

# The South Eastern Times

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## Citizens honoured on Aus Day

Wattle Range Council honoured citizens across the region last week, in the Australia Day Awards.

Ceremonies were held around the area, with hundreds coming together to celebrate.

Citizens from each ward were recognised for their commitment and dedication to the region.

**Read more about the winners and Australia Day events inside**

Sue Lines received this year's Citizen of the Year award for the Corcoran ward and her family Paul Lines, Kimberley Ferguson, Michelle Vine and husband Ian were on hand to congratulate her.

# Bedford dispute

By Aidan Curtis

A letter from Bedford regarding the closure of its Millicent laundromat has sparked confusion from Wattle Range Council members.

The letter, penned by Bedford chief executive Myron Mann in December, said the disability employment group tried to contact Council on multiple occasions and received no response.

"I note we attempted to contact your office multiple times on 8 November 2022 to advise of the pending announcement and were told that Council Senior Management and your office were too busy to take our calls," Mr Mann wrote.

"We tried again on 9 November 2022 and were put in contact with Mr Peter Halton, who we then sent the formal letter of cessation.

"I would like to reiterate we ran a formal Ex-

pressions of Interest (EOI) process and we had six organisations look at potentially buying the laundry.

"None of the six felt it was commercially viable, so discussions did not progress."

The letter was poorly received by elected members, with discussion during the January meeting centred on how the letter appeared to blame Council for the laundromat's closure.

Wattle Range Council chief executive Ben

Gower said after the meeting that he could not fathom how Bedford could have possibly not received a response when it contacted Council.

"Anyone that rings council through our normal telephone number, we have a customer service desk that answers all calls and they'll either forward the call through to the appropriate person or find an alternative person to talk to," Mr Gower said.

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## ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

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# An iconic moment in Kingston SE

Adelaidean funk-rock band, George Glass, are bringing their latest musical 'Bradbury' to Kingston.

In 2002, Steven Bradbury claimed Australia's very first gold medal at the Winter Olympics.

Coming last in the 1000m Speed Skate, his opponents fell over at the last corner allowing him to glide to victory.

Since then the phrase "Doing a Bradbury" has been immortalised in the Australian vernacular and now he will be immortalised on stage.

George Glass have been a part of the Fringe scene since 2012.

Bassist Nic Conway said Steven's story is incredibly fun and incredibly Australian.

"We're excited to show our interpretation of the big moment and it's also a great chance for us to wear plenty of lycra on stage," he said.

George Glass bring Bradbury The Musical to the Kingston Town Hall on March 3.



Adelaidean funk-rock band George Glass will bring their latest musical Bradbury to the Limestone Coast. 2023.

## NEWS



Woods MacKillop Schoolhouse.

Picture: GAVIN BLACKER

# Discover historic MacKillop school

In association with State Heritage, Penola's branch of National Trust SA has developed a mobile phone app called SA Heritage, to enable people to learn more about historic sites within Penola on self guided tours.

The following is one of the subjects from this app.

### WOODS MACKILLOP SCHOOLHOUSE

This schoolhouse was commissioned by Father Julian Tenison Woods in 1866, because Mary MacKillop's first St Joseph's school – a renovated six-stalled stable on a Queen Street site that is now a memorial park – was bursting at the seams with pupils.

The spacious schoolroom was completed in June 1867. Its eight gothic windows provided light and its fireplace warmth, as did those in the bedroom and added kitchen. The masonry is roughly struck rubble, the floors hardwood, the roof timber-raftered. The origi-

nal blackwood shingles remain, under the galvanised iron roof.

Mary moved in, with her sister Annie, prior to their pupils' June examination, after which she left for Adelaide.

She returned briefly in 1868 with two Sisters of St Joseph. After the December examination 55 girls and 43 boys were treated to a banquet of 'poultry, hams, tongues, pork, beef, mutton, jellies, blancmange [and] fruit...Several ladies played the piano, the space [was] cleared for games...[and] everyone enjoyed themselves to the utmost.'

Sisters of St Joseph taught and lived in the schoolhouse until 1871, returned to Penola for varying periods between 1875 and 1891, then did not return until 1936.

When the new St Joseph's school (now Mary MacKillop Memorial School) was opened after Easter, the schoolhouse became a parish hall.

Restoration work began in 1978, and ten years later it became a volunteer-run information and display centre.

The adjacent interpretive centre was opened in 1998 and in 2009 the schoolroom exhibition on Josephite Education was mounted. There are additional displays in the bedroom and kitchen.

Long recognised at national and state levels as a significant heritage building, in July 2010 its original stone walls withstood a tornado. The two back-room ceilings collapsed but the schoolroom escaped water damage because of the original blackwood shingles. Repairs were completed just a week prior to Penola's celebrations for Mary MacKillop's canonisation as Australia's first saint on October 17th in Rome.

The schoolhouse builder, Mr Stark, would be astounded to know that his 1867 roof is now secured to hurricane standards.

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## Balancing financial skills

Women in the Limestone Coast are being given the opportunity to improve their financial skills and confidence.

Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast's (RDALC) program 'Balancing the Books' is back, after a successful program last year.

The program is aimed at women, and people that identify as women, who have not had the opportunity to develop financial skills, including budgeting.

The 'Balancing the Books' program will deliver a further five workshops that will boost confidence, help navigate home bookkeeping, and small business finance basics. RDALC delivered two workshops in 2022—one in Millicent and one in Kingston SE.

One participant said they thoroughly appreciated the session and the discus-

sions they had about money and said it has reinforced their own money management.

To help share the learnings more widely, RDALC have been sharing finance tips and resources in their newsletter (The Weekly) and on their popular Facebook page. Topics have included budgeting, tracking spending, credit scores, the ATO app, and setting financial goals.

For participants needing more detailed financial guidance, a one-hour personalised mentoring session will also be available to reinforce the learnings from the workshop.

The next session of the free workshops will be held in Bordertown on Tuesday 14 February at the Civic Centre.

Starting at 10:30am, Chartered Accountant and Business Advisor Julie Allerton will deliver the session.

# Shelter for show society

By Caroline Hammat

Millicent Agricultural, Horticultural & Pastoral Society (MAHPS) has been successful in securing a Foundation for Rural, Regional and Renewal (FRRR) grant to improve access to the office with a covered veranda and accessibility ramp.

The \$9090 in Australian Government funding came from the Rebuilding Regional Communities (RRC) category and aids in supporting organisations in Covid-19 recovery.

Jill Karena, Place Portfolio Lead at FRRR, said that the diversity of projects put forward by communities highlights the importance of offering flexible funding that can respond to local needs and priorities.

“When it came to RRC this round, we started to see more focus on the recovery process and rebuilding, alongside mental health and social isolation as the focus.

“This is an encouraging sign as it indicates that remote, rural and regional communities are increasingly looking towards the longer-term” Ms Karena said.

Secretary of the MAHPS, Sue Vanderheul, said they are absolutely rapt to receive the grant to improve the office entry.

“People with physical challenges will soon be able to easily access the office door.

“We have a service window, so in all weather we will be able to actually serve through the window if we need.

“For people with walking sticks and walkers and things like that it’s going to level off the ground and make access to the office a lot easier.”

The new infrastructure will not only aid in accessibility but will offer extra security for office personnel who will be able to assist people through the service window in all weather.

MAHPS are anticipating work will begin on the project within the next four to six weeks.



Millicent show society secretary Sue Vanderheul and Irene Dickins at the window that can soon be used as undercover access point due to the funding received.



## Bedford dispute baffling

From page 1

“If that doesn’t work, they take a message and then email that person with a call-back requirement.

“I’ve asked everyone that could have possibly been recommended to take the call and nobody has received any calls, any messages, or any attempts by Bedford to make contact with us.”

Mr Gower said he was quite disappointed in how Bedford has behaved in recent weeks.

“For an organisation that purports to be community-led, volunteer-led in dealing with people with disability, I think the letter reflects where the culture of that organisation has morphed to,” he said.

“In my view, they have lost their way.”

These discussions came amid rumours in Millicent that Bedford underpaid staff who worked at the laundromat, with claims that people were only getting paid \$2.50 an hour.

Bedford has since refuted the claims, and Mr Mann said it was not Bedford that set wage rates.

“The Fair Work Commission, not Bedford, sets wages based on their assessment tools to determine capacity and capability of performing tasks,” Mr Mann said.

“Unlike those receiving full award wages, supported employees also have Disability Support Pensions and concessions which are means tested based on their income.

“The more a supported employee earns, the lower the DSP payment.”

Mr Mann said Bedford takes the support and welfare of all employees and staff seriously.

“We continue to meet and work closely with all Millicent employees about future employment options, services and other options available- including redundancies,” he said.

## Caddy distribution offers fundraising opportunities

Wattle Range Council is calling on community groups looking to raise some money, through the distribution of kitchen caddys.

All eligible households in Wattle Range Council will take delivery of a new kitchen caddy for their green organic waste in March 2023, thanks to a grant from Green Industries SA.

This has presented an opportunity for local community and sporting groups to be involved

in the preparation and distribution of the caddies and raise some funds.

Community groups have been contacted but expressions of interest close tomorrow and need to be received in writing by 5pm February 3 via email or delivered in person to one of Council’s offices.

Anyone seeking further information can contact our Engineering Office on 8733 0901.



A kitchen caddy will make composting green waste easier.

Picture: FILE



Penola Coonawarra Acoustic Music Gathering have finalised their line-up for the 2023 event, and attendees are in for a treat.

## Acoustic Music lists top line-up

Penola Coonawarra Acoustic Music Gathering have finalised their line-up for the 2023 event, and attendees are in for a treat.

There is a top-class line-up of performers, including some of the bigger names in the business.

Coming along for the festival will be well-known artists Fiona Boyes, Eric Bogle, Mal Webb, Sime Nugent, Greg Champion, Andrew Clermont, Bluegrass Junction, Brushwood Folk Band, Courtney Robb and Snooks La Vie, Kelly Menhennett, The River Pearlers, Marcus Cassells and Azlan Harris, Anne Fraser, Penny Burke, Corey Theatre, Vetter og Villskap and Stumpy Gully Bush Band.

The schedule for the weekend is jam-packed with performances, workshops, a mentoring program, jam sessions, a Sunday market and more.

The weekend kicks off March 17 to March 19.

Read more about what's on the schedule at [www.pcmusicgathering.com.au](http://www.pcmusicgathering.com.au).



Anne Fraser



Vacswim at Penola

# Vacswim a success

By **Kathy Fennell**

The Innovative Leisure Management group ran a very successful Vacswim program at the Penola swimming pool recently.

Managing Director, Peter Collins said enrolments have once again increased on the

previous year's numbers and the fantastic weather made the week a huge hit with both children and parents.

Given the increase in drowning statistics since the start of COVID, Innovative Leisure Management is keen to provide lessons for as many children as possible across the Wattle

Range Council area.

"Numbers continue to grow at amazing rates for the program, which is significantly improving both the water awareness and water safety of the children throughout the community," Peter said

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COMPILED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF WATTLE RANGE COUNCIL

### 4 February

- Kalangadoo Farmers Market
- Millicent Showgrounds Market

### 4 & 5 February

- Inflatable Obstacle Course - Millicent Swimming Lake

### 6 February

- Penola Ratepayers and Residents Association meeting, Penola
- Woonallea Beef Week Field Day - Furner

### 7 February

- Limestone Coast Grape and Wine Council Technical Workshop
- Ito Kami... This is us - Penola

### 11 & 12 February

- Inflatable Obstacle Course - Nangwarry Pool
- Coonawarra Vignerons Petanque Classic Clash - "the PISTE"

### 17 February

- Brian Letton Live in Concert, Rendelsham Town Hall

### 17 & 18 February

- Fashion Pop Up - RSL Hall, Penola

### 18 February

- Cricketers Vs Footballers 100 Ball Smash - Mount Burr

### 18 & 19 February

- Penola Swimming Pool Obstacle Course
- The Spirit of Robe Boat Show

### 24 February

- Beachport Movie of the Month

### 25 February - March 4

- Southern Ports Golf Week, Beachport, Robe, Kings-ton SE

### 17-19 March

- Penola and Coonawarra Acoustic Music Gathering

### 8 April

- Beachport Easter Market Day

### 9 April

- Penola Cup

### 22 April

- Kalangadoo Farmers Market Fair Day

### 18-21 May

- Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival

### 10 & 11 June

- Health, Healing and Harmony Festival, Robe

### REGULAR EVENTS

#### Every Monday

- Senior Citizens, Millicent RSL
- Yoga at Beachport
- Ukulele classes at Penola RSL
- National Karate Academies, Penola Primary School Hall
- Millicent Choral Society practice, High School music room
- Penola Lions Bus to Mount Gambier
- Leggo's Boxing Training, Penola Basketball Stadium

#### Every Tuesday

- Red Cross Community Shuttle from Millicent to Mount Gambier
- Yoga at Millicent, Community Learning Centre
- Dance to Keep Fit, Beachport
- Millicent Men's Shed
- Melody's Performing Arts classes, Rymill Hall, Penola
- South East Junction Activities

#### Every Wednesday

- St Mary's Op Shop, Penola
- Millicent Art & Craft Group, Pottery
- Penola Men's Shed
- Social Bowls, Penola
- Ladies only Burlesque classes, Nangwarry
- Social tennis, Penola
- Fun exercise classes, Millicent Uniting Church
- Leggo's Boxing Training, Penola Basketball Stadium
- South East Junction Activities
- Cards at Beachport Cinema
- Lions Club of Wattle Range Lioness Bookshop, 47 George Street, Millicent

#### Every Thursday

- St Mary's Op Shop, Penola
- Seniors Online, Millicent Library
- Craft at Beachport Cinema
- Millicent Men's Shed
- Ladies only Burlesque classes, Nangwarry
- Red Cross shuttle from Millicent to Mount Gambier
- Beachport Ukulele Group
- Indoor Social Bowls, Millicent Uniting Church
- Family connections program, Penola
- Craft at Beachport Cinema
- Beachport Twilight Golf and Twilight Bowls

### Every Friday

- Lego Club, Millicent Public Library
- Lions Club of Wattle Range Lioness Bookshop, 47 George Street, Millicent
- St Mary's Op-Shop, Penola
- Seniors Online, Millicent Library
- Penola Bowls women's competition
- Millicent RSL Open
- Fun exercise classes, Millicent Uniting Church
- Dance classes, Penola
- Bar open Coonawarra Community Club

### Every Saturday

- Kalangadoo Farmers Market
- St Mary's Op Shop, Penola
- Millicent Art & Craft Group
- Penola Bowls Club men's competition
- Penola Croquet Club
- Aqua aerobics, Penola pool
- Lions Club of Wattle Range Lioness Bookshop @ 47 George Street, Millicent

### Every Sunday

- Beachport Ladies Golf Day
- Millicent Men's Shed

### 2nd Tuesday of the month

- Wattle Range Council meeting, Millicent Council Chambers

### First and third Thursday of the month

- Book Club, Millicent Library

### 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month

- Scribblers Writing workshop, Millicent Library

### 3rd Tuesday of the month

- Millicent Local History, Library
- Penola Probos Club

### Last Friday of the month

- Coonawarra Hall tea night

### 3rd Sunday of the month

- Beachport Hotel family fun day and jam session

### 4th Thursday of the month

- South East Family History Group meeting

### 4th Friday of the month

- Beachport Film Society showing

### Last Monday of the month

- Penola Leo Club

### Last Tuesday of the month

- Millicent Cancer Support Group meeting

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# Station six years in limbo

By Sophie Conlon

This January marks the six years since the temporary closure of the Kalangadoo Police Station, with the site's future still undetermined.

The purpose built station and adjoining home has been unoccupied since its sole officer left in January 2017, but it was never officially closed.

