Groundswell

APRIL 2017



ANZAC DAY SERVICES IN SURF COAST SHIRE

The Centenary of ANZAC 2014 to 2018 is a national commemoration that marks 100 years since involvement in the First World War.

ANZAC Day services, Tuesday 25 April, in the Surf Coast Shire this year include:

Anglesea

March sets off at 9.30am from corner Great Ocean Road and Noble streets. Concludes at the RSL, 30 Murray Street. Immediately followed by ANZAC Day service.

Lorne

Dawn Service at ANZAC Memorial Park, Mountjoy Parade at 6.30am. ANZAC Day service at Lorne Senior Citizens Hall at 11am, followed by the march to ANZAC Memorial Park. At 12noon, all welcome to refreshments at the Lorne Hotel followed by a traditional game of two-up.

Modewarre

Re-dedication service and unveiling of memorial plaque at Modewarre Memorial Hall, Cape Otway Road at 1pm. Followed by light afternoon tea and sausage sizzle.

Torquay

Dawn service at Point Danger at 5.45am. Followed by Gunfire Breakfast from 7am.

A free park and ride service is available. Park at Spring Creek Reserve from 5am to 6am and catch the bus directly to the service at Point Danger, returning to Spring Creek Reserve from 7am.

Winchelsea

Trooping the Colour ceremony at Eastern Reserve, Hopkins Street at 10.30am followed by a service, light refreshments and a game of two-up.



A PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY

Community wellbeing, environmental leadership, balancing growth, a vibrant economy and a high performing Council - these are the themes you can provide feedback on in the draft Council Plan 2017-2021.

Incorporating the Health and Wellbeing Plan, the Council Plan focuses on areas where Council endeavours to make a significant difference and sets the direction for organisational priorities for the next four years and beyond.

The draft plan was shaped by community feedback earlier this year, with more than 900 people contributing to a survey. Targeted engagement activities for people under 25 and over 65 were also carried out.

With the plan underpinning how Council can meet the needs and aspirations of the community, people across Surf Coast Shire are encouraged to provide feedback on the draft.

The Plan is available for comment until Thursday 11 May 2017 at

www.surfcoastconversations.com.au.

COMMUNITY TAKES A LEAD ROLE

Community groups are taking a lead role in the Towards Environmental Leadership program. The joint Council-community initiative will support Surf Coast Shire to become an international environmental leader.

With the program reliant on the community playing their part, local groups have launched initiatives that will contribute to a more sustainable future. Some of the groups demonstrating environmental leadership:

Anglesea Community Energy

Environmentally-conscious locals striving towards a major environmental goal -100% renewable energy in Anglesea.

Anglesea Community Garden

Propagating herbs to start a herb garden at Anglesea Aged Care for residents to enjoy.

Anglesea Resale Shed

Selling reusable materials that are diverted from landfill (see page 2 for full story).

Plastic Bag Free Torquay and **Torquay Kindergarten**

Aligning with Council's Plastic Wise Policy, a collaboration that provides children with reusable library bags (pictured right).

Community Garden 3221

Teaming up with local businesses to maximise the garden's compost facility by collecting vegetable waste.

Eat Local Month

Featuring events in April that support local producers in the Surf Coast Shire.

View the Towards Environmental Leadership program at

www.scsenvironmentalleadership.com.





A POSITIVE MOVE TO BECOME AN ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER

People can call on an independent energy expert to explore their solar options and to gain energy advice.

Council has partnered with Positive Charge a not-for-profit organisation that will work on behalf of Council on a solar bulk-buy program. The program encourages increased uptake of renewable energy systems by making it easier and cheaper for people to install solar.

A travelling roadshow will be held across the shire in May. People can attend to find out how solar works and if it might be right for you. The components and installers are high quality at a fair price. Details of the roadshow will be published in the Surf Coast Times and on Council's website.

The partnership with Positive Charge aligns with the Towards Environmental Leadership program. It will contribute to Council's goal for our shire to generate 25% of energy from renewable sources by 2020.

To contact Positive Charge for a free quote, or for advice on how to be more energy efficient, visit www.positivecharge.com.au or call 9385 8555.

