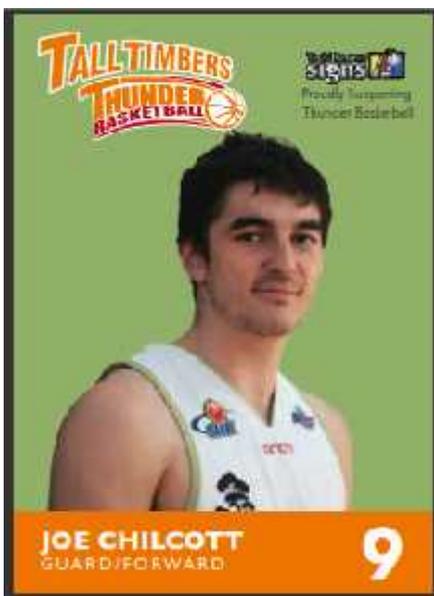


## 100 GAME "VETERAN"

It is amazing to think that Joe Chilcott will rack up his 100<sup>th</sup> SEABL game with Thunder this Saturday night against Albury Wodonga when the team kicks off its double-header road trip on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> April. He just does not seem old enough to have reached such a significant milestone, but the 21 year old veteran has raced to his ton in rapid quick time; after playing two games in his debut season in 2013, he has been ultra-consistent since, playing 23, 25, 23 and 24 games in the four seasons to the end of 2017. Joe is a great team man and one of the most unflustered guys you will ever meet.



Super relaxed and easy going, he always has a smile on his face and is a real fan favourite, especially with the younger brigade, who are always keen for a photo or an autograph after the siren sounds. While disappointed that "Chilla" will not be on home turf for this significant achievement, we will be sure to recognise him at our next home game against Sandringham on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April at Ulverstone. We encourage everyone to get along to that game to acknowledge the great service he has provided. If we get this year's player cards back from the printers in time, Joe will be the featured player at the Sandringham match and junior members can collect their "Joey" card from the merchandise desk at half time and grab a signature and "happy snap" at the end of the game. Congratulations to Joe on a wonderful Thunder contribution thus far; we hope he can rack up another 100 games or more over coming seasons!

## MARKETING & SOCIAL MEDIA

The introduction of a Thunder marketing role, via the very energetic and proactive Michael Rowlands, combined with the tireless efforts of our social media “guru” Kellie Jones, has seen a surge of promotional activity around our home games and all aspects of Thunder activity this year. Michael Gaffney is also working very closely with the print media and the Advocate has provided some great coverage since the start of the season. Some of the following key points highlight the great work that is happening in the media space at the moment:-

- ) 6 player, coach and sponsor interviews, supported by a variety of our sponsors, have been conducted live on Facebook;
- ) Our pre-game national anthem, with the support of the Burnie Brass Band, is very well viewed on social media, consistently receiving over 1,000 hits per week; great recognition for the organisation around this aspect and the talent of the performers;
- ) In a first for Thunder, the entire Thunder/Hobart game was “live streamed” on our Facebook page; the footage was “commercialised” with every one of our sponsors scrolling across the top of the page for the duration of the coverage. Great promotional value for our corporate partners with over 2,300 fans watching the game live via the internet;
- ) We have increased our Facebook followers by close to 15% and now sit just on 3,750 followers. Over the course of one week on FB we reached an incredible 18,000 people!
- ) Players are doing great work engaging with our sponsors and the community to promote our organisation. The recent Goodstone BBQ was an excellent example and on the 19<sup>th</sup> May, SeaFM will be livestreaming from another of our sponsors, Harvey Norman, with the focus of their coverage being the Thunder team and the Mt Gambier game. Players will be in attendance throughout the day, shooting hoops with the public and providing giveaways and free passes;
- ) SEABL have advised that our next clash against Albury Wodonga will be the game of the week and they will be conducting post-game interviews for inclusion on the SEABL homepage, with Coach Sam Armstrong and 100 game player, Joe Chilcott, the likely interviewees!
- ) Our game against Ballarat the following day will be livestreamed via the following link:-

<https://www.facebook.com/BasketballBallarat/>



## LITTLE TRANSPORT THUNDER CLASSIC

Teams from along the coast will be battling it out this coming weekend in the annual Little Transport Thunder Classic in U10, U12 and U14 divisions. Games will be played at Ulverstone, Penguin and Burnie as per the draw below. Get along and support our juniors and catch a Grand Final or two if you can. Most of our Thunder players will of course be on the road trip interstate, but hopefully we can secure some guest "dignitaries" to assist with the presentation of awards after the finals on the Sunday! On either day of the tournament, you can also pick up a Thunder membership or register for our Thunder junior clinic on the 26<sup>th</sup> April, if you haven't already. A special thanks to Helen Little and all the team at Little Transport who have been sponsoring this event for many years. It is very much appreciated.



