SUMMER. 2022-2023 VOL. 22, ISSUE 4





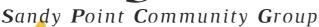




Photo credit: Janet Heller

latest SP **Events Poster** for your fridge (page 2)

guide to Stay Safe in Sandy Point (page 9-10)



- **SANDCASTLE COMPETITION** and sausage sizzle - 29 December (page 5)
- Current Cruiser New Years Day (page 13)

Latest News

- a new playground for Sandy Point
- what's happening with the Marine Search and Rescue Service?
- all the latest from Sandy Point groups and clubs

Please JOIN US - go to sandypoint.vic.au/membership

The Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG), through community engagement, advocates on behalf of the community and is committed to preserving our unique natural environment.



Scan this QR code to learn more about Sandy Point.

www.sandypoint.vic.au



We acknowledge the Brataualung people of the Gunaikurnai Nation as the First Australians and Traditional Custodians of this land, and pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

# What's On in Sandy Point

Learn more at www.sandypoint.vic.au/events





Koala Survey

26 Dec 2022 - 1 Jan 2023 -



Current Cruiser, WBSLSC

1 Jan 2023 Shallow Inlet, mid morning



WiSP Information Session

8 Jan 2023 · 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm



SP Music - Jungle Jim Smith

18 Mar 2023 · 7:15 pm - 11:00 pm



Sandcastle Competition

29 Dec 2022 - 9:30 am - 11:30 am



SP Music - Kerryn Fields

6 Jan 2023 - 8:00 pm



AGM of the Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG)

14 Jan 2023 · 10:00 am - 11:00 am



Easter Art Show

8 Apr 2023 - 10 Apr 2023



Sausage Sizzle

29 Dec 2022 at the Sandcastle Comp.



Foodies & Artisans Market

7 Jan 2023 · 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm



SP Music - Tay Oskee

11 Feb 2023 · 7:15 pm - 11:00 pm



WiSP Information Session

15 Apr 2023 · 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm





## SPCG President's Report

As always, it is great to be back in Sandy Point – we have returned for the summer and hoping that summer will arrive sometime soon! However. we have enjoyed some blustery walks on our unsurpassed beach and braved the elements of the inlet to catch some fish. Luckily, we arrived just in time to enjoy AlgoRhythm at Sandy Point Music event and attend the Community Gathering which was a wonderful way to catch up with all the locals. A great time was had by all - Congratulations to the Sandy Point Community Centre committee for a job well done! It all happens at Sandy Point!

The SPCG committee are now busy with preparation for the summer events and working on current ongoing projects. We held our first 'face to face' committee meeting in quite a while with only a couple having to ZOOM. It was reported that:

Council has advised there will be a consultation process with both Venus Bay and Sandy Point communities regarding town centre planning and upgrades in line with the economic development and tourism strategies. The intent is to present the plans and have these initiatives included in the 2023 Council Budget

The SPCG fully endorsed a comprehensive report from concerned residents of Sandy Point Road, east of Telopea Drive, who have no pedestrian access to the township of Sandy Point. This road carries fast moving traffic often towing boats to Shallow Inlet and has a number of blind corners Pedestrians are forced to walk along the road which has no verge, must cross the road a number of times to avoid these blind corners. Many cyclists use the road to connect to the Roy Henderson Trail, the Beach and the Township. Councillor Sarah Gilligan advised that SGSC have a funded footpath strategy for Sandy Point & Venus Bay in their 2023 plan. A follow up call to Council from local resident Caitlyn Pilkington resulted in a meeting with Council being arranged early in the New Year to view and discuss options.

We do need immediate action to address this situation which has the potential to result in serious accidents— we have heard of so many near misses.

Ironically sink holes appeared on the blind turn shortly after and caught the attention of ABC local radio. Frank (our Vice President) was interviewed by the ABC and used the platform to raise the broader issue of pedestrian and cycling safety on this road. Council promptly filled the holes.

