

ANGLICAN PARISH OF KORUMBURRA AND POOWONG

PARISH PROFILE | 2024

A landscape photograph featuring rolling green hills in the background, partially obscured by the intricate, bare branches of several trees in the foreground. The trees have a mossy or lichen-covered appearance. The overall scene is serene and natural.

VISION

To deepen our relationship with God, and in so doing, support each other in our Christian journey, expressing God's love in the wider community.



WELCOME

This Parish Profile has been prepared in anticipation that it be shared with those who might consider becoming our next Rector. As an introduction to our community and South Gippsland, we hope that the information within will provide a sense of what life and ministry might be like for whoever accepts the call to lead us into the next chapter of God's work in and through us.

The Anglican Parish of Korumburra and Poowong is in the Gippsland Diocese of Victoria. Our Bishop is The Right Reverend Dr Richard Treloar and our Archdeacon is Graham Knott, Rector of Leongatha.

We take pleasure in introducing you to our church community and region. The Parish of Korumburra and Poowong is situated in the beautiful rolling green hills of Southwest Gippsland, a rich agricultural area within close reach of stunning coastlines. We are in the South Gippsland Shire which has its municipal offices in Leongatha. Townships in our Parish include Korumburra, Bena, Jumbunna, Loch, Poowong, Kongwak and Nyora. Korumburra is located 116km from Melbourne CBD, approximately one and a half hours driving time. V-Line buses operate between Korumburra and Melbourne.



OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



We are an open-hearted, intergenerational community of faithful believers. We have experienced modest growth over the past few years, with regular Sunday attendance in Korumburra of up to 35 people. Poowong is smaller in number, but rich in fellowship and comfort for being in God's house with His people. We have fellowship also between the two churches, with those who attend Poowong also attending in Korumburra, and vice versa.

We are a small caring congregation who support each other on a regular basis in a pastoral care capacity and there is always someone on hand in times of need .

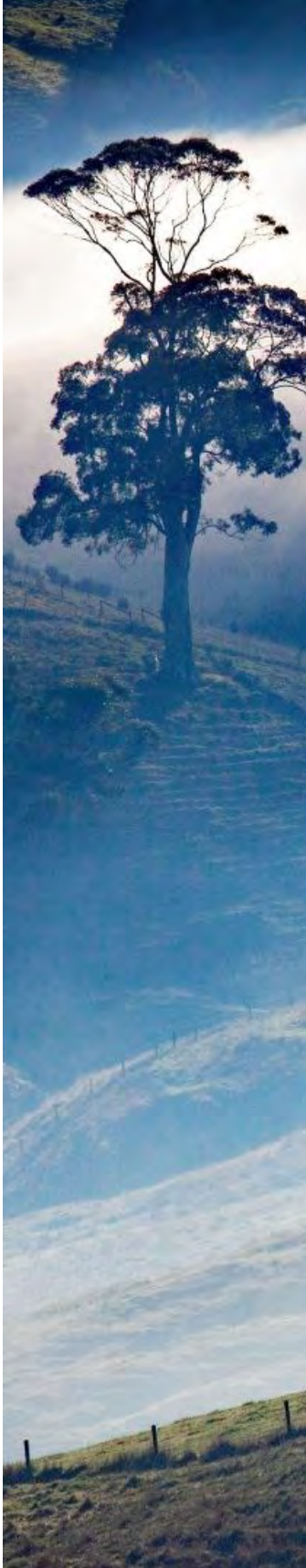
We see our first priority as loving and serving God and each other. Looking for creative and thoughtful ways to reach out into our community, we trust that God will call and establish new people in our church family as we are faithful to His leading.

In line with our commitment to growing our presence and impact in the community, we have recently agreed together to increase our budget for a Rector to five days a week (this has previously been four days). We have also recently appointed a part-time Family Lay Minister.

“Our mission: coming together to worship God and share His love as shown in Jesus Christ, faithfully, generously and joyfully.”



