

The Association has recently changed its name from Ocean Grove & District Community Association to the Ocean Grove Community Association. Our website address is - <http://www.ogca.com.au>

We will continue to produce a newsletter, but to assist our members to keep up to date more often, the website will have news updates on a regular basis.

## **Membership fee change**

\$20 for a life membership

A mail-out to all members was sent recently. The letters highlighted if you have a life membership or your fee was due.

## **UPCOMING COMMUNITY FORUMS**



### **Barwon Heads/Ocean Grove Transport Forum**

Saturday 28 March 2009 - 2.30 to 5.30pm at Barwon Heads Community Hall - see flier attached for more information.

**AGM** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at 7.30pm at the Grove Centre Presidents Ave  
Open for all members for issues you wish the OGCA to pursue and over the next 12 months.

**July Forum** Wednesday July 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm  
Community Enterprise.

**September Forum** Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm  
Further information available soon.

## **TOWN MAINTENANCE**

We invite you as members of the Ocean Grove Community to make comments or send photos to us alerting the committee to grubby areas of Ocean Grove that need some sprucing up. In past years we have been successful lobbying the COGG to attend to various maintenance issues, including road signs, issues relating to the Coles Car Park, drainage issues etc.

Please contact us via the website - <http://www.ogca.com.au>

OR

Contact a committee member.



**YOUR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION'S  
Achievements  
April 2008 to 2009  
Prepared by Michael Harbour**

2008-2009 has been a busy year for the OGCA with 4 Community Forums and preparing various detailed responses to key policies which will impact on the future of Ocean Grove.

**The Community Forums included the following topics:**

1. March 2008 – **Kay Rundle (CEO – CGG)**  
Spoke about Council Structure and processes and issues impacting on Ocean Grove. As you are all no doubt aware Kay is leaving CGG and taking up position of CEO at City of Port Philip. We thank Kay for the wonderful work she has done and for listening to us (and other Communities). Her departure will be a big loss for the CGG.

2. May 2008 – **Ocean Grove into the Future**  
The May Community Forum Workshop built on the outcomes of the Bellarine Peninsula Strategic Plan which was undertaken by the City of Greater Geelong some 2 years ago. It identified the priorities which Ocean Grove wishes to pursue over the next 5 years. These included:

**Council Services**

Greater share of rates revenue for expenditure at Ocean Grove

**Public Transport**

Improve co-ordination of all public transport (main buses, taxis, community buses) and increase frequency of main buses.

**Culture**

Establish a cultural precinct including an indoor multi-purpose space and sound shell (at Ocean Grove Park).

**State Services**

Establish a tertiary education campus (Deakin University, Gordon TAFE) on the Bellarine Peninsula and protect our foreshore.

**Private Transport**

Improve traffic flow and car parking around the Town Centre including intersection of Presidents Avenue and The Parade between Hodgson Street and Presidents Ave, make The Parade one way (east to west) and The Avenue one way (west to east), and address

The Parade between Tuckfield Street and Hodgson Street) by connecting Tuckfield Street to The Terrace.

**Planning**

- a. Traffic Congestion
  - b. Centralised function and theatre complete (multi-purpose space)
  - c. Tertiary education facility.
3. November 2008 – Cr **Jan Farrell** was the guest speaker at the November forum discussing her role as a Councillor and the Council vision for Ocean Grove.
  4. March 2009 – **OGAN Presents a Case for the Arts** Ocean Grove Arts Network is a local non-profit organisation seeking to encourage participation and creativity in all forms of the arts within the local community as well as provide opportunities for artists to showcase their work locally and support local events include the Ocean Grove Festival and the Ocean Grove Carols in the Park.

All Community Forums were well attended by the public, ranging in numbers from 40 to 80 people. In addition to the Community Forums the OGCA participated in and responded to various Local and State government policies which will have an impact on the quality of life for the residents of and visitors to Ocean Grove. These included:

**1. The Barwon Heads Bridge**

We continue to fight the Government to abandon its 2 bridge proposal which will result in the second bridge being some 21 metres downstream (towards the sea) from the existing bridge.

