

# The Waterline News

ISSN 2208330 (Online)

[www.waterlinenews.com.au](http://www.waterlinenews.com.au)



Volume 7 #3

March 2021

Digital

# LOOK

01 FEBRUARY 2, 1960

The right stuff - page 13

SHOULD  
A GIRL BE  
FIRST  
IN SPACE?





## From THE DESK

I often feel short changed by February.

December and January are usually filled with sunshine and many days to celebrate. December and January both have 31 days so those months are long and you get used to having plenty of days still ahead when you reach the 25th or 26th.

And then along comes February.

Which ends on the 28th. Those three extra days would sure come in handy. *And* that's the end of summer.

Autumn is great in Bass Coast and South Gippsland but as the days grow shorter we know those winds and the rains will soon be upon us.

On a positive note, the vaccine rollout has commenced. We still have to be cautious and wear those masks when there is a need to.

## THE WATERLINE NEWS

Publisher - Waterline Publishing

Editor - Geoff Ellis Copy Editor - Anne Heath Mennell

Email: [waterlinepublishing@gmail.com](mailto:waterlinepublishing@gmail.com)

Website: [www.waterlinenews.com.au](http://www.waterlinenews.com.au)

ABN 97 336 380 867

ISSN 2208-9330 (Online) ISSN 2208-9322 (Digital)

This month our cover story focuses on the career of Betty Skelton, an American woman who succeeded in areas that were then considered the preserve of men.

Coral Smith tells the most amazing story about being trapped in a world of Trump. She provides intriguing and entertaining insight into a very strange planet.

Updates from Bass Valley Community Group and Corinella and District Community Centre show that our communities are emerging from the pandemic and looking forward to some certainty about events or celebrations.

We have many more great pieces, including one from Ali Wastie, Bass Coast Shire CEO, and another by Bronwyn Pratt, one of our brilliant artists.

So, now it's over to our great contributors... Salutations!

Advertising Rates for our digital edition: Full Page \$180; Half page \$100

Quarter page \$60 Enquiries: 0403917746

All previous editions of the Waterline News are available at <https://www.waterlinenews.com.au/>



**DG Nurse Practitioner  
Grantville Transaction  
Centre  
(Cnr Bass Hwy & Pier Rd)  
(03) 5616 2222  
0467 841 782**

Due to the changeable nature of COVID19 restrictions, the Waterline News suggests that readers should check these websites for the latest updates and advice about the pandemic:

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/case-locations-and-outbreaks>

<https://www.covidbasscoasthealth.org.au/covid-19updates>

<https://m.facebook.com/BassCoastShire/>

Information about local events – 1300 366 422 – Bass Coast Shire

### Some important contact details:

**Wonthaggi Hospital.** 235 Graham Street Wonthaggi VIC 3995  
t: 03 5671 3333

**Cowes:** Phillip Island Health Hub 50 - 54 Church Street Cowes VIC  
t: 03 5951 2100

**Cowes: Urgent Care Centre (UCC)** @Phillip Island Health Hub  
Open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week 50 - 54 Church Street

*The Waterline News is produced on the lands of the Bunurong, Boon-wurrung, members of the Kulin Nation who have lived here for thousands of years. We offer our respect to Elders, past, present and emerging and through them, all First Nations People.*



**Deadline:  
April Digital Edition  
March 22**





**March 1 1904**

American band leader Glenn Miller (1904-1944) was born in Carilinda, Iowa.

**March 2 1943** The Battle of Bismarck Sea began.



**March 1, 1919.**— The Potts cartoon strip is published for the first time.



**March 8, 1828** - Australia's first postage stamps issued.



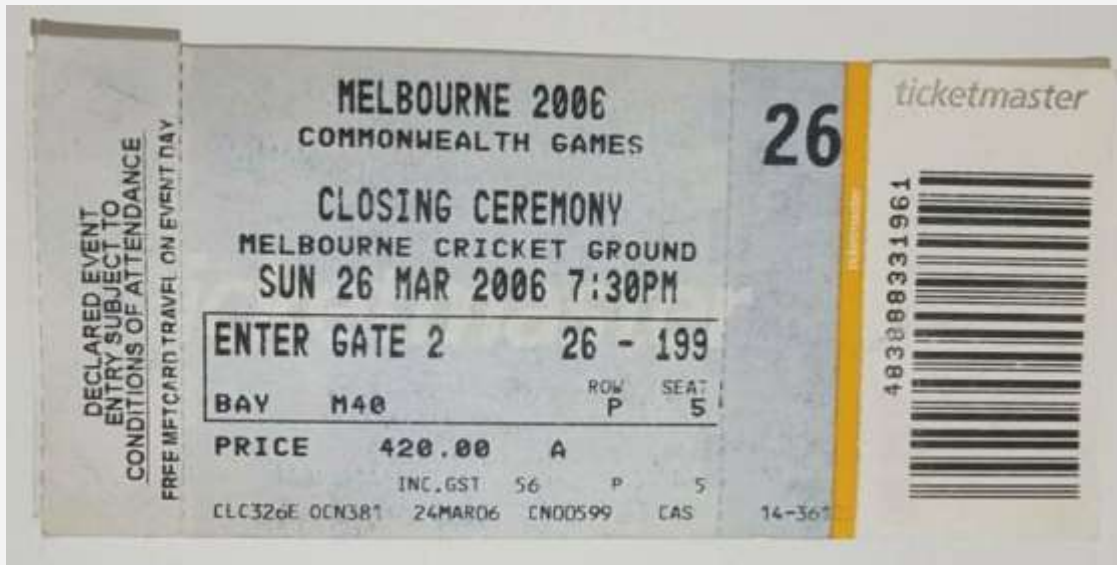
**March 3, 1847.**

Telephone inventor Alexander Graham Bell was born in Edinburgh, Scotland. Bell and his father were involved in teaching deaf people.



**March 19, 2003** - The United States launched an attack against Iraq to topple dictator Saddam Hussein.

**March 26, 2006** The 2006 Commonwealth Games held in Melbourne close, Australia wins 84 gold, 69 silver and 68 bronze medals, the most of any competing nation.



**March 26, 1909**  
**Actor** Chips Rafferty born.



**March 28, 1837**

The Hoddle Grid of streets is surveyed by Robert Hoddle



**March 28, 1979**

The Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident. Uranium in the reactor core overheated due to the failure of a cooling valve.



**March 30, 1981** - Newly elected President Ronald Reagan was shot in the chest. "I should have ducked," Reagan later joked.



## TRUMPED IN AMERICA

By Coral Smith

**Part one.** It started as a holiday ...

Raelene, my daughter, lives in the USA with her American husband, Dan. They have a seventeen-year-old son named Thomas. Raelene came to Australia for my 80th birthday in March 2020 and then I travelled back with her for four weeks holiday.

At that time COVID-19 was only overseas and there were no warnings not to travel to America. I was amazed when we arrived at Tullamarine airport and there was no security check, nothing was said about Corona Virus, as if it wasn't happening.

After arriving in Los Angeles, the passage through customs was the quickest I have ever done, and I've been going there many years. I didn't even get the usual thumbprint done or eye check.

We got home to Raelene's on Friday and for two days there wasn't a problem. We went out for lunch or dinner both days. On Sunday we had a delicious lunch at a new place and we said we will be back... famous last words.

That Monday my grandson, Tom, went to school but then the schools closed. Dan went to work but he was home by 11 am. For a couple of days, I was able to get out and talk to people, then life as we knew it ended.

It was supposed to be a four-week holiday, but I didn't make it back home for nine months. In lockdown we stuck strictly to the rules and regulations and didn't go out at all. During that time I think I went out six times to get scripts for my medication. The doctor I saw gave me a lot of his own samples because the cost of my puffer was \$145 American. When he gave me the freebies, he said "I'm retiring in September there's nothing they can do to me".

We had groceries delivered to the house, but my daughter wouldn't let me pick them up when we did our cooking. It was hard. One day I said can we go out for a drive around the block; I just needed to get some fresh air.

Dan worked from home for six weeks and Tom was homeschooled. To break the monotony, we had happy hour three times a day in our pajamas, I didn't have a bra on for six weeks!

Raelene has lived in America for 20 years and has friends that I've known over the years, lovely people but they were all Trumpers.



They kept ringing saying, "we're having a barbeque bring mum around". I didn't want to go because Trump had convinced them that there was no danger. I

never saw a mask on anyone's face, no social distancing, and people were saying it's only the flu. Trump had claimed that by March it'll be over. He promised that the warm weather would come and it'll be gone. And they absolutely believed him.

Being 80 years of age and having a chest problem it was too risky for me to mix with these people. One day ten people came and sat on the chairs on the front lawn. I was sitting apart on the front porch like a queen. My daughter said if they brought food I was not to eat it. I couldn't say to them that it was more than just the flu and all around the world people are starting to die. They weren't listening.

A few people we knew had symptoms of Covid, neighbours and friends, and the local hairdresser, but at that stage only one elderly man in the town had died.

On June 2nd we went up to a cabin in the woods by a river. There were deer and we had to be careful of the bears. It was lovely to get away and enjoy nature. No phones and we were outside most of the time. When it got colder, I had to buy clothes online as I had only brought summer clothes for my 'short' stay.

Thanksgiving, the biggest holiday on the American calendar, saw crowds and celebrations and then the numbers started going up. But people didn't start listening until the night the news reported three thousand deaths a day and mass burials in the park in New York.



times "we are Americans, we can do as we like, and nobody tells us what to do.

With Christmas and New Year people were traveling to be with family. The cold weather helped spread the virus, but they still were not saying "pandemic". I heard so many



Trump's speeches were televised every night at five o'clock and the chief medical officer would roll his eyes in disbelief behind him. One night my son in law Dan said he couldn't watch the news anymore because he was embarrassed to be an American.

When I had been there for three weeks, I got an email from Qantas saying my flight's been canceled. The government was saying if people are somewhere safe they should stay where they are. My sons in Australia said it was safer to stay in America as Melbourne was starting to get bad.

