

MATTER OF FACT

a free community newsletter published by
Venus Bay Community Centre

JANUARY 2022 Vol 1 Issue 13

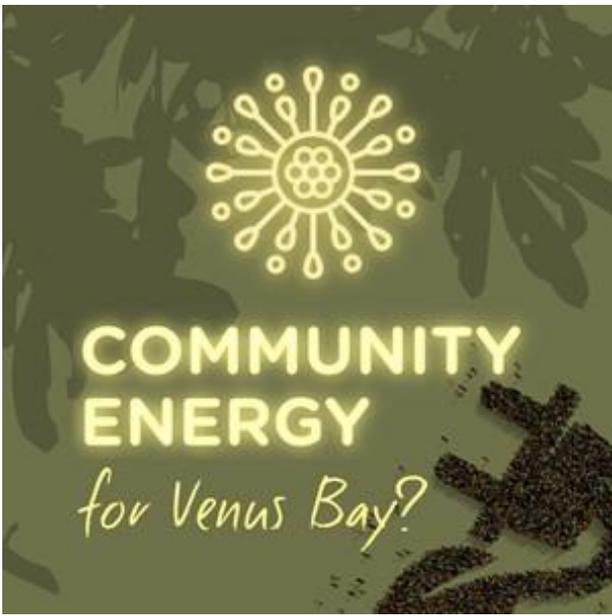


Providing information for
Venus Bay, Tarwin Lower
and Walkerville district

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.



WE ARE UP AND RUNNING!

Our Community Centre Microgrid is now complete – and we are harvesting solar energy, storing it in our new lithium battery and exporting the remainder to the grid! So far, we haven't used any electricity from the grid

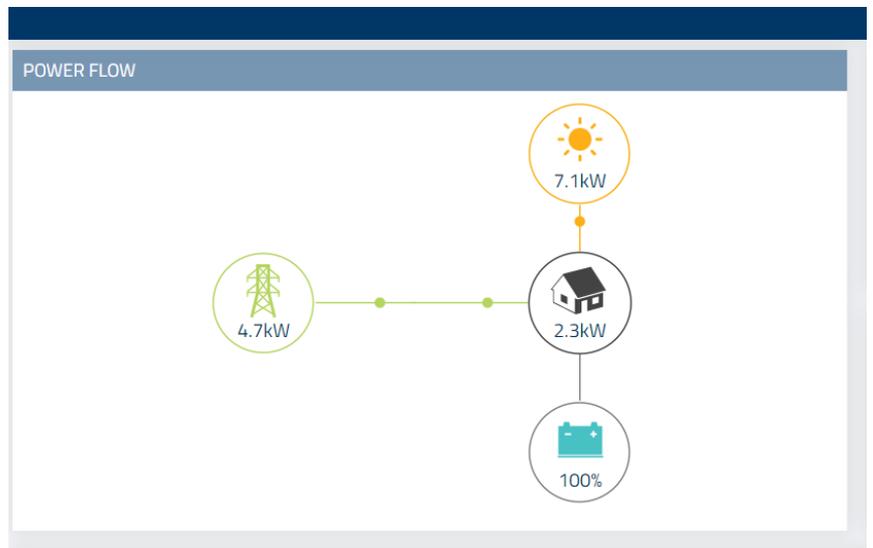
Since the system became operational just before Christmas, we have not used any power from the Grid and have avoided 655kg of CO₂ emissions.

This is an exciting initiative for the Venus Bay Community Centre who have been working on this project about Community Energy Resilience for some time. We know the impact of power outages on our community – and it seems these are happening more frequently, and with more severity.

