

Winchelsea Star

Price \$1

Your Weekly Community Newspaper

Since 1977

Vol 46 Ed 4

Tuesday 7 February 2023

winchelseastar.org.au

Local boy, Jim Duggan, still has it



Last weekend at the Grand Annual Sprintcar Classic in Warrnambool, Jim Duggan was asked to lead the Sprint Cars out onto the track for the A Main on Friday night, a field of 22 Sprint cars with drivers all hoping for the Prize money on offer.

It was a proud moment for the legend Jim, who still, at 86, drives the Vintage Tas 2 car which is also 50 years old, on tracks around Victoria, when the vintage club is invited to support a race event.

So proud of you Jimmy! (More p. 3)



WINCHELSEA *Pool*


60th Anniversary Celebration

SUNDAY 19 FEB

Giveaways,
Games
and Fun

FREE
ENTRY

DEVELOP

Surf Coast Shire Council is committed to fostering an environment where people with clever and creative ideas can make a difference.

DEVELOP supports creatives to explore new directions, ideas and concepts to advance their practice and/or their careers. It provides individual creative practitioners up to **\$3000** and creative collectives up to **\$5000** to undertake:

- Intensive creative research and development of new ideas/concepts
- Practice-based experimentation

KEY DATES

DEVELOP Applications Open:
Wednesday 1 February, 2023

DEVELOP Applications Close:
5pm Tuesday 28 February, 2023

Funds will be available approximately 6 weeks after the closing date.

surfcoast.vic.gov.au/ArtistCreativeGrants


Roadside Burning

The fire season is upon us

The Winchelsea Fire Brigade has had a busy 2022 year with about 65 + turnouts along this year that included grass and scrub fires, structure , non – structure. Motor vehicle incidents, as well as a few false alarms.

Considering last year's high rain fall and current land grass fuel loads in and around the township areas, and to help minimise a possible threat of fire impacting upon the town, the Winchelsea Fire Brigade plans to conduct a roadside burn program over the next few months. (Weather permitting.)

All intended burns and permits are approved by Surf Coast Shire, Vic Roads and the CFA.

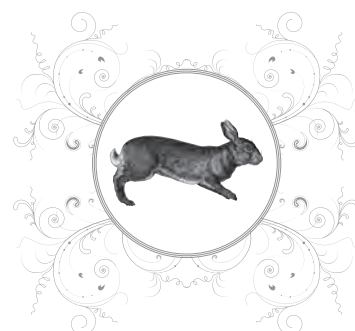
The list of proposed roadside burns include:

- Barwon Park Road (South end)
- Leighs Lane
- Mc Conachys Lane
- Mc Donald's Lane
- Ondit Road West
- Winchelsea – Cressy Road (2.5 km west of the railway line only)

Additionally, the Brigade may, as well as in previous years, carry out some private burns around the area most likely at the later end of the summer period which includes the Old Winchelsea Pound (Next the Winchelsea SES Unit Station.)

Most burns will be conducted from early evening during the week and during the day on Weekends.

The Winchelsea Fire Brigade wish everyone a 'Fire free' season.



Estia Health is a Residential Aged Care provider and has availability **for both respite and permanent care** at our homes in Bannockburn, Grovedale and Leopold.

Call Gabby on 0419 336 841 if you would like to have a look at any of our wonderful homes and find out more details on Aged Care.

Estia 
Health



Winchelsea CFA, sponsored by the Community Bank Winchelsea

By Charlie Earl



Have a look at this mob, these are the guys that make me feel safe, volunteer firefighters but there is a bit of a difference.

Some of these volunteers supply and maintain their own equipment, trucks, hoses and even supply the fuel.

This funding is for the placement of identification on the vehicles so once in the fire ground they can be recognised.

Private fire trucks are extremely important, they are usually the first on the scene and know the Area. They know where the water points are, access

points to paddocks and places not to go.

The CFA integrated approach to the private fire trucks strengthens the service.

Winchelsea Anglesea and Lorne community bank couldn't find a better place to invest your money.

