

Congratulations **Pat Crosbie OAM** **For Services to Winchelsea**



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Letters to the Editor

I am a great fan of the "Winchelsea Star" and the fact that the current Team have not only managed to keep it going but have elevated the standard to where it is now, is a credit to all of you volunteering your time ! **Janet Fletcher**

I have been reading this paper for a few weeks now and am very impressed with how it comes together, well done everyone I'm sure the locals just love you. **Maureen L.**

From the Editor

As winter settles in, there seems to be plenty happening around Winchelsea. A bit of rain, a bit of sunshine and, as always, plenty of conversation around town. That's one of the things we enjoy most about putting the Star together each week – the stories, the achievements and the little snippets of community life that keep us all connected.

A fitting place to begin this week is with Pat Crosbie, who has just received an OAM. Pat has quietly given so much to our community over many years and it's wonderful to see her recognised. Congratulations, Pat, on a truly deserved honour.

I also loved reading about the Barwon River Community Exchange. What a wonderful idea! We could all benefit from this. It's encouraging to see practical ideas that strengthen our communities and make life a little easier for everyone.

For those who enjoy local history and the arts, there's a recommendation for *Robert Drummond: Mental Traffic*, David Rastas' biography of the artist and poet. ArtsRural Victoria has given it the thumbs up as an insight into a remarkable creative life.

The Guides certainly look like they were having fun learning some cooking skills. Bananas, chocolate and toasted marshmallows – what's not to like? It's wonderful to see young people learning new skills while enjoying themselves.

If you're looking for something to warm you up, don't miss Alice's recipe for Crumbed Pumpkin Wedges with Soured Cream. It looks like the perfect winter meal.

Sport has plenty to celebrate this week. Congratulations to our footballers on an excellent Round 12 performance, with the Seniors recording a win. It was also a touching tribute to see both teams wearing black armbands in honour of longtime club stalwart Shirley Leak.

As always, thank you, Janet, for your regular report keeping everyone so well informed. And while you're reading the sports pages, don't forget to check out this week's Bisto menu. It certainly looks tempting.

Finally, thank you to Greg for a very thoughtful Crossword that encourages us to stop and think just that little bit more.

As always, thank you for your stories, your photographs and your ongoing support of the Winchelsea Star. Every contribution, every advertisement and every subscription helps keep our community newspaper strong. We couldn't do it without you.

Stay warm, enjoy this week's edition, and thank you for supporting the Winchelsea Star.



Pat Crosbie awarded an Order of Australia

A well-deserved tribute

Compiled by Judy Cameron

Here are some comments from people who knew her:

Cathy Cheadle:

"I first met Pat when I was working at Lifeline in Geelong. Over many years, she and her friends raised money to donate to Lifeline in order to support their telephone crisis line. One of their main fundraising activities was a Melbourne Cup event, two of which I attended. They were fabulous events with fashion parades, raffles and much more. One time they made use of a marquee that had been used for a family wedding, and I was very impressed to learn that the stunning flower arrangements were done by Pat herself. I met her again in the Winchelsea Rural Fire Brigade, when it was still operating. I believe she has been involved in many other worthwhile causes in Winchelsea, so the award is very well deserved."

Robert Cameron:

"I met Pat Crosbie in 1978 when I went to work for her at the property "Turnberry" west of Winchelsea. I had heard stories of the Wilson family from the larger neighbouring property of "Murdeduke" where Pat was raised. She was nothing like I had expected.

Quirky, fun and somewhat chaotic, but kind and generous and for a nervous young man trying to find my place in the world, this was very comforting. The employer-employee relationship quickly became a friendship which lasts today. In amongst the pressure of running her own affairs, Pat, like her brother Bruce Wilson always had a sense of community and helping others. To see her recognised in this way is no surprise to me and knowing her as I do, I sense it will inspire her to do more rather than rest on her laurels.

Patricia Janet Crosbie

**Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the General Division
For service to the community of Winchelsea.**



Photo Credit Susan Swaney

Continued next page

Barwon Valley Tree Group

- Former President.
- Founder.

Birregurra Garden Group

- Former President.
- Former Committee Member.
- Former Coordinator, Field Trips.
- Member, since mid-1970s.

Barwon Park Mansion Promoters

- Member, Advisory Group, since 1990.
- Former Catering Organiser.
- Former Volunteer Gardener.
- Founder.
- Honorary Member, 2022.

Hospital Auxiliary Opportunity Shop, Winchelsea

- President, since 2023.
- Volunteer, current.

Lifeline Geelong and South West Victoria

- Fundraiser, Annual Melbourne Cup Lunch, since 1996.
- Former Fundraiser, Annual Lifeline Golf Day.
- Volunteer, current.

Vision Australia (formerly Worrell Aged Blind)

- Fundraiser, since 1990s.
- Founding Member.

Girl Guides Victoria

- Former District Commissioner.
- Former Guides Leader, Winchelsea Girl Guides.

Community

- Contributor, Open Gardens Victoria, current.
- Member, Upper Barwon Landcare Network, current.
- Member, Geelong Field Naturalists Club, current.
- Member, Winchelsea Land and Rivercare Group, current.
- Member, Winchelsea Fire Brigade, Country Fire Authority, since c.1980s.
- Member, Birregurra Walking Group, current.
- Fundraiser, Birregurra Golf Day, since 1990s.
- Voluntary Advisor and Mentor, Healing and Hope, current.
- Former Donor, Costume Collection, National Trust of Victoria.

Professional

- Former Cattle Farmer.

Honours list

- The King's Birthday 2026 Honours List

Awards and Recognition include:

- 40 Year Service Award, Winchelsea Fire Brigade, Country Fire Authority, 2025.
- Honorary Lifetime Member, Barwon Park Mansion, National Trust of Victoria, 2021.



In addition to the official citation Pat was also involved in two other organisations as a board member;

- Grassland Society of Southern Australia Inc (GSSA)
- Host Farms Australia. Whilst this is a very impressive official citation it doesn't address Pat's or Pattie's character. Obviously she has been the backbone of so many local, state and federal organisations, but her enthusiasm and good nature always shines and encourages all those around her to be part of whatever is on offer.

Dr Susan Swaney:

I personally first met Pat in 1984 when my husband and I moved to the district.

Pat was a farmer long before "Women in Agriculture" was a celebrated thing, always an innovator she contacted my husband Ian in the Agriculture Department and I was soon introduced to her too. As a new couple to the district Pat was quick to invite us to someone else's dinner party. Although a little surprised by the invitation to someone else's dinner party we were quickly persuaded to accept and did so giving the poor host only a few hours notice. Quickly Pat incorporated us into her group of friends, and they remain a strong friendship circle to this day.

Despite having no land of our own at the time Pat quickly signed us up for the Barwon Valley Farm Trees Group which extended our friendships and helped me further develop my strong love of trees. This was well before Landcare came on the scene and was a fantastic prequel to that.

Pat continues to welcome new people to the district and to help them make new friends and new interests. Her infectious enthusiasm and humour has ensured that people want to be part of what she is involved in. Although she keeps her organisational skills well hidden she manages to find time to volunteer in so many ways on top of the constant demands any farm requires.

I have had the privilege to travel with Pat and her love of nature, birds, art, music, travel and new cultures has made it a brilliant experience always filled with interesting people and events.

Congratulations Pattie a most well deserved honour.

Jenny Mathison:

"Somewhere around 1973ish, the brick building known as the old Library (opposite Café La Hoot) was a hive of activity. Pat Crosbie, was one of four local mums (with Pam Coulson, Carol Stanesby and Jenny Mathison) who organized the opening of a craft shop known as Winchcraft. Goods were locally made and sold on commission. Yvonne Orchard stepped in to babysit, certainly, helping with the Mathison babies. Like many busy people, the craft shop closed after all mums became involved in kinder, school and other community activities."

