

March 2024 Vol 3 Issue 15

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.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE IN ACTION

It was great to see the resilience of our community in Venus Bay & Tarwin Lower in action during the recent storm event that caused devastation across Gippsland along with widespread power outages.



The Venus Bay Community Centre sprang into action – offering community members a place to be during the uncertain and frightening outage. The establishment of a stand-alone microgrid at the Centre meant that there was power, water, toilets, and the comfort of having somewhere to be together.

This kind of event is exactly why we created the Microgrid – and continue to work on Community Resilience and reliable energy with our Community Energy Project. It was great to see that it all worked – and was much appreciated by community members.

Over 80 people spent time together either charging devices, putting food in our fridge or freezer, seeking information or sharing a rather delicious luncheon. People brought in extra power boards, extra food; people sprang into action in the kitchen helping to prepare food, making cups of tea and talking with each other and helping wherever was needed.

Many people commented that it was comforting to be able to be with others, to share the limited information that was accessible and to be safe- and they felt connected to the community.

While we were able to provide power – the event highlighted the frustrations and fears around the inability to seek information on-line. Being able to find out what was happening – how long the power would be out- is there any petrol stations in operation – how can I contact family – amongst many concerns were raised.



We were thrilled that CFA Captain Mick Moore and CERT team member Lou joined us, it was unsettling to know that even emergency services had limited communications – and for a time ooo was not working. While ABC and local radio provided some information (if you had a battery radio), mostly people were directed to keep checking Vic Emergency App, or other websites –

which of course don't work without Internet or communications.

Over many years we have been advocating Telstra and NBN to provide more battery back up to ensure communications can continue – with little success. With such reliance on internet and mobile towers for even basic communications – including land-line phones, this is an essential service.

Perhaps this widespread event that caused such devastation and trauma to Gippsland communities might be the trigger to act, if we all work together.





COMMUNITY ENERGY E-BUS

Venus Bay



Powered by community... for community.

It's happening at last!!

Thanks to everyone for your patience as we work through planning and scheduling, business case development, stakeholder relations and community input and design to actually start using SUNNY for scheduled services for our community!

We are starting with a trial schedule of services – this is based on what we have learned from community feedback, conversations, surveys and local knowledge of our community.

We know there will be some challenges as we start – coordinating bookings, driver rosters, communicating the schedule and assisting people to understand what this project is – and what it is not.

We have heard that

- people are keen to get around the townships of Venus Bay (all estates), Tarwin Lower and Walkerville -for all sorts of reasons including shopping, post office, social catch ups and more.
- many people are keen to connect to V-Line Services – either in Leongatha or Wonthaggi.
- people want to have the opportunity for shopping/outings/appointments/movies in both Leongatha and Wonthaggi.
- people are interested in using the bus for group bookings – to attend events/festivals/markets etc.

Hence, we have created a range of options in the first instance to trial meeting these requests in this community transport pilot project.

We have created a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) sheet – which we will add to as more information or queries emerge.

La Trobe University has developed an online [BOOKING LINK](#) – to help people connect with the service. We encourage people to use this to assist with driver schedules, pick up/drop offs and to see if it works (!). We know not everyone will use this, so we offer a phone message services as well – so we can help people navigate the booking process.

OUR PLAN – is to trial this schedule for 3 months, reviewing after 1 month to see if it is being used, and then tweaking, based on community and driver feedback. This means we will load the schedule on our website – so it can be changed as needed and is current at all times.

A massive thank you to everyone who has registered as a volunteer driver so far – this project will depend on volunteers to succeed. And thank you to those who have offered to assist in other ways – we are still working on creating a working group to assist us to navigate the range of duties/planning/communicating/assessing and operating this service.

We welcome all involvement in the project and would appreciate any feedback, especially during this trial period.

We acknowledge there will be teething issues – please reach out to either Alyson or Bill to discuss – we'll do our best to assist. We also acknowledge the Men's Shed Bus About Town – which travels each fortnight to Wonthaggi for shopping – we have deliberately avoided scheduling services that conflict with that – we want to see all transport options flourish in our district.

For the first month – the trial service will be free (although we are happy to accept donations in support of the service). Group booking will attract a fee (likely to be \$100) and will be dependent on availability and volunteer drivers.

Once we have ironed out initial issues, we will establish a Friends of Sunny fund – for those that want to see this project succeed but may not use the service. Additionally, there will be a nominal fee for scheduled services.

PLEASE BE PATIENT (AND KIND) – help us to make this work for the community...by the community!

SUNNY will be undertaking a few engagement duties for the first week of March as we head towards the start the first trial of scheduled service on Wednesday 13 March.

[Totally Renewable Tenby - EV Demo Day – Saturday 9 March from 10am](#)

Keen to get off fossil fuels? Curious to learn more about EVs (electric vehicles)? Sceptical or can't work out what all the fuss is about?

