Groundywell

APRIL 2019

ANGLESEA, LORNE, TORQUAY, WINCHELSEA

Thruster tamed the waves Page two Walk of Honour submission Page three Achievers shine in youth awards

Page four



Community win at Stribling Reserve

L-R Lorne ward Councillor Clive Goldsworthy, Stribling Reserve Committee of Management chairman Peter Spring, netball club president Carly Enticott and Lorne P-12 College principal Shane Elevato.

Detailed design is underway for \$6.55 million upgrades set to transform Lorne's Stribling Reserve.

Confirmation of a \$3.27 million Federal Government Building Better Regions Fund allocation has provided a green light for work to include the building of a new netball pavilion and upgrading of the main reserve's pavilion with a new second level and unisex amenities.

Council will match the Building Better Regions funding.

This project is one of Council's key advocacy priorities which will deliver significant benefits for Lorne community and organisations, including football and netball clubs and the neighbouring P-12 College.

Detailed design of the new netball pavilion is underway and design of the main pavilion is expected to start in July, with building completion scheduled for early 2021.

The works will combine with previously-funded projects upgrading the reserve's lighting, installation of a new electronic scoreboard and new spectator terraces.

The lighting and scoreboard are scheduled for completion during May/June and the terraces will be completed during the major pavilion renovation.

Stribling Reserve Committee of Management chairman Peter Spring said the funding announcements pointed to an exciting future.

"The master planning process, which was completed in 2017, identified that Stribling Reserve could be more than just a sporting facility. It could be a community hub and that is reflected in the concept design," he said.

"We will now have change room facilities for males and females which cater to the growing demands for the reserve.

"Achieving this funding is the result of a very positive and collaborative partnership between the Stribling Reserve Committee of Management and the officers and executive management team at Surf Coast Shire."

Netball president Carly Enticott is pleased about the announcements. "Our female user groups are delighted to be receiving such a fantastic upgrade of our facilities, in particular the netball pavilion," she said.

"We believe the new facilities will help retain our current users and also encourage new active members to our great club.

"The partnership of support shown by our Surf Coast Shire and Federal Government is brilliant for our community, where

Pushing Advocacy Priorities

Council has been working hard to progress Federal Advocacy Priorities adopted at its January Council meeting.

The mayor, councillors and Council staff have been active in many meetings, trips to Canberra, announcements and funding applications.

These have resulted in a number of significant achievements for Surf Coast shire including:

- Announcement of the State and Federal Government \$355 million City Deal which includes implementation of the Shipwreck Coast Masterplan and Point Grey, Lorne redevelopment.
- Federal Government announcement of \$3.27 million Building Better Regions funding, matching \$3.27 million for Stribling Reserve.
- Public Transport Victoria announced V/Line bus services from the Great Ocean Road to Geelong will now stop at Waurn Ponds shopping centre, helping Surf Coast Shire residents and visitors access key services.
- Council received \$195,000 from Regional Development Victoria to deliver our new Economic Development Strategy which will have a 10-year view helping define our economic identity, values and key drivers.
- Council's Rural Access Program will receive additional sixmonth funding to help position us well to receive long term NDIS project funding.

Council will continue to work with both levels of government to achieve other advocacy priorities, including a recent application for \$80,000 to deliver two Winchelsea memorial cairns.

Other Federal Election advocacy priorities include Winchelsea River Loop and Adventure Playground, Walk the Painkalac, Thompson Valley Feasibility and Investment Prospectus, Torquay Theatre and Arts Space, Torquay Town Centre Place Making, Modewarre Netball Pavilion and Amenities Upgrade at Mt Moriac Reserve, and Improved Phone and Internet Coverage.

Council is also supporting partner and community-led priorities including Barwon Park Fire Protection, Anglesea Motor Yacht Club upgrade and stage one of Torquay Bowling Club upgrade.

Council is aware the outcome of the Federal Election is linked to an announcement regarding funding for an aquatic centre. We await the result of the election before considering the future of an aquatic centre.

Council is also advocating priorities in its community development program, which includes 12 important community-

Stribling Reserve is a true cornerstone."

focused projects.

DRAFT BUDGET: HAVE YOUR SAY

Council's 2019-20 Draft Budget and accompanying rating strategy will soon be open for submissions.

People are encouraged to provide feedback.

The budget provides funding for services and infrastructure to support the community and meet its aspirations now and into the future.