Most airlines had canceled all flights. I may have been able to get a flight from the East Coast, but all the planes stopped in LA. That's where people with tickets were getting bumped from flights and the airport was full of travelers sleeping on floors.

I was told if I upgraded to first class I would get a flight. But Australia had a cap on the number of people entering, so whether I was first class or economy I was still one person. It was a scam and a lot of people paid twelve thousand dollars to upgrade. I was told later that some planes flew with crowded first-class sections while economy class only had one or two people.

I got a flight with Delta airlines, but that was cancelled too. We got on to Qatar airlines because they flew from New York to Australia and if the flight was canceled then Raelene could take me back to her home.

We booked a seat for sixteen hundred dollars, double the usual cost but better than twelve thousand!

I printed out my ticket but when I rang to check that everything was still on track to get home I was told that I was on standby, but if I wanted to upgrade they could guarantee me a seat!

Continued page 5



## TRUMPED IN AMERICA

Continued from page 4

Twenty-four hours before going to the airport I applied online for my boarding pass. To my dismay, an email advised that no boarding pass would be issued for this ticket so I automatically thought I would have trouble.

We took a chance and went to the airport anyway. By this time I was prepared to pay the money no matter what it cost.

When we got there my daughter told me to let her do the talking and proceeded to tell the attendant that her "mother was elderly and frail and not used to traveling alone". I was waiting for her to say my ticket was no good, but she handed me the boarding pass without any problems and even insisted on getting a wheelchair for me!

Getting on the plane I did have a little cry to myself, I thought well I'm starting again, I'm going home.

My son in law Dan wanted me to stay for Christmas but I thought it's time to go home.

I was missing everybody, my friends, my other family here and my little dog Monty. Plus I didn't want to be there in the snow. And I wanted to be out of America before the election as trouble was expected if Trump didn't win.



Raelene stayed at the airport until my plane took off just to make sure I was safely on my way. There were a lot of sheiks onboard and women in their robes who all smiled and said hello.

It was a big new plane with only 80 people on board and I had Section 6 all to myself, bulkhead to bulkhead with all other seats empty.

I had no one to talk to and admit I was nervous about what I would face when I got to Australia.

Onboard the plane it was compulsory to wear face shields, and on a twenty-seven-hour flight it got a bit tiring. Once I pulled the shield up to get some air but was told sternly by the flight attendant to pull it back down. Imagine how relieved I was when landing in Sydney and a policeman said "You can throw that away love, you don't need it here" as he threw it in the rubbish bin.

When we landed in Sydney I looked out the window and there were all these Qantas planes lined up on the grass like a car park and I thought "Oh my God, when would you ever have seen this!" I was finally back in Australia, but I wasn't home yet. With hotel quarantine it was fourteen days before I could breathe fresh air again. But that's another story! To be continued ...



### ArtSpace Gallery

1 Bent St Wonthaggi

Ph 5672 5767

email: [artspacearts@gmail.com](mailto:artspacearts@gmail.com)

[www.artspacewonthaggi.com.au](http://www.artspacewonthaggi.com.au)

**Open 10am – 4pm everyday**

*COVID rules apply*



### **COASTAL** an exhibition by Susan Hall

Balanced between the tranquil and tempestuous moods of an ever changing coastline, the visual responses by local artist Susan Hall, reflect the adaptability of natural chromatic incidences, a symphony of shapes and a timeless blend of textures. With such a diverse range of delightful art works, there is no doubt any viewer will be transfixed by Susan's 'COASTAL' exhibition.

**The Bass Valley Community Centre continues to be operational despite the on-again-off-again lurches as the pandemic's ebbs and flows.**

The Community Bus (pickup from home and a drive to shopping in Wonthaggi) has been back in operation for some time now. Although bus patronage is down, this has facilitated the social distancing requirements.

For the first time since the onset of the pandemic, the Computer Club is back; Tuesdays from 1:00 to 3:00. Any question regarding Information Technology, ie software/hardware, phones, computers, routers, modems, programs, apps, printers, wifi, NBN, ADSL and many amalgams of alphabet soups will be picked apart and explained by tutor, Gordon Chase. We are also operating our Genealogy Cub on Friday afternoons with Jayne.



Scope is back using the Bass Hall every week as is the Spark dance studio.

The Hall has benefited from a new coat of paint thanks to the Bass Coast Council auspiced Victorian Government's Working for Victoria program. Access to the hall has also been improved by an application of non-slip paint to the access ramp and the associated railings have all been repainted.

The Hadden House Op Shop has also received a coat of paint and significant repair to what was a rapidly deteriorating set of weather boards on the front of the shop.

The commemorative gates, dedicated at the centennial celebrations back in 1966, have also been repaired. And a lot more. Thanks Will and Carl for the great work.

All in all, the return to normal is definitely a new normal with the ongoing use of face masks the most obvious evidence of it. However it looks like the life of the community is picking up again and we can all be optimistic as we move further into 2021.



**ArtSpace Gallery**

1 Bent St Wonthaggi

Ph 5672 5767

email: [artspacearts@gmail.com](mailto:artspacearts@gmail.com)

[www.artspacewonthaggi.com.au](http://www.artspacewonthaggi.com.au)

**Open 10am – 4pm everyday**

*COVID rules apply*



***mélange* An exhibition by Ken Griffiths**

A shift in tectonic plates of colour, form, and texture through threads of time shape Ken Griffith's current exhibition titled *mélange*. While harnessing his passion and energy, this wonderful medley of artworks defies order, begs curiosity and questions logic, so typical of Ken's creative responses to his internal and external world.





## CDCC REVAMPED

The centre is fresh, it's clean and it's open while complying with up to date Covid-19 regulations.

The walls and ceilings in various community spaces have been painted. We have upgraded from the old chairs to brand new, nicely padded ones and have also improved our technology with the addition of a Smart TV.

The Crafties Group, Art Group and Exercise Groups are enjoying reconnecting with old friends and making new ones. We have Book Club again with many rediscovering the joy of the printed page and there is also our weekly community lunch.

There are public computers and office volunteers to help with your printing needs.

Rooms are opening up to groups for community use, and spaces are available for those working from home who may just need somewhere to hold an occasional meeting.

A large drop down screen connects to a laptop and is perfect for presentations.



For details or to enquire about hiring a space contact CDCC on 5678 0777.

No AGL Gas,  
Website: [savewesternport.org](http://savewesternport.org)  
Facebook, Instagram  
Julia: 5983 0094





## The KernART Prize 2021 goes online.

Artists are once again invited to enter the KernART Prize with a total prize pool of over \$2000 available for the winning entries.

Due to restrictions brought about by Covid19, the art show is going online and inviting artists to enter through their website [www.kernartprize.com](http://www.kernartprize.com) which has had a revamp by Design Hound. The collaboration with Gallery 247, a professional virtual exhibition platform, will give artists exposure to a wider audience and extended time for their work to be visible Australia-wide (and beyond!) and available for sale. And buyers from across the country will be able to purchase art online from the comfort of their homes.

Organisers are expecting an amazing array of art to be submitted from a high standard of experienced and respected artists vying for the three top prizes. There is also a section for children's art which has produced some budding artists over the years and a people's choice award.

Open to artists of all abilities, this exciting online art show offers a platform for artists who's opportunities to exhibit and sell their work have been limited by the closure of galleries and art exhibitions due to Covid 19 restrictions. Artists can submit photographs of their work for selection and judging. Good quality photos are required, and unframed works will be accepted.

With a clear goal of promoting mental health and wellbeing through our local communities and beyond, the KernART prize seeks to facilitate community connection, people's connection to art and creativity, and of course KernART profits go to local families in need.

KernART is working with Bass Coast Health to raise funds for the families impacted by mental illness The profits raised by the art show will enable BCRH to provide children with what they need to live a fulfilling life, connected to their peer groups and interests whether it is through sporting activities, arts and crafts or music.

KernART Online 2021 entries open 1st April, the show opens 23 April and closes 30th April. Entries can be made online at our website [www.kernartprize.com](http://www.kernartprize.com) and all mediums and styles are encouraged.



***‘It’s wrong to think that everyone has equal opportunity.***

***To make such a statement is naïve at best and insulting at worst. It is just not true.’ -***

***Ali Wastie, CEO of Bass Coast Shire Council.***

In the run up to International Women's Day, 2021, Ali Wastie speaks to the Waterline News about barriers, privilege and progress.

In the glass house of local government, roughly three quarters of CEOs are male. When Ali became CEO of Bass Coast she had to answer cliché questions about work life balance including how she would manage with two young boys (11 and 13 at the time of her appointment).

When a female CEO was appointed in South Gippsland the rhetoric escalated into headlines questioning whether that appointment was all about gender over merit. The implication was that females are potentially only being recruited to these positions because of the need to meet perceived gender quotas.

When Baw Baw Council appointed a male CEO some months later there were no editorial aspersions. Ali's take on this is ‘Clearly the papers deemed it ‘not newsworthy’ even though it meant that 4 of the 6 Gippsland Shire CEOs are now male’

.....

Ali Wastie was raised in a middle status suburb. She was brought up in a nurturing, supportive environment even though her parents separated when she was young. She had access to a great state government education.

‘We can empathise, but we can’t *know* what another feels, be they twenty and fresh from Uni or new to our country.’ Everyone’s voice has to be heard and included in decision making. ‘That’s how we remove barriers that are holding back change.

As the CEO of Bass Coast Shire, Ali sees her role as ‘servant leader’ and believes that everything needs to be looked at through a gender equity and gender accessibility lens.

This means creating a workplace culture that celebrates diversity of ideas, views and experiences.

This starts with considering how women perceive the organisation and making it culturally safe for everyone through all aspects of the employee life cycle – attraction, recruitment, development and retention.

Bass Coast Shire uses gender and age-blind applications to remove any potential age and gender bias when selecting candidates for interview. Council is also sponsoring women into areas that have been traditionally male dominated, such as horticulture, engineering or building services.