OUR HOPES FOR A RECTOR



The Congregation of Korumburra and Poowong are prayerfully seeking a Rector with the passion, faith, character and skills to serve within our Parish and wider communities, enabling us to live out our mission of coming together to worship God and share His love as shown in Jesus Christ; faithfully, generously and joyfully.

These are our Parish members hopes for our next Rector and for ourselves as a family of believers. We are hungry for growth, particularly personal spiritual growth in ourselves and our church family. We hope that someone with a strong love of the Scriptures will teach us faithfully through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.


A recurring theme in our discussions was how important it is to us that our church is a welcoming place for all who come. Many of those who have made the Parish their family of faith in recent years testify that it was the kindness and unconditional acceptance of those that welcomed them that drew them in and helped them find community. Our Bishop Richard Treloar spoke about this in his inaugural address in 2018, with an excerpt below:

“At the end of the day, the church is an instrument for proclaiming the kingdom of God, which is a kingdom of radical inclusion, radical welcome, where there is inclusion for all, where there is a place at the table for all.”

The Right Reverend Richard Treloar

Our hope is that our next Rector will share this heart to extend a welcome to all.

We hope for a Rector who creates inspiring church services that appeals to all ages, with great communication and teamwork with the music team, children’s ministry and others participating in the service. We hope for someone that can be adaptable in how they minister to the setting



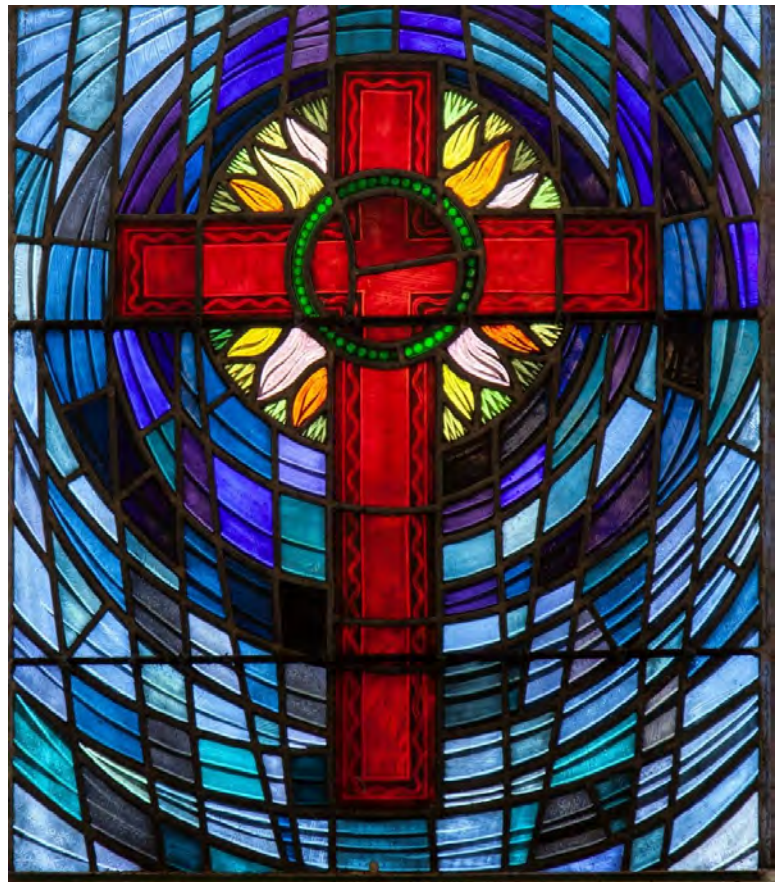
As a church that is very active in pastoral care, we would appreciate the support and encouragement of our Rector to strengthen and equip us further for this work, as well as committing to pastoral ministry also.

