

**Towards the end of the Southern Bellarine Coastal Forum on 21 June, participants were asked to, within their small groups, imagine it was 2030 and the area under discussion in the Forum had just won an award. Participants were asked to give the name of the award and to write on one A4 page the newspaper article that announced the award. Participants then placed their article on the room window for all to read.**

**Below are the 22 Articles that participants wrote.**

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #1**

THE SOUTHERN BELLARINE IS KNOWN FOR HALTING IS SPECIES LOSS THROUGH LEADING BY EXAMPLE BY ENGAGING AND EDUCATING COMMUNITY ON PLANNING COMPATIBLE LAND USE ACTIVITIES WITH ECOSYSTEM SERVICES.

THIS WAS ACHIEVED THROUGH CAREFUL DESIGN OF RECREATIONAL AREAS THAT COMPLEMENTED AND PROTECTED BIODIVERSITY VALUES THROUGH ENSURING HIGH BIODIVERSITY AREAS WERE MAINTAINED AS NATURAL "CLOSED" ECOSYSTEMS.

THE COMMUNITY CUSTODIANS OF BOTH RECREATIONAL AND "CLOSED" BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS ENSURED THE SURVIVAL OF SPECIES CONTRIBUTING TO SPECIES RICHNESS ACROSS THE BELLARINE.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #2**

NO GO ZONE SUCCESS.

THE INTERNAL AWARD FOR ENCOURAGING TOURISTS AND VISITORS TO NOT TRED ON WHAT THEY LOVE HAS GONE TO THE SOUTHERN BELLARINE GOES SHARED BY BIKE AND EDUCATION CENTRE THAT SITS OUTSIDE THE PROTECTION ZONE.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #3**

NAME OF THE AWARD: WORLD HERITAGE LISTING BY UNESCO AS ENVIRONMENTAL REFUGE AND WILDERNESS AREA CONNECTED TO BIRD MIGRATORY ROUTES ON OTHER CONTINENTS.

WHAT IS THE AWARD FOR: PROVIDING SAFE HABITAT FOR 1 MILLION BIRDS AND WILDLIFE PROTECTED FROM DESTRUCTIVE FERAL ANIMALS AND SOUTHERN BELLARINE COAST AROUND LAKE VICTORIA AND BUCKLEY PARK.

WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING AND FEELING: AT LEAST WE HAVE SOME SURVIVING INDIGENEOUS VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE PRESERVED. WHAT A RELIEF TO HAVE IT. THERE IS ALSO A PEACEFUL QUIET UNPEOPLED RESTING PLACE FOR THE SPIRITS OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE. WHAT A GLORIOUS THING WE DID NOT TO OVERCROWD AND

OVERDEVELOP AT LEAST THIS REFUGE. WHAT A GREAT JOB WE DID IN REVEGITATING THIS AREA.

#### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #4**

SOUTHERN BELLARINE COASTAL BIRD SANCTUARY (SBCBS) FLIES HIGH WITH UNESCO WIN. WORLD ENVIRONMENTALISTS AND SCIENTIST CONGRATULATED SBCBS FOR PROTECTING THE BELLARINE COAST AND WETLANDS WITH THE PRESTIGIOUS UNESCO “ATTENBOROUGH” AWARD. LEADERS OF UNESCO ANNOUNCED THE AWARD AFTER MIGRATORY BIRD POPULATIONS QUADRUPLED OVER A 10 YEAR PERIOD. THEY WARMLY WELCOMED THE CONTROLS PLACED ON LIMITING POPULATION GROWTH AND ZERO CAR TRANSPORT MODEL IMPLEMENTED.

THE “BACK TO NATURE” COMMUNITY BASED COLLECTIVE HEADED BY THE QUEENSLIFF COUNCIL AND OCEAN GROVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SAID WE HAD TO GO BACK TO BASICS IN RETHINKING FUTURE.

THE AWARD RECOGNISES THAT 2019 GROWTH MODEL WAS POORLY CONCEIVED AND WAS DETRIMENTAL TO BEST COMMUNITY OUTCOMES.

INDIGENOUS LEADERS CONGRATULATED THE SBCBS ALSO SAYING THAT CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUES WERE PARAMOUNT AND THE SYMBOL OF THE BUNJIL EAGLE AND WAS A RETURN TO PRE-EUROPEAN IN LAND VALUES.