Equally it is important to promote roles that have traditionally been female dominated.

In 2020 Ali reported to the Waterline News that gender parity would not be reached for at least another century. At the time Australia ranked 44 out of 153 countries. A year later, the world still stands at a crossroad, with the very concept of gender equality and women’s rights, including their economic rights, being increasingly contested.

The pandemic has impacted just about everyone. Women shoulder a greater burden compared to men. Women have a much higher rate of unemployment and are more likely to be looking after the family while working from home. Women are more likely to be drawing down on their super, which is already likely to be much lower than male counterparts. The proportion of unemployed women over 50 is rising.

Ali works to redress that imbalance. Women in leadership positions are often advised to ‘lean in’ to be heard at the decision-making table. ‘Those of us in positions of power also need to lean back, and across, to bring women with us,’ Ali advises, ‘we don’t all start from the same place.’

‘We aren’t progressing fast enough. We need to look at what holds us back.’

‘Every person, men and women and particularly those in power, we have a responsibility to speak, to use our power and influence to drive change, to celebrate women’s achievements equally with men, to demand women’s equal place in all facets of life.’

‘We also need to stop treating gender equality if it is just a women’s issue. Without the avid support of men, who still dominate the leadership in most large organisations – the change we seek is unlikely to eventuate in the reader’s lifetime.’

Ali knows that many people in power don’t consciously examine bias and privilege. Every workplace has a distinct culture. Leaders must recognise the need for change where it exists. Then consciously and explicitly work to remove the biases.



As well as leadership and policy, council can do many tangible things, ‘though there is still plenty to do.’ For example, we need to enable and encourage men to access flexible work as a fundamental right, not a favour. The federal government needs to incentivise couples to share parental leave arrangements.

There are too many structural barriers that discourage female workforce participation, including access to childcare and associated costs.

There is a strong ‘Women in Local Government’ movement and, across the State, the number of elected female Councillors is higher than it has ever been.

‘There is a greater level of awareness of the scourge of family violence in our communities and the devastating impact this has on the lives of far too many women and children across Bass Coast. Whilst there is a greater awareness, family violence cases continue to trend in the wrong direction.’

‘We need to remember that respect and equality starts at home. We shape the expectations of our daughters and our sons. What we model – whether as a couple of same or opposite sex or as a sole parent, our children take this into their adult lives.’

On International Women’s Day, Ali Wastie will celebrate the achievements and endeavours of so many women and girls in our community.

Ali is in awe of the people who trail-blazed gender equity across the globe.

‘I stand in full admiration. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.’ -

Ali Wastie, IWD 2021

**March 8**

**International Women's Day**

Bronsky: Hear me roar!

"Never give up on your dreams"

"I was very lucky to have been born into a household in the 1950's by a mother who was artistic, strong willed, loving, a great cook and who also lived to 92 years of age.

But she had never learned to ride a bike or drive a car as "it wasn't done in her day, that was a thing that men do!"

I learned to drive a car as well as getting a bus licence, I learned to ride a bike and a motorbike.

I cannot remember feeling I was nothing but equal to my two older brothers... I was offered the same chances in life apart from the usual protection of the father and brothers when it came to boy-friends and walking home alone from the train station after a long day at University in Melbourne was just not done! I appreciated their love and attention...it did not hinder me at all.

I was allowed freedom at 20 years of age to travel overseas to England and Europe for three months. Something my parents had not yet achieved themselves.



I cringe now as I realise the real lack of communication we had in 1975 compared to our daughter who travelled 15 years ago at 23 years of age, it was then I realised how much trust my parents had in me to make the right choices, and how hard it must have been for them to let me go!

I feel lucky to have been born in this age of technology and science but sad that racism, war, and inequality still exist.

I could look back on the past 65 years and see myself as dot points on my CV but the important ones that are not there are - Daughter, Mother, Wife, Friend, Grandmother, Woman.

I thank my Mother for allowing me to be independent and creative.

I thank my husband for giving me the freedom to be me.

I can only hope our granddaughters have the same chance to become who they want to be, not what they have to be!

Celebrate your life and what you can do as a WOMAN, remember those who have suffered before us to get us where we are today!

Never give up on your dreams!

Bronwyn Pratt  
Gold & Silversmith

**BASS GLASS**  
*Flyscreens & Security Doors*  
*Glass Balustrading*  
*Glass Replacements - Glass Splashbacks*  
*Leadlight Window Repairs*  
*Mirror Wardrobe Doors*  
*Shower Screens*

**Graeme Jones**  
**(03) 5678 0642**  
**Mobile 0407 553 084**

**82 Agar Road**  
**Bass, Vic. 3991**  
**[www.bassglass.com.au](http://www.bassglass.com.au)**



**Find a friend for  
all walks of life**

Greyhounds are affectionate, loyal, lazy and extremely low maintenance, which makes them an ideal addition to any home.

For more information visit us at:  
[gap.grv.org.au](http://gap.grv.org.au)



**Freemasons Victoria  
(Wonthaggi & Phillip Island)**  
**Good men, supporting each other,  
their families and the community**

**Powlett Lodge No. 611** Meets at the Wonthaggi Masonic Centre 17 Edgar Street Wonthaggi  
1st Wednesday each month at 7.30pm.

**Woolamai Daylight Lodge No. 277** Meets at the Wonthaggi Masonic Centre  
3rd Tuesday each month 10.am. except June July August & September

**Phillip Island Lodge No. 512** Meets Phillip Island Masonic Centre, Church Street Cowes



## THE BASS COAST POST in print

By Geoff Ellis

MICKY has just shared a meal at Mitchell House\*. He checks to see if anyone can hear him down the hallway as he steps up to the front counter. "I'm homeless," he tells the volunteer behind that counter. "Can you help me?"

He's the second person to ask Sue that question today. Earlier, Marg, an older woman, was looking for a place to park. She's sleeping in her car while she gets her life back on track. But this guy doesn't own a car. Sue rings SalvoCare.

Meanwhile, Kel gathers a few essentials from the free food stall on the front veranda. People can take what they need without having to ask. Kel really appreciates the fresh food and plans her menu around what's available. Pasta, tomato sauce and a tin of tuna will make a good meal tonight.

Jessica Harrison, a volunteer at Mitchell House and convenor of the Wonthaggi Branch of the Australian Unemployed Workers Union, started the stall at the beginning of the pandemic. She says she had no idea it would still be running a year later.

Donations from the community help to keep the free food stall stocked. Volunteers collect food from outlets; fresh vegies and fruit come from the nearby Harvest Centre.

"It's lovely to arrive to fill the boxes and find them already full of donated food or garden produce," Jessica says, "but the demand is growing and usually the food is gone just hours after it arrives."

Each week a couple of people turn up at Mitchell House asking for help to obtain emergency housing. People report that they have been sleeping rough in parks, empty buildings and bushland around Wonthaggi.

Over a much-needed cuppa, Ian Richie, service manager at the centre, explains to them that the centre doesn't provide homelessness services but can provide referrals to appropriate services in the local area.

The nearest homelessness service provider is in Leongatha, so phone contact is required as most people seeking help don't have their own transport, phone credit or internet.

"We offer to call the service provider to start the conversation."

"We also see a constant stream of people asking for financial support to buy food, purchase fuel, etc. Again, we provide referral information to the local emergency relief services who can assist with food/fuel vouchers."

As the call goes through to SalvoCare in Leongatha, Micky talks about his situation.

"Right now, I could do with a shower, but there is nowhere to go, especially with the lockdown. It really gets to you after a while, having to watch your stuff all day and not knowing where to sleep."

At the other end of the line, a person from SalvoCare explains that the SalvoCare Doorways Centre provides emergency relief in the form of food parcels and vouchers for people who find themselves in difficult circumstances. Case management and financial counselling is also available.

SalvoCare can also help find crisis accommodation, make referrals to other specialised services and help to make applications for housing while being the contact person for the client. Micky listens intently.

Emergency accommodation is available in Morwell, but Micky's family live in Wonthaggi. None of them owns a car so visits from the fragmented family would become five-hour return expeditions by public transport. It's up to him to choose.

It's a big wrench. "What about a tent?" Micky asks. "I know someone else who got one."

At least Marg has a car to sleep in. But she needs to find somewhere to park that will minimise the risk to her safety and that's near amenities. And then she has to run the gauntlet of Local Law # 1.

In Bass Coast "camping" is defined as sleeping in tents, caravans, campervans, mobile homes, vehicles (including sleeping under vehicles) for all or part of a night or as temporary accommodation. A brief power nap in a vehicle beside a highway is OK but anything longer risks a fine.

If someone spots Marg's clandestine camping they might call the police. When an officer attends they will ask Marg to move on. She can't drive all night and that thin blue line is stretched pretty thin. There are increasing reports of people sleeping in cars or camping in reserves.

\*\*\*\*\*

According to a report prepared by Bass Coast Shire in 2020, requests for crisis accommodation from SalvoCare Eastern have increased by 47 per cent since 2016..

In that four-year period, SalvoCare assisted 369 people who were sleeping rough. There was an increase of 6 per cent in clients with children under the age of 10 needing housing support.

That council report concluded the key factor contributing to homelessness in Bass Coast was the lack of affordable housing, social housing and crisis accommodation.

If Micky declines the offer of accommodation in Morwell he could apply for private rental accommodation. But he's behind the eight ball as his application will need to have 100 points of ID, contact details and an address. Plus references from previous landlords, money for a bond and rent in advance.

In this time of shortage, owners can obviously be "discerning" about who gets the keys. A local rental manager, who did not wish to be named, said a few landlords would take a chance on signing a lease with someone who was down on their luck. But there will never be enough to house *all* the people who are down on their luck.

Since COVID, half the people who rent or pay a mortgage have suffered loss of income. Of the renters, half have received a reduction or a deferment of their rent.