Lyn and Pete Redding:

"Pat was an enthusiastic and active member of the Winchelsea Refugee Support Group (operated mid 2015 – mid 2018) formed to provide financial, physical and social support to a group of unaccompanied minors who had arrived by boat from overseas and were living in assisted accommodation and attending secondary school in the Belmont area.

Pat joined in outings and activities with the group, including hosting them on her property on a number of occasions, introducing them to farming life in the Winchelsea area."

Yvonne Orchard:

"In 1971 Pat commenced as a leader at Winchelsea Guides. Pat and I trained together and planned exciting programs for the girls. Pat was with us as a Unit leader for 4 years, then became our District Commissioner, probably till 1977. We both had small babies while we led the girls, and they sometimes went with us on hikes etc. One memorable experience occurred out at Bambra when Pat tied Andrew on her back and hid in the bushes. The guide's aim was to find her, however, Pat noticed Andrew becoming restless and found he had a leech on his ear which she promptly removed, but she then had to cope with the copious amounts of blood coming from the bite, our cloth nappies came in very handy. Another incident I remember, was when we were going to a Guider's meeting at Inverleigh all dressed up in our uniforms, when Pat noticed a sheep caste down in the paddock, so she had to stop and try and get it to stand on its feet, as it was heavy with wool and wet as well, and couldn't get up. A typical farmer caring for animals. Pat was a bit smelly and soiled, but we tried to clean her up as best we could, with a bit of perfume etc before we got to the meeting. Pat was a strict, but fun loving leader and tried to get the best from the girls."



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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.

Vegetable of the Month



RECIPE

Crumbed Pumpkin Wedges with Soured Cream

I cooked this recipe for the first time a few weeks ago and it's worth a try. As simply as slicing up your pumpkin or butternut squash, adding a breadcrumb crust and then oven roasting it. Enjoy!

INGREDIENTS

700g pumpkin (skin on)
50g Parmesan, grated
20g dried white breadcrumbs
6 tsp finely chopped parsley
2½ tsp finely chopped thyme
grated zest of 2 large lemons
2 garlic cloves, crushed
60ml olive oil
120g soured cream
1 tsp chopped dill salt and white pepper

METHOD

- Preheat the oven to 190°C/Gas Mark 5. Cut the pumpkin into 1cm thick slices and lay them flat, cut-side down, on a baking sheet that has been lined with greaseproof paper.
- To make the crust, mix together in a small bowl the Parmesan, breadcrumbs, parsley, thyme, half the lemon zest, the garlic, a tiny amount of salt (remember, the Parmesan is salty) and some pepper.
- Brush the pumpkin generously with olive oil and sprinkle with the crust mix, making sure the slices are covered with a few millimetres of coating. Gently pat the mix down a little.
- Place the tin in the oven and roast for about 30 minutes, or until the pumpkin is tender: stick a little knife in one wedge to make sure it has softened and is cooked through. If the topping starts to darken too much during cooking, cover loosely with foil.
- Mix the soured cream with the dill and some salt and pepper.
- Serve the wedges warm, sprinkled with the remaining lemon zest, with the soured cream on the side.





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Barwon River Community Exchange

Cathy Cheadle

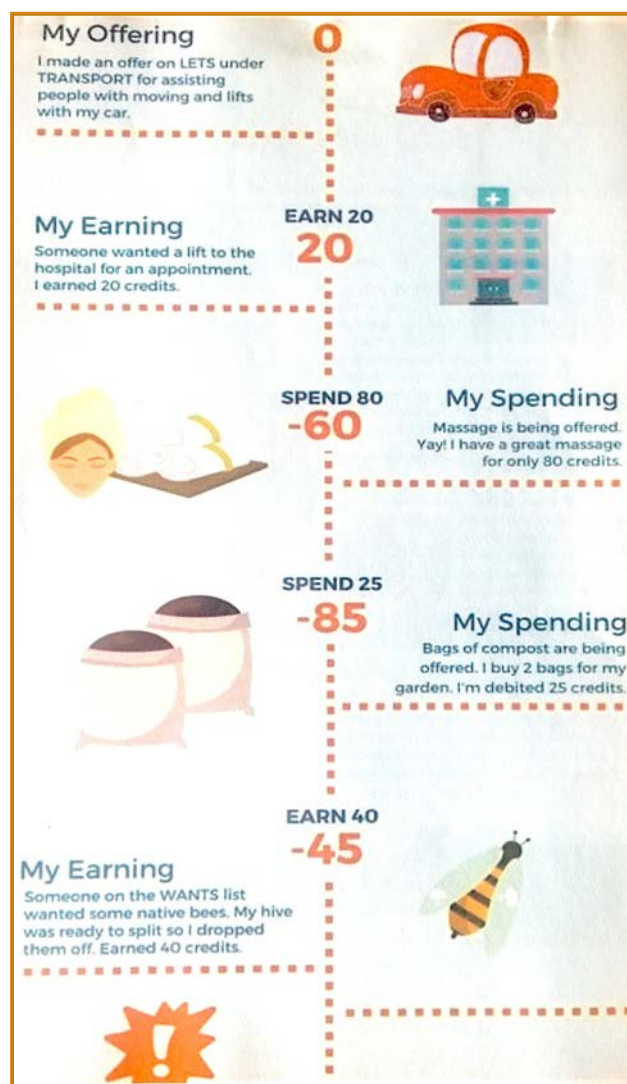
I look outside my window at the birds, kangaroos, rabbits and hares. They manage to live their lives without money. Nature supplies their food and shelter for free. Our indigenous people lived like that before the white fellers arrived. Yet our 'civilised' society means that if you have no money, you may die from starvation or exposure. The rich get richer while the poor get poorer.

We need an alternative. Family and friends help each other out and don't expect money in return. An extension of that concept is a community exchange, and we have one right here in Winchelsea: Barwon River Community Exchange.

A group of people in the local community get together and exchange goods and services with each other. In order to keep a record of what gets exchanged, numbers are recorded in a database. To make things easy, most people imagine how much they would charge in dollars, and charge that amount in tokens instead. Say someone mows my lawn and asks for 30 tokens. My balance goes down and their balance goes up. People's balances go up and down constantly, if the system is working as it should. The numbers don't really matter, the focus is rather on people helping each other out and sharing goods they no longer want or things that they have made.

Yesterday, I had a Hawaiian massage for an hour and a half. It was wonderful. I paid \$20 and the rest was in tokens. Sometimes people ask for cash as well as tokens, for example, if you give someone a lift, you may ask to be reimbursed in cash for your fuel. At our gathering last month, I went home with an electrical muscle/nerve stimulator and some soap nuts. Someone took a digital clock, and produce, books, and greeting cards were also exchanged.

Our next gathering will be on Saturday 18th July at the Senior Citizens building in Harding Street. Feel free to drop in between 12 and 2.30pm to check us out.



Winchelsea Community Market

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Victorian Government

Prepare for the upcoming surge in seasonal respiratory illnesses. Public health experts warn that lower case numbers earlier in the season means Victoria will see a late winter spike.

It's not too late to get a flu or COVID-19 vaccination to protect yourself and your loved ones, and to reduce the severity of symptoms.

Urgent Care Clinics

Open late seven days a week, Victoria's 38 Urgent Care Clinics also offer care for free, without a Medicare card.

Staffed by GPs and nurses, they treat a range of cases such as sprains, broken bones, cuts, and mild infections.

Chemist Care Now

As well as vaccinations, Victorians can also access care at one of 900 pharmacies participating in the Chemist Care Now program.

It helps people avoid a trip to the GP for conditions like uncomplicated UTIs or musculoskeletal pain, as well as a prescription for the oral contraceptive pill.

Since launching, highly trained pharmacists across the state have delivered almost 100,000 services, the majority to women.

Virtual Emergency Department

The Virtual Emergency Department connects Victorians with emergency doctors and nurses via video call, 24/7.

This free service provides fast and convenient access to advice from clinicians without any need to leave home.

Since launching in 2020, the Virtual ED has delivered more than 900,000 consultations.