Celebrating 50 years of speedway

GRAND ANNUAL SPRINTCAR CLASSIC, PREMIER SPEEDWAY WARRNAMBOOL
January 2023

On Wednesday 25th January, Jim Duggan & Marg with race car in tow joined the stream of cars, caravans, 4 wheel drives, tents, & motor homes all headed to the Grand Annual Sprintcar Classic in Warrnambool.

Jim lived in Winchelsea 60 years ago with wife Kath and family then working at the Coal Mine, before moving to Melbourne in 1963.

Jim now retired and living back in Winchelsea was a speedway racer and still runs in the vintage section where these cars are spirited demonstration

Jim Duggan built his first race car in the back yard of Worner Street with the help of Lexie Worland and Mick Mawson mechanic it was made by cutting up an old Ford Pilot which made Hot Rod No 39 this No. became well known.

Jim became a component driver travelling interstate on many occasions, until retiring from racing in 1986. He won 4 Victorian titles and came runner up in many more titled events.

These Sprint cars and drivers for the weekend, came from every State in Australia incl Tasmania And many drivers from America.

Thousands of spectators watched as the cars rolled round engines roaring, forming up 4 wide in salute to the fans as the fireworks went up ,and TV screened the event all around the world.

Jim's Story was also featured in the Book, Speedway Life that was sold at the Fans appreciation day at Warrnambool Showgrounds on the Saturday.



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\$22-

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Chief Health Officer Update

COVID-19 Weekly Data

There were 3,056 COVID-19 cases reported in Victoria this week, a decrease of 11.2 per cent on the previous week. The average daily number of new cases this week was 437, down from 492 last week.

The seven-day rolling average of patients with COVID in Victorian hospitals is 144. There are currently 121 COVID patients in Victorian hospitals, with 6 patients in intensive care, including 2 cleared cases. There are no COVID patients on a ventilator. The seven-day rolling average of patients in intensive care in Victorian hospitals is 7. In the past three months, 5,860 COVID patients were hospitalised in Victoria.

Of Victorians aged 50 to 64 years, 80.1 per cent have had their third dose and 32.3 per cent have had their recommended fourth dose. Of those aged over 65, 90.9 per cent have had their third dose and 68.5 per cent have had their fourth dose. 70.6 per cent of people aged 16 and over have had three doses.

A total of 70 COVID-related deaths were reported to the Department in the past week. An average of 10 deaths were reported each day in the past week. This represents a 51.1 per cent decrease when compared to the same period the previous month.

The total number of reported COVID-related deaths in Victoria since the pandemic began is 7,181.

COVID-19 epidemiological summary

There has been a continued decline in Covid cases and hospitalisations this week. The recent wave of transmission has been driven by a combination of waning immunity and multiple emerging Omicron variants.

The most recent wastewater analysis shows the recombinant strain XBF makes up the highest proportion of detections, accounting for approximately 46 per cent of total detections. BA.2.75 made up 24 per cent of detections, followed by BQ.1/BQ.1.1 with 8 per cent and 17 per cent were unable to be classified.

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Meet our student leaders for 2023



Please officially welcome our Student Leaders for 2023.

This team will be working with Mr Michell and the entire SLC student team to develop leadership and responsibility across the school.

Our student leaders were selected by the whole student population last year via a democratic vote.

We look forward to seeing how they grow and develop over the year.

The leaders were asked to provide a sentence that captured quickly what they believe leadership is. Here is what they had to say:

Lexi (School Captain) – Leadership is sharing your thoughts and ideas

Mia (School Captain) – Leadership is helping others in need

Hemi (House Captain) – Leadership is helping others and being kind

Angie (House Captain) – Leadership is being respectful to everyone

Deegan (Buddy Captain) – Leadership is being responsible

Matilda (Buddy Captain) – Leadership is always being positive

Council grants to help grow Surf Coast creative sector

Australia's fourth largest regional creative hotspot is set to receive another boost through Surf Coast Shire Council's DEVELOP Arts and Creatives Grant program.

Grant applications are now open, inviting locals from all artistic disciplines to be bold and innovative. Grants of up to \$3,000 to support individual professional artists and producers and \$5,000 for collectives are available.

