

PHILLIP ISLAND VIBE

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August 2024



A dozen bush stone-curlews from Mt Rothwell Sanctuary will be reintroduced to Phillip Island (Millowl) in August, with hopes the new program will cast a lifeline to the critically endangered species. See all the details on page 11.

RICK NORTH
PH: 03 5678 5190
FAX: 03 5678 5191
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Health and Healing with Pip

Life is like hopscotch

As I did one of my bike rides this week, I came across a hopscotch game that was drawn on the footpath and it stretched a whole block.

Aside from admiring the artwork, I was impressed by how it was winding, curving, looping, it even had dead-ends and challenges along the course.

It reminded me of life.

Life never goes in a straight line.

Even when we make a plan.

Especially when we make a plan. Right?

What's that quote? "When we make a plan the Universe laughs."

My journey started with me growing up in Tasmania, going to University to study Psychology and then Tourism Marketing; travelling to Africa, UK, Europe, Asia, South America, Egypt and then working on cruise ships around the US and Caribbean, as an entertainer and teaching my meditation classes.

And now I run my own business coaching people to take care of themselves.

None of that was planned at the beginning.

How could I have known that this was how it would all unfold?

Although my 'life-hopscotch' does have a theme, it all centres around me being happy and helping others to do the same. You might like to call that my purpose.

One of my mentors said to me "Pip, your job is not your purpose, your career is not your purpose, it's the essence underneath them, the driving force behind them, that's your purpose."

What is your theme?

The other cool thing that happened while I did my ride, was I saw a very big and noisy flock of Black Cockatoos.

Scott Alexander King says that Black Cockatoo teaches the lesson of SURRENDER.



"Black Cockatoo demonstrates the patience that can only come when we accept that we cannot possibly know everything at the beginning of the journey and that wisdom will present itself at the appropriate time.

She helps us take control of life by insisting that we grow at our own pace and learn what we need to know in our own time.

She encourages us to just sit in contemplation and wait for life's mysteries to unfold without consciously seeking answers.

She teaches us to trust, encourages us to confront our fears, to go with the flow and to embrace all new opportunities as they present themselves. This period of uncertainty and chaos that you're going through will soon be over, so be patient, as it will soon pass."

What a perfect message from Black Cockatoo.?

So, if you are feeling overwhelmed and stressed - take a breath – and ask yourself 'what will truly make ME happy?' Not just 'who else do I need to take care of?'

How your 'life-hopscotch' unfolds is not about anyone else but YOU.

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Book Reviews

**By Turn The Page Bookstore,
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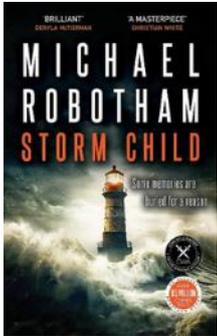
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Storm Child

By Michael Robotham

Price: RRP \$32.99

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SOME MEMORIES ARE BURIED FOR A REASON. . . The compulsively readable new thriller by the #1 bestselling and award-winning master of crime

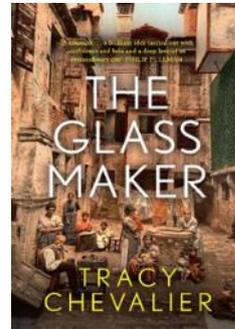
The most painful of Evie Cormac's memories have been locked away, ever since she was held prisoner as a child - a child whose rescue captured hearts and headlines.

Forensic psychologist Cyrus Haven's mission is to guide her to something near normality. But today, on a British beach, seventeen bodies wash up in front of them. There is only one survivor, with two women still missing. And Evie's nightmares come roaring back . . .

Whatever happened all those years ago lies at the core of this new tragedy. Because these deaths are no accident. The same dark forces are reaching out, dragging her back into the storm.

Evie must now call upon Cyrus's unique skills, and her own, in their search for the missing pieces of this complex and haunting puzzle. But will that be enough to save them? And who will pay for the past?

'Robotham is a master storyteller at the peak of his powers. Storm Child once again proves why he's the world's most bankable crime writer' TIM AYLIFFE



The Glass Maker

By Tracy Chevalier

Price: RRP \$34.99

**(10% discount to
registered customers)**

FROM THE GLOBALLY BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF GIRL WITH A PEARL EARRING

'A triumph... a brilliant idea carried out with confidence and brio and a deep love of an extraordinary city. The ingenuity of the time-skipping is beyond admiration' PHILIP PULLMAN

Venice, 1486. Across the lagoon lies Murano. Time flows differently here – like the glass the island's maestros spend their lives learning to handle.

Women are not meant to work with glass, but Orsola Rosso flouts convention to save her family from ruin. She works in secret, knowing her creations must be perfect to be accepted by men. But perfection may take a lifetime.

Skipping like a stone through the centuries, we follow Orsola as she hones her craft through war and plague, tragedy and triumph, love and loss.

The beads she creates will adorn the necks of empresses and courtesans from Paris to Vienna – but will she ever earn the respect of those closest to her?

Tracy Chevalier is a master of her own craft, and The Glassmaker is vivid, inventive, spellbinding: a virtuoso portrait of a woman, a family and a city that are as everlasting as their glass.

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DOLLARS AND SENSE BY DAVID WELLS

Insurance – You Can Save Money and Still Keep Covered

I was thinking of writing about something as interesting as “how much cash is too much” when I recalled my less than positive experience with recent insurance renewals. I know insurance is a contentious thing of late, with renewal costs surging and yet more and more disasters occurring with floods, fires storms and car theft on the news every night. It’s not easy having to balance your costs and the insurance company needing to balance their books.

While not endorsing some insurance companies’ behaviour, I can at least understand some of their arguments trying to explain it. They are controlled by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) and just like banks must maintain a safety margin of liquid capital. Given that probably more than half of their income is derived from investment income returns, low interest rates have definitely lowered their profitability in recent years. Following fires and then floods and then more floods leading to record payouts and their rising costs of reinsurance (insuring the insurers) the only thing they can do is to increase premiums and to not insure risks that have been shown will led to excessive payouts. Regardless of what we think, insurance is a wholly commercial decision by an insurer – it can be an emotional one for the insured and insurance by law is not a right even as we may think it necessary. Enough of the insurers, what about us?

Insurance is paid to compensate us for loss in the event of a defined event under whatever type of policy we have. The most common types are home building, contents, cars, public liability and work cover in general categories and life, income and trauma/disability on the personal front. There are many other forms including business and special policies but space doesn’t permit a complete analysis of all types so I’ll touch on techniques to help minimise the costs of a few and you may be able to work from that.

My wife and I review our household insurance each year. We assess what is actually covered under each proposal and at

140 metres above the Latrobe River, we don’t need riverine flood cover, but we do need water ingress; at 800m from a state forest with tree lanes passing our weatherboard home, the bushfire protection is a no-brainer.

While we may stay with an insurer for more than a year it’s been demonstrated that if you’re unlikely to change insurers your premium is almost certainly higher than the “policy nomads” who annually look for the better policies. Bear in mind that the cheapest is

rarely the best and will not necessarily cover what really happens. So decide what cover you really need and make sure that the policy you choose will cover that. That applies to all insurance policies regardless of the property being insured – it needs to cover the risks but you don’t want to pay for useless cover either.