The Victorian Government has put a moratorium on evictions, provided rent relief for eligible tenants and mandated suspension of rental increases. This will all end on March 28th. From then rents can increase and the accumulated deferred debt will need to be repaid.

Added to this is a new law that forces owners to maintain rental properties to a much higher standard than at present. Although this is obviously a good result for tenants, in the short term it is likely to result in the sale of many properties that can't be economically brought up to standard.

Many owners of rental properties are struggling to make ends meet so rents could rise to cover the cost of improvements.

People on the frontline warn that April will be a really hard time for people who are already struggling. They worry that the trickle of people walking up to those counters will become a torrent.

\* Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre

# Community Groups. *Can reps please check that details are current?*

## Artists' Society of Phillip Island

56-58 Church Street Cowes

For more information <http://aspi-inc.org.au/>

## Australian Red Cross

Woodleigh Vale Branch

Contact Sheila Campbell 5678 8210

## Bass Coast Community Baptist Church

Minister - Barry MacDonald 5995 3904

## Bass Coast L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program

Wonthaggi Leanne Tilley 5672 3731 or 0467 590 679

## Bass Coast Strollers

Contact Liz Hart 5678 0346

Website <http://basscoaststrollers.org/>

## Bass Friends of the RSL

Secretary Trish Thick 5678 1071

Mobile 0409 851 599

## Bass Valley Community Group

Monday - Friday 5678 2277

## Bass Valley Landcare

2-4 Bass School Rd, Bass 5678 2335

## Boomerang Bags Phillip Island & San Remo

- Wednesdays 10am - 4pm.

Contact [kylie@boomerangbagspisp.org](mailto:kylie@boomerangbagspisp.org)

## Cape Woolamai Coast Action

Email [capewoolamaicoastaction@gmail.com](mailto:capewoolamaicoastaction@gmail.com)

second Saturday Monthly. 8.00am to 10.00am Marg Dumergue 0419007758

## Corinella & District Probus Club

First Wednesday of each month Bass Hotel.

Heather Reid 0421 012 519

## Corinella Boating & Angling Club

Website [www.corinellafishing.com.au](http://www.corinellafishing.com.au)

## Corinella Bowling Club Inc.

Balcombe Street Corinella.

Jacquie Carter 5678 0596

## Corinella & District Community Centre

48 Smythe St Corinella. 5678 0777

Website [www.corinellacomunitycentre.org.au](http://www.corinellacomunitycentre.org.au)

## Corinella & District Men's Shed

& Woodies Group Corinella Road

Contact Ken Thomas 0427 889 191

## Corinella Foreshore Committee

Contact Barbara Oates 0427 780 245

## Coronet Bay, & Surrounds Playgroup

(0-4yrs) Coronet Bay Hall

Wednesdays 10am - 12noon

Contacts Catherine 0416 112 629

## Coronet Bay Adult Social Club

Tuesday 7-10pm Coronet Bay Hall

Ann 5678 0341

## Country Women's Association of Vic inc. Bass Group.

Cowes Brenda cwaofviccowes@gmail.com

Glen Alvie Pam 0417 372 979

Grantville Libby 5678 0339

Loch Helen 0417 372979

Woodleigh Vale Carol 5678 8041

## Cowes Table Tennis Group

Barbara Parrott 0425 885 834

## Grantville & District Ambulance Auxiliary

Contact - Shelly 0417 593 497

## Grantville Business & Community Association

Email [thegbca1@gmail.com](mailto:thegbca1@gmail.com)

## Grantville & District Foreshore Committee

Contact: Barbara Coles

Email [bacoles@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bacoles@bigpond.net.au)

## Grantville Recreation Reserve Committee

Pat Van 5997 6221

## Grantville Tennis Club Inc.

Contact Pat Van 5997 6221

## Lang Lang Bowling Club

Ian Painter 5997 6554 M: 0419 646 040

Email [langlangbowling@bigpond.com](mailto:langlangbowling@bigpond.com)

## Lang Lang Cricket Club

Secretary: Sharon May 0459 368 431

## Lang Lang Playgroup

(0-Preschool) Thursdays 9.30am

Contact: Leah Dyall 0418 463 963

Amanda Gray 0458 195 258

## Lions Club of Bass Valley

First Tuesday each month 6pm

Grantville Transaction Centre then third

Tuesday each month, Dinner at Bass Hotel.

Lyn Renner 0416 024 356

## Nyora Youth Group

Contact Michael Felton

Email [nyorahall3987@outlook.com](mailto:nyorahall3987@outlook.com)

## Phillip Island Bowls Club

Dunsmore Avenue, Cowes.

New members welcome, Free coaching

Contact George Mol 0407 851 065

## Phillip Island Camera Club

Meet at the Heritage, Cowes.

Contact Susan 0408 136 717

## Phillip Island Community Art & Craft Gallery Inc.

Cowes Cultural Centre Thompson Ave

All Enquiries Call Aleta 0419 525 609

## Phillip Island Indoor Carpet Bowlers

Come and join the fun. Phillip Island

Celebration Centre 6 Lions Court, Cowes

Contact Jack 0434 944 380

## Phillip Island & District Railway Modellers Inc.

The Phillip Island & District Railway

Contact Peter 5956 9513

## Phillip Island Bicycle User Group

Meets Wednesdays 10am Amaze'n'Things

Secretary Ruth Scott More information at

[Phillipislandbicycleusergroup.com.au](http://Phillipislandbicycleusergroup.com.au) and Fb

## Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL)

56-58 Church Street, Cowes 5952 1131

Email Linda Morrison [manager@pical.org.au](mailto:manager@pical.org.au)

## Phillip Island Patchworkers

Meet on a Monday night from 7.30.

Contact - Lyn Duguid 0427 593 936

Email [phillipislandpatchworkers@gmail.com](mailto:phillipislandpatchworkers@gmail.com)

## Phillip Island-San Remo - Bass Coast

### Vegan Community

Find us on Facebook under our title as above

## Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club

Phone bookings 5952 2973

Email [piscc123@gmail.com](mailto:piscc123@gmail.com)

## Phillip Island World Vision Club

Second Wednesday each month 1.30pm

St. Phillip's Church Cowes

Enquiries - Thelma 5678 5549

## Pioneer Bay Progress Association

Zena Benbow Email: [pbpa@bigpond.com](mailto:pbpa@bigpond.com)

## Probus Club of San Remo

Second Monday of the month (except

January) 10am at the Newhaven Public Hall.

Visitors Welcome.

Enquiries Diane Glanz 0417 610 611

## Rhyll Community Association.

Secretary Cheryl Overton 0427 680 483

## Rotary Club of Phillip Island-San Remo

Judy Lawrence 0418 325 055

## South Coast Speakers - Toastmasters

Meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday

from 7.30 to 9.30pm at the San Remo Hotel,

145 Marine Parade, San Remo.

Contact Patricia 0412 339 795

Email [info@southcoastspeakers.org.au](mailto:info@southcoastspeakers.org.au)

## South Gippsland Arthritis Support Group

Contact: Adam 0408 353 785

Marg 0417 154 057

Diane 5658 1443

## South Gippsland Mental Illness Carer's Group

Maggie 5658 1781 Rosemary 5662 4352

## South Gippsland Parkinson's Support Group

Third Friday each month 10am for 10.30

Leongatha RSL

Meeting/Guest Speaker/Lunch available.

Email [Suzi.marshman@hotmail.com](mailto:Suzi.marshman@hotmail.com)

## South Gippsland Support after Suicide

Phone 9421 7640

Email [southgippslandsas@gmail.com](mailto:southgippslandsas@gmail.com)

## Survivors of Suicide

Raising awareness to aid prevention

Jillian Drew 0413 056 165

## St Pauls Anglican Church Bass

HC at 12.30pm every Sunday

Contact Sandy Ridge 5997 6127

## St Georges Anglican Church Corinella

Op Shop open Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri

10am - 2pm Saturday 9am - 12.30pm

## Tenby Point Residents Association

President Jean Coffey 0419 500 593

## Wonthaggi Genealogy Inc.

Family History Centre, Library Complex.

Murray Street, Wonthaggi 5672 3803

[secretary@wonthaggigenealogy.org.au](mailto:secretary@wonthaggigenealogy.org.au)

## Woolamai Racing Club

Contact the Secretary (03) 5678 7585





## BETTY SKELTON: THE RIGHT STUFF

Betty Skelton grew up watching fighter planes fly over her backyard. When she turned eight, she purchased her first book on aviation and her parents realized that she was serious about flying.

From then on the family regularly visited the local civilian airport where Betty would talk pilots into letting her ride on the shorter flights.

Kenneth Wright, an ensign from the nearby Pensacola Air Base, took an interest and taught Betty how to fly. He even allowed her to solo in his Taylorcraft airplane when she was only 12 years old.

Betty Skelton got her pilot's license at age 16, then she qualified for the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) program, but the minimum age was 18½, so she was forced to wait.

WASP participants ferried Air Force pilots and aircraft to their duty stations, and it was the only flying program that accepted women. However, it was discontinued four months before Skelton reached the required age. Because military and commercial airlines would not accept a female pilot, air shows provided the only opportunity for Betty to work as a pilot.

She purchased a biplane in 1946 and performed at the south eastern Air Exposition, held in Jacksonville, Florida. That was the start of her professional aerobatic career, and also that of the Blue Angels, a new US Navy precision-flying exhibition team.

Skelton's most impressive manoeuvre involved cutting a ribbon strung between two fishing poles with her propeller, while flying upside down only 3 metres above the ground.



Betty rose to the rank of Major and became a test pilot. As well as piston-driven airplanes, she flew blimps, gliders, helicopters and jets. Lots of jets.

Skelton was US Female Aerobatic Champion in 1948, 1949 and 1950.

After the third championship, she was frustrated because no other challenges existed in aerobatics. She retired from aerobatics in 1951.

Skelton moved to Raleigh, North Carolina, in 1951 to pilot charter flights. In 1953, the founder of NASCAR asked her to fly some car racers from Pennsylvania to North Carolina.



