

January 2026 Vol 17 Issue 1

# MATTER OF FACT

Providing information for Venus Bay, Tarwin Lower  
and Walkerville district



A free community newsletter published by

**VENUS BAY**  
COMMUNITY CENTRE

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



## Calling All Creatives: Expressions of Interest Open for the BLUE CUBE at the Venus Bay Community Centre!

From mid-November until the end of April, we are inviting artists, makers, and creative minds to bring their work to life in the **Blue Cube**. Whether you're a visual artist, installation artist, performer, or experimental maker, the ArtCube offers a **unique opportunity** to engage the community, test new ideas, and be part of a vibrant summer arts program.



### Why be involved?

#### 🎨 Creative Incubation

- The ArtCube is a seasonal incubator for creativity — a place where bold ideas and experimental works are welcomed.
- It's perfect for short residencies, pop-up exhibitions, participatory projects, or creative happenings.
- Artists are encouraged to use the space to push boundaries, try something new, and connect directly with the public.

#### 🤝 Community & Visitor Engagement

- Located at the community centre, the ArtCube sits in a buzzing hub of summer activity.
- Your project will be part of a broader program that attracts locals, holidaymakers, and art lovers alike.
- The space supports connection — across generations, interests, and cultures — through accessible and engaging creative experiences.

We're seeking **expressions of interest** from individual artists or collectives interested in occupying the Blue Cube ; projects may be as short as a weekend or run over several weeks. All disciplines welcome!

**Want to know more?** Send an email to [carol@vbcc.org.au](mailto:carol@vbcc.org.au), or call in to the Venus Bay Community Centre.

### Windhorse @ ARTCUBE

Come and make a positive wish for  
**2026!**

Working with artist Amanda  
Diamond to create wish flags!

Dec 27-31 10am-2pm  
VBCC

Gold coin donation



Acrylic Art Group  
Exhibition & Demonstration  
19th - 31<sup>st</sup> Jan

## January in the Art Cube

27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> Dec.

Wish Flags

1<sup>st</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Jan

Postcard project



### Postcards from Venus Bay @ ARTCUBE, VBCC

Come in and visit artist Amanda Diamond  
painting and drawing our local scenes.

Paint your own 'postcard' in private sessions  
with Amanda. All included. \$40  
No experience needed!  
Jan 2-17 2026 10am- 3pm



SOUTH GIPPSLAND GEMSTONE &  
LAPIDARY CLUB INC.