Totally Renewable Tenby is hosting a demo day to demystify EV ownership:

- EV owners will showcase their electric cars & motorbikes and talk about their lived experience with EV ownership
- Councillor Clare Le Serve, Bass Coast Mayor, will talk about Council's role in supporting the EV transition
- Riz Akhtar, Founder of Carloop, will talk about the future of EVs and answer your burning questions
- The Venus Bay Community E-bus SUNNY will be visiting the Waterline community!

With special thanks to Bass Coast Shire Council and Mycelia Renewables for supporting this event.

Sunny will be telling the story of the Community Energy Project and this electric mini bus community transport pilot.

[Community Energy Congress – Wednesday 6 March](#)

SUNNY AND SANDY are going on an adventure – to LEONGATHA next Wednesday 6th March to attend the Community Energy Congress Community Hub (see article following). Let's get a gang going from our patch -the amazing Heather Smith from C4CE – who partnered with us in our Community Energy project is convening this event – so we know it will be good!

[Tarwin Lower Market Monday – Labour Day – Monday 11 March](#)

Sunny and the team will be at the Market to provide info about the project – and assist anyone with how-to- book and timetable queries (the QR code on the bus takes you right there too!)

We'll call out for passengers on Facebook – one trip from VB2 at 9am – then at the Market – then return VB2 at 1.00pm.





COMMUNITY ENERGY E-BUS

Venus Bay



Powered by community... for community.

VENUS BAY COMMUNITY E-BUS SCHEDULE (13 MARCH 2024 – 31 MAY 2024) OUT OF TOWN CONNECTION – LEONGATHA OR WONTHAGGI + V LINE

WONTHAGGI
MONDAY FORTNIGHTLY
Starting 18/3/24

LEONGATHA
FRIDAY All Day and SUNDAY PM Service
(via Koonwarra)

Pick up & Drop off Locations	Starting 18/3/24 Times:
VBCC	10.15am
VB2	10.30am
VB1	10.45am
Tarwin Lower	11.00am
Inverloch	11.30am
Wonthaggi Arrive	V/Line connect 11.45am
Depart	2.30pm
Inverloch	2.45pm
Tarwin Lower	3.00pm
VB1	3.15pm
VB2	3.30pm
VBCC	3.45pm

Pick up & Drop off Locations	FRIDAY AM Service Times:	FRIDAY PM Service V/Line	SUNDAY PM Service V/Line
VBCC	9.15am	3.15Pm	1.15PM
VB2	9.30am	3.30pm	1.30pm
VB1	9.45am	3.45PM	1.45pm
Tarwin Lower	10.00am	4.00PM	2.00pm
Koonwarra	10.20am	4.20pm	2.20pm
Leongatha Arrive	V/Line connect 10.30am	V/Line connect 4.30pm	V/Line connect 2.30pm
Depart	2.00pm	5.15pm	2.30pm
Koonwarra	2.10pm	5.25pm	2.40pm
Tarwin Lower	2.30pm	5.45pm	3.00pm
VB1	2.45pm	6.00pm	3.15pm
VB2	3.00pm	6.15pm	3.30pm
VBCC	3.15pm	6.30pm	4pm

Note – scheduled times are as accurate as possible – please be patient as we work through the trial period.

BOOKINGS ARE PREFERRED SO WE CAN COORDINATE DRIVERS & PICK UPS

Online bookings available [here](#) and if that doesn't suit, please call SUNNY on 0403 108 199 and leave a message.

For more info about the whole project : <https://www.vbcc.org.au/e-bus>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



COMMUNITY ENERGY E-BUS

Venus Bay



Powered by community... for community.

VENUS BAY COMMUNITY EBUS SCHEDULE (6 MARCH 2024 – 31 MAY 2024)

SIMPLE LOCAL CONNECTION THURSDAYS – VENUS BAY, TARWIN LOWER & WALKERVILLE

LOCAL CONNECTOR WEDNESDAYS

Pick up/drop off	WEDNESDAY
VBCC	9.45am
Tarwin	9.55am
Walkerville	10.25am
Tarwin	11.00am
VB1	11.10am
VBCC	11.20am
VB2	11.40am
VBCC (Community Lunch)	12.00pm – 12.45pm
VB2	1.00pm
VB1	1.15pm
TARWIN	1.25pm
WALKERVILLE	2pm
TARWIN	2.30pm
VB1	2.45pm

BUS STOPS / PICK UP AND DROP OFF POINTS	
VBCC	Venus Bay Community Centre
VB2	Venus Bay Estate 2 – Post Boxes – Lees Road
VB1	General Shopping Precinct., Jupiter Park, Beach 1
TARWIN LOWER	Outside IGA and CFA station – River Drive
WALKERVILLE	Foreshore reserve and CFA station
Koonwarra, Leongatha, Inverloch, Wonthaggi,	V/Line bus stop. Other locations by arrangement on the day

Note – scheduled times are as accurate as possible – please be patient as we work through the trial period.

BOOKINGS ARE PREFERRED SO WE CAN COORDINATE DRIVERS & PICK UPS

Online bookings available [here](#) and if that doesn't suit, please call SUNNY on 0403 108 199 and leave a message.