Our car insurer (big red brand) offered us a 38% premium increase for my wife’s car this year so we shopped around and switched to another insurer (a big blue brand) for a whopping 42% less and better benefits. When we contacted the red brand they said they we sorry to see us go after being loyal customers for so long...

I drive a 4WD ute deriving from being the farm ute but I also use the 4WD in the deserts and our magnificent high country so I travel where the big red brand and even the big blue brand won’t cover me if I’m not on a made road and they have a seriously tight definition of that. Crossing a river ford is a total no-no too so I need special 4WD insurance. When I switched to my current insurer it was cheaper (again) than the big red brand. Then the new insurer an offered extra discount for off-road driver training. My army training was insufficient so I spent \$450 on a pleasant day out driving in the bush and saved \$470 per year more on my policy. It’s not rocket science. We are now saving nearly \$1,400 per year for both vehicles for better cover and greater flexibility. We did do our due diligence on both insurers so are confident about their service too. So with your next renewal check, look at what else is available, and certainly look at what and how much of it you really need. Comparison sites are a good start where you can see various alternatives and then start digging deeper. Comparison sites get paid for policies sold so they may not really be totally on your side, but they can provide a list of possibles and a price range, Better still, ask around and find a good broker who will be on your side and if necessary be able to go into bat for you if you do need to make a claim. They too will have a wider choice of qualified insurers from which to choose and will help avoid the liability of under insurance. Spending the (little) extra to guarantee an expert on your side is a small price to pay. By telling your insurance broker, what you’re looking for and what you’re not, you’ll save so much time and have much less risk.

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PHILLIP ISLAND AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Phillip Island's Guesthouse Legacy

By Pamela Rothfield

Phillip Island was a hidden gem, waiting to be discovered, not only by farmers wanting to cultivate the land but also by those seeking respite from the bustling city life. The year was 1868 when the island was first sub-divided, and parcels of land were offered for sale. It was also the time when the first whispers of its potential as a holiday destination reached the ears of many. The promise of pristine beaches, rolling landscapes, and a tranquil escape, led to those with private homes in Cowes, offering accommodation to small groups of eager tourists. As settlement continued, the island's allure spread, prompting gradual expansions of existing homes, often including the addition of quaint bungalows to cater to the increasing numbers of visitors. These early guesthouses, modest in size and amenities, soon found themselves at the centre of a burgeoning trend. Infrastructure became a priority, with each guesthouse ensuring a steady water supply, toilets, and the inclusion of lush vegetable and pleasure gardens, many with rolling lawns.

The 1920s marked the zenith of the guesthouse era on Phillip Island as these charming establishments had become staples of the island's identity. Some catered to a select, elite clientele, offering an exclusive and refined experience such as croquet and tennis, while others warmly welcomed over a hundred guests at a time, including families and energetic young souls. The various guest registers reflect a diverse tapestry of backgrounds, from aristocrats to hardworking graziers, returned servicemen, and young farmworkers.

Wives also welcomed the break from the demands of daily life, provided by the guesthouses. With no meals to cook, beds to make, or laundry to tend to, they revelled in the arranged entertainment for their children. Whether playing on the nearby beach or joining fellow guests around the piano or dance floor, every moment was crafted for joy. Activities included excursions to the strawberry farm, visits to see the seals, penguins and koalas and picnics were all popular offerings.

Some guesthouses promoted activities tailored to the male head of the house, such as shooting, fishing and boating, with roads on Phillip Island described as being 'splendid for cycling'. The



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EREHWON GUEST HOUSE, COWES, P. I.

island also hosted sailing regattas, beauty pageants, and the much-anticipated annual New Year's parade, where guesthouses engaged in friendly competition with one another.

Behind the scenes, the dedicated owners and staff of each guesthouse orchestrated a symphony of services. Managers, housemaids, chefs, handymen, and an array of workers collaborated to ensure guests were not only well-fed and refreshed but also entertained and secure, 24 hours a day during their special one or two weeks of annual holiday.

As time marched forward, so did the landscape of Phillip Island's hospitality. The 1970s saw the decline of the guesthouse era, making way for motels and caravan parks. Some guesthouses met unfortunate fates, succumbing to fires or being replaced by housing developments. However, a few underwent transformative makeovers, emerging as conference centres, restaurant complexes, or embracing the Bed and Breakfast model.

The changing tide brought new preferences among guests, who now sought diverse experiences during their island retreats. Restaurants and cafes sprouted, catering to those who preferred to dine out, while innovative and diverse tourism ventures took root.

Today, many former guests hold fond memories of Phillip Island's guesthouses, recounting tales of chance encounters that blossomed into lifelong friendships or even love stories. Others, with a twinkle in their eye, recall the days when they worked tirelessly in the service of creating magical experiences for the island's visitors.

The evolution of guesthouses on Phillip Island stands as a testament to the island's ability to adapt while preserving the essence of its hospitality. From modest beginnings, the guesthouses of Phillip Island developed into a thriving legacy, enriching the lives of those who were fortunate enough to experience their charm.

While the romantic era of Phillip Island's guesthouses has passed, the enduring memories created during that time remain, contributing to a cherished chapter of the island's story.

Significant Tree Register

Bass Coast Shire Council is inviting residents and landholders across the Shire to nominate their favourite trees to Council's Significant Tree Register.

Bass Coast Mayor, Cr Clare Le Serve, explained, "All residents and landholders can now nominate trees of ecological, cultural, or historical significance wherever they are located across the Shire. With National Tree Day on 28 July 2024 just around the corner, it's the perfect opportunity to celebrate and protect our precious green assets by nominating a tree for the Significant Tree Register."

"Once the nomination is confirmed by a panel of specialists, the tree's species, location and details will be added to our Significant Tree Register for protection into the future," said the Mayor. "This initiative not only preserves the natural beauty of our region but also honours the heritage and ecological value of these magnificent trees."

The Significant Tree Register is an important element of the Bass Coast Urban Forest Strategy. The Register will be supported by Council's adopted Local Law to ensure appropriate regulatory management for protected and significant trees.

Tree nominations can be made easily through the interactive form where users can also view the trees currently included in the register. With a mobile phone or tablet in hand, photographs and other information can also be submitted whilst individuals are on-site, standing next to their favourite tree.

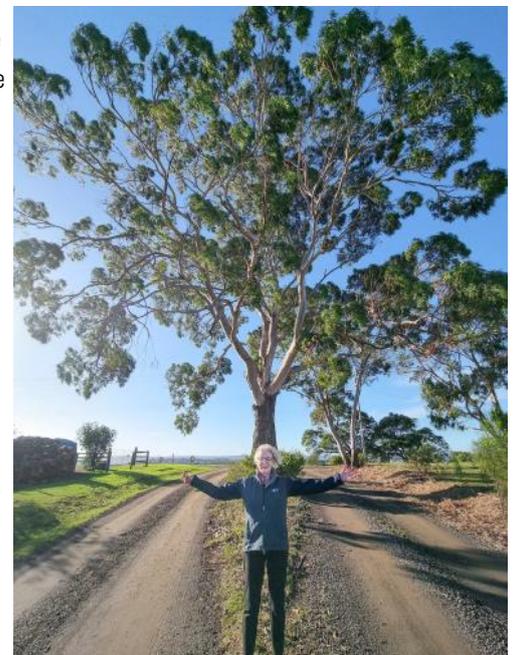
Each nomination will be assessed by a specialist panel against specific criteria. Once confirmed, the tree will be registered and displayed on the publicly available map. This map can be viewed online by developers, residents, contractors, and others prior to considering future on-site works or to check whether trees are already placed on the register.

