

This is Will for Independent Radio News

1.

Israel Folau has appeared on national television, calling for Rugby Australia to formally apologise to him, after a supposed “wrongful termination” of his contract.

Folau made an inappropriate social media post last month, where he condemned gay people to hell, in which Rugby Australia claimed was a “high-level breach” of the code of conduct.

The \$4 million contract Folau was on was torn up, bringing with it a month-long battle in which Folau intended to raise enough money to fight the case against him.

Claiming there was “nothing personal” in the social media post he made, Folau mentioned on Alan Jones last night that he stands by his comments, saying “I should be free to peacefully express my religious beliefs without the fear of retribution or exclusion.”

2.

A former member of Susan Neill-Fraser’s legal team is likely to stand trial later this year, charged with two counts of perverting the course of justice.

Jeffrey Ian Thompson of Sandy Bay pleaded not guilty this morning, after allegedly attempted to influence a potential witness in Neill-Fraser’s appeal application back in 2017.

Mr Thompson supposedly attempted to influence a potential witness to identify a person of interest from a photo array.

He is also alleged to have prepared a document outlining the evidence would, or could give for the Neill-Fraser appeal.

Mr Thompson will stand trial sometime between November and the end of this year.

3.

The City of Launceston Councillors have voted to trial a new free parking option in the CBD.

They rejecting a proposal that would introduce free 60 to 90 minute parking throughout the multi-story carparks in Launceston.

Members on the board instead favoured Mayor Albert van Zetten's option of a completely free parking service. However, no decision will be made until early August after a report into local shoppers and stakeholder's behaviours is presented.

4.

And finally, this weekend will unfortunately see a number of locally owned and operated businesses close their doors for the last time.

Three Little Feathers Gift Shop in Collins Street will close for good on Sunday. Imago Bakery and Patisserie in Elizabeth Street will also be shutting up shop after 18 months of service.

And the iconic furniture and electric retailer Coogans will close its Moonah store following a remarkable 116 years in business.

5.

To sports news now, and Essendon have come out on top over GWS in last night's thrilling yet controversial match.

Essendon kicked 12 goals, 5 to GWS's 10 goals, 11 behinds.

While GWS's Stephen Coniglio starred with 33 disposals, and Jeremy Cameron top scored with three goals.

It wasn't enough to keep the Bombers at bay, in a game that was essentially overshadowed by a blatant score review error in the Giants misfortune.

A late goal to Essendon's Shaun McKernan appeared to be touched by GWS player Adam Kennedy, but was later overturned on review.

GWS are privately angry due to this issue, and with it being the eighth this season, appropriate action needs to be taken to get these calls right.

And to local footy where