In the past year, around 83 per cent of patients who used the service avoided an unnecessary trip to hospital.

Nurse-on-call

Nurse-on-call also offers 24/7 care, with registered nurses providing immediate, expert advice.

Call Triple Zero in emergencies, but non-urgent cases may be directed to alternative care options.

Information on Victoria's urgent care services and immunisations can be found at betterhealth.vic.gov.au.

Sam Longmore completes 441km challenge for rural mental health

Rural Aid

Disability advocate and adaptive athlete Sam Longmore has completed an incredible 441-kilometre wheelchair journey across regional New South Wales, raising more than \$175,000 for rural mental health.

Sam rolled into Yass on Saturday after eight days on the road as part of The Big Wheel: Push for a Purpose, which began in Corowa on June 27. Along the way she travelled through more than 20 communities, including Albury, Wagga Wagga, Junee, Cootamundra, Harden and Binalong.



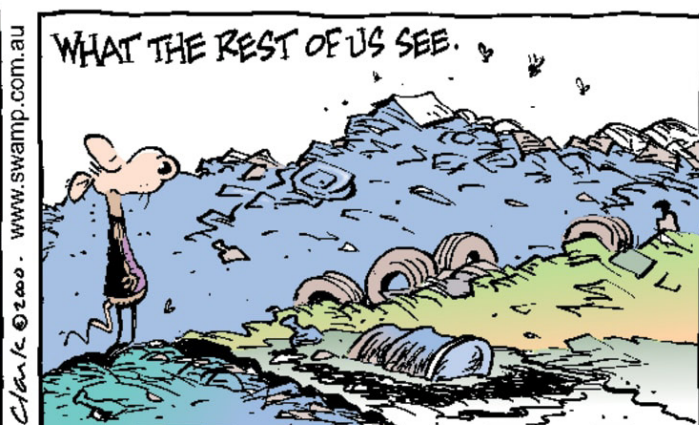
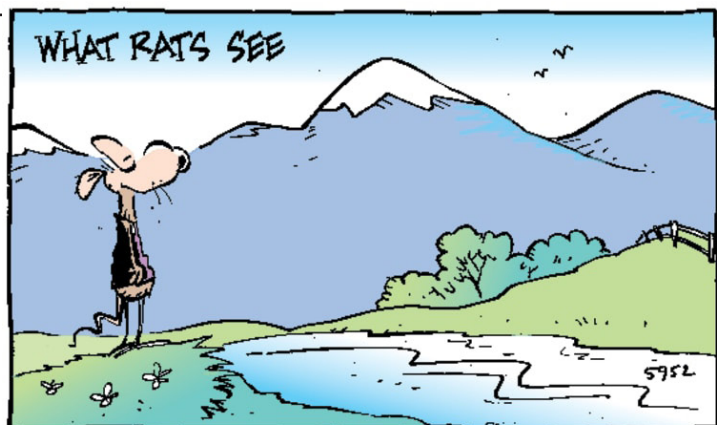
Sam Longmore (centre)
with Sharni Minett and Ian Larnach from Rural Aid

The money raised will support the work of Rural Aid and Riverina Bluebell, funding mental health outreach, counselling for farming families, emergency relief during drought, fire and flood, and community wellbeing programs across rural Australia.

Sam said she took on the challenge to encourage people to talk about mental health and remind them that even small acts of kindness can make a difference.

The challenge not only raised valuable funds but also started important conversations about mental health in regional communities.

Although the kilometres are now behind her, the impact of The Big Wheel will continue, with donations helping strengthen mental health support and resilience in rural communities across Australia.



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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

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cnr Barwon Tce & Hopkins St, Winchelsea
Danni Menzies 0432019944
winchelseaplaygroup@gmail.com
Facebook - Winchelsea Playgroup 2019
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please limit to no larger than A4. Displayed
for a month, other than business cards.
Thank you.



Winchelsea Star COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

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

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY OP-SHOP

10 Willis Street, Winchelsea

TOO COLD OUTSIDE

Indoor activities, Where's Wally was seen
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machinery, vehicles, tools etc. to sell on
consignment with a portion to the church
restoration fund.

Graham Noble 0409661356 or
Maureen Lange 0418518260

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 18 July 1-4pm

ARTWORKS

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has compiled a list of public access
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- 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

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any article.



Production Coffee Meeting

Cathy Cheadle, Susan Corby and the beautiful Ellen
at the recent Production Coffee Meeting
Thanks Palmer's Winchelsea!

**Next Production Coffee Meeting Sat 25 July
10am @ PALMERS All Welcome!**

This Week's Star

Editor Cerrie Forgan, Designer Susan Corby

'Star' Volunteer Helper needed one day a month

Could you help with printing the Star at Winch House
on the second Tuesday of each month?

No special skills required.

Full training provided - plus happy social interaction and coffee!

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a country town zine fair

July 11th, 2026

11am - 3pm

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all ages inclusive event, free entry

Wadawurrung Land

@zineverleigh

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Twisted TANGO



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Call: 03 52672028 Email: shirehall@winchhouse.org.au

History of Winchelsea

St John the Baptist Catholic Church, Mercer Street

Catholic Presbytery

Thanks to Margaret and Joe Kelly for their book "St John the Baptist Winchelsea 1892 – 1992".

Winchelsea today is a thriving, living, modern, secular community with a wide variety of cultures, but until recently, Christianity was at the centre of the community and its culture.

The various churches that still stand in the town are a living monument to the prominence of the churches in our community and the important role they played. The grandparents of our modern locals held their priests in high regards and respect.

The History of the Catholic Priests who have served our local community will be explored in next week's article. In times past, our local community banded together and made great efforts to house and accommodate their priests, as evidenced by the beautiful homes which were once associated with the local churches, all of which are now privately owned and beautifully restored.

In January 1905, Archbishop Carr created the parish of Winchelsea - cut off from Geelong and including Mt. Moriac, Inverleigh and Bannockburn. He appointed Fr P.J. Gleeson as parish priest.



Church and Presbytery

Fr Gleeson immediately erected "a handsome and well designed presbytery" which was opened by Dr. Carr on 25.3.1906. The building cost 900 pounds to construct. 160 pounds was collected at the grand opening, which was attended by St Augustine's Band.

Fr Michael Hehir was Winchelsea's longest serving parish priest from early 1912 until his death in 1934. He and his housekeeper, Miss Ada Bradley, were obviously interested in gardening. The presbytery grounds were landscaped with lawns and flower beds and a fernery was built between the church and the presbytery. It is known that Miss Bradley passed on hydrangea cuttings to her friend Mrs Kate Schroeter. Those plants, now 70 years old, still survive and thrive at 5 Willis St, which was the Schroeter home. Another of Miss Bradley's hobbies was painting water colours, but unfortunately no examples of her art can now be found.

Fr Hehir's parishioners in those early days were obviously enthusiastic fund raisers. In 1916 the prevailing rage for Queen Carnivals had spread to Winchelsea - St John's held one that year which raised 250 pounds. Then again in 1919, they raised 90 pounds towards the cost of a tennis court, laid in the corner of the church grounds bordering Mercer and Harding Streets.

Fr Francis O'Hanlon removed the fernery and the date palm tree from between the church and the presbytery in 1942 and small hutches appeared under every available tree.

In 1944 Fr Conlon then decided to extend the presbytery, making his own bedroom and office larger, with a new bathroom adjoining. He also installed a bay window in the sitting room.

In 1966, Fr Noel Coleman arrived driving a big American-style Chevrolet car. Until that time the priests had garaged their cars in the old stables, but Father decided that the building was no longer safe, so it was demolished, together with the old wooden building - O'Toole's Room. In their place a carport was erected, handy to the back door of the presbytery.

A two-roomed flat for the housekeeper, Mrs Edna Perkins was erected nearby.

In 1963 Father Franc Casamento turned his attention to the presbytery interior - giving it a much needed overhaul, with fresh paint, wallpaper and carpets. In the early 1970s The presbytery was restumped and given a new roof, the heating updated, the bathrooms modernised.