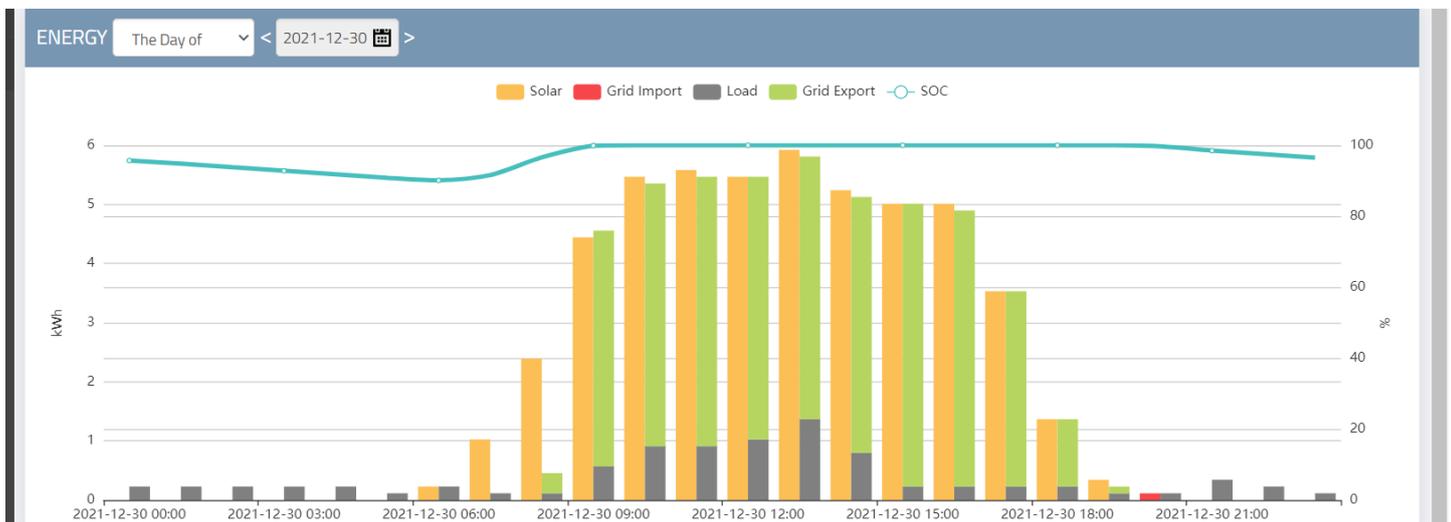
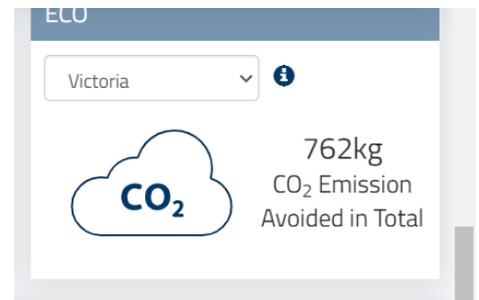
Being at the end of the line in terms of power infrastructure, along with other factors like dependence on power for pumps/water/lighting/heating and emergency information means we are vulnerable.

Now that our system is fully operational, this means when the power goes out – we will be able provide a place for people to go – to provide power, charge their devices, be warm, use our kitchen and access emergency information.

This project was supported with funding from the Victorian State Government through the Gippsland Community Power Hub (\$50k) and with funds raised by the Community Centre (\$15k).



Now our energies are turning towards the bigger project for Venus Bay – with an application for a feasibility study to determine what kinds of options would suit the township + landscape + existing infrastructure. We always knew this would be a big long-term project; the feasibility study is the first step. Pending the funding application to Preparing Australian Communities – Local Stream from the Federal Government, we hope to have lots of opportunities for community input and feedback on options as well as technical and business case information to take forward to the next stage of implementation. In the meantime, we hope to develop smaller parallel projects that increase individual energy resilience and provide information and guidance for local action.





VENUS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE

SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Mon 3rd Jan -Imagination trees, nature craft, sponge houses and cup of life

Tue 4th Jan - design a money box, marble games and block art

Wed 5th Jan - Cubby houses, cardboard maze, box construction

Thur 6th Jan - String painting and hessian bag magic

Fri 7th Jan - Superheroes and sidekicks PLUS monsters and puppets

All activities run from

10am - 12.00pm

Cost: \$8 per child



VENUS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE

SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Mon 10th Jan Miniature bug house, living pets and nature craft

Tue 11th Jan - scarecrows, birdhouses and woollen birds

Wed 12th Jan - Make your very own clock, Paint our totem poles

Thur 13th Jan - Baking, Faking and Making, chalk painting and rice masks

Fri 14th Jan - Jornals, worry dolls and idols

All activities run from

10am - 12.00pm

Cost: \$8 per child

MARKET

TARWIN LOWER MECHANICS HALL

RIVERVIEW DRIVE TARWIN LOWER

MARKET DAY 8am to 1pm

MONDAY 3rd JANUARY 2022

STALLS AND FOOD, PLANTS, CRAFTS, BRIQ-A-BRAQ
TEA ROOMS, LOTS MORE.....

MARKET

TARWIN LOWER MECHANICS HALL

RIVERVIEW DRIVE TARWIN LOWER

MARKET DAY 8am to 1pm

MONDAY 24th JANUARY 2022

STALLS AND FOOD, PLANTS, CRAFTS, BRIQ-A-BRAQ
TEA ROOMS, LOTS MORE.....

TARWIN LOWER MECHANICS INSTITUTE
AND MEMORIAL HALL

Interested local residents of
Tarwin, Tarwin Lower, and Venus Bay areas
are invited to attend the
Triennial General Meeting

Sunday 16th January at 4pm at the Hall

Business: to elect a new committee of management for the next three years when all positions will be declared vacant

The Hall has recently had the floors magnificently resurfaced and has some funding available for external renovations planned for 2022. It is a great venue for musical shows, film society nights, markets, dances, theatre, meetings, private functions and presentations. We need a proactive dedicated committee to promote and maintain our iconic historical Hall in this community.

For any enquiries email tarwinlowerhall@gmail.com

Surf Life Saving Club

PLEASE NOTE:

Surf Drive will be closed to traffic from the main car park from 8am for the Marketa event.