CAN I HAIL THE DRIVER AND BE PICKED UP – YES! As long as there are seats available.

NOTE: SERVICES WILL NOT RUN ON PUBLIC HOLIDAY (unless prior arrangement have been made)

[FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS](#)



You are invited to join a Regional Hub to participate in the [2024 Community Energy Congress](#) on Wednesday 6th March.

As Victoria moves to a circular, zero net emissions economy, it is essential that communities are working together to drive this transition.

To enable this collaboration and increase participation at this important event, Sustainability Victoria, the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, and the Gippsland Climate Change Network are working together to offer you the opportunity to join a Regional Congress Hub for free, where community members can watch and participate in the congress with one another.

There will be **three Regional Hub options in Gippsland** (all running for the full [congress program](#) on the 6th March from 10am – 5:30pm with refreshments included); - (other hubs are Heyfield and Sale)

Option 1 Leongatha – Council chambers, 2 Michael Pl, Leongatha, with support from South Gippsland Shire Council.

[Register for Leongatha](#) before Friday 1st March.

Register for online participation

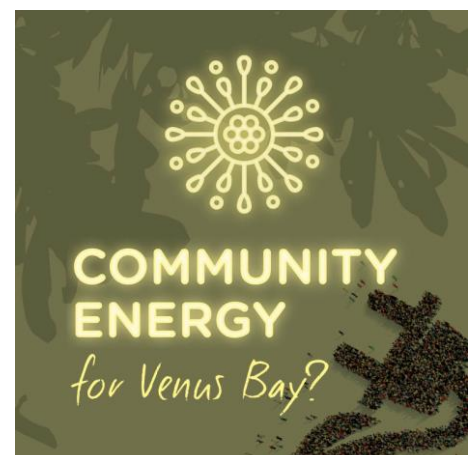
If you can't make it to a Regional Congress Hub on 6 March but would like to participate, you can [register for an online ticket](#) (\$25 for one day or \$40 for two days)

Register for the Sydney Congress in person

You can still [register to attend the event](#) in person (\$198 for one day or \$330 for two days for community and \$450 for one day or \$650 for two days for non-community orgs).

Our Community Energy Project in Venus Bay & Tarwin Lower will be featured on a panel – a wonderful opportunity to showcase what we have already achieved and what we hope for the future!

There will be an opportunity to travel to Leongatha on Wednesday 6 March on SUNNY – our e-Bus. Let us know if you'd like to join in – info@vbcc.org.au (9 seats available)



COMMUNITY ENERGY CONGRESS

6-8 March 2024 | Sydney/EORA



Program Outline as at 12-02-2024

	DAY 1 (ICC) Wednesday 6 March*		DAY 2 (ICC) Thursday 7 March*	
8:00 – 9:00	ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION		ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION	
9:00 – 10:00	OPTION: EXPO KEYNOTE		OPTION: EXPO KEYNOTE	
10:00 – 11:30	1A VITAL 100% renewable energy communities Hear from community energy icons about the journey of transforming communities. What can we learn to speed up our own journeys?		2A FAST & FAIR Big Renewables and communities Benefit sharing, creating opportunities for meaningful participation in renewable projects and aligning renewable production with community needs.	
11:30 – 12:00	MORNING TEA			
12:00 – 13:15	1B FAIR & VITAL Australia's energy future Four visionaries, Four different visions. Where we're going, what we need to do, how we can ensure success. KEYNOTE SPEAKER: SAUL GRIFFITHS		2B FAST & VITAL Community batteries, microgrids and controls What does the technology of the future grid look like? And what can we learn from the pioneering projects that have led the way in Australia?	
13:15 – 14:00	LUNCH			
14:00 – 15:30	1C FAIR & FAST Creating the community renewable vision Together we will investigate the most significant things that support households and communities to change.		2C FAST & FAIR Electrify Everything Community energy groups have always led on this front. Bulk buys, facilitated quotes, independent information, trusted suppliers & support. What works best? And what do we need to learn from successful models?	
15:30 – 15:45	AFTERNOON TEA (15 MINS)			
15:45 – 17:15	1D FAST Finance and Partnerships Pace relates to resources. Hear about sources of finance and support that successful community energy projects have leveraged.		2D VITAL Resilience, Equity & Justice Harder to deliver, and so much more important. Hear from the innovators working out how to bend our energy systems back toward serving everyone and delivering essentials.	
17:15 – 17:30	CLOSE		15-MIN BREAK	
17:30 – 18:30			2E Policy Roundup Congress summary and national policy roundup to equip everyone for 2024.	
18:30 – 21:00	DINNER (TBA)		CLOSE	

* Note: 3rd day off site for researchers & practitioners, Friday 8 March, is confirmed – details to be announced soon



Community Training Program Calendar Jan/June 2024

The Community Training Calendar provides learning and development opportunities for South Gippsland Shire residents, volunteers, community leaders, community groups and not-for-profit organisations.

Governance 101

20 February from 6.30pm to 8.00pm

Want to learn about the basics of good governance in your committee role? This session is for you!