She was invited to Daytona Beach, Florida, during speed week in February 1954. There, she drove the pace car at Daytona, then climbed into a Dodge sedan and was clocked at 105.88 mph (170.40 km/h) on the beach sand, setting a stock-car speed record for women.

Skelton had discovered her second passion. She was the first American woman to qualify for stock car racing. Which led to her becoming the first female test driver in the auto industry.



Betty drove a boat, *L'il Miss Dodge*, in a movie stunt which meant jumping the boat over a Chrysler at Cypress Gardens in Florida. During that time, she also tried skydiving.

The American Aviation Hall of Fame reports, "Betty earned a total of four Feminine World Land Speed Records and set a transcontinental speed record."

Betty competed in car races across the Andes mountains in South America and also raced the length of Mexico's Baja Peninsula.

She set records at the Chelsea Proving Grounds and was the first woman to drive a jet car over 300 mph (480 km/h) at the Bonneville Salt Flats. She also set three women's land speed records at the Daytona Beach Road Course, the last one being 156.99 mph (252.65 km/h) in 1956.

That same year, she broke Cannonball Baker's 40-year record for the Transcontinental Auto Race from New York to Los Angeles.

In 1956, she became an advertising executive with Campbell-Ewald and worked with General Motors on and in their TV and print ads.

Betty was GM's first woman technical narrator at major auto shows, where she would demonstrate automobile features, later becoming official spokeswoman for Chevrolet. While Skelton was working with Chevrolet, she set numerous records with Corvettes. Between 1956 and 1957, Harley Earl and Bill Mitchell designed a special, translucent gold Corvette for her, which she drove to Daytona in 1957 to serve as the NASCAR pace car.

She helped launch *Corvette News*, the company's internal employee magazine, and served as its editor for many years. She became vice president of Campbell-Ewald's new *Women's Market and Advertising* department.

In 1959, Betty Skelton was the first woman to undergo NASA's physical and psychological tests. These were identical to those given to the seven Mercury Project astronauts.

NASA administered the tests at the request of *Look* Magazine. Her pilot skills and stamina impressed so much that she earned the nickname "7½". The United States Navy awarded her honorary wings.

But nothing changed.

"I complained that NASA wasn't giving more thought to women pilots... I wanted very much to fly in the Navy... **But all they would do was laugh when I asked.**"

Betty was featured on the February 2, 1960 cover of *Look*. (as per our front page).

20th Century ended with Skelton taking care of her ailing husband, who died in 2001. She flew less often. "I just felt I wasn't as safe as I used to be," she said. **Betty died on August 31, 2011.**





## Join us and celebrate International Women's Day 2021

**'A Woman of her Times'**

**Irene Miller**

**Member of the Infamous 'Fairlea Five'**

The early 1970's were heady days of social and political upheaval. As the war in Vietnam raged an ever-growing movement against Australia's participation was gaining momentum.

When five women from the S.O.S (Save our Sons) anti-war and anti-conscription movement were arrested in Melbourne on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1971 and sentenced to jail the public outcry was huge!

Join guest speakers Nicky Miller and Melanie Mumford as they recall the courage, social activism and legacy of their S.O.S mother/grandmother Irene Miller.

**7.30pm, Tuesday 9th March**  
**Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre at Mitchell House**  
**6 Murray St, Wonthaggi**

**RSVP before 5/3/21 to 5672 3731.**

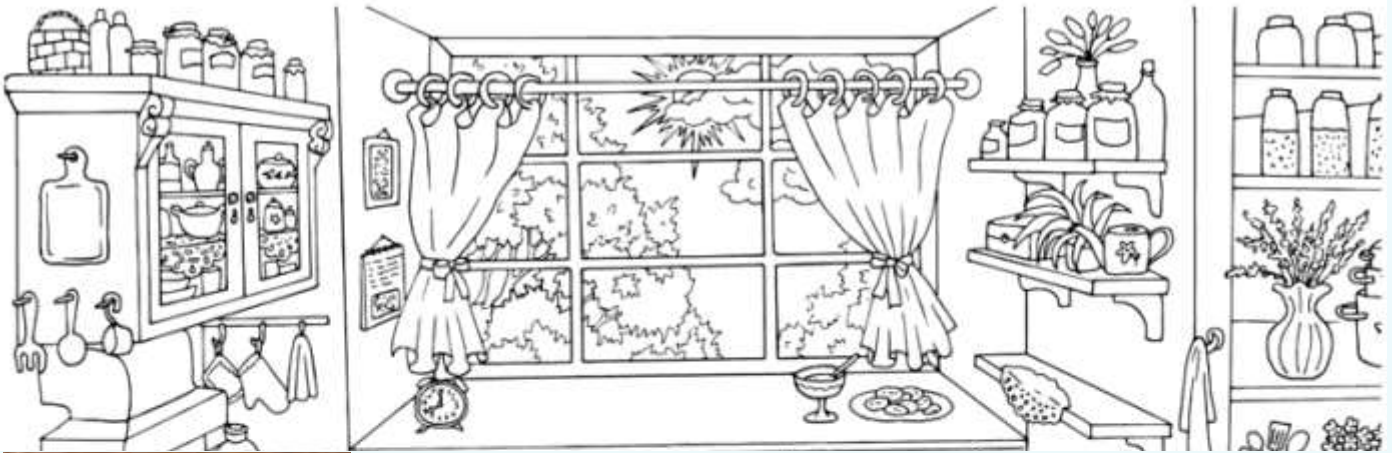
**BYO Plate to Share**

The theme of the 2021 International Women's Day is: Choose to Challenge  
A challenged world is an alert world. Individually, we're all responsible  
for our own thoughts and actions - all day, every day.





## Jan Cheshire—A Cook's Journal



### SYLLABUB



I FOUND this delightful dessert recently. I had not seen this recipe for many years. It is an old-fashioned recipe which was popular in England, especially in Cornwall, when I lived there many moons ago.

It is remarkably simple but most delicious. Do try it, I am sure your family and friends will love it.

#### Ingredients

250 grams of good whipping cream

50 grams of caster sugar

50 ml of white wine or orange juice (I used some brandy.)

Zest and juice of ½ a lemon

Almond slices or berries to serve.

#### Method

Whip the cream and sugar together until soft peaks form.

Stir in the wine or orange juice and most of the lemon juice and zest.

Spoon into your best bowls or glasses, sprinkle with the remaining lemon zest & juice

Serve with almond slices or berries. I drizzled mine with berries and chocolate.



### St George's Op Shop

St George's Op Shop, Smythe St Corinella...  
We are getting less rubbish left but it is frustrating that the church is often used as the tip.

Much as we really appreciate the donations that come from the community, could we respectfully ask that donations only be brought in during opening hours please, as we cannot sell everything that is sometimes left.

All donations need to be clean and in good condition to be saleable, also we cannot sell car seats - child or adult, kids cots etc, electrical goods or large furniture.

Thank you to the community  
for your understanding and generosity!

**-Lyndell Parker**







## Looking for a way to irrigate your veggie garden?

Have you considered wicking beds?

Wicking beds were designed by an Australian engineer for use in Africa and work well where water is precious and in very hot and dry environments.

A wicking bed is a raised bed that has the ability to hold water and this water is then drawn upwards (or wicked) to the plants roots.

Wicking beds are traditionally raised timber or corrugated iron beds with a plastic liner to hold the water reservoir; however they can also be made using old baths, wine barrels, plastic containers etc. Wicking beds can be the same way as any raised bed. You can then install a plastic liner into the raised bed.

A 50mm PVC pipe is then used to provide a water reservoir to the bottom of the bed and a base of scoria is added.

A geotextile membrane is then added to stop the veggie mix that is added from mixing with the scoria or entering the PVC pipe.

### Wicking Beds - Advantages

- Excellent for very dry areas especially where water is a concern.
- Great for areas where large trees or plants have invasive roots or where creeping grasses are present.
- As they hold a water reservoir wicking beds do not need to be watered daily, and are fine if you are away for a couple of weeks.

### Wicking Beds - Disadvantages

- The bed is always in a state of dampness or wetness which does not suit all plants.
- The veggie mix should be changed every couple of years as it is basically an enclosed container growing veggies. The cost and labour input is more expensive than raised beds with drip irrigation.

Drip irrigation is good due to its simple design and because the bed is in contact with the soil below, which allows earthworms to do their thing. It is also easy to fork over the soil and top it up with com-





# Popping up in Wonthaggi

**WISHART RESERVE 4 MAR - 7 MAR**

**TIME: 7PM - 9.30PM**



**THE CROODS:  
A NEW AGE**  
THU 4 MARCH 2021



**INSIDE OUT**  
FRI 5 MARCH 2021



**TURBO**  
SAT 6 MARCH 2021



**THE EMPOROR'S  
NEW GROOVE**  
SUN 7 MARCH 2021

Tickets are limited and bookings are essential

[\*\*Cinemapopup.com.au\*\*](http://Cinemapopup.com.au)





## **Grantville Business & Community Association**

Mail: PO Box 181  
Grantville 3984  
e-mail: [thegbca1@gmail.com](mailto:thegbca1@gmail.com)

President Neroli Heffer  
Secretary Di Goeman  
Treasurer Lester Harris

## **NEWSLETTER**

Thank you to Jordan Crugnale MP, and our President Neroli Heffer, for securing a \$10,000 grant from the State Government.

The funds will be used for a Grantville website which will promote Grantville and district business and community groups and showcase what is on offer in the Waterline and Hinterland areas.

Community events and activities will also be listed, and it will be linked to the Destination Gippsland and Destination Phillip Island websites.

A screen will also be installed at Endeavour BP where the website can be accessed by anyone wanting information about our area.

The outdoor seating next to Alex Scott, has had a favourable response and will remain there indefinitely.

Thanks to GBCA and BCSC for making it happen and to Alex Scott and Staff and G.J. Gardiner for providing the space.