POWERFUL PROJECTS

Renewable energy projects are underway in the Surf Coast Shire following the release of the 25% by 2020 Taskforce's roadmap.

The 2017 roadmap outlines a plan to support the Surf Coast community to contribute to the state government renewable energy target of 25% by 2020.

Council is installing solar systems in community facilities including Torquay Library, Lorne Visitor Information Centre, Winchelsea's Eastern Reserve and Jan Juc Kindergarten.

In a partnership with Deakin University, Council is planning to install a microgrid at the Community and Civic Precinct in the north of Torquay. The microgrid will harness wind and solar power, and will have the ability to store power using batteries.

The Positive Charge partnership is another initiative in the roadmap. Council will continue to release details of key projects.

The renewable energy taskforce is part of the Towards Environmental Leadership program.





COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND ACCESSIBILITY UPDATES see p4



IN BRIEF

Youth focus

Free mental health courses are empowering people in the Surf Coast Shire to assist young people with mental illness. The Surf Coast Youth Development Team is coordinating Youth Mental Health First Aid courses. It follows last year's Council youth survey which identified health and wellbeing of young people as a key issue. Course participants learn about signs and symptoms of mental health conditions and the importance of early detection so the young person is treated and supported. To register your interest in a mental health course, email bedwards@surfcoast.vic.gov.au.

National Volunteer Week

Surf Coast Shire is preparing to celebrate the contributions of volunteers, with National Volunteer Week from 8 May to 14 May. The theme 'Give Happy, Live Happy' continues this year, as research shows that volunteers live happier and healthier lives. Organisations across the region will host thank you events during the week for the generous people who volunteer. Council will celebrate its volunteers with an afternoon tea on Wednesday 10 May.

Relay For Life

A community effort saw more than \$68,000 raised in the 2017 Surf Coast Relay For Life. More than 500 people in 26 teams participated in the annual fundraiser for Cancer Council Victoria in March. The overnight event funds support, prevention and research programs. Well done to organisers, participants and people who contributed to the fundraising tally.

Awards for Excellence

The Fire Game and the Spring Creek Community Panel were recognised at a prestigious local government awards ceremony.

The interactive and educational board game The Fire Game won gold at the LGPro Awards for Excellence. The community panel – which provided valuable input into the Spring Creek Precinct Structure Plan – received a high commendation for partnering with the community.

See page 3 for The Fire Game distribution information.



Burning off: Important information

The Fire Danger Period is in place until 1 May 2017. To burn off during this period, you must obtain a written permit from Surf Coast Shire Council's Municipal Fire Prevention Officer. Generally, a permit will only be issued for agricultural and primary production purposes.

For more information, call **5261 0600** or visit **www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au** and click on the *My Community* tab to access the Emergencies and Safety page.



Anglesea and Aireys Inlet Seniors Citizens Club representative John Mulder with councillors Libby Coker and Margot Smith

Bag a green bargain at Anglesea Resale Shed

The saying 'one person's trash is another person's treasure' applies at the Anglesea Resale Shed – an initiative supporting the environment and the community.

Anglesea Community House started managing the resale shed in July 2014. It is run by local community groups on a rostered basis. The resale shed sells items such as bric-a-brac, tools, building materials, furniture and sporting goods that would otherwise end up in landfill. It is estimated about 75 tonnes of reusable materials are diverted from landfill each year. From July 2014 to 1 December 2016, more than \$40,000 from sales has been distributed back to community groups, with sales continuing to increase.

Anglesea Ward councillors Libby Coker and Margot Smith (pictured) presented certificates to community groups in March, and announced the funds groups had received from their involvement in the shed over the previous three months.

The resale shed is located at Anglesea Landfill and Transfer Station. It is open Saturdays from 10am to 2pm.

DRAFT BUDGET

People are invited to provide feedback on the draft 2017-18 budget, with numerous ways to have your say.

