resolution is required to set the parking penalty units. Without this, a default rate of 0.2 penalty units applies.

Council has recently confirmed that, due to the historical error, the 0.5 penalty unit rate has been applied to the 11 infringement types over time without evidence of there being a specific resolution of Council to do so.

Surf Coast Shire is one of a number of Victorian councils impacted by this issue.

The refund scheme will launch on 1 October and remain open for 12 months, closing on 30 September 2027.

People who feel they may have been impacted can visit surfcoast.vic.gov.au/parkingrefundscheme for more information.

CEO Robyn Seymour apologised to affected motorists for the inconvenience.

"As soon as we were made aware of this potential issue, we investigated thoroughly and could not find evidence in our records that the necessary Council resolution had ever been made," Ms Seymour said.

"We're taking accountability for the situation and putting a process in place to rectify it.

"We're committed to making sure affected motorists are refunded appropriately for the over-charged amount of their fine."

During Tuesday night's meeting, Council will consider a recommendation to make the necessary resolution to formalise the rate for the 11 infringements at 0.5 penalty units.

Impacted Infringements

The impacted infringements are:

- Stopped contrary to a 'no parking' sign
- Parked for a period longer than indicated
- Failure to pay parking fee and obey instructions on sign/meter/ticket/ticket vending machine
- Stopped on a bicycle parking area
- Stopped on a motorbike parking area
- Parked contrary to requirement of parking area
- Parked – fail to comply with angle parking requirements
- Parked – fail to comply with 90 degree angle parking requirements
- Parked not completely within a parking bay
- Parked – long vehicle exceeding minimum number of bays
- Parked – wide vehicle exceeding minimum number of bays

Of approximately 6700 infringement types that are available to be issued across Victoria, this procedural requirement is understood to be unique to these 11 infringements.

The agenda for Tuesday's Council meeting is available at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/meetings.

Animal Cruelty Report 2026

Our Inspectors are in the community 7 days a week, 365 days per year, protecting animals from cruelty and neglect, receiving an average of 24.5 reports of animal cruelty every day.

In the 2025/2026 financial year RSPCA Victoria Inspectors:

- Received 8,965 reports of animal cruelty
- Visited 7,516 households
- Completed 34 animal cruelty prosecutions
- Seized or accepted the surrender of 2,225 animals

Most reported animals

- 6,078 Reports about dogs

- 1,874 Reports about cats
- 868 Reports about horses

Most reported types of cruelty

- 6,732 Reports of insufficient food, water, or shelter
- 3,498 Reports of poor husbandry
- 2,726 Reports of an underweight animal

From the Interactive cruelty data map;

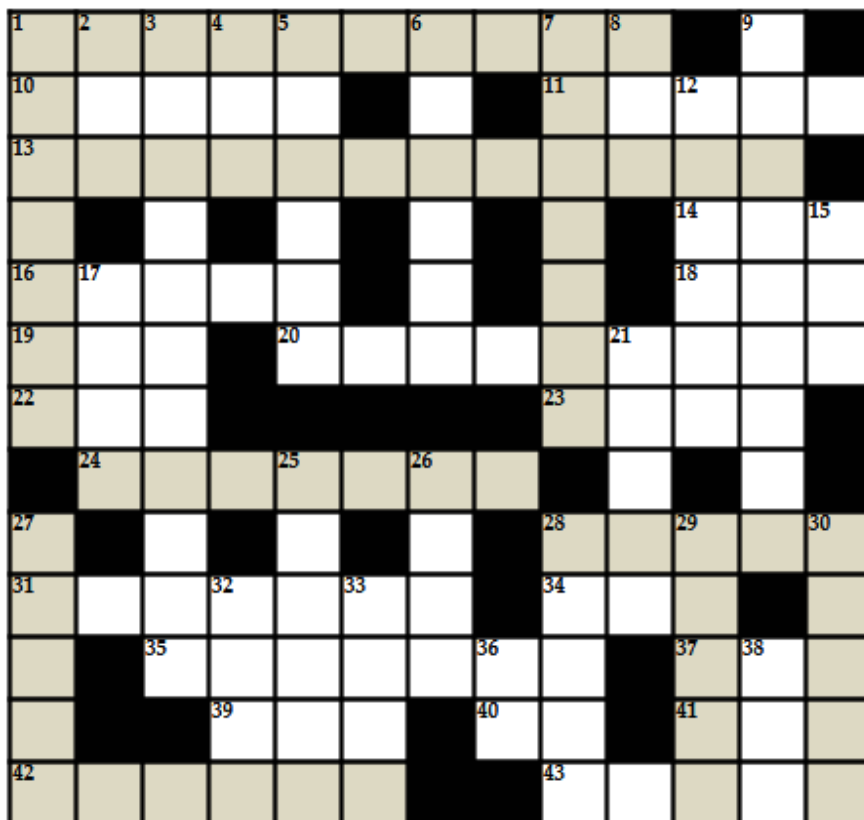
Surf Coast Rank: 61 (Inspectorate region: South West)
Previous Ranking: 54



Winchelsea Crossword No 12

Set by Greg Ware

Grey squares relate
directly to Winchelsea.
Solution p.28



ACROSS

- 1 Town to the north of Winchelsea
10 Greek mythology figure who was turned to stone
11 Liquid measure
13 Home of the Marjorie Lawrence museum (5,7)
14 Frozen water
16 Leave for a secret marriage
18 Witticism
19 Prefix denoting life
20 Heaters
22 Sweet potato
23 Bobs the head
24 Winch avenue
28 See 27 down
31 Recreation
34 Doctrine
35 Legal amendment that modifies an existing will
37 Expected benchmark level
39 Ancient
40 Negative response
41 Possess
42 Winch bakery
43 Lightweight, very fine netted fabric

DOWN

- 1 Historic pastoral property South-West of Winch
2 Nothing
3 Spiritual and ritual practices emanating in West Africa and later adopted in Haiti (6,5)
4 Recede
5 Type of jacket
6 Reverberated
7 Winch street name
8 Highly popular song
9 Forerunner
12 Camera stand
15 Printers measures of width
17 Fibber
21 Shades of colour
25 Noisily
26 Man's forename
27 & 28 ac Former Winchelsea takeaway - now Sandy's
28 Aviator
29 Winch petrol outlet
30 Beach south of Winch
32 Grime left after fire
33 Eradicates
36 Beatles song "-- My Life
38 Sharp, pointed hand tool



Winch Men's Shed Xmas Trees For Sale



wooden Xmas trees that are being made by the Winchelsea Men's Shed. These are the same as previous years. They measure 160cm high by about 75cm wide at the widest point.

