

COASTAL Leader

KINGSTON • ROBE • CAPE JAFFA • COORONG

\$1.70 INC GST

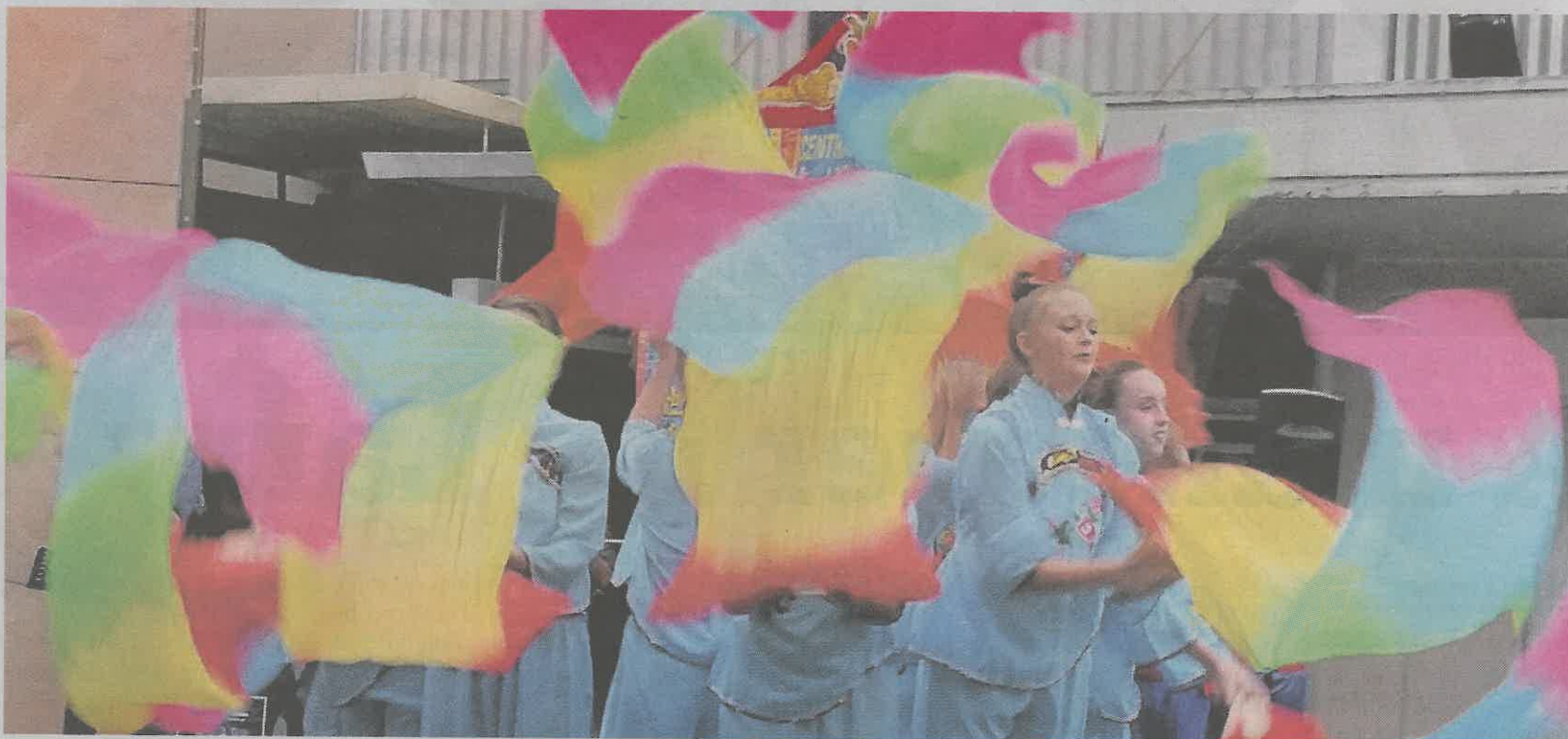
'Flow man' Phillips in town

FULL STORY | PAGE 6



Upcoming events are recognising the Chinese history in Robe

Robe is making the year 2017 dedicated to the rich history of Chinese immigrants starting their journey to the Victorian goldfields from Robe. Events planned include a re-enactment of the Great Walk taken by Chinese migrants, the unveiling of the Welcome Gate, a business forum bringing together Chinese and SE interests and a two day Chinese festival. Story on page 9



COLOURFUL: A bright display of Chinese ribbon dancing, which will feature throughout this year at Robe.