Pending adoption of the Draft Budget, submissions will be open from 24 April to 22 May, (to be confirmed) via **www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au**

'AMAZING AND INSPIRING' WOMEN'S EVENT

Patrons used words including amazing, empowering, inspiring, honest, and incredibly loving to describe Council's International Women's Day celebration.

A capacity audience of about 160 people filled Aireys Inlet Hall for the event and heard feminist author Clementine Ford and regional executives Vanessa Schernickau and Jo Plummer share thoughts in response to the theme #BalanceforBetter.

Mayor Rose Hodge led discussion and the panellists evaluated many aspects of gender equility. Cr Hodge acknowledged the more than 40 women who run businesses in Aireys Inlet.

The audience also applauded Cr Hodge among Council's six female mayors and one female commissioner since its formation. The mayors are Julie Hansen, Beth Davidson, Libby Mears, Libby Coker, Margot Smith and Rose Hodge, and the commissioner Toni McCormack.



Pictured above from left to right: Jo Plummer Clementine Ford and Vanessa Schernickau



SURF COAST SHIRE COUNCIL 1 Merrijig Drive (PO Box 350) Torquay 3228 For all Council services (including after hours service) Phone: **1300 610 600** or **5261 0600** Fax: **5261 0525**

Email: info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au | www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au

OFFICE HOURS: 8.30am to 5pm, Monday - Friday If you require a printed copy of online information referred in any story please call 5261 0600 f S C in Surfcoast.vic.gov.au

2018 Surf Coast Shire Australia Day awards

IN PROFILE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: **Jason Cichocki**

Surf Coast Shire Australia Day 2019 Citizen of the Year **Jason Cichocki** performs between 700 and 1000 animal rescues a year.

The devoted volunteer is not sure of the precise number, but is sure of his motivation.

"It's plain and simple, I love the animals," he said.

"As far as I'm concerned the animals are my family, and you'd do anything to help a family member in trouble.

"Nothing stops me from rescuing an animal. It doesn't matter what's going on, everything gets dropped."

He has answered the call for more than seven years, with rescues ranging from stricken wildlife to domestic animals and stock.

Mr Cichocki, who runs his own mechanics business, said he was humbled to be chosen for the award.

"It's something really good for me on a personal level but the thing that makes me really proud is the fact that through my efforts it has been seen by the community that wildlife rescue is something that is important to the region," he said.

He puts his own life on hold day or night, 365 days a year for the welfare of animals, supported by Surf Coast Animal Rescue Service.

Jason's nomination described how he educates and inspires with his compassion, demonstrating responsibility to respect and protect animals.

Mr Cichocki said kangaroos, koalas, possums and birds are his most rescued wildlife.

He remembers one challenging rescue involving a female kangaroo critically injured in a collision with a car, and with a joey at foot.

"The joey was hopping around and I turned up I think it was about the 5pm mark, and the joey took off into the distance," he said

"So I ended up having to sit there with mum and keep her as comfortable as possible for five or six hours while the joey kept coming closer and closer and closer, then taking off into the

Thruster tamed the waves

Simon Anderson's famous three-finned Thruster board which changed surfing history at Bells Beach is the centrepiece of a new exhibition at Torquay's Australian National

Anderson won his second Bells Beach Rip Curl Pro with the board in 1981, dominating the contest on six-metre waves.

In the process he ushered in a new era of pro surfing, with his Thruster design becoming the F1 equivalent of its time and the most popular, copied and enduring in modern surfing history.

Most contemporary pro surfers still ride boards based on Anderson's original three-finned concept.

While other designs had three fins of varying sizes in varying places, his was the first with equal sized fins in 'electrical socket' configuration, combined with reduced board nose area and wider tail.

The 'Simon's Bells 77/81' exhibition focuses on his 1977 win through rare archival black and white images capturing the characters and carefree atmosphere of the era, and on the 1981 win with a display of 10 boards used during that event.

The boards highlight the design evolution which was underway at the time as board shapers and surfers searched for competitive edge.

The Simon's Bells 77/81 exhibition is on show at the Australian National Surfing Museum until 30 November.

Torquay's Australian National Surfing Museum recorded its best visitation in 20 years in 2018 and the trend has continued this year, with increasing numbers of locals and families.

LIVE SITES STREAMING RIP CURL PRO

CATCH ALL OF THE BREAKS DURING THE **BELLS BEACH RIP CURL PRO EVEN IF YOU** CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE FAMOUS CLIFFS.

Action is being streamed to about 55 official Surf Coast Live Sites during the world-class event, which runs until 27 April.