BCSC community and social planning officers were extremely helpful and proactive in getting the space set up. BCSC provided the planter boxes, the tables and chairs, sanitiser and the three bin system.

Newly appointed Social and Community Planning officer, Emily Harris, will be updating the Council Community Directory to create an updated contact list for businesses and community groups.

If your business or community group details need updating, please contact Emily by email [emily.harris@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:emily.harris@basscoast.vic.gov.au)

If you are wondering what is happening at the end of Pier Road, repairs are being carried out to the Grantville sea wall and a new access point to the beach is being installed. The concrete slab is being repaired and some landscaping will be carried out. The work is part of Council's 2020/21 Capital Works program and will cost \$120,000.

The Shire has allocated \$25,000 for concept drawings, plans and a quote for an all-weather shelter at the Memorial Park. Executive members will be involved in the design process and will meet at the Memorial Park with Council engineer Ari Rezai and community and social planning officers, to discuss design options.



After the 5-day lockdown, the **Waterline Library has reopened on three days:**

**3–6 pm Tuesday,**

**10 am–1 pm Thursday**

**10 am –12 pm Saturday,**

**including three two-hour services with a librarian.**

The Library hopes to eventually open on the days and hours that the Grantville Transaction Centre is open and to continue to offer three two-hour services with a librarian.

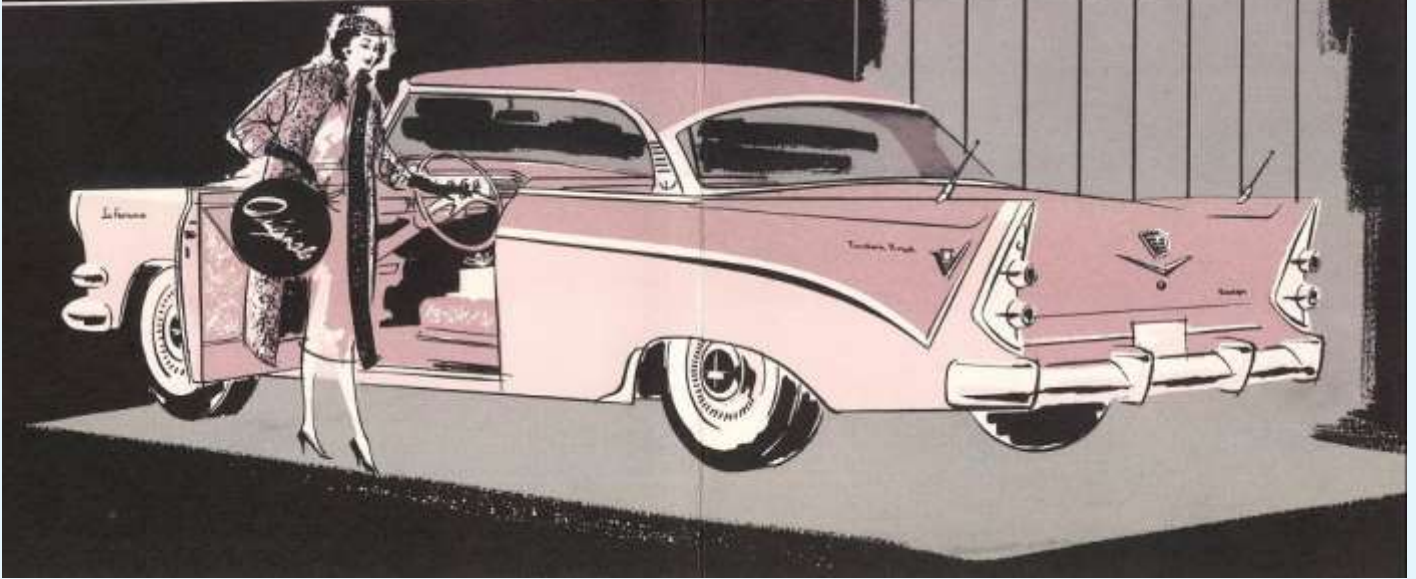
This year, the GBCA executive is also planning a Business Expo and hopes to host the Christmas carols in December. We are also looking at expanding 'The Great Witch Hunt' to be held in October.

New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining our association, please contact our secretary Di Goeman by emailing [thegbca1@gmail.com](mailto:thegbca1@gmail.com)

**Helen Zervopoulos  
Executive Member**



## BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY....*THE AMERICAN WOMAN*



The Dodge La Femme was an attempt by a male dominated industry to respond to a recently discovered demographic - women. In the 50s in America women were apparently becoming part of decision-making processes. The La Femme evolved from a show car which had a clear plastic roof over the entire passenger compartment. For some reason designers thought that would add appeal for women drivers. That car was painted "Dusty Rose" and "Pigeon Grey" in order to convey femininity.

When mass production of the La Femme started it came in a more butch combination of "Sapphire White" and "Heather Rose". The exterior was blinged with gold "La Femme" badges on the front mudguards.

Designers also 'feminized' the interior of the car. The seats were upholstered in special material featuring pink rose buds on a pale silver pink background. The vinyl trim was pink.

The La Femme came with a pink calfskin handbag that matched the interior of the car. This could be stowed in a compartment in the back of the passenger seat that was highlighted by a gold-plated medallion. As an optional extra the owner's name could be engraved on that shiny piece of metal.

The handbag contained a coordinated set of accessories. These included a face-powder compact, lipstick case, cigarette case, comb, cigarette lighter, and change purse, all made of faux-tortoiseshell plastic, gold plated metal and more pink calfskin. These were specially manufactured by "Evans", a maker of women's accessories in Chicago. There were some practical innovations. On the back of the driver's seat there was a compartment that contained a raincoat, rain bonnet and umbrella, all made from vinyl matched to the interior fabrics.

Marketing brochures stated that the car was made "*By Special Appointment to Her Majesty... the American Woman.*" **The La Femme was only produced for two years. Women were queuing up to buy Volkswagens, just like men were.**

*La Femme*

now for the first time anywhere, a car glamorously, *Personally Yours*

EXQUISITE interior features richly woven Jacquard fabric in pastel rose with special top-stitch design.

STYLISH rain cape and slim umbrella match the Jacquard fabric in color and design. Also, shiny rain boots for an expected shower.

STUNNING lined shoulder bag in soft, rose leather. Matches interior leather trim.

AND SO! Two special compartments to hold the bag and rain apparel - ingeniously, conveniently located in the backs of the front seats!

There's a car more distinctly feminine than La Femme... but her car created excitement for women! In this expertly designed car, Dodge brings together location, delicately-toned interiors and ultra-fashionable appointments... every sophisticated touch your heart could desire! Here is, truly, the ultimate in fun motoring.





## Cr Rochelle Halstead

Committees: Phillip Island Nature Park Community Advisory Committee & Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

E: [Rochelle.Halstead@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:Rochelle.Halstead@basscoast.vic.gov.au)

Mobile: 0439 623 511

Or (03) 5671 2157



## Cr Bruce Kent

Committees: Bass Coast Community Road Safety Committee & Emergency Management Planning Committee

E: [bruce.kent@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:bruce.kent@basscoast.vic.gov.au)

Mobile: 0428 741 843

Or (03) 5671 2156



## Cr Clare Le Serve

Committees: The Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Committee, Rural Engagement Group, Gippsland Local Government Waste Forum, Western Port Biosphere Reserve & Bass Coast Events Advisory Committee

E: [clare.leserve@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:clare.leserve@basscoast.vic.gov.au)

Mobile: 0448 083 286



## *San Remo SES is recruiting.*

There is a role for everyone in our friendly crew. Learn new skills. Help your community.

We train Thursday 630pm at 14 Davis Point road, San Remo. Contact [sanremo@ses.vic.gov.au](mailto:sanremo@ses.vic.gov.au)

At VIC SES diversity is key to our success, and we are proud to celebrate an inclusive and supportive culture across our entire organisation.

If you'd like to be a part of our orange family, join us today: <https://www.ses.vic.gov.au/volunteer>

**LOCAL POLICE NETWORK**  
Bruce Kent,  
Station Commander,  
San Remo phone: 5678 5500





**John Coltrane  
GIANT STEPS:  
ONE ERA ENDS,  
ANOTHER BEGINS**

1959 is often cited as the greatest year in jazz, for the number of truly great albums that were recorded/released that year.

*Kind of Blue* (Miles Davis) and *Time Out* (Dave Brubeck) were two iconic releases of that year, and there were numerous others. Another one was a landmark for jazz itself and the musician behind it:

*Giant Steps* (John Coltrane/Atlantic). This album is noteworthy both for the challenging chord progressions on the title track and on “Countdown”, and the sheer virtuosity of Coltrane’s playing throughout.

Sometimes over-shadowed in Coltrane’s impressive body of work – think *A Love Supreme*, any number of his classic quartet’s live recordings or even *The Major Works of John Coltrane* from his so-called “Avant Garde” period, *Giant Steps* is worth recalling and reviewing for the significant place it holds in jazz history and in Coltrane’s own.

Recorded while Coltrane was still with Miles Davis, he was to leave Davis’ group in 1960 and strike out on his own, searching for his ideal backing trio before settling on what became known as his “Classic quartet” in 1961.

But before all that was to come, *Giant Steps* was recorded, heralding an end to Coltrane’s “sheets of sound” era, and pointing to the future.

*Giant Steps* ushered in the next phase in Coltrane’s musical development where he played compositions based in simpler chord progressions and drones in order to free up his own harmonic explorations.

The title track has a complex chord progression and is played at breakneck speed. Coltrane handles this effortlessly, with a soaring solo that makes complete sense of the seemingly bewildering changes, building logically over a series of choruses, working and reworking melodic and rhythmic patterns, before handing the solo spot over to pianist Tommy Flanagan who does seem to struggle somewhat with the speed and complexity of the changes. This track seems to draw a line in the sand between bop and what was to come, almost bringing to a close the decade-and-a-half long search for the mastery of harmonic complexity played at speed.