Heavy penalties can be applied for damage to, or removal of trees on the Bass Coast Significant Tree Register.

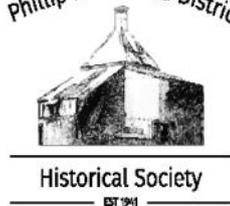
We look forward to celebrating this new register which our local community have spent years advocating for. We invite everyone to come along and have their

say and celebrate the wonderful trees in the region that are special to people and the environment.

Community information sessions are being held to explain how trees can be registered and make it to the Significant Tree Register. Details will be provided soon. Further information can be found on Council's website,



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Phillip Island & District Historical Society



A classic crime story from our esteemed crime writer, Leon Herbert

A Poor Investment



Leroy was a morning person, even on weekend trips. On this particular Sunday, he had done his morning exercises, shaved and showered, and then raided his hostess's kitchen, all before 8am. He opened a new litre of milk, poured himself a full glass, and retired to the dining room. He was just taking a long swallow when two other guests stumbled down the stairs.

'Morning,' yawned Fletcher Brown. 'How did you sleep?'

'Like a log,' Leroy answered. Their hostess, Judy Willis, was known for her hospitality. The middle-aged widow had made her guests feel perfectly at home in the cosy country house.

'This is a nice change,' said Mary Wade, the second late riser. 'The five of us usually meet just once a month, and then it's all business.'

The four guests and their hostess were the sole members of an investment club and, although Leroy knew nothing about finances, he enjoyed the camaraderie and the profits.

'I think this is more than a social get-together,' Fletcher said, lowering his voice. 'Did anyone else notice Judy's behaviour?'

Just then the fourth guest wandered into the dining room, cradling a cup of coffee.

'I noticed,' he whispered.

Chuck Harris, a normally cheerful young man, was looking

uncharacteristically worried.

'Judy let fly with some cryptic comments at our last meeting.'

'Yes,' Leroy agreed. 'She did make a few jokes about shady bookkeeping, but I thought she was just railing against the Federal Reserve.'

Mary picked a piece of lint off her fluffy guest bathrobe.

'Well, all of us do a portion of the bookkeeping, except Leroy, of course, who's hopeless in that area.'

'I wonder if Mary was serious,' said Fletcher, 'and if she has any proof - or just suspicions?'

Their musings were interrupted by a voice from the kitchen.

'Oh, drat!' A few seconds later, Judy walked into the dining room. 'Morning, everyone. I'll be back in a minute.' Then she threw Leroy a decidedly hostile look, grabbed her car keys from a bowl and headed out the front door.

'What was that about?' Mary said with a muffled giggle.

Before anyone could speculate, there came the sound of cracking wood, followed by a crash. The guests raced to the front door and threw it open.

Judy's house was set on a bluff. Poised over a ravine stood a footbridge connecting the house to the parking area by the road. Half the bridge was no longer there. The centre section had collapsed under Judy's weight, sending her tumbling onto the river rocks below.

'She's alive,' Fletcher said. Fletcher and Chuck skidded down the sides of the ravine, while Mary hurried back inside to call for help.

Leroy took his time. He watched his friends trying to help the injured woman, then turned his attention to the edges of wood by the break. Someone had sawn through them, he noticed, ensuring that the bridge would collapse. He didn't want to suspect one of his friends of attempted murder, but the evidence was unmistakable.

Back in the kitchen, Leroy opened the refrigerator, found what he was looking for - or rather found that what he was looking for was missing - then checked the wastebasket under the counter.

'Yes,' Leroy muttered. 'We may just have a shady bookkeeper in our midst. And a prospective killer.'

Whom does Leroy suspect? Perhaps he was being hasty in his conclusion as he was in a hurry to catch his plane to Cape Town!

Turn to page 15 for the solution.



L:R: Bank Chair Peter with Ânerie owner Cryss, Richard, Shantelle and Sean.

Ânerie General's heart is a flutter after donation of defibrillator!

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- 3 tbs Sugar
- 1 pkt Egg Noodles
- 2 boiled Eggs
- Coriander
- Spring Onion

WHAT TO DO:

Cover Belly Pork in Chinese BBQ Rub and leave in fridge over night. Place in dish and pour over Cider, Sugar, chopped Coriander Stems & sliced tops of Spring Onion then cover with foil and place in oven on 140 degrees for 4 to 5 hours or until tender. Remove foil and roast for 15 minutes on high. Remove and leave to rest.

Prepare Noodles and add to a bowl and top with sliced Pork. Pour over pan juices and decorate with egg, coriander and spring onions.

Empty your containers before recycling



To find out more visit basscoast.vic.gov.au/whichbin



Landmark study to reintroduce bush stone-curlew to Phillip Island

A dozen bush stone-curlews from Mt Rothwell Sanctuary will be reintroduced to Phillip Island (Millowl) in August, with hopes the new program will cast a lifeline to the critically endangered species.

Phillip Island Nature Parks is collaborating with the Odonata Foundation and The Australian National University (ANU) in a landmark study to improve the long-term viability of the bush stone-curlew in south-eastern Australia.

Dr Duncan Sutherland, Senior Scientist at Phillip Island Nature Parks, is leading the project, which begins with a pilot study involving 12 birds released – a few at a time – on Phillip Island next month.

Researchers will monitor the birds using GPS trackers and individual identification bands to assess their survival, habitat use, movement patterns and reproductive success. Field health checks, acoustic recording, remote cameras, and observations by citizen scientists will also aid the research.

If the trial is successful, up to 60 birds may be released over the next three years in a bid to establish a self-sustaining population on Phillip Island.

Former Senior Research Officer at Phillip Island Nature Parks, Paula Wasiak, has started a PhD project with the ANU's Fenner School of Environment and Society in Canberra and will monitor and evaluate the reintroduction and the strategies that drive success.

The bush stone-curlew is a ground-dwelling, nocturnal bird with long legs, known for its resounding call. Phillip Island once supported a wild population of bush stone-curlews however there have been no records of them since the 1970s.

Phillip Island Nature Parks General Manager Conservation Jessica McKelson said Phillip Island presents a rare opportunity for reintroduction of the species in a protected environment that is now fox-free.

"Bush stone-curlews are part of the natural biodiversity of Phillip Island and this program is a significant milestone in our efforts towards a sustainable population of the birds," Ms McKelson said. "As conservationists, we are excited to play a part in what we hope will lead to the long-term recovery of the bush stone-curlew in Victoria."