We want to be a light that shines brightly in our community, so we hope that our next Rector will partner with and lead us in doing this better. We hope that they will look for ways to be present in our local communities; being friendly, approachable, relating well to people and caring for the wider needs in our towns. Whether in ministry in the church or in the community, we hope our Rector will enable and encourage the involvement of our members to greater effectiveness in evangelism and outreach.

The local ministers in Korumburra have a strong relationship, meeting throughout the year to plan for the four annual combined services on the World Day of Prayer, Good Friday, Pentecost and Christmas. We hope our next Rector will continue this ecumenical presence, and also strengthen the joint ministry between our two congregations of St Paul's and All Saints.

Above all these qualities and skills, we hope that our next Rector is a person of prayer and an encourager of prayer.

“We prayerfully seek our new Rector to be a leader that helps us to honour God and live faithfully and fruitfully as his people.”



OUR SERVICES

St Paul's, Korumburra

Our church community meets each Sunday at 9:30, with a Children's Ministry and an opportunity for people to gather for refreshments in the Hall after the service.

The first Sunday of each month is a Family Service, with a format that encourages interaction and sharing. Every other Sunday is a Holy Communion Service.

A midweek Communion Service is held every Wednesday morning at 11:00 a.m.



All Saints', Poowong

Services at All Saints' are held on the first and third Sundays of the month at 11:00 am. Both services include Holy Communion. After each service we enjoy a shared lunch in the kitchen.





Aged Care Services

We have a Pastoral Care Team visit and lead worship at each venue. The Reserved Sacrament is used at Alchera House and Hillside services.

Carinya Lodge on the 1st Friday
Hillside Lodge on the 4th Friday
Alchera House on the 4th Friday

Pastoral Services

Home visitations with communion are provided when requested.

Our Op Shop provides a valuable opportunity for ministry by our volunteer staff to the community, as shoppers stop for a chat and share their concerns or needs.

We have always welcomed all that are seeking counsel as well as those who require a Christian baptism, marriage or funeral services.

There are individuals in our Parish who feel particularly called to offer ongoing or spontaneous care to our church family as needs have arisen. We consider it a strength and hallmark of our community life.

“Be involved in the pastoral care of the community.”

OUR PEOPLE

Parish Representatives

Our Parish Council members meet monthly and are a vibrant group representing both churches with a range of age groups and backgrounds. Along with the six members, our Locum Minister and Lay Family Minister also attend. We also have two Deanery representatives, three members on the Clergy Appointments Board, a Mission Secretary and a "Gippsland Anglican" Secretary.

Our Parish has a strong record of capable and committed governance, whilst encouraging our wider church community to contribute their ideas and concerns to be discussed and reported back on.

Lay Readers

We are fortunate to have an active licensed Lay Reader in the Parish who plays a principal role in Family Services.

Musicians

We have a committed team of capable musicians, including three pianists, four guitarists and among these, experienced vocalists. A monthly roster schedules the lead musician, and others join each week as they are available. Our team have a range of musical backgrounds, so our regular songs include traditional hymns, contemporary praise and worship, Celtic folk and Southern American gospel.





Lay Family Minister



Leanne Langkopf was appointed as our first Lay Family Minister in July 2024. She lives in Korumburra and is a mum to two young teenagers. She has been active in Christian ministry throughout her life, from co-leading youth groups, university ministry and supporting children's ministry.

Leanne also works part-time as a teacher's aide across primary and secondary classes, giving her invaluable experience in supporting children with a variety of needs. With a background in Health Science, Leanne is currently studying a Masters in Counselling.


She is employed to work 20 hours a week, and this 12-month contract position will be reviewed in July 2025. There is strong support within the church community for this position to continue.

Leanne's heart and vision for her role is to help bring people into a relationship with God and a community of believers. She is excited to explore how our church family can increase our outreach and impact in Korumburra and throughout our Parish. Seeing people grow in faith and develop their giftings is something she actively seeks with pastoral care, teaching and encouraging others to find opportunities for service.

