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APRIL 2022

Sending heartiest wishes for Easter to all of our stockists, readers, contributors and advertisers. May you have the happiest Easter holiday filled with joy, peace, and so many Easter eggs. A special thanks to @peteforgarty for supplying our stunning front page photograph.

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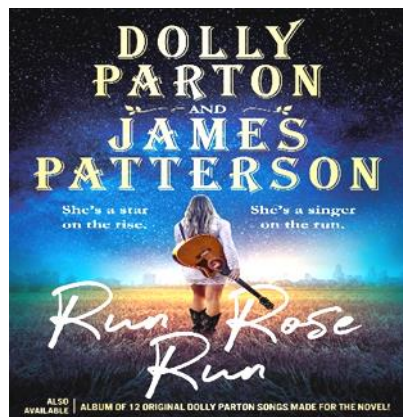
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Run Rose Run

**By Dolly Parton
and James
Patterson**

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**From America's most beloved superstar and its
greatest storyteller - a thriller about a young singer-
songwriter on the rise and on the run, and
determined to do whatever it takes to survive.
FIND A FUTURE. LOSE A PAST.**

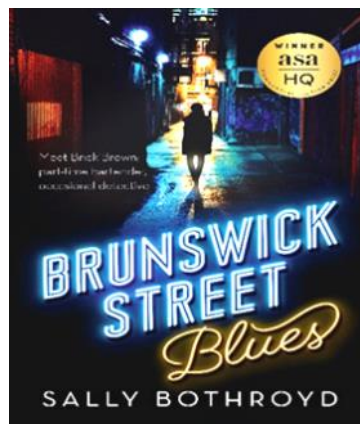
She's a star on the rise, singing about the hard life behind her.

She's also on the run.

Nashville is where she's come to claim her destiny.

It's also where the darkness she's fled might find her. And destroy her.

RUN ROSE RUN- a story glittering with danger and desire.



**Brunswick Street
Blues**

By Sally Bothroyd

RRP \$29.99

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members)**

**Winner of the inaugural ASA/HQ Commercial Fiction Prize. The
twists keep piling up in this fun and distinctively Australian debut
mystery, perfect for readers of The Thursday Murder Club and
Janet Evanovich.**

Brick Brown has problems: she hates her day job, and her beloved Uncle Baz has gone missing. Although a bartender by trade, Brick Brown has finagled herself a job on the city council to investigate a complaint that threatens to close her uncle's well-loved blues club in the heart of Melbourne. Brick suspects something strange is going on, but when her amateur sleuthing uncovers the mayor's dead body in a locked room, she's dragged into the dangerous world of dodgy developers with the reluctant help of Mitch Mitchell, a prickly war correspondent turned investigative journalist.

Relying on her street smarts and an unlikely band of allies, Brick and Mitchell unearth corruption that runs deeper than just local government, and the stakes are higher than they banked on. And when Brick also discovers some terrifying information about her past, the stakes turn deadly.

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

I need to start this report with a huge thanks to everyone that has been in to look at the new shop and for all the positive comments that have been made. Such positivity gives us confidence that we are heading in the right direction and giving our customers what they need. With the end of the holiday season so close and a bit to do over the next few weeks, there won't be a huge amount of changes or additions to what we have already done but we will be planning the season over the winter months and come the start of the season you will start to see plenty of additions. One addition that will come on board over the next week or so is long awaited and the thing we have had the most requests for over the years, a coffee machine. Those who have been in will know about the drinks fridge and that we now have ice and eskys back in as well and we have a small wall of hardware/tools and stainless-steel bolts. We are looking at stocking Daiwa again and there will be an increase in our Cressi diving lines as well. Camping stock is on the agenda over the winter, and we will be an agent for Bushman Fridges for the 4x4 or caravan so lots to come as well as plenty we are still working on.

We are settled into the new shop now so it's flat out getting ready for our Good Friday Easter Fishing Competition which seems to be growing daily with more sponsors coming on board. Entries can be downloaded off our socials or just pick one up in

6TH ANNUAL SAN REMO EASTER FISHING COMPETITION

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store. There are 12 Categories across 3 age groups, over \$14,000 in prizes to be won, 100 plus prizes spread over 30 hourly random entry prize draws you can win just for entering but the best thing is 100% of your entry will go directly to the Good Friday appeal. The competition runs all weekend, but entries must be in before 2pm on Good Friday.

The tuna started the month well with plenty of reports but as it got later and later in the month not only were we losing daylight, we were losing the tuna as well and it would appear they have moved on. It was always going to be the case that they would go as quickly as they came and let's hope they come back next year. For now though a little normality has returned with boats and people fishing for the species we are used to for this time of the year. Elephant fish, although nowhere near as thick as they once were, are showing up both in the triangle on the corals and off the land around Temby Point. They are an acquired taste you could say and with the bag limit of only one they aren't the targeted species they once were and are a bit more of a by-catch now. A by-catch by those fishing in the bay for whatever comes along which of late has been snapper, gummies, whiting and flathead.

Customers are telling us snapper are back and judging by the photos I have seen it's worth breaking out the heavier gear and heading to your favourite snapper mark to try your luck. At worst you might pick up a gummy as well. The snapper we are seeing are different and this happened about 5 years ago where we had the normal snapper run then the pinkies over Christmas with a second run just before Easter. The snapper around at the moment are very bright silver 4kg to 5kg and when you put them side by side with our pre-Christmas snapper, the body shape is different. I have been told 100 different theories, south/west coast v east coast, Australia v New Zealand, resident v new fish. Whatever they are, they fight the same and have shown up in reasonable numbers with some sounder pictures I have seen looking like a November picture.

Whiting continued their up and down season with the reports not a lot different now than 3 months ago. Sometimes deep, sometimes shallow, sometimes all big, sometimes mixed, numbers good and numbers just ok. I was reading back through diaries looking for something else and it is noticeable how the whiting have changed over the last 10 to 15 years. Early reports were all of very good numbers and bagging out was almost expected (fish between 27cm and 34cm) and if you didn't catch some then basically you weren't fishing for them. Shallow water was the go and if you were over 3m you had no hope with the thought of fishing in 12m almost laughable. In the shop what we sold was very different as well. Circle hooks were for snapper and there wasn't much small enough for whiting. The only size longshank we sold was size 8 and with pippies at \$6kg you didn't even consider other baits. Now pippies are way too expensive, we hardly sell size 8 hooks, 10 companies make whiting circle hooks, there are as many reports from deep as shallow and while the bag numbers are probably down, the average size is considerably different and the expectation is 40cm plus fish with a 1kg whiting now considered "just a good fish", not front page news.

WORKS TO STRENGTHEN STAIRCASE TO FORREST CAVES BEACH

Phillip Island Nature Parks is carrying out upgrades to strengthen the staircase to Forrest Caves beach in coming months, in response to ongoing coastal erosion. The works will involve large machinery on the beach that will install 10 screw piles to stabilise the staircase.