Little Transport Thunder Classic Sat 21 & Sun 22 April, 2018 - DRAW

Boys U/14 - BU14 1 pool		Girls U/12 - GU12 1 pool		Boys U/12 - BU12 1 pool		Girls U/10 - GU10 2 pools		Boys U/10 - BU10 2 pools	
				Pool A		Pool B			
Devonport Green	Ulverstone Red	Somerset P		Ulverstone	Burnie Gold	Devonport Green	Devonport White	Devonport Green	Devonport White
Ulverstone	Ulverstone Black	Penguin		Ulverstone	Devonport	Burnie Gold	Burnie Black	Burnie Gold	Burnie Black
Somerset	Smithton	Somerset G		Burnie Black		Somerset G	Ulverstone	Somerset P	Ulverstone
Devonport White	Somerset	Burnie		Somerset	Latrobe	Latrobe	Ulverstone	Ulverstone	Somerset

### Saturday April 21

TIME	Game No	Ulverstone Ct 1	Game No	Ulverstone Ct 2	Game No	Burnie Ct 1	Game No	Penguin	
9:00am	1	BU10B Somerset V Ulverstone	2	GU12A Uly Red V Uly Black	5:30am	1	BU10A Devonport W V Ulverstone	4	GU12A Penguin V Burnie
10:00am	5	BU10B Dev White V Burnie Black	6	BU10A Burnie Gold V Dev Green	10:30am	7	BU10A Devonport G V Somerset	8	BU12A Somerset P V Somerset G
11:00am	9	GU10A Burnie Gold V Devonport	10	GU10A Uly V Burnie Black	11:30am	11	GU12A Ulverstone Red V Smithton	12	GU12A Uly Black V Somerset
12:00pm	13	BU10B Ulverstone V Burnie Black	14	BU10B Somerset V Dev White	12:30pm	15	BU10A Devonport G V Ulverstone	16	BU12A Somerset P V Burnie
1:00pm	17	GU10A Ulverstone V Somerset	18	GU10A Burnie Gold V Latrobe	1:30pm	19	BU10A Somerset V Devonport W	20	BU12A Somerset G V Penguin
2:00pm	21	BU10A Burnie Gold V Latrobe	22	BU10B Dev White V Ulverstone	2:30pm	23	GU12A Ulverstone Red V Somerset	24	GU12A Uly Black V Smithton
3:00pm	25	GU10A Devonport V Latrobe	26	GU10A Burnie Black V Somerset	3:30pm	27	BU10A Devonport White V Dev G	28	BU12A Somerset P V Penguin
4:00pm	29	BU10B Somerset V Burnie Black	30	BU10A Latrobe V Dev Green	4:30pm	31	BU10A Somerset V Ulverstone	32	BU12A Burnie V Somerset G
5:00pm	33	GU10A QF A1 V B3	34	GU10A QF A3 V B1	5:30pm	35	GU12A Smithton V Somerset		
6:00pm	36	BU10A2 V U3	37	BU10A2 V U2					

### Sunday April 22

TIME	Game No	Ulverstone Ct 1	Game No	Ulverstone Ct 2	Game No	Penguin
9:00am	38	BU10A QF A2 V B2	39	BU10 Winner Game 37 V A1	10	BU10 3 V 1
10:00am	41	BU10 Winner Game 36 V B1	42	BU10 Pool B Ranked 4 V Loser Game 36	43	BU12 3 V 4
11:00am	45	BU10 SF1 Winner Game 33 V Winner Game 38	45	BU10 SF2 Winner Game 31 V Best loser	16	BU12 3 V 4
12:00pm	47	BU10 5/6 Playoff between losers from QF 133, 34, 36	48	BU10 Loser Game 30 V Loser Game 41		
1:00pm	49	BU10 Winner SF 1 Winner SF 2	50	BU10 Loser Game 10 V Loser Game 37		
2:10pm	51	BU10 Winner Game 39 V Winner Game 41	52	BU12 1 V 2		
3:15pm	53	BU10 1 V 2	54	BU12 1 V 2		