These are unpainted and are ready for festive decorations.

They are selling for \$20. For orders please contact Ray Atkinson on 0407839139 or email winchmenshed@gmail.com

Planting time!

Join us on the first
Saturday of the month



**Meet at the river end
of Dwyer Street.**

This is part of the clearing and revegetating of the riverbanks that the **Winchelsea Land & Rivercare** group has been working on for 30 years - all done by local volunteers.

Join the working bees and help get the plants in the ground,
from 9 – 10.30am

- Saturday 1 August
- Saturday 5 September
- Saturday 3 October

Rod Stone: 0428 549 318

Stewart Mathison: 0428 672 054

All ages welcome!

H5 bird flu

Backyard chickens - know the signs

- Swelling around the head and neck
- Coughing, sneezing
- Sudden drop in feed intake
- Nasal discharge
- Sudden deaths



EMERGENCY ANIMAL
DISEASE HOTLINE
1800 675 888



Café La Hoot

have you tried
'owl' coffee?

1 willis st cafelahoot@gmail.com 0407 528 999

Spring Alert: New Risks For Pets Could Mean Vet Bills For Owners

Spring marks the welcome return of warmer days, sunshine and beach weather Australians love, but for our pets, the season also comes with a fresh set of hazards. As dogs and cats spend more time outdoors, RSPCA Pet Insurance is reminding pet owners to watch for seasonal risks that can quickly lead to painful injuries, emergency vet visits and unexpected bills.

"The key is vigilance. Knowing what to look for and acting early can make a significant difference to a pet's wellbeing and potentially prevent a small problem from becoming a very expensive one," he advises.

Snakes

As temperatures rise, snakes become more active, increasing the risk of encounters with curious pets. Snakebite claims can vary significantly, from \$430 to \$2,880, with some reaching as high as \$9,268. RSPCA Pet Insurance is urging pet owners to treat any suspected snakebite as a veterinary emergency. If you think your pet may have been bitten, seek immediate veterinary care.



Heatstroke

Australian summer temperatures can be dangerous for pets. Heatstroke is a life-threatening emergency that can cause rapid organ failure and death, with dogs particularly vulnerable during exercise and hot weather. Flat-faced and overweight pets are among those at higher risk. Exercise pets during cooler parts of the day, provide shade and fresh water, and never leave them unattended in a parked car.

Toxic plants, garden chemicals and snail bait

Spring gardening can create new risks for curious pets, with some plants and garden chemicals capable of causing serious poisoning. Lilies are particularly dangerous to cats, while snail bait can be highly attractive to dogs and may cause seizures. Keep garden chemicals, fertilisers, pesticides and baits securely stored, follow label directions and keep pets away from treated areas.

Bees and wasps

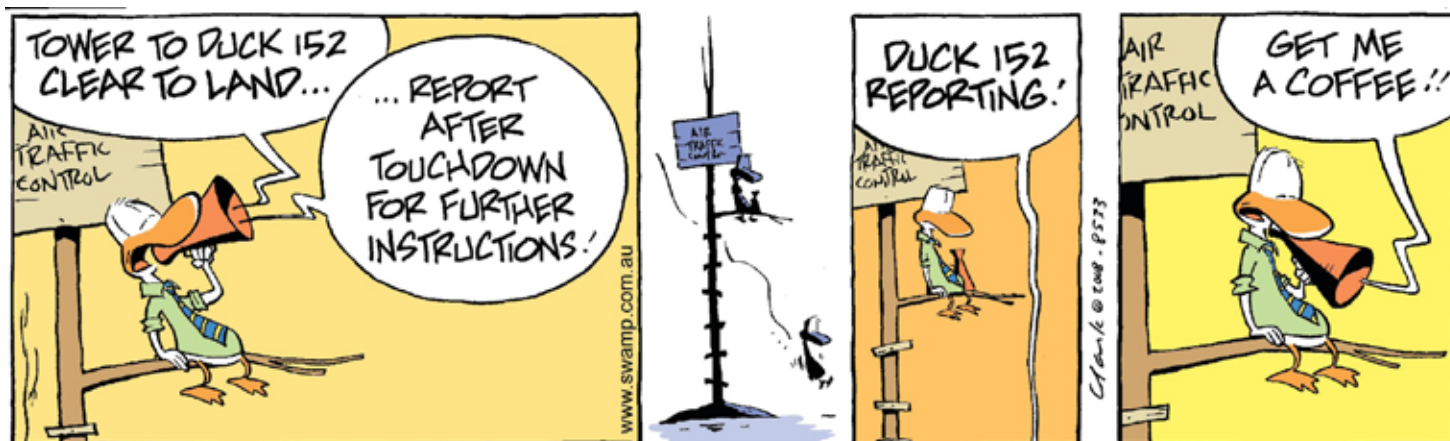
Warmer weather also means more encounters with bees and wasp. A sting can cause local pain and swelling, but some pets can experience a severe allergic reaction, while multiple stings can result in more serious toxicity.

Allergies

Spring can bring an increase in environmental allergens such as pollen and grasses, which can trigger allergies in some pets. Keep an eye out for signs such as persistent scratching, paw licking, redness or ear irritation, and speak to your vet if these symptoms continue. Regular grooming can also help remove pollen and other allergens from your pet's coat after time outdoors.

Grass seeds

Grass seeds can cause significant problems for pets, with seeds able to work their way under the skin and cause pain, infection or more serious damage.



Used with permission of Gary Clark, Swamp Cartoons Cartoon Books available online: swamp.com.au

Community Event Grants Opening October

All Aboard disABILITY Support Services participants can reminisce on a special night at The Tori Awards, thanks to a Surf Coast Shire Council community event grant.