- Sandcastle competition and Sausage Sizzle Thurs 29th Dec 2022 - 9.30 am registration for a 10.00 am start. Entry \$2.00 per person or \$10 per Family. Many thanks to the General Store for their generous sponsorship – we appreciate your continued support! If anyone can give us a hand on the day it would be appreciated.
- Foodies & Artisans Market Sat 7th January 2023, commencing at 4.00 pm. Live music will be provided by Little Oberon and Just Louis. Thank you to South Gippsland Shire Council for the providing a grant to enable us to bring you entertainment and support local musicians.
- AGM Sat 14th January 2023, 10.00 at the Centre – see you there! We encourage all residents to become members of SPCG, and are always looking for new committee members to join us.

You may have noticed that our surfboards, which are positioned on the Main Beach walkway, have had a much-needed facelift. Thank you, Judy Schrever, for your persistence in achieving a brilliant restoration – appreciate your efforts and talents - they look wonderful!

Best wishes for a merry Christmas and happy and safe New Year! Please be mindful of our unique shared road system and enjoy all that is Sandy Point!

Anne Kinne, President SPCG

Learn more at

www.sandypoint.vic.au

or email

info@sandypoint.vic.au









Upcoming

## <u>AGM</u>

#### **Dear Valued SPCG members,**

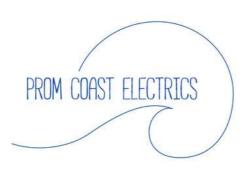
You are cordially invited to attend the Sandy Point Community Group's AGM on Saturday January 14th 2023 at 10.00am at the Community Centre, Sandy Point.

#### Not a member?

Please join the SPCG. It's an easy online signup and very small membership fee that can be paid online at ...

#### www.sandypoint.vic.au/membership

Your membership helps us to improve community facilities, to fund community events, to protect our wildlife and environment, and assists with administration costs and insurance requirements. Most importantly, a strong member base strengthens our advocacy power with stakeholders.



- Domestic and commercial appliances
  - Pumps
  - Solar & battery systems
    - Garden lighting
- 24 hour electrical breakdown service

#### **BASED HERE IN SANDY POINT**

Call Blake 0428058269 promcoastelectrics@gmail.com





Sandy Point Community Centre & TP Taylor Reserve Community Asset Committee



### Book in, Join in

www.sandypointcc.org.au info@sandypointcc.org.au



# Weekly Community Activities

The Summer months once again prove to be a very busy time at the Centre. Thanks to our SPCG Editor, who has published events in and around the town and on notice boards you may be interested in participating in Kids Klub, the Foodies & Artisans Market, Yoga with Howard, Yoga on the grass, or some dance sessions or even attend Sandy Point Music nights.

As well as these events we have two weddings in January which will mean the Centre will be used to the max. We also have six more weddings booked from January until up to the end of April. While this has a financial benefit for the Centre, it is also great for the township as many of the wedding guests use the local rentals, enjoy and explore our beaches, and visit our neighbouring towns for the weekend.

### Waratah Inspired Designs

Locally inspired designs



printed on:

Tee shirts, tote bags, aprons, caps, mugs ...

waratahinspired.com.au

The TP Taylor Tennis Courts should be relined and ready for use over the summer season. Remember to purchase your yearly membership or just book on a casual basis through the Sandy Point Store and support the maintenance of the courts while having a hit! Thanks to Tommo, Gerry and Millie from the Sandy Point General Store for assisting with the administration of bookings. Funds raised are returned back into the facility. You would have noticed we recently replaced the nets and winders.



In our last report we mentioned that the South Gippsland Shire Council had earmarked an upgrade for the TP Taylor playground.

With the assistance of expert playground users, Sophie Millton and the Taylor family, we assessed the six designs on offer and settled on one from the Moduplay Group.