Instead, the station has been sitting in limbo, and the Kalangadoo community has been serviced by the Penola and Millicent Police Stations.

The Border Watch was denied an interview request with Police Commissioner Grant Stevens and on asking a South Australian Police (SAPOL) representative to comment on the temporary closure and how it has impacted Kalangadoo and its surrounds we, were provided the same statement that was given in August 2022.

"The date for the release of the Regional Policing Review outcomes has not yet been determined," the SAPOL spokesperson said.

"The Kalangadoo Police Station is part of the ongoing review of all Regional Policing Services by the Regional Review Project.

"The Kalangadoo response area will continue to be covered by the neighbouring police station of Millicent."

Re-opening the station was a 2018 Liberal party election commitment, and this review was commissioned by them soon after they came to power.

It was set to be finalised and fully implemented in 2020, however it was put on hold citing Covid complications.

In September 2021, the Border Watch was told the review was in its final stages, but 17 months on the review outcomes have not been determined.

A Regional Policing Review consultation paper dated February 2020, obtained by a



freedom of information request, suggested one and two-person police station's may be scrapped after future reviews to better centralise operations.

Member for MacKillop Nick McBride said he had always advocated for a police officer to be stationed at Kalangadoo, and would keep doing so until an outcome was decided.

"I gave the feedback that I would have thought it was a beautiful facility and it would be very much welcomed by the community to have a police officer in the Kalangadoo Police Station because of its modern build and the fact that the community do appreciate the local police in these small local towns, but that hasn't eventuated," he said.

He said he often spoke with members of

SAPOL locally and in Adelaide, and said he had been in contact with current Labor Minister for Police Joe Szakas.

"I'm always advocating strongly to finding a solution for filling that position at the station any time I have the opportunity," he said.

"I am very much supportive of local police officers and local police stations, like at Lucindale, Beachport, Robe and Kingston and I want to see them remain in place for as long as possible, or forever if I have that choice."

Though re-opening the Kalangadoo site was something Mr McBride was in favour of, he said he understood there were some challenges surrounding manning a one-person police station.

"It is a preference amongst SAPOL that they

do like the larger stations, they like the team approach and they find the manning of individual police stations tough," he said.

"The fact that the police officers feel isolated, vulnerable, not well supported and then on top of that the actual SAPOL itself has a struggle with managing that police officer, 'Where does his duties lie where is the best outcome and time spent?'"

Minister Szakacs said the fate of the station was in the hands of SAPOL.

"The strategic deployment of police and operation resourcing is a decision undertaken by SA Police," he said.

"I have not received any advice from SAPOL to change the status of the Kalangadoo Police Station."

## Restoring wetlands is their key focus

By Aidan Curtis

Wetland restoration will be front of mind for the Limestone Coast Landscape Board (LCLB) during the week, with World Wetlands Day being celebrated today, February 2.

The theme for the day has been named as Wetland Restoration, highlighting the importance of being able to bring water back into the local environment.

LCLB wetland restoration ecologist Emma Maxwell has been studying wetlands for some time and said the Limestone Coast hosts globally unique wetlands that have significant benefits to the region.

Dr Maxwell said the importance of our wetlands could not be understated as they support biodiversity and threatened species with benefits across agriculture as well.

"It's really important that we protect what we have and, where we can, restore what was there before," she said.

"I think up to 70 per cent of the biodiversity in our region has some form of connection to our wetlands.

"Essentially the habitat that the wetland provides then supports native predators, native pollinators, which is obviously really important for agriculture as well."

She said there was a list of benefits that came from restoring wetlands, including water conservation and climate resilience.

"The wetlands can help from a seawater intrusion perspective as well, so there's pressure from water that sits on the ground and actually holds the seawater at bay that can come up through the groundwater," she said.

"That can be really important and essentially providing more hydration for the area in general."

Dr Maxwell said it was important to spread awareness on just how unique the Limestone Coast wetlands are, including rare karst springs and alkaline peat fens.

She said one such rare wetland was Pick



Swamped: Limestone Coast Landscape Board wetland restoration ecologist Emma Maxwell used binoculars to spot wildlife in Pick Swamp. Picture: AIDAN CURTIS

Swamp in the Piccaninnie Ponds Conservation Park, which could be extremely beneficial to fighting climate change.

"Across the world, peat covers just 3 per cent of the land's surface, but stores 42 per cent of Earth's soil carbon," she said.

"Peat degradation at a global level as a result of artificial drainage is estimated to be responsible for 6 per cent of global carbon emissions.

"That's really quite significant for such a small area across the globe, so definitely an important part of the story."

Dr Maxwell said she has worked with landholders to restore patches of wetland on private properties and it was amazing how quickly the ecosystem was able to recover in some cases.

She said, though it happened before she moved to the region, the restoration of Pick Swamp was a prime example, having been re-inundated with water in 2007 and named an internationally significant wetland in 2012.

"The wetland, the aquatic life, the plant life recovered on its own just by having water there again," she said.



### Council Communications

#### Current Consultations

Council is currently seeking community comment on its draft 'Public Access to Council and Committee Meetings and Associated Documents Code of Practice'.

To view the draft and find out how to 'have your say' visit [www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/haveyoursay) Submissions close 5pm on Tuesday, February 21.

#### Disability Access & Inclusion Community Forum

Interested community members are invited to a public forum to discuss the future development of Council's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan. The forum will be held in the Millicent Civic and Arts Centre on Wednesday, 8 February 2023 from 2 pm.

To register visit <https://bit.ly/3WWM0mun> For enquiries, please contact Margo on 08 8733 0900 or [council@wattlerange.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@wattlerange.sa.gov.au)

#### Employment Opportunities

Council is currently seeking suitably qualified applicants to join our team in the following positions:

- Senior Asset Management Officer
  - Senior Planning Officer
- Specific details, including how to apply, are available at <https://wrc.jobs.subscribe-hr.com>

#### Council Calendar Available

Council's 2023 Community Calendar is available from all Council Offices, Library and postal outlets in Nangwarry, Kalangadoo, Tantanoola, Glencoe, Coonawarra and Southend.

#### Inflatable Obstacle Course Fun

Council's inflatable obstacle course will be in use at all three of Council's swimming facilities throughout the summer. For more information visit Council's website or Facebook page.

#### Have you found a dog?

If you find a stray dog, the quickest and most efficient way of locating its owner is to contact your local Council. Owners with lost dogs often seek Council assistance in locating their pet by leaving their contact details with staff should the animal be found.

If the dog is wearing a registration disc, or is microchipped, Council's dog management officers will ensure the dog returns home as soon as possible. Please make sure your contact details are kept up to date on [www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au](http://www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au) Officers are on call outside normal business hours and should be contacted even if it is a weekend or public holiday on 8733 0900.

For further information on Wattle Range Council visit [www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au](http://www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au) or Find us on Facebook

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# Letton is coming back

Country music fans are celebrating the news that well-known Australian country singer Brian Letton will be performing in Rendlesham this month.

It will not be his first performance in town, with visits in 2015, 2016 and 2018.

In 2018, he brought with him his youngest son Matt who has a great future with singing and tap dancing.

Last year, he released his 26th Album 'Put On A Happy Face' with his sons Trevor and Matt both in the album.

The last couple of years has put a halt to touring because of Covid but restarted last year, and he appeared at the largest celebration of country music in Australia, Tamworth Country Music Festival, last month.

As well as country singing, Letton also has a soft spot for his horses and trotting.

He is no stranger to country life, having been raised on his parents new land farming property, north east of Ravensthorpe in Western Australia.

After leaving school, he worked on the land for several years before moving to Katanning—South East of Perth, where he worked over the next few years Brian worked at several jobs, including builder, welder, truck driver, farrier, horse breaker and trainer, with the latter bringing him noted success in the harness racing industry, both as a trainer and a reinsperson.

Letton was an exceptional sportsman, excelling at AFL and his keen interest in the

sport remains today.

However, it was in 1989, that Letton began his professional career as a full time entertainer, after a decade working as a part time musician with various local bands.

A succession of highly acclaimed awards were instrumental in Letton making the decision to move into the music industry full time.

His songs have won him Australian and International acclaim.

He has had a number of top 10 radio hits and in 1991, he was nominated for the prestigious "Country Music Awards of Australia" for the first time.

The coveted Gold Guitar is the trophy rewarded Brian with making the "final five" in the "Best New Talent" category, in 1991. Over the ensuing years, Brian has been a finalist in these awards on no less than 16 occasions.

His success is no surprise, given that music is in his blood - his father Harry still performs.

In 2003, Brian fulfilled a career long ambition to record an album with full orchestral backing under the guidance of the legendary maestro Tommy Tycho, and he has since released 22 albums.

Letton launched his own recording label — Brian Letton Recordings - in 2014.

He will be returning to Rendlesham Town Hall on Friday, February 17 at 7.30 pm.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for concession, Supper is \$5.

For bookings phone 0427 354 240.



Brian Letton.

## Council flushed with septic system support funds

The Kingston District Council has taken a step forward in its bid to provide a new Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS).

The Council has been facing concerns about septic tank installations, particularly from property owners wishing to develop or upgrade homes.

Chief Executive Nat Traeger said any building development outside of the existing CWMS area is required to have an onsite wastewater system in accordance with SA Health's Onsite Wastewater Systems (OWS) Code.

"The Code does not allow the location of onsite wastewater systems within 50 metres of an existing groundwater bore and our engineers have estimated that 80-90% of Kingston's developed allotments have an onsite wastewater system within 50 metres of an existing groundwater bore," she said.

Whilst the Council currently operates a CWMS in Kingston, it does not service the southern and northern areas of the town.

The Council has been investigating measures it could take to alleviate the risk of ground water contamination posed by septic systems being installed outside of the Code as well as accommodating any new septic tank systems that are within 50 metres of existing bores.

Mayor Jeff Pope said the council had been pursuing a solution with vigour since May 2022.

A CWMS is used to collect, treat and reuse/dispose of wastewater produced in the community in a safe, cost effective and environmentally sustainable manner.

The term CWMS can encompass many different types of wastewater schemes including collection, treatment, and reuse methods to manage wastewater including sewage, septic tank effluent, or combinations of the two.

Based on the dire need of the Kingston community, the Council was successful with a funding allocation of \$125k to scope the expansion of the service, including boundary mapping and a capacity assessment, all



Mayor Jeff Pope pictured at the existing Community Wastewater Management System treatment plant.

Picture: KDC

of which will inform a suitable design for the proposed system.

Ms Traeger indicated that some 652 properties will be included in the proposed CWMS extension area, which equates to almost 40 per cent of property owners in Kingston set to benefit from the new scheme, if constructed.

Other than addressing the obvious risk to the environment and people, the project is set to assist with the development and economic prosperity of the town and facilitate better community health outcomes.

Whilst in its initial planning stage, it is expected the capital cost will be many millions of dollars and will be the single largest infra-

structure project the Council has embarked on.

Actual cost to property owners will be dependent on the level of funding that can be contributed to the project from funding sources outside of the Council.

Council will soon be undertaking a legislative and comprehensive engagement process with property owners within the boundary mapped out for the new service, to discuss the project.

Council has agreed to fund holding tank pump out costs for Kingston township residential developments until the residential developments can be connected to the proposed new CWMS system on the basis that

the holding tank pump out dates are tied to the existing contract for the licenced contractor to pump out the RV Park septic tank.

Ms Traeger said she hoped that Council agreeing to assist with holding tank pump out costs will give property owners the confidence to continue to develop whilst the CWMS expansion project is being undertaken.

It is anticipated the feasibility and concept stage will be completed by March 2023 and that targeted community engagement will commence at that time. Engagement will include individual discussions, community meetings, surveys, discussion papers and any other avenues available and appropriate to the project.

# Schools join mobile ban

By Caroline Hammat

Millicent High School (MHS) has joined Kangaroo Inn Area School (KIAS) and 43 other schools across the state in implementing a mobile phone ban for students.

The ban is a state government directive requiring all public high schools to transition to the new policy by the end of term two.

Its introduction is in line with current rules for primary schools and was a key election commitment of the current Labor government.

MHS principal, Todd Watson, explained the school already had an incremental ban across the site over the past three years.

Initially banning the use across year 8-9, last year they expanded to year's 7-10 and included the school yard in the ban.

"For us it hasn't been a significant change, it's sort of the direction we were heading" Mr Watson said.

"We had been in conversations around what we were going to do with our senior school but we opted to wait and see what the department does.

"Obviously the department has put out their policy which is basically right on par with what we are doing, so we are progressing with it.

"The biggest impact is that you went from 10 kids sitting on a table and everyone looking down at their phones with no conversation, now you've got kids back playing sports and actually engaging in conversations.

"Last year we did have a couple of relief teachers note how well it was operating in our school, they were surprised to see how many kids were engaging in the yard."

Another positive effect noticed, since the ban was introduced to the junior levels, is the improved engagement between the school and parents.

"I think with phones it became very easy for kids to contact their parents, then schools are in the dark a little bit around what was happening and sometimes trying to fill in the blanks.

"This has brought back communication with the school so that everyone is across what is happening with that child.

"We've got a school app, parents can still contact the school, if a message needs to be passed on that still happens."

The school is looking at implementing exemptions for senior school students as they recognise many this age have work commitments and are driving independently to and from school.

Although the ban would still apply during lessons some access would be allowed during breaks and between lessons.

"It's a two fold approach, in the junior years we try to educate them on their use of phones and in senior years try to encourage the appropriate time and place of when to access phones" Mr Watson said.

"If there is an educational need we have said to staff they can access them during the lesson because there are some things on a phone you can do that we can't do on a normal device.

"It might be a physics super slow-mo video, which phones are the best at doing, for an analysis.

"Or in year 10 and they are organising their work experience for PLP, we think it's important they are the ones that contact the employer.

"Certainly we have educational steps to support the usage of it, it's not just you can't have them, but we recognise phones aren't in the classroom because they are such an easy distraction.

"Most kids don't do it deliberately, it just becomes second nature.

"The moment they are not concentrating they reach into their pocket and pull the phone out and they are no longer engaged in the lesson."

Year 12 school captains Tayla Rowe and Jack Hagggett both agreed the devices were a distraction in the classroom.

"You do a bit more work in the lesson instead of getting distracted, but you need a break every now and then because 100 minutes is a long time to stay on track" Jack said.



MHS principal Todd Watson with Tayla Rowe and Jack Hagggett agreed the phones can be distracting in classrooms.

"During breaks you socialise more with your friends." Tayla said

"When you are in class you are focussing a lot more on what you are doing instead of getting distracted.

"It does limit your opportunities with contacting potential employees and makes it a bit harder to be more flexible."

Both students said an exemption for senior students would make it easier for them to organise commitments outside of school.

All students are expected to lock their phones in their personal lockers at the beginning of each day.

Students found with their phones have them confiscated and parents are contacted to collect the item.

For about 18 months, KIAS has had a mobile phone ban which was introduced after consultation with students, staff and family.

The school caters to students from kindergarten to year 12 and tries to keep policies consistent across the site.

Annie Matthews, principal of Kangaroo Inn Area School said they had considered the ban carefully.

"Our original view was that students needed to learn how to use things appropriately and what better place to learn than here," she said.

"But it got to the point other things were impacted in their life, their relationships with other kids and their involvement in things within the school like sport and games.

"So at that point we decided we would follow that directive from the department and bring it in."

The school's ban relies on a trust policy with students expected to leave their phones in their bags throughout the school day.

"If we see a phone out at school we confiscate it and then the families have to pick them up" Ms Matthews said.

"Often they stay for 24 hours or so before the parents get around to coming and picking them up which is a good lesson for everyone."

Although Ms Matthews said many of the students would still prefer to have their phones on them during the day there has been a positive impact around the school since the introduction of the ban.