The works are weather dependent and are anticipated to occur between mid May to the end of June. Updates will be provided when the exact dates are known. The staircase to Forrest Caves beach from the main car park will be closed for approximately two weeks while the works are occurring.

All access to the beach and Forrest Caves during this period will be via the Bruce Ave access track.

Nature Parks Projects and Planning Manager Jarvis Weston said erosion had impacted the staircase footings and the works were important to ensure ongoing safe access.

“These vital works will stabilise and strengthen the staircase structure to ensure ongoing safe access to Forrest Caves so the local community and visitors can continue to enjoy this beautiful beach,” Jarvis said.

The works have been timed to occur out of Short-tailed Shearwater and Hooded Plover breeding seasons and impacts to vegetation will be minimised through using an existing track to the beach. Impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage will be avoided by following the conditions of a Cultural Heritage Permit issued by the Bunurong Land Council.

We’d like to thank the community and visitors for their patience while we complete these important works.

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FRIDAY 8 MARK HOWARD 8PM - 11PM	Saturday 9 SOUTHERN BROTHERS 8PM - 11PM	Sunday 10 RICHARD GILLARD 7PM - 10PM	
FRIDAY 15 CORIE BLACKLEY 8PM - 10:30PM	Saturday 16 OUT OF NOWHERE 8PM - 11PM	Sunday 17 JED BOUCHER 7PM - 11PM	FRIDAY 22 ERIC COLLIER 8PM - 11PM
Saturday 23 STEVE WADE 8PM - 11PM	Sunday 24 BARBEQUE BOB & THE RING OF FIRE 7PM - 10PM	FRIDAY 29 DOC WHITE 8PM - 11PM	Saturday 30 NIC HUIGS 8PM - 11PM



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PHILLIP ISLAND AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

History of the First Ventnor Hall and School By Pamela Rothfield

In September this year, the township of Ventnor will celebrate one hundred years since the building of the purpose-built Ventnor State School number 3895 in 1922. This school was actually the second school for Ventnor, and whilst no longer standing is still vivid in the memories of many 'mature' Islanders who went to school there – up until its closure in 1964.

The creation of both schools is a story of perseverance and doggedness, which we so often witness when researching the development of our fledgling Island communities of more than a century ago.

This story is about the first tiny Ventnor school which preceded the purpose-built Ventnor State School. It was located in the old Ventnor Hall.

It was in June 1913 that Albert Keaston Trenavin Sambell, (known as A.K.T. Sambell) a successful civil engineer, who lived in Ventnor having seven school age children, sent a list of potential pupils to the Education Department supporting the establishment of a state school in Ventnor. The response from the Department was that the numbers were not sufficient to warrant the establishment of a school.

Not accepting defeat, a year later, on a wintery July evening in 1914, thirteen residents of the tiny township, braved the windy and cold conditions to attend a meeting at Tom Richardson's home, with the express objective of considering the 'advisability' of building a public hall to be used as a state school and other public uses.

It was obvious that if the argument for a state school wasn't viewed by the Government as strong enough – then let's attack it from another angle – as all roads lead to Rome. At the meeting, Phillip Garnet Dixon was elected chairman for the proceedings.

Most of those present had school age children who were forced to travel significant distances over rough muddy tracks to get to their nearest school, which was in the main street of Cowes.

A.K.T. Sambell suggested that an appropriate site for a school at Ventnor would be a corner allotment of ten-acres



Opening of the new school in 1922

on the west corner of Ventnor Beach Road and Ventnor Road. Those present supported this suggestion.

A Hall Committee was established, and Bob Jeffrey was elected secretary and treasurer. The Hall Committee comprised: Tom Richardson, Phillip Garnet Dixon, David Charles Justice, A.K.T. Sambell and Bob Jeffrey.

These five committeemen all promised donations of £ 5 towards the fundraising efforts.

At this meeting it was also agreed that the committeemen would again approach the Minister of Education showing an increase in potential pupils within the area of Ventnor combined with the inducement that the residents will build the hall at their own expense, which would also be used as a school. The operating costs, including teacher and rental of the building would be borne by the Government.

This new proposal must have been far more palatable for the Government, as it was not only accepted, but the Department also assisted in the financing of the building of the hall by paying five years rent in advance.

Fundraising continued and the land, as suggested, was purchased.

On 10 December 1914, after a meeting of the Hall Committee in Jack Hall's barn, (which still exists today on the late John Dixon's property in Ventnor Beach Road), it was agreed that tenders would be called for construction. Builder Ellerington Loys White was subsequently awarded the contract for the labour component of the building, with the understanding that the work was to be completed within 35 days after volunteers had completed the installation of the stumps.

The simple building was completed as planned and the first



The original hall which served as a school from 1915 until the new school was built in 1922

Phillip Island and District



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Trustees of the Ventnor Hall were appointed: Tom Richardson, David Charles Justice and Robert (Bob) George Jeffrey. Miss Ruby Bright was sent to the Island as head teacher by the Education Department to open the Ventnor State School No. 3895 on 26 February 1915. The department records show that the enrolment number was 27 but local records indicate 25 pupils registered. The school had its official opening on May 5, 1915.

The pupil's names were:

Sambell children -7;	Jones children - 5;
West children - 4;	Richardson children - 2;
Reynolds children - 2;	Augustus Smith's child - 1;
Kent child - 1;	McKindlay child -1;
Dominick child -1; and	Chapman child - 1.

There is some question as to the accuracy of these numbers as both the McKindlay and Smith families each had 3 children of school age.

After the hall was completed, the Hall Committee remained very active as, in that same year, 1915, toilets were erected, ten wooden forms (or benches) were purchased, ivory pine trees were planted, a fence was erected around the hall, a light installed, insurance purchased and Mr Rees Jones was engaged as caretaker for the amount of £ 2 and 10 shillings per annum.

Despite the best intentions, conditions in the hall for schooling the children were cramped and uncomfortable with poor lighting and ventilation. The hall also had competing uses, as it served as a public library as well as providing for functions and dances and available for hire.

Five years after opening, in November 1920, the pressure on the hall due to these competing interests, and plagued by unfit conditions for the school children, prompted a deputation of four locals including Mrs Sarah Harris, to visit the Minister for Education once again, requesting a purpose-built school be erected for the Ventnor children.

The arguments advanced by the parents were obviously compelling as the Government then purchased a 3 acre (1.5 ha) site on the south corner of Ventnor Road and Ventnor Beach Road - opposite the Ventnor Hall, for a new purpose-built Ventnor State School.

The new building, measuring 26'6 x 21' (8m x 6.4m) cost £ 750 and was erected on the new site. Miss Dorothy Cook commenced duty as the teacher in the new school on 6 September 1922 with the attendance of 17 pupils. Census records reveal that in 1921 the population of Ventnor was 143 people.

The original Ventnor Hall continued to operate as a public hall with extensions made in 1925, which included the installation of a supper room, cloakroom and a stage at the back of the hall. Church services, dances and functions were held there for many years, with great memories for a number of local residents.

Although the hall is no longer there, the six blocks of land purchased by the Ventnor Community over one hundred years ago are still in the ownership of the Trustees.