The next round of community event grants will be open during October, with All Aboard Co-Director Kate Marshall encouraging local event organisers to apply.

"Our Council grant enabled us to engage a professional videographer to capture The Tori Awards: a joyful night of red-carpet glamour where our participants are the stars of the show," she said.

"They are involved in planning the event, provide all of the entertainment and take on hosting roles.

"Our participants have been able to watch the footage over and over again and share it with family and friends who were unable to attend on the night."

Community event grants ranging from \$500 to \$3,000 are open for eligible events being held between 1 February and 30 June 2027.

"Council is incredibly supportive of local community events, and if your event aligns with the grant objectives, we

absolutely encourage you to apply," Kate said.

"A grant can make a real difference in helping local organisations deliver meaningful events that bring people together."

Councillor Adrian Schonfelder said that the community event grant recipients helped build a diverse Surf Coast Events calendar.

"It's wonderful to have so many events that increase social connections for various ages and abilities," Cr Schonfelder said.

"A small grant can make a big difference, and it aligns with our aim for communities to feel empowered to meet their own needs and goals.

"This round includes Christmas carols, so we look forward to seeing those applications rolling in for applicants who meet the criteria."

The community event grants open 1 October 2026 and close 31 October 2026.

For details and to apply, visit surfcoastevents.com.au/event-organisers.

Dewing Creek Community Planting Day Invitation - October 9th

The Upper Barwon Landcare Network (UBLN) and Barwon Water invite you to the Dewing Creek tree planting day, on Gulidjan Country on Friday 9th of October, from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm. On the day the community will be planting some of the last of the 86,000 plants, as well as taking a walk on the site and learn about what it takes to establish a carbon project.

Transport - Access to the site will be via buses which will run from Geelong, stopping at Winchelsea, Birregurra, and Barwon Downs. When booking a ticket please indicate which location you would like to be picked up from. Access by

personal car can be prearranged, if you wish to do so please contact the host as they have very limited parking on site.

On the Day - UBLN will provide lunch, so please indicate any dietary needs when booking a ticket. Toilets will be available on site. Please bring wet weather gear, gumboots, gardening gloves, water bottle, hats, and umbrellas.

Booking - Tickets can be booked from here - Dewing Creek Planting Day - October. Learn more about the project here: Dewing Creek catchment restoration | Your Say Barwon Water



Dewing Creek Planting Site - Courtesy Barwon Water

Winchelsea Star

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news@winchelseastar.org.au

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Treasurer: Cathy Cheadle
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Expressions of Interest Volunteer Editor for Winchelsea Star

Due to a retirement.
You will share the role with two others,
working a month at a time - so 4 times a year.
Approx 8 hours per week during that month.

Duties include

- Monitoring the Inbox
- Deciding what material is relevant to local readers and rejecting those that are not
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- Checking that contributions meet rules of grammar and punctuation
- Editing stories for clarity, conciseness and coherence
- Writing headlines
- Interacting with contributors and external sources for news

Please contact editor@winchelseastar.org.au



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By appointment



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Bookings essential

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Please book before attending — spaces are limited

www.aurorapsychology.au

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Zinaida Campion

Ride the Cyclone: A Musical with Heart, Humour, and a Wild Imagination

Here is something for all our local theatre lovers! Ride the Cyclone, Theatre of the Damned's newest production is arriving at the Belmont Performing Arts Centre. It's bold, funny, strange, and unexpectedly moving—exactly the sort of work that reminds us why community theatre is worth championing.

Opening night is Friday 25 September, with six performances until 3 October, and there's already a lively buzz around town. Perhaps it's the premise, which is outrageous in the best possible way. Perhaps it's the cast, a group of young performers who seem to understand instinctively that the heart of this musical lies not in spectacle, but in sincerity. Or perhaps it's simply that this show has something to say—something worth hearing.

The story begins in Uranium City, Saskatchewan, where the St. Cassian High School chamber choir visits a travelling fair. It's the sort of outing every regional choir has made at some point: a bit of fun, a bit of mischief, a chance to feel the world opening up. But fate intervenes. The teenagers board a faulty roller coaster called The Cyclone, and in one terrible instant, their lives are cut short.

What follows is not tragedy, but a kind of surreal, luminous afterlife. The choir awakens in limbo, presided over by The Amazing Karnak—an aging mechanical fortune-teller who has seen too much and is winding down for the last time.

Zinaida Campion is a classical soprano, vocal coach, artist and model raised in Winchelsea. She is an alumna of VOYCE Victorian Opera, a Windfire Vocal Scholar, Co founder of Cecilia's Daughters, Vice President of Geelong Opera, Artistic Director of the Winchelsea Music Season, and founder of Rural Arts Victoria. A keen arts writer, she has a strong background in languages and a love of local history. She is dedicated to working with the local community, and has an all-consuming passion for promoting the arts in rural areas.

Karnak, played by Andrew Lorenzo, announces that before he shuts off forever, he will grant one member of the choir the chance to return to life. One. No more.

And so begins the competition.

Each student steps forward to tell their story. Not the polished version, not the one they would have given in a school assembly, but the real one—the one they might have whispered to a friend at midnight, or never said aloud at all. Their musical numbers are confessions, dreams, jokes, and pleas. They are funny, strange, and sometimes piercingly honest.

Ocean O'Connell Rosenberg, played by Paris Walsh, is the overachiever who has spent her life trying to be indispensable. Noel Gruber, played by Jacob Carr, longs for a tragic French-film existence far removed from his Taco Bell job. Mischa Bachinski brings the fierce bravado of a young man who has loved deeply and lost painfully. Jane Doe, the amnesiac with a voice that seems to come from somewhere beyond the fairground lights, offers one of the most haunting moments in the show.

Theatre of the Damned has approached this production with real heart. You can feel it in the details: the care in the character

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



work, the musical precision, the willingness to lean into the strangeness of the piece without losing its emotional centre. This is the kind of show that regional audiences respond to—not because it is flashy, but because it is honest.