Sport For All

5 March from 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Delve into practical insights on diversity that can transform sporting club environments. Join us to learn tips to help make your sports club a more inclusive space for everyone.

Culture, Diversity and how to be Inclusive

19 March from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Would you like to increase your cultural competency and improve your groups approach to diversity and inclusion? This interactive session will support you to learn and reflect.

Save Money in the Home this Winter: How to be Energy Efficient

16 April from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Learn more about how to save money on your energy bills. Come along to learn practical tips.

New Ways for Volunteer Recruitment and Retention – Part 1

14 and 15 May from 12.30pm to 2.30pm and 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Does your group or committee struggle to find or keep volunteers? Join this first workshop to learn how to plan for and recruit new volunteers.

New Ways for Volunteer Recruitment and Retention – Part 2

21 May from 12.30pm to 2.30pm

Learn how to select great volunteers and create a good experience for your volunteering team. Ideally you will have attended Part 1.



Grant Writing Workshop

4 June from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Are you grant ready? Join this workshop to learn how to set up a framework to be ready to apply for any grant efficiently and effectively.

South Gippsland Community Grants Information Sessions

24 June from 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Do you have a question about Council's Community Grants Program? Not sure of what the process is for applying for grants? What is SmartyGrants?



CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME

Did you know that your recycling – through the Container Deposit Scheme – can help the Venus Bay Community Centre?

We are registered with [CDS VIC EAST APP](#) – that means no matter where you might be depositing your containers, you can choose Venus Bay Community Centre as your recipient. Here's how:

Open the App in your smart phone – choose Find a Cause to Donate to

Find Venus Bay Community Centre – or save bar code on your phone

DONE!
Every 10 cents counts.

Zone ID Refunds Locations Eligibility Help

Refund type not selected

Receive and track electronic refunds
Available when signed in

Quick donate

Ready to donate your refund?
Scan the ID barcode at the refund point in order to donate a refund

Find a cause to donate to

Donate your refunds

You can donate your refunds to an approved cause by scanning the Donation Partner ID barcode or by selecting the cause as your preferred payment method.

Search for a donation partner

Search by name
Q Venus bay

Category
Community development

Search

Search results

Results for "Venus bay", Community development

Venus Bay Community Centre Inc
Community development

Scan this barcode to accept your refund

Venus Bay Community Ce...

Donation Partner ID
C2000009689

Close

community
2. Generate and support programs and

March 18th is Global Recycling Day

Take a minute out of your day to consider ways you can contribute to the recycling process.

1. Recycling one plastic bottle saves enough energy to turn on a 60-watt lightbulb for three hours.
2. Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run the TV for three hours.
3. It can take as fast as 30 days for a glass container in recycling bin to be on a shop shelf again.
4. The average person generates about 1.9 kg of trash every single day. So think twice before you throw please!
5. Glass and aluminium can be recycled endlessly without losing its quality and purity.
6. The first recorded instance of recycling is paper recycling in Japan in 1031.
7. With 5 recycled plastic bottles we can make one XL T-shirt, 27 bottles a sweater, 35 we can make a sleeping bag!
8. Since a charge was introduced for using a plastic bag, plastic bag use has dropped by 80%.
9. We save 17 trees when a ton of paper is recycled.
10. Every week nearly 90% of newspaper are thrown away, that equals to throwing half a million trees into landfill. Shall we subscribe online newspaper instead?





Come with us to Jam Jerrup to visit the wonderful textile artist Jenni-Maree Tempest. Her work will amaze you with her life like sculptural pieces that bring nature to life in fabric and thread.

www.instagram.com/jemartem.textiles/
From there we will venture to Loch for lunch.

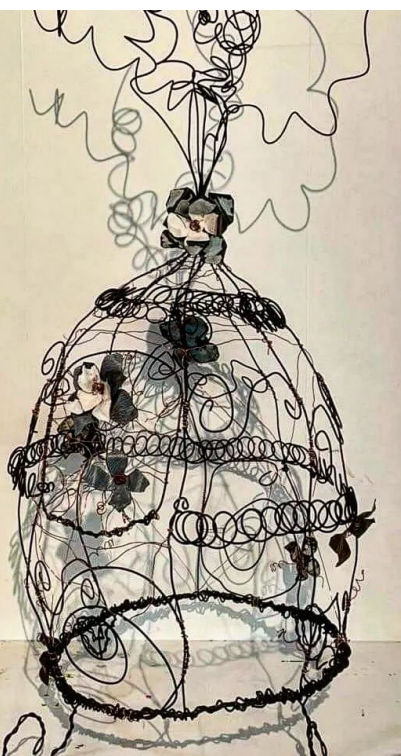


STUDIO VISITS 26TH MARCH

.....
JOIN US ON THE
COMMUNITY E-BUS
'SUNNY'
TO MEET TWO GREAT
GIPPSLAND ARTISTS

\$10 PER PERSON

.....
Leaving 9.30 from the
Community Centre returning
approximately 4.30



While in Loch we will also be dropping into visit 'The Mad Queen' Regina Dudek in her studio space. Regina is well known for her repurposed metal, wire & found creation sculptures.

www.instagram.com/themadqueenartist/

Before leaving there should be a little spare time to wander the few shops that are open in Loch on a Tuesday.

