

Groundswell

JANUARY 2020

ANGLESEA, LORNE, TORQUAY, WINCHELSEA

Madcappers making their mark

Deans Marsh locals look to the future

PAGE 2

Smoke-free beaches

Surf Coast beaches are proud to be smoke-free

PAGE 3

Fire up

Staying safe in the summer fire season

PAGE 4



Many will be hoping that Aussie superstar Caleb Ewan will take out the inaugural Race Torquay men's event, following his amazing stage win in 2019 on cycling's most famous stage – the Champs Elysees in Paris. Image: Reuters

Racing from Paris to Torquay

The Surf Coast Shire is set to welcome the world's best cyclists for the inaugural Towards Zero Race Torquay, to be held Thursday 30 January. This is the official prelude to the Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race, which will take place on the weekend of 1-2 February.

You'll start to see the elite men's and women's teams training along the Great Ocean Road and no doubt enjoying a post-ride coffee at one of our townships' many cafes. We're asking the community to give them a warm Surf Coast Shire welcome, and to come out in force to experience the world-class cycling action that will be delivered right on your doorstep.

The events will be live-streamed and broadcast around the world, showcasing Torquay and the broader region to a global audience.

The best place to catch the action on Thursday 30 January will be the Towards Zero Race Torquay Event Village, located on the foreshore area alongside the race start/finish line (near the corner of Price Street). Come down and enjoy a

fantastic afternoon of entertainment including live action on the big screen, delicious food stalls, boutique bars, music and kids' activities. There'll be plenty of seating, tables, umbrellas and even beanbags, to relax and soak up the atmosphere. Whether you're a mad cycling fan or simply want to enjoy a summer evening out – this event is for everyone.

KEY TIMES – TOWARDS ZERO RACE TORQUAY, THURSDAY 30 JANUARY 2020:

Elite women (8 x 13km laps): 12pm start, with approx. finish time of 2.45pm

Elite men (10 x 13km laps): 4.50pm start, with approx. finish time of 7.45pm

For further details, please visit www.racetorquay.com.au.

Recycling has changed LET'S GET SORTED!

FIND OUT HOW AT surfcoast.vic.gov.au/recyclingupdate

CONTINUED PAGE THREE



Waste collection services are changing.

We'd like to hear your thoughts on our plans for the new kerbside collection service and what's important about how we deliver waste services into the future.

Visit www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/WasteAndRecycling before 31 January to give us your feedback.



Traffic alterations in Torquay – Thursday 30 January 2020

Race Torquay will be held on a multi-lap race circuit around the township via The Esplanade / Bell Street / Great Ocean Road / Duffields Road / Messmate Road / South Beach Road / Horseshoe Bend Road / The Esplanade. There will be significant impacts to traffic, so it's highly recommended to plan ahead or – better still – leave your car at home on race day.

Three key things to know:

- 1) The Esplanade will be closed to vehicles all day from 7am until 9pm. No parking or driving along The Esplanade during this period.
- 2) Avoid the rest of The Esplanade and Bell Street between 11am and 8pm.
- 3) Please don't park anywhere along the course between 11am and 8pm. Ideally, avoid having to drive along the course during this time, to avoid significant delays.

For full details, visit

www.cadelevansgreatoceanroadrace.com.au/about/traffic-alterations.



LODGE A REQUEST – anytime, anywhere

Reuniting someone with their wallet that was accidentally dropped in a rubbish bin on the street? Tick.

Providing more information about a local road? Tick.

Updating a ratepayer's personal details? Tick.

People are making the most of Council's Lodge a Request system – a quick and simple way to request a service, information or maintenance.

The online form on Council's website is accessed via the home page www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au

The website is compatible with phones and tablets and the form is easy to fill out. You add the details of the request and your contact details, and are given a customer request number. This can be used to track requests and you can choose to be informed of the outcome.



Most popular requests

- Waste
- Building maintenance
- Road maintenance
- Open space and parks

Mayor Rose Hodge re-elected

Cr Rose Hodge will serve as Mayor for the remainder of the Surf Coast Shire Council term.