People can drop into cafes, restaurants and venues in Torquay, Jan Juc, Anglesea, Aireys Inlet, Lorne and Winchelsea to enjoy watching the world's best surfers along with a splash of atmosphere and hospitality.

Action on e-waste

Your phone, your fridge, your laptop, your lamp – all are classified as e-waste if they no longer work or are no longer wanted.

E-waste refers to discarded items with plugs,

You might even find yourself sitting next to one of the world's best surfers!

Bells is the second leg of the World Surf League Tour and, in its 58th year, holds a place in surfing folklore. Find a listing of Rip Curl Pro Live Sites at www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au

Locals who can make it to the Bells Beach Rip Curl Pro and live within the 3228 postcode area can gain free entry on presentation of a driver's licence.

Remember from 1 July, no e-waste should go into general waste bins or to landfill, including:

- Large and small household appliances including fridges, irons, kettles, hair dryers
- IT, telecommunication and TV equipment • including computers and accessories, tablets, mobile phones and TVs

In Brief

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT **STRATEGY**

Surf Coast Shire Council will start shaping its long-term Economic **Development Strategy with findings** from a comprehensive audit of skills and emerging industries across the municipality.

The audit, scheduled to start in May, will focus on identifying future job opportunities within Surf Coast's economic, environmental, social and cultural contexts.

It will involve extensive stakeholder and community consultation.

The Victorian Government has enabled the audit with \$195,000 funding via Regional Development Victoria's Regional Skills Fund.

The 10-year Economic Development Strategy will aim to drive positive change and enable the shire to respond to shifting economic needs, with strong focus on diverse job creation.

It will also help Council refine its role in influencing economic development, reflecting community values, economic identity and future needs.

FOOD ORGANICS PILOT CONTINUES

Anglesea's food organics collection pilot is continuing and Council thanks residents and visitors who have participated since its launch in December.

During the pilot, food waste has been going into kerbside organics (green waste) bins along with garden clippings, instead of into landfill (general waste) bins.

The organics are processed into compost and mulch for use on farms, parks and gardens.

In the first three months of the pilot 22 per cent less waste was sent to landfill from Anglesea collections compared with the same period last year.

The information gathering phase of the pilot is now complete and Council is reviewing feedback provided by Anglesea residents and ratepayers.

You can see the results of surveys and waste audits on Council's website.

The existing food organics program is continuing in Anglesea while Council plans for the future of kerbside food organics collection in the shire.

ace.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SURFING MUSEUM







darkness again.

"Eventually I was able to gain his trust and catch him. There was no way I could take mum anywhere, he would have been left by himself and he wouldn't have survived.

"That was in the middle of winter in the middle of a rainstorm and I ended up with mild hypothermia after that one.

"It was quite a different rescue but a positive outcome. He did go into care and was released probably six or eight months later."

Mr Cichocki accepted his Citizen of the Year Award at Council's Australia Day Torquay celebrations at Taylor Park on 26 January.

batteries or cords. It is the fastest-growing category of waste world-wide, and from 1 July will no longer be accepted in general waste bins or in landfill across Victoria.

Instead, e-waste items will be accepted separately at transfer stations for pulling apart and retrieval of valuable components or removal of hazardous materials.

With the help of Victorian Government funding, Council has been upgrading e-waste drop-off sites at Anglesea, Lorne and Winchelsea transfer stations to improve community access and capacity to deal with increasing intake.

The items are transferred from the shire for processina.

- Lighting including LEDs and fluorescent lamps
- Electrical and electronic tools including drills • and lawnmowers
- Toys, leisure and sports equipment including racing cars, hard-held video games, musical equipment
- Other items including medical devices and thermostats

For more information about Council's e-waste drop-off points visit **www.surfcoast.vic.** gov/WasteAndRecycling or for more information about the e-waste ban and protecting data on phones or computers visit www.ewaste.vic.gov.au

For updates, keep an eye on Council's Facebook page and **www.surfcoast.vic.** gov.au/AngleseaOrganics.





Service in the spotlight

Child Care Educator Paula Hinds: Imagine getting paid to do what you love



After many years working in a city corporate world of banking and finance, Paula decided she needed a career change and a tree change.

With a love of country life, and in particular horses, she moved to the Surf Coast and re-trained as a Family Day Care Educator.

Family Day Care is a professional home-based child care service for children aged from six weeks to 12 years.

Operating as an educator in her home at Gherang, Paula found the flexibility to run her own business while working in with her own family needs, finding work/life balance.