Current Presbytery, with Church in background



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.

Young People

Winchelsea Guides

Guide Notes



Winchelsea Guides have gone into recess all of 3rd term as no qualified leaders are available.

We will commence again on Mon 5th Oct. at the St John Catholic Hall Harding St Winch. Girls 5-15yrs welcome.

We are also seeking adult volunteers. Are you interested in joining an enthusiastic, self-motivated team working with girls,. Training is provided free, offering membership of a world wide organisation, travel opportunities, and friendships.

Help us to provide leadership development opportunities for girls as well as promoting fun & friendship.

Contact Yvonne 0448672630



Guides toasting marshmallows



Guides waiting for bananas and chocolate to cook - Vanessa McDonald, Guide mum Gemma Healy and Savannah McDonald

During the term we have been working on our Guiding Badge. We attended the ANZAC service, and played an ANZAC Experience wide game. We learnt guiding skills such as knots, tracking signs, and erecting a flagpole & colour party. We also learnt about building campfires and safety. We cooked on fires and enjoyed campfire singing. We learnt about the compass points and made up a puppet play about Guiding history and made an emergency kit, to help us keep our motto 'Be Prepared'.



Student suggestions for Polwarth

- Sports shed
- New classrooms
- Canteen - tuck shop
- Paint the school
- Bigger footy oval
- Sporting uniform
- Sports equipment
- Animals at school

It was great hosting the Winchelsea Primary school this week as they visited Melbourne for a few days. What a great bunch of kids who had some very strong ideas on how to make Winchelsea Primary school even better! _ Richard Riordan MP

TERM 3 SPORTS!

WINCHELSEA SPORTY SHORTIES

WINCHELSEA SHIRE HALL
10 WEEK PROGRAM, 2 YEARS TO 5 YEARS OLD

TUESDAYS MULTI-SPORT
1:45PM - 2:45PM
14TH JULY TO 15TH SEPTEMBER
\$220 INC GST

BASKETBALL | AFL | SOCCER | CRICKET | TENNIS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- PARENT INVOLVEMENT MAY BE REQUIRED FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN.
- PLEASE BOOK IN PRIOR TO THE EVENT AS LOW BOOKINGS MAY RESULT IN CANCELLATION
- SIGN UP AT ANY TIME DURING THE TERM AND ONLY PAY FOR THE REMAINING WEEKS.
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- ALL BOOKINGS MUST BE MADE THROUGH THE KELLY SPORTS WEBSITE (SEE DETAILS BELOW).

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GEELONG@KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU
0497 770 909

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1st Modewarre Scout Group

Marie McPadden OAM, Group Leader
mcpadden630@bigpond.com



Our Big Adventures Part 2

Last year, a trip to Freycinet Peninsula in Tassie with adult Scouting mates. It's such a pretty area. Once you've climbed up and over to the beach side, it's pretty much flat. The camp sites are peaceful. The old stone building (1859) at Cooks Corner is amazing. It has its resident snake and mice, and the pademelons and ravens work in tandem to open unattended hiking packs.



Freycinet

From here, a day walk goes through to Bryans Corner Bay on the other side of the Peninsula. For the last two days, there is a choice of routes back out – up and over the boulders of Mt Graham for the agile hiker, or across the middle wetlands area. Either way there are 1000 steps back up out of Wineglass Bay to the carpark!



Cooks Hut Freycinet

We took Scouts to Maria Island, off south-east Tassie, via a passenger ferry from Triabunna. It was a convict settlement, also featuring a holiday resort and a cement industry. It is famous for

its wombats which are everywhere and totally unfazed by people. The main campground has an enclosed eating shelter to keep the Tasmanian devils, wombats and wallabies on their side of the fence. It didn't stop the possum which startled us by dropping out of the rafters come evening, or the delicate bandicoot which, as we sat in silence as it snuffled around our legs, actually stood up on my leg for a better view. For 4 days we hiked the island, from Dennington to French's farm via the Painted Cliffs, off down to Haunted Bay, back over the inland route skirting Mt Maria, to Dennington.



Maria Island Painted Cliffs

Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail was another brilliant 5 day hike. Adults only this time. It starts with a car ferry from the mainland to the Island, and a drive to the Parks Office at Flinders Chase. The Island was hit hard by wildfire in 2019-20 but was recovering well, with tree growth over head high in many areas. Much of the hike is along spectacular coastline where baby seals frolic and adults rest. The path touches landmarks like Remarkable Rocks and occasional roads, but is otherwise isolated. Parks SA has rebuilt the camping areas lost to fire with new camping pads and fantastic shelters complete with combustion heaters. We had them to ourselves as we were the only hikers going through. Our wildlife sightings included platypus in the rockpools and several goannas, one of which sent us bush bashing off the path to go around him.

The Brisbane Ranges is ridiculously a destination we headed to after a particularly cold, mountainous trek up and down Mt Cole. We were aiming for flatter ground, and the title 'Ranges' should have been a give-away. While we didn't take Scouts of our own, we shared the Burchell Trail and camp sites with some Melbourne Scouts completing their top-level 2 night hike. Although being shadowed by their own Leaders, we kept an eye on them, leaving the better camping spot, with tables and seats, for them and were rewarded by "We made it!!" as they arrived in camp sometime after us.




 WINCHELSEA MUSIC SEASON

SONGMAN AT THE MANSION

Part of the first annual Winchelsea Music Season



Uncle Dave Arden - Gunditjmarra/Kokatha Songman

Experience an intimate evening of music and story with renowned Songman Uncle Dave Arden, whose powerful songwriting and deep connection to Country have shaped three decades of First Nations music in Australia. Held at the historic Barwon Park Mansion, this Winchelsea Music Season event coincides with the Surf Coast Arts Trail and the Manor Made Arts Market, transforming the Mansion into a vibrant hub of creativity throughout the day. Arrive early to explore local makers, artists and artisans before settling in for an unforgettable evening performance. The concert also features the opportunity to view the Gilson Family Indigenous Art Exhibition, creating a rich, multi layered celebration of culture, place and creativity.

Saturday 1 August • 6.00pm

Barwon Park Mansion
105 Inverleigh Rd, Winchelsea

Tickets at the door or via Humanitix: Adults \$60 • Concession \$50 • School Students Free

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 WINCHELSEA MUSIC SEASON

James Emerson:

A Winter Evening at the Globe



James Emerson *baritone*
Sue Goessling *piano*
Zinaida Campion *soprano - guest artist*

Will present an intimate winter recital shaped by expressive warmth, beautiful storytelling, and moments of delightful good humour throughout.

THE ONLY AUSTRALIAN PERFORMANCE OF JAMES EMERSON THIS SEASON

As part of the first annual Winchelsea Music Season

Friday 24 July, 7pm at the Globe Theatre
17 Willis St, Winchelsea

Tickets at the door or via Humanitix
Adult \$45, Concession \$35, School Students Free
0428 403 784 • admin@ruralartsvictoria.com.au
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Photo: Matthew Solly Credit: Bobby Dazler Photography

Wadawurrung,
Gulidjan, Gadubanud Country

✂ CUT HERE & STICK ME ON YOUR FRIDGE! ✂

SURF COAST ARTS Trail 2026

Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 August
10am-4pm



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Contact us via email artsteam@surfcoast.vic.gov.au or phone 03 5261 0600

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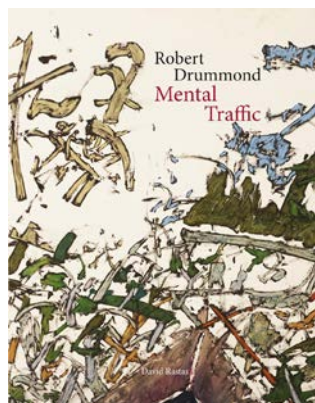




Zinaida Campion

Robert Drummond; Mental Traffic

I first came into contact with legendary local artist Robert Drummond on Facebook. We have long admired each other's work, and when Robert sent me a signed copy of his artistic biography **Robert Drummond; Mental Traffic** by David Rastas, I thought it was high time to share with you all!