Surf Coast Shire Councillor Gary Allen said, "The Surf Coast has long been known as the home of surfing," Cr Allen said. "We've got the waves, the walks, the waterfalls and all the country style of the hinterland - and to top it all off, dotted throughout this shire, we've also got one of the most innovative Creative Industries sectors Australia has to offer."

"We understand it's not easy being in the creative industry. Money and time

are always an issue - that's why these Council grants support artists of all disciplines. We know that if artists are supported here in the Surf Coast Shire, we all stand to benefit - creatively, culturally and economically."

Submissions open Wednesday 1 February and close at 5PM on Tuesday 28 February. For more information visit: surfcoast.vic.gov.au/creativegrants.



HESSE RURAL HEALTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Hesse Rural Health's 2022 Annual General Meeting will be held at The Hub, Eastern Reserve, Winchelsea and via Zoom on Tuesday 21st February, 2023 at 6pm.

Please contact Hesse on (03) 5267 1200 or reception@hesse.vic.gov.au to RSVP and receive the remote link invitation.

BUSINESS:

To receive the report of the Board of Directors and the audited Statements of Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2022.

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uca.winchelsea@gmail.com
0475 777 301
Services 9.30am Sundays

St John's Catholic Church

Harding St, Winchelsea 3241
Father Joseph Panackal
0404598558

St Thomas' Anglican Church

Barwon Tce, Winchelsea
Rev'd A. Lynne Clarke
stthomaswac@gmail.com
0477 672 042

Thought for the Week

"Remember to be patient and wait.
For patience is truly a wonderful trait.
Most of the battles of life are won
by looking beyond the clouds to the sun,
and having the patience
to wait for the day
when the sun comes out
and the clouds float away."

John Bader
Accredited Lay Preacher

Landcare working bees recommence

All volunteers welcome to assist

The wet spring has resulted in vigorous growth along the river of both planted species and some undesirable species.

The working bees will continue on the first Saturday of each month from 9am till 10.30 meeting at Guye Reserve on Barwon Terrace.

If you would like to help, there is no need to be a member of the group, simply come along and be registered which means you will be covered by our insurance.

Next month we expect to be spreading mulch in preparation for this year's planting.



On Saturday at the first working bee for 2023 Winchelsea Land and Rivercare members removed phalaris, cocksfoot, blackberry etc before they smothered recently planted natives.

WINCHELSEA SHIRE HALL COMMUNITY EXPO

Friday 24th February 2pm-7pm

Winchelsea Community House and Shire Hall
is hosting a free Community Expo
for community groups to come together
and network with the community

Come along and learn more about your community.

There will be food available for purchase on the evening
(bbq, wood fire oven pizza, icy poles and drinks)
and an easter coloring competition for the little ones!

There are still some bookings available.

Email reception@winchhouse.org.au for your group's booking.

We look forward to seeing everyone there



Winchelsea Star

Articles are most welcome and must carry the name and address of the sender.

Weekly deadline is 5pm Friday.

Copy for sports results and weekend events is Sunday 6pm (4pm for hard-copy articles/results left at IGA) unless by prior arrangement.

Copy should be emailed to news@winchelseastar.org.au or left at IGA Supermarket.

The Winchelsea Star reserves the right to edit or not publish any article.

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Winchelsea Star or its Committee.

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Free subscription to digital version at winchelseastar.org.au

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What's happening in Winchelsea

Dancing at The Globe Theatre in Winchelsea

When....Saturday 11th February

Cost.....\$10.00

Time.....8pm....11.30pm

Great music supplied by Charles Pedder.

Supper provided, raffle and door prize.

Look forward to catching up.

Contact : Maureen on 0409253188 or
Charlie on 0419501032

CFA Roadside burns

The list of proposed roadside burns by CFA over the next few months includes:

- Barwon Park Road (South end)
- Leighs Lane
- Mc Conachys Lane
- Mc Donald's Lane
- Ondit Road West
- Winchelsea – Cressy Road (2.5 km west of the railway line only)

Singing

Winchelsea Community House has supported the beginning of a regular singing group at the Winchelsea Shire Hall.

2023 will see the continuation of weekly singing

Wednesday at 4.45pm
at the Shire Hall.

