



**Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre at Mitchell House**

is run by a community based Committee of Management. We aim to provide a positive, welcoming environment where you can meet new friends, learn or share skills, ideas and information. If you are interested in being more involved in your Neighbourhood Centre call in and chat to the Centre Manager. For updates follow us on Facebook@WNCatMitchellHouse or visit our website: [www.wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com](http://www.wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com)

**WNC Contact Details:**

Ph: 5672 3731 Email: [reception@wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com](mailto:reception@wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com)

Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre, 6 Murray St, Wonthaggi 3995.

Open: **Mon to Thur 9.30 am - 4.00 pm,**

**Fri 9.30—1pm, after 1 pm by appointment only**

*WNC is on the land of the Bunurong Boonwurrung people of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge and pay our respects to the traditional owners of this land where we gather to learn, work and play. We thank the elders past, present and emerging for their continuing custodianship. We acknowledge the value, diversity and integrity of the Aboriginal culture that surrounds us.*

**Always was, always will be**



You are invited to come and join us from 12.30pm every Wednesday during school terms, for a communal lunch made from fresh & healthy seasonal produce. Every week at Mitchell House, delicious vegetarian meals are prepared by our talented chef Emma and her trusty crew. To book your seat in advance call 5672 3731 or email: [reception@wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com](mailto:reception@wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com)

If possible, we do appreciate a gold coin donation. Please note we cannot cater to specific dietary requirements.

**FROZEN MEALS & BREAD**

Our freezer continues to work overtime storing a significant quantity of donated bread as well as the frozen meals that are prepared in the Mitchell House kitchen. The meals and bread are available to those in need. Simply call in to Mitchell House during office hours, & our friendly staff and volunteers at the front counter will be happy to assist.



**COMMUNITY PANTRY**

Lots of families and individuals are doing it tough and sometimes need a hand. Our Community Pantry or Free Food Shelf is here to help. Our Free Food Shelf is generously supported by many, many individual community members & volunteers, as well as local supermarkets & garden groups in the region. We very much welcome donations of unopened, non-perishable, in date items. So please feel free to buy a couple of extra cans or packets of food when you do your weekly shop. You can drop them off at Mitchell House reception or out the front.



**THE WONTHAGGI FOOD COLLECTIVE**

is a local group that buys food in bulk and distributes it at a low mark up to their members. Distribution is from the multi-purpose room at Mitchell House, 11.00am-1.00pm, 2nd Saturday of each month. Stocklist & other information is available from Michael Nugent, Email: [WonthaggiCoop@gmail.com](mailto:WonthaggiCoop@gmail.com) or Ph. 0416 039 933



**BASS COAST REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP GROUP**

Our group is committed to welcoming UNHCR refugees to become part of our local community. We provide support through a Commonwealth Government program; the Community Refugee Integration and Settlement Pilot (CRISP). Under the CRISP program we have now sponsored three Syrian families to come to Wonthaggi. Our welcoming community has helped these refugee families successfully settle in Wonthaggi and begin rebuilding their lives. More information is available on our Web-site [bcrsg.com.au](http://bcrsg.com.au) We are very appreciative of the generous support in our community. If you would like to help, you can make a financial donation, join our group, or subscribe to our newsletter mailing list.



Thanks for your support. You can contact us at: [bcrsg2021@gmail.com](mailto:bcrsg2021@gmail.com)

## Health and Well-being...

### **NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS**

Share your experience of narcotic addiction in a supportive group. **Mondays 7:00-8:00pm**  
Contact Peter for more information: 0456 000 844

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to achieve sobriety. We have two groups who meet here at Mitchell House:

**Wednesday AA Group - 7.00—8.00pm**

Contact Sean for more information: 0425 707 480

**Sunday AA Group - Cancelled.** You can call Sid 0406 628 992 for more information.

### **FREE SUPPORTED PLAY GROUPS**

#### **Monday & Fridays**

Families with a Health Care Card (or equivalent) can enrol via Bass Coast Health for our BCH facilitated playgroups. The groups run from 10.00 to 11.30am each Monday & Friday during the school terms.

Just call Janine on 0457 834 960 to enrol for either group.

### **BASS COAST HOUSING MATTERS: AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR ALL!**

Are you concerned about the housing crisis? Bass Coast Housing Matters, a group auspiced by WNC, is creating local solutions. We meet monthly, and work with and lobby Council, State Government and others for more and better public, social and other affordable housing. If you would like to find out more, look us up on Facebook, go to

[www.housingmattersbasscoast.weebly.com](http://www.housingmattersbasscoast.weebly.com)  
or e-mail us at [HousingMattersBC@gmail.com](mailto:HousingMattersBC@gmail.com).