The name does not belie the book; in the words of the artist, *"All the mental traffic and mental baggage is written down on all sorts of chaotic things"*. It is a collection of carefully-curated chaos, that is outwardly disturbing and inwardly satisfying.

"He uncovers the beauty in the cacophony and disarray of our daily lives".

Robert Drummond was born in 1955 in Brisbane. After moving around a lot in early life, he settled in Geelong in the mid 70s. On August 15, 1980, Robert met the love of his life, Patricia Semmler, at her gallery in Ocean Grove. Together, they opened the Brim Brim Gallery in 1981, and established the Geelong Fine Art School in 1988. It remained open until 2018. Not only a painter, but also a poet, Robert is influenced by many writers, including the Elizabethan Poets, Lewis Carroll, ee cummings, WS Merwin, and Australian poets, such as Adamson, Harris, and Hewett. He formed friendships with many writers and poets, including Barrett Reid, Robert Harris, Shelton Lea, Barry Hill, and Adrian Rawlins.

Hard times came in 2017, when Patti Semmler was diagnosed with dementia. Robert closed the Geelong Fine Art School to become her full-time carer. Robert adapted his art to circumstances, turning to social media to directly engage with his audience. His output remains prolific. Patti's family moved her to aged care in 2021, causing him further heartache.

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.

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



"Robert's visits, 4 to 5 times a week, became a testament to his enduring commitment and unwavering dedication". As Robert says himself, "The one who I love loved the most humble of flowers ... Patti cannot talk or walk now, but I still take flowers for her room. The flowers miss her".

The artworks from the book that I think best portray the different aspects of the struggles and triumphs of the artist are: **"Blue FJ chasing a man down the street"** reflects Robert's wild youth, *"hanging with kids who rolled bowling balls at cars"*. The hair-raising **"William Buckley with Firestick"** represents survival against all odds. **"A Couple Walking a Dog at Buckley's Beach"** shows a symmetry and unity that could be seen in his own relationship. **"Bogan Angel"** is the uncomfortable intersection of the sacred and mundane, that can be seen in much of his work. **"Song Fragments (detail)"** is part of a large spiritual work that is installed in Votive Church, Vienna. Based on the Song of Songs, it proved a challenge for Robert to fit all the aspects of a such a large religious work onto one wall.

Robert Drummond; Mental Traffic embodies an artist who chose to express himself in spite of pressure to conform. To him, art is an end in itself, its own reason for existing. *"The main narrative in a painting is the paint and more often than not the paint is the primary communicator until the painting is of itself and about itself. When this language of the paint becomes apparent, all else inside the painting seems superfluous"*.

I recommend you read.
Ciao!



What's on at Winch House

28 Hesse Street, Winchelsea Ph: 0352672028 Email:

reception@winchhouse.org.au


KELLY SPORTS


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Friday July 17th from 1pm to 7pm or Saturday or July 18th from 10am to 4pm.

6 hour workshop, cheese platter and meal inc.

\$250 Per person.



email: shirehall@winchhouse.org.au or Call: 0352672028

Winter in Winchelsea Kids art competition!

Create a piece of art that represents life in Winchelsea in winter.

All artworks will be displayed in a mini exhibition in the community House Foyer.

\$5 Entry Ages 5 - 15 years, all mediums welcome.

Please send entries in before

Wednesday 8th of July.

Winners announced Friday 10th of July.



Contact shirehall@winchhouse.org.au

Term three

Yoga & Mat Pilates

IN THE SHIRE HALL

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

YOGA FLOW WITH LISA
 6:30AM - 7:30 AM
TUE AND/OR FRIDAY
 OR
 9:15AM - 10:15 AM
TUESDAY

VINYASA YOGA WITH KATE
 6.30PM - 7.30 PM
THURSDAYS

Please call: 03 52672028
 Email: shirehall@winchhouse.org.au



New scheme will save renters

Tenants Victoria

The new Portable Rental Bond Scheme (PRBS) removes one of the biggest up-front moving costs for renters. Until now they have been forced to pay thousands of dollars for a new bond before receiving the refund from their previous rental home, but now they can move their existing bond to their new home.

Tenants Victoria CEO Jennifer Beveridge said the scheme makes a massive difference for renters. "Moving is stressful enough without having to find a new bond at the same time people are scraping together rent in advance, facing moving costs and often still paying rent on the property they're leaving.

Under the scheme, eligible renters can move their existing bond to a new rental property. The Government guarantees the existing bond amount to the rental provider until any claim is finalised. The government will cover any claims against the old bond, and the renter will then pay the government, not the rental provider.

"The bond is the renter's money, and this means they can access their own money when it is needed most," Ms Beveridge said.

"If there's a successful claim against the bond, the rental provider is guaranteed payment, giving the renter time to repay the amount."

"With Victorian renters facing so many financial pressures when moving, this practical change removes some of the stress and uncertainty."

Tenants Victoria will keep pushing for further action on rental affordability, security and standards.

Victoria to ban energy rip-off tax

Victorian Government

Victoria is the first state to ban the energy retailer loyalty tax. This is when energy companies lure customers in with low-priced offers. But often over time, these prices are increased by energy retailers hoping you won't notice. It's a predatory business model that hits households hard.

Too often, busy working families, older people, migrants, people without the time or ability to check they're on the best deal are worse off.

To stop this, retailers will now be required to switch any customer they are aware of on this offer to a lower rate.

- For electricity this rate will be the Victorian Default Offer, which is the lowest default market offer for 2026-27.
- For gas, this rate will be based on the median market offer.

This is expected to save between 27,000 and 53,000 customers up to \$258 annually, delivering up to \$12.2 million in total savings.

The retailers have until 30 June 2027 to change their customers on these offers over to the lower rate.

People can also get in touch with their energy retailer anytime and let them know they're stuck on a loyalty offer, and retailers must switch them over.

Energy retailers who don't comply could face penalties of up to \$244,212 per breach.

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Sunday
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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

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

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY OP SHOP INC AGM

Tuesday 14 July 2026 11am
St Thomas Hall, Barwon Tce Winchelsea
Pixie Heath 0417 586 080

WEDNESDAY

WINCHELSEA MEN'S SHED

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

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE

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

MOTHER GOOSE SONG AND RHYME

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

WINCH 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
The Senior Citizens Club,
www.melsdancecentral.com.au

CWA WINCHELSEA

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



SES WINCHELSEA

7.30pm 132500
323 Mousley Dr, Winchelsea



1ST MODEWARRE SCOUT GROUP

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

THURSDAY

CHAT WITH YOUR COUNCILLOR Cr Tony Phelps

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

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
winchseaplaygroup@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, Winchelsea
(03) 5267 2028 (03) 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

10.30am (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
Jean Shinnars 52672263, 0427672263
jeanshinnars@gmail.com

CHEESEMAKING WORKSHOP

Friday 17 July 1-7pm \$250pp
Shire Hall, Hesse Street Winchelsea
shirehall@winchhouse.org.au 03 52672028

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

GEELONG REGIONAL MOBILE LIBRARY

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

JAMES EMERSON A WINTER EVENING AT THE GLOBE

Friday 24 July 7pm
Globe Theatre 17 Willis St Winchelsea
\$45, \$35, School students FREE
0428 403 784
admin@ruralartsvictoria.com.au

SATURDAY

PARKRUN

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

ZINEverleigh ZINE FAIR

Saturday, 11th July, 11am - 3pm
Inverleigh Town Hall, 71 High Street
All things interesting, quirky and creative.
5 Zines, art prints, stickers, badges
Plants, Cake, Pumpkin Soup
Coffee, tea, hot choc and chai

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.