The cost is as follows:

10 weeks - \$70

Concession - \$50 (10 weeks)

Children under 16 - free

You are also able to attend on a weekly basis - \$10 a session.

Email your registration to shirehall@winchhouse.org.au

This is an inclusive group that welcomes anyone who wants to experience the joy of singing with others

Friends of the Barwon Annual General Meeting

6-8pm Wednesday 22 February 2023

Jeff Sykes Rowing Centre, Geelong

Guest speaker Tracey Slatter, Managing Director Barwon Water, who will talk about the Urban Water Strategy/Water for our Future.

In accordance with our rules of association, we also hereby call for nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer.

You may also like to consider joining us as a general committee member...

Please email nominations and/or your intention to attend by Monday 7th November to friendsofthebarwon@gmail.com

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6:41 am, 7:59am, 11:34am,
2:01pm, 7:37pm

Sat and Sun

9:35am, 1:36pm, 7:18pm

To Warrnambool:

Mon - Fri

9:29am, 2:56pm, (to Colac
5:27pm), 6:45pm, 8:53pm

Sat and Sun

8:47am, 2:49pm, 8:37pm

Country Women's Association



7pm Second Wednesday of Month
Winchelsea Senior Citizens' Hall

Bus to the Hub

For reservations on the weekly bus
to the Eastern Reserve Hub,
please phone 52671202.

Surf Coast Mobile Library

Surf Coast Mobile Library
parked in Hesse Street
(outside Shire Hall) on Fridays
between 2:00 and 5:00pm
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Hesse St, Fridays, 2pm-5pm

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Winchelsea SES

Meeting and training
2nd Wednesday

Training 4th Wednesday

Visitors and inquiries welcome

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Winchelsea and District Combined Probus Club



Meets 1st Monday of the

month at 10am. Senior
Citizens Rooms, Harding
St, Winchelsea. New
members always
welcome.

Enquiries Linda 0439 817 263.

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Tuesdays 6.15pm \$13 Cash
Catholic Church Hall -School Term Only

Dr Haidee Benning, 0428 177 964

Winchelsea Playgroup

Every second Thursday 10am-12pm
St Thomas Anglican Church Hall
cnr Barwon Tce and Hopkins St, Winchelsea
Contact: Melissa 0456181268
Facebook - Winchelsea Playgroup 2019
New families welcome

Winchelsea Girl Guides

Our Unit meets at the Catholic Church
Hall, Harding St Winchelsea
each Monday 4.30pm-6pm
All girls 5yrs- 15yrs Welcome!
Contact Yvonne Orchard 0448 672 630
or Bonnie Stokes 0401 386 274

1st Modewarre and Winchelsea Scout Group

Joey's: Tuesdays of school term 5-6pm

Cubs: Mondays of school term 6:30-8pm

Scouts: Tuesdays of school term
6:30-8:30pm

All at Modewarre Hall, Cape Otway Rd

Venturers: Wed at Walton's Rd Venturer Den

Contact Marie McPadden 0409 330147

Winchelsea Transfer Station

Opening Hours

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	2pm-4pm
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	2pm - 4pm
Friday	Closed
Saturday	1.30pm - 3.30pm
Sunday	9.30am - 12.30pm

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An upgraded community asset for you

By Tony Phelps, Chair Winch House

At the close of January, a new copier/printer was installed at Winch House.

This is a significant upgrade as well as a replacement for a 5-year-old machine - most notably with the ability to print, fold and staple. Now available to you!

Copying and printing have long been a staple of Winchelsea Community Houses's services, for anyone looking to photocopy forms, certificates, ID etc, or to digitise documents so they can be emailed or uploaded. Black and white or colour, and either A4 or A3 size sheets.

Now Winch House can offer the ability to not only duplicate and/or digitise, you can also print short runs of A5 or A4 booklets - also in colour and/or black and white.

It is important to note that Winch House can only offer limited assistance with printing and copying, so the service is best for fairly straightforward tasks.

Make sure that your document is finished, checked and finalised because each sheet of paper needs to be charged for even if it is blank! That's how the printer-leasing company operates and Winch House just doesn't have the income to subsidise such things.