Cr Hodge was re-elected Mayor and Cr Clive Goldsworthy re-elected Deputy Mayor.

"I am honoured to serve the community in such a beautiful part of the world and proud of the leadership Surf Coast Shire Council has shown across many issues," said Cr Hodge, in her fifth term as Mayor.

"I would like to thank my fellow Surf Coast Shire councillors, staff and, in particular, the community. I am pleased that we have accomplished many of the goals set out in the Council Plan and I look forward to working with my fellow councillors to see the plan through during this term of Council."

Stadium is a team effort

Construction is underway on the Surf Coast Multi-Purpose Indoor Stadium after three years of extensive planning and fundraising.

The new stadium will be formed by adding three courts to the existing single-court stadium at Surf Coast Secondary College in the north of Torquay. Council is working closely with the school to minimise disruption during construction.

The stadium is expected to be completed by the end of this year. It will be a place for all ages and abilities – from school activities to sports competitions to local events. When finished the stadium will boast four courts, a café, multi-purpose rooms, change facilities, all abilities design features and additional car parking.

The \$13.5 million total project cost is made up of \$5 million from the Australian Government Building Better Regions Fund, \$3 million from the Victorian Government Better Indoor Stadiums Fund, developer contributions of \$2.9 million and a Council contribution of \$2.6 million. It is the biggest project undertaken by Council.

To stay up-to-date on the project, visit www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/stadium.



Madcappers making their mark



L-R: members of the Robinson-Koss family Mikala, Wendy and Indi getting their MADCAP on

A small community is turning its big dreams into reality. The Deans Marsh and District Action Plan – known as MADCAP – has been powered by passionate locals, who are addressing the complex issues facing their rural community and setting priorities for the future.

"In my role as Deans Marsh Cottage Co-ordinator it became apparent that there was an opportunity for locals to be proactive in creating a community-generated roadmap for our community," local Lisa Jarvis said.

"The first part of the MADCAP process was the broad engagement of our community through resident and business surveys and hosting Mighty Madcap Cafe conversations."

Ms Jarvis said the response from the local community had been great.

"Community members have hosted discussions, areas of priority and passions have been identified, and there have been lots of conversation and learning about each other and what is important to us for the future. Now we're working further with groups of residents to develop the action plans to realise these aspirations," she said.

Locals are encouraged to participate in all stages of the MADCAP process, including being involved in working groups to bring the plan to life.

"The Deans Marsh and District Action Plan is not designed to sit on a shelf," Ms Jarvis said. "It will be evaluated, reviewed and inform the ongoing activities of the Deans Marsh Community Cottage and other local organisations."

Ms Jarvis had some simple advice for other communities wanting to take charge of their future.

"Make it happen," she said. "Every community is unique in its assets and passions – this process helps communities to advocate on their own behalf about what is important."

Council is supporting and collaborating with MADCAP by providing information and guidance so the community can achieve its aspirations.

Deans Marsh Community Cottage received a \$20,000 grant from the Victorian Government's Stronger Regional Communities Program to go towards the project.

To receive MADCAP updates, contact the community cottage (www.deansmarsh.org.au).

IN BRIEF

COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY

Six hundred people will be interviewed as part of the Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey. Starting in February, the annual survey seeks to understand Council's performance over the past year. The survey will be carried out via random phone interviews with ratepayers.

WATCH COUNCIL MEETINGS LIVE ONLINE

Council meetings can now be watched live through Council's website. A live video stream of each Council meeting is available at webcast.surfcoast.vic.gov.au. A video recording of the meeting is also available later in the week of the Council meeting.

This is a great option for people who can't get to a Council meeting but would like to see what decisions are made.

COMMITMENT TO VOLUNTEERS

The valuable contribution of volunteers and the benefits they bring have been recognised as part of Council's new Volunteer Policy.

The policy outlines Council's commitment to aligning with the National Standards for Volunteer Involvement, and how it will support volunteers across the Surf Coast Shire.