Dr Sutherland said: "Reintroducing the bush stone-curlew is one step towards their long-term recovery and our efforts to move this species off the 'critically endangered' list. If successful, the reintroduction will demonstrate how we can work together to recover species from extinction and return them to their natural ecological roles.

"It will take time to establish a population of bush stone-curlews and we do expect challenges and setbacks along the way."

Ms McKelson said community support would be crucial to the success of the program.

"Importantly, we will need the help of the community to give us the best chance of success and are developing ways for the community to be involved in this project and be part of their recovery."

A wildlife permit has been issued by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, approving the translocation, release, and monitoring.



Bushstone Curlews

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Authorised by Russell Broadbent MP, Independent Federal Member for Monash, Warragul



Phillip Island Camera Club - Astrophotography tips from Photographer Peter Fogarty

Well-known local photographer Peter Fogarty was the guest speaker at the July meeting of the Phillip Island Camera Club. Peter is a resident of the island and enjoys capturing the local scenery and wildlife, and often chats with the local folk while he is out and about with his camera. He often shares his images and insights on social media and has more recently become a citizen scientist taking photos aboard the Wildlife Coast Cruises. His photographic expertise goes hand in hand with his growing interest in ecology.

Our club was very fortunate to have Peter along to talk about his experiences with astrophotography prior to members using this knowledge to participate in a night photoshoot at Conservation Hill organised by Club President, Graeme Lawry. Peter talked about the importance of safety and taking into consideration the low light and lack of visibility when walking to a site at night (make sure you use a good torch)! Planning is also important in terms of the effects on your images, for example, phases of the moon, tides, being aware of artificial light, cloud cover, weather, fog and position of the galactic core. A few useful tips are to scout locations during the day and use mobile phone apps such as PhotoPills (a photography planning app) to check conditions beforehand.

As for camera settings, Peter recommends disabling lens and camera stabilisation, shooting in RAW and in manual mode so you have full control over all your settings. You'll need to have your lens set to the widest aperture and use F2.8 or F3. ISO will probably need to be set at around 5000. You'll need a stable tripod and use a remote-control shutter release with a two-second timer. In terms of composition, Peter recommends that you include some foreground interest, such as spotlight trees, branches or rocks and possibly farm machinery such as a tractor or old truck.



Astrophotography at Conservation Hill, using lit trees for foreground interest, shot on Canon R5, 15 second exposure, ISO-3200, f/2.8 by Graeme Lawry.

Peter also stressed the importance of 'Practice, practice, practice'! If you want to become a better photographer, particularly for special shoots such as astrophotography, then you need to get out there and give it a go!



Local photographer, Peter Fogarty provided an informative presentation to the Phillip Island Camera Club meeting on Astrophotography. Image by Lorraine Tran; images on screen by Peter Fogarty.



Astrophotography shot at Conservation Hill using Canon EOS R5, 8 images stacked to enhance detail and reduce noise, 5 sec exposure, ISO-6400, Image by Ian Prain.

All images featured are copyright of the photographers.

For more information about the Phillip Island Camera Club email Graeme phillipislandcameraclub@gmail.com or phone 0407 092352.

<http://www.phillipislandcameraclub.com.au/>



Fishy Tales with Craig Edmonds from Jim's Bait and Tackle

And just like that we have entered the last month of winter, thank goodness. There were a lot of decent things that came from the past few months - a lot of great fish were the result of a variety of good weather early on. Overall, the fishing this winter hasn't really been desirable, the conditions on the other hand have.

The consistent fishable days tipping on the side of perfect and that which we so desperately desired over the summer months have somewhat become the theme for this winter with a high majority of opportunities to fish.

Unfortunately, the fishing reports haven't quite reflected in the amount of people that have taken to the water from either a kayak or boat or those on the jetties and the land. There is many reasons this has occurred, one being that Westernport Bay and Bass Strait around the Eastern Entrance have been incredibly healthy. The water clarity has been exceptional, there has been very few days where the weed was a problem, or the fresh rainwater flooded the river turning the water brown. Not to mention that there is a HUGE amount of bait fish, plenty of balls of pilchards offshore, hordes of slimeys and mullet in the bay, it's almost a wonder why the fish would take a bait at all when they have this much fresh fish to envelope themselves in. Those who have taken advantage of this aspect have a nice freezer full of fresh baits for the upcoming season and the arrival of the snapper season, unless you were chasing salmon, then that's a different story.

In the bay the area around Rhyll it was overall very slow, a lot of effort was made for honestly, not a lot of fish. Dickies Bay on the edge of the channel has definitely been where the fish have been at, with most people that have been there reporting good numbers of whiting and a rather healthy bag of decent flathead also. It's Winter so there is such an expectation that we will be overrun with Salmon, as many as you want, and so many more hoping for 2-3kg or more, but that would appear to not be the case. The phone shouldn't be ringing, and people shouldn't be walking in the door this time of year asking us where to catch some salmon, but it has and nearly daily. Reports we are getting from salmon are all on the smaller size. Majority of them under a kilo and all from the beaches still with a concentration at Anzacs. There has been a bit of dredging around the San Remo jetty this week which cause the water to be like mud, so many skipped the squid sessions early in the week. Friday and Saturday there were a few out early that caught one or two from the jetty, not a great deal more than that.

It happens every year, yet we still seem to forget and almost act somewhat surprised every time it does, but the bay changes,

new species show up and migration patterns change. We used to be able to pinpoint the exact day the snapper would fire, but those days are gone.

If you fishing over the next few weeks switch it up, change the baits you usually use, change the locations in which you would expect them to be. Whilst your redeveloping new habits, explore the bay. I can almost guarantee you have the marks you fish, those same marks, every.... single.time! Change it up, discover new places, there is a lot of water, don't just rest on fishing the nice sand bars, the nice reefs. Spend some time trying the mud, find those honey holes.

In general, it has honestly been one of the most disappointing winter seasons in regard to the fishing, especially for the amount of people that have continued their fishing throughout it. The weather remained relatively good for the first few months of winter and the water was so crystal clear you would have thought you were at some inland lake in Tasmania. There were a larger number of whales this year and a lot of healthy amounts of bait fish hanging around offshore also. The water is healthy, the bay, the ocean, the small amounts of fish that have been caught have all pointed to a healthy eco system, which we should all be happy for.

But this has really meant nothing for the fishing industry, a lot of people are spending hours trying and being rewarded with one squid and maybe two 30cm whiting. The only good thing with things being this bad, means that it can only get better! Spring is coming and so are the fish!