CYCLISTS ALSO WELCOMED THE AWARD SAYING THEY WERE SWOOPED LESS EVER.

#### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #5**

MOST VALUABLE COASTAL COMMUNITY ASSET AWARD

THE AWARD ADDRESSES INDIGENOUS HERITAGE, BIODIVERSITY (FLORA & FORNA), COMMUNITY WELL-BEING INCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH, SAFETY, ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND EXPANDS RECREATIONAL CHOICE.

A TOURISM INITATIVE WITH A LOCAL EMPLOYMENT BOOST AND EDUCATION FOR PEOPLE AND SCHOOLS.

A GREAT INITIATIVE, LINKING TOWNS, IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE, A WHOLE OF COMMUNITY ASSET.

SHOULD HAVE HAPPENED YEARS AGO!

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #6**

INTERNATIONAL SAVING THE BIRDS AWARD

THE BELLARINE COMMUNITY SAID THE FUTURE OF MIGRATORY BIRDS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN A TOURISM PRODUCT.

ORANGE BELLIED PARROTS RETURNED TO LAKE VICTORIA, MULTIPLIED AND BECAME THE SYMBOL FOR THE BELLARINE.

NEW ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE WON NATIONAL AWARDS.

THE VIRTUAL WALKING TRACK ALONG THE BEACH IS KNOWN AS THE “SAVIOUR OF MIGRATORY BIRDS TRACK”.

THE BELLARINE BECAME A PROUD COMMUNITY WHO KNEW WHEN TO STOP.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #7**

PRISTINE COASTAL TRIAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT WINS OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENT AWARD THE “BANKSIA AWARD” FOR CULTURAL CONNECTIONS, ERADICATION OF PEST PLANTS AND ANIMALS, EDUCATION, REHABILITATION AND SIGNIFICANT HABITAT RESTORATION.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #8**

ECOLOGICAL WELL-BEING AWARD

WINNER FOR THE CREATION OF A WILDLIFE CORRIDOR WHICH INCORPORATES A SAFE OFF-ROAD TRAIL, MEANDERING THROUGH SEVERAL RESTORED EVC COMMUNITIES.

A REFUGE FOR PEOPLE, FLORA AND FORNA, WITH THE WELCOME RETURN OF THE ORANGE BELLIED PARROT.

“AT PLACE FOR HARMONY AND BIODIVERSITY”.

THANKS TO THE COLLABORATION OF CITY OF GREATER GEELONG, TRUST FOR NATURE, LANDOWNERS AND COMMUNITIES.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #9**

THE CITY OF GREATER GEELONG TODAY WON THE “MARVELLOUS MOONAH” AWARD FOR THE MOST COMPLETELY RESTORED AND MAINTAINED REMNANT VEGETATION ECOSYSTEM IN A NATIVE RESERVE IN VICTORIA.

PEOPLE ARE SAYING THE SOUTHERN BELLARINE COAST UNDERSTANDS THE MEANING AND IMPORTANCE OF INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #10**

GOOD ANCESTOR AWARD

PRESERVE WHAT WILDERNESS REMAINS

RESTORE AND CONSERVE BUCKLEY PARK AND LAKE VICTORIA

WORK WITH THE WUDAWURRUNG COMMUNITY

CREATE A BIKE PATH THROUGH THE POINT VIA CLOWES LANE PAST FRESHWATER LAKE TO SHELL ROAD SOUTHERN BOUNDARY THEN BONNYVALE ROAD TO OCEAN GROVE.

“TRY TO BE A GOOD ANCESTOR”.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #11**

BEST COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE.

THE AWARD WAS GRANTED TO THE XXX FOR THE CREATION OF A WILDLIFE REFUGE AND HAVEN FOR INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRDS AND REINSTATING NATIVE FLORA AND FAUNA TO DEGRADED AREAS OF THE COASTAL FRINGE.

PRESIDENT XXX SAID, “AT FIRST WE DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO CREATE A TOURIST TRAIL THAT ENABLED SAFE RIDING AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE FRINGES OF THE WILDLIFE PARK AND BETWEEN OUR TWO TOWNS WHILE PROTECTING THE NATURAL BEAUTY AND CULTURAL SENSITIVITIES OF OUR FIRST NATION PEOPLE, BUT WE DID IT.”