**“Further
enabling
God’s
work
here and
beyond.”**

Volunteer Team

Parishioners are involved in a wide variety of ministries, with a committed team that serve in our worship services as Readers, Side Persons, Musicians, Welcomers, Liturgical Assistants, Children's Ministry team and morning tea providers.



**“.That we may listen to the needs of
our community and be guided by
Christ, with flexibility in our planning
of services and activities.”**



OUR ENGAGEMENT

Bible Studies

We hold seasonal Bible studies which are well attended, and there is a Young Families Bible study group. A KYB (Know Your Bible) group of Christians, including those from other churches in Korumburra, also meets weekly.

Mainly Music

Our Mainly Music program started in 2017 and is a place where local families come together for friendship and fun. Starting with a session of singing, dancing and using a variety of props to explore their world, children from newborn to preschool are seen and nurtured by our team. Stories, morning tea and a play time gives valuable opportunities to build relationships with the adults and children. There continue to be many opportunities to support and care for families in need, along with providing a kind place for community building together. Our team of eight volunteers is also supported by David our Locum, as we seek to share God's love with all who come.



The Korumburra Op Shop

The Mine Road Op Shop, located in Korumburra, provides a range of goods to our community. It also provides an important revenue source for the Parish, bringing in over \$40,000 this year. There is a strong community of beautiful volunteers surrounding the Op Shop.

Christian Seasonal Celebrations

Our Parish does special Christian celebrations with great enthusiasm. Some are a lot of fun, like our rowdy Family Christmas service where all are encouraged to come dressed to participate in acting out the Christmas story. Others are more reflective, such as our Christian Passover meal. Gathering together for these events is special to us as a community.





Korumburra Poowong Women's Fellowship (KPWF)

The KPWF meet monthly for fellowship and planning activities. The group are wonderful caterers, being called on regularly to provide catering for funerals and other community events. This provides an important source of income for our Parish and also wider afield, as they sponsor various mission organisations and individuals, including recently a Bible College student in Papua New Guinea.

Family and Children's Events

In the past we have run football nights and hosted Community Dinners, and other community events including regular barbeques. We held our first Family Movie night in August 2024 in our Parish Hall, attended by approximately 40 people. It was enjoyed by all, with plans to hold more family oriented events in the future. School Holiday and After School Programs are currently being planned to commence from January 2025.

Ecumenical Work

The Parish has excellent relations with the other churches in the town and we regularly share time together at World Day of Prayer, Easter, Pentecost and Christmas. Parishioners also attend events organised by them. Apart from the Anglican Church, the following churches are represented in Korumburra: Baptist, Catholic, Uniting, and Assembly of God.

Communication

A Parish Pew Sheet is produced weekly, with readings, prayers and notices included. This is then emailed out to contacts and some are printed to hand out at services. We have Facebook pages for St Paul's and All Saints and we often advertise events on the Korumburra Churches and Christians page, as well as the Loch, Poowong and Korumburra Community pages. Our Mainly Music Group have a Facebook page that keeps our families informed. Copies of the "The Gippsland Anglican" and Mission publications are also available monthly for people to take.



All Saints' Community Garden

Poowong Community Garden was officially opened by the local State MP, Danny O'Brien on 1 November 2020.

The first community working bee occurred in February 2021 commencing the construction of the garden. Working bees have been ongoing monthly. Two Anglicare grants, two Council grants and a range of donations from locals as well as from Mitre 10 and Bunnings provided the wherewithal to proceed. The garden is seen as a form of community strengthening. We foresee that opportunities will exist in the future for our garden to serve in our community; an outreach program where the Anglican Church and the Community Garden make a meaningful contribution to the community.

The first AGM was held on Sunday 21 August 2022 where a Garden Charter was adopted, the committee was formalised and a Master Plan was presented. It was agreed that the Community Garden encourage social cohesiveness with short, medium and long-term goals.