## OPEN DAY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH, 2026

10AM TO 4PM

### DEMONSTRATIONS

Skin Polishing

Faceting

Local Geology Presentation

### ITEMS FOR SALE

Rough Rocks

Slabs

Agates

Polished Stones

Craft Items

Jewellery

### DISPLAYS

Collections

Cabochons

Fossils

Geology Maps/Samples

### CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

### SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Middle Tarwin Hall

1140 Tarwin Lower Road

Middle Tarwin

GOLD COIN  
DONATION



## Tarwin Lower Art Group Art Show

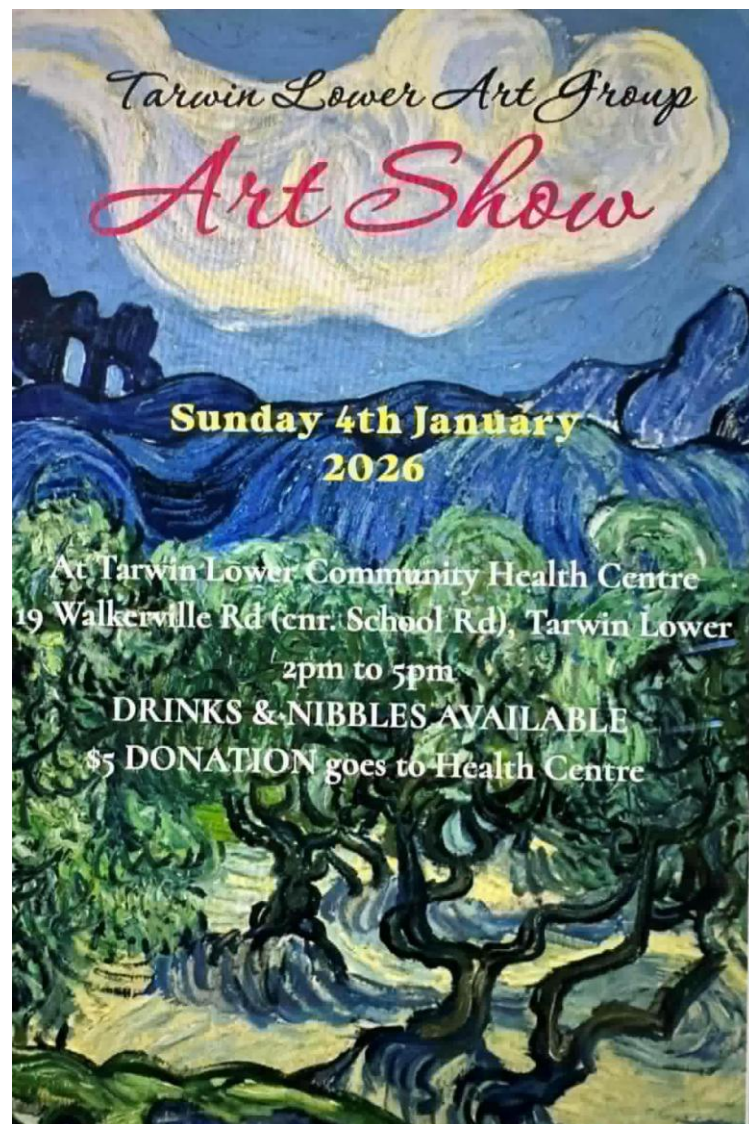
Sunday 4th January  
2026

At Tarwin Lower Community Health Centre  
19 Walkerville Rd (cnr. School Rd), Tarwin Lower

2pm to 5pm

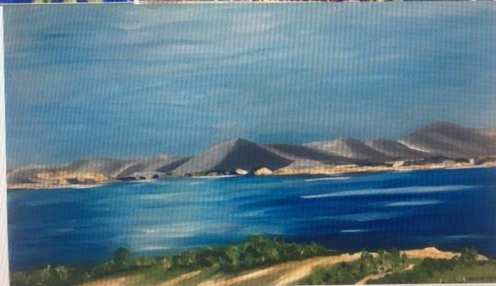
DRINKS & NIBBLES AVAILABLE

\$5 DONATION goes to Health Centre



## Come and visit us at the SIXTH WALKERVILLE ART FAIR-2026

FRIDAY JAN 2 -SUN JAN 4, 10AM-4-PM  
NORTH WALKERVILLE HALL



ORIGINAL PAINTINGS, PRINTS, CARDS AND GIFTS FROM  
MANDY GUNN AND THE WALKERVILLE ART GROUP!  
ALL WORKS FOR SALE  
CARD PAYMENTS WELCOME.

## Summer Meeniyan makers market

Meeniyan Town Hall  
Jan 4th 10-2

a host of local makers  
and Devonshire Teas  
by the CWA

follow  
@meeniyanmakersmarket





# CERT



Inverloch & District  
Community Bank Branch



Venus Bay & District CERT volunteer  
responders and committee of  
management would like to THANK



The

first

the

Bendigo Bank in Inverloch for their generosity in funding of \$1603 for the new chairs and chair trolley.  
The responders project "Take the weight off your Feet"

## Tarwin Lower Union Church

### Regular services:

Sunday 10.30 a.m. Anglican/Uniting

Saturday 4 p.m. Catholic



**Our mission is to be a welcoming, sharing Christian community**

**For all the latest news check out our Facebook page:  
Tarwin Lower Union Church**



The VBAC will hold the January fishing competition  
from 23rd January 2026 starting at 6.00am.

You can weigh in your catch from 4.00 - 6.00pm on  
the 23rd-25th with final weigh in on the 26th January  
between 2.30-3.00 pm when the winners will be  
announced.

1st Prize for members is a \$50 voucher from The  
Cavity; 2nd prize is a BCF voucher provided by Arma Window Tinting.

The BBQ will be held at Gerald's Shed from 6.00pm 24th January with lots of  
great raffle prizes.

Non-members can join in for \$5 which includes entry to the competition and the  
BBQ.







We were thrilled to host the celebration of SUNNY recently – acknowledging the collaboration and partnerships – along with massive volunteer and community support to make an Australian first pilot project happen right here in Venus Bay!!

Over the last 2 years, both Venus Bay and Sandy Point have been part of a research project along with La Trobe University, iMove Cooperative Research Centre, Department of Transport and of course the community! Regional communities driving their own transport

solutions – with an electric mini-bus call SUNNY!

While the pilot project has produced a comprehensive, research based report over the last 2 years – detailing what it takes for communities to undertake such a community transport project. This will help to inform policy that will influence how these projects can continue to be supported in regional communities – along with an amazing toolkit for others to use (what we wish we knew when we started!!).



While the supported pilot is complete, SUNNY continues to operate. This does mean we need to raise the cold hard cash for the fixed financial costs, and continue to attract, support and harness our volunteer community to ensure the service can continue. There is more information (including the Final Report) on our website here:

[www.vbcc.org.au/ebus](http://www.vbcc.org.au/ebus)



## Stirring the Pot Shakes Things Up

The *Stirring the Pot* group recently mixed up a very successful Cocktail and Mocktail Night — and what a night it was. With lots of laughs, plenty of shared recipes and a generous splash of alcohol, the room was buzzing from start to finish.

Members took turns stirring, shaking and tasting a wide range of creative drinks, swapping tips and favourite flavours along the way. The mocktails were just as popular as the cocktails, proving that good company and a bit of creativity are the real key ingredients.