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PRODUCE**

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TRADING HOURS



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8am - 5pm

Saturday

8am - 3pm

Sunday

8am - 2pm

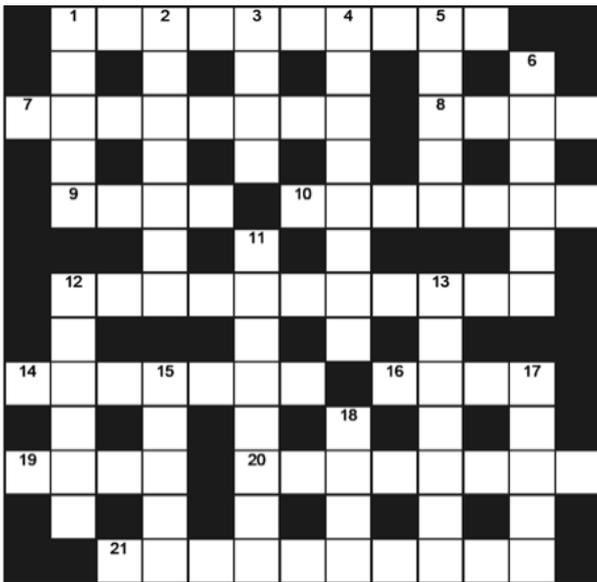
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Brain Food

Find all the answers & solutions to Puzzles & Quiz on page 18 (No peeking!)



Vibe Quick Crossword

- | Across | Down |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 By mistake(10) | 1 Regions(5) |
| 7 Goes backwards(8) | 2 Folds(7) |
| 8 Exhaust(4) | 3 Plate(4) |
| 9 Ribbon(4) | 4 Snuggling(8) |
| 10 Startled(7) | 5 Change(5) |
| 12 Displeased(11) | 6 Ally(6) |
| 14 Hits(7) | 11 Oozing(8) |
| 16 Ova(4) | 12 Productions(6) |
| 19 Mend(4) | 13 Fables(7) |
| 20 Madly(8) | 15 Of the moon(5) |
| 21 Advances(10) | 17 Seasons(5) |



TRIVIA

- Where were the 2022 Commonwealth Games held?
- What famous drink originated in the Raffles Hotel in Singapore?
- Cherry, Plum and Grape are all varieties of which fruit?
- Who discovered penicillin?
- Hickory trees produce which type of nut?
- What was Sir Donald Bradman's batting average?
- What year did cyclone Tracey hit Darwin?
- What is the chemical symbol for Iron?
- What is celebrated on July 14 in France?
- What type of pasta is shaped like a bow tie?
- Which of Snow Whites dwarfs has the longest name?
- What is the name for a group of witches?

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8			7			3		

Vibe Sudoku Each row, column and sub-box must have the numbers 1-9 occurring just once.

A Poor Investment Whodunnit Solution

'They say she'll live,' Mary sighed, as they paced the emergency room, feeling useless.

'For now,' Leroy said. 'Until someone makes another try.'

Fletcher frowned. 'Are you saying someone tried to kill Judy?'

'Oh, yes. The bridge was booby-trapped, just waiting for her to cross it.'

Chuck shook his head. 'It could have been any one of us crossing that bridge. What makes you think she was the target?'

Mary stopped her pacing. 'You know, Leroy. Before she left, Judy looked at you rather accusingly.'

'That confused me, too,' said Leroy, 'but I figured it out. It's first thing in the morning. Our hostess goes into the kitchen, says "drat", then grabs her car keys and says she'll be back in a minute. What does that say to you?'

Mary pondered. 'If it were me, I would be out of milk, or coffee, or something.'

'Exactly. And you'd probably throw a wicked glance at the guest you thought just drank a full gallon of milk.'

'You drank a gallon of milk?'

'No. Someone was in the kitchen after me. He poured the milk down the sink, figuring that Judy would do just what she did, race out to buy another gallon.'

'What do you mean, "he"?' Chuck asked.

'I mean you,' Leroy said. 'Mary and Fletcher came down from upstairs. But you Chuck showed up with a cup of coffee, meaning you were probably in the kitchen after me. Only you could have thrown the milk away.'

PHILOSOPHICAL MUSINGS

BY JOHN BUTTROSE



Gyges Ring

It is fascinating to read the ancient philosophers. Some of our human preoccupations have not changed in 2500 years. We live in a very different world to that of Socrates and Plato, but they can still make us think. We can think of Socrates padding barefooted around the main square in war torn Athens asking very awkward questions of the people he met. After his death his student, Plato, wrote extensively. His works were so thought provoking and interesting, copies remain and are reprinted constantly two and half millennia later. He wrote mainly in the form of a dialogue, a play, in which Socrates featured as the main character and the mouthpiece for ideas, although it was often left to readers to work through the ideas themselves. The dialogues often explored questions of morality and ethics, in particular, "How does one live a good life?"

In The Republic Plato relates a story told by his brother, Glaucon during discussion with Socrates. He tells the story of the shepherd Gyges who found a magical ring, completely by chance, while sheltering in a cave. Gyges realised that if he twisted the stone on the ring he became invisible. He quickly made good use of the advantages of being able to act unseen and unnoticed. He found work in the palace of the king and, with the help the ring, he seduced the queen and together they murdered the king. Gyges eventually gained the throne and the kingdom.

The question being discussed was why we behave in a moral, just way. Glaucon claimed that when given such power, i.e. there being no possibility of being caught, a just man would behave in exactly the same way as an unjust man ... he would kill his enemies, have sex with whoever he pleased, get his friends out of danger. He goes on to argue that it is not reasonable to act in a just way if there are no consequences for acting unjustly ... people act in their own best interest, and would be foolish not to because it is the more rational choice, the rewards are greater! Indeed, acting honourably is often a disadvantage.

Why should we be good and act in a moral, virtuous way? Do we humans behave in a moral way only because there is the possibility of being caught and subsequently punished? There are of course consequences if we are discovered to have behaved badly. There are the laws of the state, which, when broken are punished by relieving people of their freedom or assets. The Christian Church has historically imposed truly dreadful punishments, both here on earth and in some imagined future after death. Disapproval from one's peers is also a powerful disincentive to do wrong.

I know we do have daily reports of individuals who do wrong, but I am tempted to think such reports are clickbait for the news

outlets which so avidly report wrongdoing. Are the wrongdoers a minority?

Am I being optimistic when I think that the majority of people DO behave well, or at least try to? Is it because the majority of people have empathy? We realise that actions have consequences? We realise the hurt, the damage done to individuals, to our community and civil society by bad actions, and consequently do our best to behave well.

Of course, as always, Socrates and Plato were trying to make a bigger point. They were preoccupied with the possibility of living a good life. They did not mean a good life in the material sense. They understood a good life to be a virtuous or a moral life, and a person who lives a virtuous life is happy. By this they meant that an individual should strive to behave honourably, justly, prudently and face difficulties with fortitude and courage.

Socrates, in his reply to Glaucon, agrees that one should act in their best interests. This meant, however, living virtuously because immorality, doing bad things, damages the soul and one's character. Consequently an immoral person can never be happy or considered to have lived a good life. Doing bad things is not in your best interests, at least in the long term.

And we can see this in the tragically short life of that sad, disturbed young man who tried to shoot Trump. He was a loner, and bullied, had a dead end job, he was watching pornography on his phone while lying on that rooftop. He needed a Socrates talking to him of his life, and asking the difficult questions, encouraging him to think "virtuously", perhaps about honour, justice, prudence or restraint and show courage when facing difficulties.

And all those people we hear about in the media doing the wrong thing. I can't imagine them being happy and wonder, "How do they sleep at night?"