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #12**

CONNECTIONS ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

SAYING: THE BEST WAY IS TO BE.

SEEING: CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE HABITAT AND HUMANS.

FEELING: RELAXED, HOPEFUL, EXPERIENCED.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #13**

NAME OF AWARD: COMMUNITY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AWARD.

REASON FOR THE AWARD:

A HIGHLY UTILISED SHARED TRAIL HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOLLOWING PROPER CONSULTATIONS WITH PRIVATE LAND OWNERS WITHOUT ANY ANDVERSE IMPACT ON BUCKLEY PARK AND ITS ENVIRONS, INCLUDING LAKE VICTORIA.

RESPECT HAS BEEN SHOWN FOR THE FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS, CONSERVING THESE PRECOIUS AREAS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

THE WATHAURUNG COMMUNITY AS BEING FULLY ENGAGE AND THEIR CULTURE RESPECTED THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS.

WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING: "IT IS A GREAT PLAYS TO LIVE (AND VISIT)!"

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #14**

COMMUNITY AWARD: "UNTOUCHED WILDERNESS" BETWEEN TOWNS

A VICTORY FOR ENVIRONMENTALISTS IN THE FACE OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

WILDLIFE HABITAT SAVED AND THRIVING.

BIRDWATCHERS FLOCKING TO THE BELLARINE TO SEE MIGRANT AND LOCAL BIRDS.

MOONAH FOREST EMMERSION, A NEW MENTAL HEALTH EXPERIENCE.

TRANQUILLITY, NO RUSH, STOP AND ENJOY.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #15**

WILDERNESS AWARD THAT HAS INDIGENOUS CARETAKERS

INTERNATIONAL EXEMPLAR FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURE.

EDUCATION CONSERVATION AWARD – CONSERVE, CONTROL ACCESS AND COMMUNICATE.

COMMUNITY WELLBEING BOARD

AWARD FOR "INDIGENOUS NAMES FOR COUNTRY AND CARETAKING".

ORANGE BELLIED PARROT AWARD FOR SAVING SPECIES.

BELLARINE BE THERE!!

## **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #16**

ERNEST AWARD

ECOLOGICAL, REGENERATIVE, NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY TROPHY.

ECONOMICALLY AND ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE PATH INCLUSIVE OF WALKERS AND CYCLISTS. THIS PATH RESPECTS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES STORY THROUGH THE DISPLAY OF INTERPRETIVE SIGNS .....???... (CANT READ WORD) THE UNIQUE HISTORY.

IT ALSO PAYS RESPECT TO THE FRAGILE ENVIRONMENT OF WUDAWURRUNG LAKE AND FORESHORE (FORMALLY KNOWN AS LAKE VICTORIA AND BUCKLEY PARK RESPECTIVELY).

LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE PROUDLY SUPPORTIVE AS THIS EXCITING DEVELOPMENT ATTRACTS AND PROTECTS AS MANY TOURISTS AS IT DOES MIGRATORY BIRDS.

## **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #17**

PRESTIGE AS ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD GOES TO SOUTHERN BELLARINE COAST INITIATIVE. T

THE BANKSIA MARGINATA AWARD

BY EMPHASISING:

ENVIRONMENTAL, CULTURAL VALUES AND ASSET FROM THE WUDAWARRUNG PEOPLE.

INTEGRATED MULTI AGENCY AND COMMUNITY GROUP COLLABORATION WITH BODIES SUCH AS BIKE SAFE, FRIENDS OF BUCKLEY PARK AND THE CITY OF GREATER GEELONG.

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS OF SIGNIFICANT SITES PROMOTED AMONG LOCALS AND TOURISTS, RETAINING ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY AND THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE OF ALL AGES.

## **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #18**

NATIONWIDE COMMENT IS HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY COMPLIMENTARY.

“PRISTINE STILL MEANS PRISTINE”.

“PARADISE DOES EXIST AT BUCKLEY PARK”.

“NATURE HAS ONE FOR ONCE”.

“KEEP BUCKLEY PARK GREAT”.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #19**

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM AWARD.