It was a fun, relaxed evening full of connection and conversation, and a great reminder of how food and drink can bring people together. Cheers to *Stirring the Pot* for another memorable night! 🍹

Our next Stirring the Pot event will be on the theme of Salads – how creative are you?



## KIDS ACTIVITIES SUMMER 2026

MONDAY

5th January

WEDNESDAY

7th January

THURSDAY

8th January

Paper beads  
&  
Mobiles

Cooking  
Pizza & biscuits

Pop up Craft  
Activities

**\$10**  
Cost

Venus Bay Community  
Centre  
27 Canterbury Road

10am to 11.30am



# Gippsland Community e-Bus Pilot:

A case study of community-led transport in Venus Bay and Sandy Point



VENUS BAY  
COMMUNITY CENTRE



LA TROBE  
UNIVERSITY

Centre for  
Technology  
Infusion



Supported by



Department  
of Transport  
and Planning



# Executive Summary

The Gippsland Community e-Bus Pilot trialled and then evaluated whether small, community-managed electric buses could provide practical, inclusive and sustainable transport for residents of two communities in South Gippsland, Venus Bay and Sandy Point. Both towns have no public transport and very limited alternatives, which restricts access to health care, shopping, social connection and regional services. The pilot was delivered through a partnership between the Department of Transport and Planning, the Venus Bay Community Centre, the Sandy Point community, La Trobe University, and MOVE.

Over two years the project examined how an electric vehicle, volunteer-led operations, and community governance could work together to meet local mobility needs. The research included surveys, operational data, interviews and focus groups.

The evaluation shows that community-run electric transport is feasible, highly valued and delivers strong social outcomes, with additional economic and environmental benefits, when supported by effective local organisation and appropriate resources.



*A total of 545 trips were made, transporting 2,892 passengers. This was only possible through the involvement of more than 50 volunteers across the two communities who provided a total of 5,172 hours of their time to ensure transport was provided to anyone who needed or wanted it.*

## Key findings

### 1. The pilot established a dependable and well-functioning transport service where none previously existed

Both communities successfully launched and operated a 10-seat (plus a wheelchair) electric minibus that provided regular and on-demand trips. The service offered residents consistent access to local and regional destinations. Some passengers reported they would not have travelled at all without the e-Bus, indicating that the service created new mobility opportunities in addition to replacing existing travel.

### 2. Social benefits were significant

Residents described the service as friendly, convenient and important for staying connected. The e-Bus supported access to services, community events and V/Line connections. For older residents and people who are less able to drive, it enhanced independence and reduced isolation. Satisfaction was consistently high, with average ratings above 8.9 out of 10 in both communities.

### 3. The pilot generated economic and local benefits

The e-Bus enabled access to important social outings which supported businesses and events in local towns, reduced travel costs, shopping in larger towns, and created new volunteering opportunities for some residents. For some households experiencing increasing costs to run their car/s, the service provided a cost-effective alternative. These benefits mirror broader evidence that community transport creates economic value not captured in traditional cost-benefit metrics.

### 7. Operating costs were manageable, but capital costs remain a barrier

Both communities were able to cover day-to-day operating expenditure through donations, grants, fundraising, and in-kind effort. Sandy Point demonstrated that, once a vehicle is available, a well-organised volunteer model can meet ongoing operational costs. However, the capital cost of acquiring or replacing a vehicle remains beyond the capacity of small communities, which aligns with evidence across Australia and internationally.

## Overall impacts

The e-Bus delivered strong outcomes across both communities:

- **Social:** reduced isolation, improved wellbeing and stronger community connection
- **Economic:** support for local businesses, volunteering and cost savings for households
- **Environmental:** reduced emissions and integration with local renewable energy sources

The pilot demonstrated that, with the right organisational support, practical tools and access to an appropriate vehicle, small communities can operate low-emission transport services that improve mobility and inclusion in places where public transport is not feasible.

### 4. Electric vehicles performed well but required careful management

The electric minibuses delivered quiet, low-emission transport and were well received by passengers. However, range varied with weather, passenger load and use of heating or cooling, particularly on longer trips, leading to significant range anxiety. During the trial, both vehicles experienced unexpected mechanical and electrical issues which led to downtime whilst warranty repairs took place. Solar generation contributed to charging, although grid electricity was still required.

### 5. Volunteer-led operations were effective but placed high demands on core volunteers

Both towns recruited volunteer drivers and administrative volunteers, with a core group regularly undertaking the driving. Managing bookings, scheduling and communications required considerable time. Volunteers were proud of the service they were providing, they consistently demonstrated their commitment to the service, often going above and beyond to meet the needs of residents and visitors to the towns. Drivers reported they enjoyed the work. Those administering the operations were conscious of the risk of burnout in all volunteers and could see the need for some paid coordination support to ensure long-term sustainability.

### 6. Booking systems worked with significant manual effort

Most potential passengers preferred to book by phone. A variety of digital tools were explored, trialled and refined. Both communities developed different booking systems in response to community feedback, making use of readily available tools through website platforms or event booking tools, to develop simple online forms. However, these systems had to be supported by a lot of manual processes in the background, limiting scalability.