This proposal is both environmentally and culturally disastrous as the end of The Spit will only be some 50 metres away (and is still eroding) and loss of family beaches on the Barwon Heads side of the river.

We are arguing strongly for a single bridge solution. The Upper House revoked the Planning Scheme Amendment which meant that 2 bridges could not be constructed. The Government then used (some would say abused) Section 16 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to override

Parliament and enable 2 bridges to be constructed.

We will continue the fight for a single bridge and our democratic rights.

## 2. The Bellarine Aquatic Centre

We thank Cr Farrell and the CoGG officers – for the Aquatic Centre & for incorporating most of our requests which included a new common entry to the whole complex, separate change rooms facilities for dry & wet activities and, although not constructing a 50 metre pool, now having a design which allows for an extension at a future date.



## 3. Ocean Grove Recreational Reserves

During 2007 the OGCA formed a Working Party with the Ocean Grove Football & Netball Club, Ocean Grove Cricket Club, Collendina Football Club and Waves Soccer Club to identify the Scope of Works required at the Memorial Reserve, Shell Road Reserve and Collendina Reserve.

This resulted in a Master Plan Study report and a submission to the Commonwealth Candidates for the seat of Corangamite and the State and Local Government representatives.

Although not successful in obtaining a commitment in funding there was general support for the outcomes of the Master Plan Study.

The Council has now formed a Working Party to implement the proposed works at Shell Road Reserve and Memorial Reserve.

We are very supportive of Cr Farrell in progressing these projects and encourage capital funding from all levels of Government enabling the works to commence in 2010/11.

## 4. Ocean Grove Traffic

As an outcome of the OGCA Traffic Forum in June 2007 the following priorities were identified by the Community as the highest needs to be addressed:

1. Town Centre – provide pedestrian crossings across The Parade (near

Medical Centre) and improve the main car park layout/traffic flow.

2. Presidents Avenue/The Parade– intersection upgrade.

3. The Terrace/Tuckfield Street – provide road link.

4. Through traffic – find alternative solution.

- 5a Tuckfield Street/Marlin Drive – intersection upgrade.

- 5b Thacker Street/Wallington

Road intersections – upgrade and investigate

through traffic in Wiltons Road.



We have since had 4 meetings with Council and VicRoads with the latest being 16 December 2008. **The current status is as follows:**

**Priorities 1 & 2** – Pedestrian crossings have been installed.

With respect to the re-arrangement of the main Car Park and Presidents Ave/The Parade intersection Council are now developing concept plans which will be displayed for public comment later this year.

### **Priority 3**

VicRoads have stated that they have no (short or long term ) plans to either create a link between The Tuckfield Street and The Terrace or change The Terrace to the main arterial road. (i.e. The Parade is to remain the main arterial road).

There is to be a working party establishment to review this stance.

However Council will be pursuing the sealing of the shoulders of the Terrace.

### **Priority 4**

VicRoads have no immediate plans to provide alternative traffic routes through Ocean Grove. However they will continue to monitor traffic movement patterns, particularly as Ocean Grove expands to the north.

### **Priority 5a**

VicRoads has developed a detail proposal for the intersection of Tuckfield Street and Marlin Drive.

This entails installing traffic lights with right and left hand turning lanes in Tuckfield Street. We are very supportive of this

proposal and have commenced lobbying the State Government for funding of the works. We wish to thank VicRoads for responding to our request.

#### **Priority 5b**

The speed limit in Wallington Road has been reduced from 80km to 60km just north of Lake Avenue to Thacker Street. Council and VicRoads also agreed that a left turn only lane into Thacker Street from Wallington Road is required Council is now preparing a design proposal and seek VicRoads formal approval.

With respect to Wiltons Road Council have been taking traffic counts. The outcome to date is that these traffic volume (including trucks) do not warrant any traffic management system. Council will continue to monitor the situation.

### **5. Town Maintenance**

Initiating contact with City of Greater Geelong regarding town maintenance, including main entry roundabouts. This achieved some positive results including planting of the Orton Street/Wallington Road roundabout, and more regular upkeep of the town's street landscapes. This is an ongoing issue which will be continued to be monitored by the Association.