Now her home has children aged 1 to 4 attending four days a week for care, with some children having attended and been making themselves at home there since they were seven months old! Paula collaborates with children and families daily to identify the children's needs, likes and interests, offering indoor or outdoor play and exploring. Activities might involve tending the cherry tomatoes and basil in the garden, feeding carrots and apples to TC the pony or playing in the autumn leaves. The children also engage in child-led play, allowing them to explore and discover and giving them a sense of belonging at the home-based service. Paula ensures the children are comfortable, happy and engaged, and their learning can be profound and loves her new calling and recommends it to others.

So what does it take to be a family day care educator? It takes passion, a love of children, a certificate III in children's services and a house passing a safety check. Family day care educators can work three to five days a week, managing their own time and business, including superannuation and tax.

Here is a checklist of what you will need to get started:

- Certificate III in early childhood education and care, or working towards
- Working with children and criminal record check
- Level 2 first aid qualification less than three years old
- Certificate in anaphylaxis management less than three years old
- CPR qualification less than 12 months old
- Public liability insurance
- Australian Business number, ABN
- Customer Reference Number, CRN, if applicable
- Mandatory reporting knowledge, can be completed during induction
- Food handling qualification, can be completed during induction
- Computer, Internet, printer

Family Day Care Educator courses and training options are also available. For more information, please call **5261 0600** or email **familydaycare@surfcoast.vic.gov.au**

CHANGING PLACES PROGRESS

The construction of Changing Places adult change facilities in Winchelsea and Anglesea is set to start in June, promising increased comfort and dignity for people with high support needs.

Changing Places are toilets and change facilities equipped with an adult-size change table, ceiling hoist and enough space for carers to move around.

They can change the lives of people previously unable to go out because most toilets don't cater for their needs.

The new installations, which will be listed on a national Changing Places register, will allow locals and visitors to enjoy freedoms many people take for granted.

Winchelsea's Changing Place will be at the former

BOOST FOR RANGER SERVICES

Increases in pet registration fees have enabled Council to respond to demand for extra ranger services.

Extensive community consultation during **development of Council's Domestic** Animal Management Plan revealed strong demand for more rangers and patrols in the shire.

Patrols on beaches have been stepped up with the addition of a new all-terrain vehicle, which increases reach and mobility for rangers focusing on areas including observation of dog and horse regulations.

In addition to increasing ranger services, Council is also rolling out a pet owner education campaign.

Fees are \$65 for a desexed dog or cat, or \$32.50 for pensioners, and \$195 for an unsterilized dog or cat, \$97.50 for pensioners.

The full fees have increased \$23.60 for desexed animals and \$51.90 for unsterilized.

Registration fees pay directly for a range of in-demand services including:



Try Home Grown!

Would you like to grow your own fresh vegetables and fruit at home but not sure where to start?

Are you already gardening and just want to learn a little more?

Eating locally-grown food is great for you and for the environment and Council is now offering a series of free workshops and events, from garden design and seasonal planting to pruning and preserving, as part of its Home Grown Series.

The series aims to help build skills and knowledge in growing fresh fruit and vegetables and turning outdoor spaces into productive, functional gardens.

Whether you have a back yard, balcony, courtyard or a couple of pots, there is a workshop that will make a positive difference to the way you garden.

The practical and fun Home Grown workshops continue in May and June with seasonal gardening, planning and planting and orchard.

For more information or to book a session visit **www. surfcoast.vic.gov.au/environment/local-andsustainable-food** or contact Council's Local Food & Sustainability Officer on (03) 5261 0600.

Walk of Honour submission

Council is continuing to seek funding for two further war memorial cairns for Winchelsea's town centre Walk of Honour.

Initial applications for state and federal grants were unsuccessful but positive feedback on the project has encouraged submission of a further application.

Council is now seeking \$80,000 from the Victoria Remembers Major Grant Program, to match its own \$80,000 contribution.

The Walk of Honour project will deliver installation of two additional cairns to Winchelsea's Barwon River reserve, beside an existing cairn which commemorates World War I service men and women, local Victoria Cross recipient Albert Jacka and other Victoria Cross recipients.

The new cairns will commemorate service men and women from World War II, as well as other conflicts and Victoria Cross

shire hall, modifying an existing facility. Anglesea's will adjoin an existing toilet in the Four Kings car park beside the Great Ocean Road.