If you've been meaning to book tickets, now is the moment. This is a production that deserves a full house, and I suspect it will get one.

Ciao!

Performances are 25th, 26th September 1st, 2nd and 3rd October all at 7.30pm with the matinee being on the 3rd of October at 2.00pm.

Tickets only \$38.50 from the Trybooking link <https://www.trybooking.com/DHEVA>

Or if you are under 18 only pay your age 17=\$17, 16=\$16, 15=\$15.

But Pay for age only available directly through Theatre of the Damned on 0425786843 or email: theatreofthedamned22@gmail.com



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You may encounter an eastern barred bandicoot, southern brush-tailed rock-wallaby, rufous bettong, eastern Bettong or maybe even an eastern quoll. These species are self-sustaining and co-existing in abundance across the landscape.

You are invited to take a walk with expert guides as Mt Rothwell Sanctuary comes alive after dark.

Friday 25th September 2026
Depart Winchelsea 5:00pm

Cost:
\$58 per person
Children free
Courtesy of Winchelsea Land and River Care.

Contact:
For more information or to RSVP
Stewart **0428 672 054**
Rod **0428 549 318**
(call or text message).

www.odonata.org.au

Swap & Share

— Community Event —

Sunday 4th October ~ 11am - Midday
Join us at the MCN Shed

Come along and meet local Wendy and discuss all things bees and honey

Swap and Share your excess produce or goods
Come along and chat with like minded locals

Got an area of interest or skill to share, please let us know?

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What's on

MONDAY-FRIDAY

WINCHELSEA TOY LIBRARY

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

MONDAY

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Every Monday 9:30 – 11:00am
FREE Winchelsea House 28 Hesse St
5267 2028 reception@winchhouse.org.au

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 House 28 Hesse St 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

THRIVE 50+ HEALTHY AGEING HUB SUPPORT AND INFORMATION DROP IN SESSION

Tuesdays 10am-12pm at Winchelsea Community House



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 House 28 Hesse St 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
Winch 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
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MEL'S DANCE CENTRAL

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Senior Citizens Club,
www.melsdancecentral.com.au

Winchelsea Movie Club

3rd Thursday of the month 7:30 pm
Globe Theatre 17 Willis St Winchelsea
Includes the movie and light supper, tea/coffee and wine

September 17	The Book Thief
October 4	Gifted Hands
October 15	Mr Burton
November 19	My Favourite Cake
December 10	Thelma

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HCC concession:	\$65
5-movie season:	\$40
HCC concession:	\$35
Members can bring two guests a year	\$10

Enquiries
movies@growingwinchelsea.com



CWA WINCHELSEA

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

VICESSES WINCHELSEA

Meeting and training every Wed.
7:30pm, 2996 Princes Hwy.
Come and say hello!
winchelsea@ses.vic.gov.au

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

Thrive 50+ Healthy Ageing Hub Support and Information Drop in Session

Wednesdays 2pm-4pm at 53 Hesse Street
(enter via rear entrance)

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

Thrive 50+ Coffee and Connection

All welcome to meet for a coffee and chat

Location: Cozy Crumb Cafe

- Wednesday 30 September 10am-11am
- Wednesday 7 October 10am-11am
- Wednesday 14 October 10am – 11am
- Wednesday 21 October 10am-11am

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 House, 28 Hesse St 5267 2028

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 S

COMMUNITY FOODBANK

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

PHONICS WITH ROBOT REG

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

CHATTY CAFÉ

10.30am-12.30pm, Winch Shire Hall,
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Gold Coin Donation 5267 2028

WINCHELSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Friday 10am-3pm Hesse St, Winchelsea

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Fridays 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm
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jeanshinnars@gmail.com

GEELONG REGIONAL MOBILE LIBRARY

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

SATURDAY

PARKRUN

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

COMMUNITY DINNER

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

LIONS CLUB IGA BBQs

Starting again first Saturday of
September, 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)
www.winchelseastar.org.au

CROCHET GROUP

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

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass 5pm Sat each week
Harding St, Winchelsea 0404598558

SUNDAY

COMMUNITY MARKET

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

ST THOMAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH

10am each week Barwon Tce
0448 687 588 stthomaswac@gmail.co

UNITING CHURCH

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



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March 28th	August 29th
April 25th	September 26th
May 30th	October 24th
June 27th	November 28th

**6.30PM HALL ON CORNER OF
MERCER & HARDING STREETS**

PRODUCE SWAP TABLE
CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES

PLEASE BRING FOOD TO SHARE
IF YOU ARE ABLE
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MORE INFO: JESS 0495367332

Winchelsea Junior Basketball



Expressions Of Interest

JUNIOR BASKETBALL!

Does your child love basketball, want to learn new skills, build confidence and have FUN?

I'm putting together a Junior Basketball program in Winchelsea through Winchelsea Youth Leisure Drop-In (WYLD) and would love to see how much interest we have!

All abilities welcome

Skills, drills & game play

Teamwork & confidence building

A fun, supportive environment

Come along, have a go and most importantly ...

HAVE A BLAST!

I'm super excited to get this started and create a great opportunity for our local kids to enjoy basketball and develop their skills!

If you're interested, please comment below or send me a message/email to register your interest.

b.hassett@hotmail.com

Please share this post with any local families who may be interested!

LET'S GET OUR JUNIOR BASKETBALL COMMUNITY GOING!



Dementia Action Week 2026

'It's time to talk about dementia'

Dementia Action Week 2026 is from Monday 21 September to Sunday 27 September, which includes World Alzheimer's Day on Monday 21 September.

Dementia is Australia's leading cause of death, but it is a topic that is not discussed openly enough. With close to half a million Australians living with dementia, and this number on the rise, now is the time to talk about dementia.

Call to Action: This Dementia Action Week, Dementia Australia is asking everyone to join a national conversation to increase understanding and reduce stigma that surrounds Australia's leading cause of death.

Everyone has a voice and a role to play, and every conversation will make a difference to people living with dementia, their families and carers.