The jetty is open

THE Kingston SE jetty has been reopened to the public after July storms damaged part of the walkway. A large portion of the jetty had been swept away during the storms through a combination of high tides and strong winds. An agreement with the state government has the Kingston council responsible for its day-to-day upkeep but the state government covers the cost for serious damage

and is responsible for fixing it. While the lease agreement states the local council pays the first \$14,000 of repairs, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Stephen Muligan, has waived the initial cost and the state government will foot the whole bill. The July storm caused \$124,000 worth of damage to the jetty, then in September and October more bad weather added \$68,000 to

the repair bill. Now that the jetty is open the council's manager of assets and infrastructure David Worthley will have an engineer come and inspect various sections of the jetty to make sure the structure is in a good condition. Any maintenance needed will be done to sustain the jetty against future storms. Council CEO Andrew MacDonald said the closure had been frustrating to some

members of the public, especially over the busy summer period. "The Lions Junior Fishing Competition was cancelled because of the jetty damage but the council had no choice as the community's safety is the first priority," he said. "The council tried to have the jetty fixed for the peak summer period but it was a busy time for Maritime Construction and there was

nothing the council could do except to open a small portion of the jetty." The jetty has been partially opened to the community since December following storm damage. Temporary guard rails were put in place with no access beyond a certain point to ensure the safety of users. Maritime Constructions was appointed to do the work including fixing the beams and decking.



Repairs: Jetty works

\$4,850

- Automatic
- 116,337km
- Leather Seats
- Alloy Wheels

2007 Kia MG Magentis EX Luxury

SOUTHEAST MOTOR COMPANY

\$6,750

- Automatic
- 238,293km
- 7 seater
- Alloy Wheels

2004 Ford SX Territory TX Wagon

USED VEHICLES



\$36,500

- Automatic
- 4x4/3.2 Turbo Diesel
- Alloy Bullbar
- Snorkel
- 148,385km

2012 Ford PX Ranger XLT

\$18,500

- 20,797km
- One owner
- As new condition

2010 Harley-Davidson Softail

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

83 ORMEROD ST, NARACOORTE

8762 0550

WWW.FORD.COM.AU

VR4129862



PROMOTION: The Chinese media crew from Jiangsu Provincial TV with deputy mayor Harvey Nolan and Jamie Aitken at Robe's Caledonian Inn.



EYEING OFF: Wendy Leopold at a previous produce swap.

Robe March produce swap

THE Robe community produce swap happens on the first Saturday of each month, and will again be taking place on 38 Smilie Street Robe, 10-11.30am March 4.

There is no cost to participate however purchasing a tea or coffee is very much appreciated.

The Robe produce swap gives the local community a chance to share what you grow, produce, cook, bake, pickle, recycle, preserve and more.

All gardeners, cooks or those interested are welcome to come and join each month and bring produce you from the garden, whether it is one item or many.

Anything can be swapped from books, jars, recipes, pots, plants and produce.

No money changes hands, it is swapping with the other participants, and having a chat over a cup of coffee or tea.

No meat or seafood allowed.

For more information contact Margie on 0428 798 552 or Sula on 0414 841 091.

Otherwise email robeproduceswap@gmail.com with any questions or queries.

A rich Chinese history in Robe celebrated

Robe

ROBE is hosting a series of events this year celebrating its Chinese history and creating business and tourism opportunities for the Limestone Coast.