VAN CLEEF RESERVE UPDATE

You might have noticed the fabulous new sculptural markers adorning the entrance to the Van Cleef Reserve in Venus Bay lately. These were commissioned after expressions of interest were invited from local artists – [Grant Flather](#) was the successful candidate. He is thrilled they are now installed – and we agree they look fabulous! The concrete pads will soon be covered by local creepers, so they'll look like they're rising from the reserve to welcome us all.

These form the middle part of a project determined by the community nearly 5 years ago. Funding allocation of \$400,000 from South Gippsland Shire for Venus Bay through a community budgeting process saw 3 major projects voted on by community members:

- \$125,000 Environmental project – Van Cleef Reserve masterplan & implementation
- \$125,000 Skate Park for Venus Bay – concept plans and location now approved: implementation likely over the next 12 months
- \$150,000 Improvements to Venus Bay Surf Life Saving Club – toilet and clubhouse upgrade, used to leverage other funding for improvements. Yet to be implemented



Since the funding determination, the Van Cleef Reserve has a wonderful masterplan developed by Laidlaw & Laidlaw. The brief to develop the masterplan

rested on a major environmental and conservation project with artistic themes for the purpose of creating a sustainable showcase of indigenous flora and fauna; increasing wildlife habitat; engaging and education locals and visitors alike in the value and fragility of the flora and fauna of the Venus Bay peninsula and demonstrating how the plants, animals and humans of the Venus Bay Peninsula can work together. The project was to be commenced in the 2017-18 financial year.

Features of the Masterplan, which was developed in consultation with a Public Advisory Group includes 3 key elements to enhance, preserve and protect the reserve:

1. Wayfinding pathway work, and associated signage to guide people's interest in the natural flora and fauna of the park – *contract awarded, yet to be installed*
2. Entrance sculptural marker – to engage people's curiosity about what the reserve holds and signals the main entrance to the reserve ✓ - **complete!**



3. Environmental sculptural heart – funding to install engaging creative sculpture/feature in the Centre of the reserve to act as focal point, and harness cultural and creative engagement with the natural environment.
Expressions of Interest yet to be released.

Note – while this project was determined for 2017-18 budget, there have been delays in the implementation for various reasons. While each part of the project takes time, it would be SO great to see the signage part of the project completed and the funding spent on the environmental sculptural heart project & track work before another year passes by.



The design for Van Cleef Reserve draws on the natural environment and the reserves' strong sense of place. Design inspiration comes from the wild, untamed nature of the reserve and the indigenous landscape in all its forms, including the people, plants, animals and landform. The concept was developed in consultation with the community and reflects its values including a respect and care for the natural environment, a strong holiday community and a thriving local arts scene.

(Excerpt from Masterplan)



Strategies for effective on-farm weed control

Farm tour and beach walk to Grinder Point

What are your legal requirements as a landholder with regard to weeds? Who can help you with weed control? What are the steps to creating a successful weed management plan?

Beef farmers, Bruce Whittaker and Jillian Staton, will share their approach to managing weeds and controlling pests at Cape Liptrap.

Speakers include Jenny Bell from Agriculture Victoria and Mark Rowe from Bass Coast Landcare Network's Works Crew.

What to expect?

- farm walk to see the results of eight years of consistent weed control
- discussion about Noxious Weeds, Agricultural and Environmental Weeds and Weeds of National Significance, and landholders' responsibilities in relation to each
- hear about the assistance that BCLN's contractors can provide with regard to weed and pest control
- opportunity to create your own weed management plan
- light morning tea
- beach walk to Grinder Point.

When

Monday, 17 January 2022
9.30am-12.30pm

Where

145 Illawong Court, Tarwin Lower
(Off the Cape Liptrap Lighthouse Road)

What to bring

- long pants
- sturdy shoes
- hat
- water bottle & coffee cup
- chair.

Register (numbers limited)

Jenny O'Sullivan:
leapios@gmail.com or 0419 153 377

Note that SGLN have negotiated a 10% discount on all weed control products (equipment, herbicides, surfactants etc) from local businesses Leongatha Rural Supplies and Brown Wigg Meeniyan.



The Bunurong Coast Community Onground Action on Pest Plants and Animals Project is supported by the Victorian Government through the Community Volunteer Action Grants.

South Gippsland Landcare Network Incorporation No. A0051992A



VENUS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE

RIDE A BIKE



BICYCLES AVAILABLE TO HIRE AT
VENUS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE
\$20 PER DAY

DEPOSIT AND REGISTRATION REQUIRED

VENUS BAY
COMMUNITY CENTRE

COMMUNITY COMPOST

NOW AVAILABLE AT THE REAR OF THE CENTRE

Add	Don't Add
Fruit scraps	Meat scraps
Plant prunings	Noxious weeds
Vegetable scraps	Fish scraps
Coffee grounds	Noxious weeds
Tea leaves	Plastics / synthetics
Shredded paper	Diseased plant waste



Plant Booklets now available at the Centre 

Bike Maintenance Station on the Eastern end of the building. Available all hours.