The draft budget is available at **www.surfcoastconversations.com.au** while printed copies are available for viewing at:

- Council office, 1 Merrijig Drive, Torquay
- Aireys Inlet, Anglesea, Lorne and Winchelsea post offices
- Lorne Visitor Information Centre
- Deans Marsh and Moriac general stores
- Torquay and mobile libraries servicing Surf Coast Shire, and
- Community houses in Anglesea, Deans Marsh, Lorne and Winchelsea.

People can ask questions and provide feedback at information sessions across the shire. Details of the sessions will be published in the Surf Coast Times and on Council website.

Submissions are to be received by Thursday 11 May 2017, via

- www.surfcoastconversations.com.au
- emailing info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au with the subject header "Budget submission"
- mailing to Keith Baillie, Chief Executive Officer, Surf Coast Shire Council, PO Box 350, Torquay VIC 3228.

Please include your name, address, email and phone number, and indicate if you would like to address Council at the hearing of submissions meeting on Tuesday 30 May 2017.

After considing community feedback, Council will adopt the final budget at a special meeting in June.

A SAFE APPROACH

To make every journey on the road a safe one, it's useful to know the impact that speed and fatigue can have.

Following the adoption of the Surf Coast Road Safety Strategy last year, Council is working towards a future free of deaths and fewer serious injuries on Surf Coast Shiremanaged roads.

The strategy, produced in partnership with VicRoads and Victoria Police, aligns with the TAC's Towards Zero campaign.

According to the TAC, fatigue is a common cause of crashes in Victoria. It slows down reaction time and affects concentration and decision-making skills.





IF YOU FEEL DROWSY, PULL OVER.

The TAC also explains that travelling above the speed limit and driving too fast for the conditions are major contributors to the number of crashes. The higher the speed, the greater the impact – a small increase in speed can make a big difference in the seriousness of

For more information on road safety, visit **www.tac.vic.gov.au**. Council's road safety strategy is available at **www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/roadsafety**.

A new view at Bells Beach

A low-key timber viewing platform has enhanced the Bells Beach Surfing Reserve, providing a natural area to watch the famous break including the 2017 Rip Curl Pro.

The area - which previously had an old helipad site - has been improved by the platform, new gravel pathways and 800 indigenous plants. The project was funded jointly by Council and a donation from Rip Curl, Surfing Victoria and patrons of the 50th anniversary of the Rip Curl Pro Bells Beach in 2011. The vegetation was planted as part of Rip Curl's Planet Day Program last October.

The works aligned with the Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2015-25 which was developed by Council in consultation with local communities, user groups and government agencies. The plan vision is to respect and protect the natural environment, indigenous heritage and surfing culture of Bells Beach.

With the works completed earlier this year, the area is ideal for spectators of the 2017 Rip Curl Pro, held Wednesday 12 April to Monday 24 April. Celebrating its 56th year, the event welcomes the world's best male and female surfers who are competing for the prized bell.

Local cafes, restaurants and venues are supporting the Rip Curl Pro by streaming the event live and bringing Bells Beach action to people.

Meanwhile, Council wants to strengthen the development controls around Bells Beach. A report reviewing the local policy, zoning and overlays that apply to the Bells Beach Hinterland is being prepared and is expected to be presented to Council in April. If Council agrees, authorisation will be sought from the Minister for Planning to proceed with a planning scheme amendment.

If Council agrees, the amendment will be put on public exhibition mid-year and people can provide written submissions. If you would like to discuss the amendment before the public exhibition period, please phone **5261 0697** or email **info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au**.



Nominate now for the Queen's Baton Relay

Do you know a local legend? You can nominate them to take part in the Queen's Baton Relay in the lead-up to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Torquay will be one of the towns included on the global Queen's Baton Relay route. Surf Coast Shire people are invited to nominate relay participants. It could be a sports star, a much loved local, a talented artist or a dedicated community leader.

About 3,800 batonbearers will be selected for the 100-day Australian Baton journey that visits communities in every state and territory.

The Queen's Baton Relay started in London in March. It is travelling through the entire Commonwealth for 388 days and 230,000 kilometres.

The Relay will start in Australia on Monday 25 December 2017. The specific Torquay route will be announced later this year.

Nominations for batonbearers close Monday 15 May 2017 and will be announced in October 2017. Visit **www.gc2018.com/qbr**.