**“Strengthen our commitment
to Jesus in our understanding,
our behaviour and
our communication.”**

OUR FACILITIES

St Paul's, Korumburra

The Church is located on a high corner block at the corner of Bridge Street and Queen Street. The Parish was established in 1893, but the red brick church dates from 1927. The Church is admired by our community, and people often enter at various times in the week when the church is opened by our volunteers. It is a beautiful red brick building with a clock and bell tower. Inside, extraordinary stained-glass windows and welcoming arches rise up to greet all who enter.

Dedicated volunteers maintain our facilities to a high standard. There is gas central heating, efficient lighting, a very good new sound system with microphones, interior and exterior speakers, a data projector and screens for use with the parish laptop computer. On the exterior front wall, there is an illuminated panel to display appropriate seasonal messages.





The altar is freestanding. The Church will accommodate a congregation of 120. The sanctuary, organ recess and vestry are protected by a security system, which enables us to have the church open most days to allow public access.

Data projection is used for the presentation of services, with 'A Prayer Book for Australia' as the basic source of liturgy. Pew Bibles are available.

An area for children is permanently set up at the back of the church, with tables and chairs, toys, books and materials for craft.

“Build upon the spiritual foundation already laid here.”





St Paul's Parish Hall

Our Hall is a hive of activity and is located next door to the church in Bridge Street. It has a spacious main hall, with a small stage and a complete sound system with an AV projector and screen. The hall is serviced by a spacious and well-appointed kitchen, as well as ancillary rooms. Central gas heating has the hall comfortably warm within a short time during the colder months.

Two meeting rooms with a kitchen and bathroom are at a lower level.

The Hall is where our Sunday Children's Program and Mainly Music is run, and is also regularly used by community groups or privately hired for regular activities or one off events.





All Saints', Poowong

In the main street of Poowong is our well cared for church in good repair. It will seat approximately 80 people. It is centrally located near sporting facilities and a Community Hall.

Inside the church is a free-standing altar at the front and a television screen by the electric organ, used to project PowerPoints from a computer. The heating is provided by two electric split systems.

There is a well-equipped kitchen, built in 2017 and completed by the fiftieth anniversary of the present church building. On the first and third Sundays of the month we enjoy a shared lunch in the kitchen after the service.

The Poowong Community Garden is a wonderful facility on our land, useful for outdoor gatherings and for our community to work together and share the harvest.

We recently enjoyed a winter Soup Festival, using vegetables from our Community Garden to provide a fresh and hearty lunch every Sunday in June .

It was encouraging to welcome regular supporters of the Community Garden into our church building, who wouldn't normally attend.





The Rectory

This property is a well-maintained residence in a prime location, adjacent to the church on Queen Street. It is very close to both primary schools and the main street with shops and cafes. The rectory is currently undergoing renovations, both interior and exterior, with an investment of \$50,000 allocated for improvements, which includes a new bathroom.