# MIND YOUR PEACE

WORKSHOP

MEDITATE TO  
INTEGRATE



wednesday 14th january 2026

2-4pm

\$25

Venus bay community centre

*Enquiries*

contact:  
kirsty 0447503411

insta  
[@manifestation\\_meditation\\_andme](#)



## CFA Membership and Membership Types

**Many active volunteers** find that operational roles - responding to emergencies like fires and rescues are highly rewarding and give them valuable new skills.

**Our volunteers in support roles** make a huge contribution to getting the brigade out in the community and help keep the brigade operating and well managed.



Volunteers may also choose to do an operational and a support role.



At the age of 16, young people can become a volunteer with programs in place to support these younger members in their development in CFA.



Make a difference in our community

## CFA are recruiting now

Without volunteers our local Fire Brigade wouldn't exist. Our brigade is recruiting for operational and non-operational roles now.

Join the CFA family of over 51,000 members working to protect the lives and properties of millions of Victorians.

Start the volunteering process by visiting the CFA website and looking for your local brigade Tarwin Lower & District Fire Brigade.



[www.cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers)

## Become a CFA Volunteer

There are many ways you can lend a hand at Tarwin Lower & District Fire Brigade



### Become a CFA Volunteer today

Your local fire brigade is a volunteer organisation, which relies on local people helping local people. CFA fire brigades have been a part of the community for over 80 years, and we invite you to take an active role in the protection of our community.

*CFA is committed to  
Creating Safer Communities*

Being a CFA volunteer can involve some hard work, but the rewards are great. You can:

- Learn new skills
- Develop leadership and people management skills
- Make new friends
- Receive accredited training
- Be part of Victoria's largest volunteer team
- Put something back into your community

**Volunteering with CFA is not just about firefighting as we support our community.**

**Firefighting and emergency roles can include:**

- Attending fires – bushfires and structural
- Conducting fuel reduction burns
- Attending Motor Vehicle Accidents and rescues
- Attending incidents involving hazardous materials or flood assistance

### Support roles:

- Community education programs
- Fundraising activities
- Brigade equipment maintenance
- Media and public relations
- Brigade administration

## AT A GLANCE COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY



Is made up of 1,211 Brigades



Is made of 51,900 members



Brigades run by volunteers



We attend a variety of emergencies and activities in our communities

Want to see More

**Visit our website for more information on volunteering and the role you can play....**

[www.cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers)

**Check out what CFA is doing across the state, important notices, and our story...**



[www.news.cfa.vic.gov.au/](http://www.news.cfa.vic.gov.au/)



[@cfavic](https://www.facebook.com/cfavic)

### Training

CFA volunteers receive nationally recognised and accredited training courses. You don't need to have experience to join the brigade. We will provide you with the skills you need depending on the role you choose. All CFA members are fully trained before attending fires or other incidents Training may include:

- Firefighting safely
- Hazard Identification
- First Aid
- Emergency practices
- Pump operation
- Radio communications
- Breathing apparatus

### Make a difference in more way than one

**Tarwin Lower & District are currently seeking new members who can help with the following:**

- Firefighters
- Fire prevention
- Community education
- Brigade administration
- Communications and Fundraising

**Our volunteers come from all walks of life. They have diverse backgrounds, interests and skills.**

**You may be:**

- Working part or full-time
- Unemployed
- Actively retired
- A home carer
- A student

### What's the time commitment?

Your level of commitment is up to you. The more members we have the more we can share the load. Your level of involvement will depend on your personal availability.



christmas holiday

## Recycling Op Shop

Wednesday 31 Dec	10AM - 2PM
Thursday 1 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Friday 2 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Saturday 3 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Monday 5 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Tuesday 6 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Wednesday 7 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Thursday 8 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Saturday 10 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Monday 12 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Wednesday 14 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Thursday 15 Jan	10AM - 2PM

## Beach Bus Days

Dec 27<sup>th</sup> - Jan 4<sup>th</sup>

11.00 - 5.00  
each day

## Open Hours

VENUS BAY  
COMMUNITY CENTRE

**OWN HANDS?**



**THEN YOU CAN  
SAVE A LIFE**



**Ambulance  
Victoria**



**GoodSAM**  
THE APP THAT SAVES LIVES

**BECOME A HEART  
RE-STARTER**



### Every second counts

The GoodSAM Responder app saves lives by letting you know that someone nearby needs hands-only CPR in the first critical minutes after cardiac arrest.

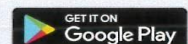
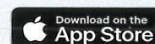
For every minute that CPR is delayed, a person's chance of survival falls by 10%. If you can keep someone's heart pumping until medical care arrives, you'll more than double their chance of survival.

### How does it work?


The GoodSAM app is integrated with Triple Zero (000) to quickly connect patients with help in the first vital minutes after a cardiac arrest. A GoodSAM Responder will receive an alert and is directed to the location of the patient to start CPR and help keep the heart pumping until an ambulance arrives.

