

# PHILLIP ISLAND VIBE

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December 2023



Merry Christmas to all of our valued readers, advertisers, contributors and distributors. We wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas, spending time with you family and friends. Let's all shop and dine out locally and support our wonderful local traders this festive season. Thanks to Destination Phillip Island for this festive front page photo.

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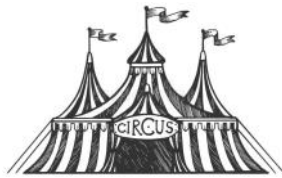
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**A classic crime story from our esteemed crime writer, Leon Herbert**



**The Circus Comes To Town**

Underneath the dazzling big top of the Phillip Island Circus, a sinister shadow eclipsed the spotlight's glow. The gasps of the audience were swallowed by the night as the celebrated acrobat, Seraphina Star, plummeted to her demise. Was it an ill-fated accident or a meticulously orchestrated act of malice? As the salty breeze swept across the island, Leroy, the enigmatic sleuth, and his seasoned ally Inspector Jack Flint were thrust into a web of intrigue, where the line between performance and peril blurred in the haunting aftermath of Seraphina's final, fateful act.

A circus troupe is like a large family and many of the famous names of travelling showmen on the fairgrounds, have become part of the "Big Top" folklore to be remembered by children of all ages, and never to be forgotten. The history of the circus is dominated by dynasties, such as the Ringling Bros, and perhaps the most famous Barnum and Bailey's Greatest Show on Earth. As in any large family, life in the circus is not always harmonious and tensions are bound to arise from time to time. The Phillip Island Circus was no exception.

The situation that confronted Leroy and inspector Jack Flint began in one of the smaller establishments, the local circus that opened to holiday crowds and children during the school holidays, and to which the detectives were called following an unfortunate fatality.

The Phillip Island Circus performance sited at the top of Thompson Avenue in the charming village of Cowes, consisted of the overture from the band, animals, juggling, wire-walking, and of course, the death defying flying trapeze.

A team of clowns is always the icing on the cake, and in our particular story, it was a female clown Seraphina that was the darling of the audience. Statements taken by the two detectives revealed that Seraphina had also captivated Patricio the conductor of the band and he had fallen passionately in love with her. In this, he was not alone, as he had to compete with the attention of Antonio, the shows trapeze artist.

The highlight of every evening was the flying trapeze act performed by Antonio and his partner Brian. Both had to swing blindfolded without a safety net and exchange trapezes at a certain moment.

It didn't take long for Leroy to learn from other circus performers that Patricio and the trapeze artists had learned to perfect the timing of the exchange in relation to the final note of the Minute Waltz. Flint remained puzzled by the failure of the seasoned trapeze partners to get it right. But Leroy whose forensic instincts and love for classical music had provided the logical explanation.

Well Vibe readers, are you tuned in to the probable, if imaginative solution. Check out page 26 to see if you are, or if you perhaps need some help solving this one.

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## Giving Trees helping Bass Coast families in need this Christmas

Christmas Giving Trees are up in all of Bass Coast Shire Council's Customer Service Centres, taking donations to help local families in need this Christmas.

This annual program is coordinated by the Combined Welfare Group which includes local churches, community groups and charities such as The Salvation Army and the St Vincent De Paul Society.

This year we're asking for donations of new, unwrapped gifts for all ages, gift cards and non-perishable food items.

Bass Coast Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve praised the program and the community's involvement.

"This is the 20th year we have worked together with the Combined Welfare Group to gather donations for those who need an extra helping hand," Cr Le Serve said.

"I'm incredibly proud of the way our community comes together each year to help ensure that Christmas is a special day for everyone."

"Christmas Giving Trees help make Christmas a special occasion for everyone and knowing that your donation goes to help someone in your own community makes your donation just that little bit more special." Cr Le Serve said.

This year we're also asking for non-perishable food donations and this includes special Christmas items and supermarket gift cards.

"We know that the cost of living has gone up significantly this year but please consider donating if you're in a position to be able to," Cr Le Serve encouraged.

"Christmas shortbread, biscuits, canned vegetables, rice and pasta are just a few examples of the small, low-cost items that may mean a family can enjoy a special Christmas meal that they might not have been able to afford otherwise."

Christmas Giving Trees are on display in Council's Customer Service Centres in Cowes, Inverloch Grantville and Wonthaggi. Donations will be accepted up until Thursday, 7 December at all Centres except for Cowes which is until Thursday, 14 December.



*Bass Coast Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve encourages everyone to give what they can to the Christmas Giving Trees program.*



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- 5pm Parish Hall, Cowes - Family Service with Carols
- 7.30pm St Paul's, Bass - Holy Communion with Carols
- 11.30pm St Philip's, Cowes - Midnight Mass

**CHRISTMAS DAY December 25th**

- 8am St Augustine's, San Remo - Holy Communion
  - 10am St Philip's, Cowes - Holy Communion
- [www.anglicanparishbassphillipisland.org](http://www.anglicanparishbassphillipisland.org)



## Health and Healing with Pip

### 3 self-care tips for a calm Christmas

Okay so it's December y'all ... ha ha ... I don't say y'all ... but it felt like a fun way to start this column.

Aaaaanyway ... so ... are you ready for Christmas?

I know ... sorry ... it's a trigger question at this time of the year.

Are you over asking these questions: What does everyone want as a gift? Where will we go on the day? Who will be there that we like? Or more importantly, who will be there that we don't like? How much food do we need to cook? Will I get any time to relax?

There are so many rules and expectations and let's be honest ... it's expensive.

Of course, you don't HAVE to join the madness, but it's tough to abstain.

So, let's talk about 3 self-care tips to help you have a calm Christmas this year.

1. Set an intention for Christmas, and make your plans in line with that.

For New Year's Eve, I like to set a theme for the next year – this year was #brave. And all year I have been doing things that push me out of my comfort zone and encourage me to grow, like cold water swimming, fire walking, and starting a new casual position at the new cultural centre (Berninnet).