PROVIDING AN INLAND CYCLE AND WALKING TRAIL BETWEEN OCEAN GROVE AND POINT LONSDALE, WITH LINKS TO THE BELLARINE RIVAL TRIAL VIA PORTARLINGTON ROAD. USERS CAN EXPERIENCE: SAVE CYCLING, ABORIGINAL CULTURE HERITAGE, NON-INTRUSIVE BIRDWATCHING AND INTERPRETIVE CENTRE.

PURCHASE OF RURAL CONSERVATION ZONE TO THE SOUTH WEST OF LAKE VICTORIA WHICH PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE BUFFER ZONE. PREDATOR EXCLUSION FENCE AROUND THE AREA.

BENCHMARK PRESERVATION OF HABITAT PRIDE AND INTEREST IN "PLACE". EXCELLENT CONNECTIVITY, SENCE OF COMMUNITY AND NON-CAR ECOTOURISM.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #20**

INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD HAS BEEN AWARDED TO THE WUDAWURRUNG COASTAL PROJECT.

THIS WAS IN RECOGNITION OF INTEGRATING HIGH ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES WITH AN ACTIVE HEALTHY COMMUNITY.

THEYY WON THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF STAKEHOLDERS BY ACHIEVING SHARED WALKING PATHS, RAMSAR STATUS AND ESTABLISHING A WORLD CLASS INDIGENOUS AND NATURAL HERITAGE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE.

THIS IS THE LAST EXAMPLE OF REMNANT .....???... (CANT READ WORD) COASTAL DUNE SYSTEMS.

### **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #21**

.....???... (CANT READ WORD) BEST .....???... (CANT READ WORD)

SHOWING THE WORLD WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PROMOTE 1 MILLION BIRDS AND PLANTS REPOPULATING AN AREA.

AND SHOWING .....???... (CANT READ WORD) NORTH VIETNAMESE, KOREAN AND SIBERIA WHERE BIRDS GO.

EDUCATION CENTRES FOR KIDS AT THE SIDE OF PROTECTED AREA WITH CAMERAS SHOWING BIRDS.

## **2030 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE #22**

THE SOUTHERN BELLARINE COAST IS WIDELY RECOGNISED AS HAVING THE MOST ENVIRONMENTALLY AWARE RESIDENTS IN VICTORIA.

THEIR AWARENESS OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT HAS RESULTED IN SOME OF THE BEST EXAMPLES OF REMNANT VEGETATION AND RESULTING WILDLIFE IN THE STATE. THERE HAS NOT BEEN ANY REMNANT VEGETATION REMOVAL FROM PUBLIC LAND FOR DECADES. IN FACT THE AREA HAS INCREASED THE AMOUNT OF PUBLIC LAND, LARGELY DUE TO THE MASSIVE LAND BUYBACKS BETWEEN OCEAN GROVE AND PT LONSDALE IN THE EARLY 2020s. THIS RESULTED IN LARGE SCALE WETLAND AND MOONAH WOODLAND RESTORATION PROJECTS. THESE PROJECTS INCLUDED MAJOR RECREATIONAL AMENITIES THAT WERE CONSTRUCTED WITHOUT ANY DAMAGE TO SIGNIFICANT REMNANT VEGETATION.

THE WETLAND AND WOODLAND RESTORATION PROJECT WAS ALSO ALLOWED THE LOCAL COMMUNITY TO ENGAGE MEANINGFULLY WITH NATURAL LANDSCAPES AND SETTINGS WITHOUT DETRIMENT TO THE REMNANT ECOSYSTEMS.

THE COMMUNITY OF SOUTHERN BELLARINE COASTAL IS REGARDED AS ONE OF THE MOST ECOLOGICALLY LITERATE IN THE STATE.

THE SUCCESS OF THE PROJECT WAS LARGELY DUE TO THE GOOD PEOPLE OF THE OCEAN GROVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION WHO, AFTER MUCH CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMUNITY LOBBIED INCREDIBLY HARD TO STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO GAIN FUNDING AND POLITICAL WILL TO SEE THIS PROJECT TO FRUITION.

IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT INITIAL PLANS INVOLVED REMOVAL OF REMINANT VEGETATION.