\*Grand Finals

Presentations will follow directly after Grand Finals

## LUCKY WINNERS

We had double winners of our adult and junior members Oliver's vouchers awards on Saturday night at the Hobart game, as we got a little bit "out of whack" at our season opener and neglected to do the draw. Winners for the two weeks were John Barker and Holly Gleeson, (adult) and Dean Blaze and Charlie Wemyss, (junior). For those that haven't picked up their prize, just call at the merchandise table on game night. While on the subject of missed opportunities, a further apology in relation to our Goodstone Lucky Member meal voucher draw. With our use of the two stadiums this year, we are still bedding down some procedures, and unfortunately this award has slipped through the cracks as well. I promise all members we will have a double draw after the game against Sandringham on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> April. Winners will also receive the \$50 cash if they are in attendance! Thanks again to our generous sponsors who make these awards possible.

## SEASON LAUNCH

The 2018 Thunder season launch went off without a hitch earlier this month with a good grouping of sponsors, members, players and Committee in attendance. MC Darren Kerwin introduced the crowd to a variety of speakers, including Central Coast Council GM, Sandra Ayton, Thunder Chairman Tony Barker, Sponsorship/Marketing Coordinator Michael Rowlands, Coach Sam Armstrong and Captain Jeremiah Ingram. The team and coaching panel were “paraded” before the guests and at Rowly’s prompting, Sam answered a number of questions about the team plans and strategies for season 2018. Many of the guests later watched Sam put the team through the paces at a scheduled training.



## STEVE DALEY

Many of you will know that our game announcer of many, many years Steve Daley is not enjoying the best of health at the moment, but that has not stopped him and his wife Karen from ongoing support of the Thunder team. Steve has now been to both of our home games and his commitment to the team, despite his current battles, is testament to his character, his unwavering loyalty and his great courage in facing these recent challenges. (And a staunch Richmond supporter to boot – what a legend!). We received this message from Steve after the Kilsyth game.

*What a great game last Saturday night and the boys showed tremendous fighting spirit to score a stirring win. Congratulations to all involved for what was a fabulous night. Also I would like to thank you, Tony and other Board members for making Karen & I and our 'carers' feel so welcome and whilst we thoroughly enjoyed the game, it did cause some issues, but it was certainly well worth it and we are going to do it again. In fact, all being well, we will be at Devonport on Saturday night; Once again many thanks.*

Steve

## POST GAME

It's probably not a well-known fact but Thunder has a very strict policy in relation to player behaviour after the match when interacting with fans and participating in media and photo activities. We like to keep things on a very serious footing and certainly don't encourage any "hijinks" or lowering of standards in relation to the player's Code of Behaviour. As new Sydney recruit, Darcy Malone, is only new to the state, we can only assume he didn't get the email about this policy! (Ha!!)



## BENDIGO SHOOTOUT

It would be remiss of me not to make a further mention of one of the highlights of the night during the Hobart game, (along with Jeremiah's dunk), which was the monster half-time basket by young Thunder fan Sam Forward during the Bendigo Bank half-court shootout. The crowd were quickly on their feet as Sam pinged a "6 pointer" from the halfway line and earned himself a \$500 savings account with Bendigo. Check out the great shot and the resultant excitement from all involved on our Facebook page!



## SUPPORT GAME

There will certainly be a novel feel to the pre-games at Friday week's home game against Sandringham at the Ulverstone stadium. For the first time ever, there will be a match-up between Deloraine and west coast team, Queenstown. The sides will face off with boys' teams from the U14 and U16 age groups and we really appreciate the efforts of the kids and their respective associations in travelling a long way to join in the Thunder game night experience. We are hoping that many of the players will stick around after the games and help welcome the Thunder players on to the court for the main game.

## HISTORY

A shot from the national women's competition in 1986 featuring the North West Vikings women's team. Marion was a regular in representative teams and the coastal roster and Jenny Wouters also went on to play in the NWBU for many years.