You could do the same for Christmas ... perhaps it could be a theme of #fun, or #playful, or #chilled, or just plain #easy. How could you make this year's holiday celebrations easy and fun for you (and your family)? Every time you go to make a decision, think about this intention. Rather than you cooking a massive lunch for your family – why not ask everyone to bring a plate to contribute. Rather than buying lots of things / items / stuff – why not encourage people to give experiences or events or time doing a favourite activity. Rather than sitting around drinking – why not create a fun game of mini-challenges (sports, word games or quiz questions) that everyone can participate in, for a yearly "Xmas trophy".

2. Embrace the simple things ...

There is A LOT to be said for simplifying your life, in all aspects. We humans like to make this complicated. Overthinking. Overanalyzing. Over-giving. Over-spending. What if, this year, you pare it all back. Why not go out for lunch or dinner on Christmas, so there is no pressure on anyone to host. Why not do a "Secret Santa" for the gifts, so there is a surprise element and make the gift funny or silly. Why not go away for Christmas to a special location, so you can relax on your own or with your close family. There is so much power in this. You are allowed to choose the simple option.

3. Remember to nourish yourself, too ...

I spend a lot of time in my business reminding people to nurture and nourish themselves. Give yourself the gift of TIME OUT this year. And I don't mean ask for people to buy you a voucher for a Reiki session ... although that is a great idea too \*wink wink\*. I

mean, BEFORE AND DURING the Christmas holidays, book massages, go to yoga sessions, eat good food, talk to a counsellor / coach, walk on the beach, swim in the ocean, dance, sing, play, laugh with friends, have time alone, read, garden, go to a sound healing, do meditation, connect with your divine guides and angels, choose not to engage in drama, breathe and ... FOR GOODNESS SAKE ... take care of yourself first, so that you can handle all the crazy energy of this season.

You have my permission to schedule this essential self-care for yourself. You know that the grumpy, stressed, exhausted, and pissed-off version of you will be so grateful, and that you'll be a much kinder, calmer, and light-hearted person for your family if you do. They will be SO thankful for this!

If you need support, I am here to offer you an ear to listen, skills and tools to coach, reiki energy healing for your emotions, Bowen therapy for your aching body, meditations for your monkey mind and a quiet space to relax away from your life. You can book via my website calendar: <http://www.pipcoleman.com>

Thank you for reading this column ... I look forward to sharing more divine stories with you in 2024!

p.s. Stay tuned ... I am writing another book! ... it's about my cold-water dunking journey and the magnificent benefits (emotional, physical, mental, and spiritual) ... working title is "Working on the brown fat! A cold-water immersion story".



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## DOLLARS AND SENSE BY DAVID WELLS

### Before you go.....

It's summer again, the time for holidays, for travel, for beaches and the bush. It's a great time of year when we can get outside or get away for some great times with family and friends.

Summer is not only a season for fun and relaxation, but also a time to be vigilant and prepared for various risks that may arise. Whether you plan to travel abroad, within the country, or just around your neighbourhood, you should take some steps to ensure your safety and security. Some of the areas you should consider are your health and well-being, your home and belongings, your travel arrangements and insurance. By taking these precautions, you can reduce the chances of facing negative outcomes and enjoy your summer more.

A good way to deal with uncertainty is to follow a simple principle: focus on what you can influence and protect yourself from what you can't. This means that you should plan and act on the things that are within your control, such as your goals, your habits, your finances, etc. and for the things that are outside your control, such as natural disasters, market fluctuations, health issues, etc., you should try to reduce their impact and have a backup plan in case they happen.

If you have decided to travel you will be leaving your home for the duration. If the home won't be left unattended then preparation should be as normal. If it will be unattended then things are very different.

Summer holidays are the most popular time for opportunistic burglaries and this is partly because houses look empty. Try to make sure your home always looked as if you away for no more than a few minutes. Full letterboxes are a dead giveaway of an empty home so make sure you stop the mail and have a trusted neighbour or friend clear the advertising from the box daily if possible. Don't leave tools such as ladders lying around and make sure there's nowhere for thieves to be concealed so trim trees and shrubs away from windows and doors.

Check your insurance policies, does insurance cover lapse if the home is empty for any length of time – two weeks, four weeks or more without agreement from the insurance company? If you're

renting your home out while you're away, as some do, do you have landlord's insurance as many normal policies don't cover incidents if this is the case.

Make sure all your important papers are identifiable and this applies to insurance policies particularly. Important papers can be kept safely at a bank or an alternative is to scan and copy the important pages, such as identification, signatures and policy summary or exclusions (if insurance) of any major document and save the images on a portable hard drive or USB stick. The document and any contract details need to be identifiable but regular pages, if not modified can possibly be ignored. Make two copies and give one to a trusted friend or family member and take one with you. If anything untoward happens while you're away then action can be initiated without necessarily cutting your holiday short.

Travel insurance is also very important. Never make assumptions about what is covered and what is not. If you plan to drink alcohol make sure you know the limits of coverage. Some policies are cancelled if you have an accident with any alcohol at all in your system. Some policies do not cover surgeries unless it's a real matter of life and death. Does it cover flying home if you are ill or does it cover special medical flights. Generally the better policies will cost more but still, read the fine print. Every policy sold in Australia has a "cooling off" period so use that to make sure you know what you can do and what you can't. Remember also that things like bungee jumping may not only be non insurable but overseas standards of safety may be less than in Australia or local indemnity may not even exist. Bear in mind that medical care in the USA could mean you would need to sell your house if not insured or even that you could be refused care of sorts if you can't produce evidence of being able to pay.

At a personal level you should have in place Powers of Attorney, granted to a highly trusted person, for legal, financial and also medical situations – presumably the same person that has your documents. Summer is the season of accidents and while nearly all are not fatal there are many where incapacitation takes weeks or months to resolve. As they say in the Worksafe ads – it's never you until it is!