For more information about how to get involved with Dementia Action Week, visit dementia.org.au/get-involved/dementia-action-week

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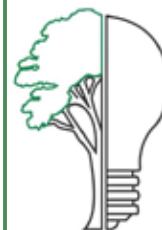
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Winchelsea Community House will be closed from Friday 25th of September to Friday the 2nd of October inclusive.



The Climate Report

Compiled by Judy Cameron

From Geelong Sustainability September Newsletter

You're Invited: Launch for Electric Homes Program 2026-27

With rising energy bills and expenses continuing to put pressure on household budgets, making homes more efficient and switching to cleaner technologies can be a smart investment for the future. After helping more than 750 households make their homes more efficient and affordable, the Electric Homes Program is back for another year!

Come along to find out how the program can help you make your home more comfortable, reduce your energy bills and move away from gas.

Date: Thursday, 8th October

Time: 6:30pm - 8pm

Location: Deakin University Waterfront Campus, Geelong

Through the program, you can explore solutions including:

- Home energy audits
- Draught proofing and insulation
- Heating and cooling split systems
- Hot water heat pumps
- Solar and battery systems
- Induction cooktops
- Electric vehicle chargers
- Water efficiency

YOU MUST BOOK A SPOT: <https://www.geelong sustainability.org.au/product/electric-homes-program-2026-27-launch/>

Doctors for the Environment Australia report "Gas and its overlooked health risks"

This report brings together the latest national and international evidence of the health harms associated with gas across its lifecycle.

DEA Executive Director and GP Dr Kate

Wylie says Australians have been misled for too long by the gas industry's marketing of gas as 'natural', 'clean' and 'safe'.

"Our community deserves to know that this narrative is false. Gas is not clean or safe – it can harm our health at every stage of its lifecycle," Dr Wylie says. "The government cannot continue to ignore the health risks of expanding our reliance on fossil gas."

Gas is mainly methane, a highly potent greenhouse gas that is over 80 times more potent at trapping heat than carbon dioxide over the first 20 years after it reaches the atmosphere. Methane is released throughout the gas supply chain, including extraction, transport and distribution.

Climate change is already harming the health of Australians through more severe heatwaves, bushfires, droughts and storms, worsening air quality, increasing heat-related deaths, while threatening food and water security, changing patterns of infectious disease and placing increasing pressure on Australia's health system, such as GP clinics and emergency departments.

The report also details the direct health risks from gas in our homes and workplaces.

Gas releases harmful pollutants, particularly nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, including cancer-causing chemicals such as benzene and formaldehyde, and fine particles that are small enough to be breathed into the lungs.

In homes and workplaces, fossil gas is associated with respiratory illness, including the development and exacerbation of asthma.

"Australia has acted before to reduce exposure to dangerous pollutants when the evidence showed that the risks were unacceptable. Fossil gas should be no different." Dr Wylie says.

DEA is calling on the Australian Government to:

- Establish a clear timeline for phasing out fossil gas and rule out approving

new gas projects

- Provide targeted support to the community to replace gas appliances and disconnect from the gas network
- Make the gas industry bear the costs of the health and environmental harms of its product.

Australia's hay season is looking promising but farmers are being warned they're going to need every bale with a strong El Nino coming

Feed Central and LocalAg founder Tim Ford said that while the season was looking promising with strong crop prospects, "history shows that supply can fall quickly when seasonal demand increases".

Mr Ford warned there was the potential for a serious feed shortfall like in 2016.

"The big hay belt across northern Victoria, southern New South Wales and into South Australia is having an exceptional season at the moment," Mr Ford said.

However, conditions are considerably drier in southern and central Queensland, where pastures and winter crops are under pressure and hay production is being affected, and it appears that the drought regions are growing and spreading south. "I have been in this game for a long time now and to me this is shaping up like 2016, where there was an oversupply and a big carry over, but by June 2017 stocks were significantly depleted," Mr Ford said.

"Everyone needs to be aware that the long-term forecast is for a very strong El Nino, and that has been a very consistent forecast for some time. Many regions are already experiencing it.

History of Winchelsea

Butchers in Winchelsea

In 1864, the township of Winchelsea was burgeoning. The stone bridge over the Barwon had yet to be built, and the township consisted of two churches, a Sunday School, Vicarage, Police Station, forty-seven dwellings, Barwon Hotel, two general stores, a bakery, a bootmaker, two blacksmiths, and George Anderson's Butcher. In a time before refrigeration or motor vehicle transport, food needed to be local to be fresh, and supply chains needed to be short. Every colonial town like Winchelsea had its own butcher to slaughter, process and serve local produce from the surrounding farms directly to the tables of the local community.

McCallum's Butcher originally opened at 36 Main Street Winchelsea, the site is now occupied by the Winchelsea Veterinary Clinic. Parts of the original building and stables still exist at the rear of the property, but it has been upgraded and build upon as needs required throughout the century.



McCallum's butcher shop in the 1800's. Image Credit: Winchelsea and District Historical Society.

By 1875 Peter McCallum's butcher shop was open in Palmer St. Winchelsea and later ran by Aubrey McCallum.



Peter McCallum's butcher shop Palmer St. Winchelsea. Image Credit: Winchelsea and District Historical Society.

By the early 20th Century butchers in Winchelsea made deliveries of fresh meat by horse drawn carriage.



Austin airstrip camp 10/9/13 Image Credit: Winchelsea and District Historical Society.

Throughout its long history, the town of Winchelsea has seen many butchers serve their local community, including Challis, Gosney, Karl Schroeter, and of course Maguire's Butcher Shop, the primary local butcher located at 19 Main St, Winchelsea. They offer a selection of fresh meat, poultry, smallgoods, and seafood and have been a family business in the local area for generations.