BARRABOOL HILLS UNITING CHURCH 1135 Barrabool Road, Barrabool

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 18 July 1-4pm
ARTWORKS plus bric a brac, books, fruit
and veg, and sheep manure Sausage
sizzle 12.30pm Cash only

WINCHELSEA LAND AND RIVERCARE

First Saturday of the month 9am
Meet at Guye Reserve, Barwon Terrace
Rod Atone 0428 549318
Stewart Mathison 0428 672054

WINCHELSEA STAR PRODUCTION/COFFEE MEETING

11am (Last Sat monthly)
Palmer's Cafe & Restaurant
www.winchelseastar.org.au

CROCHET GROUP

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

CHEESEMAKING WORKSHOP

Barry the Cheeseman
Saturday 18 July 10-4 \$250pp
Shire Hall, Hesse Street Winchelsea
shirehall@winchhouse.org.au 03 52672028

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass 5pm Sat each week
Harding St, Winchelsea 0404598558

SONGMAN AT THE MANSION UNCLE DAVE ARDEN

Sunday 1 August 6pm
Barwon Park Mansion
105 Inverleigh Rd, Winchelsea
\$60, \$50, School Students FREE
Tickets at the Door

WINCHELSEA COMMUNITY DINNER

6.30pm last Sat monthly, except Nov/Dec
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SUNDAY

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[growingwinchelsea.com/project/
winchelsea-community-market/](http://growingwinchelsea.com/project/winchelsea-community-market/)

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For the Community

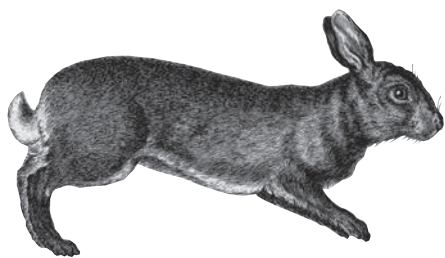
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Vale Shirley Leak

The Winchelsea Football Netball Club is deeply saddened by the sudden passing of a wonderful life member, volunteer, and friend. Shirley was part of the very fabric of the WFNC, giving her time, care, and spirit to generations of players, families, and supporters. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the Leak Family. Rest peacefully Shirley

Winchelsea Football Netball Club



Psalm 20

A psalm of David

May the LORD answer you when you are in distress; may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.

May he send you help from the sanctuary and grant you support from Zion.

May he remember all your sacrifices and accept your burnt offerings.

May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.

May we shout for joy over your victory and lift up our banners in the name of our God. May the LORD grant all your requests.

Now this I know: The LORD gives victory to his anointed. He answers him from his heavenly sanctuary with the victorious power of his right hand.

Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm.

LORD, give victory to the king! Answer us when we call!

New International Version

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uca.winchelsea@gmail.com
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0404 598 558

Father Joseph Panackal
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St Thomas' Anglican Church

0448 687 588

Rev Christopher Duff
Barwon Tce, Winchelsea
Service 10am Sundays

Thought of the Week

"Let then our first act every morning be to make the following resolve for the day:

I shall not fear anyone on earth.

I shall fear only God.

I shall not bear ill will towards anyone.

I shall not submit to injustice from anyone.

I shall conquer untruth by truth'

and in resisting untruth

I shall put up with all suffering."

Have a Blessed week.

John Bader
(Christian Pastoral Carer)








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Appy now to be a seasonal and ongoing forest firefighter

Forest Fire Management Victoria

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) is recruiting entry-level forest firefighter positions for the upcoming bushfire season. Both ongoing and seasonal roles are available.



FFMVic Chief Fire Officer, Chris Hardman, said "New recruits train and work alongside our permanent firefighters, responding to bushfires to keep communities safer this summer."

"They will be part of a team of close to 1800 frontline personnel and 1200 accredited incident management staff this bushfire season. These are fantastic jobs doing practical work, right at the frontline of protecting communities and the environment."

FFMVic firefighters responded to more than 900 bushfires across the state last summer and delivered planned burns to help reduce the impact of future bushfires.

Mr Hardman said seasonal firefighter roles provide rewarding career opportunities for those with a passion for the outdoors, learning new skills and making a difference.

"In addition to responding to bushfires and helping to deliver planned burns, seasonal firefighters also undertake pest and weed control works, and maintain recreational reserves, fuel breaks and forest roads," he said.

"We want a diverse pool of people applying for our jobs. We want our crews to reflect the communities they serve and to have a range of skills and experiences. Most importantly, we're looking for recruits with a 'can do' attitude who can work as part of a team."

Some roles are designated for First Nations employment.

Applications close 26 July. Seasonal employment between October and May, with variations on start and end dates depending on seasonal requirements.

For information and to apply, visit jobs.careers.vic.gov.au/sffoo or call 136 186

Is the community satisfied with the Council? Survey results released.

Surf Coast Shire

Surf Coast Shire Council has received results from the 2026 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, community perceptions of Council's performance overall and across several individual areas.

Scores are benchmarked against comparable large shires, and the statewide average. Council's scores this year are above the average for the Large Shires group in seven of the eight measures, including overall performance.

However, Council is below the statewide average for overall performance and in three other measures.

The overall performance rating of 55 is down two points from 2025, and compares to 53 for the Large Shire group and 58 Victoria-wide.

In assessing overall performance, 43 per cent of survey respondents rated Council positively ('good' or 'very good'), 36 per cent were neutral ('average'), and 21 per cent were negative ('poor' or 'very poor').



Waste management scored 75, an increase of five points from last year, rating as Council's highest performing individual area.

Surf Coast Shire rated 70 above the statewide and Large Shire averages for customer service and 53 in making decisions in the interest of the community.

Scores of 47 for 'spending public funds' and 51 for 'condition of sealed local streets' placed Surf Coast Shire ahead of the Large Shire averages but below the statewide benchmark, while 45 for 'general direction' was below both averages.

Of the 79 councils in Victoria, 38 took part in this year's survey, compared to 56 in 2025.

Data was gathered via independent phone and online surveys of 601 resident and non-resident Surf Coast Shire ratepayers during February and March this year, with responses collated and analysed by Klein Research. Australian-based call centre TKW Research made 12,544 calls to achieve the statistically valid sample of respondents.

Mayor Libby Stapleton thanked those who took the time to provide their feedback. "This annual survey helps us understand perceptions of Council's performance and is one of a number of ways we identify areas for focus and improvement," Mayor Stapleton said. "We aim to be a high performing Council, and we will take these results on board as we keep striving to get better."

The full results are available to the community on the Council website.

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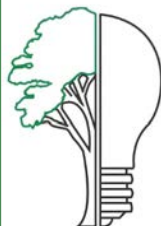


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The fast flowing Barwon near the end of Hesse St

Alasdair Baird

This was taken at dusk on Wednesday evening.



A 2 second exposure using a 16 year old Nikon D3000 and Sigma 10-20mm lens. A classic motion blur picture technique.

I have been a keen photographer since 1976 starting with a Praktica LTL and then to a Nikon FG.

I moved to Winchelsea in December 2017 and bought a unit on Hesse Street.



Climate Connect July Networking Event

An important step in Geelong's journey towards becoming a zero-emission, climate-ready region is building resilient, connected communities. Through these community networking events, help connect and build community to work together on our climate change goals.

Date: Wednesday 22nd July

Time: 5.30pm - 7.00pm

Location: The National Hotel 191 Moorabool Street Geelong

Free Event, Registration Essential

The evening will begin with an ice breaker activity followed by a 15 minute presentation on our Climate Cosy Rooms program. We're keen for you to hear about the important work we're doing and help link people in your community into this impactful program. We will then have some networking time with an activity to help you connect with new people and build our community. If you have a burning question, an electrification or climate story or an idea to share, please bring it along to the event.

No matter how much or little contact you have had with other Geelong Sustainability events in the past, we encourage people of all ages, backgrounds, interests, and lifestyles to come along, participate, and meet new people.



HOW TO EXPLAIN IN MORE DETAIL

Use this when a child wants more detail, or starts asking follow-up questions. There's no age rule – follow their lead.

WHAT DOES CLIMATE CHANGE LOOK LIKE IN AUSTRALIA NOW?