Council's 2018-19 volunteer program welcomed 159 volunteers across various programs including Delivered Meals, Visitor Information Centres and Committees of Management for local reserves and facilities. They volunteered more than 12,300 hours.

Interested in volunteering? Find out more at www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/volunteer.

LET'S GET SORTED!

Please be aware of these recent changes to what goes in your recycle bin.

What's in:

- ✓ Empty rigid plastic bottles and containers labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 with their lids placed in the recycling bin separately
- ✓ Clean paper and cardboard
- ✓ Empty steel food cans, aluminium cans and foil
- ✓ Empty glass bottles and food and sauce jars with their lids placed in the recycling bin separately

What's out:

- ✗ Bagged recyclables – everything must go into the bin loose
- ✗ Coated cardboard cartons that are used to package liquids such as milk or juice and other items like yoghurt or ice-cream
- ✗ Soft plastic packaging such as plastic bags, bread and frozen food bags
- ✗ Polystyrene packaging
- ✗ Plastic toys
- ✗ Metal pots and pans
- ✗ Clothing and footwear

KERBSIDE BIN SERVICE 2020

Council is committed to being a leader in waste and recycling and substantially reforming our kerbside collection service. We have two changes coming in April 2020:

Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO)

Following the successful trial in Anglesea in 2019, Council will roll out the FOGO service to the rest of the shire. Your food waste will no longer be put in the kerbside landfill bin; it will instead be put in the green waste bin so it can be kept out of landfill and turned into compost.

4th bin for glass

Properties will receive an additional kerbside bin for collecting glass, which will help keep broken glass from contaminating other recyclable material. We did a trial in November to test the size of the bin and its storage, and illuminate any challenges and benefits in a variety of homes.

Ratepayers will soon receive a new waste collection calendar and more information, and it will be available on our website for other residents. In the meantime, keep using your recycling, landfill and green waste bins as usual. For more information visit www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/WasteAndRecycling.

An inclusive goal

From playgrounds to Changing Places facilities to enlightening events – Council continues to work towards its goal of creating an inclusive community where everyone can participate and contribute.



Two Changing Places are now open in Anglesea and Winchelsea, with the facilities equipped with an adult-size change table, ceiling hoist and enough space for carers to move around. They will support people with high physical needs. The facilities are located in the former Winchelsea Shire Hall and Four Kings car park in Anglesea and will be accessed with a special MLAK key.

The project was highlighted at the recent International Day of People with Disability celebration, which welcomed more than 80 people. Guest speaker, disability advocate Jax Jacki Brown, shared important insights with guests.

Local all abilities band The Rockheads wowed the crowd, while lunch was by dal Catering which provides training and employment opportunities for people with a disability.



Guests were pleased to learn about the new all abilities basket swing at Moriac's Newling Reserve. Initiated by the Moriac Community Network, the project includes the basket swing and a rubberised all abilities pathway.

There were numerous funding partners for the project – a great example of the community working together with local businesses, organisations and Council to make a difference.

Council contributed \$177,000 for the two Changing Places facilities and the Victorian Government contributed \$200,000 via the Department of Health and Human Services. Great Ocean Road Coast Committee contributed \$30,000 for the Anglesea project.

UPDATED PLAN CONFIRMS SIGNIFICANCE OF BELLS BEACH



Council has adopted an updated Coastal and Marine Management Plan for Bells Beach. The plan is a refresh of the existing 10-year plan for the site and further confirms Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve as an area of special significance.

The updated plan provides clearer acknowledgement of the Wadawurrung as the Traditional Owners of Bells Beach and makes a greater commitment to sharing Wadawurrung history.

The plan also provides for an upgrade to stormwater pits and creation of a more stable surface on the steep path near the Hammerhead car park.

A proposal to install a permanent elevated walkway at Winki Pop was floated during the community submission period but this concept won't be pursued at the moment.

Feedback revealed people were concerned about the visual impact of such a structure.

Instead Council will see if, during the 2020 Rip Curl Pro, there is an opportunity to install a temporary structure at a similar height as the proposed permanent structure – which would be lower than the temporary structure installed in past years of the Rip Curl Pro.