All images are courtesy of the creators





VENUS BAY ANGLING CLUB will hold the March Fishing Competition over Easter, starting at 6am Friday 29th March and finishing at 3.00 pm sharp Monday 1st April. There will be a weigh in each day at the club between 4-6pm Friday, 4-8pm Saturday, 4-6 Sunday and 2.30 - 3.00 p.m. Monday when the winners will be announced. 1st Prize for financial members is a \$50.00 voucher from a local business. For this comp we

will be bringing back the 'secret weight' award which means a secret weight is drawn and the fish weighed in closest to this weight wins the prize. Our BBQ will be held on Saturday night, meat provided, and members and visitors are asked to bring along a hot dish/salad/dessert to share. For non members there is a \$5.00 entry fee for the competition which covers you for the BBQ Saturday night as well. We will have our raffle on Saturday night (with some great prizes) as well as the members draw. Come along and join in the fun.



The Venus Bay Angling Club will hold it's usual easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday starting at 10.00 a.m. (don't be late!!) at Gerald's Shed, Fishermans Road, Venus Bay. All children under 12 are welcome to participate, so come along and have some. www.venusbayanglingclub.org.au

VENUS BAY S&P FLOWERS

**Studio3922 are excited to return to Venus Bay Community Centre and host a Sip and Paint
27 Canterbury Road Venus Bay**

**Saturday 9th March
1.00-3.00 \$65.00 BYO**



**JOIN THE FUN AND
LEARN SOME ACRYLIC
PAINTING TECHNIQUES.
LAUGH DRINK AND LEAVE
WITH YOUR OWN
MASTERPIECE ALL
MATERIALS PROVIDED**

**All bookings done via studio3922
try booking link**

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

Please note if we do not get numbers we will give a refund



Hi & firstly, a **HUGE** thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, and made our first ever Twilight Market on January 26th a big success! It was wonderful to see all the smiles on the dials while people enjoyed the stalls, the music, the food, the atmosphere & the weather! Visitors were treated to a busy day with the Duck Races on the Tarwin River. Funds raised by the Tarwin & District Auto and Machinery Club at this event go towards the Hall and we are forever grateful for their support.



Next Market dates are **Monday 11 March on the Labour Day** long weekend and of course Easter Monday market on the 1st of April. We have something very special planned for Easter but more on that next on that next month 😊

Renovation update – With the Christmas / New Year break there wasn't a lot of action happening on the ground, but with the front being the last remaining façade to be zooshed up- the next phase will begin very soon.



Meanwhile on the inside, we aim to keep the buzz going with the fantastic return of **Scott Cook** to the Tarwin Lower Hall! Scott played here last year as part of the Festival of Small Halls tour. Many will remember his heartfelt songs and musings of life. This time he brings his partner in music and love Pamela Rae to aussie shores for the first time.

Tickets are onsale NOW! **Sunday 17 March @ 5:30pm.**

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

Adults \$30 Conc \$25

Get a table of friends together for a fabulous Sunday sesh!

The **Tarwin Lower Film Society** will screen the Australian film **"BABYTEETH"** on Friday 15 March 7:30pm

Rated M Comedy/Romance

Starring: Eliza Scanlen, Ben Mendelson, Toby Wallace, Essie Davis

"When a seriously ill teenager Milla falls madly in love with small-time drug dealer Moses, it's her parents' worst nightmare. But as Milla's first brush with love brings her a new lust for life, things get messy and traditional morals go out the window. Milla soon shows everyone in her orbit - her parents, Moses, a sensitive music teacher, a budding child violinist, and a disarmingly honest pregnant neighbour - how to live like you have nothing to lose. "

Membership information www.tarwinlowerhall.com/filmsociety

Big News!! Art Cubes come to Tarwin Lower

In partnership with the South Gippsland Shire Council the Hall Committee is excited to announce that the **Art Cubes** will be landing in Tarwin Lower beside the Mechanics Hall for the months of May, June and July. Travelling to us via successful residencies at Mirboo North, Fish Creek and Meeniyana we are next in line to host this wonderful initiative. More information and an **Expression of Interest** for residencies in this newsletter.



Amongst all this our regular tenants Tracie Mitchel (**Twirling Sheila Yoga**) & Christine Grant (**Everydog Behaviour Training**) have hit the ground running this year and we are so happy to have them onboard. Take care everyone!