MHS senior school captains Tayla Rowe and Jack Hagggett have joined the junior levels in locking their phones away for the day.

As with MHS, KIAS has seen a noticeable increase in the amount of conversations between students and engagement with sport during lunchbreaks.

The school has experienced some breaches of the policy with Ms Matthews saying they would enter the new year talking to the students about the expectation around their phone use.

"My concern is still around using them appropriately, but for us it's been positive at school" Ms Matthews said.

"We need to give the kids the opportunity to do the right thing."

This year the school has added smart watches to the ban as they become more commonplace and are finding their way into the classroom.

# A global meetup at camp

By Caroline Hammat

Rendelsham's Noorla Yo-Long Blue Light Adventure Camp took on an international flavour last week as the site played host to the first International Lions youth camp held in South Australia.

Nine young people between the ages of 16 and 23 travelled from New Zealand, Canada, Texas, Austria, Malaysia, Mongolia and interstate as part of the program.

The 20 day program began with most participants spending 10 days with host families on their arrival in Australia.

Amber Cauchi is the C2 Lions District chairperson for youth camps and exchange and has been involved with the project for the last 12 months.

"They spend 10 days with an Australian family and get to know what happens here" Ms Cauchi said.

"They are expected to muck in and do chores and get taken around quite a few places to see the local attractions."

Three days were then spent together as a group exploring the Fleurieu Peninsula before making the five hour bus trip to Noorla Yo-Long.

Stopping at Kingston on the way the group experienced a welcome to country ceremony performed by Aboriginal cultural heritage advisor Uncle Doug Nicholls.

Spending alternate days between camp and exploring the region the group have experienced paddle boarding, surf life saving activities and visited Duck-a-Roo wildlife sanctuary at Beachport.

"They loved Duck-a-Roo because it was hands on, the key thing for them is to muck in or do something" Ms Cauchi said.

A day each at Naracoorte and Mount Gambier included museum and cave visits and the opportunity to snorkel at Kilsby sinkhole.

An international food night where each participant cooked a dish from their own country proved popular with a feast of Malaysian new year dish, Mongolian beef with noodles and dumplings, wiener schnitzels and pavlova on the menu.

Camp days have been spent undertaking obstacle courses, high ropes and the rock wall along with trust exercises and confidence building activities.

Senior Constable First Class Geoff Yates leads the Rendelsham camp and praised the group.

"They have been a really good example of how diversity can work together," he said.

"They've been a high achievers level of team and it's just been an absolute pleasure.

"This is an amazing opportunity for the camp.

"Blue Light SA is a not for profit camp and we work closely with the Lions anyway, they are really important to us, so for them to bring a flagship event to us is brilliant.

"It's really special for them to bring young Lions from all over the world together, hopefully they will take away from here, life skills, choices, team working those kind of things."

The participants were keen to share their highlights of the trip.

"It's been amazing, I have met so many new people and gotten to experience so many new things that you just wouldn't expect to" Gallileo Majors from Texas said.

"I've become so close with all the other campers.

"It's truly once in a lifetime, I'm going to remember this forever."

"I really enjoy the environment, it's much different to Canada" Emma Lewis said.

"We went to Duck-a-Roo in Beachport and it was so cool, holding baby joeys, wallabies and sugar gliders.

"Animals I've never seen in my life, it was so rewarding.

"Plus seeing the selfless work they do, it's really nice that there is people that do that in the world.

"They don't do it for anything just to see animals rehabilitated and happy.

"I've been to two wildlife parks and an animal rescue place.

"I've fed kangaroos, seen Tasmanian devils, all the animals that I've never seen.



Belgudei on the high ropes oversees Senior Constable Geoff Yates, Mikki, Gallileo, Orgil, Emma, Miles, Chan Hou, Manuel, District chairperson Amber Cauchi and Alex with the banner made by the participants to celebrate their journey.



Mikki Doonan (Queensland), Gallileo Majors (Texas) and nine year old Miles who joined in with the activities offered, supported by the youth camp participants.



Manuel Gebetsroither (Austria), Belgudei Borjigon Uyanga (Mongolia) and Emma Lewis (Canada).



"I just love it so much."

For Chan Hou from Malaysia it was the scenery that has stayed with him.

"During this trip the most amaze me about Australia is the views" Mr Hou said.

"The beachside, the Great Ocean Road and the Southend national park, the view is very nice.

"I saw quite a lot of pictures when doing research when at Malaysia.

"It's nice on the pictures but when you look at the view by your eyes it is magnificent."

Possibly the biggest culture shock was reserved for the two Mongolian youth who experienced the ocean for the first time, and for

one, holding and eating a hamburger was a unique experience.

The group began their last day in the region joining in the Australia Day breakfast event at Millicent before heading to Mount Gambier for the day's activities.

This year is the first of a three year program being held in South Australia and has been a learning experience for all involved.

"We are kind of like guinea pigs, seeing what works and what doesn't," Ms Cauchi said.

"Usually there would be about 12 to 15 youth, we've got nine so it was a small one to try it out, in a way it was ideal to test the waters.

"It's been interesting, there's been a few things hit and miss but again we are in the stages of learning, but the kids have been amazing.

"They are not backwards in coming forward and telling us, yeh that was no good."

The youth are sponsored by their local Lions clubs with many of the activities undertaken during their trip paid for by the regional Lions clubs in the towns they visit.

The program is designed for young people to celebrate youth and cultural understanding.

It aims to develop leadership qualities, self esteem and build on their skills with a second language.





At the Millicent Australia Day ceremony are Margaret Johnson with Bruce Bawden and Mary Bawden who nominated this year's citizen on the year award winner Sue Lines.



Recipient of this year's Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year and Youth Recognition Award Arabey McKenzie with her proud mum Libby McKenzie.



Stepping out for the Australia Day breakfast at Millicent are Jessica Lyndon, Deb Thorn and Chris Shelton.

# Recognising top citizens

By Caroline Hammat

Hundreds turned out for this year's Australia Day breakfast in Millicent supported by the Millicent Lions Club and sponsored by the Wattle Range Council (WRC).

Following the free breakfast Councillor Walshaw officially opened the occasion with an acknowledgment of country and welcomed the Australia Day Council ambassador Ian Smith to the stage.

Mr Smith talked about his working life and serving 28 years in the army.

This included an exchange to the British Army in Germany, peacekeeping in the former Yugoslavia and a role in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation force that implemented the peace agreement in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

During the reserve stage of his army career he served 12 years in the Australian Federal Police including counter-terrorism, combating organised crime work and acting as a police peacekeeper in Cyprus.

Also an author, Mr Smith, recently published his book 'For love of country' about First Nations people of South Australia who have served in the Australian armed forces.

One of the soldiers included in the book is Lesley George Smith, buried in the Millicent cemetery.

The late Mr Smith fought in the Salamaua-Lae campaign of the Second World War in New Guinea as a member of the 2/7th Independent Company and 2/5th Infantry Battalion.

"Today is an important opportunity to reflect on what being Australian is all about" Mr Smith said.

"As a country, Australia inhabits an ancient continent with ancient peoples and cultures that, here on the limestone coast, stretch back at least 30,000 years.

"I cannot let this day pass without paying my respects to the Boandik people, to their endurance in the face of adversity, and to the foundation they provide to the rich cultural makeup of Australia.

"186 years ago, the colony of South Australia was established, 121 years ago the various colonies came together through federation.

"And through further migration from virtu-

ally every country on earth, Australia is now a country with a multitude of faces, voices, and perspectives.

"As we progress as a nation, the fair go is critically important to keep in the front of our minds as we reflect on the past, and the good and bad it holds.

"Celebrate our amazing achievements and move forward as a country that values opportunity, diversity and inclusion, and embraces reconciliation with First Nations peoples.

"Through my experiences I have learned that the key to a strong and harmonious society is not about expecting people to fall in line with a particular idea about what being an Australian is, but in respecting and valuing the diverse views and rich cultures of all Australians."

WRC Deputy Mayor Peter Dunicliff, Cr Dennis Muhovics and Cr John Drew were also part of the ceremonies and awarded certificates to this year's winners.

Tantanoola resident Sue Lines was recognised as the 2023 Corcoran Ward Citizen of the year and Arabey McKenzie received both Young Citizen of the Year and the Youth Recognition Award (Achievement through Arts & Culture).

Millicent and Surrounds Health Support Group (MASHSG) member Trevor Sinclair accepted the Community Event of the Year on behalf of MASHSG, Millicent Hospital Advisory Council and the Meals on Wheels volunteer drivers for implementing last year's Thank You day.

Mr Smith praised the work of all recipients during his speech and said

"Few, if any, Australia Day award recipients are motivated by dreams of being recognised by their community like this, but please remember that you are receiving these awards because your friends, family, and the wider community want to thank you.

"Be proud, you deserve this, congratulations."

Mr Smith was proud to announce his brother David, who has recently moved to Hatherleigh with his wife Selina, had received a Conspicuous Service Cross that morning in the Australia Day honours after 34 years in the army.



Kintore ward Citizen of the Year recipient Liam Mills received his award at the Beachport ceremony. Picture: BSLSC



Members of Millicent Health Advisory Council and Millicent and Surrounds Health Support Group received the Community event of the year award for the Corcoran ward. Helen Walker, Doris Bleby, Ron Wood, Vikki Sapiatzer, Simone Berry, Trevor Sinclair, Darrell Looker and Virginia Pawsey.



Bec Ellis, Scott Altschwager, Charlie Heinicke and Nathan Redden enjoying the morning ceremony together.



Australia Day Council Ambassador Ian Smith with Fergus the rescue red kangaroo.



Marilyn Jones, Carmel Chapman, WRC Mayoress Shari Noll and Jay Watson enjoy the relaxed atmosphere at Tantanoola.



Overnight campers at the Tantanoola free parking enjoyed the hospitality of Tantanoola during the Australia Day public holiday. Gary and Sue Clues (rear) from Townsville and Ana and Hans Fehr were a long way from their home in Switzerland.

# Fergus takes the limelight

After spending the morning at Kalangadoo, enjoying the Lions Club breakfast with around 40 community members, Wattle Range Council (WRC) Mayor Des Noll met with Australia Day Council ambassador Ian Smith at Tantanoola.

Tantanoola Progress association organised the Australia Day activities for the first time this year with Covid-19 interrupting the event for the last two years.

It was a perfect opportunity for the community to acknowledge the Corcoran Ward Citizen of the year winner, Sue Lines, who won the award for much of the work undertaken in the small community including the Australia Day event.

Mr Smith praised Ms Lines' community work.

"Well you name it and if it's got Tantanoola in it, she's in it," he said.

"I had a really good chat with her earlier, the people are what make any place.

"To meet people like that, who are just helping everyone is really quite amazing.

"I'm impressed by that, it's great."

Stealing the limelight from Ms Lines was Fergus the 12 month old red kangaroo who proved a popular guest.

The young kangaroo is currently in the care of Mount Gambier Wildlife Group carer Catherine Hale until he reaches 10 kg and will then be head to a sanctuary in Adelaide.

Fergus is currently weighing in at 7.1kg and it is expected he will be big enough in about five months for his trip to the big smoke.

The thong throwing competition was won by Evan Jazepczyk who took out two categories, child's and overall, with Tarsh Bath winning the women's and Jamey Hale the men's categories.

Around 50 people, including interstate and international visitors, enjoyed the free barbecue and activities on offer at the official event.



Carmel Chapman nursing Fergus the kangaroo.



Enjoying the fine weather on Thursday's public holiday are Harper and Kacie Hale, Jason Smith and Catherine Hale.

## Australia Day high achievers

By Kathy Fennell

More than 250 people gathered at the Penola Park last Thursday to celebrate Australia Day.

The Lions Club of Penola hosted the event which kicked off with a community breakfast in beautiful weather.

Master of Ceremonies was Ray Haines who welcomed everyone and continued by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land.

This was followed by a flag raising ceremony by members of the Coonawarra-Penola RSL.

The National Anthem was performed by Trevor Gill and Steve Bowring.

Guest speaker was Dr Mark Dutney who spoke on his growing up as a child right through to becoming a doctor and his time while in Penola (where he is currently a GP).

The Australia day awards followed and were presented by local councillors Emma Castine and Chris Brodie.



Riddoch ward Australia Day winners Georgia Winter and Wendy Hollick.



Willow Cross from Melbourne gave it her best shot in the rubber boot throwing competition.



Jodie Gray and Heath and Ebony Nicholls work together to turn Adele Nicholls into a living mermaid sculpture.

# Southend fun in the sun

Southend was the perfect place to spend the Australia Day public holiday with a family beach day organised by the Southend Progress Association (SPA).

Around 100 people attended the event and took advantage of free sausages and hamburgers, cold drinks and watermelon donated by the Wattle Range Council (WRC) and cinnamon donuts served by the Millicent Lions club.

Australia Day Council ambassador Ian Smith visited and enjoyed lunch with WRC Mayor Des Noll before he continued his trip home to Adelaide.

Organised beach games and competitions were family favourites with prizes for winners and small gifts for child participants.

Sandra Young welcomed everyone and Councillor Sharon Cox recited an Australian Poem, depicting the idiosyncrasies of the Australian way of life.

The fisherman's boot throw competition proved competitive with Jordan winning the open category with his massive throw of 21.24m.

Cassie's toss of 14.17m gave her first place in the women's category, under 13 girls was won by Ruby (5.3m) with the boys section won by Clyde (6.12m).

Other organised beach activities were the sandcastle competition, buried treasure hunt, tug of war, putt putt, tower throw, kick golf and volleyball.

In an imaginative sandcastle competition winners were Travis (7 and under) with his car sculpture, Sophie, Abel and Jasmine (8-12) who created the Geltwood anchor and Ebony and Jodie (13-18) with their creative living mermaid work of art.

Councillors Cox and Richard Cassidy were on hand throughout the afternoon and assisted by measuring the boot throws and judging the sandcastle competition.

Sallie Chambers, Chair of the Southend Progress Association said they were most pleased with the success of the day.

"It was a good mix of locals and tourists from the caravan parks," she said.

"And thanks to all members of the Committee who helped on the day."



Southend Progress Association members Nicole Altschwager, Jill Herdman and Sallie and Albert Chambers with calendars and stubby holders for sale.



Enjoying the perfect beach weather are Southend visitors Ashlee Leviston and Stacey Seville with Lexi the dog.



Cooking the Australia Day barbeque are Matt Chambers and Louis Wakelin.



Edie, Mabel, Krissy and Olive Medhurst from Melbourne are regular visitors to Southend.

# Australia Day in Penola

By Kathy Fennell

There were big celebrations in the Penola Park last week for Australia Day.



Brad Gartner speaks at the Australia Day ceremony



In true Aussie style at Australia Day are Rosemary and Terry Ey



Coonawarra running festival committee Sandra Wallis, Amelia Hall, Anne-Marie Williams, Josie Abbey, Zeke and Lisa Hall



Jim and Melinda Moore, Amelia Hall and Lisa Hall, Gayle and Ian Hetherington at Australia Day celebrations



Councillor Chris Brodie, Andy Clifford and Lee Castine catch up on Australia Day



Alex Bowden and his son Ken enjoy Australia Day



Bill and Marg Murray enjoy breakfast at Australia Day



Musicians entertain at Australia Day



Wendy Hollick with her daughters Mel and Kate with grandson Sam



Georgia Winter speaks on Australia Day

# Cattle numbers to hit a high this year

The national cattle herd will grow to its highest level since 2014, reaching 28.8m head.

The Australian Beef industry and cattle herd are well positioned to capitalise on changing global supply dynamics in 2023.

