

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE Monday 23 March 2026

Snags for support – Victoria Police & United Way Glenelg

If you want to solve the world's problems, start with an Aussie BBQ. Somewhere between the onions (on top or underneath?) and a good squeeze of sauce, conversations seem easier and differences don't feel quite so big.

And that's why on Sunday 19 April, the team from Victoria Police – Portland Station will host a BBQ with a Cop at Bunnings Warehouse Portland, partnering with United Way Glenelg for the day.

The focus for Victoria Police is simple, creating a relaxed space where locals can meet their police officers, have a casual conversation, ask questions and strengthen community connections outside of emergency situations.

Acting Sergeant Scott Gordon said the BBQ with a Cop initiative is about approachability.

"A BBQ with a Cop gives people the chance to speak with us in a friendly, informal setting. It helps break down barriers and reminds everyone that we're here as part of the community, not just in times of crisis."

Youth Resource Officer Leading Senior Constable Lee-Anne Nelson said the setting makes a real difference.

"There's something about a community BBQ that makes conversations feel natural. We're looking forward to meeting people, listening, and continuing to build positive relationships."

While Victoria Police volunteers focus both on cooking the BBQ, United Way Glenelg will assist, with proceeds supporting a local initiative, their Winter Care Packages.

"Funds raised from the day will help us prepare and deliver Winter Care Packages to older people in our community. These packages provide practical support and let people know they are not forgotten during the colder months," said United Way Glenelg Executive Officer Nicole Carr.

The BBQ will run throughout the day at Bunnings Portland, and everyone is welcome to stop by for snag and a chat.

"Because sometimes the best way to strengthen a community really does start with a sausage sandwich," concluded Ms Carr.

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