A brand-new Ventnor Hall was constructed in 2019 and again the local community made the lion's share of the contribution to its construction with support from the local council.



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Surf news by Ed Amorim @prosurfcoaching_

Welcome to Brazil

Good news. At @prosurfcoaching_ BRAZIL we now have our new base tent on the Bal Camboriú beach. We are looking forward to making it the best spot to welcome our surf students from around the world. We now have a surf camp in Brazil so we can continue busy and glamorous delivering the best service possible to our students and friends. Also it will be the new base for our local surf community and we are very happy with that.

"Make surfers better surfers"

We pull together all of our surf knowledge, techniques, safety, local knowledge, support, understanding, fun and our founding principal - LOVE. That is why we do it well and our students progress quickly and with solid fundamentals. Our team transforms a group of people in a beautiful surf community. We are always here to help you achieve your best. We have our arms open to receive you as part of our team anytime with any skill level, gender or age limitations.

Surf For Everyone

Pro Surf Coaching creates a different surf program for everyone.

Family Surf Session

It's special for parents to enjoy the surf scene together as a

family and we have developed techniques to help parents to improve surfing abilities and help their kids to get to the next surf level too. Teaching the parent how to coach the kids. Fun activities with tag team comps for parents and kids.

Surf Comp Training

The competitions are back on. This class was created to give an opportunity to intermediate surfers to discover how the surf competition scene works. For the good surfers it's a good chance to develop comp skills with simulations of heats, rules book discussion, judging criteria, video analysis, and physical and mental training. (4 pm at Smiths Beach).

Surf Ladies - A program to ensure the ladies can have their own time to practice surfing with a coaching session, exercises, developing safety and surf knowledge, personal evaluations and surf consultations to improve your performance.

Masters Welcome to all the workers and businessmen that don't have much time to improve their surf and fitness. We will boost it in a short time with our surf sessions, using our knowledge and techniques to improve your surfing and give you more confidence in the way you approach the surf. (4 pm at Smiths Beach).

Soul Surf

Is a program for the ones with special needs conditions (physical or mental) that want to enjoy the beach atmosphere with supervision of a surf coach. We will be talking about all the beach aspects, surf history, wave conceptions, manoeuvres and in the end give you a chance to go surf in accordance to your condition. It can be a fun new goal in life. We can have a program individually tailored for you.

Skate for Surfers

For someone who likes to improve quickly and clean up bad habits and improve the way you use your upper body to give commands to your board. We are here if you need Please contact 0490 406006.

What's the difference between waves, seas and swell

Waves are generated by wind moving over water; they indicate the speed of the wind in that area. Swell are waves (usually with smooth tops) that have moved beyond the area where they were generated. The distance between the crests, or tops, of the waves that make up swell is usually much greater than the distance between waves being actively generated by wind blowing over the water. Seas (usually described by the term combined seas) refers to wind waves and swell working together. Waves and seas are described by the height from trough to crest; swell also is described by the direction it's coming from.



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DOLLARS AND SENSE BY DAVID WELLS

The Ages and Stages of Investing

Just as life is a progression through the years, so is investing. The attitudes toward investing are highly correlated to the stage of life in which the investor finds themselves, and both are inextricably linked. It's a rare investor that doesn't change their attitudes to investing as they get older and more experienced.

Briefly we can call the stages of life youth, pre family, family, post family and retired. At each of these stages there is a quantum difference in needs, attitudes and especially capacities to invest, which in most cases preclude people following the best course of action for their whole of life benefit. Of course, there are exceptions to all these generalisations – they're the really successful investors who have made a lifetime choice to be better off.

When we're young we're immortal and life generally is a good place, especially once we get a job. At that point our investment objective may just be to make the pay last to next payday, provided it covers our expenses. And the superannuation taken from the pay, couldn't we do better things with that! After all, retirement is so far away there's still time to catch up.

As we get older we get distracted, We find partners, we get new cars – both of which cost money, and investment still isn't a priority. And then our relationship gets serious and we start to think about the future, but that's generally more about getting married and settling down, Maybe buying a house or traveling first. And retirement is still a long way off.

And then there's a house (these days for the lucky and or disciplined ones) and a mortgage. Children come along and investment becomes a pipe dream for many. Really, it's all about economic survival. There's precious little left for enjoyment, let alone investing. Of course, education costs a fortune too and providing for the family the way we want doesn't come cheaply these days.

At last the kids leave home, hopefully permanently and you can start to enjoy life and the freedom of being able to spend money on yourself and some little luxuries. At this stage in your life, possibly mid-40s, early 50's things are fine and you have sufficient income to live well. But then you think – I'm retiring in 15-20 years and I don't have any money!

We're now in the post family panic stage. How are we going to retire and live the way we want? Can we even afford to retire? Thank goodness that we've got a little bit of superannuation put aside. But will it last; will it keep us? This is possibly the most traumatic financial realisation many people come to. They are about to retire and they won't have enough money. Will the age pension cover things you ask yourself, but you know it won't unless you're incredibly frugal.

And then retirement. What we've got is what we have to live on for the rest of our life and it's not a cheery thought for most of us.

There are solutions and the earlier they are implemented the less we'll see these problems. They are solutions that can make a big difference or a small one, but they will help you have a better future whatever stage you're at now. The young ones among us have a great chance to learn from other's experience so that they won't suffer the same financial pain as their parents and or grandparents.

While there is no "one size fits all" way to make sure you can retire in the style you'd like there are different strategies you can follow to make sure that things aren't as bad as they could be. These are simple things that if you start them early in life they will become habits and lead you along the path toward a comfortable retirement. As well along the way you would have built up both some financial resilience, both in assets and in education, so that you will be better placed to ride out life's little financial storms that blow along from time to time.

Many reading this will be in the later stages of their investing cycle and the may be looking back in regret. Don't let that worry you as "what is, is". All you can do is look after today and prepare as well as you can for tomorrow. For many that isn't a problem, others are not so lucky. If you have offspring that are just starting out, these articles may help them.

This is the first of an intermittent series and over time I'll address the different stages we go through on the path to our retirement, from youth to elderly wisdom.

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Healthy and Healing with Pip

Reiki distance healing actually works!!

For thousands of years, our ancestors have been using energy healing, indigenous herbs, moon cycles, and other natural remedies to stay healthy, relax, manifest, celebrate, help their family and work on community issues. It's only been in the last 150 years that modern medicine has stepped into the spotlight and taken us down new paths in our wellness journey. I think it's wonderful to be able to reach for the gifts from all schools of thought.

Recently I was listening to a podcast with Cheryl Richardson and Bob Fritchie talking about the studies that have been done to prove that energy healing, and in particular, distance healing, actually works.

Bob and his scientific colleagues have been studying the physiological effects of distance healing on plants, animals and humans, by attaching electrodes to the recipient and then recording the response when they receive energy healing. The results have been fantastic!

There is a marked increase in activity of the brain and the nervous system when someone is receiving distance healing. And a marked decrease in cortisol and other stress hormones.