**Sign up to be a GoodSAM Responder today.**

Download the app or find out more at [heartrestarter.com.au](http://heartrestarter.com.au)







**Home is where  
the heart is.  
Stay there longer.**

## How to live at home for longer

Personalised Support with My Aged Care & Support at Home

Navigating the aged care system can be complex — but you don't have to do it alone. Book a one-on-one consultation with Laura Corbett from Latrobe Community Health Services for personalised assistance in understanding, applying for, and managing your My Aged Care and Support at Home services.

Laura can guide you through each step of the process, ensuring you access the right supports to maintain your independence, wellbeing, and comfort at home.

**When:** Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026

**Appointments:**

- 10am – 11am
- 11am – 12pm
- 12pm – 1pm
- 1pm – 2pm

**Where:** Venus Bay Community Centre, 27 Canterbury Rd, Venus Bay

**Contact to book appointments:**

Alyson: (03) 5663 7499 or [vbcc@bigpond.com](mailto:vbcc@bigpond.com)

**Laura Corbett – 0483 289 683 or [laura.corbett@lchs.com.au](mailto:laura.corbett@lchs.com.au)**  
1800 242 696 dial 2 then option 2 for Support at Home



## Gippsland Community Leadership Program



*Disaster Stars syndicate members at Committee for Gippsland's 2025 Gippsland Community Leadership Program graduation ceremony. Left to right Andrea Phillips, Austin Cram, Joanna O'Reilly Stubbs, Ben Lehmann and Sarah Davies.*

This year's graduates of the Committee for Gippsland (C4G)'s Gippsland Community Leadership Program (GCLP) recently celebrated their completion of the program, marking another successful year of C4G developing strong community leaders across the region and delivering impactful community projects through their syndicates.

Syndicate 1 "Disaster Stars" designed and delivered a community led disaster resilience project for Venus Bay. The group consisted of local participants Austin Cram (Bass Coast Shire Council), Sarah Davies (Country Fire Authority), Ben Lehmann (South Gippsland Shire Council), Joanna O'Reilly Stubbs (Parliament of Victoria) and Andrea Phillips (South Gippsland Shire Council).

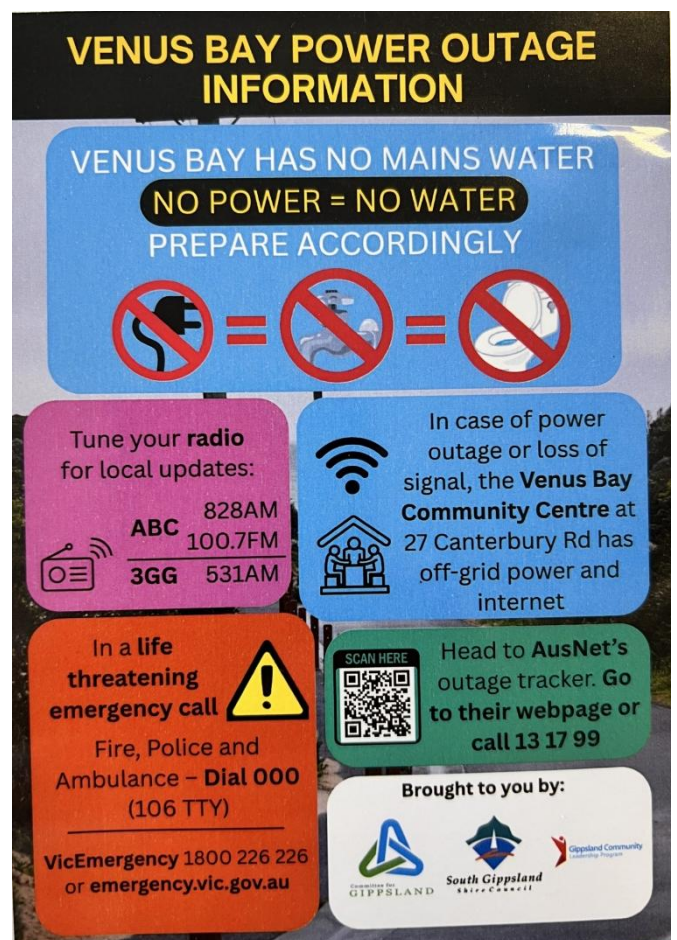
After identifying the specific risks Venus Bay faces including power outages and absence of water mains, the syndicate focused on creating 1,500 custom A6 emergency information magnets for households in collaboration with the Venus Bay Community Centre, South Gippsland Shire Council, Bass Coast Shire Council, the Country Fire Authority and Ausnet.

Each magnet includes key messaging of no power = no water, local emergency phone numbers, radio frequencies and a quick response code to the Ausnet online power outage tracker. The syndicate considered colour blindness and language barriers in their design, to ensure the magnets are accessible to the whole community. The syndicate also secured a South Gippsland Shire Council \$1,000 community grant to support the production of the 1,500 magnets.

Community members can collect an emergency magnet from multiple Venus Bay locations including the Venus Bay Community Centre and local businesses.