This temporary installation will help people visualise the proposal and provide an avenue for further feedback on the idea.

Prior to updating the Coastal and Marine Management Plan Council surveyed users of the Bells Beach reserve in 2018. This feedback led to a draft plan which was placed on public exhibition in August and September 2019.

RABBIT CONTROL

Council is partnering with Landcare groups and local land managers to continue delivering its control program for key rabbit hotspots.

Rabbits are Australia's most serious pest animal, destroying plants, causing soil erosion and competing with native fauna for food and habitat.

Property owners, working collaboratively with neighbours, should take advantage of the usually lower rabbit numbers in summer and carry out rabbit control activities with a focus on rabbit warren and shelter removal. For rabbit control information, visit www.pestsmart.org.au.

Local Landcare groups running rabbit baiting programs in late summer/early autumn include:

- Barrabool Hills Landcare Group: www.barraboolhillslandcare.org.au
- Surf Coast Rabbit Action Network: www.landcarevic.org.au/groups/corangamite/surf-coast-rabbit-action-network-inc/
- Surf Coast and Inland Plains Network: murray.scipn@gmail.com or **0455 500 542**
- Upper Barwon Landcare Network: andrea.upperbarwonlandcare@gmail.com or **0407 552 663**
- Winchelsea Land & River Care Group: Rod **0428 549 318** or Stewart **0428 672 054**

Surf Coast beaches are proud to be smoke-free

Council is proud to be involved in the Smoke-free Beaches Partnership Project, which aims to reduce smoking and cigarette butt litter on local beaches.

The project comes more than a decade since Council's groundbreaking move to become the first Victorian local government to introduce a smoke-free beaches local law.

Residents and visitors will see the smoke-free beaches local law promoted widely over the peak visitor period.

The local law bans smoking on the sand area of any beach within the municipality. Evidence shows that one of the key ways local government can reduce tobacco-related harm is by introducing and promoting smoke-free outdoor areas.

The Smoke-free Beaches Partnership Project is supported by Great Ocean Road Coast Committee, Parks Victoria, Surf Life Saving Victoria, Surfing Victoria, Surfrider Foundation and Council.

**YOUR REQUEST
YOUR COUNCIL**

Lodge a request online for service, information or maintenance
ANYTIME, ANYWHERE



Staying safe in the summer fire season

BE AWARE

Surf Coast Shire is a high fire risk area. It's important to consider your unique circumstances and potential vulnerabilities and to develop bushfire survival plans that address the needs of your household.

BE PREPARED

Planning ahead could save you and your family. Leaving early is always your safest option – that means the night before, or early in the morning on high fire risk days, before any signs of fire. Once a bushfire has started it may be too late to leave.

Fires are unpredictable and initial plans can fail. Have a back-up plan which should identify last resort options, including designated Bushfire Places of Last Resort (Neighbourhood Safer Places).

GET CONNECTED

Be alert to weather conditions and know what the Fire Danger Rating is each day. Fire Danger Ratings tell us how bad a fire may be – use it to guide your planning and set triggers for when to leave.

WARNINGS AND UPDATES

- Warnings are issued when a fire has started and you need to take action.
- You should never wait to receive an official warning before you leave. Fires can start quickly and threaten homes and lives within minutes.

- Make sure you understand the three levels of warnings and what they mean. The three levels of warnings are Advice, Watch and Act and Emergency Warning.
- Don't rely on getting a warning; it's your responsibility to know when to leave so stay aware of your surroundings over summer. For example, check for smoke in the air and listen for sirens.
- Don't expect warnings to be issued in any particular order. The first warning could be an Emergency Warning.
- Always use more than one source for warnings:
 - Tune in to ABC local radio, commercial and designated community radio stations or Sky News TV.
 - Phone the VicEmergency Hotline (**1800 226 226**), visit www.emergency.vic.gov.au and download the VicEmergency app.
 - Warnings are also available on VicEmergency's Twitter and Facebook (@vicemergency), and CFA's Twitter (@CFA_Updates) and Facebook (@cfavic).