Indigenous plants of Venus Bay Peninsula



- Trees and Shrubs
- Grasses - Sedges / Rushes
- Ferns
- Scramblers - Climbers
- Aquatic/Wetland
- Lilies - Irises - Orchids
- Herbs

This is a collection of Plant of the Month features provided by Friends of Venus Bay Peninsula for the Venus Bay Community Centre over many years. An amazing resource for our community with many thanks to Lorraine Norden.





Check Fire and Flood Warnings Before Travelling This Summer



With the school holidays starting this week, Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV), CFA and Victoria State Emergency Service (VicSES) are urging people to monitor emergency warnings before travelling across the state.

FRV'S Deputy Commissioner Fire Safety, Michelle Young, said that after a difficult 2020, it was understandable that Victorians were especially keen to get away this year.

However, she said it was crucial holiday makers checked the Fire Danger Rating every day throughout summer, and never travelled to or through areas on Extreme or Code Red days.

"I know Victorians are very keen to holiday across our regions, but no trip is worth the risk of being caught up in the bushfire or grassfire," Deputy Commissioner Young said.

"Already this month, FRV and CFA have responded to several large and dangerous grassfires that have spread quickly on windy days, including fires on the urban fringe. This is why I urge all holidaymakers to be vigilant this summer – not only for areas you are visiting but also areas you are passing through."

"Download the Vic Emergency app and set up watch zones for the location you're visiting, and travelling through, so you will be notified of any fires starting."

"If there are any fires or emergency incidents at your destination or along your planned route, cancel or change your travel plans."

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan said that while this year's seasonal outlook indicated a lower risk of long-running bushfires than last year, grassfires remained a high risk across the state.

"Whether you're heading for the beach, bush or rivers and lakes, make sure you know what fire district you will be holidaying in – and which ones you will pass through along the way," he said.

"Grassfires can move at speeds of up to 25km per hour and jump highways, so stay alert and be aware of grass fires when you're travelling."

"When arriving at your destination, talk to locals and find out where to go if you get caught out by a grass or bushfire and are unable to safely leave the area."

"Throughout your holiday, continue to monitor conditions and leave early on Extreme or Code Red days."

VICSES Chief Officer Operations Tim Wiebush said this year's La Nina weather pattern meant severe storms and floods were much more likely this summer.

"It's important to set up a watch zone and ensure your notifications for flood and weather are turned on within the VicEmergency app," he said.

"Never camp under trees or branches and avoid camping on low-lying land near creeks, rivers, and other waterways.

"Stay safe by never driving through floodwater. It can take just 15cm of flowing water to float a car – that's the height of an average pen."

Safety tips

For travel safety tips, visit: www.cfa.vic.gov.au?paln-prepare/staying-safe-when-you-travel

Check the Fire Danger Rating by visiting www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/total-fire-bans-and-ratings

Download the Vic Emergency app for real-time updates about emergencies across Victoria.

Never travel to areas with an 'Extreme' or 'Code Red' Fire Danger Rating.

Never drive through flood water.

FREE Venus Bay Laughter Session

Come along and laugh, de-stress, feel healthier
Venus Bay Community Centre 17th January 12 pm – 1pm

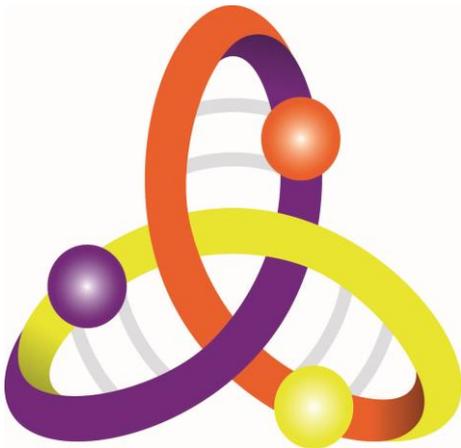
We all know that Laughter is the Best Medicine, but did you know that it's the best prevention of illness (both mental and physical) also. Laughter boosts your immune system, increases oxygen to the body cells, improves blood circulation and reduces blood pressure, and decreases stress, anxiety, and depression.

Laughter Yoga is a unique concept that allows you to laugh even when you least feel like it. Ideal for people of all ages, it is an aerobic exercise program that provides Holistic Health and Happiness. A sense of humour is not required but you will develop one.

ALL WELCOME FOR THIS FREE SESSION, presented by Merv Neal, CEO Laughter Yoga Australia

Come along and become an accredited Laughter Yoga Leader

Training provided by Merv Neal
Master Trainer and CEO Laughter Yoga Australia



Certified Laughter Leader Training



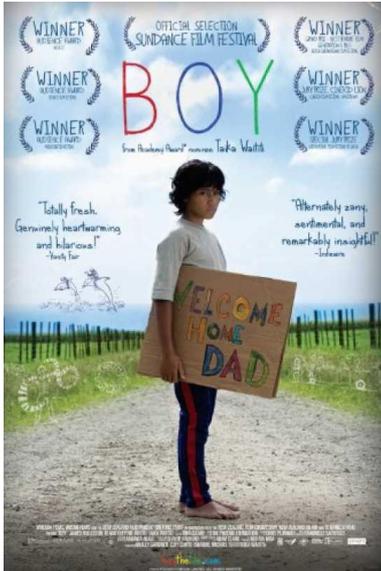
TO BE HELD @ Venus Bay Community Centre
21st and 23rd January 9.30am to 4.30pm both days

In this training you will learn the practical skills and theoretical basis of Laughter Yoga. You will have ample opportunity to put your skills into practice and be fully supported every step of the way. You will receive information on the latest laughter trends and techniques along with all training resources and manuals.