Security Doors & Fly Screens

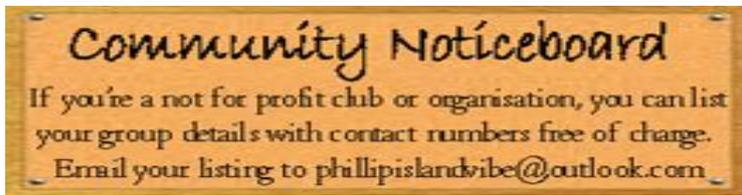
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Phillip Island Lions Club Trash and Treasure market. Sat & Sun 9.30-12.30. Dunsmore Rd, Cowes (next to transfer/recycling depot). Volunteers welcome. Text only 0433 191 654 f/b Phillip Island Lions.

Phillip Island Bicycle User Group Every Wed 10am starting at Amaze'n Things car park. Very social, speed is the slowest rider. Contact Trevor Hayes 0408 574360.

Phillip Island Bridge Club duplicate games Mon & Wed 12.15pm for 12.30pm start. Located at back of Newhaven Hall. Visitors welcome. For partner or lesson info contact 0400 815353.

Phillip Island Girl Guides Girls and volunteers both welcome. Girls aged 7-14 on Thursday night from 5pm to 6.30pm at Scout Hall, Dunsmore Road, Cowes. Contact Chris Oliver 0428 644397 or email: chris.oliver@guidesvic.org.au

Phillip Island Club (Senior Citizens) Carpet bowls, cards, ballroom dancing, craft. Membership \$15 per year. Fridays 12noon, 3 course lunch \$20. Hall available for hire. Ph 5900 2921 or 0431 867058 for more information.

Phillip Island Community & Learning Centre (PICAL) recreational, educational and some welfare services to reflect local community needs. For further info call 59521131, www.pical.org.au or pop in at 16 Warley Avenue, Cowes.

The Probus Club of San Remo 2nd Mon of each month 10am at the Newhaven Hall, 23 Cleeland Street, Newhaven. New members most welcome. For more information contact Anja 0408 035 163 or email probussanremo@gmail.com

Phillip Island Scout Group – Cubs: Wed 6.30pm-8pm, **Scouts:** Thur 7pm-9pm, **Venturers:** Mon 7pm-9pm. Located at Bluegum Reserve, Dunmore Road Cowes. New members welcome. Email: gl.phillipisland@scoutsvictoria.com.au

Phillip Island World Vision Club 2nd Wed of each month 1.30pm, St Phillip's Church Hall, Cowes. A friendly group undertaking fundraising events around the Island to raise funds for sponsored projects around the world. New members welcome. Call Thelma 56785549.

IAA Island Astronomy Association Inc. Our Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.15 pm at the Croquet Club. New members are very welcome. To find out more details please contact Bob Wolstenholme at bobwolstenh@yahoo.com.au

Phillip Island Masonic Lodge - meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm (opp Coles) New members and visiting brethren welcome. Hall for hire - contact Ian Samuel 0413157284.

Phillip Island and District Railway Modellers is a model train club that meets every Sunday to run trains at the Cowes Senior Citizens Club (back door) from 1:00pm to 4:30pm. Visitors are welcome, new members more welcome. More details Geoff N on 0419 357 097 or Geoff B on 0429 419 011. Or email to piadrm@gmail.com

Home Library Service For information on applying for our home library service or volunteering, please speak to library staff on 5644 3320 or visit our website www.myli.org.au/about/volunteers

PARKRUN- free 5km timed run/walk for all abilities. Saturdays 7:45 Churchill Island (www.parkrun.com.au/phillipisland/)

PIRSL Community Men's Shed meets at the rear of the RSL every Tues, Wed & Thurs mornings 9am-noon. Anyone welcome. Contact Brian Walmsley at the Phillip Island RSL Community Mens Shed on email mensshed@pirsl.com.au Leave details and Brian will respond.

Phillip Island TOWN Club Weight Loss Group Thurs 9-11.00am, Ryhll Hall. Joining fee \$60, weekly fee \$6. Nutritional eating, weigh in and group therapy. New members welcome. Contact Vincent Vale on 0414 709066

Phillip Island Croquet Club New members welcome to come and try Thursday and Friday mornings 10am-12pm. Please phone before coming to the club. Secretary 0493 614265. Blue Gum Reserve, Dunsmore Rd, Cowes.

National Vietnam Veterans Museum needs volunteers for gardening and cleaning. Contact Julie on 5956 6400 or apply online via our website www.vietnamvetsmuseum.org.

Phillip Island RSL Day Club Mondays, ANZAC Room, RSL, 10am-2pm. Games, craft, exercises, guest speakers and outings. Transport can be arranged if necessary. Ph: PIRSL Reception on 5952 1004.

Euchre at the RSL Come and play Euchre every Thursday night at 7.30pm or come for a meal first at 6.00 pm with cards to follow. For more info contact Bob Hee 0418 173388.

Phillip Island Camera Club meets 1st Monday of the month (except November, when meeting will be held on 13th) at the Newhaven Yacht Squadron Clubrooms, 1:30 - 4pm. Contact Graeme on 0407 092 352 or email phillipislandcameraclub@gmail.com.

Phillip Island Swim Club must be competent in 3 out of 4 strokes and looking to extend skills with qualified coaches. Swimclub@waterfront.net.au

Phillip Island & District Genealogical Society discover your ancestry. 56 Chapel St Cowes. Tues 10-1pm, Thurs 10-4pm, Frid 1-4pm, Sat 10-1pm. Contact 0418 178343 or piadgs@gmail.com

Phillip Island Adult Riding Club Social & HRCav horse riding club for beginners to advanced. Rallies held every 3rd Sat of month. New members welcome. Email: phillipislandadultridingclub.com.au

Cape Woolamai Coast Action Volunteer group who meet on the second Sat monthly from February to November. We undertake maintenance and plantings along the Cleeland Bight foreshore. Meeting at Cottlesloe Ave 8.00am to 10.00am followed by morning tea. Ph: Marg 0419007758 Email: capewoolamaica@gmail.com

Cowes Branch Country Women's Association (CWA) 1st Thursday of the month February-November. Currently meeting at CWA Shop, 94 Thompson Ave. Cowes. 1pm Ph Penny 0437 042 084 Cowes CWA Tues-Sat 10-2 cwaofviccowes@gmail.com

Country Women's Association Victoria Inc. Phillip Island Twilight Branch Join us for "Sharing, Fun and Friendship". We are a group of women who are engaged in social issues, learning new skills and fundraising for women and children. We meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month at St John's Hall, Chapel Street, Cowes at 7 pm. Contact Sally Matthews 0409521825 and Rosie Brewin 0409792245

The Phillip Island Miniature Light Railway Inc. Secretary, Bev Munro, 0417 578 435 or Facebook. New members welcome.

The Phillip Island & Districts Dart League P.I.D.D.L. is a community-based organisation that organises a competitive Darts comp for players of all skill levels. Weekly round-robin format. New players welcome. Contact Scott Lethbridge 0407543154; scott@glpc.com.au

The Probus Club of Phillip Island Inc meet 4th Wed of month 10am, Anzac Room, Phillip Island RSL, New Members most welcome. Further info Chris Cannin 0434 489011 or Ash Rizvi 59521604.