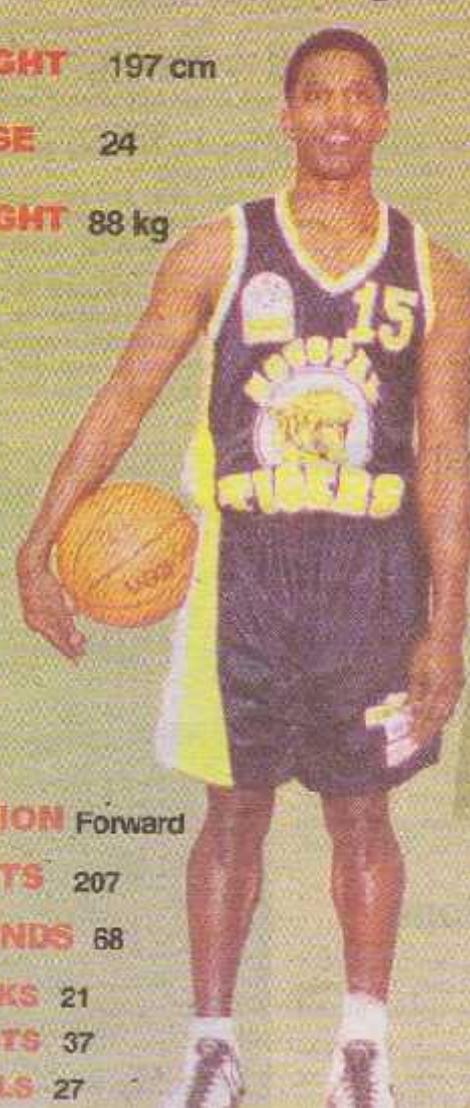
Vikings' Marion Brinkman (right) shoots for the basket with Illawarra's Jenny Wouters defending in their game at Devonport on Saturday night.

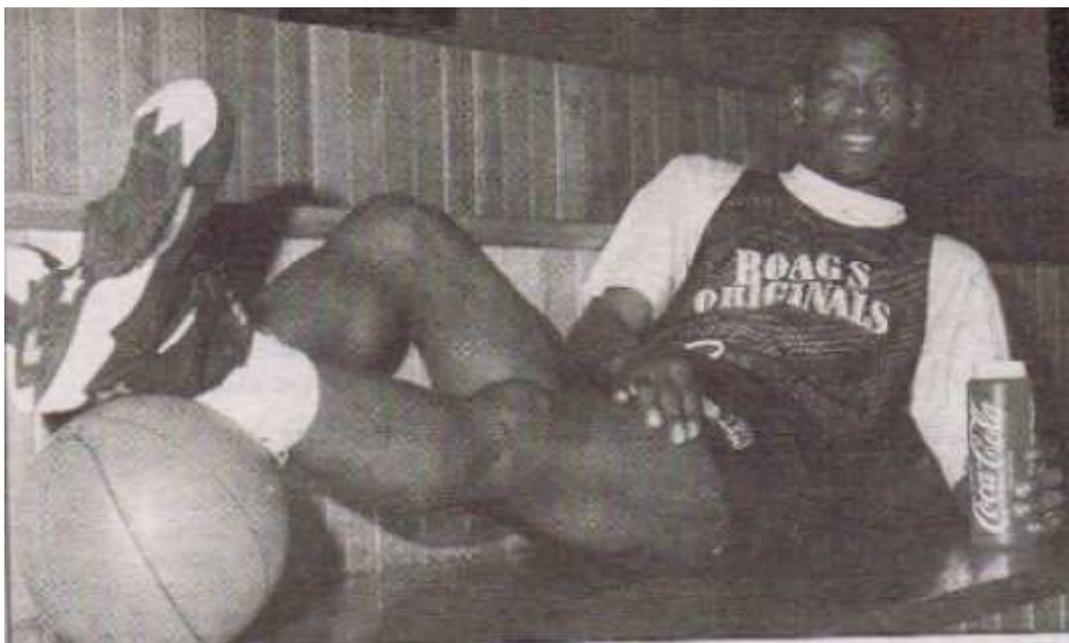
# Dave Biwer

NW Original

# LaMont Ware

Launceston Tiger

	203 cm	<b>HEIGHT</b>	197 cm	
	28	<b>AGE</b>	24	
	95 kg	<b>WEIGHT</b>	88 kg	
	Centre	<b>POSITION</b>	Forward	
	274	<b>POINTS</b>	207	
	113	<b>REBOUNDS</b>	68	
	5	<b>BLOCKS</b>	21	
	40	<b>ASSISTS</b>	37	
	13	<b>STEALS</b>	27	



**ON THE BALL:** Age hasn't robbed long-serving Coastal basketballer Lindsay Houston of any of his sporting prowess. Picture: Jason Hollister.