Even if you don't need to use it, your time will not be wasted as this level of preparation is also very useful for the rest of the year and once done, is really easy to keep up-to-date. Very little requires any legal assistance if you can understand insurance wording. Much of it

you should already have in place so take a few minutes and see just what you need to do.

Take the time to do it and know that whatever happens, or doesn't happen, your holiday experience will be the best it can be.

Please have a happy and safe festive season and enjoy time with family and friends knowing you are prepared for any eventuality.

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**Zing of Broadwater - By Pamela Rothfield**

Florence Mary Oswin, affectionately known as 'Zing,' was an exceptional woman whose invaluable contributions left an indelible mark on our local community. Renowned for her remarkable strength of character and intelligence, Zing devoted herself tirelessly to safeguarding the natural assets of the island.



Born in 1875 as the second eldest of eight children, Zing grew up in Bannarring, with her education extending beyond the local school to two years in Kew. In an era when women's societal contributions were often

overlooked, Zing defied convention by managing the Grand Coffee Palace in Melbourne and later the Windsor Hotel. Zing's life took a romantic turn when she acquired the Broadwater Guesthouse in Cowes in 1912. By then, she had found her true love in Eustace George Roberts, affectionately known as 'Rajah' or 'Bobs,' a naval



Eustace Roberts

engineer. Under Zing's capable management, Broadwater, which had originally been built for the Henty family of Portland in 1890, earned a stellar reputation as one of the finest guesthouses, hosting notable figures from the arts, literature, and nobility. Broadwater's rambling splendour expanded over the years from its original two-and-a-half-acres to six acres, and by 1930 it also boasted two tennis courts. Electrical lighting was generated thanks to Rajah's expertise as an electrical engineer, along with other improvements including many additional rooms, a magnificent 20-metre-long lounge

room, a large dining room, games room and bathrooms etc.



Zing's passion for conservation extended to her love for flora and fauna. Notably, she played a pivotal role in protecting koalas on the island, even raising funds for conservation efforts through a special permit from the Fisheries and Game Department to care for a baby koala named Edward.

In the aftermath of devastating bushfires in 1944, Zing established a hospital for injured koalas at Broadwater, showcasing her commitment to wildlife preservation. Her efforts were lauded in the media, and her beloved koala, Edward, became a celebrity whose fame reached Melbourne and beyond.

Zing's legacy lives on through the Oswin Roberts Reserve, a 150-acre testament to her generosity and dedication to the people, flora, and fauna of Victoria. This reserve stands as one of the last remaining bushland areas on Phillip Island.

Retiring in 1948 at the age of 73, Zing entrusted the management of Broadwater to Vern Thompson and his wife, Zing's niece. Though the property met a regrettable fate in 1965, Zing, who had passed away eight years prior, was spared from witnessing its demolition.

Florence Oswin Roberts, or Zing, deserves special recognition and gratitude for her enduring contribution to Phillip Island—a woman whose life and work continue to inspire.



Edward, Zing's (female) koala

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## Germany 1923 - The Year of Wheelbarrow Inflation

"This is, I believe, a moral tale. It goes far to prove the revolutionary axiom that if you wish to destroy a nation you must first corrupt its currency. Thus must sound money be the first bastion of a society's defence." – When Money Dies; The Nightmare of The Weimar Hyperinflation, 1975 book by Adam Ferguson.

One hundred years ago, almost to the month, the German economy went over the cliff edge of sanity with hyperinflation caused by out-of-control government currency printing; 1923 was the year of astronomical price rises, of wheelbarrow inflation (chart source: Goodman, Weimar Republic, PBS, 2007).

Date	Gold price per ounce in German marks
January 1919	170
September 1919	499
January 1920	1,340
September 1920	1,201
January 1921	1,349
September 1921	2,175
January 1922	3,976
September 1922	30,381
January 1923	372,477
September 1923	269,439,000
October 1923	1,160,552,882,000
November 1923	87,000,000,000,000

"A kind of madness gripped Germany's financial authorities and economic disaster overwhelmed millions of people".

"Life was madness, nightmare, desperation, chaos. The sight of shoppers with baskets full of banknotes was common in every town, or pushing baby carriages before them loaded with paper money that would be devalued the next day".

"You could go to the baker in the morning and buy two rolls for 20 marks; but go there in the afternoon and the same two rolls were 25 marks. The baker didn't know how it happened...his customers didn't know... it had somehow to do with the dollar, somehow to do with the stock exchange, and somehow, maybe, to do with the Jews."

"Race against race, family against family, husband against wife, trade against trade, town against country; it brought out the worst in everybody".

Ten years before in 1913 the German mark, the British

shilling, the French franc and the Italian lira were all on a gold standard and worth about the same. But by the end of 1923 it would have been possible to exchange a shilling, a franc or a lira for up to one trillion marks.

During the late 19th and early 20th century most of the world was on a gold standard, meaning every currency unit in circulation was backed by an equivalent amount of gold held in bank vaults; the definition of sound money. The economy was healthy, prices were stable and unemployment was low. It's no wonder history remembers this time as the golden (or gilded) age. Inflation began in 1914 with the start of WW1 when warring parties on both sides 'temporarily suspended' the gold standard and began printing currency to finance the war. This was the only way to cheat the discipline enforced by a gold standard without raising taxes and alarming the public.

It turned out much longer, bloodier and costlier than anyone ever expected. At its end in 1918 the victors seized large portions of Germany's mineral, agricultural and colonial wealth plus demanded heavy financial reparations. Inflation was already well advanced but this added fuel to the fire along with the revolution in 1919, occupation of the Ruhr industrial region by Belgium and France in 1923 and ever increasing currency printing.

"More and more printing presses were employed for the work. The amount issued was limited only by the capacity of the presses and the physical fatigue of the printers".