This year will be a year of transition and maturity for Australia's cattle herd, with any increases in numbers now beyond rebuild status, with all key production metrics forecast to improve this year, according to the latest Cattle Industry Projections update from Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA).

Continued rainfall and favourable seasonal conditions seen last year will ensure that there will be solid supply of both young and slaughter weight cattle over the next two years, regardless of seasonal outcomes.

Southern Australia will continue to drive increases in cattle numbers, particularly New South Wales, with supply improvements also expected from southern Western Australia, South Australia and Victoria to different extents.

In the north, 2022 saw favourable seasonal conditions for large parts of Queensland, driving the beginning of the state's herd rebuild and an improvement in female numbers. Northern Australia's rebuild is expected to gain significant pace this year.

Overall, the cattle herd in 2023 will grow to its highest level since 2014, reaching 28.8m head, an increase of 1.1m or 4.5% year-on-year. According to MLA's Senior Market Information Analyst Ripley Atkinson, this growth is underpinned by a few key factors.

"The record retention of females for 15 consecutive months, coupled with above-average marking rates has delivered larger calf drops. This bodes well for supply to increase substantially in 2023 for both young and slaughter-weight cattle," Mr Atkinson said.

"Both of these metrics suggest that the lowest or most significant retention of stock on record occurred for the year. This underpins the positive growth in numbers forecast for the next three years



The national cattle herd will grow to its highest level since 2014, reaching 28.8m head.

Picture: FILE

By 2025, the national herd is expected to reach its highest level since the 1970s at 29.6m head, before a steady decline. This continued growth is due to strong female reproductive performance, genetic improvements across the herd and sound on farm management.

Input prices and cost of production will be major factors affecting the ability of the sector to remain productive and efficient.

In addition, the availability of skilled and unskilled workers to manage the increased supply of cattle in 2023 will be the major issue affecting the red meat industry. The processing sector's ability to process cattle will determine production levels and therefore exports in 2023.

MLA's Market Information team have recognised this with a two-scenario forecast for 2023.

"If labour concerns are not addressed with-

in the processing sector, slaughter is forecast to reach 6m head," Mr Atkinson said.

"Based on actual supply of cattle this year, the forecasts indicate an uptick in numbers to 6.625m head."

2023 will be a year of transition for the cattle industry according to Mr Atkinson.

"Positive outcomes along the entire supply chain seem likely as the exceptional operating conditions on-farm continue.

"The overall outlook for Australia's beef industry both domestically and internationally is one of optimism and positivity, whilst it continues to deliver high quality beef in larger volumes, this is expected to be a major feature in 2023," Mr Atkinson said.

View a full copy of MLA's 2023 Cattle Industry Projections at the MLA website.

## Top dog in biosecurity

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has announced biosecurity detector dog Qubit as the top dog of 2022.

Acting Secretary of the Department and acting Director of Biosecurity, Dr Chris Locke, said the department awards the title to a detector dog and handler team who have significantly contributed to Australia's biosecurity efforts.

The 2022 title was given to Qubit and handler Sam for their contribution to protecting Australia against biosecurity threats including foot and mouth disease (FMD) in Melbourne Airport and the Melbourne Mail Gateway.

"Qubit and Sam sniffed out and seized more FMD risk material - meat and dairy products - than any other biosecurity dog team last year," said Dr Locke.

"Together they intercepted 126 products with the potential to carry FMD and seized 765 individual biosecurity risk items.

"In 2022 we saw the threat of FMD and lumpy skin disease grow as it was detected in our near neighbour, Indonesia.

"In response, the biosecurity detector dog program expanded the detector dog target odours to include dairy products, which have a greater risk of carrying exotic diseases including FMD.

"The department currently has 46 Labradors working as biosecurity detector dogs across Australia's international airports, mail centres and seaports. This will increase to 62 Labradors over the next two years.

"Biosecurity detector dogs are a vital part of our biosecurity defence at the border. They are teamed with our detector dog handlers, who are biosecurity officers with specialised skills to effectively train and deploy a detector dog.

"Together, they do a great job of protecting Australia alongside the other measures we deploy to mitigate risk of exotic pests and diseases."

Special mentions were also awarded to other biosecurity dog teams.

The October budget included funding for an extra 20 dogs and their handlers on the frontline. The first four of that new cohort recently graduated from their eight-week novice training course at a specialised facility in Brisbane.

## Horticulture industry leadership search

The National Farmers' Federation (NFF) Horticulture Council recently launched a search for its next chairperson, with inaugural chair Fiona Simson due to step down mid-year as her term as NFF president comes to a close.

Ms Simson said now was the perfect time for a change in chair, with a mounting commitment from the NFF and member bodies to the council, and a clear need to work more collaboratively and speak with one voice nationally on key issues impacting the industry.

"The council is really starting to hit its straps," Ms Simson said.

"Established less than five years ago, it has been building momentum and gaining recognition as a valuable, representative, and trustworthy source of advice to government on what is a complex and multifaceted industry.

"For the next chair, as the council evolves, becoming more mature and independent, and as the horticulture industry continues its own path of growth and transformation, there will be great opportunities and also challenges. "The council and national horticulture industry needs, and deserves, an excellent and accomplished chair and leader, so it's really exciting to start the search today," Ms Simson said.

In selecting the successful candidate, the council will be putting emphasis on experience chairing governing or policy-setting bodies and facilitating productive and inclusive debate. Michael Coote, CEO of vegetable peak industry body AUSVEG, said the next chair would also need to take a lead on behalf of the council in engaging with public



Fiona Simson will step down as president of the National Farmers' Federation Horticulture Council in mid-2023.

debate on issues that cut across the whole sector, including labour availability, biosecurity, sustainability, domestic competition, and export market access.

"We are looking for an individual with a track record as an effective chair and a strong industry advocate, but also someone able to influence in Canberra, with an existing network among our key stakeholders, or an ability to build those connections quickly," Mr Coote said.

Leanne Erakovic, CEO of the Australian Banana Growers Council, said an affir-

ity with the Australian horticulture industry was essential in the role.

"The chair of the council doesn't necessarily need to be a past or present fruit, vegetable or nut grower so long as they meet our other criteria, but in representing the industry they'll need to be comfortable getting their boots dirty. Being authentic is persuasive," said Ms Erakovic.

Applications for the position of chair of the NFF Horticulture Council close 5pm on Wednesday 1 March. Go to [bit.ly/3HiuVUF](https://bit.ly/3HiuVUF)



Handler Sam and dog Qubit sniffed out and seized more FMD risk material - meat and dairy products - than any other biosecurity dog team last year.



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# Motoring

## SUV steps up with hybrid

By Derek Ogden, Marque Motoring

With electric vehicles making landfall Down Under like lightning strikes in a tropical summer storm, the Hyundai Santa Fe Hybrid stands out from the deluge, being one of the few family-size sports utility vehicles to take up EV status.

It's not the 'Full Monty' electric model but retains in tandem an internal combustion power plant.

Until recently the only seven-seater SUV hybridised was the Toyota Kluger.

Now the Santa Fe joins the Kia Sorento hybrid and Mitsubishi Outlander Plug-In Hybrid in adding to the mix.

No plug-in hybrid here, with its interminable search for external charging points, the Santa Fe hybrid has the brains to charge its lithium-ion battery through conversion of kinetic energy while working in conjunction with the petrol engine and regen brakes when on the move.

Available only as upper-crust Elite and Highlander variants, the hybrid is kitted out essentially like its petrol- and diesel-powered cousins.

However, an electric shock comes in the price differences – a high voltage \$6500 over the petrol and \$3000 the diesel, which equates to \$63,000 for the Elite and \$69,550 for the Highlander, the test vehicle, without on-road costs.

Both are seven-seaters but can be reconfigured as a six-seater with two captain's chairs in the second row instead of the bench.

With seven seats, the third row is fit only for kids' use in comfort, although it does have its own air-con.

As with all Santa Fes, both hybrids are covered by a five-year unlimited kilometre warranty, while the battery earns an eight-year 160,000-kilometre guarantee.

Service intervals are 10,000 km or 12 months.

A major facelift three years ago saw the Santa Fe put on a fresh face and interior.

The new Hybrid differs from the petrol and diesel versions only in the wheels – smaller 19-inch alloys with different design here – said to be more aerodynamic and save fuel.

The shapely Santa Fe exterior is well known for its so-called cascading grille, which in the Hybrid case covers a yawning chasm of a radiator.

In profile, looks are toned down a tad in readiness for a robust, yet shapely rear.

With the Hybrid in the higher-grade Elite and Highlander corner, the interior has a classy look and feel, with Nappa leather in the latter and other quality materials shared.

An option for the Hybrid is six seats, in which the second-row bench is replaced with a pair of captain's chairs.

With seven seats, the third row is fit only for littlies' use with comfort.

Head room is restricted by the intrusion of the sun roof workings.

The boot has a spot for a full-size spare wheel under a flat cargo area with third row folded, there's room for family shopping or a stroller.

With five seats in use there is up to 782 litres on offer.

A power tailgate takes away the trauma of loading in the rain.

There's a configurable 10.2-inch instrument display, which features a digital energy meter and a 12.3-inch infotainment dash-mounted touchscreen with wired Apple CarPlay and digital radio.

A 10-speaker Harman/kardon premium audio is standard.

Under the bonnet a 1.6 litre, four-cylinder turbo-charged petrol engine with a combined output of 169 kW and 350 Nm are hitched up



Switched On: The Santa Fe has taken on the petrol/electric hybrid guise with Elite and Highlander models.

to a six-speed automatic transmission and all-wheel drive.

While this compares favourably with petrol and diesel performance, when it comes to towing, the hybrid is left behind with 1650 kg to the internal-combustion pair with 2500 kg.

The Santa Fe Hybrid comes with all the latest safety systems from Hyundai.

These include automatic emergency braking, which operates at intersections, blind-spot warning, lane keeping assist, rear cross-traffic alert, rear occupant alert automatic high-beam head lamps and adaptive cruise control.

The Hybrid Highlander also takes on 360-degree surround-view camera, blind spot monitor and reverse automatic emergency braking.

At a whisker less than 4.8 metres long, the Santa Fe Hybrid Highlander is on the cusp of bursting out of the mid-size SUV mob into the big time.

However, a well-sorted suspension and responsive steering come up with relaxed ride and handling.

Off the mark, there's more than a hint of sporty performance, while a centre console dial is in charge of driving modes from Eco to Smart to sand, snow or other obstacles thrown up of road.

In a fraction of more than 400 kilometres of mixed urban / highway going the Santa Fe Hybrid Highlander recorded fuel consumption of 6.1 litres per 100 kilometres, in line with the claimed 6 litres per 100km.

More buttons than the pantomime Cinderella's eponymous family servant, known for having rows of gilt buttons down the front of



his tunic, the floating centre console controls offered up a few missteps.

However, familiarity came with repeated use.

Tight parking spaces are easily avoided by using the remote parking system operated from outside the vehicle from the key fob.

Back inside, head-up windscreen display is never an unwelcome driving aid.

Not exactly early adopters, Santa Fe Hybrid buyers get the latest in hybrid technology at a price.

But what's new about bidding for a pollution-free climate.

# WEATHER

## FORECAST

### Warnings

See [www.bom.gov.au/australia/warnings](http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/warnings)

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA:

#### State Forecast:

Showers over the southern agricultural area, possibly extending over the northern agricultural. Cool to mild in the south, mild to warm in the north. Moderate to fresh southwest to southerly winds, fresh to strong about southern coasts. Friday. Showers over the southern agricultural area, contracting to the southeast later in the day. Cool to cold in the south, cool to mild elsewhere. Fresh southwest southerly winds, fresh to strong about southern coasts at first.

Saturday. Dry. Cool to mild in the south, with mild to warm conditions elsewhere extending throughout later in the period. Moderate to fresh southwest to southeasterly winds easing and shifting south to southeasterly at the weekend.

#### Upper South East District:

Cloudy. Medium (60%) chance of showers in the afternoon and evening. Winds west to southwesterly 35 to 50 km/h.

Friday. Cloudy. Slight (20%) chance of a shower. Winds west to southwesterly 25 to 35 km/h becoming southwesterly 35 to 50 km/h during the morning.

#### Lower South East District:

Cloudy. High (70%) chance of showers in the afternoon and evening. Winds westerly 15 to 25 km/h increasing to 35 to 50 km/h during the morning.

Friday. Cloudy. Medium (50%) chance of showers, most likely in the morning and afternoon. Winds southwesterly 35 to 50 km/h.

### VICTORIA:

#### South West District:

Cloudy. High (70%) chance of showers in the afternoon and evening. Light winds becoming west to northwesterly 25 to 40 km/h during the morning.

Friday. Cloudy. High (70%) chance of showers, most likely in the morning and afternoon. Winds westerly 25 to 40 km/h.

## COONAWARRA FORECAST



**TODAY**  
Shower or two. **16**



**TOMORROW**  
Shower or two. **15**



**SATURDAY**  
Cloudy. **21**



**SUNDAY**  
Cloudy. **25**



Sunny



Mostly sunny



Partly cloudy



Cloudy



Chance shower



Shower or two



Showers



Light rain (drizzle)



Rain



Storm



Showers storm



Windy



Dust

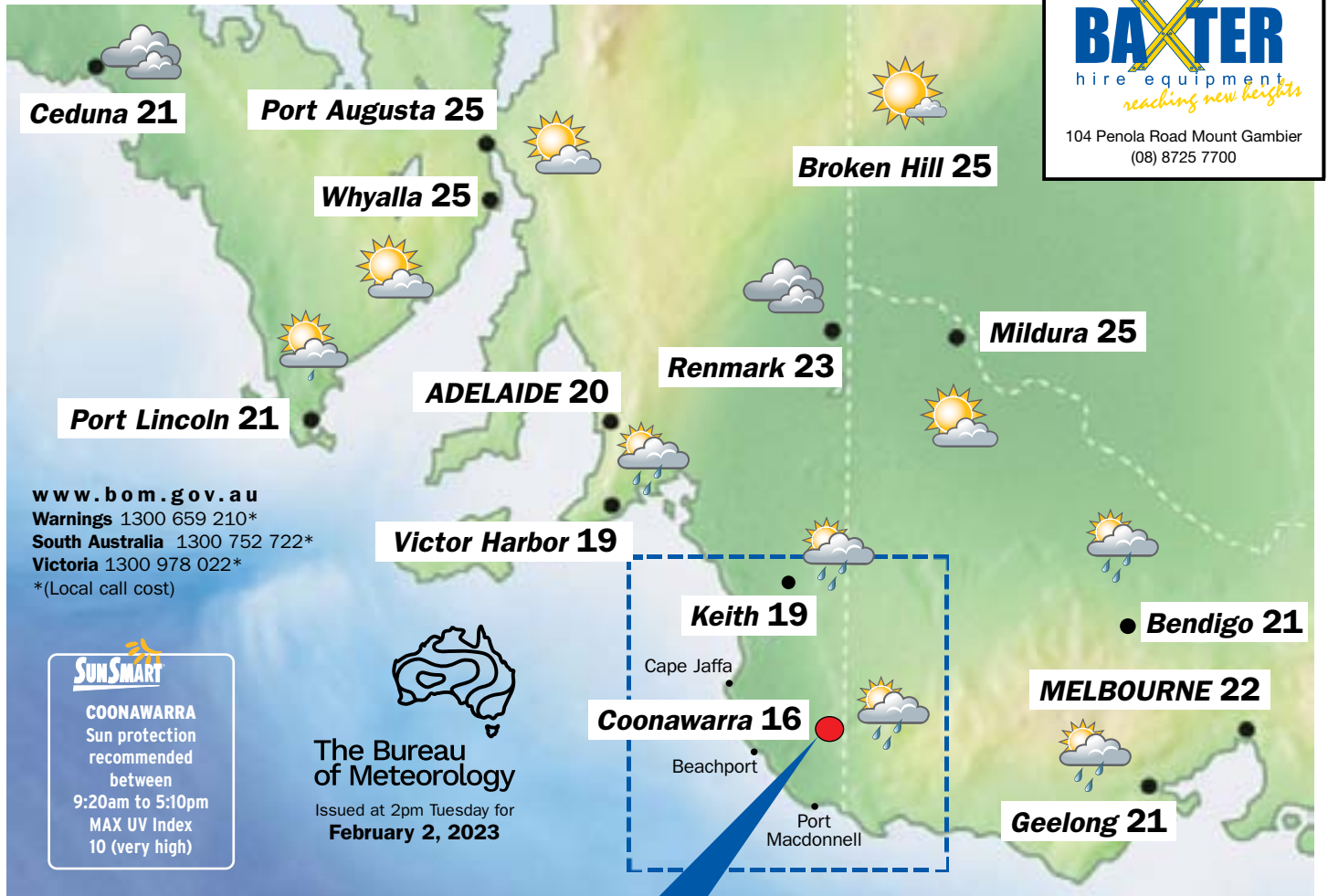


Fog

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[www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)  
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\*(Local call cost)



**COONAWARRA**  
Sun protection recommended between 9:20am to 5:10pm  
MAX UV Index 10 (very high)

The Bureau of Meteorology  
Issued at 2pm Tuesday for  
February 2, 2023

### COASTAL WATERS

#### Upper South East Coastal Waters:

Murray Mouth to Cape Jaffa  
Winds: West to southwesterly 15 to 25 knots turning westerly 20 to 25 knots during the morning then increasing to 25 to 30 knots during the late morning before shifting southwesterly during the afternoon. Seas: 1 to 1.5 metres, increasing to 2 to 3 metres during the morning. Swell: Southwesterly 3 metres, increasing to 3 to 5 metres during the afternoon or evening. Weather: Cloudy. 60% chance of showers.