Further information on emergency planning across South Gippsland is available at [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

Applications for 2026 Gippsland Community Leadership Program are now open and scholarship options are available. For more information and to apply visit [www.committeeforgippsland.com.au](http://www.committeeforgippsland.com.au)





## Home Energy Rebates

### Solar Rebate

The Victorian Government provides a rebate of up to \$1,400 for the installation of solar panel (PV) systems. These rebates are offered to Victorians with existing homes or homes under construction. There are also [solar rebates for rental properties](#).

### Interest-free loans

You will be offered an interest-free loan of up to \$1,400 in your application. No collateral is required. If you opt in for the loan, the amount will be processed along with the rebate payment and paid directly to the solar retailer.

**Check your eligibility and get more information at [www.solar.vic.gov.au](http://www.solar.vic.gov.au)**

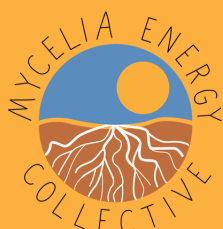
### Cheaper Home Batteries Program

From 1 July 2025, households and small businesses may be eligible for around a 30% discount on the upfront cost of installing small-scale battery systems alongside new or existing rooftop solar. The discount will be based on the usable capacity of the battery. The discount will gradually decline (in line with battery prices reducing) through to 2030.

Under the program, a household could save around \$4,000 off the upfront cost of installing an 11.5 kWh battery previously costing around \$13,000.

**<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/energy/programs/cheaper-home-batteries>**

Energy Circles events are supported by the Venus Bay Community Centre and Mycelia Renewables Partnership and funded by grants from Ausnet Energy Resilience Community Fund and FRRR Community-led Climate Solutions



**FRRR**  
Foundation for Rural  
Regional Renewal

**AusNet**



**You can reduce costs and may be eligible for rebates, by replacing old heating and cooling systems or simply purchasing more energy-efficient products.**



### **Hot water rebate- Administered by Victorian Government**

Hot water rebates of up to \$1,000 are available for eligible heat pump and solar hot water products. If you select a locally made product, you could be eligible for a rebate of up to \$1,400.

**Check your eligibility and get more information at [www.solar.vic.gov.au/hot-water-rebate](http://www.solar.vic.gov.au/hot-water-rebate)**

### **Reverse Cycle Air Conditioners (RCACs)**

There is no minimum system size requirement to obtain a discount on upgrading to a reverse cycle air conditioner. The amount of the discount depends on what you are upgrading from and the size of the Reverse Cycle Air Conditioner.

Examples:

If you are upgrading from a gas room heater (non-ducted) the rebates is between \$630 to \$1,610 for RCACs from 3kW to 9kW.

If you are upgrading from a ducted (whole-of-house) gas heater and installed 4 split systems (1 x 8kW & 3 x 3kW), the rebate is up to \$2,520

**More information is available at: <https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/victorian-energy-upgrades/products/heating-and-cooling-discounts>**



### **Victorian Energy Upgrades**

The Victorian Energy Upgrades program offers discounts on energy-efficient products for your home or business. There are a number of requirements including the product being approved and an accredited provider with Victorian Energy Upgrades, needs to complete the paper work for the discount.

More information is available at:  
<https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/victorian-energy-upgrades>

**PLEASE NOTE:** Telemarketing and doorknocking under the Victorian Energy Upgrades program is banned. This is to protect consumers from high-pressure sales tactics and other inappropriate marketing.





# Tarwin Lower Hall – What's On?

Hi all - I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our audiences, volunteers and my fellow committee members a very happy and safe holiday season. By year's end our hardworking committee will have presented seven market days, hosted seven public events, and three private gatherings, and attended 12 committee meetings. I am grateful for their support and dedication in caring for the Hall and ensuring its future in our community. Cheers!

Marg de Wolff

President, Tarwin Lower Mechanics Institute  
Committee of Management Inc

## Tarwin Lower Film Society presents

"Living Is Easy with Eyes Closed"(M) 2015 Duration: 1 hr 38 min

Spanish; Comedy/Drama

Spain, 1966, a high-school English/Latin teacher, Antonio, drives to Almeria in hopes of meeting his hero, John Lennon. Along the way, Antonio picks up two runaways. The movie title, Living is Easy With Eyes Closed, comes from a line in Lennon's song Strawberry Fields Forever which he wrote while filming How I Won the War in Almeria.