Eventually sanity returned and the printing presses were stopped. Germany then enforced rigid monetary discipline and miraculously hyperinflation disappeared within a few months. But 10 years of financial mismanagement could not be without consequences; political instability, Hitler and WW2 followed.

What if the gold standard had worked? WW1 would have been much shorter, months and not years, simply because people would not have tolerated the much higher taxes necessary to finance it.

Why did the gold standard fail? It failed because the gold backing the currency was centralised in banks under the control of the same financial authorities who held the irresistible power and exorbitant privilege to print currency without their citizen's knowledge or approval; essentially a hidden tax.

Bitcoin fixes this. Bitcoin is digital gold that is impossible to inflate. It is 21st century sound money, disciplined by computer code and decentralised in the hands of thousands of individuals and not central banks.

Bitcoin is also hope for a peaceful future. Warfare will become increasingly rare and relegated to the (digital) history books.





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

About this time two years ago we were told that the shop we were in was going to be turned into a multi-story office building. With nothing more than a month-to-month commitment from the owner we looked around and found our current home where February will mark that move 2 years ago. Despite all the advertising we did and the signage still on the old building many still think we have simply closed down and have no idea we actually moved. Thankfully, and we thank those people, we have some very good customers that point people in the right direction. Cheaper or more expensive rent, better or worse position, the questions we get all the time, really doesn't matter to anyone else, what we have been able to do for our customers is improve our stock variety by having the room to display more product. Those who came in just after we moved will have noticed a huge difference to now where we are again taking up most of the floor and wall area with stock. We still have more plans and will be adding more agencies in the future but please feel free to let us know if there is something that you use that we don't keep, and we will see what we can do.

It's that time of the year again and heading into January patience is the most important item to pack in your fishing kit. Something that you will need plenty of before you even put a bait in the water. With an influx of tourists, yes we are in a tourist area and it happens every year, many of them have never fished salt water let alone salt water with lots of current so there will be tangles on the jetties, boats dragging anchors and long waits and walks at the ramps, however a couple of deep breaths and all will work out it always does. Also, don't forget it's often easier to help the visitors than stand and stomp your feet. As busy as the area is now, it's still the tourists that provide the greatest part of most businesses' income and the reason they can offer so many jobs to locals.

November was another strange month with both weather and reports with both all over the place. It was however a big improvement from last November where we had weeks and weeks of east, southeast winds keeping people off the water for the greater part of it. We all got sucked in with the conditions through September, but I think November was more of a typical November which showed in the reports as well. Mid-month the snapper started to move down the bay to Elizabeth Island, the mud, and the corals, maybe a touch later than normal but about right. The times to fish became obvious very quickly with deep morning and shallow afternoon/evening. During the day about the only thing available was the smaller pinkies across the corals. The daytime seemed to be the time for all the kids to come out and play on the corals with plenty

of undersized gummies, flathead and even a handful of small whiting.

Each year we are getting more reports of good size flathead being caught in the bay, problem is they are amongst 100's of tiny ones. The salmon were still being reported through November but they were a bit smaller and although still a few reported not so many of the 2kg ones. Lures the best but don't go too big, 25g to 40g. Gummies are always considered a by-catch when you are snapper fishing but when you think about it, both rigs and areas are the same really so I guess if you are snapper fishing you are gummy fishing. Very mixed gummy reports in the size of them with good numbers of the 4' variety but not many too much bigger and plenty smaller. We had rock cod and shovel nose reported early month, but they seem to have disappeared again and towards the end of the month very little rubbish at all. Calamari remained a struggle during November as they have been all season and if I could answer the why question, I would be selling a lot more squid jigs and seeing plenty be caught. There just doesn't seem to be one answer that works and every now and again a report will come in to have you think all is good again.

Whiting have got to the point where its hard to work out what is considered a good catch anymore because the quality has been so good over the last few years. Once upon a time a few fish into the 40cm mark and you would say you had a good day whereas now without ½ the bag into 40cm you are disappointed. Maybe 50cm is the new 40cm as we are seeing more and more reaching 50cm and beyond. We didn't see a lot of bags of 20 through November but plenty of bags of a dozen and fish all around 40cm. More of an accidental or by-catch than gummies, we are getting plenty of reports of whiting from those fishing for snapper.

Lastly from Mel, Rob and myself we would like to wish all our customers a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New year and thank everyone for their support over the last 12 months. We will go into our early opening and late closing once we get to Christmas and for everything that's happening, keep an eye on Facebook and Instagram for up-to-date info.

## Animals and fireworks



Dogs and horses in particular can be frightened by fireworks, please make sure that your pets are safe and secure when there are fireworks displays in your area.

Fireworks displays will be held in Cowes on:

- **12 December** at 9.30pm (Cowes Carols Celebration)
- **31 December** at 9.30pm (New Year's Eve Celebration)

For more information on these events visit  
[www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/events](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/events).

## MEGABLOOMS

When out in the garden checking your tomato plants, you may find a weird looking flower that resembles a daisy more than a tomato flower. What you have found is your first "Megabloom". A megabloom is a weird freak of nature whereby 2,3 or 4 flowers "fuse" together to form one huge flower, 4-5 times larger than anything else. It will have multiple ovaries and pistils (the pointy bit in the middle of the flower). Why these flowers form has something to do with genes gone wrong; it mainly occurs in the giant varieties of tomato such as Belgium Giant, Croation Giant, and as in my case, Purple Cherokee.

The plant will attempt to channel a lot of nutrition and energy into this giant bloom, sometimes at the expense of the other flowers. So you can either remove it or opt to let it grow and see what you end up with. Remember it needs to be pollinated, it has several ovaries that need pollen. The simplest way is to pick one of the other flowers and give the pistil on your megabloom a good rub with the other flower, making sure you do

around the inside base of the flower where the ovaries are. This will transfer pollen into the right area to get a tomato started. You won't know what shape your new creation will take, sometimes they are bizarre and sometimes perfectly normal, either way it's going to be unique to your garden, so in my opinion, worth a go.