Similar results have also been found in studies where people

having Reiki energy healing in-person.

I am constantly delighted when I hear clients describe their experiences after receiving Reiki.

"What can I say... Pip is the best! I've experienced energy healing before, however, with Pip it's completely different. I had my 4th session with her this morning, and I'm completely blissed out. I've always wanted to reach that deep meditative state where you're conscious, not asleep but somewhere in between. It's a wonderful feeling. She has amazing energy, insight, and intuition of exactly what you need. I'm so glad I found her! You won't be disappointed!" Amy – Feb 2022.

I also love teaching people how to do Reiki, so that they can help themselves and their loved ones.

The Reiki Level Two course is great fun because students learn how to send healing energy to stressful family gatherings, friends who are unwell, past traumas, relationships, interviews, and work meetings. This is a very practical skill to have in a world where we are not able to see all our loved ones in-person. And I've found that it really helps people to feel in control of their life rather than feeling helpless.

Students who have done the course say things like this:

"Reiki Level Two allowed me to build on the skills from Level One, increase my confidence to use Reiki (more often) and I found out that you can use Reiki to heal ANYTHING."

Bev – Reiki Level One & Two.

"Reiki Level Two is amazing! I had concrete confirmation that distance healing works! My sister actually reported sensations and heat when I was sending her Reiki. Love this hands-on training."

Jaren – Reiki Level One & Two.

"Loved learning the Reiki symbols, enhancing hands-on healing was awesome! Loved learning all the different ways to send Reiki. And using the Sei Hei Ki (symbol) for additional protection is great!"

Von - Reiki Level One, Two and Master.

If you're interested, the next Reiki Level Two course (3 x 3-hour sessions) starts on Saturday 9th April 2022 (fortnightly) in Cape Woolamai - Phillip Island.

Go to <http://www.pipcoleman.com> to read more details about Reiki courses.

FYI - you need to have completed a Reiki Level One course before you can do Reiki Level Two ... the next Reiki Level One is starting on 3rd May 2022.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Blessings Pip

Reference: Change Your Life with Cheryl Richardson

Listen to Cheryl and Bob Fritchie, founder of the World Service Institute, discuss the healing power of Divine Love. After thirty years of working with energy, you'll be moved and inspired by his work and miraculous healing stories. For more information visit <http://www.worldserviceinstitute.org>

Link to podcast: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/bob-fritchie/id294262214?i=1000092361341>



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PUBLIC NOTICE

Customer Service Centre reopening soon

Westernport Water wishes to advise that our Customer Service Centre at our Newhaven office will reopen to the public on Tuesday 19 April 2022, between 8.30am- 5pm.

If you plan to visit, please note we can no longer accept cash payments. All cash payments may be made at the Post Office. Please follow all safety instructions that have been put in place and do not visit if you are feeling unwell.

Further information can be found by visiting westernportwater.com.au or by contacting us on 1300 720 711.



Let's get cooking

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Honey & Rosemary

Roast Duck



WHAT YOU NEED:

Honey & Rosemary Roast Duck Breast 1/2 cup Peas
2 Free Range Duck Breasts 1/2 sliced Onion
3 Rashers of Pancetta 1/4 sliced Savoy Cabbage
Hill Top's Honey and Rosemary BBQ Rub

WHAT TO DO:

Remove duck breast from bag, pat dry and score fat. Sprinkle them the with Honey & Rosemary Rub. Heat frying pan until hot. Place Duck Breasts skin side down, hold centre of breast to keep breast flat cook for 4 minutes then turn over cook for 3 minuets. Remove the breast from frying pan leave to rest. Add Pancetta and Onions to frying pan and fry until brown. Add the Cabbage and Peas. Fry until the cabbage is soft. Place on centre of plate then slice duck breast on an angle and place on top of the greens.

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Phillip Island Camera Club “Making Photography Fun - Freezing the action

One of the special things about photography is its ability to capture a single moment in time. But that doesn't mean all subjects we capture using our camera have to be still. There are lots of moving subjects at Phillip Island that may take our interest, including the motorcycle and car races at the race track, surfers catching a wave and skateboarders doing their tricks at the skate park. Freezing the action in photography can be a challenge, but it helps to know which camera



settings to use. Understanding the exposure triangle is a great starting point.

First, you need to use a fast shutter speed. If you're aiming to capture an actionable moment and photograph a fast-moving subject, use shutter priority for the greatest control. Second, you may need to make adjustments according to how close you are to your subject. The closer

you are to your subject, the greater its motion will be. So, you'll need to adjust your shutter speed appropriately and set it to something even faster when you're taking a close up of a moving person or vehicle in motion. Third, don't forget about ISO – to increase your shutter speed up another notch, you can also increase your ISO. If this results in 'noise' in your image, you may be able to reduce this during post processing when you edit your image. Last, keep the aperture wide. To round out the exposure triangle, in addition to using a high ISO, a wide aperture will help you to further heighten your shutter speed. A wide aperture is preferred by photographers because it blurs the background and draws the viewer's eye to the moving subject.

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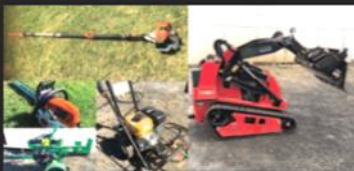
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To freeze the action in your shots, experiment so that you'll find the right balance and preserve a split second for a lifetime.

Reference: Daily Photo Tips, How to Freeze Action, 11 February 2022.

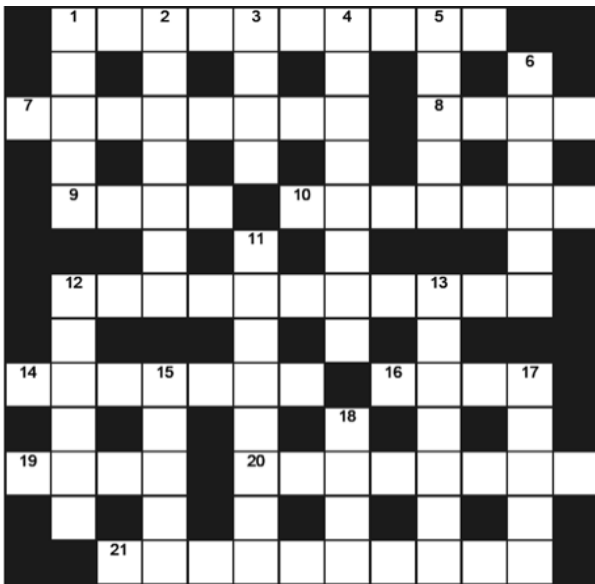
In the images above, Phillip Island Camera Club member, Gary Parnell, has frozen the action perfectly by selecting the right camera settings using his understanding of the exposure triangle. Images are copyright of the photographer and may not be copied or used without permission.

If you found this article of interest and would like to find out more go to: <http://www.phillipislandcameraclub.com.au/>

For more information about the Phillip Island Camera Club phone Jenny on 0408 355130.