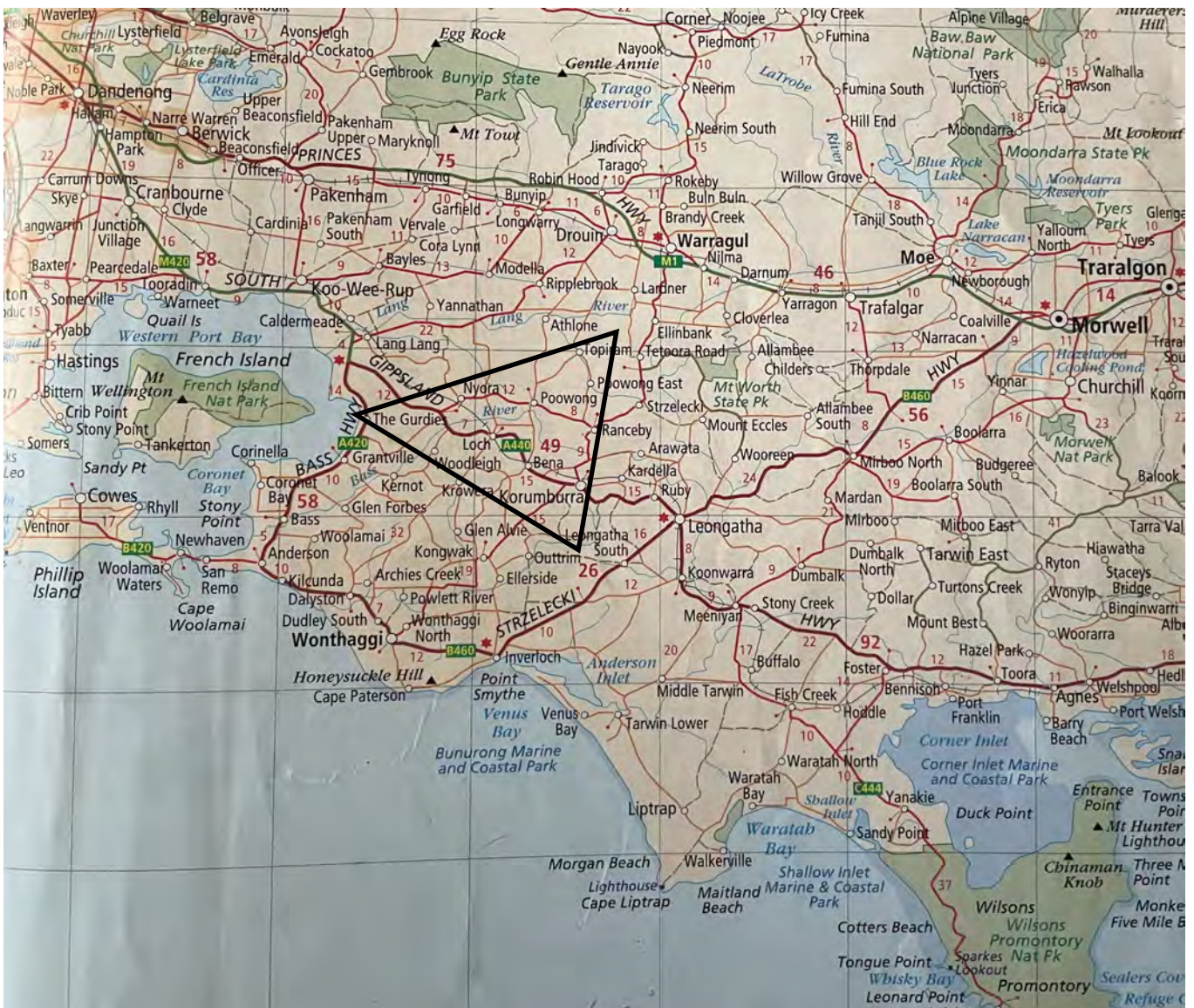
The house features four bedrooms, three of which have built-in wardrobes. The lounge area is open to the dining room, that is conveniently situated next to the kitchen. The home is equipped with both a wood heater and zoned ducted heating and cooling systems for climate control. There is direct interior access to the garage. Additionally, a separate entrance leads to a study.

The exterior boasts a tidy front garden along with a more spacious backyard. There is a sizable shed/garage that offers ample storage space.



OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Our Parish, situated in South West Gippsland, is within the towns of Warragul, Leongatha, Wonthaggi and Lang Lang. There is a population of around 4000 in the Korumburra area and around 1650 in the area of Nyora. In each of the more rural areas of Loch and Poowong the populations are around 700 and in Bena it is around 300





E D U C A T I O N

Early Childhood

Karmai Community Children's Centre in Korumburra has recently moved into a new building and offers Long Day Care, Kindergarten and Out of Hours Care.

Primary

Korumburra Primary School, Loch Primary School, Poowong Primary School, Nyora Primary School, Chairo Christian School (Leongatha), St Joseph's Catholic School

Secondary

Korumburra Secondary College, Leongatha Secondary College, Chairo Christian School (Leongatha), Newhaven College, Mary Mackillop Catholic Regional College (Leongatha).