I have megablooms on Purple Cherokee, Belgium Giant, Croation and Italian Giant. All huge beefsteaks to start with. As I sold over 200 seedlings this season, there are a lot of my customers who will experience this wonderful phenonium in their own garden.

I have taken this event one step further as I will attempt to grow a MEGA size tomato, or two. On the Purple Cherokee I have removed all foliage for up to 8" up the stalk, and just on 25% of all foliage, along with all other flowers, so just the megabloom remains. The plant has no choice now but to channel all energy and nutrients into this one bloom. As I have three of this variety it's no loss to me as the others will give me a normal crop.

To aid this plant in this quest for a mega size tomato there are

a few things I do to add to the nutrition of the plant, and I also do this for my "normal" tomato plants. Coffee grinds and used tea bags are good sources of nitrogen, so add these to the base of the plant. Crushed egg shells add calcium, an oldie but a goodie. Banana skins contain potassium, so cut up your banana skins and put into a bucket of water for 2-3 days. This "banana water" is excellent for your tomatoes, put it into a spray bottle and spray the foliage once a week. Happy gardening,  
Burnsie, the Rhyll Gardener.



*Beefsteak Tomato*



*Megabloom on Purple Cherokee*

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Wednesday Dec 27th - Friday Dec 29th - 8.30am - 5pm  
Saturday Dec 30th - 9am - 4pm  
New Years Eve - Sunday Dec 31st 7am - 3pm  
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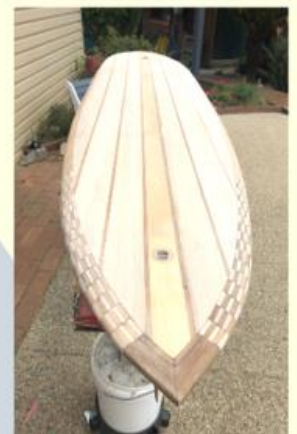
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# Bin collection changes



*Cape Woolamai, Wimbleton Heights and Ventnor*


- There are no kerbside bin collections on Christmas Day (Monday, 25 December)
- If you're in Cape Woolamai, Wimbleton Heights and Ventnor please put your Recycling and Organics bins out on Christmas Night (Monday night) for collection on Boxing Day (Tuesday morning)
- Boxing Day collections will start earlier than usual – please make sure all bins are presented for collection **before 5.00am**

For a copy of the bin collection calendar scan the QR code or visit [basscoast.vic.gov.au/bincalendar](http://basscoast.vic.gov.au/bincalendar)




**THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH**

Join us for an amazing evening of live music and stunning scenery on a two hour cruise across the bay departing San Remo jetty.



*"On behalf of my wife Nancie and my family, I wish all Islanders and their loved ones a happy and safe festive season."*

**Ronnie Bauer**  
Councillor for the Island Ward



PO Box 996, Cowes. 3922  
Ph: 0439 535 282  
email: [Ron.Bauer@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:Ron.Bauer@basscoast.vic.gov.au)  
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## Journey to Bethlehem at St Philip's Church, Cowes

Once again this Christmas from December 8th, the grounds of St Philip's Anglican Church, Cowes is hosting a "Journey to Bethlehem".

It is so easy at this time of year to think that Christmas is all about Santa and food, snow and reindeers! The congregation at St Philip's invite you to come and take a moment to reflect on the reason we celebrate Christmas and where the story began.

Next time you are in Thomson Avenue come and wonder at the story of Jesus' birth as you visit the six scenes dotted around the church grounds.

We look forward to sharing the hope and joy of the season with you once again this year.



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**Russell  
Broadbent MP**  
Federal Member for Monash

*Merry Christmas*

FROM MY FAMILY  
TO YOURS

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Wishing you a happy holiday  
season and New Year.

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



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## Meat Ball Curry

### WHAT YOU NEED:

#### MEATBALLS:

450g Lamb Mince  
1 Egg, lightly beaten  
1 Onion, chopped  
1 X 1.25cm piece fresh  
root Ginger, peeled  
2-3 Garlic Cloves  
1-2 Green Chillies  
1½ tsp Salt  
½ tsp Pepper  
Fresh Coriander leaves,  
chopped

### WHAT TO DO:

Place all ingredients for  
meat balls in a large bowl  
mix until fully combined.  
Divide meat into 50g balls.  
Fry in batches until golden  
and set aside until sauce is  
made. Place onion, garlic  
cloves, ginger, cumin seeds,  
Cardamoms, peppercorns,  
cloves, cinnamon stick &  
garam masala in pan and fry  
until onion is soft. Add the  
rest of ingredients and sim-  
mer for 15 minutes. Add  
the meatballs and simmer  
with lid on for 10 minutes.  
Remove the lid and simmer  
until sauce thickens. Serve  
with Rice & Naan Breads.

#### SAUCE:

2 tbs Oil, for cooking  
1 Onion  
2-3 Garlic cloves  
1 tbs Ginger, chopped  
1 tsp Cumin Seeds  
3 large Cardamoms  
6 of each Peppercorns  
cloves  
1 Cinnamon stick  
1 tbs Garam Masala  
Salt, to taste  
1 tin chopped Tomatoes  
Water (adjust for how thick  
you want the curry to be)  
2 tablespoons freshly  
chopped Coriander leaves