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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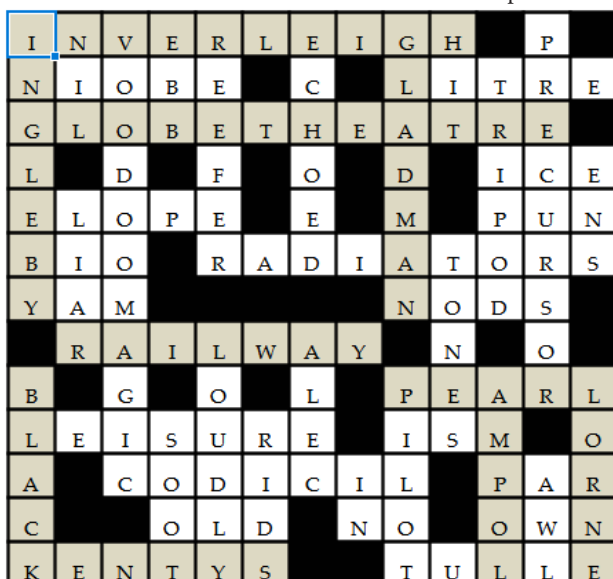
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The Ripple Effect

Madame Butterfly

How a Chamber could strengthen Winchelsea's growing business momentum

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

As Winchelsea grows, the conversation about a local Chamber of Commerce and Industry is becoming more than an idea — it's becoming a practical possibility. With business activity increasing, new enterprises emerging, and support services like the Small Business Bus, Co Working Space, and expanded training opportunities taking root, the question is no longer "Do we need a chamber?" but "What would a chamber actually look like — and what happens if we don't create one?"

A Winchelsea Chamber wouldn't need to be large or complicated. It would need to be focused, representative and connected — something built for Winchelsea, not a copy and paste of a big city model.

What a Chamber Could Be

A chamber could begin with a small committee of local business owners, professionals and industry operators — people who understand the pressures of trading in a growing town. This group would set priorities, represent members, and act as the voice of business in discussions with council, government and regional bodies.

Its role would be simple and powerful:

- Advocate for commercial and industrial land
- Represent business needs in planning and zoning
- Support relocation and expansion
- Strengthen connections with state and federal programs
- Provide lobbying power that individual businesses cannot achieve alone

It would complement — not replace — the community building role of Growing Winchelsea, which focuses on conversation, connection and township identity.

What Happens If We Don't Create One

If Winchelsea chooses not to establish a chamber, the town will continue to grow — but without a coordinated business voice. That means:

- Commercial and industrial land decisions may be made without business input.
- Relocation pressures will remain scattered and unresolved.
- Zoning constraints may continue to block expansion.
- Opportunities for investment could bypass Winchelsea simply because no one is advocating for them.

- Government programs may come and go without being fully utilised, because there is no central body to connect businesses to them.
- Momentum from the Small Business Bus, Co Working Space and training initiatives may stall, lacking the structure to turn activity into long term economic growth.

Most importantly, without a chamber, Winchelsea will enter the next decade — and the new Structure Plan — without lobbying power. And in a town projected to reach 18,000 residents by 2050, that absence will be felt.

The Choice Ahead

A chamber is not about creating bureaucracy. It is about creating influence.

It is about ensuring that as Winchelsea grows, business needs are not only heard but acted upon — shaping a future where economic development is planned, supported and aligned with the town's long term direction.

We've started the ripple — whether it leads to change, or disappears, is now up to us. And if you'd like your thoughts to be part of that ripple, a Letter to the Editor addressed to Madam Butterfly is the place to start.

Requirement To Prevent Poultry Contact With Wild Birds Extended

As H5 bird flu continues to spread among wild birds along much of Victoria's coastline, the requirement

for targeted biosecurity measures to be implemented in southern parts of the state have been extended

for another 28 days from 19 September 2026.

Under the requirement, those who own or are in control of 50 or more poultry in southern Local

Government areas, including metropolitan Melbourne, must continue to confine their birds in a manner

to prevent contact with wild birds, their droppings and any environments accessed by wild birds.

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Psalm 30

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**A Psalm. A Song for the
Dedication of the Temple.
By David.**

30 I will extol you, Yahweh, for you have raised me up,

and have not made my foes to rejoice over me.

2 Yahweh my God, I cried to you,
and you have healed me.

3 Yahweh, you have brought up my soul from Sheol.[a]

You have kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.

4 Sing praise to Yahweh, you saints of his.
Give thanks to his holy name.

5 For his anger is but for a moment.
His favour is for a lifetime.

Weeping may stay for the night,
but joy comes in the morning.

6 As for me, I said in my prosperity,
"I shall never be moved."

7 You, Yahweh, when you favoured me,
made my mountain stand strong;
but when you hid your face, I was troubled.

8 I cried to you, Yahweh.
I made supplication to the Lord:

9 "What profit is there in my destruction, if I go down to the pit?

Shall the dust praise you?

Shall it declare your truth?

10 Hear, Yahweh, and have mercy on me.
Yahweh, be my helper."

11 You have turned my mourning into dancing for me.

You have removed my sackcloth, and clothed me with gladness,

12 to the end that my heart may sing praise to you, and not be silent.

Yahweh my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

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**Thought of
the Week**

"Only happy people can learn.

Only happy people can teach.

Our religion should put a sparkle

in our eyes and a tone in our voice,

and a spring in our step

that bears witness of our faith

and confidence in the goodness of God."

Have a Blessed week.

**John Bader
(Christian Pastoral Carer)**

Winchelsea Cricket Club

Hopkins St, Winchelsea, winchelseacricketclub1858@outlook.com

Cricket News

by Heather Edwards

Junior Blasters Is Back at Winchelsea Cricket Club!

Looking for a fun, active way to introduce your little one to cricket?

Winchelsea Cricket Club's Junior Blasters program is back for another season, giving kids aged 4 and over the chance to discover cricket in a fun, relaxed and welcoming environment.

Starting Thursday, 22 October, Junior Blasters will run from 4.45pm to 5.30pm, with sessions designed to keep kids moving, learning and, most importantly, having fun!

NO CRICKET EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

Whether your child has never picked up a cricket bat before or already thinks they're the next Australian cricket star, everyone is welcome. Junior Blasters uses fun, game-based activities to introduce children to the fundamentals of cricket, including batting, bowling, throwing and catching, while helping them develop confidence and teamwork skills.

It's not just about learning cricket, either. Junior Blasters is a great opportunity for kids to make new friends, get active, build confidence and experience being part of a team in a friendly and supportive club environment.