Brain Food

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



Vibe Quick Crossword

Across

- 1 A magnifying instrument (10)
7 Those who have fled (8)
8 To give off (4)
9 An elegant bird (4)
10 Starts a fire (7)
12 Shining brightly (11)
14 Elevated platform (7)
16 Heavenly body (4)
19 Section of a house (4)
20 Parts (8)
21 Commuters (10)

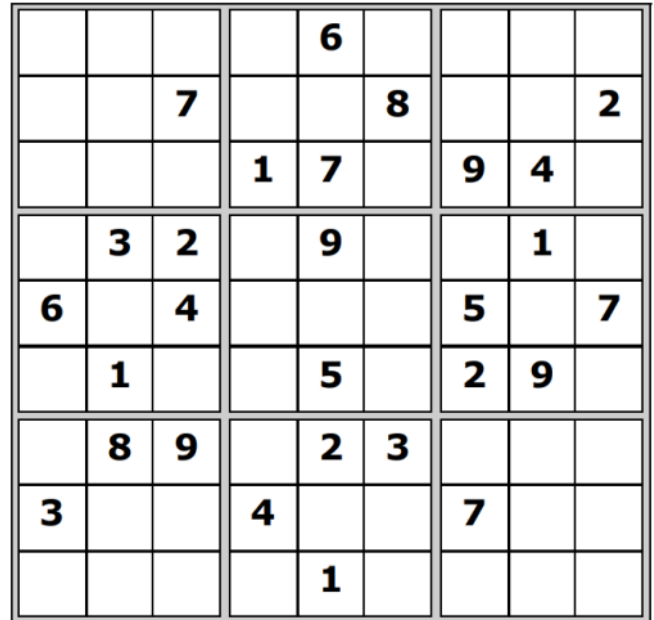
Down

- 1 Fogs (5)
2 Neck ware (7)
3 Used for baking (4)
4 Pads (8)
5 Implore (5)
6 Best (6)
11 Defames (8)
12 Cause (6)
13 Great in degree (7)
15 Punctuation mark (5)
17 Scores (5)
18 Enthusiastic (4)

TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What is the name of the scientist who turns into the Incredible Hulk?
2. What name is given to an angle that is less than 90 degrees? 3. What Latin

word for "elsewhere" is often heard in court? 4. What do the two numbers on the opposite side of dice always add up to? 5. What continent is the world's largest? 6. Which sport was re-introduced to the Olympic Games in 1988 after a 64 year absence? 7. Was the North or South Pole first reached in 1909? 8. Is demophobia the fear of crowds, short people or Christmas? 9. What word is used in international radio communications to denote the letter N? 10. What is the longest river in the Republic of Ireland? 11. Thursday is named after which God? 12. What is a tam - tam?



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

PHILLIP ISLAND SENIOR CITIZENS MONTHLY UPDATE

Wow 3 lunches in a row! Life is definitely better this year than the past two years. It's great to see everyone enjoying themselves again during our monthly lunches. It's also great to see the return of the Greek Seniors for their once a month dinners. And you don't have to be Greek to attend. Like the Seniors Club, the Greek Seniors have very delicious food and are warm and friendly people too. It also feels good to have our regulars back, as in the carpet bowls club and the ballroom dancers as well on a weekly basis. And starting on Thursday 7th April, we will begin bingo. Bingo will be once a month to start with, starting on Thursday 7th April 2022 at 1pm. Cost is \$7.00 which breaks down to \$5.00 for the prize monies and \$2.00 to cover the club's costs. You must be a member of the Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club to play and be fully covid vaccinated. If you come for Bingo, you are very welcome to bring your own nibbles maybe to share and we have a byo licence if you want to have a grown up drink (must bring own glass). Another big event happening in April is our garage sale and world famous sausage sizzle! This will be on Easter Saturday 16th April 2022 from 9am - 1pm. To attend you will need to be fully vaccinated and sign/qr in as we are a community hall and these are our current covid requirements in accordance with health and safety compliance. Proof of vaccination will be checked as you walk in to look around. There will be a huge variety of stuff available to buy at our garage sale so come along and don't forget to buy a sausage in bread (recently given the name of the great Aussie taco!!!) We look forward to seeing you at all or any of the above events. If you need any more info on any of the above please don't hesitate to contact Liza Lee our Secretary on 5900 2921 or 0431 867 058. Happy Easter everyone.



WHAT IS THE METAVERSE...OR IS IT METAVERSES?

The concept of a Metaverse will be foreign to many readers, but some will be aware that the company founded by Mark Zuckerberg (Facebook) has recently changed its name to Meta. Before focusing on Metaverses, let me take the time to reflect on whether Facebook really enriched our lives. I use Facebook only as an example, but I could have used Twitter, Instagram, and many others.

I want to quickly mention the subjects of privacy, addiction, problematic social media, user safety and social issues.

Information privacy has developed into a worldwide concern, and it is a fact that many companies collect personal information through interactions and even biometric data from wearable devices. Improvements in artificial intelligence and computer graphics have provided headaches for government regulators. Some readers may have noticed that a casual internet search results in a flurry of adverts that home in on the subject being searched. If in doubt, try doing a search on the latest car that you might want to buy.

User Addiction (sometimes referred to as internet addiction disorder) is a subject that many people have commented on because it can have mental and physical repercussions. This can result in depression, anxiety, and other harmful conditions that relate to a sedentary lifestyle, such as obesity and cardiovascular disease. Experts are concerned that metaverses could be used as an escape from reality that perpetuates these addictions.

Social Media has developed as a tool that can be used for good, and for evil. The concern is that Metaverses may magnify the social media impacts, particularly for those who push biased content.

User Safety covers a wide spectrum of abhorrent people and organizations that promote virtual crime, sex abuse and child predators. These issues could become magnified in a world of Metaverses and governments may be unable to regulate the promoters.

Social Issues are a concern for many people who have lived through a time when a select number of high-profile people have become unimaginably rich. At the same time, we have not been able to solve the problems of worker exploitation, prejudice and discrimination in all its forms. Arguably metaverses could result in a new type of zombie that lives in a virtual world that has little or no ability to make a real contribution to the lives of the people around them.

What is a Metaverse?

Wikipedia defines a Metaverse as a 3D network of virtual worlds focused on social connection.

The word Meta has several meanings, and these include:

- In English, Meta has become an adjective to describe something or someone who goes above and beyond. Example metamorphosis.
- In Greek, Meta means “beyond”.
- In Hebrew Meta means dead! The Jewish community have ridiculed Facebooks new name. This was reported on “BBC News – Facebooks new name ridiculed by Hebrew speakers”.

People will enter the Metaverse by using augmented virtual reality headsets and be able to play games, visit different places and

interact with friends or strangers. I understand that in addition to playing games and interrelating with people, users will be able to go to school, go to church, attend live concerts, and travel the world, and work from home or a location of their choice.

Supporting the technology is a bunch of general-purpose computers, smart-phones, software applications, and they all come at a price. As an example, virtual reality headphones can cost up to \$1,100.00.

What led to the development of a Metaverse?