NO BURNING OFF IN FIRE DANGER PERIOD

The Fire Danger Period (FDP) started 9 December. It is illegal to burn off during this time, without a permit. The end date of the FDP will be set by the CFA, check the CFA website for details. For more information, visit www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/burningoff.

What's on January - April

JANUARY

- 23 Nightjar Festival, Torquay
- 25 Minya by Moonlight Summer Series
- 26 Australia Day Celebrations Anglesea, Lorne, Torquay
- 26 Art in the Garden, Aireys Inlet
- 30 Towards Zero Race Torquay

FEBRUARY

- 1 Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race – Elite Women
- 1 Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race – People's Ride
- 1 Minya by Moonlight Summer Series
- 2 Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race – Elite Men
- 8 Surf Life Saving Victoria (SLSV) Masters Championships, Lorne
- 8 Castles and Candles Competition, St George's River, Lorne
- 9 SLSV Full Carnival #4, Lorne
- 9 Torquay Rotary Motor Show
- 15 Minya Moonlight Summer Series
- 15 SLSV Junior Carnival #5 Torquay
- 17 Winchelsea Horticultural Garden Club Autumn Show
- 21 Kiteboarding Australia Wave Nationals, Torquay
- 23 Festival of Colours, Torquay
- 29 Minya Moonlight Summer Series

MARCH

- 1 Victorian Surf Rowers League Boat Carnival, Torquay
- 13 Relay for Life, Torquay
- 13 Aireys Inlet Open Mic Music Festival
- 20-22 Deans Marsh Festival
- 21 SLSV Youth/Senior/Boats Championships
- 27-29 Meadow, Bambra
- 28 Surf Coast Trek, Aireys Inlet to Torquay
- 28 Uniting Church Auction, Winchelsea

APRIL

- 4 Green Living Festival, Anglesea
- 8-18 Rip Curl Pro, Bells Beach
- 11 The Drop Music Festival, Torquay
- 18 Great Ocean & Otway Classic Ride
- 25 Anzac Day dawn service, Torquay
- 25 Anzac Day services in Anglesea, Lorne, Winchelsea

MARKETS GALORE

- **Torquay Farmers Market** every Saturday
- **Torquay Cowrie Market**, third Sunday of the month
- **Aireys Inlet Market** 9 February, 8 March, 12 April
- **Lorne Monday Night Markets** Every Monday night in February
- **Anglesea Riverbank Market** 8 March, 12 April
- **Lorne Foreshore Market** 25 January, 11 April
- **Anglesea Primary School Twilight Fair** 7 March
- **Winchelsea Makers and Growers Market** 2 February, 1 March, 5 April
- **Deans Marsh Festival Market** 22 March



CFA volunteers play a crucial role

Local CFA brigades are an important part of rural communities; their volunteers do everything from fighting fires and road rescues to fundraising, marketing and community engagement.

The Surf Coast Shire has brigades located in all townships and communities, offering options to volunteer as operational, non-operational and junior members.

If you are interested in volunteering for your local CFA, you can find out more at www.cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteer-careers/volunteers.

To donate to your local CFA Brigade, visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au/about/supporting-cfa.

Additions for Winchelsea Walk of Honour

Winchelsea's riverside Walk of Honour will gain two additional memorial cairns, following the Australian Government confirming a \$110,000 contribution to the project in 2019.

The cairns will acknowledge service and sacrifice in World War II and other conflicts, and commemorate local service men and women.

They will be installed beside the existing cairn (pictured) which acknowledges World War I service men and women, local Victoria Cross recipient Albert Jacka, and other Victoria Cross recipients.

The Victorian Government has contributed \$30,000 for the new cairns and Council \$50,000.

The Walk of Honour project is being completed in partnership with Winchelsea RSL and work on the new cairns is in the research phase. Council is likely to receive the federal funding in early 2020.



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



Torquay Visitor Centre Beach Road, Torquay 1300 614 219
Lorne Visitor Centre 15 Mountjoy Parade, Lorne 1300 891 152

www.visitgreateoceanroad.org.au