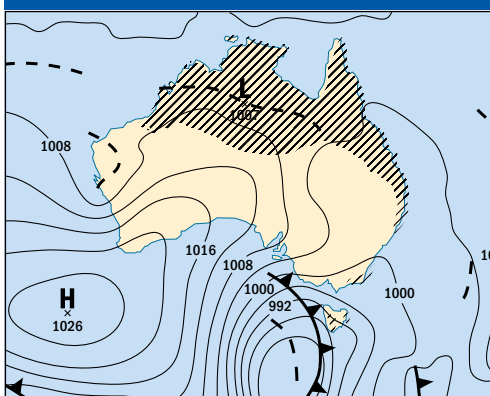
#### Lower South East Coastal Waters:

Cape Jaffa to SA-Vic Border  
Winds: Westerly 15 to 20 knots increasing to 20 to 30 knots during the morning then turning southwesterly 25 to 30 knots during the afternoon. Seas: Around 1 metre, increasing to 2 to 3 metres during the morning. Swell: Southwesterly 3 to 4 metres, increasing to 5 to 6 metres during the afternoon or evening. Weather: Cloudy. 70% chance of showers.

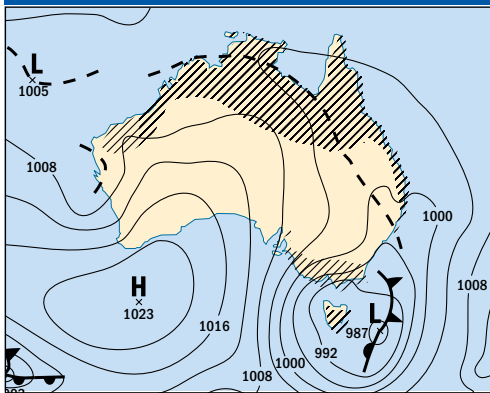
#### West Victoria Coastal Waters:

SA-Vic Border to Cape Otway  
Winds: Westerly 15 to 25 knots becoming west to northwesterly 20 to 30 knots during the morning then shifting west to southwesterly during the afternoon and evening. Seas: Around 1 metre, increasing to 2 to 3 metres during the morning. Swell: Southwesterly 3 metres, increasing to 3 to 5 metres during the afternoon. Weather: Cloudy. 80% chance of showers.

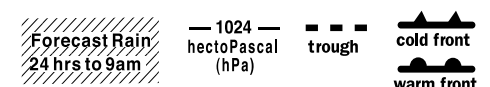
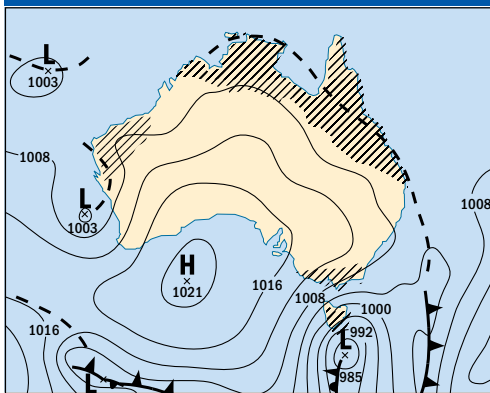
### TODAY 10AM



### TOMORROW 10AM



### SATURDAY 10AM



### TIDES

#### Beachport

**Today:**  
H: 12:29am 0.9m  
L: 12:17pm 0.3m

#### Tomorrow:

H: 12:51am 1.0m  
L: 9:53am 0.4m  
H: 12:27pm 0.4m  
L: 4:56pm 0.3m

#### Saturday:

H: 1:14am 1.0m  
L: 9:08am 0.4m  
H: 12:51pm 0.5m  
L: 5:57pm 0.3m

#### Sunday:

H: 1:37am 1.1m  
L: 8:56am 0.4m  
H: 1:12pm 0.6m  
L: 6:38pm 0.3m

#### Monday:

H: 1:58am 1.1m  
L: 8:58am 0.4m  
H: 1:33pm 0.6m  
L: 7:11pm 0.2m

#### Tuesday:

H: 2:18am 1.1m  
L: 9:07am 0.4m  
H: 1:57pm 0.6m  
L: 7:41pm 0.2m

#### Port Macdonnell

**Today:**  
H: 2:25am 0.9m  
L: 12:42pm 0.3m

#### Tomorrow:

H: 2:24am 1.0m  
L: 1:14pm 0.4m  
H: 2:58pm 0.4m  
L: 5:29pm 0.4m

#### Saturday:

H: 2:35am 1.1m  
L: 10:08am 0.4m  
H: 1:18pm 0.5m  
L: 6:35pm 0.3m

#### Sunday:

H: 2:50am 1.1m  
L: 10:18am 0.4m  
H: 2:11pm 0.5m  
L: 7:30pm 0.3m

#### Monday:

H: 3:10am 1.2m  
L: 10:29am 0.4m  
H: 2:41pm 0.6m  
L: 8:13pm 0.3m

#### Tuesday:

H: 3:31am 1.2m  
L: 10:30am 0.4m  
H: 3:05pm 0.7m  
L: 8:47pm 0.3m

### THE WORLD

World conditions yesterday

City	Weather	Max	Min
Athens	fine	12	4
Auckland	showers	25	20
Bangkok	fog	31	22
Beijing	cloudy	4	-2
Berlin	rain	7	3
Christchurch	fine	25	18
Denpasar	rain	33	26
Dublin	sunny	10	7
Hong Kong	sunny	21	17
Honolulu	sunny	29	20
Jakarta	rain	28	24
Johannesburg	storms	25	14
Kuala Lumpur	storms	33	22
London	cloudy	10	5
Los Angeles	sunny	18	4
Madrid	sunny	12	3
Moscow	snow	0	-2
New Delhi	windy	22	9
New York	fine	12	6
Noumea	showers	31	24
Paris	cloudy	8	5
Auckland	showers	25	20
Port Vila	showers	30	23
Seoul	fine	3	-2
Singapore	showers	33	24
Suva	storms	32	24
Tel Aviv	storms	15	11
Tokyo	fine	14	1
Vancouver	showers	4	2
Wellington	showers	24	17

### CAPITAL CITIES

City	Condition	Max
Adelaide	Shower or two.	20
Brisbane	Shower or two.	32
Canberra	Partly cloudy.	25
Darwin	Showers. Possible storm.	32
Hobart	Late shower or two.	20
Melbourne	Late shower or two.	22
Perth	Sunny.	35
Sydney	Partly cloudy.	29

### SUN & MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Thursday	6:22am	8:18pm	6:17pm	2:38am
Friday	6:23am	8:17pm	7:06pm	3:29am
Saturday	6:24am	8:17pm	7:47pm	4:24am
Sunday	6:26am	8:16pm	8:23pm	5:23am
Monday	6:27am	8:15pm	8:53pm	6:24am
Tuesday	6:28am	8:14pm	9:19pm	7:24am





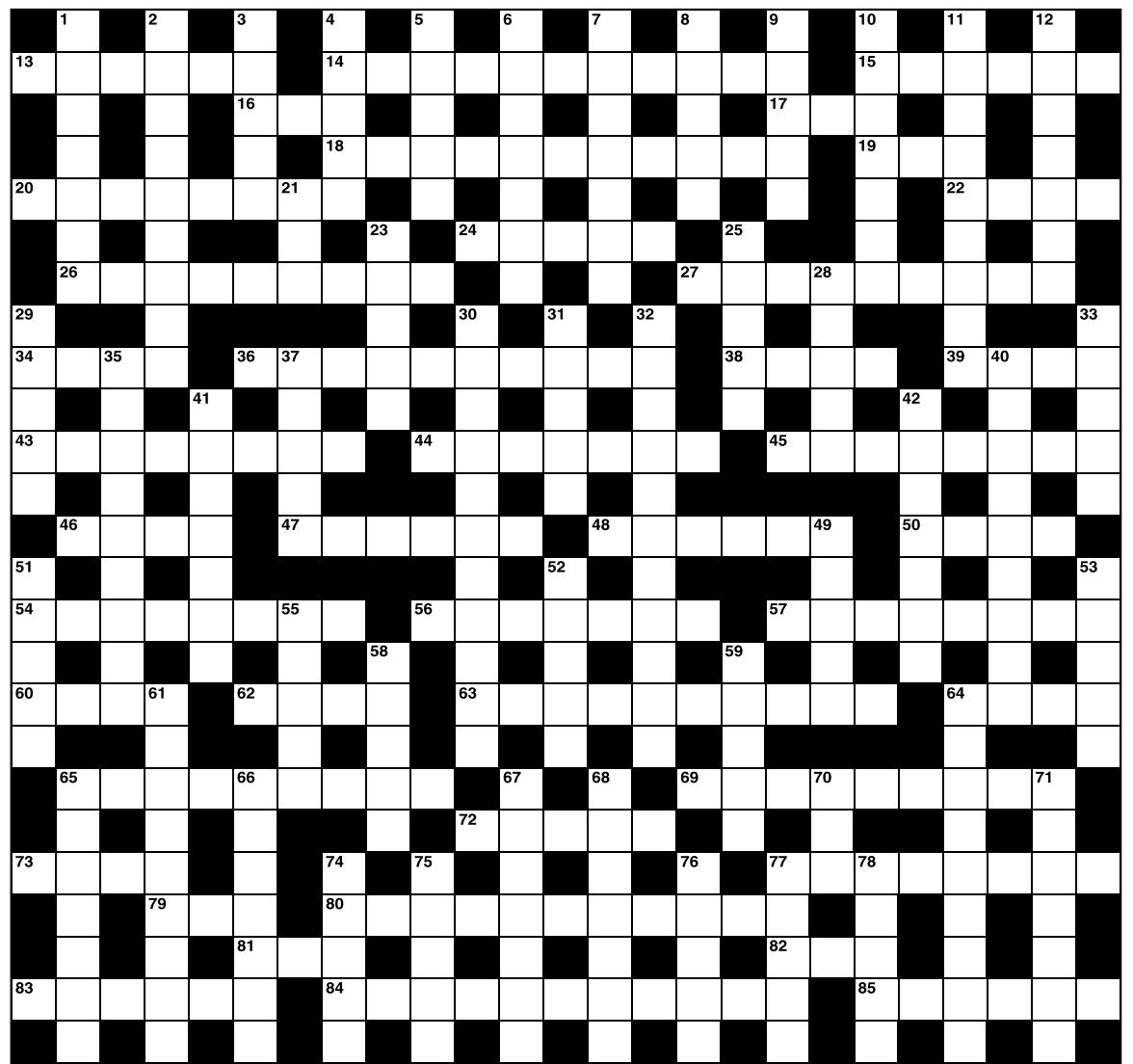






## GIANT CROSSWORD

No. 082



### ACROSS

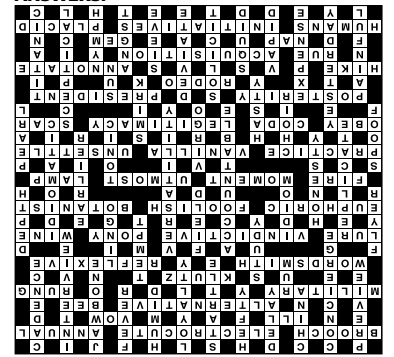
- 13 Pin (6)
- 14 Harm through electric shock (11)
- 15 Once a year (6)
- 16 Unwell (3)
- 17 Pledge (3)
- 18 Another possibility (11)
- 19 Striped insect (3)
- 20 Relating to the armed forces (8)
- 22 Part of a ladder (4)
- 24 Clumsy person (5)
- 26 Writer (9)
- 27 Automatic (9)
- 34 Siren (4)
- 36 Vengeful (10)
- 38 Small horse (4)
- 39 Fermented juice (4)
- 43 Ecstatic (8)
- 44 Daft (7)
- 45 Person who makes a scientific study of plants (8)
- 46 Passion (4)
- 47 Short period of time (6)
- 48 Maximum (6)
- 50 Source of light (4)
- 54 Rehearsal (8)
- 56 Common ice-cream flavour (7)
- 57 Shake (8)
- 60 Follow (4)
- 62 Musical conclusion (4)
- 63 Validity (10)
- 64 Cicatrix (4)
- 65 All future generations (9)
- 69 Nation head (9)
- 72 Horse riding and cattle-handling carnival (5)
- 73 Trek (4)
- 77 Append notes (8)
- 79 Regret (3)
- 80 Purchase (11)

### DOWN

- 81 Snooze (3)
- 82 Jewel (3)
- 83 Earthlings (6)
- 84 Ideas; strategies (11)
- 85 Unruffled (6)
- 1 Sneak peek (7)
- 2 Caretaker of an apartment block (9)
- 3 Fine porcelain (5)
- 4 Postpone (5)
- 5 Substantial (5)
- 6 Surprise (7)
- 7 Faithful adherence (7)
- 8 Moist (5)
- 9 Extremely high body temperature (5)
- 10 Mandible (3,4)
- 11 Question and answer session (9)
- 12 Rhythmic sequence (7)
- 21 Pirates' favourite (3)
- 23 Scrutinise (5)
- 25 Bait (5)
- 28 Argot (5)
- 29 Pamphlet (5)
- 30 Responsible (11)
- 31 Pasture (5)
- 32 Adaptability (11)
- 33 Intensity (5)
- 35 Copy (9)
- 37 Figure of speech (5)
- 40 Peculiar to a particular language (9)
- 41 Truthfulness (7)
- 42 Sooner (7)
- 49 Medicine to give a feeling of vigour (5)
- 51 Parody (5)
- 52 Star sign (5)
- 53 Concretion of nacre (5)
- 55 Singing group (5)
- 58 Rash (5)

- 59 Cheeky grin (5)
- 61 Previous date (9)
- 64 Unconvinced (9)
- 65 Agonising (7)
- 66 Cost (7)
- 67 Petition for (7)
- 68 Digress (7)
- 70 Our star (3)
- 71 Liner sunk in 1912 (7)
- 74 Insidious (5)
- 75 Calamari (5)
- 76 Sift (5)
- 77 Anxiety (5)
- 78 Beautiful maiden (5)

### ANSWERS:

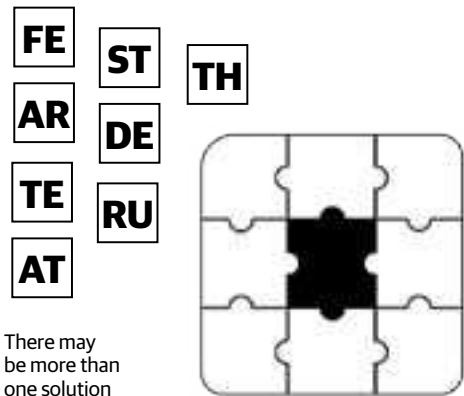


## EDGEWORD

No. 082

pm ORIGINAL PUZZLE

Place each of the tiles of letters into the blank jigsaw below to create four six-letter words going across and down.