### **YOGA CLASS WITH LINDA:**

Come and try the transformative power of YOGA in a safe and supportive space. Linda trained as a yoga teacher in 1978 and has extensive further training in yoga, meditation, philosophy and yoga therapy. She teaches classical yoga including postures (asanas), breathing, (Pranavama), relaxation and meditation (Dharana & Dhyana) aiming to create a wholistic yoga experience of body/mind integration. Please bring a yoga mat and light blanket/shawl.

**Tuesday's 10.30 - 11.45am.** During school terms.

\$10.00 per class, \$8.00 for WNC Members.

Pre-enrolment is required, please call 5672 3731 or email: [reception@wonthaggi neighbourhoodcentre.com](mailto:reception@wonthaggi neighbourhoodcentre.com)

### **SEATED YOGA WITH MAREE**

Seated yoga is suitable for all abilities. It can be done seated or standing & using the chair for support. Improve flexibility, movement, concentration, strength.

**Thursdays 2.00 - 3.15 \$10.00**

Pre-enrolment is required. Call 5672 3731

### **LearnShare CIRCLE DANCING: Wednesdays 2 - 3.00 pm**

This is a small group who dance weekly. Come along and join in and have some fun with others.

Members: \$4, Non members: \$6

**NOTE: this group is full. Please call 5672 3731 to express interest in getting on the waitlist or discuss other options**

### **MULTICULTURAL WOMEN'S GROUP**

**Thursdays 10.30 am - 12.30pm** during school terms. A social group for culturally diverse women in our community, providing friendship and social connection.

Members gain self-confidence and better understanding of their rights and responsibilities as citizens, together with opportunities to develop practical life skills.

Members: \$4, Non Members: \$6

### **BASS COAST PARKINSONS PEER SUPPORT GROUP**

**1.00pm – 2.30pm 2nd Friday of the month**

Parkinson's is a neurological disorder with a complex range of symptoms unique to each individual. Living with Parkinson's can be extremely isolating and challenging for both individuals and their families. While the Parkinson's journey is a deeply personal experience, it doesn't have to be undertaken alone.

**To enrol contact:  
Fight Parkinson's Vic.  
1800 644 189**



**Sentinel-Times** Don't forget to check out our column in the Sentinel Times on Tuesdays for updates and the latest information about what's happening at WNC.

You can also listen to South Coast FM where, between 6am and 6pm, you will hear Community Service Announcements including what's happening at the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre.



# Connecting and Sharing...

## LearnShare UKULELE GROUP

Thursdays 9.30 am - 12.00pm

Members:\$4 Non Members:\$6 Play the Uke with a group, learn some new tunes and meet some new people. Bookings preferred. Ph. 5672 3731.



## Renters' Rights 2025

Has your rent increased without notice? Are your repairs not being done? Is mould a problem? Are there delays in getting your bond returned?

Find out your rights as a tenant from the qualified lawyers at Gippsland Community Legal Service. Come along to Mitchell House, 3.00 to 4.00pm, on the second Thursday of the month to get free and confidential advice. Sessions in the first half of 2025 are on February 13, March 13, April 10, May 8 and June 12.

Bookings are essential so call us at WNC on 5672 3731 to book your appointment. These sessions are brought to you by Housing Matters Bass Coast, in conjunction with Gippsland Legal Service & WNC.

**NEW WAVE GIPPSLAND BASS COAST** is a self advocacy group that is run by and for people with an intellectual disability & acquired brain injury living in the Bass Coas Area. We work together to ensure we have the same rights, choices and opportunities as everyone else in the community. We meet on Thursdays from 9.00am at Mitchell House. To find out more please contact Paul Drew, Peer Worker for New wave Gippsland Bass Coast: phone 0439 425 238. Email: [nwbcpeerworker@gmail.com](mailto:nwbcpeerworker@gmail.com) Or email the New Wave Gippsland Bass Coast Project Worker at [bclnewwave@gmail.com](mailto:bclnewwave@gmail.com)

## LearnShare Art Group

Wednesdays 1.45pm - 3.30pm

M:\$4 NM:\$6

No Experience is needed. Just bring your paints and a canvas, or maybe some rocks or something else you might like to paint. Whether you are an experienced or 'budding' artist, share the space with others while you create—maybe even have a cuppa and a chat. The aim is to have fun!



## LearnShare Monday Needleworking Group

Mondays 10.00am – 12.30pm

M:\$4, NM:\$6 per session.

Learn with the best! This group can provide advice and guidance, so bring along your supplies, your ideas and your project work - anything from embroidery, cross stitch, patchworking etc. Whether hand craft or machine based, you will benefit from your fellow crafters' knowledge and skills as well as having the opportunity to view some lovely examples from group more broadly.

## WMS FIXIT CAFÉ

10.00 AM - 12.00 PM on the third

Sunday of the month is a program of the Wonthaggi Men's Shed.