Tarwin Lower Mechanics Institute Hall Committee of Management



EOI

ART CUBES

TARWIN LOWER
MECHANICS HALL
RESERVE

May, June, July 2024

We are keen to hear from all
creatives interested in a residency
(3 week slots)

**PLEASE SEND DETAILS OF
YOUR WORK/IDEAS FOR THE
CUBES TO:**

tarwinlowerhall@gmail.com

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
CLOSE FRIDAY 29 MARCH**

**CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW TO SEE THE
CUBE'S JOURNEY SO FAR!**

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-11-26/shipping-containers-converted-into-pop-up-art-gallery-cubes/103135146>

Mens
social
cooking

WATER
COLOUR
PAINTING

Writers
group

COMING SOON
TO THE
COMMUNITY
CENTRE

Register your
interest.
Dates & times
to be
confirmed.

email: info@vbcc.org.au
or drop in



POP UP CROCHET:

HELP WITH YOUR CROCHET PROJECT!

Have you been struggling
with a new crochet skill,
how to understand a
pattern or can't quite
work out where you are
going wrong?

Drop in on any
Wednesday morning
through March and see if
we can help you out.

 vbcc.org.au



LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

- Affidavits
- Statutory declarations
- Wills, general contracts

DOCUMENT WITNESSING

12.00 - 1.00

 5663 7499

 www.vbcc.org.au





MONDAY

10.00 - 12.00

SILVER BANKSIA PLANT GROUP

VENUS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE



TUESDAY

5.00 - 6.30

BOOK CLUB 2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH



WEDNESDAY

FREE COMMUNITY LUNCH

WEDNESDAYS 12.00

(LAST LUNCH FOR 2023 - DEC 20TH)



THURSDAY

UKULELE

7.00 - 8.30

\$5.00

phone 5663 7499

info@vbcc.org.au

Regular Activities



3 HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES WITH JORJA



APRIL 3 -
RECYCLED
PUPPETS

APRIL 4 - WINGING IT
TOP TO TAIL
(MAKING TAIL'S AND
WINGS)

APRIL 6- UNDER THE SEA
CRAFT
MAKING ROCK POOLS AND
SAND PAINTINGS, NATURE
DRAWINGS AND CLAY
CREATIONS



VENUS BAY CHEESEMAKING WORKSHOPS

Barry the Beeman will teach you how to make these wonderful cheeses within the workshop. All recipes and notes are supplied.

HALLOUMI - a wonderful cheese for frying

CHEDDAR - a hard cheese that is ready to eat quickly on sandwiches

FETA - wonderful in salads

COTTAGE - great as a toast topper or in an omelette

RICOTTA - used for a toast topper or for cooking

PANEER (lemon cheese) - used in Indian curries as a substitute for meat

LOCATION

Venus Bay Community Centre
27 Canterbury Road
Venus Bay

SESSION TIMES

Workshop sessions are from 10am to 3pm.
A light lunch is included.



WHAT DO YOU GET?

You will take home over 1kg of the cheese that are made during the workshop.

WORKSHOP DATES 2024

March 31,
June 9,
October 13.

WORKSHOP COST

\$150 per person

HOW DO I BOOK?

Send Barry an email to cheesewithbarry@gmail.com, stating your desired workshop location and date, and he will send you a confirmation letter with full course details as well as an invoice.



Piano Lessons - \$50 per student for all 4 sessions This is a great taster opportunity for any person to try piano.

Erini is licensed to teach Simply Music piano and Play-a-Story piano, and has been teaching for over 10 years. She loves to share music with all ages and abilities. She loves singing and creating music, and hopes to encourage others with music, as music has always been something which encourages me and helps me express things of the heart.

<https://simplymusic.com/map/profile/erini-easton/>

Erini is on Instagram: @youare_musical



Erini C. Easton

ph 0409 048 031

erini.youaremusical@gmail.com

Would you or your child like to explore the piano in a fun way?

Erini will be running small, group workshops, of Play-a-Story, for pre-schoolers aged 4+ and Junior school students. courses.innermusician.com

Workshops will also be available for middle-schoolers, teens and adults of Simply Music program - play songs from your first lessons, no music reading involved! simplymusic.com/students

These taster sessions will be run at Venus Bay Community Centre.

KOALA FOOD AND NATIVE PLANTS

Our Native Plant Group have been working hard propagating indigenous plants in the lead up to Autumn and our Koala Food Project at Easter.

There's a great range of grasses, shrubs and trees available – and we know our indigenous plants survive the best in our gardens – plus- they are wonderful food for our native animals!

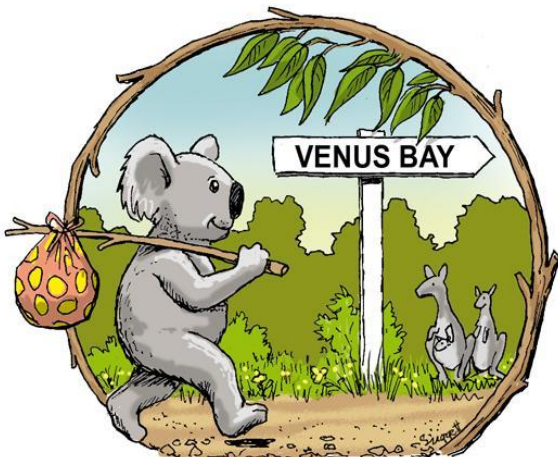
For the past 10 years, we have hosted a Koala Food Project – offering manna gums for sale/by donation so that we can create a better habitat corridor for our koala population. Over that time over 1,000 trees have been planted in our area.