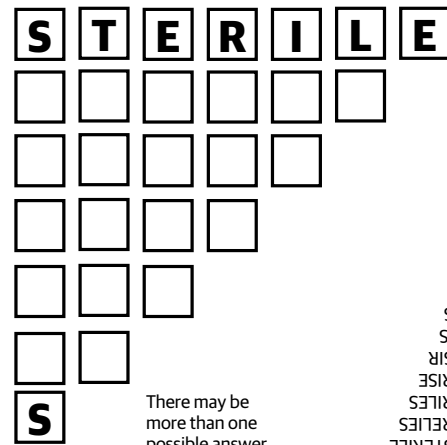
There may be more than one solution

ANSWERS: DEFEAT, DEARTH, ATTEST, THRUST

## DROP DOWN

No. 078

Starting with the seven-letter word, drop a letter and form a six-letter word. Continue in this manner until you reach the single letter at the bottom. You can rearrange the letters in each step, if necessary.



There may be more than one possible answer.

ANSWERS: S, IS, SIR, RISE, RILES, RELIES, STERILE

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW...

Charlize Theron

1. In which country did the Oscar winner grow up?

- A. United States
- B. England
- C. The Netherlands
- D. South Africa

2. In which film starring Al Pacino did she have her breakout role?

- A. *Donnie Brasco*
- B. *Any Given Sunday*
- C. *The Devil's Advocate*
- D. *Heat*

3. She won an Oscar for her role in 2003's *Monster*. Who played her love interest?

- A. Kirsten Dunst
- B. Christina Ricci
- C. Kate Winslet
- D. Laura Linney

4. What was the name of her character in 2015's *Mad Max: Fury Road*?

- A. Imperator Furiosa
- B. Toast the Knowing
- C. Cheedo the Fragile
- D. The Valkyrie

5. She was nominated for an Oscar for her role in which 2019 film?

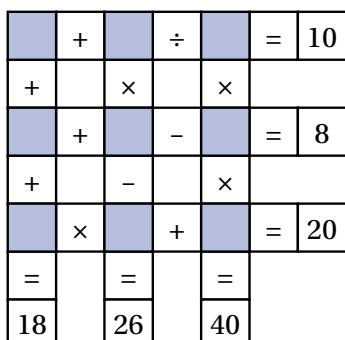
- A. *Tully*
- B. *Bombshell*
- C. *Marriage Story*
- D. *Little Women*



ANSWERS: 1D, 2C, 3B, 4A, 5B

## CROSSMATH

No. 082



Insert each number from 1 to 9 in the shaded squares to solve all the horizontal and vertical equations.

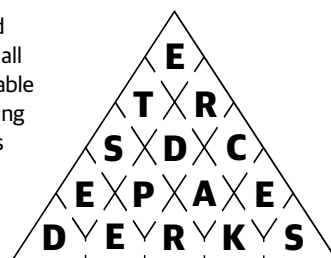
Multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.

40	92	81
=	=	=
8	2	9
x	-	+
5	4	6
x	+	+
1	7	3
+	+	+
10		

## WORD TRIANGLE

No. 078

The starting letter could be in any segment, and all subsequent letters are able to be connected following a path through the gaps in the walls. You may only enter each of the segments once, and all letters must be used.

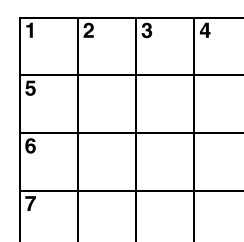


HINT: The answer is a phrase.

ANSWER: DEEP DARK SECRETS

## 4x4

No. 078



### ACROSS

- 1 Particle (4)
- 5 Mystic symbol (4)
- 6 Be adjacent (4)
- 7 Lowest part (4)

### DOWN

- 1 Graceful horse (4)
- 2 Musical instrument (4)
- 3 Burden (4)
- 4 Measure (4)

ANSWERS: 1. Atom, 2. Tube, 3. Onus, 4. Mete, 5. Abut, 6. Base, 7. Rune



Daniel Robinson with a nice Tassie Trumpeter.

Picture: SUBMITTED

# Weather is angler's joy

By Jamie Coates

Some nice weather over the last few days has been a joy to anglers around the Limestone Coast.

From off the beach to out of the boat, inland or up the river, some lovely fish have been caught right across the South East.

The offshore guys made the most of the last week's flat seas by heading all over the place.

Some boats heading out wide found some nice hapuka and blue eye over the shelf, along with pink ling and gemfish.

The fish are spread out nicely, with reports coming to me from as far east as Portland, all along our Port MacDonnell and Beachport coastline, through to Robe and Cape Jaffa.

In a bit closer around that 60-120m line, we are seeing some nice shark.

Both school and gummy shark have been boated, with fish of both species to 20kg landed.

There have been plenty of other reef species among them too, with snapper, nannygai and flathead all gaining a mention.

Daniel Robinson and crew had a good session out last week, boating all the previously listed species, along with a couple of cracking Tasmanian trumpeter, the best a bit over 100cm.

The tuna news has been very light on this week, but Portland and Kingston did see more fish over the weekend, so if you are up for a drive either way, you should find the fish.

The surf has fished quite well over the last week or so.

I have seen some nice fish from the Beachport area from the weekend and late last week.

Anywhere through the 5-10 mile areas has been productive.

Clayton Skeer managed a couple of nice shark to 15kg along that area and a few other crews have had similar success.

There has been a few snapper, mulloway and a few flathead caught in the bay between Beachport and Southend also, so that is another spot worth a look too.

Canunda NP has fished fairly well this week.

We are still seeing salmon on a regular basis, along with a few gummy shark, elephant fish and small mulloway.

Whale Rock and Channel Rock have been where the bulk of the action has been, but if you came back through to the old drain or even near the Carpenter Rocks end, the water there looks fabulous so it would definitely be worth putting a bait in.

Nene Valley, Browns Bay and Piccininni Beach have fished fairly well when the weed has not been an issue.

Even though those spots are a fair bit from one and other, they are all subject to a bit of weed from time to time, so if you can get there and the beach is clean, you will be in with a red hot chance.

Snapper, whiting and sharks are the targets in all those spots and have been fairly good for most, so definitely get down there and have a crack.

Whiting fishos this week have found some nice fish inside the Port MacDonnell breakwater from the boats and off the jetty, though this weeks average size seems to be a touch smaller than it was a month or so ago.

The numbers are still pretty impressive, so there is no need to worry at all.

There has been some more nice fish caught this week around Cape Douglas and Hutt Bay and again it has been both the boaties and the waders sharing the success.

Beachport is still producing whiting in the bay for the boaties and although the majority of the Beachport jetty is closed for renovations at the moment, the open section has produced some nice fish.

With the light winds and flat seas we saw over the weekend, we see plenty of fishos chase sweep.

Usual sea conditions might be okay in open water, but it takes exceptionally smooth and calm seas to be able to get into the sweep spots.

In under the Lighthouse at Port MacDonnell is always a popular spot, but any reefy spot or around a few bommies is always worth a crack.

Gar numbers have again been impressive this week.

Waders and boaties have both been taking home a feed across the South East with not too many troubles at all.

Petrified Forest, Cape Douglas, Nene Valley and Livingstons Bay have all fired over the last week, but if you do not find them straight away, keep on the move.

There have been some chunky mullet mixed in with the gar this week too and a feed of mullet is always welcome on my dinner table.

There have been some nice fish caught in Rocklands this week by the lure casters.

Yellas to a couple of kilo have been boated in the heavy snags and most have been taken on chatter or spinner baits.

The unique design of that type of lures means they can be fished in pretty heavy structure without too much fear of them snagging up.

Of course they are not 100 per cent snag-proof, but we can fish areas we would have traditionally not even thought of throwing lures.

It is not just the yellas that have been on the chew, we are seeing a few cod each trip, along with some solid redfin.

I know I have said it before, but how good is Rocklands now, and it is just getting started.

The Glenelg River has fished well for bream and perch.

Lures and baits have been getting the job done and they are spreading out quite nicely now.

There hve been some nice bream boated this week on cranka crabs around the Donovans and Reed Bed area along the rockwalls and steeper banks.

The go-to colours seem to be the darker ones in the range to match the colour of the local crabs.

The mulloway fishing has improved a little, with more fish caught this week.

The caves and Sandy Waterhole area has been where the bulk of the news has come from, but there have been one or two in the Taylors Straight area as well.

The forecast for this week is not a good one, with a massive sea forecast for Friday, plus strong winds and cold days.

But looking beyond that, the turn around looks to be a quick one.

Until next week, safe fishing.



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# Eagles soar over Demons

By James Murphy

**PENOLA 19.10 (124) d  
SOUTH GAMBIER 2.7 (19)**

In their first game of 2022-23 the Penola Eagles soared to a resounding victory over South Gambier at Blue Lake Sports Park on Sunday.

The Demons were hard-pressed in Round 1 when falling convincingly to Mundulla and despite best efforts they were unable to match Penola's pace.

By quarter time the margin was 46-0 after a seven-goal opening term.

South found the big sticks in the second, but only once, while the Eagles added five majors to push out to a 73-point half-time lead.

The game was all but won by then and despite a couple of solid plays from the Demons, Penola remained untroubled by the hosts.

New recruit Jasmine Ryan led the charge in front of goal and she finished up with five majors.

She was joined by reliable forward Angela Broad with four, while Nell Eastough, Caroline McGrath and Amanda Wurst had two each.

McGrath earned the best-on-ground honours for her work through the midfield, while Eastough, Riley Mitchell, Ellise Berkin and Broad were also among the best.

Lana Shepherd was named best for South, with Anja Gardsenni and Jarrah Altschwager also playing their roles well.

**NORTH GAMBIER 19.15 (129) d  
MILLICENT 0.0 (0)**

Little can be said of Friday night's second round Limestone Coast Women's football matches, other than the losers were simply outclassed.

The split round opened under lights at Vansittart Park and home team North Gambier kicked things off with a thumping 129-point win over Millicent.

The Saints had no answers for the rampaging Tigers and by quarter time the margin had already blown out to 40 points.

Luca Roulstone and Alice Tentye were the main damage dealers and they finished their days with six and five goals respectively.

The six-goal lead grew to 13 by the half-time break and from there the Tigers simply went through their paces.

Another three goals in the third term were followed by four in the last and at the final siren the damage was 129-0.

Despite the goal-kicking proficiency of Roulstone and Tentye, it was Emmason Ilsley who was recognised as best on ground.

Roulstone was named second best, with Grade Altschwager, Chloe Perryman, Penny Coleman and Eadie Mustart rounding out the top players.

Altschwager and Libby Howe-Morgan also scored multiple goals, with two each.

Millicent looked to the likes of Amy-Lee Byrne, Meredith Turner and Megan Tilby.

However, the weight of supply was too much and the hosts cruised to another easy victory.

**CASTERTON SANDFORD 17.16 (118) d  
KALANGADOO 0.0 (0)**

Game two on Friday night followed a similar trend to its predecessor, as Casterton Sandford claimed a 118-point triumph over Kalangadoo.

High off a win over reigning premier Kybybolite last week, the Cats made short work of the 2022 wooden spooners.

By the first change the Victorians had three unanswered goals on the board, before a nine-goal second term sealed the deal.

They entered the long break with a 78-point advantage and despite a less productive second half, kept the Magpies scoreless with ease.



Penola's Shandeen Balshaw is chased into the Eagles' forward 50.

Pictures: JAMES MURPHY



South Gambier's Dakota Trotter finds herself in hot water as Penola closes in on the ball.



South Gambier's Jarrah Altschwager lands a tackle on Penola's Stella O'Brien.

By the end of the match the Cats had 17 goals from 33 attempts, with an even contribution up forward.

Makayla Hutchins led the onslaught with four majors, while Alena Tranter (three goals), Chelsea Wain (three) and Madison Zuijdveld (two) also had multiple amongst the nine goal scorers for the night.

Amelia Thomas received the best-on-ground honours, with Wain, Chloe Smith, Hutchins and Libby Altorfer also top contributors.

Kalangadoo vice-captain Taysha Marshall put in a solid effort for the Magpies, as did Abby Thompson and Jess Gerritsen.

Yet there was only so much damage control to be done and there was no stopping the Cats

on their way to a percentage-boosting victory. **KYBYBOLITE 3.3 (21) d MUNDULLA 3.3 (21)** The final match of the round was by far the closest encounter as Kybybolite and Mundulla clashed at Naracoorte on Sunday.

At the final siren the two teams could not be separated and they were forced to share the points for the round.

Mundulla entered the match confident from a win over 2022 runner-up South Gambier, while Kyby suffered a loss to Casterton Sandford and was eager to bounce back.

It was Mundulla which started strongest and set up a 13-point lead at the first change.

Kyby returned fire in the second with three straight goals and at the main break held a four-point advantage.

Things tightened up in the third quarter and Mundulla found the big sticks again to lead by a single point heading into a thrilling final stanza.

However, with just one behind to Kybybolite for the term, the scores remained locked at 21-all.

Dellie Brown was the best on ground for Kyby and she was joined by Jedah Huf, Zara East, Emily Cattuzzo and Erin Ewer.

For Mundulla it was the services of Kellsey Hinge which impressed, with Zoe Hawker and Casey McElroy also ranked highly.

Erin Horsnell, Anna Will and Nikki McElroy rounded out the best, while Hawker, Horsnell and captain Natalie Twigden kicked a goal each.

## Perfect conditions for vets at Mount Gambier

On a perfect day for golf, 70 Veterans golfers turned out at the Mount Gambier course, with the conditions reflected in the scoring.

First division was won by David Lovie from the Blue Lake Golf Club with a

smooth 39 points on a count-back from Beachport's Sid Arkun, with Penola's Lindsay Storer third with 38.

Second division went to president, Millicent's Glen Tilley, with 42 points, from local Bob Tonkin 41 and Bob O'Conner

40. The nearest to pins went to Jimmy Hyland on the eighth hole and Alan Schultz on the 16th, while the Ross Orchard prize went to Herman VanderHeul and Colin Rex.

The ball rundown went to 33 and the

Scotch went to Blue Lake with Doug MacPherson.

The next meet is at the challenging Robe course on February 13, followed by Blue Lake on March 6.



# Some go down to the wire

## KINGSTON 15-133 d LUCINDALE WOMBATS 9-102

Kingston hosted Lucindale Wombats for Round 11 of Southern Ports tennis in fine conditions.

The home team claimed the points with a six-set win.

There were a few family combinations for the Wombats men.

Bill and Toby Longbottom played together in the mixed doubles and claimed a 6-3 win over Lou Leidig and Georgia Burns.

Toby also won his singles 6-1 against Burns and his doubles partnership with Caitlin Baker 9-5 against Burns and Abby Mules.