The ever popular Fixit Cafe aims to Reduce, Recycle, Repair, Restore, Repurpose or Refer. If you have an item to be fixed and it can be carried, make an appointment to see the fixers. The Fixit Cafe is run by volunteers and although there is no fee, they welcome a donation to cover the costs. They are always looking for more tradespeople, handy persons - welders, sewers, electricians, mechanics etc. Basically, they need you! If you have a skill to share, and would like to help, email [fixitwonthaggi@gmail.com](mailto:fixitwonthaggi@gmail.com) to set up a chat.



During the first half of 2025 the WMS Fixit Cafe is on the following Sundays: 16/2, 16/3, 27/4, 18/05 & 15/06

Bookings are essential. The last appointment each Sunday is 11.30am. Please call 5672 3731 or email: [reception@wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com](mailto:reception@wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com) to book an appointment time for your repair.

## LearnShare

### CRAFT & A CUPPA GROUP

Fridays 10.00am – 12 noon

M:\$4 NM:\$6

You will be warmly welcomed into this group of friendly, craft loving folk. They are very willing share their ideas & skills so all you need to do is turn up with your latest project and be ready for a chat!



## BASS COAST TAC L2P DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM

This highly effective program helps young people aged 16 – 23 years who have a learners permit but no access to a supervising driver. Our trained volunteer mentors are matched with a young person to assist them gain their 120 hours of required supervised driving before undertaking their probationary licence test. **New mentors are always needed, so if you**



**have ever thought about helping a young person to get their driver's licence but weren't sure how to go about it, then you're in luck!**

Just contact our talented L2P Program coordinator, Melanie Mumford here at Mitchell House, who will make sure you have all the information you need to take your first steps towards making a real difference in the life of a young learner driver.

**For all enquiries contact L2P Co-Ordinator Melanie Mumford on 0467 590 679 or email: [basscoastl2p@wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com](mailto:basscoastl2p@wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com)**

# Timetable of weekly activities...

		WED	THURS	FRI
MON	TUES	BCH Family daycare (Private) 10am - 11:45am	Ukulele Group 9:30am - 12:00pm	BCH Supported Play Group 10:00am-11:30am
BCH Supported Play Group 10:00am-11.30am	YOGA with Linda 10:30am - 11:45am	Community Lunch 12:30pm - 1:30pm	Multicultural Women's Group 10.30am-12.30pm	Craft and a Cuppa 10:00am - 12:30pm
Needleworking Group 9:30am - 12:30pm	L2P Program 10:30 am - 5:00pm	Art Group 1.45pm - 3.30pm	L2P Program 10:30am - 5:00pm	<b>SAT</b> Food Collective Dates Term 1 2025 • 8th February • 8th March
L2P Program 10:30am - 5:00pm		Circle Dancing 2:00pm — 3.00pm		Seated Yoga 2:00pm - 3:00pm
Narcotics Anonymous 7:00pm - 8:00pm		AA Wednesday 7:00pm—8:00pm		



Neighbourhood Houses began in the 1970's with people coming together to share their knowledge and skills with each other at low or no cost in a process we call LearnShare. LearnShare recognises that whether working with our hands, our head or our heart, throughout our lives we all acquire valuable knowledge & skills. As part of the ongoing process of lifelong learning, we can all learn something new as well as share what we know - through LearnShare.

**WNC MEMBERSHIP:** We encourage everyone to become Members. Your membership fee helps us to ensure Mitchell House stays open and contributing to our community. The annual (financial year) fee is \$20.00 for an individual or \$30.00 for family membership. If you have a Centrelink concession card the cost is \$15 (individual) or \$20 (family). Membership forms are available at the Centre or you can download one from the website. Members have access to the LearnShare activities for a reduced rate (\$4.00) and also receive, via email, a copy of our program 'The Grapevine' & our *Connections* newsletter- both published each term. Of course you can also, pick them both up at Mitchell House.

**VOLUNTEERING WITH US:** It takes a team of volunteers to sustain a vibrant and friendly Neighbourhood Centre. We rely on the generous donations of time and care that our volunteers bring to tasks such as being a LearnShare facilitator or working on the front desk where you'll be answering the phones, providing customer service and other general office duties. We also have people who keep our gardens in good shape, who cook the wonderful meals we provide and those who assist with any and all of the tasks it takes to maintain a warm and welcoming community space. **We need people 9.30 am - 4.00pm for half or full day shifts. You'd be joining a team of great people as well as gaining experience working in our wonderful local community.**

Whatever type of volunteering you undertake with us, we will provide training and ongoing support. You can call or drop in and speak with the Manager or visit our website and follow the link to 'volunteer-with-us'. Just complete the online volunteer application form and we will be in touch with you.

**Need to rent a space? Contact us on 5672 3731 or [reception@wonthagginighbourhoodcentre.com](mailto:reception@wonthagginighbourhoodcentre.com)**