#### TV DATA PHONE

Digital Antennas, Repairs, TV Wall Mounts, Phone & Computer Outlets, Home Theatre, Hidden Wiring & Speaker Systems, Networks, Offices, Equipment Installations, Satellite Dish and Receivers, Mobile Broadband Antennas

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**Steve Mooney** 

0427 257 222

Sandy Point Community Centre & TP Taylor Reserve Community Asset Committee



## A new playground is coming!

The new playground will utilise the current footprint and should be suitable for all ages, with 26 activities and a capacity of 50+ users. If you are interested in the chosen design, it is posted on the Community notice board next to the garden. At this stage, the Council has not committed to a timeline. We have also put in a request for a netball ring, and await a response from Council.

Once again, we remind you of the opportunity that you can book the Community Centre for private functions, or if you need wi-fi and wish to work from your holiday spot. The consulting room is also available for short and long term lease.

May we take this opportunity to wish you a safe and healthy festive season, take care on our roads, keep mindful of wildlife and little tackers.

Enjoy the Summer.

Dot Devine, Secretary Danny Milton, President, Sandy Point Community Centre





Sign up with your email address to receive all our news and updates

www.sandypoint.vic.au/enews

### STAY SAFE IN SANDY POINT

The following information is provided by the Sandy Point Community Group as a quick guide to services available for your assistance and safety. You can access this information again at

www.sandypoint.vic.au/help-and-safety.

If you have any comments or further information to add, please email <a href="mailto:news@sandypoint.vic.au">news@sandypoint.vic.au</a>

#### In an Emergency call Triple Zero (000)

The Triple Zero (000) number is for life threatening emergencies only. For other assistance call ...

VICSES for flood or storm damage - Phone: 132 500 Non-Emergency Police Assistance - Phone: 131 444

Other relevant service as outlined below ...

#### DEFIBRILLATORS



AEDs that are accessible 24/7 are located

- outside the General Store
- outside the Men's Shed

AEDs that may be accessible are located

- inside the Surf Club
- inside the Community Centre

Follow the visual and voice prompts of the AED.

Perform CPR in cycles of 30 chest compressions to 2 breaths until the AED informs you to "Stop CPR". Do not remove the AED chest pads while performing CPR.

#### MEDICAL SERVICES



- Foster Medical Centre.PH 5682 2088
- Toora Medical Centre PH: 5686 2203
- South Gippsland Hospital PH 5683 9777
- Nurse on call. PH: 1300 606 024
- After hours GP helpline. PH: 1800 022 222

## SHARED ROADS PLEASE SLOW DOWN!



Our shared roads are a valued part of the Sandy Point experience and lifestyle. They are shared with walkers, cyclists, horse-riders, kids playing, wildlife (including wombats, koalas, echidnas).

Please drive slowly and keep car use to a minimum.

\*This road sign can be purchased from www.tinsignfactoryaustralia.com.au

## NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACE (NSP)



Sandy Point Community Centre is a designated Neighbourhood Safer Place (NSP) – a place of last resort in the event of an emergency.

The Centre now has solar power batteries which can assist the community to manage any extended power outage.

Church Parade, Sandy Point.

- info@sandypointCC.org.au
- www.sandypointCC.org.au

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#### BEACH WHEELCHAIR



This is available for any person who is disabled, elderly or infirm to enable their access to the beach at Sandy Point.

NB: Two adults are required to push the wheelchair through soft sand when entering and leaving the beach, particularly to get back up the dunes when returning to the boardwalk.

 www.sandypoint.vic.au/beachwheelchair

#### COVID-19 UPDATES



- coronavirus.vic.gov.au/health-advice
- Coronavirus Hotline: 1800 675 398

#### VIC EMERGENCY APP



Vic Emergency app provides emergency warnings and incidents for fires, floods, storms, earthquakes, tsunamis and water safety.