Further Education

Gippsland Group Training (Apprenticeships) Korumburra Central Gippsland Institute of TAFE Leongatha. Education Centre Gippsland Warragul, Chisholm Institute of TAFE Wonthaggi.

Milpara Community House in Korumburra runs low-cost adult education classes and activities and provides Centrelink access.

M E D I C A L S E R V I C E S

Korumburra and Nyora Medical Centres

Korumburra Hospital with a sister facility in Leongatha

Wonthaggi Hospital is a major health facility located in our region that has received a recent and significant renovation.

There are two dental surgeries in Korumburra as well as podiatry, chiropractic and osteopathic clinics.



ATTRACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Shopping

All the basic shopping requirements are available in Korumburra including a supermarket, a bank, clothing, electrical, gifts, building and hardware supplies, hairdressers, bakeries, a plant nursery, antiques, florist, pharmacies and fast food outlets. Leongatha, Wonthaggi and Warragul have more extensive shopping options. There is a cinema in Leongatha.

Coal Creek Historical Park

Coal Creek Community Park and Museum is a recreated coal mining village that depicts the history of Korumburra from everyday life to the coalfields and the early agricultural development of the area.

Community Sport

Korumburra and Poowong have thriving sporting clubs for all ages. Basketball, netball, golf, bowls, indoor bowls, croquet, tennis, swimming, cricket, football, soccer, pickleball, volleyball and pony club are some examples.

Music

There is an orchestra, choir, wind orchestra, buskers and a brass band. There are vibrant live music venues located throughout the region, including Meeniyan and Archies Creek.

Service Groups

Our community is blessed with a number of active clubs and service groups, including Lions, Rotary, two Probus Groups, KYB, Plants Society, Karingal Women's Group, Masonic Lodge, Historical Society, M.S. Society, R.S.L., Scouts, C.W.A. and the Korumburra Round Table.



The Great Southern Rail Trail

Our local rail trail extends 131-kilometres from Nyora to Yarram. Sections of the trail are flat or gently undulating through lush dairy farmland, areas of remnant bush and lowland scrub. The path passes through our Parish towns of Korumburra, Loch and Nyora.

Sources of Community

Korumburra Staying Strong is a group of Community members with a Facebook page. One of their initiatives is the Helping Hands Project that has a focus on connecting the community, volunteering and assisting community groups. In partnership with the Korumburra and Community Development and Action Inc. (KCDA) they have developed a website: korumburra3950.com.au