### **6. OGCA Website**

We now have our own website [www.ogca.com.au](http://www.ogca.com.au) It is an interactive website and your comments/input are welcome.

### **7. Affiliation of Bellarine Community Associations (ABC)**

On 12 March 2008 the majority of Community Associations on the Bellarine Peninsula (including Queenscliff) met and agreed on a range of common issues which impact on the Bellarine as a whole. The ABC identified 5 major topics and shortlisted these to the two highest priorities being:

- Sustainable Growth including Solar Energy, water Management, Recycling, Green Wedges and Commercial/Industrial & Residential Development;
- Natural Environment – including foreshores, nature reserves and the Barwon River.

Two sub committees have now been established to oversee the advancement of these two topics.

The aim of this affiliation is to facilitate common interests and to work with and lobby all levels of government on behalf of the Bellarine as a whole. The group will meet 4 times a year and the next meeting is 20 May 2009.

### **8. General Information**

The Role of the OG&DCA

It is also appropriate that I remind people of how the OG&DCA functions.

Our Statement of Purpose is:

- To provide a forum to exchange information and ideas;
- To encourage participation in the community;
- To advocate on behalf of Ocean Grove;
- To co-operate with other Ocean Grove groups.

The OGCA functions as follows:

- OGCA was incorporated on 7 August 2003 under the Associations Incorporation Act 1981;
- Any person can become a member of the OGCA. Our membership has ranged from 70 – 200 members;
- We have a Committee of up to 13 people (all volunteers) of which 50% have to stand for election every year. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month and Minutes are taken. Any Committee member has to advise the Committee if they have a conflict of interest (i.e. financial gain) in any specific issue being formally considered by OGCA;
- A statement our finances are presented at our AGM, which is held annually in April.



- We hold approximately 4 Community Forums every year which are widely advertised.

**For the year just passed our Committee members were:**

- Michael Harbour - Chairperson
- David Withington - Deputy Chairperson (retired)
- Kate Casley - Secretary
- Howard Dean - Treasurer
- David Reid - Strategic Planning Chairperson
- Ray Davey
- Karen Thornton - Membership Chairperson
- Norm Elliot
- John Fendyk
- Jo Hawthorne

**The OG&DCA has been entered into an agreement with the Bendigo Banks' Community Partnership program. In summary this entails the following:**

Existing members who are customers of Bendigo Bank can nominate their account as part of the scheme and the OG&DCA will receive an income of 0.1% of the value of that account. For new Bendigo Bank customers this will be 0.2%. There is no cost or loss of income to the customer/member.

The OG&DCA will use the funds raised for operational costs, plus specifically nominated projects such as:

- Sustainable Street Project;
- Ocean Grove Pedestrian/Bike Trail.



I would like to thank every one of them for their support not only to our Association, but to Ocean Grove in general. Because if it was not for your influence volunteers, Ocean Grove and the surrounding districts would not have achieved some of the benefits over the recent years which have improved our quality of life.

Thank you for all for being members of the OGCA and for your support.

Michael Harbour  
**Chairperson OGCA**  
**March 2009**

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**Barwon Coast Caravan Park  
Master Plan and Changes to  
Site Usage:**

Please see our website for further details  
<http://www.ogca.com.au>



***Please support the Community Forum on Public Transport:***

# COMMUNITY FORUM

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT ON THE BELLARINE PENINSULA

Saturday MARCH 28: 2.30-5.30pm

Barwon Heads Community Hall

Corner Hitchcock and Ozone, Barwon Heads

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### Issues for discussion and follow up will include:

- Frequency of services
- Directness of routes
- Connections with other routes and modes
- Alternative transport options
- Accessibility
- Information



### Speakers will include

Peter Hibbert  
Bellarine Community  
Connections

Paul Westcott  
Public Transport Users  
Association

As funds have been allocated by the Department of Transport for our region your input is vital as we aim to actualise our visions for our community transport needs within the Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove localities

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REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Further info phone: 5254 3289

Authorised by Barwon Heads Association Inc. & Ocean Grove Community Association Inc.