So, if you're wanting to provide laughter sessions for your workplace or organization, or to start a social club in your area, then here is where it begins. Laughter Yoga is being used for wellness and therapy in business, schools, aged care, disability, and health institutions

COST for LAUGHTER LEADER TRAINING \$395 inc GST
To register contact Merv directly on 0408 552269 or merv@mervneal.com

Tarwin Lower Film Society



The next film is scheduled for Friday 21st January and is a New Zealand film "Boy". See details below.

BOY – 2010 New Zealand film – Rated M (Adult themes, Low level course language)

Synopsis: A New Zealand youth (James Rolleston) finds that his father (Taika Waititi) is a far cry from the heroic adventurer he's imagined the man to be.

A simple story of coming of age and the bitter failings of hero worship that succeeds thanks to the impressive skills of its young star.

Boy is a 2010 New Zealand comedy-drama film, written and directed by Taika Waititi. In New Zealand, the film eclipsed previous records for a first week's box office takings for a local production. Boy went on to become the highest grossing New Zealand film at the local box office

Critic reviews:

- Peter Calder of [The New Zealand Herald](#) gave the film five out of five stars. He praised the performances by the three main actors and said "it's hard to praise too highly the pitch-perfect tone of this movie."
- It's a disarmingly lovely, big-hearted film, and hilarious in places.
- Even the inevitable flaws of the low-budget production are winning, showcasing as they do the narrative artistry that makes Boy so distinctive amid current factory-written studio productions.

See link to trailer below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESD3mlgpSwM>

Films are screened at the Tarwin Lower Mechanics Institute Hall.

It's not too late to purchase your membership.

Memberships are available at Trybooking.com (just search for Tarwin Lower Film Society).

12 months - \$60

3 months (consecutive) - \$25.

Alternatively, you can find a TryBooking link at the tarwinlowerhall.com website.

For convenience, a link to Trybooking website can also be found below:

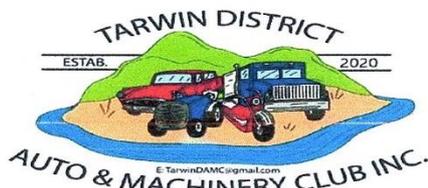
<https://www.trybooking.com/BTOXM>

We look forward to seeing you in January.

1. 21 January 2022 - Boy (2010 New Zealand film)
2. 18 February 2022 - First Reformed (2017 American film)
3. 18 March 2022 - Mrs Carey's Concert (Australian documentary)
4. 15 April 2022 - A Fantastic Woman (2017 Spanish Film) – subtitles
5. 20 May 2022 - I, Daniel Blake (2016 British film)
6. 17 June 2022 - The Hunter (2011 Australian film)

Any queries can be sent to tarwinlowerfilmsociety@gmail.com

Anne Cox, Secretary Tarwin Lower Film Society, 0432 494 531



Join us to Celebrate AUSTRALIA DAY

12 Noon, 26 January 2022

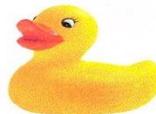
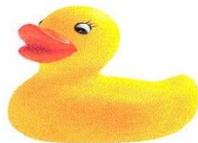
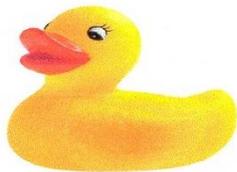
At the Long Table – Tarwin River Boat Ramp

Adults - \$10

Children 12 to 18 - \$5

11 and under free

River Duck Races



Raffle – drawn on day

BBQ – sausages & burgers with onions, bread & salad

Classic & veteran vehicles on display

Wood raffle – trailer load of wood (drawn on day)

All proceeds for the day will go to Tarwin Lower
Primary School towards new playground equipment.

TRULLI KITCHEN AND PATRICK MANAGEMENT
PRESENT

MELBOURNE FOLLIES

IN

CABARET *downunder*

Wednesday 19 January 2022 - Friday 21
January 2022
Trulli's Restaurant
Meenyan
Tickets at Trybooking.com

Trulli

Fishing Workshop Wrap Up

The recently held Women's fishing clinic was well attended with locals who enjoyed learning how to set up a rig, cast a rod and clean a fish. The workshop was held over two afternoons was run by local angling club members in conjunction with the Community Centre.

Angling club members assisted the women to set up rigs, understand how to tie the Locked half blood knot and how to set up a Paternoster Rig which is a multi-hooked rig.

After practicing knots on a large hook and fluoro string the participants were encouraged to set up a rig for the new rods. The Angling club members were very patient with the beginners and had a wealth of local fishing knowledge to share with the group.