Phillip Island View Club builds friendships and connections for local women. Raises funds to support 5 children through the Smith Family. Meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 11.00am at The San Remo Hotel, San Remo. New members welcome! call Chris Sproson on 0406 469 824

Phillip Island & District Historical Society 56 Chapel Street, Cowes. Contact: Pamela Rothfield 0418 368 607

Phillip Island Library, Myli Libraries is open at 91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes. Opening hours are Mon, Tues, Thurs and Frid 9.30am - 5pm, Wed 9.30am - 6.30pm and Sat 10am - 1.30pm

San Remo Library, Myli Library 92 Back Beach Road, San Remo. Hours Mon - 10am-5.30pm, Tues closed, Wed 10am - 1pm, Thurs closed, Frid 10am - 1pm and Sat 9.30—1pm. Phone 5644 3320

Bass Coast Toastmasters Meetings in San Remo. Contact Patricia Jamieson 0412339795 basscoasttoastmasters@gmail.com

San Remo Bowls Club Social Bowls 12pm for a 12.30pm start. Stick draw. New bowlers and visitors most welcome. April to September - Tuesday's and alternate Saturday's. October to March - Wednesday's. 1a Wynne Road San Remo, next to the Primary School. Ring 0493237913 for details.

Phillip Island Patchworkers Inc. All varieties of craft such as Embroidery, Beading and Knitting. Monday Nights 7.30p.m. to 9.30p.m. The first, second and last Tuesday of the month 10.30a.m. to 2.30p.m. At Wonthaggi first and third Friday of the Month 10.a.m. 2.30p.m. Corinella Crafties second and fourth Wednesday of the Month 10.30a.m. to 2.30p.m. Please contact President Gayle Rowden 0400634282 or Secretary Lyn Arnold 0429481875

Newhaven Indoor Bowling Club meets every Tues at 12.30-3.45pm in airconditioned Newhaven Hall, Cleeland Av, Newhaven. \$5 includes afternoon tea. New members welcome. Age group 60-90 years. Call Dagmar 59566965.

"Bee Crafty" Community Craft Group is meeting fortnightly on Wednesdays at St Phillips Church Hall, Thompson Avenue, Cowes (opposite Coles). All are welcome. For further details Desma Maxworth 0409 136 620.

Boomerang Bags Phillip Island and San Remo Volunteers sew re-useable bags to supply PICAL pantry and local shops thereby eliminating single use plastic in the community. For more information contact Boomerang Bags Phillip Island facebook page or Vi Pittorino on violetepittorino@hotmail.com and we will get back to you.

SES San Remo Unit trains every Thursday at 6:30 pm at 14 Davis Point Road, San Remo. Come and meet our friendly group, see what we do. We have a role for everyone. For information email sanremo@ses.vic.gov.au

Rotary Club of San Remo and Phillip Island Our friendly Club helps care for & brings our Community together through fund raising & community activities, including our Cowes Op Shop. New members & volunteers welcomed. Call President, Rob Robertson 0412 331218 or Sharon Buxton (op shop) 0437 585546.

MS Community Visitors Scheme in San Remo requires volunteers to visit residents in aged care who are socially isolated. Visits are fortnightly and may include taking residents on outings. Phone 98452729 or email volunteer@ms.org.au

The Probus Club of Cowes-3rd Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at The Phillip Island Senior Citizens Hall Cowes. For enquiries call Sue on 0438 304 082 or email probuscowes2@gmail.com

Phillip Island-San Remo-Bass Coast Vegan Community Sharing and promoting what's vegan & plant based. Everyone welcome. phillipislandbasscoastvegans@gmail.com

Island Voice Meets last Wed of the month 5.30- 7pm PIRSL New members welcome Contact Sec. Linda Marston 0428 344 726.

Phillip Island Auto Racing Club want to get close to the motor racing action at the MotoGP circuit? Then join us a a volunteer marshal! All training provided; New members most welcome - please email: info@piarc.com.au

Bass Coast Kinship Support Group We meet at the Ventnor Recreation Reserve on the Second Tuesday of each month from 10am to 12pm.All Kinship Carers are welcome! Contact Anita 0475 740 927

Phillip Island Community Meal operates on Mondays during school terms, 5.30 to 6.30pm. Volunteers prepare and serve a healthy two course meal to attendees. All welcome. Uniting Church Hall, Cnr Chapel St & Warley Ave, Cowes. Facebook @cowescommunitymeal

The Artists' Society of Phillip Island, ASPI, is for a wide range of artistic expression from the field of Visual arts through to writers and poets. There is a program of regular activities including Textile Arts, Portraits, Life Drawing, Appraise & Connect, Come & Create, and the Ibis Writers group. Workshops held throughout the year. New members are very welcome. For further information contact aspicommittee@gmail.com or Miranda 0400 927 076 .

Philosophy Lunch We meet on the first Thursday of each month over lunch at the Wild Food Farm, on the Rhyll Newhaven Road at Rhyll. We discuss some of the big questions about life, the universe and everything. Newcomers are very welcome. \$37 (including a two course lunch). Bookings or enquiries to John Buttrose: jbuttrose54@gmail.com

Narcotics Anonymous meets weekly Sundays 5-6pm, St Phillips Anglican Church, 102 Thompson Ave, Cowes. New members welcome. For more information contact 03 9525 2833 or na.org.au

The Phillip Island Medical and Health Action Group (PIMHAG) advocates for improved medical and health services for Phillip Island and San Remo. PIMHAG welcomes new members. Please contact Secretary linda@marston.com.au or 0428 344 726.

Woolshed Spinners meet each 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month at PICAL, Cowes, 10 am to 2 pm to spin wool and other yarn activities. Contact Robyn Holman 0429 700 492.

Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary We now meet the 1st Wednesday of the month at the Rotary Rooms, 101 Dunsmore Rd., Cowes. for more information - Lyn 0400126435 or Gill 0431672777. We fundraise to purchase much needed equipment for specialists and medical staff offering services at the Health Hub. New members very welcome.

Phillip Island Bowls Club 40 Dunsmore Rd, Cowes. New members welcome, open to all ages. Social bowls every Thursday at 12noon and barefoot bowls over Christmas holidays. Corporate bowls from January till March. Free coaching available. Come and give it a try - contact the Club on 5952 2337.

Phillip Island Community Art & Craft Gallery Contact Secretary Aleta Groves 0419525 609, email info@phillipislandgallery.com.au

Ibis Writers is a group of local writers who meet once a month to support and encourage one another, share writing opportunities and offer each other feedback on work in progress. All writers, beginners or experienced, poetry, fiction or non-fiction, are welcome to join. Contact Lorrie Read 0425 858 067 or Ian Robinson 0407 240 024 for more information, meeting dates, etc

Rotary Op Shop, Cowes Run and staffed by Volunteers from all walks of life, including Rotary Club members, our Op Shop is a wonderful, fun place to volunteer, help the community & meet new people! New volunteers always welcome, please call Rotary Op Shop Coordinator, Diane for more info: 0417 577 082

Cowes AA Big Book/Steps Meeting, 7pm Tues nights, St. Phillips Anglican Church. Corner Thompson Ave & Church St.(opp. Coles) Ph. 0417 317470

Ventnor Coast Care Association Inc is a volunteer group, working to conserve, enhance and maintain the Ventnor coastal foreshore between Anchorage Rd and Devon Ave. We meet monthly at 9.30am, for a 2 hour working bee, from February to November, followed by a cuppa. We welcome new members! Please contact Cathie or Trish at: ventnorcoastcare@gmail.com.'