The sites were chosen due to their location on major local and visitor roads the accessibility of the sites and the lack of similar facilities in these areas.

The Victorian Government is contributing \$200,000 to the project via the Department of Health and Human Services, and Council will contribute \$177,000.

Construction is scheduled to start in June and conclude by September.

- Ranger services, including staff, vehicles and equipment
- Dog pound operation
- Responses to after-hours animal-related call-outs
- Payments to Geelong Animal Welfare Society and Animal Welfare Victoria
- Purchase and operation of an all-terrain patrol buggy
- Management and investigation of dog attacks, including prosecution
- Pet owner education

As at March 2019 Surf Coast Shire had 6086 registered dogs and 968 registered cats.

In 2018 Council received about 600 animal-related customer service requests, including 140 lost animals, and more than 190 calls to animals at large.

Council impounded 151 animals, with a return rate of about 95 per cent, responded to 34 dog attacks and managed 76 barking dog complaints.

recipients.

They will also commemorate local service men and women.

A decision on the application is expected later this year.

Winchelsea Sculpture Update

Work is continuing on striking sculptures to mark Winchelsea's east and west Princes Highway entrances, with installation scheduled for May.

Artist Ben Storch is overseeing completion of a vision developed in collaboration with his late project partner Matthew Harding.

Reed design structures will be installed at Winchelsea's eastern entrance and a winged design sculpture at the western entrance.



A Great Running Tradition

Torquay's O'Dwyer family gives 100 per cent to the Great Ocean Road Running Festival, with both parents and four kids all participating in events.



"We love the whole weekend, it's something we look forward to all year. It has become a tradition," Mum Sarah said. "We make a weekend of it, arrive on the Friday and stay until the Monday and really take in the whole experience." Sarah has run the festival's halfmarathon twice, completed the marathon for the first time last year and will run it again this year.

Pictured: Freddy O'Dwyer

Husband Kieran runs the half-

marathon, children Bella, 12, and George, 10, the 6km and Harriett, 7, and Freddy, 4, the 1.5km Kids' Gallop.

This year's Great Ocean Road Running Festival will be on 18 and 19 May and registrations are open.

Sarah, founder of Torquay parkrun, said the Great Ocean Road provides a spectacular backdrop for running.

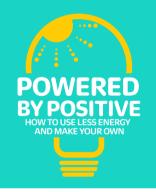
"While running you have to remind yourself to take it all in and not be too preoccupied with the hard slog of all those hills and with hard-surface running," she said.

"It has to be the best running backdrop in the world. We are so lucky to get the opportunity to see those views on foot."

The festival attracts thousands of athletes and Great Ocean Road users should prepare for road closures during marathon day, 19 May. The closures:

- Lorne, Great Ocean Road / Mountjoy Parade between Bay St and Hird St 7am – 9.30am
- Lorne, Great Ocean Road from Hird St to Apollo Bay 7am -2.30pm.
- Lorne township will remain open but during the race a detour between Lorne and Apollo Bay will be in place, via Deans Marsh, Barwon Downs, Tanybryn and Skenes Creek.
- The Great Ocean Road will be re-opened progressively eastbound as participants pass.
- Parking will be restricted in Mountjoy Parade and at Lorne Surf Life Saving Club from late Saturday 18 May to noon 19 May.

For more information on road closures and registrations go to www.greatoceanroadrunfest.com.au



TOO EASY!

Anglesea residents Lynne and Trevor are among the increasing number of Surf Coast locals taking positive steps to reduce their overall energy use and save money on energy bills.

Although interested in installing solar power, initially it seemed too hard - until a Council presentation in 2017.

Lynne described the presentation as the light bulb moment that led the couple to subsequently install a rooftop solar svstem.

"The installer guided us through the process, explaining the pros and cons of each decision. In the end, it was super easy and went smoothly," Lynne said, admitting to being delighted when the first bill arrived.

"Despite a tariff increase, it was 30 per cent lower than the same billing period the previous year."

In promoting the ease and benefits of going solar, Lynne and Trevor feature as part of Council's new Powered by Positive program.



Launched earlier this year, the program focuses on making it simple for local residents and businesses to use less energy from making small changes, like turning off lights and blocking draughts, to switching to renewable energy.

The Powered by Positive website contains a wealth of information, including practical ways to save energy around the home, links to local suppliers and information about available funding options. Lynne and Trevor's experiences are depicted in one of four case studies.