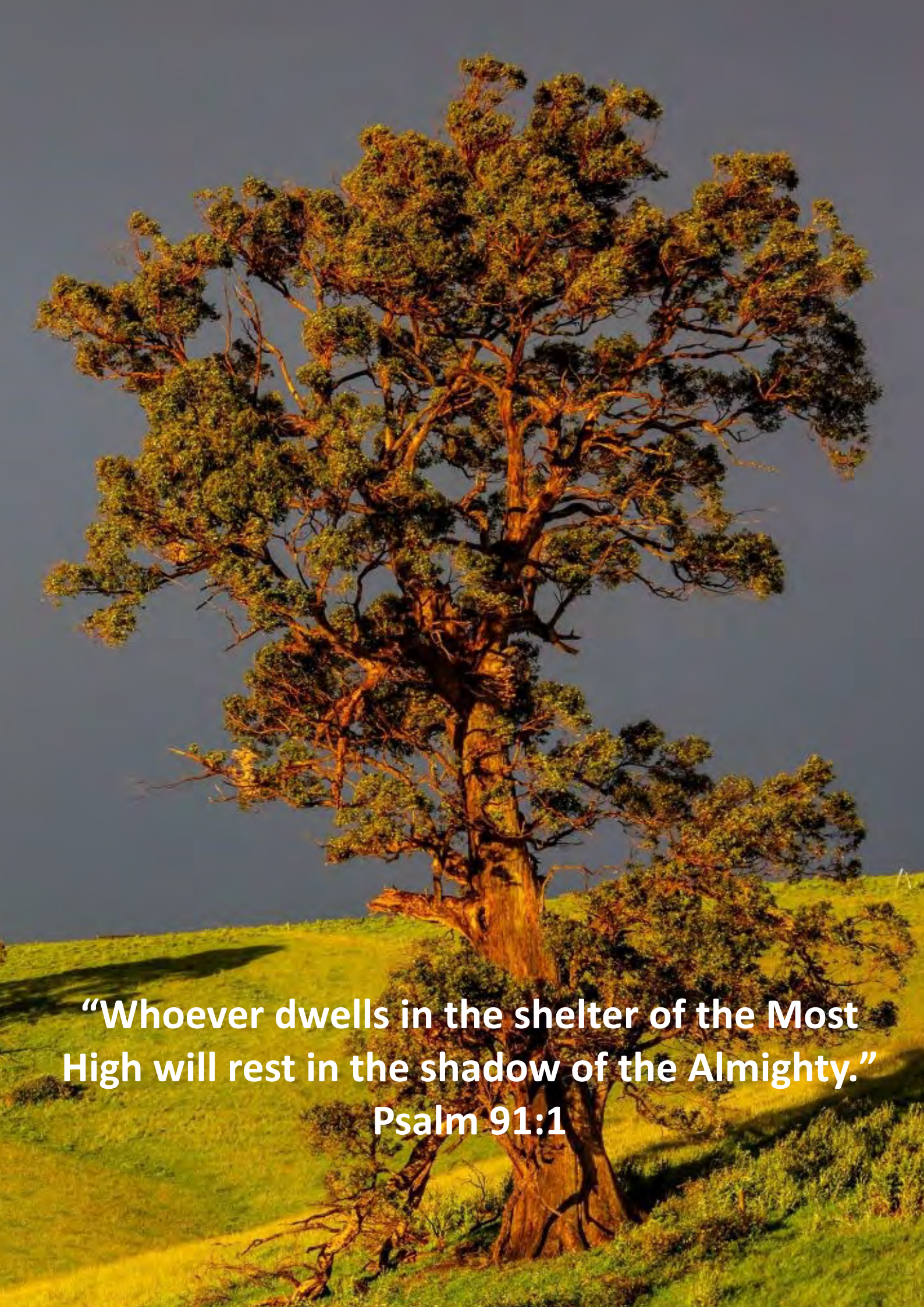
"The Burra Flyer" and "The Loch Express" are two community publications issued during the year keeping everybody up to date with events and happenings. They list events and give topical information for many organisations.

Also available in Korumburra

A branch of the West Gippsland Library service is in a new Community Hub, which is open five days a week. There are also accountants, barristers and solicitors, a caravan park, cafes, restaurants, two hotels with pub dining, the Korumburra Golf Club, a motel, a Veterinary Clinic, 50 metre swimming pool, two recreation reserves, recreation centre and parks.

Bushwalking and Pristine Beaches

Wilsons Promontory (Wamoon) is located Southeast of Korumburra and is a special National Park to explore. George Bass walk (pictured left) and nearby Inverloch have wonderful beaches and inlets that provide an excellent opportunity to enjoy fishing, swimming and water sports.



“Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.”

Psalm 91:1

St Paul's Anglican Church
3 Queen St,
Korumburra
3950

PO Box 421, Korumburra

Ph: (03) 5655 1007

st pauls..kpap@outlook.com

All Saints Anglican Church
10 Nyora Road
Poowong
3988

Thank you to all who have contributed to the development of our Parish Profile. All photos used with permission, with special thanks to our Parish member Paul Robinson for making available his beautiful photos of our area and churches.

***“Three things will last forever — faith, hope, and love
— and the greatest of these is love ”***

1 Cor 13:13, New Living Translation