Printing and copying rates are very reasonable though.



Winch House would like to thank The Star for its support in obtaining this upgraded community asset. The Star is also playing a big part in exciting developments in the Shire Hall - but more on that in a couple of weeks...

Keep an eye out for the Term 2 program which will come out soon, and either call in or get in touch with manager Wendy if you'd like to find out more. Contact details can be found at winchhouse.org.au

Winch House is normally open 9am to 2pm, Monday to Friday.

Along with copying and printing, there's internet access through a public computer, occasional childcare, rooms for hire with audio-visual equipment, craft and activity groups, and lots more.

And don't forget to drop in to the Shire Hall during the Expo on Friday February 24th (2pm to 7pm).

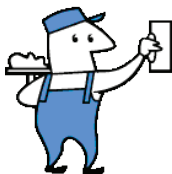
Most of Winchelsea's community groups and organisations will be there so you can find out what's available, what they do, how you can join in or benefit.

A great opportunity to experience just how much 'community' we have in this area.

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Ash Wednesday remembered, 40 years on



Firefighter Leon Armistead will never forget his first glimpse of the Ash Wednesday bushfire which savaged Surf Coast communities and thousands of hectares of Otways bush.

The Lorne CFA Second Lieutenant was investigating first reports of a fire heading their way from Deans Marsh on a blistering hot northerly day made for an inferno.

Driving solo in the brigade LandCruiser through the bush he came around a corner on Big Hill Track up behind Lorne. "And there's these two great big – I'll never forget it in my life, ever – these two great big white gum trees, and the track went between them and all I saw was this red wall and two white gum trees. It was like a painting," Leon said.

"I'd driven from the sea to the fire. We didn't really know what the story was, anything really, and this wall of fire is coming at me. A complete wall of fire."

Leon was facing a living nightmare escalating with furious intensity as it scythed across the Otways, consuming abundant tinder-dry bush on the wings of a ferocious northerly wind.

By the time he had made his escape back to coast, the fire had beaten him there, spotting kilometres ahead.

As it consumed houses in Lorne and townspeople took refuge on the beach

and pier, an aggressive south-westerly change transformed its flank into an enormous firestorm front which then swept up the Otways and Surf Coast through Big Hill, Eastern View, Moggs Creek, Fairhaven and Aireys Inlet and Anglesea.

Along the way it torched 41,000 hectares, tragically claimed three lives – Ilie Mierla on Deans Marsh-Lorne Road, Colin Barton at Fairhaven and Lloyd Venables at Aireys Inlet – consumed 729 homes, 53 other buildings, countless wildlife, livestock and kilometres of fencing.

Firefighters and communities were powerless and awestruck in its path. "No person, nothing ever in the world, could do anything to stop it when it's like that," Leon Armistead said. "You're at its mercy."

Ash Wednesday gouged a livid black scar across the Surf Coast region, part of widespread loss of life and destruction across Victoria and South Australia.

**Thursday 16 February 2023
will mark 40 years since the
catastrophe – and 40 years of
recovery – and Surf Coast Shire
Council will acknowledge the
significant anniversary with
an Ash Wednesday Remembered
community event.**

The event will include a panel discussion but primarily aim to provide a space for survivors and others to come together in memory and tribute, with static displays providing some touchpoints.

Light lunch will be provided. Support will be available for people who might

encounter uncomfortable memories or emotions.

Ash Wednesday Remembered will be from 12pm-2pm in the community centre at Aireys Inlet, one of the communities worst affected by the fire.

"When it came, it came that hard you were running for your life and salvaging what you could," Aireys Inlet CFA second lieutenant of the day Howard Hughes recalled.

"The smoke started to blow, you could hear it like tanks coming up the hill and it was like a war zone with gas cylinders going off. I'm telling ya, entire house roofs were flying around."

Howard and his wife Jenny and three kids preserved their lives but lost their family home.

In Anglesea, Barrabool Shire president of the day Pat Hickford recalls being one of many residents forced to take refuge on the beach as the fire front hit the town. "We'd be looking up and you could see houses exploding all over the place, and you kept thinking to yourself 'I wonder whether that was ours, I wonder whether that was ours?'" she said.