Week two started at the Angling Club rooms in Fishermans Road where instruction was given about bait and how to put it on the hook and all the necessary equipment that should be on hand when fishing. Simple things like a something to hold the prized fish with when removing a hook.

This was followed up by Barb demonstrating how to clean and gut a prized Perch that a club member had caught for us earlier in the day.

The workshop concluded back at the Club rooms with a wonderful afternoon tea and information about the benefits of being an Angling Club member.

And yes Fish were caught on the day – all had to be returned to the water- but never the less the lessons worked.



News from the Venus Bay Angling Club.

The Venus Bay Angling Club would like to welcome new members to the club, young and old!! Membership fee is \$30.00 per family per year and this entitles you to free entry to the fishing competitions which are held monthly, free sausage sizzle once a month, and free

BBQ at the AGM. We just ask our members to bring along a salad/savoury/sweet to share. We hold various social events throughout the year and everyone is welcome.

On competition weekends we hold a raffle on the Saturday night with some great prizes such as a meat tray and vouchers from the Riverview Hotel. For the winner of the fishing competition prizes include a \$50 voucher from the Cavity, trophies and vouchers from various local businesses. We would love to have some junior members participate in our comps.

If you would like any information on joining or just some general boating/fishing advice, call by the Club, Gerald's Shed, Fishermans Road down by the jetty. We are open Friday and Saturday 4.00 - 6.00 p.m. or check out our website.

IS YOUR NUMBER UP?

**CERT, CFA, VBCC AND COUNCIL ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP YOU
SAFE BY PROVIDING REFLECTIVE HOUSE NUMBERS.**

**IT IS A REQUIREMENT TO DISPLAY HOUSE NUMBERS; YOU CAN GET
YOURS FOR FREE AT VENUS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

CAN WE FIND YOU?



South Gippsland
Shire Council

CERT





Happy New Year all! Here's to a safe and happy summer for all 😊 **TIME HAVE YOUR SAY WHERE IT COUNTS! Please jump online before Jan 12 at [Our Community Vision | Your Say South Gippsland](#)** Time to get community back at the centre of South Gippsland Council's future. Your new Councillors are determined to make sure the results of this community engagement process truly reflective of the patchwork of wants, needs and values across South Gippy. Go big, go small, what's important to you matters to me.

SUMMER SAFETY Here in VB/Tarwin Lower we are blessed with stunning wild nature, clean air and a very special way of life. When the sun is shining and our townships full of happy holiday people, it can be easy to forget this environment can also be dangerous, even deadly.

Since joining council I've been banging the summer community safety drum along with our magnificent VB Surf Life Saving Club and CERT. All over regional Australia we are experiencing growth in permanent populations and tourism putting pressure on our already stretched volunteer emergency management orgs.

To add to this our peninsula is managed by a crazy network of state agencies which has historically enabled buck passing and community issues slipping through red tape responsibility nets. Going forward we need data going directly to these agencies so council can better advocate, mobilise support and generate long-term solutions to our biggest challenges.

We need your help, NOT to be the fun police, but to report activity that threatens community safety TO THE AUTHORITIES, not just on our cathartic Facebook pages 😊

Council staff and the Inverloch police have worked together to provide speed indicators and car counting strips, not only to deter speed but gather data on what our visitor numbers really are. Council are also allowing for twice daily **bin emptying** in our main shopping areas if once a day isn't cutting it. If you notice the bins overflowing text me on **0484 921 547** and we'll hit the go button.

If you witness **hoon driving or any illegal activity, please call the police on 000** (or 131 444 to make a non-urgent report). I spoke with Inverloch Police & they WANT to hear from you, help them help us.

If you see any of the **beach access roads blocked by illegal parking, please report it to the police AND Parks Victoria on 131 963 or email to info@parksvic.gov.**

Our CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) need your help. PLEASE make sure you have **clear street numbers at the front of your property**, it can be the difference between life and death.

We were recently included as an official high-risk blackspot by Life Saving Victoria. As we welcome newcomers to the area, make sure they know **only beach 1 is patrolled** and it is not considered safe to swim or wade anywhere else. VBSLC have a lot of fantastic initiatives on the way, stay tuned.

If you see any dodgy fishing, boating or jet ski-ing activity please report immediately to **Fisheries Victoria on 13 34 74.**

If you aren't sure who or where to direct your report to or it's a **council issue**, please use the fabulous **SNAP SEND SOLVE app [Home - Snap Send Solve](#)**. It's helpful if you use the app at the location as it geolocates. Otherwise you can call 5662 9200 send an email to council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au. From Councillor Sarah on a mission to bring it all together 😊

Cr Sarah Gilligan



South Gippsland Council is inviting all residents to have their say what the community wants and needs. Our local Councillor, Sarah Gilligan hosted a pop-up session in December – here is what members of our community had to say. There will be other sessions, and everyone can contribute online: <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vision>

VENUS BAY – Notes from Consultation Sunday 12th December, 2021

These notes are mainly centred on Venus Bay and Tarwin Lower but most of the issues that relate to these two towns can be replicated in the small communities across the Coastal Prom.