The program is open to boys and girls aged 4+, making it the perfect first step into cricket before progressing into junior competition as they get older.

- Starting Thursday, 22 October
- 4.45pm – 5.30pm
- Winchelsea Cricket Club
- Ages 4+

So, if you've got a little one who loves being active, wants to give cricket a go or simply wants to come along and have some fun, we'd love to see them at Winchelsea Cricket Club!

Come along, have a go, make some friends and start your cricket journey with us.

Registrations are now open:
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Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafnc@hotmail.com

Blues News

Janet Fletcher

Preliminary Final: Seniors.

Werribee Centrals Vs Winchelsea Blues:

**Werribee Centrals 12.10.82 defeated
Winchelsea Blues 7.13.55**

The Winchelsea Blues quest for Premiership Honours ended last Saturday afternoon in front of a huge supportive crowd of the Navy Blue.

The Blues were missing Fin Parish (broken thumb) and Ryan Williams who has been an almighty addition to the Winchelsea Blues playing list.

Nothing in it up until half time – a low scoring affair made difficult for both sides with the swirling strong windy conditions.

The Blues looked to be making real headway late in the 2nd quarter with 8 points the difference – Werribee's way and there was a full 2 quarters of football to be played.

Halfway through the third quarter the Winchelsea Blues had unfortunately suffered some significant Injuries (going almost the entire season without any real injuries of significance) Tom Rouget has had a confirmed broken jaw ... there is a pending report before the GDFNL.

Our back man Harry Nagle was to have scans to confirm an ACL and to add to the Blue's pain there was an Achilles injury to gun forward Jordan Gould. All at the W.F.N.C. wish these players a speedy and successful recovery.

This was a significant load for the remaining Blues out on the playing field with no rotation left to speak of and was made reference to at the ¾ time address.

The Winchelsea Blues could not have fought harder under the circumstances in what and the way it was presented to them, still pushing hard at the opposition right up to the final siren. It's a pity the final score doesn't reflect the endeavour shown by the remaining

playing group left on the field.

The Winchelsea Blues can hold their heads high in my opinion (Janet Fletcher) and can reflect on what has been an extraordinary season of building at both Reserve and Senior levels and celebration of the Club's 150th year Anniversary.

To have accomplished to be on top of the Morris Cup GDFNL Cup home and away games is no mean feat when the Winchelsea Blues have not played in a finals series for many years.

GOALS: Cameron Primmer 3, Rory Baulch 2, Jordan Gould 1, Jordan Huff 1.

BEST: Rory Baulch, Jack Terill, Caleb Brown, Cassidy Parish, Adam Walsh, Jack Sampi.

THE BLUE'S BISTRO:

The Blue's Bistro will continue to the end of September, our last Thursday will be the 24th



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Victoria's Duck Abundance Survey About To Begin

The Game Management Authority (GMA) will begin its annual Victorian game duck abundance survey on Monday, 5 October 2026.

The survey will be conducted by wildlife biologists who will record the presence, species and number of game ducks at more than 860 waterbodies across Victoria, including wetlands, farm dams, sewerage treatment plants, streams and rivers. Most sites will be surveyed by helicopter. Ground counts will be used where the helicopter is unable to operate.

Satellite imaging will be used to determine how much water is in game duck habitats in Victoria, which, together with the survey data, will be used to estimate the total abundance of each game duck species in the state.

The abundance estimate is a key input to support Adaptive Harvest Management for setting sustainable duck hunting arrangements each year.

GMA Research Principal, Dr Jason Flesch, said regularly collecting data is critical to understanding what drives the abundance and productivity of game duck populations.

"Results from this survey will help to accurately estimate total game duck abundance, based on the environmental conditions at the time," Dr Flesch said.

The survey will also provide an important surveillance tool to assist in detecting the spread of avian influenza. Detections of any mass mortality of waterbirds or other birds will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

The 2026 survey is scheduled to take place from Monday, 5 October until Thursday, 22 October, inclusive. The flight schedule may change from day to day or be extended depending on weather conditions or other factors. Residents in surveyed areas may see a helicopter flying at low levels for a short time and for no longer than is necessary. Disturbance to livestock will be minimised or avoided. The safety of people and livestock is a priority.

The results of the survey will be published on the GMA website in 2027.

For more information, including a generalised map of the proposed flight path, visit: gma.vic.gov.au/research/duck-research



Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafnc@hotmail.com



More Blue's News including Vote Count results

Janet Fletcher

It was an extraordinary week for the Winchelsea Blues.

Grand Final hopes were building for the Club's A Grade Netball team, while still having the disappointment of the Reserves & Senior side out of the Finals race, preparations had been in full swing for the Club to have the Grand Final Canteen in what was the culmination of the Geelong and District Football & Netball Season for 2026 & the Catering team had catered for Ken McDonald's Memorial Service on the 11th September. The Club's Vote Count was held on the 13th.

Commiserations to our A Grade side after narrowly being beaten by East Geelong.

East Geelong are also Premiers of the Senior Football competition winning by a point, a goal being kicked just before the final siren to give them the victory over Werribee Centrals.

The player from Centrals who was reported for breaking Blues player Thomas Rouget's jaw in the previous week's final did not take part due to his suspension of 3 weeks.

The Grand Final crowd was reportedly the largest on record or going very close to it, with the weather turning it on for the day with glorious sunshine and very little wind.

The Winchelsea Blues did an amazing job with the effort from its volunteers, players & coaches and the odd supporter who jumped on board as well to cope with the massive crowd on the day,

42 slabs of water were drunk and 18 litres of tomato sauce were consumed on the day to give you an indication and there was the odd power outage as well to cope with but the W.F.N.C. did very well and a huge thank you to all those who assisted in any large or small way.

The Vote Count: Sunday 13th September.

FOOTBALL

Senior Football:

1st Fin Parish 140 votes
2nd Indi Parish 88 votes
3rd position Adam Walsh with 63 votes.

Reserves:

1st Jackson Smith 100 votes
2nd Matthew Gilesie 62 votes
3rd position Zach Ross with 61 votes.