"Just take the first step. Seek out information, make enquiries and find a supplier who shares your values," Lynne advised.

poweredbypositive.com.au

WHAT'S ON

APRIL

- 17-27 Rip Curl Pro World Surf League World Tour Event, **Bells Beach**
- 18-22 Easter Art Show, Lorne
- 20 The Drop Music Festival, Torquay
- 20 & 27 Torquay Farmers Market
- Anzac Day March and Service, Anglesea 25
- 25 Anzac Day Dawn Service, Point Danger, Torquay
- 25 Anzac Day Service, Winchelsea
- 25 Anzac Day Service, Lorne
- 27 Point Danger Handicap Invitation Swim, Torquay
- 27 Great Ocean and Otway Classic Ride, Torquay

MAY

- 3 The Sound Doctor Presents an Evening with Tiny Ruins, Anglesea
- 4 The Sound Doctor Presents an Evening with Joan as Policewoman
- 4, 11, 18, 25 Torquay Farmers Market 5
 - Bellbrae Mayfair
- 18-19 Great Ocean Road Running Festival, Lorne
- 18-19 Victorian Longboard Titles #2 Point Impossible
- 25-26 Victorian Junior Surf Titles, Jan Juc
- 31 Australian Indigenous Surfing Titles, Bells Beach

JUNE

- 1-2 Australian Indigenous Surfing Titles, Bells Beach
- 1-30 Love Winter In Aireys
- 7-10 Anglesea Art and Craft Show
- Surf Coast Trail Marathon, Torquay to Fairhaven 29
- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Torquay Farmers Market

JULY

- 1-31 Love Winter in Aireys
- 6, 13, 20 Torquay Farmers Market

MARKETS AND FAIRS

APRIL

- 20 Foreshore Market, Lorne
- 21 Aireys Inlet Market
- 21 Anglesea Riverbank Market
- 21 Cowrie Market, Torquay
- 21 Aireys Inlet Market
- 28 The Farmers' Place Market, Freshwater Creek

MAY

- 5 Airevs Inlet Market
- 26 The Farmers' Place Market, Freshwaster Creek

JUNE

- Foreshore Market, Lorne 8
- 9 Aireys Inlet Market

Bridge works now completed

Pedestrians and cyclists have safer connection between Torquay and rapidly growing Torquay North after completion of a new bridge across Deep Creek.

The bridge beside the Surf Coast Highway replaces a narrow informal dirt track. About 1km of adjoining tracks will be upgraded with accompanying landscaping.

Council has partnered VicRoads' Fixing Country Roads program in strengthening a bridge on Cape Otway Road at Tea Tree Creek, Modewarre.

The \$300,000 project involved replacing the bridge deck.

ACHIEVERS SHINE IN YOUTH AWARDS

Surf Coast Shire Council celebrated outstanding achievers with its fifth annual Youth Awards.

A big field of nominees produced six award recipients in four categories, with three young guns sharing honours in sport.

The awards were presented during a ceremony in Council's chamber earlier this month.

Recipients were:

Academic: Haylee Heard. Haylee was 2018 dux at Surf Coast Secondary College, recipient of a college academic excellence award and an Australian Defence Force Long Tan youth leadership and teamwork award. She is studying at Melbourne University after having received a Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship. Art: Jett Belle Graham-Russell. Jett has been a member of Torquay Dance Academy since it opened in 2013 and in the past year achieved honours in the world-recognised Cecchetti Exam. At the academy she is an admired mentor for younger age groups

Community: Sam Suendermann. Sam has helped run a range of events supporting women in surfing and has undertaken study to explore the social value of surfing to the Surf Coast. She recently completed filming and directing a movie highlighting the importance of the ocean and environment to traditional owners.

Yacht Club and at 14 was highest placed female in under-18 Victorian sailing championships. She supports young and new participants at the club and discusses the sport of sailing while taking community members on the water.

Sport: Xavier Huxtable. Xavier is a member of Torquay Boardriders Club and in the past year became the first Australian to win the International Junior Grom Search. He is ranked second pro junior in Australasia and volunteers an estimated 75 hours a year for his club.

Sport: Olivia Jenkins. Olivia has excelled for Torquay Hockey Club and Jan Juc Surf Life Saving Club. She has played in four consecutive Victorian junior hockey championships and is a Geelong Premier League Squad member. She is also an under-17 and under-19 champion life saver and volunteers for both clubs.





Torquay Visitor Centre Beach Road, Torquay 1300 614 219

Lorne Visitor Centre

15 Mountjoy Parade, Lorne 1300 891 152