COUNCIL

- Engaged with the community
- Supporting those that support the community
- Connecting the community
- Off the beaten track
- Progressive council that moves ahead
- More connection and engagement with our indigenous culture despite the contested space issues.

EDUCATION

- Education – specialised courses in land regeneration, regenerative farming and future industries that will train our youth for future work in the region.
- University of the third age for our ageing populations.
- Employment and training opportunities not tied to Melbourne for school leavers.
- More education around the local environment, flora, fauna, wildlife and ecological diversity.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Leaders in sustainability and storm resilience
- Coastal communities supplied by microgrids fed by renewables
- Stay on septic and tank water
- Renewable energy projects – solar batteries and back up power systems
- A mix of farming and tourism

DESIGN & ENVIRONMENT

- Retain look and feel of dirt road communities
- Avoid suburban look and feel
- Constrained growth sensitive to our environmental assets
- Retain the dunes always for two reasons – environment and a democracy of property values across the town (no-one has ocean views)
- Height and dual occupancy restrictions and design integrity
- Free indigenous seedlings and education around indigenous plants
- Affordable housing planned and integrated into communities
- Revegetation and weed management rate rebate (10-15%)

TRANSPORT

- Solar powered Tuk tuks on the rail trail! – disability and inclusion options
- Ways of transporting everyone and connecting to bigger town services
- A minimum of a shuttle bus service from VB/Tarwin to Leongatha or Wonnie a few times a week (find out where they have to go for medical and other).
- Public transport that connects to the Vline buses
- A train service between Melbourne and Wonthaggi/Leongatha
- Men's shed voluntary bus service expanded and supported as a local shuttle

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Positive ageing plan – we have a very elderly community
- Community centres to support the elderly and the lonely
- We have a strong community identity
- More health services, develop the Tarwin Lower Health Centre
- Walking and cycling paths

COMMUNITY SAFETY

- A future without drownings!
- New Surf life saving clubhouse (2-4mill) – started in 1999 with 110 members, now 800 and growing. It is inadequate for the tourism and membership it supports.
- Lifesaving Victoria blackspot, community safety.
- Without the Life Saving Club we lose economic activity and safety.
- Only two surf life-saving clubs in our Shire; VBSLC and Waratah Bay SLC. Completely self funded and volunteer, they raise \$100K per year to pay for paid life guards.
- An enforcement officer for boom periods of tourism – parking, dogs on beaches, pipis etc
- Easy, safe beach access
- Cycling paths and traffic calming measures

TOURISM

- Economic activity comes from ecotourism
- More Parks presence over summer - oversight and education
- Bird watching activities (migratory bird zone)
- Promote welcome and nature tourism
- Healthy tourism – walking, swimming, riding and birdwatching
- Clear education around the local flora and fauna and conditions
- Well informed visitors
- Celebrate the Coastal Park
- Common Ground Venus Bay

BUSINESS and GROWTH

- Courses and support programs to connect our newcomers to the local ecosystem
- Mentoring programs, ways to share the talent moving into or working part time from the region
- Business programs with social outcomes connecting communities
- new hubs support our growing communities and the changes in the way we work (part time/WFH/more sole traders and consultants)
- Opportunities for young people, reasons for them to stay
- Tap into the aged care economy

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

- No cats outside or at the least a cat curfew
- Dog and cat control – educate people about the impact of their domestic animals on our wildlife
- Less roadkill
- Dogs rushing at people walking in the streets needs to be controlled

DEVELOPMENT

- Developments that reflect the value of nature and the fragility of our coastal environment.
- Indigenous name signage
- A future that honours our farming heritage

ROADS

- Public transport options for teenagers and elderly
- Traffic slowing measures in our towns
- TRAFFIC CALMING
- Shared roads need to observe shared road rules (30 or 40km)
- Get rid of the black gravel, everyone hates it
- Bike paths so you can safely ride from the third estate to Tarwin Lower (1st to 2nd estate connection)
- Width of main roads in VB and Tarwin to enable walking, cycling and mobility scooters



South Gippsland Landcare Network (SGLN) launched its new Bunurong Coast Community Ongoing Action on Pest Plants and Animals project on 10 December with a walk to explore the unique flora and fauna within the Cape Liptrap Coastal Park.

Sixty people enjoyed the walk which began at Boggabri, the grazing property that has belonged to the Jelbart family since 1948. Don Jelbart surprised many in the group when he described the barren, rabbit-ravaged landscape of his childhood, as the dunes now boast a thick cover of predominantly native vegetation. This is largely thanks to the introduction in the 1970s of the European rabbit flea which spread the Myxomatosis virus amongst the local rabbit population.

Botanical ecologist, Alison Oates, explained the Ecological Vegetation Communities (EVC) classification system and was able to point out four EVCs on the walk including Coastal Banksia Woodland and Coastal Headland Scrub. Local botanists, Mary Ellis, Lorraine Norden and Margaret Rowe, added to participants' knowledge by identifying the plants seen on the two hour walk and sharing the ways in which indigenous Australians used many of them.