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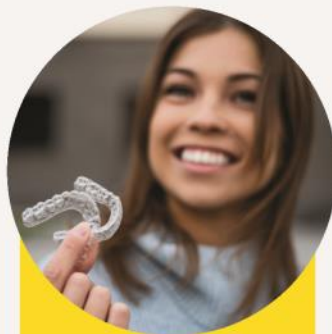
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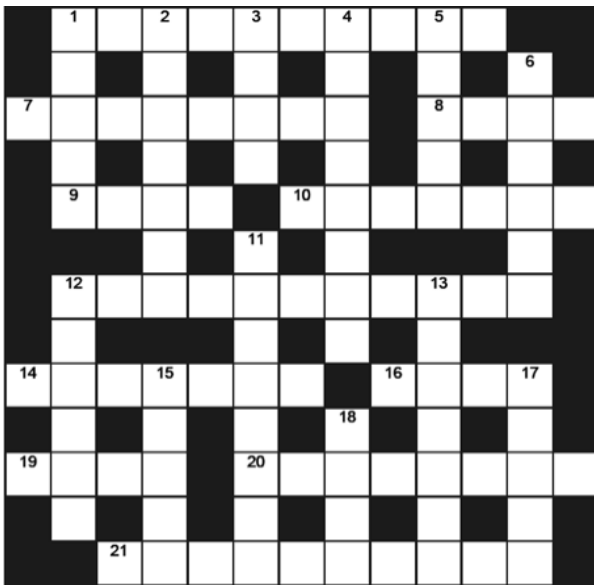
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# Brain Food

Find all the answers & solutions to Puzzles & Quiz on page 22 (No peeking!)



Vibe Quick Crossword

**Across**

- 1 Divergent (10)
- 7 Guilty parties (8)
- 8 Level (4)
- 9 Amend (4)
- 10 Contempt (7)
- 12 Unhappy (11)
- 14 Monkeys (7)
- 16 Worn on a riding boot (4)
- 19 Also (4)
- 20 Regard as perfect (8)
- 21 Skin tightening liquid (10)

**Down**

- 1 Dark tan (5)
- 2 Serviettes (7)
- 3 Sinister (4)
- 4 Most appetising (8)
- 5 Fix (5)
- 6 To the rear (6)
- 11 Smellier (8)
- 12 Not possible (6)
- 13 The product of force (7)
- 15 Sanctuary (5)
- 17 Reboot (5)
- 18 Legume (4)



- 1. What creatures outnumber all others in the animal world?
- 2. Which town in Spain is the centre of the Sherry making industry?
- 3. Who was the first singer to sell one million copies of a record?
- 4. What is the name of the talking supercar in the TV series Knight Rider?
- 5. What is Australia's most Westerly point?
- 6. Who was Pinocchio's father?
- 7. In which US state would you find the gold depository at Fort Knox?
- 8. An orchestra normally tunes to a note played by which instrument?
- 9. Who is traditionally regarded as the father of medicine?
- 10. Which element is essential for healthy teeth and bones?
- 11. What is the monetary unit of South Africa?
- 12. Which snooker balls scores one point?

			3		2	9	
		2	4	7			6
				1	7		4
			1		3	4	
4			3	6			2
	5	9		4			
2		6	1				
7			5		4	1	
	1	8		7			

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



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# PHILOSOPHICAL MUSINGS

## BY JOHN BUTTROSE



### The Trolley Car thought experiment

One way in which the philosopher engages with ideas is to pose thought experiments. Perhaps the most famous example is the Trolley Car Problem proposed by Philippa Foot in 1967.

Imagine you are standing by the trolley (tram) track when you notice an out of control trolley car hurtling down the tracks towards five workmen sitting with their backs to the oncoming trolley car, oblivious. (In the original experiment they were tied to the tracks, but this scenario adds unwanted difficulties. Perhaps our five workmen were just eating lunch and listening to a very loud radio.) You are standing next the lever which will switch the trolley to another track. However, compounding your horror, you see a man lying across the tracks on this branch line, fast asleep.

What to do? Do you pull the lever so the trolley changes tracks, thereby saving five lives? Unfortunately, by doing this you are condemning the one man lying across the line to a grisly fate. Or you may decide to do nothing, meaning the messy deaths of the five happily eating their lunch.

Of course, this scenario is totally unrealistic, and you may be tempted to offer alternative actions like shouting loudly to warn the oblivious workmen. Such considerations are not the point of the experiment ... the point is to open a discussion about your moral stance and your decision making process.

Do you consider the consequences of an action? Maybe you adopt the position commonly referred to as utilitarianism. The motto of the utilitarians when making a decision is, "the greatest good for the greatest number". By pulling the lever you save five lives, although you necessarily sacrifice the sleeping man. Or do you consider killing, no matter the circumstances, to be always wrong. Switching the tracks would seem to be actively killing the single workman, and, so, you do nothing and leave the five to their fate. But is failing to do something just as reprehensible as actively causing a death?

Judith Thompson offered another scenario. The trolley is hurtling towards the five oblivious workmen on the track, but in this case you are observing the unfolding horror while on the footbridge over the line. Next to you is a very large man, and you quickly realise that if you gave this man a quick shove he would fall on the tracks in front of the trolley. His considerable bulk would bring the trolley to a halt, thereby saving the five workers. Would you push the man over the rail, and endure the look of surprised recrimination on his face as he falls to his death? Most of the responders in this experiment would argue this is very different to switching the tracks. Is it? The maths is

the same.

Ponder this. A young man walks into the hospital emergency room with a badly sprained ankle. He is obviously an overseas backpacker. He has no ID with him and he has informed you, the doctor, he is travelling alone. By chance there are five patients in the hospital who require urgent transplants. By another extraordinary coincidence, the young man's organs are compatible with every one of the patients. So, do you harvest his organs and save the five patients, thus giving them a chance to live a normal healthy life for many years to come, while the young backpacker's family are left wondering his fate. Once again the maths stacks up if you take the utilitarian moral stance. But...?

There is, of course, no answer to the Trolley Car problem and these scenarios are unreal and over simplistic. But such real world dilemmas of this sort are presented to us often. How did you understand, and explain your response to, for example, the measures taken by the government during the COVID pandemic? The government response was perceived as being for "the greater good", but many have suffered as a result of these measures. What will your response be to the sacrifices demanded by the efforts to reduce the impacts of climate change? Utilitarianism is a cruel position if you are on the wrong side of the equation, but can you choose to ignore the measures of ensuring "the greater good" which necessitate giving up some of your own comfort? Alternatively, can you ignore the sacrifice and the misery of individuals who will be negatively impacted by such utilitarian decisions? Is it morally wrong to cause such misery?