Plant sales contribute to the costs of the Native Plant Group – who meet every Monday morning from 10am to 12 noon at the Centre.

We will have some manna gums ready to plant, and a range of other plants for your garden.

We'll have a display of these on EASTER SATURDAY – and the pots are available any time – pop in to see what we have for your garden.



Tarwin Lower Union Church



Regular services:

Saturday 5.30 p.m. **Catholic**
Liturgy/Communion on the Saturday before the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday of the month

Saturday 4 p.m.
Mass before the 3rd Sunday

Sunday 10.30 a.m. **Anglican/Uniting**

Our mission is to be a welcoming, sharing Christian community. Coming up:

- * Women's discussion group: Thursday 14th and 28th March at 10.30 a.m.
- * KYB (Bible study): Friday 8th and 22nd March at 1.30 p.m.
- * **Good Friday:** service at 10.30 a.m.
- * **Easter Day:** service at 10.30 a.m.
- * **Easter Day:** Catholic Mass in the hall at 11 a.m. Cuppa to follow

INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS

Australian Government Mobile Service Centre



Serving Regional Australia

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

Information about Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families will also be available.

Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

Tuesday, 19 March 2024

9 am to 4 pm

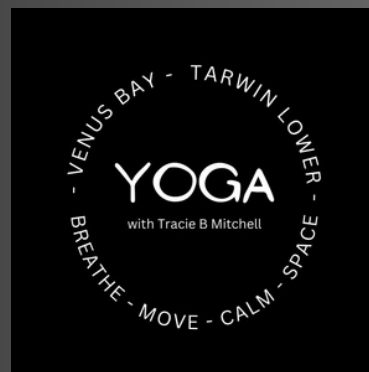
Opposite the service station, River Drive

TARWIN LOWER

For more information, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice



Change of Season Mini Retreat



The changing of each season is an invitation to check in with ourselves - our health and wellbeing.

To STOP. LET GO . And to RESET for the new season.

As we move into Autumn take some time to slow down and reinvigorate.

SATURDAY 9th MARCH 2024 3pm-6pm is an offering of space and time for you to settle into a place of deep rest and calmness.

The session starts with breathing exercises -to encourage the mind to step away from the chitty chatter mind of the everyday . This is followed by gentle restorative yoga - encouraging the release of held tension in our bodies.The preparation of mind and body then leads into the second part of the session which involves a led meditation . We complete the afternoon with a Yoga Nidra.

Encouraging calm, clear focused and relaxed state of being.

investment \$90 To secure a place email twirlingsheila@gmail.com or text 0421300407



WEEKLY MORNING CLASSES CONTINUE
TUESDAY AND FRIDAY 9:30AM
TARWIN LOWER MECHANICS HALL
AND

SUNDAY 9:30 AM VENUS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE
investment \$25 casual \$85 for four week blocks

STAY UP TO DATE TWIRLINGSHEILA PRODUCTIONS





**GIPPSLAND
GENERALIST
COUNSELLING**
Inner Gippsland

Uniting

GPHN Counselling program acknowledges funding through Gippsland Primary Health Network and from the Australian Government Department of Health and Aging

Our **FREE** generalist counselling services offer support to talk through your worries and work to- wards your goals.

We work with you to draw on your own resources, resolve problems and explore options to make life choices clearer for you.

Generalist counselling can help with;

- Anxiety and depression management
- Communicate more effectively
- Enhance self esteem and goal de-velopment
- Behavioural changes
- Find alternative coping strategies for stress
- Take control of your life
- Provide a safe, non-judgmental space.

Who can access the service?

We are a **FREE**, not-for-profit organisation with experienced, male and female counsellors, who can see adults and children above the age of 5 years old.

Locations

•3 Church St, Leongatha 3953

•25-27 Rintoull, Morwell 3840

Get in Touch

T (03) 5662 5150

E gippsland.counselling@vt.uniting.org

unitingvictas.org.au

Why come to counselling?

Our services aims to provide counselling to young people and adults with concerns or issues relating to;

- Depression and/or anxiety
- Grief and loss
- Family relationships
- Separation
- Stress
- Family violence
- School or work related issues
- Parenting
- Bullying
- Gambling issues
- Drug and/or alcohol use

**Free and
confidential
counselling**

How to access the service?

- Individuals/couples/families can self- refer to our counselling service by contacting 03 5662 5150
- Referrals can also be made by GPs, mental health practitioner or any other supporting organisations by phoning 03 5662 5150 or by email gippsland.counselling@vt.uniting.org
- Appointments can be made at our Leongatha or Morwell office
- Appointments can be face to face, via phone or telehealth

The South Gippsland Go Girls Program



Women Helping Women

Find focus, direction and independence



"Go Girls has given me direction, purpose and so much knowledge to help me improve myself and my life. I have just felt so loved, held & listened to."