“Cousin Mary” is a minor blues that takes things down a notch in speed and complexity. Coltrane’s playing here is typically powerful, and is an attempt to describe his eponymous relation in music.

“Countdown” is a return to the harmonic tour-de-force at speed. It starts unusually with a drum solo – a fiery one from Art Taylor – then Coltrane enters, immediately improvising over the changes, rather than playing the melody. Flanagan then plays a brief solo, before the melody is played with Paul Chambers joining in on bass the first time on the track. Soloing with drums alone would become a feature of the classic quartet, with Coltrane and Elvin Jones developing an understanding seldom, if ever heard before or since.

“Spiral” and “Syeeda’s Song Flute” are possibly the least commented on tracks from the album, but both feature impressive solos by Coltrane.

Being harmonically simpler than “Giant Steps” or “Countdown”, these tracks offer Coltrane solos that allow him to express a more melodic mode of thought. His playing on both tracks is, nonetheless, driving, searching, and displays a different kind of intensity. The medium tempo of these two tracks perhaps gives the listener the sense that each note has more intent or purpose behind it than on the up-tempo tracks.

“Naima” (written for Coltrane’s first wife) is possibly his best-known composition and the only one from this album that he continued to play for the rest of his career. It is a wonderful counterpoint to the rest of the album’s intensity as it offers Coltrane as the player of beautiful melodies – there is no virtuosic soloing here, just a beautiful melody played with in an achingly beautiful sound. Wynton Kelly on piano takes the solo here and produces one that is exquisite and sensitive with an ethereal quality that perfectly complements the melody.

“Mr. P.C.” was named for Paul Chambers who is the only sideman to play on all tracks.

It is a blues that is played by all with a level of accomplishment that only comes when all four musicians have spent a great deal of time playing together (note, Jimmy Cobb is on drums). It is a fitting end to a great album, as it offers a worthy book-end to the opening track, matching it for fire, intensity and drive.

*Giant Steps*, established Coltrane once and for all as a force to be reckoned with, and many critics who had previously been indifferent or even hostile to his playing subsequently accepted this, reluctantly or otherwise. The album propelled Coltrane into the sixties, and on his way to influencing a whole new generation of improvisers, many of whom to this day use the title track as *the* test of their improvising prowess.

**Jason Adams**







# PHILLIP ISLAND JAZZ CLUB

NEWSLETTER No: 127 - FEBRUARY 2021

[www.phillipislandjazzfest.org.au](http://www.phillipislandjazzfest.org.au)

This Publication is made possible through the generous support of  
Cowes **Community Bank**<sup>®</sup> Branch



Sunday 21st February saw the appearance of Balajo, a jazz manouche group who had thrilled audiences on previous occasions. The afternoon did not go with incident with a power failure just before the first set. The group decided to carry on acoustically (the way Django Reinhardt intended) which was received enthusiastically by those present. Power was restored and the second and third sets proceeded with the sound system doing its job.

## NEXT JAZZ GIG - SUNDAY 21st MARCH 2021 - 1PM - 4.30PM

Sunday 21st March will see the conclusion of the luncheon and show events which have been extremely successful. The group appearing will be Caught In The Act seen at the Inverloch Jazz Festival in 2020.

Caught In The Act! was formed by Ann & Kevin in 2016 to feature the flute playing exciting instrumental music. The concept rapidly broadened to incorporate saxophone and the interplay between these instruments is highlighted in this band.

Since then, the group have played at many regional jazz festivals, at the Brunswick Green, some private gigs and at the Australian Jazz Convention.



Their repertoire draws from many different musical styles and they try to respect the style of music chosen to deliver something to please most listeners: from exciting Latin tunes and jazz-funk (fusion) adaptations of standards to gentle songs from the 30s.

Although sax and, especially, flute feature in the band, each instrument plays a vital role in the band so that it functions more like a little big band with a wide spectrum of tone colours overlying the strong rhythm section.

The group aims to have audiences feel as energised by their music as they are playing them.

Our line up comprises Ann Craig (flute), Ashley Thomas (sax/clarinet), Kevin Blazé (guitar), Malcolm Hornby (piano), Frank Morgan (bass) & Simon Atkinson (drums).

You can see more of the band at [www.jazznotes.net.au/](http://www.jazznotes.net.au/) or check their Facebook page 'Jazz Notes'.

Please arrange for your tickets early to avoid disappointment. Advance payments will once again be required. Please contact Robin - 0432 814 407 or Jill - 0417 416 300 to arrange purchase of tickets.

Payments can be made as follows:

Bendigo Bank

Account Name: Phillip Island Jazz Club

BSB: 633 108

Account No: 131472243

Robin's long term weather prediction fine and 24 degrees, bring your best sun hat, umbrella and plenty of sunscreen.



Editor: Robin Blackman - 0432 814 407  
Committee: Robin Blackman - President/Director,  
Jill Boyce - Secretary/Treasurer - 0417 416 300 Nola Fenech, Jim Lalor,  
Tony Mercer, Lynore Mercer and Vicki Clark.  
Phillip Island Jazz Festival, P.O. Box 867 COWES 3922





# QUIZ?

ANSWERS ? PAGE 21

- 1/ Who declared that "From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the continent." On March 6 in 1946 ?
- 2/ Who invented the telephone?
- 3/ In what year did the TV broadcast go colour in Corinella?
- 4/ Who became Prime Minister in 1996?
- 5/ What year was the first cricket Test match held?
- 6/ Where was it held?
- 7/ Who won?
- 8/ When were the Melbourne Commonwealth Games held?
- 9/ Who won?
- 10/ Neighbours debuted in 1985. On which channel?
- 11/ In 1942 MacArthur pledged 'I will return'. He was in South Australia. Where did he return to?
- 12/ Where was the first Australian Grand Prix held?
- 13/ How did the cars get there?
- 14/ When did 20 shaft blow up?
- 15/ What was the original name of Wonthaggi?
- 16/ In which year was the first Grantville Show held?
- 17/ In which year did George Bass sail into Western Port?
- 18/ What was the (state school) number of Grantville Primary?
- 19/ What was built on the site that it once occupied?
- 20/ What is cut-off date for submissions to the April Waterline News?



## Inside The Philosophers Zone

With Peter Godfrey-Smith

Despite what Monty Python sang about Australian intellectuals, Sydney and Melbourne both have philosophy DNA strands that date from the 19th century.

Sydney was dominated for decades by a Scottish-born professor, John Anderson, who arrived in 1927 and exercised enormous local influence until his retirement in 1958.

Anderson was a realist, materialist, and atheist. Initially, he was a communist sympathizer, but he came to reject the movement's authoritarian manner (not so much towards Russian workers, but towards local supporters) and later moved towards the anti-communist Right.

Central to Anderson and his influence was an uncompromising defence of free thought:

'The theorist cannot recognise any limitation of freedom of speech and academic freedom, and has the right to be as blasphemous, obscene and seditious as he likes, whatever offence may be sustained by vested interests.'

In 1943, the NSW State Parliament condemned some of Anderson's statements as 'calculated to undermine the principles which constitute a Christian State'.

The preacher of free enquiry was inclined to strongly enforce his own line locally – in hiring, in developing the curriculum, and so on.

He did not always practice what he preached. (Similar stories are told about Karl Popper, an uncompromising defender of free criticism and the 'open society', as long as not too much criticism was directed at himself.)

The following quote – which is taken, along with most of my material about Anderson, from Jim Franklin's well-titled book *Corrupting the Youth* (2003) – is rather shocking: **'if you give students all sorts of views, you are not encouraging a real grasp of philosophy'**.

Anderson had no influence whatsoever outside Australia, but he was able to exert a lot of personal influence over philosophers who eventually became much better-known.

Around Sydney, a philosophical style took hold that valued argumentative writing and the attempt to pose theories that answered questions – a problem-solving style that encouraged cumulative work.

Anderson's influence reached outside the academic world.

He inspired a group of tough-minded and hard-drinking bohemians that included journalists, lawyers and misfits known as the 'Sydney Push'.

This social circle was an important early influence on Germaine Greer, Robert Hughes and Clive James, among others, a story chronicled in another well-titled book, Anne Coombs's *Sex and Anarchy* (1996).

Next month:  
Navel gazing in Melbourne.

**Peter Godfrey-Smith is Professor of history and philosophy of science at the University of Sydney.**

**He is the author of *Other Minds: The Octopus, the Sea, and the Deep Origins of Consciousness* (2016).**



ADVERTISEMENT

# COMMUNITY AT HEART

**jordan  
crugnale mp**  
STATE MEMBER FOR BASS

jordan.crugnale@parliament.vic.gov.au  
P 03 5672 4755  JordanCrugnaleMP



Authorised by J Crugnale 9 McBride Street, Wodtham.  
Funded by Parliamentary Budget.

*Please stay safe during  
these unprecedented times.*

*Contact my office should  
you need any assistance.*

Edward  
**O'DONOHUE MP**

**MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION**

 51 James Street Pakenham 3810  
 03 5941 1112  [edwardodonohue.com.au](http://edwardodonohue.com.au)



Funded from Parliamentary Budget

## MASTER AND COMMANDER

Master and commander  
Filled with might  
The contract gives power  
So I have the right.

I am the skipper  
Repeat what I say  
I am the skipper  
That you must obey

I am the skipper  
I am the law  
Don't dare defy me  
Or be stranded on shore.

I am the skipper  
Go cook my meal  
I am the skipper  
This the only deal.

I am the skipper  
Wash all my clothes  
I am the skipper  
This the way it goes.

I am the skipper,  
Clean up my mess  
I am the skipper  
That duty you possess.

I am the skipper  
Credible and true  
Disbelieve the word  
Of a neurotic crew.

I am the skipper  
Honest and straight  
Whatever went wrong  
Time should mitigate.

I am the skipper  
And I'm always right.  
I am the skipper  
Full of childish spite.

Master and commander  
Keep denying fault.  
Without might and power  
A petulant old salt.

