

Groundswell

APRIL 2018

ANGLESEA, LORNE, TORQUAY, WINCHELSEA

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You're invited into Kurrabee Myaring Community Centre

People are invited to visit Kurrabee Myaring Community Centre (KMCC), following its official opening in April.

A free community celebration was held to mark the opening. It featured family-friendly activities, entertainment and tours of the new centre at 12 Merrijig Drive, Torquay.

KMCC opened its doors in February, supporting more than 100 families with kindergarten and occasional care services. The \$6.8 million centre also has a youth space, areas the public can hire, and an accessible change facility for adults.

People are invited to visit the centre and view the range of services on offer.

New horizons at Moriac pre-school

A series of inclusive playground upgrades are allowing Stephanie Nave to explore new dimensions in learning and play at Moriac Pre-School.

Stephanie, 3, daughter of Amanda and Mark, has type two spinal muscular atrophy and relies on a motorised chair for mobility.

Prior to the upgrades, Stephanie had limited access to the playground. Installations including ramps to a cubby house and stage, a raised sandpit, water play area and decking at a storytime amphitheatre are enabling her to explore, enjoy and participate more.

Surf Coast Shire's facilities, operations and open space teams worked closely with the pre-school committee and Stephanie's parents to design and complete the work, worth more than \$20,000. Mrs Nave is a member of the committee.

"I think the Surf Coast Shire has been fantastic in gathering a team to try and create a really accessible, inclusive program at Moriac," Mrs Nave said.

"Creating accessible environments can be rather complex and further work is planned, but everyone is working to improve the overall facilities and improve inclusion.

"It is great that we can have Stephanie educated in our own area rather than having to go further afield, away from the community where we live."

All are mindful that the work will be far-reaching, for other children with limited mobility and for all learning about inclusion.

Mrs Nave described Stephanie as happy and carefree, as well as a determined problem-solver.

"As soon as you pull up at the pre-school she's off and knows where she wants to go," Mrs Nave said.

"She just tends to get on with stuff and the adaptation of the facility has made it easier for her to get on with it by removing obstacles in the way."



Have your say: 2018-19 Draft Budget

The 2018-19 Draft Budget is open for submissions, with people encouraged to provide feedback. The budget features projects that will deliver infrastructure to support the community and meet its aspirations now and into the future.

To view the draft budget and make a submission, visit www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay. Submissions will close Thursday 24 May.

Kicking goals at new soccer pitch

A third soccer pitch is being constructed in Banyul-Warri Fields thanks to a Victorian Government grant – one of two obtained by Council this year.

Member for Western Victoria Gayle Tierney announced \$100,000 of funding towards Yuurrok Soccer Pitch, much to the delight of Surf Coast Football Club and Galaxy United Football Club.

Yuurrok will be the third pitch to be developed in the growth area in the north of Torquay. It will feature a drainage system, lighting, natural turf coverage, and fully-enclosed chain mesh fencing with high areas behind both goals.

As well as catering for the sport's participation growth, it will ease some of the scheduling demands between the soccer clubs and Torquay Tornadoes Hockey Club.

Yuurrok soccer pitch featured in Council's advocacy program, which supports Council to rally for projects that will benefit the community. The program also helps ensure the Surf Coast is at the forefront for funding and partnership opportunities.

Yuurrok was one of two successful Sport and Recreation Victoria grant applications for Council this year. Funding was also received to develop an all-weather multi-purpose training facility at Modewarre Cricket Club. The state government grant combined with contributions from the club and Council.

Council is waiting to hear whether applications for two advocacy projects – the Surf Coast Multi-Purpose Indoor Stadium and Growing Adventure Tourism Surf Coast Trails – have been successful. It has also applied for a Federal Government grant to contribute towards Yuurrok soccer pitch.

Last year, a Federal Government grant was secured for the development of Winchelsea Netball Pavilion.

All of the projects will help Council achieve its goal to support people to be healthy and active.



L-R: Cr Libby Coker, Surf Coast Football Club President Steve Christou, Member for Western Victoria Gayle Tierney, Deputy Mayor Cr Clive Goldsworthy, Galaxy United Football Club President Rob Lehmann and Cr Rose Hodge.