NETBALL.

A Grade

1st Maddison McKiernan 39 votes
2nd Olivia Barber 36 votes
3rd Connie Lake 34 votes.

B Grade

1st Rose Hymus 55 votes
2nd Tessa Peters 47 votes
3rd Ebony Berg 32 votes.

C Grade

1st Emma Maclean 54 votes
2nd Aysho Nikceovich 43 votes
3rd Ella Clayton 42 votes

D Grade

1st Claire Harrison 46 votes
Equal 2nd Jasmine Anderson 32 votes and Kayla Smith also 32 votes

E Grade

1st Abbie Walker 49 votes
2nd Lauren McMillian 29 votes
3rd Kiara Simpson 22 votes

Under 19's

1st Tallulah Dunn 51 votes
2nd Monet Drew 40 votes
3rd Reani Mawson 24 votes.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS AND TO ALL THOSE WHO PLAY IN AND FOR THE NAVY BLUES FOR THEIR EFFORT AND LOYALTY TO THE CLUB!!

The Blue's Bistro

Our last Thursday will be the 24th, and then the cricket club take over

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE AS OUR 2026 SEASON COMES TO A CLOSE.

GO BLUES!!




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Seeking Descendants & Families of Local Servicemen : Waurn Ponds Memorial Reserve

The Waurn Ponds Memorial Reserve Committee are currently seeking descendants of the local WW1 servicemen to be included in a book.

Some of the servicemen listed on our plaque have been involved in the Winchelsea community.

The Waurn Ponds Memorial Reserve Committee is currently undertaking a historical project with a historian to research and honour the servicemen listed on our local Memorial Reserve Plaque.

- Delay , Cecil
- Frewin, Fred
- Glew, Clarence
- Glew, William
- Harrison, Arthur
- Harrison, Reginald
- Henderson, Harold
- Hunt, Richard
- Hunt, "Cliff" Lawrence Robert
- Johnson, Charles
- Nicholson, Leonard
- Smith, Les
- Smith, Percy

If you are a family member, have photos, stories, or information about any of these individuals, please get in touch with us. Your contributions will help us preserve their legacy for the local community and be part of a book.

Contact: Tom Welsh 0423 641 445 or tomwelsh445@gmail.com



parkrun 132



Saturday 19 September 2026

Trebeck Reserve, Winchelsea
parkrun.com.au/trebeckreserve

Thirty two participants completed the course through Trebeck reserve this week in warm sunny conditions. We had one visitor from Horsham.

Two participants ran a personal best time for Trebeck Reserve. Congratulations to James Hurren and Maddy O'Callaghan.

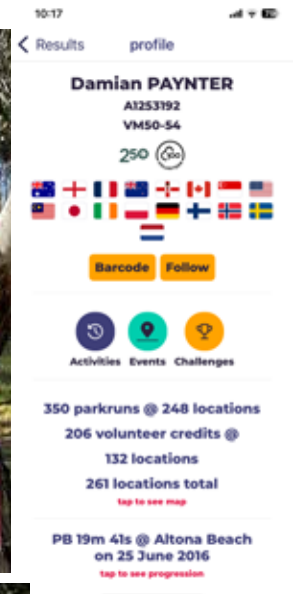
Damien Paynter ran his 350th parkrun.

Eleven volunteers made this event possible. Thanks to Kate McInnes, Neil McInnes, Kris Czerkiewicz, Brian Vagg, Don Smith, Judy Cameron, Ann Jones, Jett Butler, Jeff Butler, Maureen Gunson, and Murray Bennett. This was Jett's first time volunteering.

Full details of this week's results can be found at trebeckreserveparkrun.com.au/results or check out our Facebook page for our start video and 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 parkrun events worldwide.

To volunteer please send an email to trebeckreserve@parkrun.



Moriac Community Network (MCN) News



Winchelsea
Star

ISSN 2202-6851



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What's On at the MCN Shed?

Revised 23/08/26

August - October 2026

MCN membership \$50 per annum – due at Feb AGM. All welcome to join! Contact MCN email for a membership application form: moriaccommunitynetwork@gmail.com or come along to an event at the shed as per below! 530 Cape Otway Road Moriac

☺ Other events – TBC – keep an eye on FB, email and MCN website www.mcnorg.weebly.com

General Shed Events

- Men's Shed Open day – **Sat 24th October 9-12**. All welcome! (A SCS Positive Aging event)
- History group Afternoon Tea chat and memorabilia display - **Sunday October 11th** Modewarre Memorial Hall, 2-4pm, free event, for catering RSVP to Lyn 0419 500 353 (A SCS Positive Aging event)
- Defibrillator training – **Th Oct 22nd 11-12.30** light lunch included, free event, for catering RSVP to Lyn 0419 500 353 (A SCS Positive Aging event)
- Art group display – At Meesen's 'Victorian Open Garden' 80 Larcombes Rd, Paraparap 10am -4.30pm **Sat Oct 31st and Sun Nov 1st**

Men's Shed

Open every Wednesday and Saturday – 9am-Midday

Kindling and Wood Shavings – for sale

Different activities available or just come for a cuppa and chat

Contact Kelvin 0414 484 673

Women's Shed

Art Class (limited spaces) Friday's – 10 am-Midday

Contact Jeanette 0408 466 122

BYO Craft and Chat 3rd Thursday of the month 7.30 pm

Aug 20th Sept 17th Oct 15th - contact Kim 0414 482 893

Women's Woodwork Wednesday's 1-3pm

Contact Evan 0434 484 440

Sustainability Group

1st Sunday of the month 11am-12pm

Sept 6th Oct 4th

All welcome to come along to share, swap and learn!

Contact Jenny 0403 952 528

****NEW – battery and small e-waste recycling bins – accessible at all times the shed is open****

Book Club

1st Wednesday of the month – 7.30pm

Aug 5th Sept 2nd Oct 7th

Contact Michaela 0418 370 469

MCN monthly general meeting

4th Wednesday of the month (Feb-Nov)

7.30pm – Everyone welcome – Aug 26th Sept 23rd Oct 28th

Contact Kim 0414 482 893