My research suggests that the seeds of the development of a Metaverse started in the world of internet-based video games. Back in 2003 a virtual world platform known as *Second Life* began offering an online world where people go to create an avatar of themselves and live a ‘second life’. An ‘Avatar’ is defined as something visual that is used to represent non-visual concepts or ideas, or an image that is used to represent a person in the virtual world of the internet and computers. An example of an avatar is an icon you use to represent yourself on an internet forum. *Second Life* paved the way for a new generation of online games.

In 2019 Facebook launched a social virtual reality world called *Facebook Horizon* and started developing a range of virtual reality applications.

Microsoft acquired AltspaceVR in 2017 and has since implemented features such as virtual avatars and meetings held in virtual reality.

Proposed applications for metaverse technology include interactive learning environments, improved work productivity, e-commerce, real estate and fashion design.

Who will join the Metaverse?

Over time, almost every sector of our society will arguably want to have a presence in this new world of virtual reality. The potential for reaching so many people in a cost-effective way suggests that the Metaverse could become a multi-trillion-dollar business. Readers need to consider why Facebook and Microsoft are investing heavily in this new technology.

What are the risks in a Metaverse?

Putting aside politics, race, religion and international tensions for a moment, the first issue that I can see is that the whole concept of a Metaverse relies on electricity to make it work. Without access to electricity, the Metaverse is dead. Perhaps the Hebrew meaning of meta is prophetic!

Currently the Metaverse suffers from a lack of hardware and software infrastructure, and a lack of clear government standards. Governments around the world are still grappling with how to regulate cryptocurrency, and I would suggest that getting a uniform approach on the Metaverse is a long way off.

In Summary

A Metaverse is a digital universe that reaches beyond the internet we know today. It is a vision of the future that has the potential to transform our social interactions, business and government dealings, and the internet economy at large.

Readers are encouraged to re-read the earlier comments about privacy, addiction, social media and social issues because all of these concerns will apply to the development of a Metaverse. Be careful what you wish for!

Disclaimer: Remember that cryptocurrency investments are invisible, largely un-regulated and volatile.

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.

LATEST SEAL PUP CENSUS REVEALS WORRYING TREND

New census findings reveal that Australian fur seal numbers have continued to decline, with concerned researchers working to understand why – and turn it around. The number of seal pups recorded at breeding sites in Victoria and Tasmania decreased by around 22 per cent between 2007 and the most recent count in 2017. It takes years of research after the census takes place before the study can be released, as scientists need to be sure of their findings, which are then peer reviewed and published. Phillip Island Nature Parks marine scientist Rebecca McIntosh, who led this census, said the continued decline was worrying and likely due to a combination of many factors.

“The fur seals are wonderful to study and an important part of the ecosystem, both bottom-up - adding nutrients and top-down - helping to keep the fish populations healthy. People love going to see them on seal tour cruises because they are so entertaining. People may think there are a lot of seals out there, but only about half the original population exists today,” Dr McIntosh said.

“There may be several contributing factors including disease and pollutants affecting pup birth rates and survival, as well as seals dying in fishing nets and marine plastic entanglements.

“Then there are climate change impacts such as storm inundation of breeding areas and changes in the food chain of southeast Australia – a hot spot of ocean warming – which may also be affecting the seals.”

The five-yearly census of Australian fur seals began 20 years ago to better understand their populations after over-harvesting in the 1800s almost drove them to extinction. Fur seals are not endangered and are classified as being of ‘least concern’.

The highest count of around 21,600 pups was recorded in 2007, but numbers had dropped 17,500 by the next census in 2013. Researchers hoped it was an anomaly. But the recently released 2017 census reported a further decline to just 16,900 pups. The census will be used to inform future planning, including being provided to fisheries managers for ecosystem management of fisheries and to government for planning responses to emergencies such as oil spills. And of course, it is already being used by researchers as they furiously work to turn the declining numbers around. Phillip Island Nature Parks is using drones to monitor Seal Rocks and The Skerries to gain a deeper understanding of the population decline. For example, is it the pups that aren't surviving? Or is it because there are fewer breeding females?

Nature Parks researchers are also studying different impacts to the seal population, including disturbance by boats and jet skis at Seal Rocks, ecotoxicity and pollutants, and marine plastics.

“The Nature Parks team is committed to a variety of research projects at home and internationally. We hope to conserve the fur seals and the penguins, with flow on benefits to the other species and the people that share the ocean with them.”

“As top predators, fur seals are excellent ecosystem sentinels – if they are healthy, then in a general sense, the ecosystem underneath them can be assumed to be doing well. So all of this work is not just vital to our seals, but to our entire ecosystem.” The next fur seal census will take place at the beginning of next year. The full 2017 census paper Sustained reduction in numbers of Australian fur seal pups:

implications for future population monitoring is available at: <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0265610>

It is co-authored by Karina Sorrell, Monash University; Sam Thalmann, Tasmanian Department of Natural Resources and Environment; Anthony Mitchell, DELWP Victoria; Rachael Gray, The University of Sydney; Harley Schinagl and Peter Dann, Phillip Island Nature Parks; John Arnould, Deakin University; and Roger Kirkwood, South Australian Research and Development Institute. This research was funded by the Telematics Trust and the Princess Melikoff Trust Marine Mammal Conservation Program.

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**A classic crime story from
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THE TRIAL OF THE BLACK WIDOW

For two months, the exclusive community of Cowes has been obsessed with a murder that many of its most influential citizens actually witnessed. You and your eleven colleagues of the jury feel lucky to sit here every day and weigh the evidence against this beautiful, and some might add, deadly woman of the world.

It was less than a year ago Dawn Covert moved to Cowes on idyllic Phillip Island, renting a tastefully expensive beach house. A vivacious and stunning woman, Dawn quickly made friends with Cecil, the next door neighbour and retired builder. They were engaged within two months and married within three.

In his opening statement the Prosecutor Peter Bungle Q.C. outlines the events of Cecil's final garden party of the season, his last garden party ever. The festivities were in full swing on that sunny afternoon when the host asked his wife to fetch him a drink. Dawn had just sent the bartender off for more limes; so she made it herself, expertly mixing the gin and tonic and adding ice from an electric ice cooler plugged into an outlet in the gazebo. She tasted the drink, pronounced it delicious, and then handed the glass to Cecil, who used a paper napkin to wipe a red gash of lipstick off the rim before drinking.

That was the last contact that Dawn had with her husband. For the next half hour Cecil sipped his drink, munched on a catered buffet of overpriced finger food, and chatted with his neighbours. At one point he borrowed a cigarette from his best friend and tennis partner Keith St. Clair, but smoked only half before stubbing it out.

When Cecil collapsed on the lawn clutching his throat, no one even imagined poison, except the poisoner of course. The local Dentist and a dermatologist made vain attempts to revive him, all this while waiters were busy washing glasses and disposing of whatever evidence might have existed of the murder.

Dawn tried to arrange a quick cremation, but the local law required an autopsy. The result left no doubt: potassium cyanide guaranteed to give effective results within a matter of minutes.