*-Margaret Pearce*



## SUMMER

Shyly, tentatively,  
she arrives  
To a rapturous  
welcome.

Her smile sweet cherry red  
enticing  
Honey suckle breath  
scented.

Modestly veiled in  
cascading  
robes embroidered in  
fresh green.

Her curves half revealed  
ripe with the  
promise of future  
pleasures.

Indiscriminately  
sharing her  
largesse and favours  
with all.

Feeding all appetites  
so richly  
All gluttonous tastes  
sated.

Until such generosity  
of giving  
Cloy with sickening  
surfeit.

The golden promise is  
tarnished  
And too much richness  
repels.

Blousy and tawdry,  
the temptress  
Ceases to attract  
lovers.

The browning smile reeks  
of rot.  
The ripe abundance is  
decayed

The ageing summer  
ignoring  
all hints her season  
is gone.

Lingers, outstaying  
her welcome  
an embarrassment  
to all.

© *Margaret Pearce*  
PO. Box 253,  
Belgrave, 3160  
Victoria  
Email:

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1/ Churchill  
2/ Alexander Bell  
3/ 1975  
4/ John Howard  
5/ 1877  
6/ Melbourne  
7/ Australia  
8/ 2006  
9/ Australia with 84 gold medals.  
10/ Seven. They axed it after 6 months and  
Ten picked it up.  
11/ The Philippines  
12/ Philip Island  
13/ Slung off the deck of a boat.  
14/ 20 March 1931 and 15 March 1937.  
15/ Wonthaggi.  
16/ 1885  
17/ 1798  
18/ #1414  
19/ The Grantville Transaction Centre  
20/ March 22





## **AGL has applied to the Environment Protection Authority for works approval to install a floating storage regassification unit at Crib Point and a licence to operate it.**

The EPA asked AGL to provide additional details about how they will protect the environment, operate efficiently and meet best practice standards.

EPA is now inviting interested parties to complete a feedback survey on AGL's response. Submissions can be provided by anyone, including those who have or have not made a submission to the EES hearing.

Submissions need to focus on the new information supplied by AGL. The AGL response is attached and here are links to the EPA request for submissions and their survey:

[Crib Point Gas Import Jetty and Pipeline Project EPA's role | Environment Protection Authority Victoria](#)



## **Roymows! 0403 917 746**

Mowing, trimming, low level branch removal, garden/yard clean ups and tip runs.  
Based in Harmers, Roy's Mowing covers Cape Paterson, Wonthaggi, and South Dudley.

**No job too small. Pensioner discounts.**

Email: [roymows@gmail.com](mailto:roymows@gmail.com)

ABN: 97336380867



## BOOK REVIEW



### **A spanner in the Works: The story of Alice Anderson written by Loretta Smith. Review by Sharon Verghis.**

On the evening of 6 August 1926, Alice Anderson donned her driving goggles and gloves, waved to the cheering crowds outside Melbourne's Lyceum Club, and got into her tiny two-seater Austin 7.

The boot was packed with two guns, sleeping bags, a compass, four gallons of water, a supply of biscuits, and, strangely, two potatoes with red curly wigs, she tooted the horn and set off. Beside her was her former teacher, Jessie Webb.

Their mission? A three-week pioneering trip to the never-never. 'There is only one main route from Adelaide to Darwin, and that is only a camel track,' the tiny young woman behind the wheel said breezily of the 2,607-kilometre journey ahead of her. 'We are not going to stick to the beaten track.'

When historian Loretta Smith first came across a brief snapshot of Anderson in a biography of legendary garden designer Edna Walling, she was intrigued.

At twenty-nine, Anderson had already crammed several incarnations into one short life: mechanic, inventor, entrepreneur, owner of Australia's first all-women garage, and the first woman to provide a private motorised service to the public, but she was missing, like so many other pioneering women, from the pages of Australian history.

Who, Smith wondered, was this rebellious, contrarian force of nature, 'small and pugnacious' as her family described her?

In *A Spanner in the Works*, Smith brings Anderson's outsized story to colourful life via an archaeological trawl through university archives, intimate letters, and interviews with relatives.

Anderson was born in 1897, and her love of speed emerged early. At the age of ten, she was flying along on her aunt Isabel's bicycle.

By age 12 Alice was galloping through bush near the family's run-down cottage in Victoria's rugged north-west.

By 1915, Australia's motor-vehicle population had reached 38,000, representing one of the world's quickest uptakes of car ownership at the time. As Smith writes, driving was aligned with notions of freedom, independence, and exploration – a seductive idea in such a vast country.

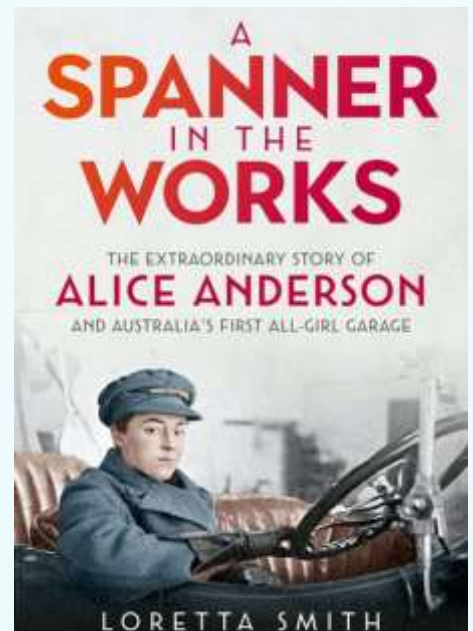
Women were not immune to this. 'Lady motorists' were increasing, despite a male backlash against female mobility (a letter by the Automobile Club Victoria's solicitor arguing that 'women drivers lack the nerve and judgement of the stronger sex' was typical of the prevailing sentiment).

Ground-breaking women motorists like French motorsport star Camille du Gast and British speedster Dorothy Levitt were busy proving men wrong from the 1900s onwards. Anderson was determined to join this intrepid band. She first learnt to drive lumbering char-à-bancs on the treacherous Black Spur before setting up a private chauffeuring service from her landlady's backyard in Melbourne's Kew.

Wearing breeches, boots, a shirt, and a tie, she was often mistaken for a boy. Her clients came from Melbourne's moneyed class; she drove them to the opera and theatre, scenic bush spots, and shopping expeditions on Chapel Street.

In 1919, Miss Anderson's Motor Service, an all-women garage staffed by a band of handpicked and trained garage girls, opened with a launch party including the likes of a young Robert Menzies and Dame Nellie Melba.

The press breathlessly charted the rise of this 'boyish-looking figure in dungarees generously ornamented with very real grease'; the deeply conservative Melbourne establishment, unsettled by her bold flouting of social and gender codes, murmured darkly about sexual 'inverts' and moral transgressions.



It is a strength of this book that Smith weaves Anderson's story so adeptly into this wider tapestry of sexual politics, cultural mores, and the development of feminism in 1920s. Feminist motoring historian Georgine Clarsen believes Anderson was part of a generation of 'radical individualism' prizing individual accomplishments over gender difference.

Anderson trained more than thirty young female chauffeurs and led touring parties to South Australia, New South Wales, and Tasmania.



Then came that historic trip to Australia's Dead Heart. Crowds cheered as the tiny Austin, covered in red dust, chugged into Alice Springs. Here, Anderson would cross paths with young British pioneer aviator Alan Cobham.

It was a serendipitous meeting; back in Melbourne, she had already begun plans to attain her pilot's licence.

A mere week later, however, Anderson was dead. On a Friday evening, 17 September 1926, two of her garage girls found her bleeding from a gunshot to the head. A coronial inquest concluded that her death was accidental. Smith suggests that this is far from the complete truth.

As Smith writes, 'the past can throw up fragments that raise more questions than they answer, leaving us to guess.'





# Sometimes you just need help when it comes to parenting rights.

## Call: 1800 754 401

Separation is a difficult time for everyone in a family, especially the children. Sometimes you just need to get outside help when it comes agreeing on what is best for you and your child.

James McConvill & Associates is a Law Firm that has particular expertise in family law matters in the regional areas around Victoria. For more than 14 years they've used the phone and Internet Technology to provide remote servicing within the legal profession.

This has a twofold benefit of not only being Covid compliant, but offers an extra layer of discretion that helps protect children from the traumas of separation as well as giving our clients the upper hand when it comes to negotiating parenting rights.

Call James McConvill & Associates 7 days a week from 8:00AM to 8:00PM on 1800 754 401



JAMES McCONVILL & ASSOCIATES  
FAMILY LAWYERS

A BETTER WAY

James McConvill & Associates 145 Smyth Street, Corinella, Victoria 3984

## CHASE COMPUTERS

GORDON CHASE  
0430168345

300 McDowell rd  
Woolamai  
VIC 3995  
(03)56787097  
gordon@esahc.com  
www.esahc.com

### ArtSpace GALLERY Wonthaggi

Exhibitions on the website  
<http://artspacewonthaggi.com.au/index.php/future-exhibitions/>  
Open by appointment – just email  
[artspacewonthaggi@president@gmail.com](mailto:artspacewonthaggi@president@gmail.com)

1 Bent Street, Wonthaggi  
Victoria 3995 Australia  
t: (03) 5672 5767  
e: [artspaceenquiries@gmail.com](mailto:artspaceenquiries@gmail.com)  
www.artspacewonthaggi.com.au

<http://basscoastartists.org.au/>



<http://aspi-inc.org.au/>



BAL

Bereavement Assistance Limited

Bereavement Assistance Limited is a not-for profit funeral service offering high quality, professional and affordable funerals. Our services are available to all members of the Victorian community.

Phone: 9564 7778

Website: [WWW.bereavementassistance.org.au](http://WWW.bereavementassistance.org.au)

## Bass Coast Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc



P O Box 6076 Surf Beach 3922

Registration Number A0096592H

**Phone: 0448 999 138**

**<https://basscrra.org>**





## **SUNRISE OVER THE WATERLINE NEWS OFFICE**