Chandler and Brendon Smart played together in the men's doubles and ran away with a good win against Matt Menz and Shaun Mules 9-5.

Kingston's Katie Rasheed made her debut for the senior team and played some good tennis, which included 6-1 wins in both her mixed doubles and singles.

The match of the day was the number three men's clash between Steve Edwards and Brendon Smart.

There were some long 30-shot rallies played with Smart taking the win in the end 6-4.

Kingston won four of the six mixed doubles, with Brendon Smart the sole men's singles winner for the Wombats as the hosts proved too strong.

The women's singles also heavily favoured Kingston as it won four of the six, while Lucindale had the best of the women's doubles 4-6.

However, it was not enough to deny the home team the overall win.

## FRANCES/LUCINDALE EAGLES 24-164 d PENOLA 0-38

It was a tough day at the office for Penola, who hosted Frances/Lucindale for Round 11.

The home team did well to gather enough players to enable the fixture to go ahead, but that was where the success ended.

The visitors won all 24 sets, with Penola managing to win just eight games across the day.

## LUCINDALE COCKATOOS 12-132 lt ROBE REBELS 12-136

The meeting between Lucindale Cockatoos and Robe Rebels came down to just four games in the end in a thrilling Round 11 contest.

The mixed doubles and men's singles rewarded both teams with three sets each.

Jed Regnier and Mark Edwards had a good battle in the top men's rubber, with the latter coming away with the win 6-3.

Jeremy Brathwaite also had a convincing win at number six.

The women's singles saw Robe with four wins, which included close 7-5 wins to Kimberley Austin over Heather Pitt and Hayley Agnew against Katherine Legoe.

The women's doubles were next, with the Cockatoos levelling the set count once more with four wins.

Of the six matches, four were decided in a tiebreak or went to 10-8.

That tied the sets at 12 each, but with four extra games to Robe, the Rebels claimed the points.

## ROBE ROOSTERS 13-118 d BEACHPORT 11-108

Another close encounter for a Robe team unfolded when the Roosters hosted Beachport in perfect conditions.

Beachport strolled into Robe with a few handy ring ins, while the hosts also had some good fill ins on the day.

Hamish Stevenson had a late delivery from Santa on Friday and his new racket worked wonders.

He teamed up with Barbara Hensel to win the first set of the day 6-4.

Shae Morrish suffered a bad calf injury, while Lewis Ling did his thing in his singles to win 6-2.

Robe's Tracey Bainger had her first singles win in a tight tiebreaker over Alex Heim.

The match was close heading into the doubles where Beachport's top men Tom McLennan and Tim Loveday could do no wrong.

They recorded a convincing 9-0 win over Egan Regnier and Paul Rains.

Robe's Barbara Hensel and Alana



Penola's Jon Ey in action at McCorquindale Park on Saturday.

Pictures: TREVOR JACKSON



Sophie Lillecrapp makes a return at Penola in Saturday's Round 11 of Southern Ports tennis.

Domaschenz recovered from their singles losses and won 9-3.

At the conclusion of the day, Robe came away with a two-set win, with Stevenson, Lisa Hall and Bainger all three-set winners for the victors.

John Foster held up for Beachport to win all three of his matches.

## NARACOORTE 12-117 lt LUCINDALE KOALAS 12-124

Top teams Naracoorte and Lucindale Koalas had an even contest at the former's home courts.

At the end of the day sets were even, with the Koalas winning by a slim seven games after the result came down to the final set.

The day started with even sets in the mixed doubles, which set the tone for the rest of the afternoon.

Sam Baker and Alice Redding kicked off proceedings for Naracoorte with a 6-4 win over Jared Oliver and Bron Snajder.

Meanwhile, Legoe pair Jess and Henry returned fire when they defeated Norbert Wende and Alix Mosey, 6-1.

Will Malone and Michele Moyle-Read had a tough battle in their pairing, but managed the win in a tiebreak.

In the singles the Koalas made a strong start.

Wins to Sam Graetz, Henry Legoe, Ben Wood and Oliver had them sitting comfortably in the lead.

However, Naracoorte's women were not far behind with wins to Poppy and Michele Moyle-Read, Jen Malone, Mosey and Alice Redding.

At the end of the singles Naracoorte held the lead 10-8.

The game turned again when Lucindale won all of the men's doubles.

Naracoorte then found two more sets in the women's doubles, which brought the result down to the final match of the day.

The crowd watched with bated breath - and some commentary courtesy of Rohan Wilken - as the mother-daughter Moyle-Read duo took on Leanne Graetz and Casey Weaver on court six.

With plenty of long rallies, some excellent

slices and a lot of passion, the game played out for over 90 minutes.

However, at the end of the day the Koalas were too good to take the set 9-7, securing the overall honours and top spot on the ladder.

Graetz, Henry Legoe and Ben Wood from Koalas and Naracoorte's Redding were the three-set winners for the day.

Looking to Round 12 and Lucindale Koalas now sit one point ahead of Naracoorte and Frances/Lucindale on the top of the ladder.

This week the Koalas take on the Lucindale Wombats on grass in the match of the round.

Earlier in the season this match went down to the wire with the Wombats winning by eight games.

Naracoorte and Penola take on the Robe Rebels and Roosters respectively.

With a wedding taking out several Robe players, Naracoorte will hope to take the points and push for top spot.

In other matches, Beachport will host Kingston and the Lucindale Cockatoos will host Frances/Lucindale.

# Aussies stand tall at Kings

By Trevor Jackson

It was a popular win for James McFadden at the Borderline Speedway on Australia Day last week.

McFadden claimed the honours in the time-honoured Kings Challenge sprintcar event in front of a capacity crowd, one of the biggest to grace the venue in recent memory.

Some of the best drivers in the country showed up for the annual event, along with a sprinkle of Americans to add to the quality of the field.

Australian flags were prominent throughout the venue, with a parade lap including the Stars and Stripes, along with a tribute to the many volunteers who give their time to ensure racing goes ahead.

Once the action began it was clear the pace would be hot.

Limestone Coast driver Steven Lines was at the pointy end in the opening heat, with a second place to American Tyler Courtney and Glen Sutherland down in fourth place.

Down to heat three and Daniel Pestka pushed the Starks car to a win, with the Port MacDonnell sprintcar looking fast.

Jock Goodyer has been on the pace all season and he staked his claim in his first heat with a win over American Chase Randall.

McFadden showed his real pace in heat six, taking the win over American Sheldon Haudenschild and Jamie Veal.

Another popular driver in the Limestone Coast, Brooke Tatnell, drove to the win in the next heat, with Scott Enderl third in heat eight, as Lines and Sutherland battled through slower traffic down the order.

Two B Main races were required, with Cody Maroske and Marcus Dumesny heading to the A Main, after it was called early, when Enderl was involved in an incident which took time to clear.

Haudenschild claimed the second B Main, ahead of Grant Anderson.

McFadden started the A Main from pole and after a race of attrition, as several incidents throughout the A Main saw just half the field finish, greeted the chequered flag first.

It was an impressive effort to remain right at the pointy end, with the next four drivers being Goodyer, Veal, Brock Hallett and Lines.

Borderline Speedway president Cary Jennings said he was pleased with how the night unfolded, especially with the number of supporters who streamed through the gates.

"We think there was about 5000 people there, maybe 5500," he said.

"We closed our online tickets sales at 2pm on Australia Day and had over 3000 purchased up to then.

"That is not including media, staff, volunteers, corporate people.

"We are very pleased.

"It was probably the biggest crowd we have had for many years and might match the Australian Sprintcar Title."

Apart from that, Jennings said many more enjoyed the meeting via the livestream.

"I believe there was near 2000 people watching it on livestream, around Australia and overseas," he said.

"The comments that came back from America were unreal, with the Americans racing providing a real drawcard."

As is usually the case, Bill barrows and his crew provided an excellent racing surface.



James McFadden claimed the Kings Challenge at the Borderline Speedway on Thursday night.

Pictures: TREVOR JACKSON



There were thrills and spills at the Borderline Speedway on Australia Day.



Flags fly as the Borderline Speedway prepares to erupt for the Kings Challenge.

"The track was fantastic," Jennings said. "It is a credit to those guys who work the track regularly.

"They bring the track up to a good condition for every show."

Overall the rivalry between the Australians

and Americans was as strong as ever, with the local drivers ensuring the bragging rights stayed on Aussie soil with such a hot pace in the final.

"When you see drivers going around in the A Main with times of 11.43 seconds ... that is awful quick," Jennings said.

"Most of them were doing high 11s and low 12s.

"Later in the final the cushion was pushed up to the wall and they were just riding up to the wall, didn't back off.

"The people trackside really did see some good racing."

## Close games and strong wins in Saturday pennant play

### Lower South East Bowls Association, Saturday Open Pennants, Round 14 results

#### Division 1

- Penola 72/8 d Robe 71/4; Mount Gambier Red 74/11 d Mount Gambier RSL Red 60/1; Naracoorte 87/12 d Port MacDonnell 53/0; Millicent 95/10 d Mount Gambier RSL Blue 51/2; Mount Gambier Blue 80/12 d Kingston 55/0.
- Ladder: Mount Gambier RSL Red 132 points 134.05 per cent; Mount Gambier

Red 111 120.19; Naracoorte 101 107.77; Millicent 87 107.55; Robe 85 105.22; Port MacDonnell 84 96.97; Mount Gambier Blue 70 93.08; Mount Gambier RSL Blue 66 90.03; Penola 64 77.49; Kingston 40 80.22.

#### Division 2

- Millicent Red 65/8 d Robe 61/4; Naracoorte RSL 75/10 d Mount Gambier 57/2; Beachport 67/10 d Naracoorte 50/2; Kalangadoo 66/6 d/w Mount Gambier RSL 66/6; Millicent Blue 77/10 d Lucindale 62/2.

- Ladder: Naracoorte RSL 112 116.95; Millicent Red 106 109.85; Mount Gambier 97 108.54; Robe 96 116.09; Kalangadoo 93 98.12; Mount Gambier RSL 91 102.58; Naracoorte RSL 88 104.33; Beachport 72 96.27; Millicent Blue 71 95.15; Lucindale 14 63.91.

#### Division 3

- Millicent Blue 93/10 d Port MacDonnell Blue 61/2; Mount Gambier RSL Red 12/12 d Mount Gambier Blue 0/0 - Forfeit by

Mount Gambier; Beachport 86/8 d Penola 78/4; Port MacDonnell Red 69/8 d Mount Gambier RSL Blue 58/4; Mount Gambier Red 69/10 d Millicent Red 64/2.

- Ladder: Mount Gambier RSL Red 140 153.41; Port MacDonnell Red 108 125; Mount Gambier RSL Blue 107 106.57; Penola 97 105.67; Beachport 88 104.35; Mount Gambier Red 87 112.09; Millicent Blue 57 82.25; Port MacDonnell Blue 35 58.3; Mount Gambier Blue 24 63.09.

# Split venues for round 3

By James Murphy

The Limestone Coast Women's Football League enters its third round of 2023 this weekend, with all games to be played on Sunday.

Once again the fixture will be split over multiple venues, with two games in Naracoorte and two at Blue Lake Sports Park in Mount Gambier.

South Gambier will host Casterton Sandford for the opening match in the Blue Lake city.

It is set to provide another challenge for the Demons, who have had a tough time of the opening rounds.

The 2022 runners-up have been dealt a couple of heavy losses so far, as they adjust to a depleted roster.

The Cats on the other hand have shown they will be one to watch this year, with Round 1's win over reigning premier Kybybolite backed up by a 118-point triumph against Kalangadoo on the weekend.

The likes of Amelia Thomas and Libby Altorfer have been consistent among the best players, while last week's highlight was the diversity in front of goal.

The Victorians had four multiple goal scorers, while a total of nine players found the big sticks throughout the match.

Jarrah Altschwager and Sophie Wight are two Demons who have held their own the last two weeks, while Lana Shepherd comes off a best-on-ground performance.

However, it will take a whole-team effort to



Penola's Nell Eastough and team will look for a second consecutive win in Round 3 of Limestone Coast women's football.  
Picture: JAMES MURPHY

silence the confident Cats.

That game will be followed by a meeting between Kalangadoo and Kongorong.

The Magpies have unfortunately picked up where they left off last season and have suffered two substantial losses.

Kongorong opened its season with a win

over Millicent where Nikki Clayton and Zara Dirk led the charge.

The Hawks will be fresh off the bye, while the Magpies will be eager to rectify its opening performances, with a combined deficit of 265 points across two games.

Regardless, Kongorong will be favoured for victory.

The opening game at Naracoorte will be played between Penola and Mundulla.

The Eagles had a big win over South last week but will face a tougher task this round.

They will look to the expertise of captain Caroline McGrath and she will aim to lead by example again, while Nell Eastough and Riley Mitchell also come off impressive games.

Mundulla has had a strong start to the season and this game is looking to be the match of the round.

Another intriguing game will unfold between Kybybolite and North Gambier, also at Naracoorte.

The battle of the Tigers could go either way, but North enters the clash confidently with two convincing wins.

Kyby had an arm wrestle with Mundulla last week for a draw, but the reigning premiers will be hungry for their first win of the season.

Dellie Brown, Jedah Huf and Zara East carry form into the game, while for North the likes of Emmason Ilsley, Alice Tentye and Luca Roulstone have been the pick of the bunch early in the competition.

In all it should be an interesting round, with further light to be shed on the teams to beat in 2023.

## ROUND 3 FIXTURE - Sunday, February 5

■ Blue Lake Sports Park: South v Casterton Sandford, 11.00am; Kalangadoo v Kongorong, 12.35pm.

■ Naracoorte Sporting Complex: Penola v Mundulla, 11am; Kybybolite v North Gambier, 12.35pm.



Runners-up: Ian Williams, Ron Garton, Graham East and Jeff East.



Third place: Brian Goode, David Crase, John Drew and Denis Clifford.

## Strong numbers for Herb Henderson memorial event

Australia Day marked the annual Herb Henderson Memorial Men's Fours competition at the Millicent Bowls Club, with 30 teams and 120 players attending from as far away as Nhill.

The competition was played over three games, with one of 15 ends before sitting down to a catered lunch and the two games of 12 ends.

There were five teams winning all three games.

In first place was a Port MacDonnell team of Adam Wilson, Glenn Wright, Tim Wrightson and Keith Dowdell with 84.5 points.

Runner-up came from Naracoorte – Ian Williams, Ron Garton, Graham East and Jeff East – with 83.5+18 shots.

The Millicent team of John Drew, David Crase, Denis Clifford and Brian Goode finished with 83.5 points and nine shots up for third place, while in fourth place was a team from Nhill with one Millicent member, Trevor Merrett, Rod Cook, Mal Merrett and Frank Cooper from Millicent.



Fourth place: Rob Cook, Mal Merrett, Trevor Merrett and Frank Cooper.



Winners: Adam Wilson, Glenn Wright, Tim Wrightson and Keith Dowdell.

Pictures: SUBMITTED

# Cricketers back on the park

By Trevor Jackson

The Millicent and Naracoorte Cricket Association returns to action this weekend, with four games spread across the region.

## KINGSTON V MILLICENT

Millicent will make the hour-long drive up the highway to take on Kingston in what will be a tough day for the home side.

Millicent sits on top of the ladder, just ahead of Footballers, while Kingston is down in fifth place.

However, Kingston's losses this season have been close and in the last game against Robe, they managed the win after chasing just 110 for victory.

In the end they reached a total of 124 for the loss of just four wickets, with Jack Tapfield falling just short of a half-century.

Millicent has had mixed results, but last time out they managed a comfortable victory over Lucindale, after being sent into bat and finishing the 40 overs at 9/179.