#### POWER OUTAGES



· www.outagetracker.com.au

### STAY SAFE IN SANDY POINT

#### WATER SAFETY



Swim between the flags.
For information on surf beach patrols

- www.waratahbeach.com/beachpatrol
- Follow WBSLSC on Facebook

#### BEACHSAFE APP



This Surf Life Saving Australia app includes the location, weather, surf conditions and hazards plus the local facilities for all Australian beaches. It also provides expert advice about rip currents, flags and signs, waves, marine creatures, surf skills and more

#### BOATING SAFETY



- Call Triple Zero (000) and ask for Water Police if a distress or rescue situation occurs. Water Police will be able to direct the correct response.
- For information on boating safety <u>www.transportsafety.vic.gov.au/m</u> <u>aritime-safety/recreational-</u> <u>boating</u>

#### BUSHFIRE



Download pdf - Sandy Point Community Information Guide -Bushfire: Prepare - Act - Survive.

• <u>www.sandypoint.vic.au/help-and-</u> safety

The Sandy Point Community Centre is a place of last resort in the event of a bushfire emergency.

Be aware of current CFA warnings and restrictions. Sandy Point is in the West & South Gippsland Fire District.

• <u>www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-</u> restrictions

New Fire Danger Rating System



MODERATE Plan and prepare HIGH Be ready to act

EXTREME

Take action now to protect life and property CATASTROPHIC

For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

#### LOCAL VET



Ph (03) 5682 2757 15–17 Court St, Foster, https://gippsvet.com.au/foster/

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#### INJURED WILDLIFE



If you see sick or injured wildlife, report it immediately to Wildlife Victoria

- (03) 8400 7300
- online form at www.wildlifevictoria.org.au/wildlif e-information/report-a-wildlife-emergency

#### POISONS & VENOMS

Victorian Poisons Information Centre. If someone ... has been poisoned, has overdosed, has made a mistake with medicines or has been bitten or stung by something venomous

• PH: 131 126

#### SNAKE BITE

Be aware that snakes share our environment, and will be more active as the weather warms up. Look out for them on beach tracks and with a torch after dark on warm nights. Foster Medical Centre routinely carries snake antivenom.

• (03) 5682 2088

Polyvalent Snake Antivenom does not require the identification of the particular snake - do not attempt to capture it.



If a reptile needs to be removed from a residential location, call Neil 0427 380 191

#### REPORT LOCAL HAZARDS

- Snap Send Solve app
- www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/report



# Update on transfer of Marine Rescue from Waratah Beach SLSC to Life Saving Victoria.

A few things have changed since the last report, but there has been no attempt by LSV to compromise, so local members still refuse to operate under their model.

A couple of months ago a survey on the Waratah vessel, the "Andrew Cope" was conducted as part of a program by Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) to "get a picture" of all the unit-owned Marine Rescue vessels. Subsequently, it appears that the vessel was deemed to have too many issues needing repair, and it would not be viable to bring it back to a seaworthy condition, which seems strange when it last passed survey about 2 ½ years ago and had brand new motors fitted at the beginning of the year.

We have recently been informed that a decision has been made to relocate the state-owned vessel, a 6.5m Gemini RHIB currently shared by the Portland Lifesaving Club and the Portland Coast Guard, to Sandy Point. There is a small group of members (not local residents) that are going to attempt to provide some sort of limited service over the summer holiday period.



In early September, we received a visit (after directly contacting her) from Cath Greaves, the CEO of Lifesaving Victoria. The visit was pleasant enough and she seemed genuinely concerned at the current situation where there is no active service, but we are still waiting for a meaningful response.

Regarding the longer-term future, EMV have engaged a consultant, Nous Group, to conduct a series of workshops to consult with all Marine Rescue unit members, to try to determine a suitable delivery model for the future. Feedback from some of the attendees at the forums held so far seems to indicate that there is overwhelming support for a new single integrated service with common training, management and branding, and independent from any current organisation. Some local members had a second meeting with Port Welshpool Coast Guard, and we are still considering joining their unit if nothing is resolved with LSV in the near future, this would at least allow first aid qualifications etc, to be maintained. and provide local knowledge to the Coast Guard members when inevitably they are tasked to incidents at Sandy Point/Waratah Bay out of season when the local LSV service has no one available. There have already been 3 minor incidents this "season", a vessel that was disabled off Shellback Island, which turned out to be an intermittent fuel blockage, a PWC (jet ski) that sucked in a tow rope off the entrance, and a small vessel that became disabled in the inlet, all were eventually resolved locally.

