

OCEAN GROVE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER.

April 2004

The Ocean Grove & District Community Association committee met on 7th April. In attendance were: David Withington, Anne Barlow, Evelyn Wuchatsch, Ray Davey, Jo Hawthorne, David Reid, Tony Doolan, Clive West, Crawford Hill, Karen Thornton, Renata Nelson and Reg Guest.

Karen Thornton, Renata Nelson and Reg Guest have agreed to join the committee.

Your Committee in Action !

The committee has been very active on your behalf.



The traffic sub-committee has been very especially busy.

The sub-committee has several concerns about the design for the corner of Hodgson Street and The Parade.

Members have met with Lisa Neville - MP for Bellarine, Mr. Rob

Freemantle from Vic Roads and with staff from COGG. You may have seen in the local press and heard on local radio some very positive PR about the traffic issues in "your town".

A detailed traffic study for Ocean Grove will be included in an overall Structure plan the COGG will be working on later this year.

A committee member attended the Geelong Rates Forum and will keep the committee informed and circulate the reports.

We have invited Mr. Roger Grant from Geelong Otway Tourism to the next committee meeting. Some of the issue we plan to discuss include:

- What is the current and future role for Ocean Grove in Regional Tourism?
- How is Ocean Grove being marketed as a tourist destination? Is it a family camping destination, beach and surfing, B&B etc?
- What other attractions in the area are being marketed?
- Is there enough emphasis on surrounding golf clubs, restaurants and accommodation?

- What is required to enhance our image as a tourist destination?
- The possibility of having an Ocean Grove Tourist Information Centre.



If you have any suggestions or concerns about tourist topics/issues you would like us to discuss on your behalf please contact either:


Jo - on 5256 2221
Anne - on 5255 5636

Report from the Sport and Recreation Sub-committee

Bellarine Peninsula Recreation & Leisure Needs Study

- A 12 Month Recreation and Leisure Needs Study is currently under way for The Bellarine Peninsula and is being funded by COGG and The State Government.
- The Project commenced in November 2003 and will issue a Final Report at the end of 2004.
- Total Cost of the study is \$130,000.
- Several surveys are to be carried out including a 450 Household telephone survey, Sporting Club and Community Group Survey.
- 3 Children's workshops will be carried out to analyse leisure needs of children between 5-12 years old at Leopold, Drysdale, and Ocean Grove.
- Analysis of Youth Needs includes findings from Bellarine Peninsula Youth Needs Study and Workshops at Bellarine Secondary Schools.



- 5 Reference Groups are to be created.
 1. Shell Road Reserve Ref. Group
 2. Portarlington Reserve Ref. Group.
 3. Aquatic needs Ref. Group.
 4. Equestrian Needs ref. Group.
 5. Sports Needs Ref. Group.
- As of 26th of February all Reference Group nominations have been submitted and the Study Project Manager Jayson Moran reports a good representation from Ocean Grove Sporting Clubs including Football, Soccer, Tennis and Swimming Clubs.
- Participating in The Shell Road Reserve Group are representatives from the 3 adjacent Primary and Secondary Schools, Ocean Grove Business Association, Junior and Senior Football and Netball Clubs, Soccer Club, Cricket Club, Memorial Reserve Management Committee, and Ocean Grove Community Association.
- This group had its 1st meeting on March 18th 2004.
- The main issues raised at this meeting were the following.
 1. Ocean Grove has a high participation rate in all sports in all age groups but has very poor Sporting Facilities.
 2. The Soccer Club has 165 children but has no facilities at all other than the oval itself.
 3. Auskick has 250 Children who use the oval on Saturday Mornings and share the current un-powered, un-sewered and very small, relocatable site shed with the Cricket Club.
 4. Junior and Senior Football and Netball Clubs will not be able to cope with the rapid rise in numbers of children wanting to participate as their current facilities are woefully inadequate, with indoor facilities nearly unable to meet basic Health and Safety Building Requirements now.
 5. The lack of a Public Hall or Civic Centre was a major issue for all representatives.
 6. A Swimming Pool located on the site was agreed on as another priority and initial findings from the above mentioned surveys indicate that this is also a very popular idea with other members of the Community. 
 7. The Skate Park is in poor condition and its location behind the Surfside Centre is not ideal.
 8. Traffic issues also will need to taken into consideration.
 9. Whatever the final plan is for this Facility it needs to be budgeted and built as quick as possible as 10 Years of Neglect from State and Local Governments and a rapid rise in the population of Ocean Grove has now created a major shortfall in Sporting and Leisure Facilities.

- A Discussion Paper is due out in May 2004 and further meetings are scheduled after that.

Your invitation to the next 2 Public Meetings.

▣ **Wednesday June 9 at 7.30pm at the Grove Centre.**

Guest Speaker:

**Kay Rundle, CEO, City of Greater Geelong
and**

▣ **Wednesday July 14 at 7.30pm at the Grove Centre.**

Guest Speaker:

Lisa Neville, MLA for Bellarine.

Come along..... Listen.....
Ask questions
Have your say - and be heard!

**Are you a paid-up
member?**

**Have you renewed your 2004
membership?**

If not, come along to the next general meeting and become a paid up member.

With your ongoing support we can continue to be **your voice** with COGG, Vic Roads and other organisations and work towards a better Ocean Grove.

Enclosed is a flier, advertising the next two public meetings. Please pass this information onto your friends and neighbours – we would like to see as many people as possible attend the next two public meetings.

Inquiries:

Ms. Anne Barlow. PO Box 78. Ocean Grove. 3226
Phone 5255 5636
Email: gabarlow@bigpond.com