Celebrating the successful launch of the 2015 Shearwater Festival on Saturday morning was coordinator Dr Laura Brearley, Boonwurrung elder Aunty Carolyn Briggs, Bass Coast Shire Mayor Jordan Crugnale (with son Luciano), special guest of the Shearwater Festival Nathan Maynard from Tasmania (with son Clay), and Jeffrey Floyd, chairman of the Phillip Island Nature Parks.

Dancers perform using coastal tussock reeds, which are indigenous to Phillip Island, during a performance session which showed, through movement, the annual migration of the Shearwaters.

Young Ned had a great view of the festivities for the Shearwater Festival, being part of the parade on his dad Steve's shoulders. In the parade, participants carried models of the black Shearwater birds that children and artists made during cultural exchanges at local schools.

Susan Hall works to make a garland during a workshop with local artist Patrice Muthayamal Ma-honey. Participants chatted, sharing stories while they worked together, making garlands and weaving.

Enjoying a break from all the excitement of the opening of the Shearwater Festival were youngsters Eva Harasymiw and Lola Roberts.

These Phillip Island students helped make Shearwater models for use in the street parade on Saturday morning. Poppy Marshall, Danielle Mascaros, Millie Marshall and Niamh Moore then carried their Shearwater models up Thompson Avenue to the Cowes Cultural Centre.