Taking it to the top: Great Ocean Road

Surf Coast Shire Council Mayor Brian McKiterick has discussed the importance of the Great Ocean Road with Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull in Canberra.

Cr McKiterick was part of the G21 Board Delegation that visited the nation's capital in March to discuss regional priorities, including the Great Ocean Road. Maximising the visitor economy and upgrading of the iconic stretch has been elevated to a priority project for G21 – a decision welcomed by Council.

Council's advocacy priorities were reaffirmed at its March meeting, with the Great Ocean Road remaining as a priority.

"We are continuing to push for more funding to be allocated to this vital road," Cr McKiterick said.

"We know how important it is as a tourist destination and it's the lifeline for our local communities."

Council's other advocacy priorities are Towards Environmental Leadership and Building Our Future. The latter is a commitment to provide infrastructure and services to meet the needs of the growing community. Towards Environmental Leadership sees Council and the community combine to help the environment thrive.

Funding applications with an active focus

Two key community projects are being considered for funding in the federal government's Building Better Regions Fund.

Council will learn in the coming months whether applications for the Torquay Active Transport Project and Winchelsea Netball Pavilion upgrade were successful

The Torquay Active Transport Project seeks to build key pedestrian and cycle linkages in the Torquay area. It consists of six sections of shared pathways and bicycle lanes totalling 12.9km.

The major pavilion upgrade would result in an improved facility in Winchelsea that meets Netball Victoria Development Guidelines. It would provide facilities including changerooms, first aid room, social area and sheltered viewing area.

Both projects – which sit under the Building Our Future advocacy priority – would offer health and wellbeing benefits and help build local economies

Torquay Town Centre Project

Community consultation will continue in April for the Torquay Town Centre Project, which attracted a strong response in its initial survey.

People will have another chance to have their say on Wednesday 26 April at a community workshop at Grant Pavilion at 5.30pm. It follows three engagement activities earlier this year - a stakeholder workshop, stakeholder walking tour and a community drop-in session. There was also a community survey which attracted 350 responses. Main themes that have emerged in the project are:

- Keeping the local feel of the centre and prioritising local businesses.
- Increasing pedestrian safety and amenity, including reconfiguration of car parking and the introduction of one-way for Gilbert Street.
- Increasing community space within the town centre.
- Maintenance and lighting improvements within the town centre.

Feedback showed people felt safe in the Gilbert Street precinct; with many people sharing they would like to use the area more after dark.

For details on the project and the upcoming community workshop stage, visit **www.surfcoastconversations.com.au**.

Art space a canvas for local talent

Surf Coast Art Space in
Anglesea will continue until at least
September 2017, showcasing the diverse talent of local artists.

The art space at located Shop 2/103 Great Ocean Road – has welcomed a packed program since launching last October. St Aidans Painters, Weaver Birds and Friends, Riverlee Arts Group and Anglesea Art Studios are some of the groups that have exhibited at the space, which has also welcomed Rachel Power and Elida Luciarte. The venue is available for play readings, poetry or performance. People who are interested in using the space to showcase their work can email jdyer@surfcoast.vic.gov.au.

Save the date for Surf Coast Arts Trail

The 2017 Surf Coast Arts Trail will be held Saturday 12 August and Sunday 13 August. The event is an opportunity for people to explore the region's incredible range of art and gain rare insights into the work of local artists.



A bold event for International Women's Day

A bold panel inspired people to share bold ideas at the 2017 International Women's Day (IWD) event.

The March celebration welcomed more than 130 people to Council Chambers. Writer and comedian Catherine Deveny led an entertaining panel, which featured researcher and paralympian Dr Lisa Chaffey, lawyer and activist Amanda George, Toni McCormack OAM and up-and-coming Torquay footballer Paris Nigro.

This year's IWD theme was Be Bold For Change. After hearing from the bold panel, guests shared their bold ideas to help achieve gender parity.

Guests' bold ideas to help achieve gender parity:

- Be unashamedly proud of your achievements.
- Change the language.
- More events to discuss issues and socialise with others outside usual groups and networks.
- Equal rights/equal pay stickers for all supporting businesses.
- Organise non-competitive sporting activities.