The Newhaven Residents Group Association Inc. We are a not for profit organisation advocate for communication and residents concerns. Phone 0413 623 052.

Phillip Island Senior Citizens

Meet Our New Committee

Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club recently held our annual meeting and would like to introduce you to our 2024/2025 Committee.



President Teena Burns, Vice President Beverley Robertson, 2nd Vice President Heather McRae, Secretary Pauline Porter (absent from photo), Treasurer Ian Burns. General Committee as follows, Suzanne Anderson, Lorraine Hirst, Julie Jolly, Chris Meade, Terrie Moore, Bronwyn Raeck, Barry Smith and Sandra Till.

Congratulations to you all and I know you will work hard for a bigger and better outcome for our members.

Did you know that we host Senior Lunches on the 1st Friday of each month? A three course meal - Soup, Roast, Dessert all for only \$20. A courtesy bus can even collect you and take you back home. Raffle tickets are 2 for \$1.00 for your chance to win some wonderful prizes. We provide the great company along with entertainment.

Did you also know that our hall is available to hire to Charities, Clubs etc? The kitchen is fully equipped for all your cooking and catering needs. We can provide round tables, which seat ten people. Our hall has a stage with curtains.

For any enquiries regarding the above, please phone the President Teena Burns on 0424 063 477 or Secretary Pauline Porter 0419 777 807 who will be able to answer your questions and arrange for you to view our facilities.

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- ### ANSWERS TO TRIVA QUESTIONS
1. Birmingham, UK
 2. Singapore Sling
 3. Tomato
 4. Alexander Fleming
 5. Pecan
 6. 99.4
 7. 1974
 8. Fe
 9. Bastille Day
 10. Farfelle
 11. Bashful
 12. A coven

TOMATOES STRUGGLE ON - the continuing saga of Burnsie attempting to grow tomatoes in Winter in Rhyll

I'd like to briefly touch on the use of heat mats to get your seedlings started. They don't need to be anything special; just the basis heat mat will suffice as you don't need all the bells and whistles like temperature control etc. What you DO need is a very good seedling mix. I've tried making my own, and I have used Yates as well. A good mix, but the el-supremo in my opinion is Debco seed and seedling mix. It's expensive but worth it. I have got 90-100% strike rate using this mix, cannot ask for more. What I have also found is that the use of lights (they simulate sunlight) can make a huge difference in the quality of the seedling. Just using the heat mats alone will germinate your seeds, but the seedlings tend to be tall and stringy, a bit on the fragile side. The lights seem to strengthen them up, making a stronger seedling overall. Don't plant the seeds too deep, 5mm will do. I initially water them in with my banana water mix, but as they come up and grow a small dose of milk and turmeric gives them a great boost. A ten to one ratio of milk & water, with a teaspoon of turmeric in a ltr of the mix. Milk will give calcium and all sorts of goodies whilst the turmeric is a fertilizer and antibacterial.

So the day comes (probably about 2 weeks after germination) when you think they are big enough to move into the real world and off the heat mat and lights. Not into the open garden (far too cold), but into the greenhouse or perhaps an inside table by a sunny window. Choose a deep little pot, maybe 5" deep and 3" wide. (12.7cm x 7.5cm). Something that will support the seedling until you are ready in late August/early September to plant outside. I say a deep pot because you need to plant DEEP. (80% under, 20% exposed). By doing so, all that stem planted deep is going to grow roots, hopefully an extensive root system all the way down. The more roots, the more feed the plant will get, the more food, the bigger/stronger your plant.

As far as food goes, I put quite a bit in the hole before planting. Rice flour for starch, turmeric and garlic powder for antibacterial/anti-fungus, oats for fertilizer, ground egg shell for calcium etc. Finely cut up small pieces of banana skin can go in too. Just don't overdo it. Everything in moderation... there is such a thing as overkill!

Last season there were quite a few growers battling septoria and blite. The precautions we can take this year are with milk, turmeric and garlic powder. All three will give your plants far better protection. Once they are off and running, there is just one more thing... well... one of a few; but soluble aspirin will help shore up the plant's immune system. Aspirin contains salicylic acid, a valuable element to fight disease. Just dissolve the aspirin into a 1 ltr spray bottle and give your plants a spray every two weeks or so.

Happy gardening... and keep learning, we never know it all!

Burnsie The Rhyll Gardener



Any queries, questions or problems, drop me a line via *The Vibe* or on my email: Burnsiestomatoes@gmail.com
Happy gardening.

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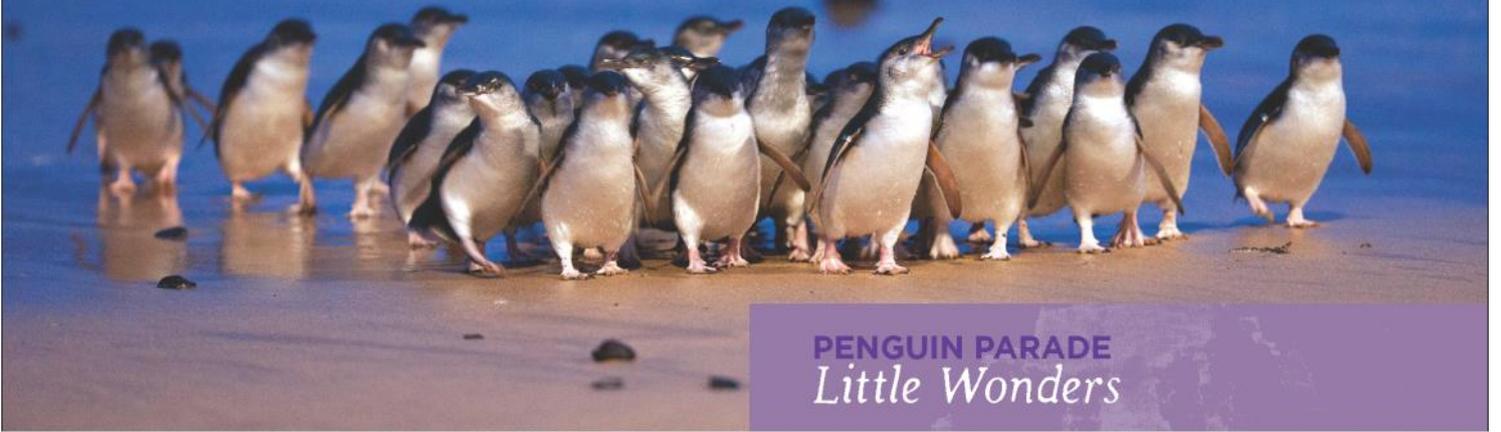


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