In Australia, we're already living through hotter summers, more dangerous bushfire seasons, sudden heavier downpours and flooding, and damage to really special places like the Great Barrier Reef.

This is changing our way of life, today. The summers you're growing up in are already hotter than the ones your parents and grandparents experienced as kids. More school days and weekend sports are being cancelled. There are fewer days when it's safe for kids to go outside and play. We are paying more for things like insurance.

It's OK if this feels worrying. I worry about it, too. It's a really big problem, but there are lots of people working on solutions.

→ "Climate change is already changing what Australian summers feel like, how long fire seasons run, and how often big floods hit."

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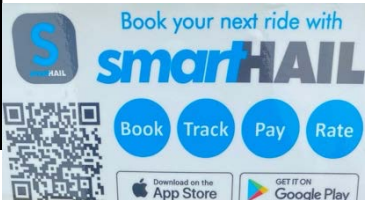
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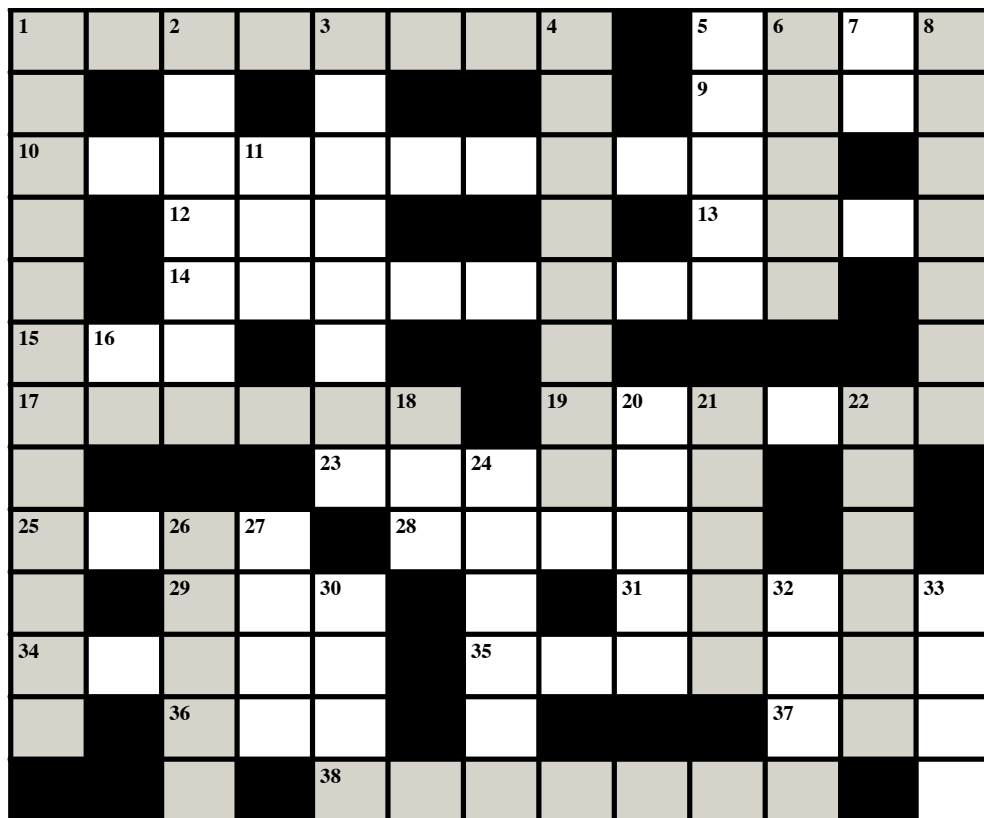
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Winchelsea Crossword No 1

Set by Greg Ware

Grey squares relate directly to Winchelsea. Solution next page



1 Winch agricultural firm	1 Winch food store (6,6)
5 Individual thing	2 Uncertain
9 Scram!	3 Chess World Champion from 1985-2000
10 As a matter of course	4 Shire authority for Winch
12 Circuit	5 Small oceanic landmass
13 Australian birds	6 See 26 down
14 Get rid of	7 Ex officio (abbrev)
15 Mineral spring	8 Winch road - industrial area
17 Winch river	11 Body part
19 Indifference	16 Father (informal)
23 Ship	18 Bushranger Kelly
25 Osculate	20 Looks intently
28 Is extremely and uncritically fond of	21 Looping drive off 8 down
29 Sound to imitate crying	22 Winch rural supplies firm "---- & Whitty"
31 Small bird	24 Sadness
34 Bailiff	26 & 6 dn Winch cafe
35 Short period of relief	27 Rescue
36 Snakelike fish	30 Ship's steering wheel
37 Consumed	32 Prejudice
38 Rural road off Atkins Rd	33 Require

C

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No 1



ALTERED TRAFFIC CONDITIONS: WURDALE ROAD CHANNEL CROSSING ROAD CLOSURE, WURDIBULOC

Barwon Water will close the Wurdale Road channel crossing bridge, between Cape Otway Road and Wormbete Station Road, Wurdibuloc.

The road will be closed, and traffic diversions will be in place, from Thursday 2 July 2026 until further notice.

We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience and understanding.

For more information, please call us on 1300 656 007.



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

Why families are reconsidering regional living

Regional communities like Winchelsea continue to attract young families seeking affordability, connection, and lifestyle. But one major issue is beginning to undermine that dream: access to childcare.

For some families moving to the area, the reality of securing childcare has come as a shock. Waiting lists can stretch for months or even years, and alternatives are limited.

In some cases, families have reduced work commitments significantly. Others have reconsidered staying in the community altogether.

This presents a serious challenge for growing regional towns. Communities invest heavily in attracting families, encouraging housing growth, and supporting local development — but without the services families need, long-term growth becomes difficult to sustain.

The issue is not unique to Winchelsea. Across growing towns Australia wide communities are grappling with similar pressures.

Infrastructure planning often focuses on roads, housing, and transport, while critical family services struggle to keep pace.

The new childcare centre currently under construction in Winchelsea is an important step forward and reflects growing recognition of the issue. However, one centre alone is unlikely to meet future demand.

We need to start thinking differently about childcare in regional communities and recognise the important role childcare workers have.

Could schools expand before-and after-school care programs? Could community organisations help deliver vacation care options? Could local training partnerships encourage more residents to become qualified Family Day Care educators and childcare workers?

These are conversations worth having.

A Surf Coast Shire Childcare and Family Services Forum could bring together parents, educators, employers, and community leaders to discuss practical, locally driven solutions that support both current residents and future growth.

Because attracting families to regional towns is only part of the challenge — supporting them to stay is equally important. Come on families raise your voice and call for action!

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

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Blues name their Best Ever Team of the GDFNL era

GDFNL by Tom King

Winchelsea used its 150th anniversary celebrations to honour the greats of its 25 years since joining the GDFNL.

A team was announced featuring the best Blues since the club joined the competition from the Colac and District league in 2002.

As the longest-serving coach of the past quarter of a century, Brendan Forssman was named to lead the team.

Current players selected included Fin and Cassidy Parish, Jordan Gould and Caleb Brown.



**WINCHELSEA
BEST BLUES EVER TEAM
Since 2002**

Coach: Brendan Forssman

B: Brad Mackenzie, Byron Mathison, Alex Gubbins

HB: Matt Worland, Tim Van der Klooster, Fin Parish

C: Steve Wainwright, Andrew Leak, Josh Carracher

HF: Leigh Ellis, Nathan Reid, Blake Kelly

F: Anthony Kitchen, David Mensch, Jordan Gould

FOL: Craig Hardingham, Caleb Brown, Jackson Smith

INT: Ged Hogarth, Lachie Kendall, Kane Bonner, Tav Sauni, Cassidy Parish, David Tucker



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Winchelsea Football Netball Club Inc

Hopkins St, Winchelsea winchelseafnc@hotmail.com

Blues News

Janet Fletcher



ROUND 12

Werribee Centrals Vs Winchelsea Blues

Welcome to Blue's News where after the Blue's knocked off last season's reigning Premiers in Round 11 to celebrate the 150th year, the Club found itself heading to Galvin Park to play Werribee Centrals on their home turf. Centrals have not dropped a game so far in season 2026 and so the challenge was certainly there to see just how far the Winchelsea Blues have come this year.