Council makes combined submission on Anglesea draft plans



A submission to two Anglesea draft land use plans is underpinned by an overarching goal for the area to deliver significant environmental, social and economic outcomes for Anglesea, the wider region and state.

Council provided a combined submission to the Anglesea Futures Draft Land Use Plan and Alcoa Freehold Draft Concept Master Plan, which cover a study area that includes the former Alcoa site.

Both draft plans were driven by guiding principles established jointly by Council, Alcoa, Parks Victoria and Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) during community engagement.

Council's combined submission provides in-principle support to a tourism precinct of national significance in designated areas, provided any development is in line with the surrounding natural landscape and Anglesea's coastal character. Council affirms that buildings and other infrastructure types must reflect the town's low key coastal character with its emphasis on open space and low scale built form.

In regards to residential use, Council would consider a portion being allocated to ongoing affordable family housing thereby providing an important net community benefit. The opportunity to support accommodation for seasonal workers is also an important consideration.

The submission acknowledged the importance of the Anglesea Bike Park and strong community views to retain it in its current location however this matter will be determined through a formal bike park options assessment.

The bike park study is scheduled to be considered by Council at its May meeting. Recommendations from the study will impact on outcomes for the area proposed for residential development.

Other key points in Council's combined submission were:

- Thanking DELWP and Alcoa for the extensive engagement that occurred to date. Council believed the process had been strong and thorough and the draft plans position the Anglesea community and other stakeholders to realise the potential benefits from this opportunity.
- Supporting the conservation of ecologically-significant natural features and welcoming the early surrender of 6,510 ha of Alcoa's lease and the inclusion of the land into Great Otway National Park.
- Supporting the direction for a proposed safe water body and sloping banks which ensure the environmental health and flow of the Anglesea River – a vital social, economic and environmental asset to Anglesea.
- Encouraging the creation of a loop trail around the proposed new water body so people can walk or cycle between the study area and the town.
- A desire to undertake a study with Alcoa and DELWP to understand the opportunities and practicalities of changes to the local road network. This study would help explore how the area can connect to the town while being compatible with Anglesea's character.
- While the exclusive use of land within the study area for a standalone renewable energy project may not be the best and highest use of this land, Council would not be opposed to considering a future standalone renewable energy proposal in areas 3 or 6, subject to community engagement.

NEW AND IMPROVED WEBSITE

Council's website has been redesigned to make it easier for you to find the information you need. It's also now responsive, which means you can see all content from any device, such as your mobile phone or tablet.

There is a Near Me page where you can type in your address to find your bin dates, local Councillors and nearby Council services. You'll also find event information, pet registration, community consultations and more.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Preparations are underway to mark two upcoming events. IDAHOBIT (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia) Day is a day of inclusion, celebrated 17 May. Meanwhile, NAIDOC Week will be from 8 to 15 July. This year's NAIDOC theme is Because Of Her, We Can. Stay tuned to Council's website for more information.

COUNCIL SIGNS UP TO GROW

Council has demonstrated its commitment to helping address disadvantage in the G21 Region, signing up to the GROW Compact. GROW (G21 Region Opportunities for Work) is a long-term strategy that aims to generate local sustainable jobs and support job seekers from areas with high rates of unemployment to have equal access to work opportunities.

Pressing for progress



International Women's Day special guest speakers Jessie Lloyd (left) and Merinda Kelly (right) with Mayor Cr David Bell.

The International Women's Day celebration saw attendees leave Lorne considering ways they could #PressForProgress. The community event welcomed a capacity crowd, which heard from two special guest speakers – award-winning musician and performer Jessie Lloyd and Lorne Sculpture Biennale artist Merinda Kelly. Ms Kelly spoke about the challenges of balancing an artistic career with family responsibilities and Ms Lloyd shared her experiences of navigating the music industry as an indigenous woman.

Guests were asked to think about how they could accelerate gender parity in their community. Actions included challenging stereotypes and bias, celebrating women's achievements, and forging positive visibility of women.