Heidi, Wonthaggi



Do you want to feel empowered?
Do you want to take control of your future?
Together, with your new friends, let's discover your dreams

You can be part of a fully funded, women's only program based in
Bass Coast/South Gippsland area

All meals and transport are provided
In a safe environment, explore your future and plan ahead
Women of all ages are welcome

Information Session: Thursday, March 28th 2024
Wonthaggi ArtSpace
The Centennial Centre, 1 Bent St, Wonthaggi VIC 3995

To find out more or to register for the program
Call Michelle Jobson from Go Girls on 0406 998 612
OR Rita Bottomley from Go Girls on 0413 810 700
OR Kylie Duncan from Jobs Victoria on 0427 716 600

www.gogirls.org.au

South Gippsland Council ward boundary review



DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS NOW
EXTENDED UNTIL 13 MARCH.

Locality	Voters
Foster	1,858
Foster North	207
Korumburra	4,096
Leongatha	4,872
Mirboo North	1,857
Nyora	1,231
Sandy Point	1,067
Venus Bay	3,514
Walkerville	383
Tarwin Lower	500

Ward	Councillors	Voters	Deviation
Coastal-Promontory*	3	9,977	-3.14%
Strzelecki*	3	10,578	+2.70%
Tarwin Valley*	3	10,346	+0.44%

About the review

If a council is subdivided into wards, the number of voters in each ward should be within +/-10% of the average across all wards to comply with the *Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)*.

Changes to the population, location of housing areas, and voting entitlements all impact the number of voters in wards.

In accordance with section 17 of the Act, the Minister for Local Government has asked the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to review the ward boundaries for South Gippsland Shire Council.

Adjusting ward boundaries aims to ensure voters are represented equally at the next council general election.

During its review, the VEC will look at South Gippsland Shire Council's:

- enrolled voter numbers
- projected voter numbers
- ward boundary locations.

As a local you know your council area better than anyone. You can have your say on the suggested ward boundary adjustments:

1. in a response submission to the preliminary report
2. at an online public hearing, if you ask to speak in your response submission.

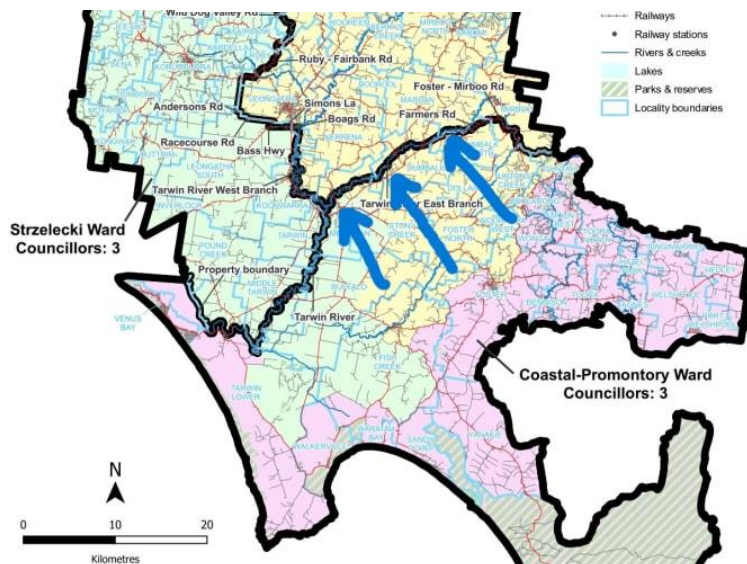
Our Council ward boundaries are proposed to be changed – with the biggest impact increasing the geographic size of our Coastal Promontory Ward – represented by 3 local councillors.

For more information about what this will entail, and to make a submission should you wish :

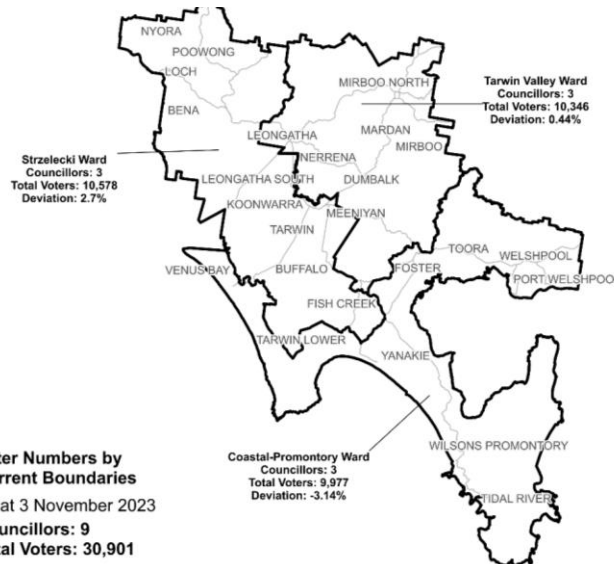
vec.vic.gov.au

Of interest above: a table of some of the localities in the Shire and the number of voters in each. The full list is available on VEC website.

PROPOSED NEW BOUNDARY



EXISTING BOUNDARY





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 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 Families, Fairness and Housing, 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