"You couldn't quite tell because of the smoke and whatever."

Her husband John remembers having walked up Noble Street after the fire had been through. "I looked over the hill at the top of my place at the back street there ... and I said to myself if that's hell I've seen it. It was just smouldering bits and pieces, black as ink with these bits of fire."

"Then it hit the bush and just exploded and I thought, that's it."

People can register to attend Ash Wednesday Remembered via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/AshWednesday



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Email: reception@winchhouse.org.au

Term 1 2023

Mini Movers Program

When: Wednesday afternoons 1pm to 1.45pm

Winchelsea Shire Hall Space

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\$90 for six week program

Dates: 1/3, 8/3, 15/3, 22/3, 29/3 and 5/4

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When: Friday mornings 9.30am-10.30am

Winchelsea Community House Space

\$90 for 9 week term program

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Music Program

When: Thursday mornings 10am to 10.30am

Winchelsea Shire Hall Space

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\$60 for six week program

Dates: 2/3, 9/3, 16/3, 23/3, 30/3 and 6/4

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Singing Group

When: Wednesday afternoons

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Winchelsea Shire Hall Space

\$70 for 10 week program

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Commencing: Wednesday 1st February, 2023

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WYLD Youth Group

When: Friday 3rd March and Friday 10th March

6pm to 8.30pm

FREE

Food provided

Meet at the Skate Park

Crochet Group

When: Alternate Saturday afternoons

1.30pm

Winchelsea Community House Space

\$5 per session

Commencing: Saturday 11th February, 2023



Winchelsea Community Facebook pages

What's on in Winchelsea

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Winchelsea Tea Rooms

(Community Centre)

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Winchelsea Community House

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Winchelsea Coronavirus Community Support Group

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The Green Winchelsea Residents

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Growing Winchelsea Inc

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Winchelsea Star

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Winchelsea Movie Club

facebook.com/winchelseamovies

Winchelsea Community Market

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winchelseacommunitymarket

Winchelsea Land and River Care Group

facebook.com/envirowinchelsea/

Upper Barwon Landcare Network

facebook.com/UpperBarwonLandcare

Winchelsea & District Historical Society Inc.

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Winchelsea Wildlife Shelter

www.winchelseawildlifeshelter.com/

SCARS - Surf Coast Animal Rescue Service

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Winchelsea Gardeners

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Winchelsea Health Club

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Winchelsea Playgroup 2019

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Winchelsea Girl Guides

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Winchelsea/Modewarre Scouts

facebook.com/1stModewarreScouts

Winchelsea Fire Brigade

facebook.com/winchelseafirebrigade/

Winchelsea SES

facebook.com/groups/WinchSES

Country Women's Association - CWA Winchelsea Branch

facebook.com/pg/CWAWinchelsea/

Winchelsea Bowls Club

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Club-533783333344345/

Winchelsea Blues Cricket Club

facebook.com/groups/8999049476/

Winchelsea Blues FC

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Mel's Dance Studio

facebook.com/melsdancecentral

Winchelsea Golf Club

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groups/1324943804676697

Winchelsea Kyokushin Karate Club

facebook.com/winchelseakyokushin

WYLD Winchelsea Youth Leisure and Drop in

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Lions Club of Winchelsea

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Winchelsea Historical Society

Winchelsea Street Names

Gosney Street



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7 th May	5 th November
4 th June	3 rd December

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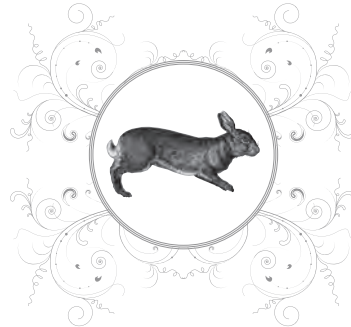
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Date: Wednesday 22nd February

Time: 6 - 8pm

Venue: Jeff Sykes Rowing Centre
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For more information please contact Jessica Culhane, Communications and Community Partnership Officer via phone on [\(03\) 5267 1200](tel:03152671200) or via email jculhane@hesse.vic.gov.au

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