The evidence adduced established that there were three refuse bags at the crime scene. One came from behind the buffet table and was used for the parsley, the other two from in the gazebo, one used to store drinks, and the other found inside the ice cooler, the latter having traces of cyanide as did a patch of dead grass where the deceased died. The cyanide was not found elsewhere. The caterer testified that Dawn wanted to do a lot of the preparation work herself like filling the ice-cooler and stocking the garnish bins with lemons and limes- under cross-examination he conceded her behaviour was not abnormal and she might be an independent person who likes to do things for herself. Also in evidence was a videotape made by a company hired to tape the party. It showed Cecil in the midst of friends nursing the last quarter of his drink, stubbing out his cigarette as Keith deposits a plate of half-eaten food on a table nearby and walks away. Cecil is seen eating absentmindedly from the plate.

PROSECUTION: "The prosecution will show that last month Dawn drove to Wonthaggi to purchase an industrial metal cleaner clear liquid composed primarily of potassium cyanide. We will also show that this was not the first time Dawn, born Smart, and also known as Julie Wanton and Colleen Seagrove, has lost a husband under suspicious circumstances.

In at least two previous incidents she married wealthy men. In both these cases her husbands died within a year and in both cases their mortal remains were cremated. Dawn Covert is what crime literature calls a "black widow," someone who weds and kills with impunity.

"Puffing his chest out while clutching the front of his legal gown, Bungle Q.C. stared at the accused malevolently and then solemnly at the jury as he concluded his address. "Your job ladies and gentlemen of the jury is to see that her heinous crime spree stops here and that future husbands of this world are spared her predatory advances." The silence in the courtroom was palpable. As a juror you might be pardoned if at that point you nodded in agreement with the prosecutor. The case against this allegedly sinful woman seemed more than compelling.

Leroy Cunninghamworth Q.C. for the accused was cognisant of the heavy task that this character assassination of his client confronted him with and the need for a legal escape. His address was solemn and inwardly he prayed it was convincing.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I do not seek to portray my client as a virtuous and saintly person. That's not my job -frankly it's the job of the Crown to prove beyond reasonable doubt the guilt of my client on solid and believable facts, not salacious and evil innuendo based on her alleged past relationships and fatalities. Proof by fact and not rumour. It is the Crown's task, and it has failed miserably in attempting to do so, to prove beyond all reasonable doubt my client murdered her husband.

There is no evidence connecting my client to this crime. So she bought a metal cleaner. So she likes a clean house. As for opportunity - cyanide is a fast acting poison. And yet she and husband had no contact with each other for the last half hour of his life.

Other suspects abound. The housekeeper Margi Deneen had been the deceased's mistress for years before he threw her over for the defendant. The deceased's best friend Keith St. Clair may have been less than saintly in his acknowledged ardent and unsuccessful pursuit of my client's affections before her marriage. Both Margi and Keith had motives just as



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compelling as my client's and even greater opportunity. Well readers of the Vibe, you get the sinking feeling that no matter who poisoned Cecil, there may not be enough evidence to prove it.

Still the question remains who killed Cecil? And how? And can one ignore the predations of the accused in her past life, now come back to haunt and maybe incriminate her by association?

VERDICT

YOU HAVE NO CHOICE ON THE EVIDENCE BEFORE THE COURT TO FIND THE ACCUSED NOT GUILTY. Conjecture is not enough. The Judge in his instructions and the defence barrister made this clear- there had to be no room for doubt and unfortunately perhaps there was no tangible irrefutable proof of guilt. You wonder how you poison someone at a garden party. Was it a random act of buffet terrorism? Or had the poison been intended for someone else. You quickly put these thoughts aside. You are here to evaluate the innocence or guilt of one person, Dawn Covert. The only hard evidence is the trace of cyanide found in the plastic storage bag and on the grass. You agreed there was no tangible evidence to connect possible lovers or would be suitors to the crime-hence the housekeeper and the best friend, but they only served to divert attention from the accused and cast suspicion elsewhere, a reasonable ploy for the defence, like a defence B as seen in courtroom movies.

But during the two days of jury deliberation various scenarios of how Cecil came to be murdered by poisoning were sketched by some of you. Perhaps the most persuasive one was from the university science graduate who was also an avid CSI fan and excellent cook. She had figured out what she regarded as the recipe for the crime possible conceived by our femme fatale-

The **RECIPE** she figured was as follows-

Fill the tray one third full of water. While it freezes, boil a pan of marbles or other small objects. Remove the ice tray from the freezer and place a hot marble in the centre of each cube, just long enough to create a depression in the cube. Drain off melted water, then quickly fill the depression in the cube. Freeze the mixture, then fill the rest of the ice tray with water and return to the freezer. Keep in a cold, safe place until ready for use.

Our aspiring jury sleuth then reckoned on the day of the party, Dawn could have filled a plastic bag with the poisoned cubes and stored it in the bottom of the electric cooler, beneath a load of real ice.. Having herself arranged the supply of limes, she could have conveniently sent the bartender off for more, then mixed Cecil's drink, adding her own special ice cubes. She would make sure to taste the drink in front of witnesses, then stay far away from Cecil until the ice cubes melted and the cyanide was released. The dead grass could have been caused by Cecil spilling the last of his poisoned drink. Since Dawn wouldn't have had the chance to clean up after herself, she would have had to trust fate. Remember, this was before anyone suspected murder. A person cleaning out the cooler would simply have tossed out the remaining ice and disposed of the bag. There is a low murmur of approval from you for this brilliant scenario but also an acknowledgment that there was no actual proof to convict. Maybe, just maybe, this time justice got iced up in the cooler!

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COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

If you're a not for profit club or organisation, you can list your meeting times and contact details here free of charge. If you're not listed and would like to be email us at: phillipislandvibe@outlook.com

Red Cross, Phillip Island Branch meets every 2nd Thurs of month, 1.30pm, Uniting Church Hall, Chapel Street, Cowes. New Members welcome. Ron Hateley 59522549 or Averil Roberts 59522602.

Phillip Island Lions Club - Steptoos Emporium - Outdoor Trash and Treasure market every Sat and Sun 9.30 - 12.30pm. Dunsmore Rd, Cowes. (Next to Transfer station.) Ph. 59002896 or email - lionsclubphillipisland@gmail.com

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 Tuesdays 7-8pm. Contact Emma Hadrian 0432 349335 or email: emma.hadrian@guidesvic.org.au

Phillip Island Club (Senior Citizens) Carpet bowls, cards, ballroom dancing, craft. Membership \$15 per year. Fridays 12noon, 3 course lunch \$15. Island Celebration Centre Hall for hire. Phone 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 56-58 Church St 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 info: Dianne Glanz 0417 610 611 or 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 of people 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 second Monday night of each month at 7.15 start. New members are very welcome. To find out more details please contact Eden White edendwhite74@gmail.com

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

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 most welcome to join us. Contact Terry Heffernan 0438 808428 or 59526955.

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. Ken 59568803 or David 0412485913, Blue Gum Reserve Dunsmore Rd, Cowes.