VALE SHIRLEY LEAK

Black armbands were worn by the Reserves and the Seniors last week in a mark of respect to honour the passing of one of our own, Life Member and Blue's icon Shirley Leak. Shirley was loved and admired by the Club for her tireless commitment and passion for all things "Blue" over decades of service, her famous jelly cakes are legendary throughout the League. Shirley's legacy will live on through her meticulous historical documentation and knowledge of the Club, right to the end of her life she was a very humble lady, and it was a great honour to have her at the Club's 150th Celebrations. Hers was a life well lived, and may Shirley rest peacefully now.

RESERVES:

Werribee Centrals 5.9.39 defeated Winchelsea Blues 5.6.36

This may well be remembered as one that got away. The Blues started strongly, kicking 3 goals and 2 behinds to Centrals' solitary behind, but were held scoreless in the second quarter while still leading by 2 points at half time. In the third quarter, the Blues added 2 behinds while Werribee kicked 2 goals, which ultimately proved the difference. The Blues outscored Werribee in the final quarter, but at the siren they were 3 points short. The Reserves are placed 5th on their ladder and will regroup during the week to cement their spot in the final 5.

GOALS: Angus Leigh 1, Dustin Baker 1, Tom Kennedy 1, Jack Todd 1, Sean Thompson 1.

BEST: Luke Henry, Harry Nagle, Tayne Hewson, Tom Rouget, Patrick Dench, Lachlan Jenkins.

SENIORS:

Werribee Centrals 12.7.79 were defeated by Winchelsea Blues 12.9.81

Bannockburn at their Victoria Park home, the reigning Premiers North Geelong at the 150th birthday lunch in front of the who's who of the Winchelsea Blues and a massive crowd, and last week facing up to Werribee Centrals at their home ground sitting clear on top of the Morris Finance ladder undefeated, the Blues have had plenty to prove over the last 3 weeks, and the game on Saturday was another huge test for the players and coaching staff alike.

Winchelsea had the start they were hoping for stunning the undefeated Senior Werribee side and the home crowd as well! Quarter time had the Blues 4 goals 1 behind to the home side 2 goals 2 behinds. Things were starting to heat up at the quarter

time break, the Werribee Runner was cautioned by Umpires for being a bit too chatty and there was plenty of banter between the 2 sides. The second quarter belonged to the Blues – doubling down on the first quarter's success and not being dragged into what was becoming an increasingly physical contest.

The half time break saw an eruption of emotion from both sides and the Werribee players showing their frustration to all including Blues supporters, on their way back to the rooms at half time. The third quarter was rough and tough with a few glimpses of great play from both sides and still the Blues were not headed, a terrible facial injury to Zach Ross (Rooster) sobered things up for a while, at the time of sending to print we are all hoping Zach has received the best of care and is resting comfortably.

The final quarter saw 2 free kicks to Centrals in front of their goal within minutes and certainly made things look tough for the Winnie Blues but to their credit they managed to hang on and secure the win, AND A GRITTY ONE AT THAT.

The number of distinctive 150 year jackets at Werribee was amazing and am sure we would have given the Centrals supporters a run for numbers, well done to all those supporters who included Life Members, general supporters, a huge contingent of netballers who stayed to support the football side, parents of players, Winchelsea Bowls Club people - just fantastic!!

GOALS: Cameron Primmer 6, Jordan Gould 2, Rueben James 2, Indy Parish 1, Ollie Mahncke 1.

BEST: Ryan Williams, Cameron Primmer, Jordan Gould, Caleb Brown, Noah Harvey, Damien Hewson

Great work Blues, a coming of age – credit to the whole group moving forward

This week the Blues are on the road again - this time to Winter Reserve to meet Belmont Lions who are travelling very well this season and are sitting equal second with Winchelsea, the Lions being ahead on percentage on the ladder. Games are at the usual times with the Reserves kicking off at 12pm and the Senior side at 2pm.

THE BLUE'S BISTRO:

This week the Blue's Bistro has on offer

Chicken Kiev, Lasagne, Sea Food Baskets, served with salad & chips or vegetables.

Junior Blues have Chicken Nuggets & Chips / Fish & Chips (2 pieces of fish \$8) or our small meals (\$12) for those who are just transcending to a bit more on their plate.

Dessert: T.B.A.

INJURY UPDATE:

Update on Zach's injury, scans / x-rays have cleared Zach of any serious head or neck injuries which is a great relief for all concerned. Surgery scheduled for last Monday, all at the W.F.N.C. wish him a speedy recovery and hope to see him up and about asap!

GO BLUES!!



parkrun 121

Saturday 4 July 2026

Neil McInnes

17 participants completed the course through Trebeck reserve this week. We had visitors from Cohuna and Laylor.

Congratulations to Simon Hose who completed his personal best time at Trebeck Reserve.

7 volunteers made this event possible. Thanks to Kate McInnes, Neil McInnes, Murray Bennett, Maureen Gunson, Ann Jones, Kristen Chzerkiewicz 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.





Trebeck Reserve, Winchelsea
parkrun.com.au/trebeckreserve

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





What's on at the MCN Shed?

MCN membership \$50 pa. All welcome to join!
Email moriaccommunitynetwork@gmail.com or
come along to an event at the shed!
530 Cape Otway Road Moriac

MEN'S SHED

Open every Wed and Sat 9am-Midday
Different activities available or just come for a chat
Contact Kelvin 0414 484 673

WOMEN'S SHED

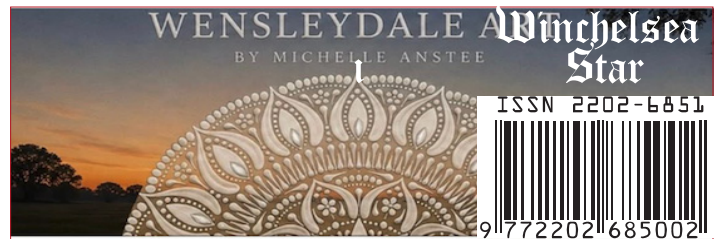
Art Class (limited spaces) Fridays 10 am-Midday
Contact Jeanette 0408 466 122
BYO Craft and Chat 3rd Thurs of the month 7.30 pm
Th July 16th - contact Kim 0414 482 893
Women's Woodwork Wed 1-3pm
Contact Evan 0434 484 440

SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

Contact Sarah 0407 400 593

BOOK CLUB

1st Wed of the month 7.30pm
Contact Michaela 0418 370 469



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MICHELLE ANSTEE
MANDALA ARTIST

✉ wensleydale.art@gmail.com
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📍 Wensleydale Art

Thu, 16 Jul at 19:30

Craft night - Special guest Michelle Anstee - Wensleydale Art

Moriac Shed

Going

Women's Woodworking at the Moriac Shed

Carrie Vanderpol

Drop in on a Wednesday 1-3 to watch and see how things flow at old Fire Station opposite Moriac Store.

Only costs \$50 a year for insurance and some of your time helping with paid projects for shed helping community.



- Using an angle grinder to take off seized old bolts on bench seat rescue.
- Measuring out patterns and cutting with drop an order of birdboxes.
- Admiring finished rocking chair from Men's shed.

Moriac Kinder needs your toys and dressups

Do you have any children's items in very good condition that your family no longer needs?

Moriac Kinder would be incredibly grateful for any donations to help support our kindergarten and the children in our community.

If you have toys, books, puzzles, dress-ups, or other children's items in excellent condition that could be given a new home, we'd love to hear from you.

Every donation, big or small, is greatly appreciated. Thank you for supporting a wonderful local cause! 💖