Mayor Cr David Bell said he was honoured to be part of a Council where majority of councillors were women. He encouraged people to take action to press forward and progress gender parity.



Beautifying Winchelsea

New picnic settings, bike racks, paving and garden beds are just some of the improvements that will enhance Winchelsea as part of the Winchelsea Town Centre Revitalisation Project.

The project features two key components – beautification works and township entrance sculptures, estimated at \$264,000 and \$128,300 respectively.

The revitalisation of the area will be enjoyed by Winchelsea residents and visitors.

Furniture including seats, bike racks, new rubbish bin enclosures and picnic settings are being installed, while trees and Gallipoli roses will beautify Anzac Memorial Park and the area beside Bendigo Bank. The project also includes repaving the footpath on the IGA and Bendigo Bank corners, and constructing a new kerb adjacent to the western side of Anzac Memorial Park and Bendigo Bank corner.



Stribling Reserve Upgrade works - artists impression

A project-packed year

This financial year will see Council deliver a record project program, delivering projects that will help the community and environment to thrive.

The current program consists of about 250 projects, with just over \$25 million to be spent in 2017-18.

Spread across the four wards of Anglesea, Lorne, Torquay and Winchelsea, the projects enable Council to deliver infrastructure that will support the community and cater for growth. From the large-scale project of the construction of Kurrabee Myaring Community Centre in the north of Torquay; to road and sporting facility upgrades – the diverse range of projects will ultimately ensure that valued infrastructure is in place for the community now and into the future.

2018 Surf Coast Shire Australia Day Awards

In profile: Citizen of the Year
Julie Stevens



Julie Stevens doesn't see her exceptional list of community contributions as anything special, but the countless people she has helped would say otherwise.

The 2018 Surf Coast Shire Citizen of the Year was recognised for her outstanding service to the community.

Ms Stevens has sewn more than 2000 Boomerang bags for Plastic Bag Free Torquay; set-up a sit and sew group at Torquay Community House for people to share their love of quilting and stitching; ran cooking and craft classes at the community house; knitted for a refugee settlement charity; set-up a walking and coffee group at Surf Coast Life Activities Club; helped fundraise for Torquay Relay for Life and sewn for Torquay Theatre Troupe. She is also a volunteer at Surf Coast Repair Café, where she helps repair clothing and sews Boomerang Bags – made from recycled materials.

Another project is supporting the group MOTHERS (Mothers Offering Time, Hope, Engagement, Refugee Support) which assists refugee families in Corio.

"Having worked with refugees in teaching, I decided to help this group where I can," Ms Stevens said.

"I sell homemade items at the Spring Creek Community House and this money goes to MOTHERS to help meet the needs of the families as identified by the professionals working with them."

Ms Stevens praised people who supported a fundraising high tea for MOTHERS at the community house in February.

"I was touched by the generosity of people, many of whom I had not met before, who donated food, prizes, crockery, their time and more," she said.

The Torquay resident was humbled to receive the Citizen of the Year honour.

"While pleased I have won, I would also like to acknowledge that if it wasn't for the commitment of others, I would not be receiving this award," she said.

Ms Stevens' fellow 2018 Surf Coast Shire Australia Day Award winners will be featured in future editions of Groundswell. Read the July and October editions of the newsletter to receive an update on the two other award recipients - Dan Smith (Young Citizen of the Year) and Lorne Pier to Pub (Community Event of the Year).

Service in the spotlight:

The state of play in the Surf Coast

From reaching new heights on a swing and whizzing down a slide, to getting some air with the latest skate trick – playgrounds and skate parks on the Surf Coast can be entertaining for people of all ages.

Council's Facilities and Open Space team is responsible for maintaining 40 playgrounds and nine skate parks. The maintenance involves ensuring the playgrounds are in prime condition, for users to enjoy year-round.

The playgrounds – including the main structure, swings, spinners, rockers and the soft-fall surface – are assessed for wear, damage, graffiti and litter. Other maintenance usually carried out around the surrounding areas of each playground includes the blowing of leaves and debris from paths and

high-use areas, furniture repair, garden bed maintenance, hand mowing and brush cutting.