Or, do you think, "I'm all right, Jack", being one of the fortunate ones who are in a position, and the frame of mind, to ignore such philosophical and moral dilemmas (and weird discussion) and just walk away.

Join a philosophical discussion group. We meet on the first Thursday of the month at Wild Food Farm cafe in Rhyll to discuss the big questions about life, the universe and everything. Contact John Buttrose: [jbuttrose54@gmail.com](mailto:jbuttrose54@gmail.com)

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# CRYPTO ISLAND



## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

I have written about artificial intelligence in previous columns. I created this column using Chat GPT which anyone can use.

What is Chat GPT? According to Wikipedia Chat GPT is a large language model-based chatbot developed by OpenAI and launched on November 30, 2022 that enables users to refine and steer a conversation towards a desired length, format, style, level of detail, and language.

To generate a column, you need to ask Chat GPT 'a prompt' that could be a question, a statement, an instruction or a phrase. My question was, "Why is artificial intelligence in the best interests of humanity?" Here is the reply:

### Chat GPT

The pursuit of artificial intelligence (AGI) is often considered to be in the best interests of humanity for several reasons:

1. **Problem Solving:** AGI has the potential to tackle complex problems and challenges that may be beyond the capacity of human intelligence. It could contribute to solving global issues such as climate change, poverty, and disease.

2. **Automation and Efficiency:** AGI could lead to significant advancements in automation, streamlining various industries and tasks. This could increase efficiency, reduce costs, and improve overall productivity, allowing humans to focus on more creative and complex endeavours.
3. **Scientific Discovery:** AGI could accelerate scientific research by processing and analysing vast amounts of data at speeds far beyond human capabilities. This could lead to breakthroughs in various fields, from medicine to physics.
4. **Enhanced Decision-Making:** AGI systems equipped with advanced reasoning capabilities, could assist in making better decisions across a range of domains, from business to government. This may help avoid errors, biases, and inefficiencies associated with human decision-making.
4. **Resource Allocation:** AGI could contribute to optimising resource allocation globally, helping distribute resources more efficiently and reducing disparities in access to education, healthcare, and other essential services.
5. **Innovation and Creativity:** AGI systems may be capable of generating innovative ideas and solutions, potentially leading to new technologies and advancements that could benefit society as a whole.
6. **Space Exploration:** AGI could play a crucial role in advancing space exploration by autonomously analysing data, controlling spacecraft, making decisions in real-time, thereby expanding humanities understanding of the universe.
7. **Human Augmentation:** AGI could be used to enhance human capabilities, leading to developments in fields such as medicine, allowing for better diagnosis and treatment of diseases, or creating assistive technologies for individuals with disabilities.

However, it is important to note that the development of AGI also poses potential risks and ethical challenges, such as job displacement, security concerns, and the need for responsible governance. Balancing the benefits and risks is crucial to ensuring that AGI is developed and deployed in a manner that aligns with human values and safeguards our well-being. Ongoing research, collaboration and ethical considerations are essential in the development of AGI for the benefit of humanity.

### Disclaimer

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*Owen Weeks, director & registered tax agent, Lifestyle Matters Pty Ltd, FIPA, Hon FASFA, and author of 'Invisible Investing - Taking the mystery out of cryptocurrency investing' which is available on Amazon eBooks.*

## CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

Looking to come to Christmas lunch with others?

Join us at St John's Uniting Church, corner of Chapel St and Warley Ave

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Reserve your place at PICAL by phone on 5952 1131 or call into their office at 16 Warley Ave by December 18th (places are limited)

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# Book Reviews

**By Turn The Page Bookstore,  
40A Thompson Avenue,  
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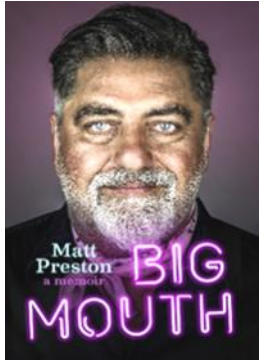
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**Big Mouth—A Memoir  
By Matt Preston  
Price: RRP \$34.99 (10%  
discount to registered  
customers)**

A rock'n'roll memoir of life, death and growing up with the occasional scandal.

For a man who has been in the public eye for a decade or more, Matt Preston has been very quiet about his past and private life. Now, in *Big Mouth*, he opens up for the first time in a story that, like Matt himself, is joyous, funny and larger than life.

From his adoption, fractured childhood and shocking family tragedies, to his disastrous spell in the British Army, to a misspent youth and burgeoning journalistic career in 1980s London, to relocating to the other side of the world and finding love - Matt writes frankly about it all.

He relives the unexpected twists of fate that saw him become a household name on one of the most successful Australian TV shows of all time. Looking back at his eleven years of *MasterChef Australia*, Matt dishes up as only he could, memorable moments and the ones he'd rather forget.

Naturally, food weaves its way through his story at every turn, from the exquisite to the dreadful, forming the backdrop to this gloriously eccentric memoir from one of the food world's most beloved *bons vivants*.



**The Talented Mrs Greenway  
By Tea Cooper  
Price: RRP \$32.99 (10% discount  
to registered customers)**

From a bestselling Australian author, this compellingly realised novel brings to life the story of an enigmatic figure, wife to feted colonial architect Francis Greenway, and asks, whose hand really shaped Sydney? Who is the talented Mrs Greenway?