They knocked Lucindale over for 145 in the 37th over on the back of a four-wicket haul to Jacob Todd.

The trip should be fruitful for Millicent.

## WARRIORS V RENDELSHAM

The Naracoorte Warriors host Rendelsham at Wortley Oval and with the finals fast ap-



Millicent will look for another victory when it travels to Kingston in Round 12 of the Millicent and Naracoorte season. Picture: FILE

proaching, both sides will be eager for the win in the one-day fixture.

Rendelsham sits in fourth position on the ladder, with the Warriors down in sixth, both with the same amount of wins, but the Warriors with an extra loss.

Last time the two sides were to face off the round was abandoned, so no head-to-head form is available.

The Warriors lost their last clash against

Townies on the penultimate ball, where, with the scores tied up, Charlie Legoe hit a boundary to secure the victory.

Prior to that, the Round 8 clash against Lucindale saw the Warriors in good touch with the bat, banging on 227 runs for the loss of just three wickets.

That was built around half-centuries to Aaron Hames (62) and Josh Smith (63).

With the ball in hand, Loren Bald finished with impressive figures of 4/19.

After the competition-wide bye last round, Rendelsham also had a bye for Round 10.

Prior to that they went down to Footballers in the final four overs.

In Round 7 they defeated Millicent after holding them to 190 runs, just short of the 196 for victory.

It will certainly be an intriguing clash for the return to play.

## MOUNT BURR V TOWNIES

The second-to-bottom Mount Burr has the unenviable task of hosting the third-placed Townies an what will be a tough day.

Mount Burr is yet to record a victory this season and the Townies would like their chances to add another scalp to the list.

Last time out on Kallan Bevan fired at the top of the order, and had little support further down.

Mark Wright was the best with the ball, with figures of 6/33.

Townies come off a win over Warriors on the back of a half-century to Brendon Smart and a well-constructed 37 to Sam Hentschke down the order.

## FOOTBALLERS FURNER BEACHPORT V LUCINDALE

In the final game, the second-placed Footballers host the bottom side Lucindale

Footballers have been in good touch and overcame a 201-run target for victory in the 37th over against Rendelsham last time out.

They also lost just three wickets along the way, with Jase Bateman putting together a classy century to lay the foundations.

Harry Rana was impressive with the ball, with figures of 5/62.

Lucindale has had an up-and-down season but has pieced together a couple of good wins.

With the ladder not really reflecting the state of play, it is fair to say they are a better side than the cellar would suggest.

They did lose to the Warriors last time out, but a couple of starts at the top of the order were complemented by the same through the middle, with Michael McGurk crafting a nice half-century – 55 off just 44 balls.

It could be a case of anyone's game and the result is certainly up in the air.

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## Popular event attracts scores of bowlers

It was a big day on the Millicent Bowls Club greens with the annual Mac-Ford/KCA day attracting 40 players.

The competition was played over three games of 12 ends, with the team of Derek Bowering, Bob Baxter, Peter Dunnichiff and Eddie Hann claiming the honours with 83 points.

Aaron Emonson, Sarah Ross, Glen Tilley and Steve Carnellor finished runners-up with a score of 82.5 points, while Peter Scanlon, Peter Varcoe, Peter Bateman and John Eldridge finished third with 71.5.

Fourth place with a score of 63.5 went to Neil Whelan, Peter Hyland, Ian Ross and Faye Hill.

Also getting a prize for the day were the first, second and third game best winners.

First game winners went to John Scudds, Lyn Scudds, Iain Campbell and Mary Campbell. Second game winners went to Malcolm Wright, Arthur O'Connell, Dirk Pietersma and Rob Chambers.

Best third game winner went to David Reichelt, Frank Cooper, Garth Baker and Arnold Damhuis.



Winners: MacFord representative Dez Pietersma, with winners Eddie Hann, Peter Dunnichiff, Bob Baxter and Derek Bowering. Pictures: SUBMITTED



Runners-Up: Glen Tilley, MacFord representative Dez Pietersma, Aaron Emonson, Sarah Ross and Steve Carnellor.



Fourth: Ian Ross, MacFord representative Dez Pietersma, Neil Whelan and Faye Hill.

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Adam Todd, Matt Roscow and Adam Richards talked all things Mental Health Match ahead of next month's charity football game. Picture: JAMES MURPHY



Former Penola and South Gambier premierships player Simon Berkefeld will step out of retirement for the Switch the headspace Match for Mental Health.

# More than just a game

By James Murphy

The light will burn bright for mental health this month when a charity football match takes place at McDonald Park.

The Switch the headspace Match for Mental Health will bring a high-profile list of players together in a charity match for a worthy cause.

The game is set down for February 17 under lights at East Gambier's home ground and despite humble beginnings, is shaping up to be one of the Limestone Coast sporting events of the year.

What started as an idea between a few mates sparked the creation of an eight-strong committee and from there the momentum grew.

Among those on the committee are Adam Richards, Adam Todd and Matt Roscow, who shed some light on the event last week.

They are joined by Jesse Plunkett, Luke Thomson, Celeste and Shane Raymond and Aaron Davis as the driving forces behind the scenes.

Everything appears to be in order for the day, with all systems go since returning from the Christmas break.

"I think the general outline of everything that has been planned is in place, it is probably just the finer details that we have to go into now," Todd said.

"It is just about making sure everything runs smoothly on the day and everyone knows what they are doing."

With only the last few players left to lock in, the match already boasts some impressive names.

Among those are ex-AFL players Dane Swan, Jordan and Brodie Murdoch, Shane Mumford and Leon Davis.

"Luke and Azza (Davis) had the connection of Ricky Nixon who used to be Shane Mumford and Dane Swan's agent," Richards said.

"He got in contact with them and they

seemed pretty keen.

"Then Leon Davis was the coach of Heywood I believe and Luke knew someone from there who got in contact with him.

"The Murdoch boys are from the Bay and Roscow got in contact with them.

"They are all our pretty big names."

There are no shortage of local legends either, with former Penola greats Simon Berkefeld and Adam "Hoggett" Merrett, along with North Gambier premierships coach Winis Imbi and father-son trio Tim, James and Jordan Brennan.

North Gambier star and Headspace employee Nick McInerney adds to the deep pool of talent, as do South Gambier icon Brett O'Neill and West Gambier coach Daron "Roo" McElroy.

Playing coaches for the two teams will be Roscow and Thomson, while there will also be plenty of entertainment value in the less experienced names on the list.

Those include the likes of local fishing icon Jamie "Coatsy" Coates and independent Mount Gambier MP Troy Bell.

"No one local hesitated, they were straight onto it as soon as they were asked," Todd said.

"We had a lot of people put their hands up keen to play, but I think the ones we have selected are good for the cause and will bring a crowd."

Dan Christian, Don Pratt, Jason Dawe, Jason Dunn, Isaac Raymond, Ben Mules, James and Ben McGregor, Jon Copping, Zack Williams, Laughlin Brooker and Davis himself round out the players announced so far.

When asked if they expected the match to grow into such a prominent event on the calendar, the organisers said they had already been blown away.

"I definitely (didn't expect it to be) this big," Todd said.

"I thought maybe it would get a fair bit of attention within all our mutual friends, but it

is probably close to say it is the talk of the town now."

"Especially coming from where it started," Richards added.

"It started off as just a few mates having a kick and seeing if we can get a few people out to watch.

"Me and Toddy and Jesse (Plunkett) probably started it, then we got Roscow and Luke involved and Celeste and Tazzy (Shane).

"Once we got everyone involved everyone's ideas expanded it and it just got bigger and bigger."

The cause hits close to home for those on the committee and likewise the South East community.

"With the situation in the Mount at the moment with suicide and stuff like that, I think it hits pretty close to most people," Richards said.

"Most of Mount Gambier probably knows someone who has been effected by it, or a family member or relation who has been effected by it.

"It is a pretty important cause for the area."

The response to the event has been widespread, with people from as far as Port Lincoln and Melbourne travelling to attend.

As its magnitude continues to grow, the scope of how big the day is going to be has started to dawn on those involved.

"Reality is starting to set in that this might be even bigger than Western Border grand final," Roscow said.

"They say they get 6000 people here for a Western Border grand final and as nervous as it sounds, I think it will probably eclipse that.

"As daunting as it is, it is also a sign we are on the right track."

The match has always been about more than football, with the priority on raising awareness and encouraging the mantra of "it ain't weak to speak".

"It has become more than just a footy game

now," Richards said.

"People who aren't even interested in footy are coming down for the cause.

"It will hopefully be a bit more of a family day, rather than just a footy game."

Some bands have been secured for entertainment, while an auction will be held following the match, which will include guernseys and some donated items of value.

All the local mental health services will also have stalls set up to provide information.

"The thing that I find is everyone reiterates is it is such a good cause," Roscow said.

"We might not directly have people come to talk to us about their mental health, but I think the constant reminder for me is that people are aware of what it is about.

"It is never referred to as just the footy, it is definitely always referred to as the Mental Health Match.

"I think a lot of people are talking about it in that sense and the awareness of the why we are doing it is a big one."

The community support has already been substantial, with no shortage of sponsors jumping on board.

"I think it really reiterates how good of a community we live in," Roscow said.

"Even though it is a pretty big town, everyone knows everyone and when something gets going a lot of people get involved.

"People are quick to put their hand in their pocket or give what they can."

All the funds raised will stay in the region to help support those within the local community.

"All of those proceeds will go to Headspace Mount Gambier," Richards said.

"We made sure it all stayed in the Mount."

Gate entry on the day will be a \$10 donation, while a gold coin donation will cover those Under 16, with gates open from 4.30pm and the match to start at 6pm.



# Last-minute finals berth

By James Murphy

It came down to the last quarter of the minor rounds, but Millicent Magic's men have booked themselves a South West Country Basketball League finals appearance.

The Magic travelled to play Surfcoast Coasters in Torquay on Saturday and after a three-quarter arm wrestle, broke away in the fourth term for an eight-point win.

The outcome slipped Millicent into fourth place, knocking Portland out of contention and booking a meeting with minor premier Ararat next weekend.

Despite sitting bottom of the ladder, Surfcoast put up a fight and led until early in the fourth quarter.

"It was a tough contest," Millicent coach Darren Dean said.

"They were a little disorganised so they had guys turning up probably 10 minutes before the game.

"We weren't really sure who we were going to be playing, so it was a bit of a disruptive start."

He said the Coasters started strongly and at quarter time scores were locked at 23 apiece.

Jackson Bowden was pivotal under the basket during that time and started his way towards a 20-point game.

The hosts managed to keep their momentum in the second term and another well-contested quarter saw Surfcoast lead by three at the main break.

Millicent then won the third by one point, before a surge in the fourth turned the tables.

"Defensively we were probably off our game, while offensively we were working pretty well together," Dean said.

"It was really about focussing on getting good shots up, rather than just any shot and tightening the defence up.

"We were able to get a few turnovers in the first two or three minutes which got us back in front and then we were able to control it from there.

"We restricted their scoring in the first five



Harry Mules made a welcome return to the court for Millicent Magic on the weekend. Picture: FILE

minutes and that was probably the game."

The Magic outscored their opponent 28-18 for the quarter and finished up 90-82 point victors.

Kade Bradley and Jack Haggett were the

top scorers with 26 and 25 points respectively, while Bowden was equally strong especially early on.

"Jackson (Bowden) started really well and I think he was probably the one who kept us in

the game in the first quarter," Dean said.

"Then when they quietened him down a little bit, Kade stepped up.

"Jack was battling a guy who was probably 120kg and six-foot-four, but he did a really good job and used his smarts inside and out against him and got us some good crucial balls."

The return of Harry Mules from surgery was a welcomed one and he had his moments as the confidence returned.

"Aidan Schultz was really good with his leadership and got us crucial points when we needed them," Dean said.

"Then Jackson Dean defensively was able to get his body in the way and took a couple of charges and Declan Hurley came on the court and gave us some spark.

"I was really happy with the seven of them who got over there and did the job."

This weekend the Magic travel to the Ararat Fitness and Leisure Centre for a semi-final meeting with the Redbacks.

Dean has faith in his team and was hopeful for a near full-strength roster.

"If we can get a full team together we will go over there with confidence," Dean said.

"We beat them at home in the first round and went over there light-on last weekend (and put up a fight)."

The Redbacks boast some talent, with the like of Zac Dunmore and Fiegert brothers Ethan and Joshua focal points.

"If we can detain those three, or keep them to a reasonable score - they are always going to score - and back our guys in at the other end, I think we will go in confident," Dean said.

"We are hoping to get the likes of Josh Murphy, Clint Gallio, Frazer Bradley, Finn Grimes and Austin Fuller back in.

"We are hoping everyone will put their hand up and be available this week.

"We are confident if we have a full group that we can go and match it against Ararat and most teams which are left."

## Stylish: Magic takes comfortable win on road to finals

By James Murphy

Millicent's Magic women wrapped up the final round of the South West Country Basketball League season in style.

The ladder leaders made the long trip to Torquay to face the Surfcoast Chargers on Saturday night and returned home in the early hours of Sunday morning with a thumping 61-point victory.

The scene was set early in the piece and the Magic opened the match with a 23-12 point quarter.

Despite the early buffer, Millicent coach Damien Venn felt it was not until the second term the

"We were getting really good looks, but shots just weren't going," he said.

"I knew the shots were going to come eventually and they did.

"The second quarter started to get better and in the third quarter the game really opened up I thought."

Entering the third term the Magic held a 25-point lead, which was extended to 43 by the final change off the back of a 33-point haul from the visitors.

A 31-point quarter followed as Millicent refused to back off the gas and come the final buzzer the scoreboard read 109-48.

Emily Winter led from the front again and her 31 points was the best return for the game.

Georgia Winter (25 points) and Jasmin Howe (24) were also prolific scorers, while Poppy Venn (16) and Tayla Rowe (11) also made double figures.

In fact, Eadie Easterby was the only Magic player not to break into double figures, but she played a key defensive role at the other end of the court.

Millicent coach Damien Venn was pleased with the output from his whole team,

"We got to work on a few things and got a bit of a hit out before next week," he said.

"We tried not to go through the motions, but it was kind of hard in a game like that.

"We just wanted to keep the tempo up and push the ball as much as we could."

Looking to this weekend's semi-final bout with Portland, there will be a keen focus on the defensive structures after a few "sloppy" plays on Saturday.

The final will be played at the Icehouse in Mount Gambier due to the scheduling of the Portland junior basketball tournament and will precede the Lakers women's and men's games in a triple-header treat for local basketball fans.

"There is rep basketball in Portland, so we thought there is no point having it in Millicent because there would be no one there," Venn said.

"We tried really hard to get the game in Portland.

"We would rather play it in front of a big crowd than no one."

However, the final game on Court 1 is scheduled for 7pm which proved a risk if the tournament was to run late and push back the CBL start time.

"So we made the decision to move it to the Mount and there will be a triple-header in Mount Gambier," Venn said.

Millicent won both minor-round encounters with the Coasters by comfortable margins, but they will enter the clash with confidence.

"We won't be taking that one for granted - Portland has been going alright," Venn said.

"We have beaten Portland both times, but there is a girl called Tanielle Knight, she is an NBL1 player and she didn't play against us."

Knight recently top-scored in Portland's Round 15 win over second-placed Mount Gambier and could be key to the end result.

However, Millicent will boast a full roster for the first time since early in the season.

"We qualified nine players and those nine players will be there," Venn said.

"This will be the first time we will have a full list since about Round 5."

The match is set to tip off at 4pm, followed by the Lakers v Warrnambool women at 6pm and the Lakers v Horsham men at 8pm.



Millicent's Eadie Easterby played a defensive role in the Magic's big win over Surfcoast on Saturday. Picture: FILE