Stribling Reserve Masterplan breaks new ground

The draft Stribling Reserve Masterplan is available for public comment as a result of the innovative partnership between Lorne community members and Council.

Lorne community members formed a project group that was a key voice in planning for the future of the recreation reserve.

As reflected in the proposed masterplan, the group identified three key areas of improvement for the reserve - female facilities, retaining the space as a village green, and facilities for current and future sporting groups.

The masterplan includes short-term and long-term priorities, which are subject to funding. While the plan covers 10 years, it is a vision for the long term future.

To have your say, visit

www.surfcoastconversations.com.au. Submissions close Sunday 23 April 2017.



Get ready for The Fire Game

The award-winning The Fire Game will be distributed across the Surf Coast Shire to help communities get fire ready.

The interactive and innovative board game is inspired by local towns, with players able to put themselves in situations that simulate some of the real challenges of a bushfire. It supports people to plan ahead, adapt and be better prepared to make decisions under pressure, in the event of a bushfire affecting their area.

Stay tuned to find out how you get can your hands on a copy of The Fire Game, which can be played at home, in schools and at community facilities and events.

A White Ribbon workplace

Council has strengthened its commitment to stopping men's violence against women, gaining accreditation as a White Ribbon organisation.

As a White Ribbon workplace, it is recognised that Council is taking steps to stop violence against women. The accreditation is believed to be the first of its kind in the G21 region. It aligns with the Council's annual White Ribbon Day campaign which stands up, speaks out and acts to prevent men's violence against women, and family violence of any kind.

Being a White Ribbon workplace consolidates Council as a leader in family violence after developing the ground-breaking Family Violence Policy in 2010. It was pleasing to be the first Victorian local government to introduce a family violence policy and provide paid leave to support employees experiencing domestic violence.

PSST!

Electronic is eco-friendly

Would you prefer to receive Groundswell and other important Council information via email? Visit www.surfcoast.vic.gov. au/enewsletter and sign-up to have news delivered to your inbox.

Council contributed funds to assist with the group's promotion and marketing, and to purchase material to establish programs. Members have participated in programs including Free Range Fridays at The Farmer's Place in Freshwater Creek and Art and About at the Salvation Army community facility in Torquay.

From learning about organic farming to selling their artistic creations at monthly The Farmer's Place market - participants are broadening their skills, increasing their confidence and connecting with fellow community members.

Council is proud to support initiatives such as All Aboard which promote an inclusive community.

Mapping out accessible options for Winchelsea

Winchelsea has been added to Council's suite of access maps. The Winchelsea Access Township Map shows many of the public facilities and services to visit, and lists the accessibility features for each place. It highlights accessible features and amenities around the township such as car parking, sealed pathways, pathway gradients, toilet locations, public seating, scooter recharge locations and playgrounds.

The Winchelsea Access Township Map will support people who use a mobility aid to access services and pedestrian routes in Winchelsea. It supports visitors with a disability and people with prams.

The access maps have been created in partnership with Council's All Abilities Advisory Committee and Winchelsea community members to improve accessibility in the Surf Coast Shire. Maps are available from the Winchelsea Community House, IGA Supermarket and Visitor Information Centres throughout the Surf Coast Shire. You can also view the access maps on Council website www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au.

Looking to the future: Winchelsea Common

Potential future uses for the Winchelsea Common have been confirmed following further consultation with the community.

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) – with Council's support - welcomed community feedback on a draft Future Use Plan for the Common in February and March. The plan recommends the site is primarily used for passive recreation and the protection of high value native vegetation. Other potential uses include a perimeter running track, picnic area, active recreation area and dog off leash area.

The development of the plan is a requirement of the Clean Up Notice issued to DELWP by the Environment Protection Authority. The Common is contaminated with lead shot and other materials as a result of previous shooting operations by the Winchelsea Gun Club.

DELWP has commenced remediation, with work underway to remove contaminated material, including tyres. The Common will reopen as soon as it is safe to do so.