1814 Sydney when Mary Greenway, freshly arrived from the old country, steps into the maelstrom of Sydney Town with three children at her skirts, she has high hopes of a new beginning, despite having little money and a husband in irons. After all, the sudden death of her sadistic first husband has meant freedom from her gilded cage and Francis Greenway is an architect of some promise, under the protection of Admiral Phillip himself. Mary herself is a woman of great resources and an even greater creative passion, a passion that will surely burn through anything that the filthy, burgeoning, vitality of colonial Sydney can throw at her. Soon ensconced in a tiny cottage in George Street, Mary sets about moulding a life for her family from the unpromising clay of this new colony, with a determination fired in equal parts by guilt for her disastrous past action that nearly brought ruin to them all and desire to see her true calling realised.

When she is befriended by Elizabeth Macquarie it seems that fate is smiling on them with the promise of a better life in her grasp. But fate is a difficult mistress and with past secrets to keep, and current betrayals on the brink of discovery, the stakes are higher than ever. With Mary's grip on this new life slipping, will her past lies come back to haunt her?

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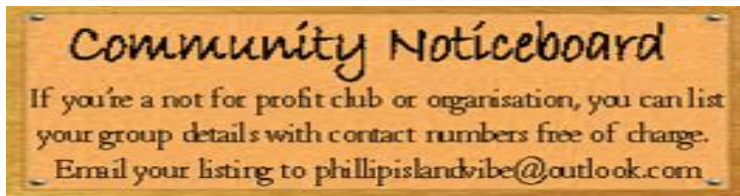
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Phone 0402 264 744

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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. Island Celebration Centre Hall 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

**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.

**Lions Club of San Remo & Newhaven** 2nd & 4th Tues of month St Augustine's Church, Phillip Island Rd, San Remo, 6.30pm. Contact Secretary Andrew Page 0410 785081, 56780162 or sanremo.newhavenlions@gmail.com

**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 John 0409 858985. 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.vietnamvetmuseum.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 Rotary Shed-Dunsmore Rd 1pm Ph Penny 0437 042 084 Cowes CWA Shop Thompson Ave Cowes 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



**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 closed temporarily for the redevelopment of the Cowes Cultural Centre. Our Click and Collect and returns location is Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre 16 Warley Ave, Cowes. Library items may be returned outside the office at PICAL 24 hrs and pick-up of holds is available on the following days, Tues- Thurs 9.30-2pm.

**San Remo Library, Myli Libraries** is open at 92 Back Beach Road, San Remo. Opening hours are Mon- Fri 9.30-5.30pm and Sat 9.30-1pm. Please ring 5644 3320

**Friends of the Library** Call Celia 59521901.

**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.** We not only do Patchwork but all other varieties of Craft such as Embroidery, Beading and Knitting. We meet 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. For more information 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

**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.

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

## Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club monthly update

Well, here we are in December. The start of summer. The start of our Island increasing in numbers by many. And a time we can go out and enjoy the sun, sand and sea. I always like to add at this time of year, socialising to that mantra. It's the time of year where many families come together to eat, drink and be merry. At the seniors club it's a time when our hard-working committee get a chance to have a small break. Our committee members have worked tirelessly throughout the year to try to bring joy to our members and we will always continue to thrive to achieve this. Our club is in a very healthy situation, growing by numbers each month. And this is a huge credit to everyone who works behind the scenes, such as the committee as a whole, our brilliant cook Melva Smith and her kitchen team of Jenny Chipperfield, Edward Malinowski, and on occasion Jan Setford. Without these hard-working and devoted people, we would be in trouble. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the local businesses who have supported us for our Xmas lunch raffles. Before covid, we as a club used to collect food from our members to make up hampers to win at our Xmas lunch raffles. Post covid, we now get vouchers and products that our members can win. These are all donated by our local businesses for which we, along with our members are eternally grateful and thankful for. So, in honour of these businesses we'd like to say a very big thank you to the following for your donations. You are generous beyond belief and we love you all for it. Thank you to Phillip Island Nature Parks, Cowes Curry Club, Ladasha Jewellers, Vinnies, Kmart, Ten Pin Bowling Cowes, Phillip Island Winery, Island Pies, Marios, San Remo Hotel, Westernport Hotel, Amaze n Things, Brinne T Design, Vietnam Vets Museum, Woolie Tavern, Autopro, French Island accommodation, The Coffee Co, Grumpies, Maru, Flowers of Phillip Island, North Pier Hotel, Linen House, Terry White Chemist, Beachside Bites, One Stop Discount Shop, Wing Lock Chinese Restaurant, San Remo Butcher and Australia Post Cowes. Plus our regulars throughout the year - Priceline, Phillip Island Bakery, Cowes RSL, Putters Cafe @ Phillip Island Golf Club, G'day Tiger, Penny Lane, Cowes Bazaar Pizza, HBomb Barbershop, San Remo Butchers, Jenny Jobe Artist, Sue Jacobi, Cafe Lugano, Vicki from the Vibe (this publication), The Advertiser, Nicole from South Gippsland Sentinel Times and Phil and Konnie and staff at Cowes IGA. Once again thank you! Thank you! Thank you! And hopefully we can continue to have a business friendship for years to come. So, with all this said, from everyone at the Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club, we wish you a merry Xmas / happy holidays and hope you get spoiled rotten by Santa as you deserve. Merry Xmas everyone.

### ANSWERS TO TRIVA QUESTIONS

1. Insects 2. Jerez 3. Enrico Caruso 4. Kitt
5. Steep Point (Shark Bay) 6. Geppetto 7. Kentucky 8. Oboe
9. Hippocrates 10. Calcium 11. Rand 12. Red

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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3	5	9	7	4	2	6	8	1
2	4	6	1	8	3	9	5	7
7	9	3	5	6	4	1	2	8
5	1	8	2	7	9	4	6	3

### Solution to The Circus Comes to Town Whodunnit

The flying trapeze act required, split - second precision to avoid an accident. The cue was provided by the band conducted by Patricio playing the "Minute Waltz" by Chopin and the trapeze exchange was to take place at the last note precisely. All Patricio had to do was to speed up the music by a mere one or two seconds. It wasn't long before the conductor confessed to the crime. If he was lucky he'd get to conduct the prison band but without an accompanying trapeze act.



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