Unfortunately, the group also saw the impacts that invasive species such as spear grass (*Heteropogon contortus*) and sea spurge (*Euphorbia paralias*) are having on biodiversity within the reserve. Both species dramatically alter the structure of the sand dunes preventing shorebirds like hooded plovers, little terns and oystercatchers from nesting.

Another serious threat to these shorebirds (and many other native animals) is foxes. Gerald Delaney from Parks Victoria, spoke about the 1080 baiting pulses being carried out with SGLN to protect hooded plover nesting sites in the reserve. Gerald emphasised that effective pest or weed control needs to involve the whole community, and encouraged local landholders to work together to get the best results.

Gerald also spoke about the growing threat of deer, which will be the focus of a future workshop in the project.

The next event in this project, which is funded by the Victorian Government through the Community Action Volunteer Grants, is a farm tour and beach walk to Grinder Point on 17 January. Cape Liptrap



beef farmer, Bruce Whittaker, and representatives from Agriculture Victoria and Bass Coast Landcare Network's Works Crew, will discuss strategies for effective weed control. Interested landholders will also be able to develop their own weed management plan. To register, contact Jenny O'Sullivan on leapos@gmail.com or 0419 153 377.



Image: Drift Media as part of the Anderson Inlet Southern Shoreline Survey

Coastal restoration project

Venus Bay's mangroves and why we want to protect them

Tarwin Landcare Group invites you to a free morning tea and beach walk to hear about:

- **our eroding coastline:** what is happening, why is it happening, and what impact are humans having?
- **the value of mangroves:** in combatting erosion, trapping carbon and providing habitat for fish and wildlife
- **Doyles Road Beach mangroves:** their current health status, and the threats to their health
- **Protection & Restoration of the Coastal Foreshore at Anderson Inlet Project:** what TLG is planning to do to protect the health of Anderson Inlet, and how you can be involved.

Expert speakers include:

- Dr. Greg Parry, Westernport Seagrass Partnership
- Dave Sutton, Cape to Cape Resilience Project
- Alison Oates, ecological botanist and specialist in Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs).

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work and meet.

When

Sunday, 9 January
9.45am - 12.30pm

Where

Venus Bay Community Centre
27 Canterbury Road, Venus Bay followed by visit to Doyles Road Beach (approx 6km from Community Centre)

What to bring?

Hat and sunscreen

Please register for catering purposes

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/coastal-restoration-project-tickets-227403037607>

More information:

tarwin@groups.sgl.n.net.au

Tarwin Landcare Group acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government.





What's been happening at

Tarwin Lower Primary School...



We've had such a busy month !!

- Swimming at Toora Pool
- Making apple turnovers
- Painting Christmas Decorations
- Surfing at Sandy Point
- Grade 3/4 camp at Forest Lodge





TheirCare
Where Kids love to be!

Amazing Before + After School Care Programs

Tarwin Lower Primary School



About the program

TheirCare provides adventurous and stimulating Before & After School Care Programs in a safe environment for all children. During sessions children develop life skills, friendships, confidence and creativity through play.

Tarwin Lower Primary School has partnered with **TheirCare** to provide this service to your school which includes quality care, booking flexibility, amazing programming for your children and commitment to deliver on our promise to your school community.

Operation Times		Fees*	Out of Pocket	Average^
Before School Care	7:00am – 8:45am	\$19.00	\$2.98 - \$19.00	\$2.98
After School Care	3:20pm - 6:00pm	\$26.00	\$3.90 - \$26.00	\$3.90
Pupil Free Day	8:00am – 6:00pm	\$70.00	\$10.50 - \$70.00	\$10.50
Late Booking Cancellation Fee	Within 48 hours	\$5.00		
Cancellation Fee	Same Day	Full Fee	See BSC/ASC	

Service Phone Number: 0499 257 488 Your service coordinator will be available during session times. TheirCare support is available during office hours if required on 1300 072 410

How to Enrol

Visit **TheirCare** website: www.theircare.com.au and click on 'Book Now' in the top right hand corner to register your child's details.

*Standard fees excluding incursion / excursion costs

^Based on ABS published average family income for the suburb the school is located

Rally Round our Dunes!

Where: Inverloch Surf Club

When: 10.30am to 12.30pm
Wednesday 12 January

2004



2021



Inverloch Surf Beach has lost almost half of its dunes in the last 9 years. With the Victorian Government's 'Coastal Hazard Assessment' recommendation due in early 2022, now is the time for us to show how much we value the beach and its dunes.

Join us on the beach to form a Covid-safe line marking out where the dune face was back in 2012.



South Gippsland
CONSERVATION SOCIETY
Celebrating over 40 years of Conservation.



LORD
MAYOR'S
CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION



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: 56637499, Send mail to Post Office Box 786, Venus Bay 3956

Email: vbcc@bigpond.com Website: 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 Health & Human Services (Victoria) and the Commonwealth Government, South Gippsland Shire Council.

Our website is 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.



VENUS BAY
COMMUNITY CENTRE