As to the immediate future, the important thing is if you or someone you know has a boating incident and requires assistance, you need to contact "000" and ask for the Water Police, they will then arrange the most suitable response.

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LOCAL INFORMATION

## Fish Creek VIC 3959 West and South Gippsland

CAN YOU HELP?

#### Local volunteers keep us safe over Summer

The local communities of Sandy Point, Waratah Bay, Fish Creek and Buffalo are kept safe over Summer and the rest of the year by local members of the community that volunteer with the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and more locally known as the Fish Creek & District CFA.

The Fish Creek & District CFA is not just a fire-fighting brigade, we are also a specialist Road Accident Rescue brigade with specialist training and equipment including

Our members are trained in house fires, grass and scrub fires, Search & Rescue, Leadership roles, Advanced First Aid and we assist throughout the State in large scale campaign fires over the busy summer months.

Locally we provide fire safety education to our primary schools, kindergartens, community groups such as scouts, CWA, men's shed, farmers markets and disperse 'travelling in bushfire information' for holiday makers in the area.

Every year each member undertakes essential safety skills maintenance of a 'Burn-over' entrapment drills and Tree Hazard Assessments to ensure that we are all able to stay safe in case our lives become under imminent threat during a fire or incident. The photo here was taken of the local Sandy Point crew after undertaking this annual assessment.

Volunteers are what make up our Fire Brigade and we are always looking for more people aged from 16 of any gender to join our brigade.

If you live in our community either permanently or own a holiday house you stay at often throughout the year, we are currently in high need of new volunteers. CFA provide lots of training and we ask for just a little of your time that is convenient for you. If becoming a firefighter or rescue operator sounds of interest to you then we welcome, you to any of our training sessions held every Thursday at 8pm at Fish Creek Station or contact our Community Safety & Engagement Coordinator to catch up for an initial chat and a tour of our station at Sandy Point or Fish Creek.

Birgit - 0428 832353



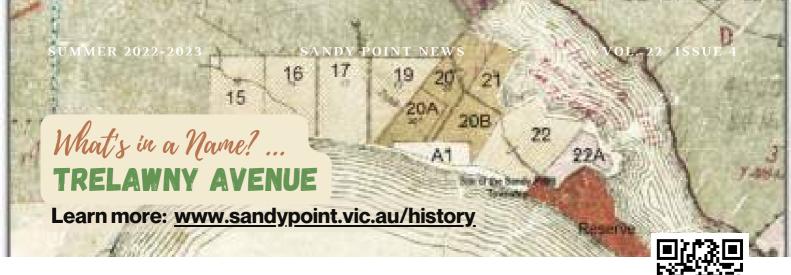
You can stay up to date with what is happening with the Fish **Creek & District Fire Rescue** CFA by following us on our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/ fishcreekcfa/





Paul Inglefinger 21 Falls Road, Fish Creek, 3959 Ph: (03) 5683 2378 Fax: (03) 5683 2434 fishy-hardware@bigpond.com

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## Sandy Point History Mystery

Originally, this article was to be about the origins of the name Trelawny Avenue but unfortunately, we found that we could not find the answers!