Friday 16 January 2026 7:30pm BYO

For 24/25 membership and movie information head to

[www.trybooking.com/DBVIA](http://www.trybooking.com/DBVIA)

A vibrant poster for a Spanish Fiesta event. The background is a warm orange-yellow gradient. At the top, there's a stylized illustration of a flamenco dancer in a red dress, holding a guitar. Below this, the text 'Gypsyland Dreams presents' is written in a cursive font. The main title 'SPANISH FIESTA' is in large, bold, purple letters with a white outline. Underneath, it says 'A night of live Flamenco, Latin &amp; Gypsy music, Paella &amp; dancing' in a smaller font. The venue 'TARWIN LOWER HALL' is written in large, bold, purple letters. Below that, 'Featuring' is written in a smaller font, followed by 'KARAVANA FLAMENCA' in large, bold, red letters. Underneath that is 'A LAS RAICES' in large, bold, black letters. To the right of 'A LAS RAICES' is the text 'direct from Spain'. Below this is '&amp; AMIGOS' in bold, black letters. The event details 'Doors open 7:30 Sat 17th January' and 'BYO drinks &amp; snacks' are written in bold, black letters. At the bottom, it says 'Table seating, Paella Valenciana cooked onsite' and 'Bookings essential: trybooking.com/DGSHB'. The contact information 'Enquiries: karavanaflamenca@gmail.com' is at the very bottom. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner.



# The Kitchen Table Tour



Bill Jackson

Award Winning Solo Artist

Frank Jones

Founding Member  
The Whirling Furphies

Dave Steel

Founding Member  
Weddings, Parties, Anything

We welcome back three Award Winning Songwriters sitting around a kitchen table doing what they do at home. Playing old and new songs from their extensive solo catalogues - interspersed with their take on some classic Australian folk songs, they will make you laugh, sing and cry. Not to be missed!

TARWIN LOWER MECHANICS HALL  
27 RIVER DRIVE TARWIN LOWER

Saturday 28 February - 7:00pm

[www.trybooking.com/DIEWB](http://www.trybooking.com/DIEWB)

Tickets \$30/\$25

Or scan the  
QR Code



Proudly Presented by The Tarwin Lower Mechanics Institute Memorial Hall





## January Newsletter 2026

19 Walkerville Rd, Tarwin Lower

Phone: 03 5667 5680

Mon-Frid 10am-2pm (subject to volunteer availability)



### Nurse Practitioner Deb Garvey

Need a heart check, blood test, prescription or have a health question? Nurse Practitioner Deb Garvey is available Wednesday mornings from 8am. Please book at the Health Centre or call and leave a message on 03 5667 5680 or TeleHealth - call Deb 0467 841 782.



### Maternal & Child Health Nurse

To book an appointment, please call South Gippsland Shire Council  
**03 5662 9294.**



### Community Food Cupboard

Thank-you to everyone who donates. People are very appreciative of the support from the community. We are always in need of things that you can turn into dinner- tinned tuna, tinned veggies, pasta, rice, noodles, sauces and also flour, long life milk, sugar. Frozen food also welcome.

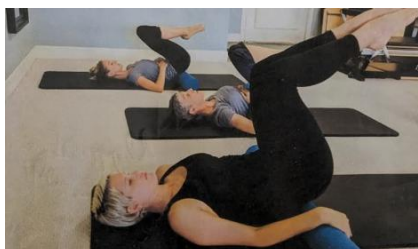
Drop off food items to the Health Centre-  
19 Walkerville Rd. **Mon to Frid 10am- 2pm** (subject to volunteer availability).



### Garden Bee Crew- you're invited!!!

Whether you have helped once or often, you have contributed to the gardens looking beautiful. As a special thank-you, the Health Centre is catering brunch. RSVP essential and please include any dietary requirements  
[tarwinlowerCHC@gmail.com](mailto:tarwinlowerCHC@gmail.com).

**Saturday 10th January.** 10-11am followed by yummy brunch.

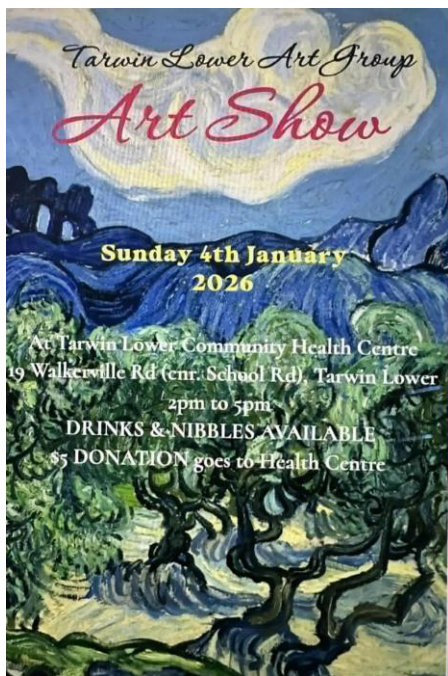


### Pilates on Tuesday mornings.

Improve your strength, balance and flexibility in friendly and welcoming class.

Classes \$15

**For class times and to book, please call Jeanette on 0409 252 863.**



## Art Show- Everyone Welcome!

Come along and support local artists. Gold coin donation.

Sunday 4th January  
2-5pm.  
19 Walkerville Rd.



### Join our **Creative Connections Art Group**

No experience is needed—just a willingness to explore, play, and enjoy the process.

To find out more 0488 990 598.



### **Friday Friendship group**

Friday Friendship group gets together for picnics, music, entertainment, games and more!