Last weekend a Chinese media crew from Jiangsu Provincial TV visited Robe to film a second segment about the area.

This comes after Robe was visited by Chinese journalists last year and footage was featured on two high rating programs in China.

The group visited Mahalia Coffee and Wilson's at Robe as well as attending a func-

tion at the Caledonian Inn.

On May 5 there will be a re-enactment of the Great Walk taken by Chinese immigrants from Robe to the Victorian Goldfields of Ararat, Bendigo and Ballarat.

The journey will end in Melbourne after 21 days of walking.

This is to mark the 160th anniversary of the first of these treks undertaken by the Chinese.

The unveiling of the Welcome Gate (Pai Fang) will also happen on this day and will be set on the beach where the Chinese people first landed at Robe.

The gate has been designed by the Robe architect Tim Rogers, a highly regarded Australian architect responsible for some notable buildings including the Darwin Parliament house.

Tim's design has been sent to China for experts to ratify its cultural acceptability, and for them to create the calligraphy to ensure it is respectful and welcoming.

To ensure the Pai Fang is truly the product of Chinese Australian friendship and co-operation, the Chinese Community Council of Australia (CCCA) is paying for the materials which are

being sourced from the region, and it will be built by local builders with the carving being completed by Chinese craftsmen in Ballarat.

A business forum will take place on the same day as the unveiling and the great walk which will bring together business's based in the South East and Chinese business interests wishing to source local products and develop tourist ventures in the area.

It is organised by Regional Development Australia and sponsored by the Local Government Association of the region who represent the seven councils of the

South East.

Following on from these events will be a two day Chinese festival on May 6 and 7.

On day one of the festival there will be dragon boat racing along with Chinese food being prepared with local produce and created by top Chinese chefs.

The second day will also see food and wine on offer and a street parade featuring Chinese dragon dancing teams along the decorated main street to the Pai Fang, where Chinese acrobats will be performing and Chinese and Australian music will be playing.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

FEBRUARY 27, 2017

KINGSTON AND DISTRICT SENIOR CITIZENS

COMMITTEE AND GENERAL MEETING: 2PM at Senior Citizens Building. Committee and General Meeting starting at 2.00PM. Guest speaker is Tracey Long from the Bendigo Bank at Robe. Free.

MARCH 5, 2017

FRIENDS OF BUTCHERS GAP CONSERVATION PARK

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY: 2PM at Meeting at the Pinks Beach carpark and toilets. For more information call James Ferguson on 0437 401 071. Free.

MARCH 7, 2017

KINGSTON LIONS CLUB

MEETING: 6:30PM at Royal Mail Hotel, 10 Hanson St, Kingston. Monthly meetings held on 1st Tuesday of month, 6.30PM. Free.

MARCH 16, 2017

FRIENDS OF THE ROBE LIBRARY

MEETING: 10AM at Robe Library. Third Thursday, 10AM in the Robe Library, informal book club, contact Frank Turner 8768 2589. Free.

MARCH 19, 2017

THERAPEUTIC DANCE GROUP

THERAPEUTIC DANCE AND MUSIC: 1:30PM at Kingston District Hall Supper Room. Monthly dance and music session, various genres, for singles/couples of all ages and abilities. Aims to improve flexibility and fitness. Gold coin donation includes afternoon tea and lucky door prize. Please note that this group meets on a monthly basis, generally the third Sunday of the month. Gold coin donation. Contact Liz Wingard 8767 2692 for more information.

The Community Diary is published every Thursday with a deadline of Monday, 12noon prior to publication. The service is free for not-for-profit organisations and while every effort is made to publish all contributions, publication cannot be guaranteed. To send in your item visit www.coastalleader.com.au, click on the community form banner and then click community diary - fill in the details needed



FILMING: A Chinese film group visited Robe on Saturday to film the local icons, including at the art gallery Wilson's at Robe.