The Open Space team also carries out renewal works, replacing equipment like-for-like and upgrading the soft-fall surfacing. Landscaping improvements can also be made.

In the next 18 months, playgrounds up for renewal are Torquay Boulevard Reserve (Jan Juc), Coogoorah Park (Anglesea), Barwon River Reserve (Winchelsea), Deep Creek Reserve and St Anne's Reserve (Torquay).

A list of Surf Coast playgrounds and skate parks can be found on Council's website in the Parks and Reserves listing.

Community networks

Are you interested in joining a community network? There are four formalised groups in the Surf Coast Shire that consist of passionate local residents who have united to help their communities to thrive. Visit their websites or contact them for details on how you can get involved.

ANGLESEA COMMUNITY NETWORK
Website coming soon
Email: angleseabata@hotmail.com

COMMITTEE FOR LORNE
www.committeeforlorne.org.au
Email: info@committeeforlorne.org.au

GROWING WINCHELSEA
www.growingwinchelsea.com
Email: secretary@growingwinchelsea.com

MORIAC COMMUNITY NETWORK
www.mcn.org.au
Email: moriaccommunitynetwork@gmail.com

Building bridges

The installation of bridges at Stony Creek Nature Reserve in Lorne is underway, following confirmation that the works are eligible for funding under the Natural Disaster Financial Assistance program.

A severe storm on 14 September 2016 damaged three bridges at the reserve, two beyond repair. The river crossings are being replaced with concrete-decked clear span bridges and natural timber hand rails.

The project – which will cost about \$287,000 – is jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

"Importantly, these bridges will reinstate access for maintenance, fire prevention works and emergency service vehicles," Lorne Ward Councillor Clive Goldsworthy said.

"They'll also restore safe access for the community."

It is expected the bridges will be completed in May, a few months later than the initial planned summer finish.

"The delay was because we needed to ensure we were eligible for funding and to seek the necessary approval," Cr Goldsworthy said.

"Thank you to the community for their patience. I'm sure Lorne residents and visitors are looking forward to the bridges being installed and having pedestrian access again."

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You will receive a link in your inbox, which will provide access for the next 48 hours. Click this and choose a password. You will then be able to log on at any time. The next rates notice will be delivered to your inbox, giving you more time to pay and reducing paper use.



SAVE THE DATE: 2018 Surf Coast Arts Trail

The diverse talent of local artists will be showcased in the 2018 Surf Coast Arts Trail. Held Saturday 11 August and Sunday 12 August, the popular annual event is an opportunity to discover an incredible range of art and meet the artists in their studios.

Venues will be spread from the coast to the hinterland. A Surf Coast Arts Trail map will be released closer to the date, so people can plan their weekend.

What's on

APRIL - JULY 2018

APRIL

- 28-29 HIF Victorian Stand Up Paddleboard Titles, Torquay
- 28 Great Ocean & Otway Classic Ride, Torquay

MAY

- 6 Bellbrae Mayfair
- 19-20 Great Ocean Road Running Festival, Lorne
- 19-20 HIF Victorian Longboard Titles Round 2, Torquay
- 25-27 Australian Indigenous Surfing Titles, Bells Beach

JUNE

- 1-30 Love Winter in Aireys
- 8-11 Anglesea Art & Craft Show
- 30 Surf Coast Trail Marathon, Torquay to Fairhaven

JULY

- 1-31 Love Winter in Aireys

MARKETS AND FAIRS

APRIL

- 28 Torquay Farmers Market
- 29 The Farmer's Place Farmers Market, Freshwater Creek

MAY

- 5, 12, 19, 26 Torquay Farmers Market
- 13 Aireys Inlet Market
- 27 The Farmer's Place Farmers Market, Freshwater Creek

JUNE

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Torquay Farmers Market
- 9 Lorne Foreshore Market
- 10 Aireys Inlet Market
- 24 The Farmer's Place Farmers Market, Freshwater Creek

JULY

- 7, 14, 21, 28 Torquay Farmers Market

Details of events, markets and fairs can be found at www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/events.



Burning off: important information

The Fire Danger Period is expected to be in place until early May. To burn off during this period, you must obtain a written permit from 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.