So, rather than 'what's in a name', in this edition, we are looking to members and readers to help us out with information about Sandy Point's past. Also, we would love to hear from anyone who has some early memories from the 1950s – 1970s so that we can continue to piece together the history of the town. If you would like to contribute something or just chat, please don't hesitate to contact us by email

nickywalker221@gmail.com or phone. 0468 889 974

#### **Trelawny Avenue**

Trelawny Avenue runs between Ryan's Rise and Manuka St in the Southern end of the Sandy Point township. In or around 1958 Alan Kelly recorded 'Trelawny', Sandy Point Road as his address in several pieces of correspondence with the Lands Department. Title records show that he and his partner Madeline Hocking bought 2 pieces of land (approx. 11.5 acres in total) from Charles Pilkington, (Crown Allotment 22E and a part of 22D). A survey of this area in 1953 shows the location of 'Trelawny' in the centre of 22E.

Alan Kelly plays an important role in the history of the development of the Sandy Point Township. He originally acquired the lease and later the freehold of Crown Allotment 21H. He sold this block in late 1957 to developers which, after surveys, subdivision, and the establishment of roads, became the Sandy Point township.

Charles Pilkington built his house after arriving in Sandy Point and named it 'Ennisvale' after the capital of County Clare in Ireland where he was born. Charles and his wife Evelyn lived there until 1947. The house is remembered by many as standing almost opposite the junction of Ennisvale Avenue and Sandy Point Road.

We believe that Ennisvale may have been renamed 'Trelawny' after it was purchased by Alan Kelly and Madeline Hocking because of the proximity of the two. However, we haven't been able to find evidence to support this theory.

We do not know:

- if Alan Kelly and Madeline Hocking, after purchasing the property in 1947, changed the name from 'Ennisvale' to 'Trelawny', or whether these two are distinct and separate houses.
- why they chose to call their new property 'Trelawny'
- what happened re naming after they left Sandy Point and sold the property (in 1958) to Tom and Daphne Ryan.

The story of Sandy Point is a work in progress and we would be very interested to hear from anyone with information, memories or anecdotes about the early development of the town. So, if you can help with answers to these questions or by providing any further information about Sandy Point's history please contact us by email nickywalker221@gmail.com or phone. 0468 889 974



Hi folks, a terrifying thought but only a few days to go until 2023.... On the upside, the first day of the new year will be Current Cruiser day.



What a perfect opportunity for people of all abilities to cleanse away any remnants of 2022 with a cruisy 500m or 1500m swim in the soothing tidal current of Shallow Inlet. The 5th running of the WIN Network <u>Current Cruiser</u> swim will be from late morning starting from the beach carpark at Sandy Point's Shallow Inlet.

Sponsors have been incredibly generous and many are looking forward to attending and even doing the swim. The t-shirt design has been finalised and the event television commercial on the WIN Network promoting our swim and major sponsors is looking good. You will start seeing posters around the place shortly. Carl has the website up and going and it's not too late to get your tickets.



All money raised goes to the Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club and goes towards essential life saving equipment and training for our volunteers, all contributing to a safe experience at the beach for everyone. With major sponsors signed up we are now reaching out to small businesses and families to adopt event categories, \$220 for a whole age group or \$110 for either the male or female leg. If interested, please email me paul.minahan@waratahbeach.com.au.

Improvements for the next swim from lessons learnt are a heap more buoys, a second timing reader, manual reporting of place getters and different coloured caps for each category.

Please help us by spreading the word and let's keep our fingers crossed the Sandy Point weather gods will smile upon us again.

A special thanks goes to our supporters so far, Browns Spreading, Sandy Point General Store, TAMA twine and wrap, Lex Sportiva, SEJ Leongatha, EVO Heat, AG Warehouse, Spiralduct, Narkabundah, TWB Chartered Accountants, Philmac, Compass Pools, Elanco Animal Health, ContractFire, Johnoelec as well as Ted and Jo Clarke.

Paul Minahan



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In the only style that Sandy Point Music knows we just keep rockin' on and the last few gigs were exceptional. More on that later in the article.

## Coming Up! ...

Let's talk about the next few gigs. Oh Yeah! For the Summer Series (drumroll) we have ... dah da da dah ...