National Vietnam Veterans Museum needs volunteers interested in gardening on our site and cleaners keen to keep our displays sparkling. Contact Julie on 5956 6400 or apply online via our website www.vietnamvetmuseum.org.

Phillip Island RSL Day Club every Monday, 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, Newhaven Yacht Squadron Clubrooms, 1:30 - 4pm. Contact Jenny on 0408355130 or email phillipislandcameraclub@gmail.com. For more information go to www.phillipislandcameraclub.com.au

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. Contact us via email: phillipislandadultridingclub.com.au

Cape Woolamai Coast Action is a volunteer group who meet on the second Saturday Monthly from February to November. We undertake general 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

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

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

Phillip Island Medical and Health Action Group PIMHAG Meets the second last Thursday of the month 5pm-6.30pm PIRSL New members welcome Contact Sec Linda Marston 0428 344 726
Cowes Branch Country Women's Association (CWA) 1st Thursday of the month February-November. currently meeting at Rotary Shed-Dunsmore Rd 1pm More info: Felicity 0414 507 420 Penny 0437 042 084 Cowes CWA Shop Thompson Ave Cowes Tues-Sat 10-2 cwaofviccowes@gmail.com

Phillip Island Day View Club proudly supporting The Smith Family. Feb-Dec - 4th Monday of the month at 11am, Rusty Waters Brewery, Cowes. Bookings essential. New members welcome. For information contact Ann Finger 0439 399829.

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

Phillip Island Library is closed for the redevelopment of the Cowes Cultural centre the new library facilities. Our Click&Collect and returns location is Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre 56/58 Church St., Cowes. Library items may be returned outside the office at PICAL 24hrs and pick-up of holds is available on the following days: Tues 1.00-4.30pm : Wed 9.30-2pm : Thursday 9.30-1pm.

Friends of the Library book chat 1st Wed of every month at 2pm, Feb-Nov. Phillip Island Library. Friends of Library meeting 10.30am, 3rd Sat of every month. New members welcome. Call Celia 59521901.

South Coast Speakers Toastmasters meets every 2nd and 4th Wed of month, 7.30pm at San Remo Hotel. Develop oral communication and leadership skills. More information Brigitte Linder 0421 812691

San Remo Bowls Club Summer. Every Wednesday 12.30pm for 1pm start. Stick draw. New bowlers and visitors most welcome. 1a Wynne Road, San Remo, next to Recreation Centre. Ph 56785558.

Phillip Island Patchworkers We meet Monday Nights at 7.30 p.m. The first, second and last Tuesday of the month at 10.30 a.m. also first and third Friday of the month at 10.00 a.m. and Corinella Crafties second and fourth Wednesday of the month 10.30 a.m. For more information please contact Gayle Rowden 0400634282 or 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-usable bags to supply local shops and reduce plastic. Sewing bee every Wednesday 10am-4pm Garden Room 2, PICAL 56-58 Church St Cowes. Everyone welcome (no sewing experience necessary).

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

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

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 Phillip Island and San Remo Our friendly Club helps care for & brings our Community together through fund raising & community activities, including running our Cowes Op Shop. New members & volunteers are always warmly welcomed. Please call President, Judy Lawrence for more info: 0418 325 055.

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

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 and 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 .

First Friday Philosophy Lunch We meet once a 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. \$35 (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 for more information.

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 meets 1st Wednesday of every month at 1.30pm at the PI Health Hub in Cowes. We fundraise to purchase much needed equipment for specialists and medical staff offering services at the Health Hub. New members very welcome. For more info – Wendy 0417 245 692.

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 George Mol on 0407 851065.

Phillip Island Community Art & Craft Gallery Contact Secretary Aleta Groves 0419 525 609 or email-info@phillipisandgallery.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

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

BINS ON BOATS: SIMPLE IDEA TO SAVE SEALS FROM ENTANGLEMENT

A simple idea aimed at saving seals from becoming tangled in trawl netting at Phillip Island has already reduced the amount of waste that fishing boats lose in the ocean. Phillip Island Nature Parks partnered with the South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association (SETFIA) and RMIT University Behavioural Scientists on the 'Bins on Boats' project – which has more than doubled the amount of rubbish returning to shore on fishing vessels from an average of 31 litres to 66 litres per vessel. The researchers are optimistic the project has already contributed to a reduction in seals entangled in trawl net fragments at Seal Rocks. From 2017-2020, the number of trawl net entanglements recorded at Seal Rocks has decreased from seven in 2017, to four in 2018 and 2019, and two in 2020.

"Initially we thought it would take years to see the impact of the trial, but early signs are positive and the benefits are clear, with commercial fishing vessels doubling the amount of rubbish they bring back to shore," Nature Parks marine scientist Rebecca McIntosh said.

The researchers found there was a lack of appropriate bins onboard commercial fishing vessels and investigations of fragments taken from seals suggested that cut trawl netting was being accidentally blown or washed overboard in the rough sea conditions.

The idea was simple: better bins, and more of them. With funding from the Victorian Government, specially designed wheelee bins with wind-proof lids were offered to fishing operators who use a variety of fishing gear at the port of Lakes Entrance, San Remo, Portland and other ports in Victoria.

"It has only been about three years of the bins being fully used, so we will want to see the results in another year or two before we're fully confident, but the signs are really promising," Dr McIntosh said.

"We have potentially reduced trawl net entanglement of seals in the Bass Strait simply through the use of purpose-built bins."

Plastic in the ocean comes from a variety of sources and most originates from land. It is wide-ranging and moves around with the currents. Entanglement in both commercial trawl net fragments, recreational fishing line and other waste has been an ongoing source of harm for Australian fur seals.

From 2017-2020, there were 17 entanglements in trawl netting, 27 in recreational fishing line and 35 in other rubbish such as balloon ribbons, plastic rings and cap bands. However, the fishing industry wanted to play its part in reducing entanglements.

SETFIA Executive Officer, Simon Boag, said the commercial fishing industry was proud to design, source and distribute bins for the Bins on Boats initiative. "We are working with our fishers and Phillip Island Nature Parks because sustainable fishing practices, such as correct waste disposal, protect our future," he said.

In a unique collaboration, RMIT Behavioural Scientists Alex Kusmanoff and Sarah Bekessy played a key role to address the human behaviour side of the project, including surveying vessel crews and specially designing the labelling on the bins. "All conservation problems are ultimately about human behaviour, so there is great potential for applying behavioural science to help solve conservation problems," Dr Kusmanoff said. "However, this is still rather rare, so it's wonderful to work with agencies who are willing to try new approaches and to experiment with different management interventions." The Bins on Boats study

has been published in the international Conservation Science and Practice while a report and fact sheet are also available online.

Left: Luke Hill, a trawler and gillnetter from San Remo, Victoria, has placed one of the bins on his vessel Metis.



PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

ANSWERS TO TRIVA QUESTIONS 1. Dr David Banner
2. Acute 3. Alibi 4. Seven 5. Asia 6. Tennis 7. North Pole
8. Crowds 9. November 10. Shannon 11. Thor 12. Drum

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