

OCEAN GROVE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Issue 16

February 2008

Happy New Year to all our members. We do apologise for not getting a newsletter to you earlier.

Our Chairperson Michael Harbour has summarised some of the 2007 initiatives your association has been involved with plus an update of things happening in 2008

During 2007 the OG&DCA was involved in a number of activities, some of which achieved their objectives and others which are ongoing. Some of those activities included (but was not limited to :)

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.

Community Traffic Forum

This was held in June 2007 which resulted in identifying the 6 highest traffic management issues to be rectified.

- ✓ Town Centre – provide pedestrian crossings across The Parade (near Medical Centre) and improve the main car park layout/traffic flow.
- ✓ Presidents Avenue/Tuckfield Street – intersection upgrade.
- ✓ The Terrace/Tuckfield Street – provide road link.
- ✓ Through traffic – find alternative solution.
 - 5a Tuckfield Street/Marlin Drive, intersection upgrade.
 - 5b Thacker Street/Wallington Road intersection – upgrade and investigate through traffic in Wiltons Road.



An initial meeting was held with CGG and VicRoads in October 2007 to investigate and implement solutions. This will be followed up with another meeting in March 2008.

Living with our Environment Community Forum

In November 2007 four guest speakers presented varying views on environmental issues ranging from what you can do in your own backyard to global warming. See more information on page 3.

Barwon Heads Bridge

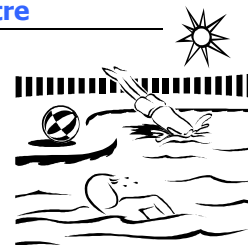
The Association made submissions to the Ministerial Advisory Panel and Heritage Victoria. We are extremely disappointed with VicRoads revised proposal which has ignored the recommendations of the Ministerial Advisory Panel. By the time this newsletter is published you will probably know the outcome of Heritage Victoria's decision. We will continue the fight to 'Save the Bridge' if this decision is not favourable.

Ocean Grove Recreational Reserves/Sports Ovals

The OG&DCA formed a working party with the representatives of the football, cricket, netball and soccer clubs which developed a Master Plan Study for the long term development and sustainability of Shell Road Reserve, Collendina Reserve and Memorial Reserve. We were unsuccessful in attracting Capital Funds from the Commonwealth Government during the recent election. However we received a relatively positive response from all 3 levels of Government regarding the objectives set-out in the Master Plan Study. We will be pursuing that matter further with Council in 2008.

Bellarine Aquatic Centre

We had a number of meetings with Council Recreational officers regarding enhancing the initial design proposal. Although we did not achieve a 50metre pool the final design allows for the future extension of the 25 metre pool. The Council, and in particular Cr Jan Farrell, should be congratulated for the development of this great project (for the entire Bellarine Peninsula) and we all look forward to its opening in December this year.



Congratulations!

It was also great to see the "Ocean Grove Voice" being recommenced and congratulations to Alan Barber and his staff.



In addition to the ongoing activities from 2007, the OG&DCA is planning for the following this year:

Walking/Bicycle Trail

Investigation of a walking/bicycle track around Ocean Grove, and connecting up with the Barwon Heads, Point Lonsdale and Bellarine Rail Trail.



Town signage

Working with Council and local businesses to develop town signage, including enhancing main entry signage.

Ocean Grove Priorities Community Forum

Our 14 May Community Forum is proposed to be a 'Working Forum' (similar to the Traffic Forum held last year to identify the 5 highest priorities for the future enhancement of living in Ocean Grove. It will resource the outcomes of the Bellarine Peninsula Strategic Plan plus any new ideas. The evening will have a facilitator and anyone who is interested in the making our great town even better should attend. More detailed information will be provided in the future.

Bellarine Peninsula Community Association



Working with other Community Associations on the Bellarine Peninsula to create an affiliation which can lobby for the Bellarine 'as a whole' initiatives (e.g. public transport, tertiary education campus, 24 hour emergency health service and day surgery hospital).

The OG&DCA looks forward to your participation in 2008 and advising us what is important to you.

Michael Harbour
Chairperson AG&DCA

Mosquito Control Program 07/08

This article was kindly submitted by Steve Sodomaco from COGG.