Please contact Gippsland Southern Health on 03 5654 2791.



### **Red Cross meets once a month.**

Contact Margaret Fisher (Secretary) on 03 5663 5256.



### **Volunteers needed!**

The Community Health Centre aims to support the health and well-being of our whole community. If you care about any aspect of health (physical, emotional, social, creative) we are looking for volunteer receptionists (regular or fill-in) and active committee members. Email: [tarwinlowerchc@gmail.com](mailto:tarwinlowerchc@gmail.com)



# Waste Disposal Facilities (Tips) - Venus Bay

<b>Address</b>	Cnr Canterbury Road and No 3 Beach Road, Venus Bay, 3956	
<b>Opening times</b>	Monday	9am - 12pm
	Tuesday	<b>9am - 12pm**</b>
	Wednesday	<b>9am - 12pm***</b>
	Thursday	<b>9am - 12pm**</b>
	Friday	9am - 12pm
	Saturday	9.30am - 3.30pm
	Sunday	9.30am - 3.30pm
	Public Holidays	9am - 5pm Public Holidays Closed Christmas Day & Good Friday <b>** Only from 26 December to 31 January</b> <b>*** Only during school holidays</b>
<b>Accepted materials (free)</b>	Recyclables - Paper/cardboard, glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles and containers (rigid plastic types 1–7), steel, whitegoods, car batteries and used motor oil.	
<b>Accepted materials (fees apply)</b>	Domestic garbage, furniture, car bodies, tyres, concrete, bricks, commercial waste, green waste, gas bottles and electronic waste.	
<b>Materials not accepted</b>	Paint, chemicals and liquid waste. Household quantities of these items may be taken to DetoxYour Home collection days.	
<b>Mulch</b>	South Gippsland residents can also pick up mulch for their gardens free of charge at any time of the year during operating hours at the transfer stations.	

## Two Trailers for Community Use

The Venus Bay Community Centre has a cage trailer, ideal for larger loads or items that need extra containment. This trailer is available for hire at a small fee of \$20, helping to cover maintenance costs and ensure it remains in excellent condition for all users.

The older red trailer for use free of charge. This option is perfect for the occasionally local rubbish run with the understanding that it must be returned as promptly as possible. Quick turnaround ensures that other residents also have fair and timely access to this shared resource.

The cage trailer is locked and needs to be picked up during business hours. Monday, Wednesday Friday or Saturday between 10.00 and 2.00.

There is no booking process, if the trailers are there, they are available for use.

Treehouse Studio Venus Bay

# JANUARY 2026

## MORNING YOGA



MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
			1	2 7:15 - 8:15AM 8:30 - 9:30AM	3	4 8:30 - 9:30AM
5 7:15 - 8:15AM 8:30 - 9:30AM	6	7 7:15 - 8:15AM 8:30 - 9:30AM	8	9 7:15 - 8:15AM 8:30 - 9:30AM	10	11 8:30 - 9:30AM
12 8:30 - 9:30AM	13	14 8:30 - 9:30AM	15	16 8:30 - 9:30AM	17	18 8:30 - 9:30AM
19 8:30 - 9:30AM	20	21	22	23 8:30 - 9:30AM	24	25 8:30 - 9:30AM
26 8:30 - 9:30AM	27	28	29	30 8:30 - 9:30AM	31	

**SUMMER HOLIDAYS** an abundance of morning classes to set tone for relaxing mellow days.



7:15 am for those who love the day before it starts.

8:30am for those who like to have a few more zeds.



This summer regroup , revise and pay into your health bank. Use this time to disconnect from the mad rush of the everyday - Breathe , stretch, rest your nervous system and grow stronger .

**Location: The Treehouse Studio 7 Amanda Crescent Venus Bay**

**Shape your own timetable and text 0421 300407 to secure a place**

**Investment \$30 per class.**

STAY UP TO DATE TWIRLINGSHEILA PRODUCTIONS AND FOLLOW ON -





# Volunteer with us - it's fun!

Do you have a few hours to spare? We are always looking for volunteers to help out at the community centre...do you have any particular skills you can contribute? Or perhaps you have a bit of time to spend helping with filing in the office or sorting donations for the Recycling enterprise?

Every bit counts and every bit is appreciated. We could not function without our fabulous team of volunteers.

So why not come and join in!

Situated at 27 Canterbury Road, Venus Bay.

Phone: 5663 7499, Send mail to Post Office Box 786, Venus Bay 3956

Email: [info@vbcc.org.au](mailto:info@vbcc.org.au) Website: [www.vbcc.org.au](http://www.vbcc.org.au)

Opening hours reflect the season - please check our website or Facebook for details

or call Alyson 0416 242 331

Venus Bay Community Centre is supported by:

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing, the Commonwealth Government, & South Gippsland Shire Council.

Our website is [www.vbcc.org.au](http://www.vbcc.org.au)

Find current and back issues of Matter Of Fact on our website. Please contact us if you wish to be on our email distribution list.