Council will consider the final Future Use Plan at the April Council meeting. For more information, visit www.engage.vic.gov.au/winchelsea-common.

Kicking off the season with a new oval

Grenville Oval in the north of Torquay is up and running in its inaugural season, kicking off a busy period for Banyul-Warri Fields.

As well as the new oval, lights on the neighbouring Polwarth Oval have been upgraded.

At the start of this year, construction started on a new car park and access road surrounding Grenville Oval. The \$1.56 million facility will provide an additional 105 car spaces for the community precinct, and parking bays for people with a disability near the Grant Pavilion. The car park will have new lighting.

There will also be about 350m of new footpath linking the oval to Yallock Circuit.

Works are expected to be completed mid-year.

Community centre takes

Construction of the new Kurrambee **Myaring Community Centre in the north** of Torquay continues to progress. A concrete slab has been laid, structural steel has been erected and framing has started.

The centre will be a valued community space. It will feature a kindergarten program, allied health, occasional care, youth services and spaces available for the public to hire. Councillors inspected the site in April and were pleased with the progress.

The community centre is scheduled to open the first term of 2018.





Kinder applications to open

Kinder applications for 2018 are open from Tuesday 18 April, with people able to apply for Council managed kindergarten programs online.

Families who submit their form via www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/kinder2018 before Friday 30 June 2017 will be considered for the first round of offers for places next year.

Council manages kinder programs at Torquay Kindergarten, Jan Juc Preschool, Anglesea Kindergarten, Helen Mary Kininmonth Preschool in Winchelsea and Lorne Kindergarten. Council will also manage Kurrambee Myaring Community Centre, which is under construction in Merrijig Drive, Torquay.

If you have any questions on kinder applications, email centralapplication@surfcoast.vic.gov.au.

FESTIVALS &

April

- 1-30 Eat Local Month www.eatlocalmonth.com.au
- ANZAC Day services Anglesea, Lorne, Torquay, Winchelsea and Modewarre
- 29 Surf Coast Trek – Aireys Inlet to

www.givewhereyoulive.com.au

May

- **Victorian Surfing Titles Jan Juc** www.surfingvic.com
- Victoria Welsh Choir concert Aireys Inlet www.victoriawelshchoir.com.au
- 13-14 Victorian Junior Surf Titles Jan Juc www.surfingvic.com
- **15-27 Torquay Theatre Troupe presents:** THE LARAMIE PROJECT - Torquay
- 20-21 HIF Victorian Longboard Titles - Torquay www.surfingvic.com

- 20-21 Great Ocean Road Running Festival
 - www.greatoceanroadrunfest.com.au
- 26-28 Australian Indigenous Surfing Titles -**Bells Beach**

www.surfingvic.com

June

- 1-30 Love Winter in Aireys www.aireysinlet.org.au
- 9-12 Anglesea Art & Craft Show www.angleseaarthouse.com.au
- Hells Bells Bells Beach www.torquayboardriders.org.au
- **Surf Coast Trail Marathon** Fairhaven to Torquay www.surfcoasttrailmarathon.com. au/trail-running

July

1 - 31 Love Winter in Aireys www.aireysinlet.org.au

MARKETS & FAIRS

APRIL - JULY 2017

April

22, 29 Torquay Farmers Market **f** torquayfarmersmarket

May

- 6, 13, 20, 27 Torquay Farmers Market
- ftorquayfarmersmarket
- Bellbrae Mayfair www.bellbraeps.vic.edu.au
 - Market minchelseafarmersmarket

Winchelsea Makers and Growers

Aireys Inlet Market www.aireysinletmarket.com.au

Details of markets and fairs in Surf Coast can be found at www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/markets

June

- 3, 10, 17, 24 Torquay Farmers Market
 - ftorquayfarmersmarket
- **Winchelsea Makers and Growers** Market
 - **f** winchelseafarmersmarket
- **Lorne Foreshore Market** www.lovelorne.com.au/events
- 11 **Aireys Inlet Market** www.aireysinletmarket.com.au

July

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Torquay Farmers Market ftorquayfarmersmarket
- **Winchelsea Makers and Growers** Market
 - **f** winchelseafarmersmarket





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