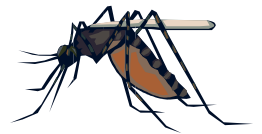
The 2007/08 season has presented many challenges in the City's endeavour to apply effective controls over mosquito infestations around townships. The main factors that have impacted on the outcomes of the program have included;

The consistent pattern of rainfall since September compounded by several significant storm-water and tidal events causing widespread inundation

Several unpredictable rainfall events shortly after treatments were applied to several wetland areas that may have caused a degree of dilution of the product and a suspicion that the overall effectiveness for that site on that occasion may have been lowered

A range of unusually higher than normal tidal events that compounded areas already effected by high rainfall

The blockage of Thompson's Creek at Breamlea causing large areas of open space to flood with surface drainage water



The identification of further, remote and inaccessible (from the ground) sites in the Lake Connemara area which have effected the Ocean Grove and Barwon Heads townships. This has significantly increased the 'footprint' of areas conducive to mosquito breeding and during the height of the rainfall period such areas were basically located as far as one could see across the Lake Connemara landscape.

General trends were as follows;

- August/September 2007, the general trend was a recording of low-medium levels of larvae throughout with negligible to low levels of adult mosquitoes in the air except Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove zones where levels of larvae and adult mosquitoes were recorded between medium and high from August through to the end of September.
- November 2007, very high rainfalls (80.6 mm) and record high tides during the latter part of November around the Bellarine Peninsula and Geelong many mosquito breeding sites were flooded and created prime conditions for mosquito breeding. During this period Council contractors have been very busy and have undertaken the most amount of treatment for this fortnight in the whole history of the mosquito program.

- November/December 2007; there have been 22 aerial treatments up until this point in time, such has been the level of infestation in the region.
- It was estimated that between 3 – 5 million mosquitoes were prevented from emerging from every hectare of wetland due to the treatments conducted. In other areas, it is estimated that this figure was twice to fourfold.
- Despite this and due to the vast areas affected, some townships were still effected by relatively high numbers of mosquitoes that have emerged from areas unable to be monitored and treated that have 'moved' into the densely vegetated areas of townships.
- Towards the end of December 2007 and start of January 2008, the numbers of airborne mosquitoes had declined significantly due to the extensive treatments and some favourable drier weather.



At our “Living with our Environment” Community Forum last year one of our presenters, Stuart Elliott spoke about how he had made his home more environmentally friendly. He provided us with a list of websites you may find useful.

Website	Comments
www.greenhouse.gov.au www.greenhouse.vic.gov.au	Australian and Victorian Government official websites on climate change, GHG emissions and our strategy.
www.sustainability.vic.gov.au	Victorian government website with useful information on sustainable living.
www.climatechangeinaustralia.com.au	Excellent website on climate change in Australia produced jointly by the Bureau of Meteorology and the CSIRO
www.epa.vic.gov.au www.acfonline.org.au/greenhome	Both of these websites have excellent personal greenhouse gas emissions calculators
www.greenpower.gov.au www.greenelectricitywatch.org.au	The green-power police, and an independent review of Green Electricity products
www.ipcc.ch	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change – a useful source of global information.
www.climatemovement.org.au www.breeze.org.au	Examples of local community groups tackling climate change

BENDIGO BANK COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



Bendigo Bank offers an opportunity for associations such as ours to financially benefit now and in the future.

The concept is part of Bendigo Bank’s ongoing support of local communities.

If you would like to be involved and support the OG&DCA and you have an account at the Bendigo Bank – all you have to do is call into the bank and ask to have your account linked to OG&DCA (our agency number is 4477). Or, if you open or transfer an account to the Bendigo Bank ask to be linked to OC&DCA.

Privacy is guaranteed by the bank and you can pick up a brochure that explains the “Community Partnership” in full. The OG&DCA ‘signed’ up last year and we have already received funds from this partnership program.

Annual General Meeting

THE 2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON:

WEDNESDAY 9TH APRIL 2008

AT THE GROVE CENTRE AT 7.30PM

GUEST SPEAKER – TO BE CONFIRMED

Annual Reports and election of committee members

There are 7 committee vacancies for 2008.

Any association member who would like to be part of our committee – please contact Ray Davey for a nomination form, phone 5255-1686.

Nomination forms signed by two Members and the candidate must be delivered to the Secretary not less than seven (7) days prior to the date set for the AGM.



Membership renewals

Last year we introduced a new membership payment option - \$5 for one year or \$20 for a 4 year membership. Members who opted for the one year membership are now due to renew their membership.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL (1 OR 4 year membership).

Please tick area of interest.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

PLEASE SEND - \$20 for a 4 year Membership or \$5 for a 1 year membership to:
PO Box 807. Ocean Grove 3226
Or, bring to the next Public Forum or AGM.

- Attend occasional Council meetings.
- Serve on a sub-committee
(Please circle area of interest)
 - Recreation
 - Traffic
 - Future planning
 - Tourism
 - Family/Youth Services
- Assist with any admin tasks or distribution of materials or newsletters.
- Other – please suggest.

1/. _____

2/. _____

Ocean Grove & District Community Association - PO Box 807 Ocean Grove 3226