- Friday 6th January. Kerryn Fields Trio and Fiona Curram as the support. Doors open 8:00pm
- Saturday 7th January. Foodies twilight Market with Little Oberon and Just Louis, 4-8pm
- Saturday 11th February. Tay Oskee, doors open 7:00pm
- Saturday 18th March. Jungle Jim Smith, doors open 7:00pm

**Kerryn Fields**' trademark warmth of character is evident in both life and music which extends well beyond her command of guitar, voice and audience.

Kerryn and her band are going to knock our sunhats off. Not only is she a consistent and multiple awardwinning songwriter, album-maker and artist but look at where she has played.....

Port Fairy Folk Festival, Out On The Weekend, Blue Mountains Festival, Cygnet Folk Festival, Newstead Live, Seven Sisters, Artswells (CAN), and more. She has landed coveted support slots with the likes of Nashville's Lillie-Mae and the Grammy Award-winning Cedric Burnside, and continues touring her celebrated house concert series extensively throughout Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

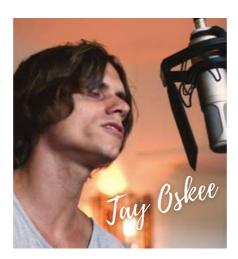
Squeal and pinch ourselves because we can now add that Kerryn is playing at Sandy Point – If you miss this one don't worry as you can always head to Port Fairy or Newstead or Canada. This really is a don't miss so make haste to get your tickets at trybooking.





**Tay Oskee** is a multi-instrumentalist from Byron Bay who emerged from his cocoon last year as winner of the Byron Bay Bluesfest Busking Competition and continues to spread his talented wings.

Playing guitar, banjo, harmonica and percussion as well as singing, Tay brings a broad palette to his roots-based music, owing to the time he spent with the Yolngu people in north-east Arnhem Land when he was younger.



JUNGLE Jim Smith, a local from Toora, is a one-man-electric-boogie-band, playing gritty blues and garage grooves guaranteed to get toes tappin' and heads boppin' whilst Kickin' out the jams on foot-powered drums. He switches between a 3-string cigar box guitar and a reverb drenched 6-string, sometimes wandering through improvised jamlands, other times crooning out rockin' tunes to get the dance floor shakin'.



# Live Music at the Foodies & Artisans Market

Saturday 7th January. 4:00pm to 8:00pm. Little Oberon Just Louis





## Loved it! ...

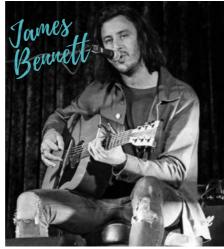
Last quarter we loved hosting **Jordie Lane** in September with **Eric Collier**who was a perfect support band. Eric
knows his music with terrific guitar
work and vocals.

Jordie was a knockout! He shared his music and lyrics whilst taking us on a journey of his life in Nashville. He was happy to be back "home" for a few weeks to perform and we were happy to host him. He ended the night with a brilliant encore which received a standing ovation.





Then in October we had, what we could call one of our sons, **James Bennett** back for the 4th time. We had the longest night of music ever where James played for 2.5 hours without a break.... are you kidding me! Then he wrapped up his stellar performance with the longest instrumental ever played, so much so that we dare not demand an encore. Never mind him, we were exhausted.



Local talent, **Little Oberon** kicked off the night with some terrific music and songs. A very talented and underrated duo that we first heard at the Foodies Market in January 2022.

In fact, they are playing again at the Foodies Market this January 2023 as well. So, if you missed it, here is another chance to see them perform with **Just Louis**.

We are back to near capacity crowds and appreciating the work of these musicians who travel far and wide to grace our stage with such incredible talent.

See you in the mosh pit.

Donna Killeen for





**Algorhythm** rocked the Sandy Point Hall with great renditions of hits from many genres over many years. Not a person was seated for the last set, of three, indicating just how talented and entertaining this trio are.

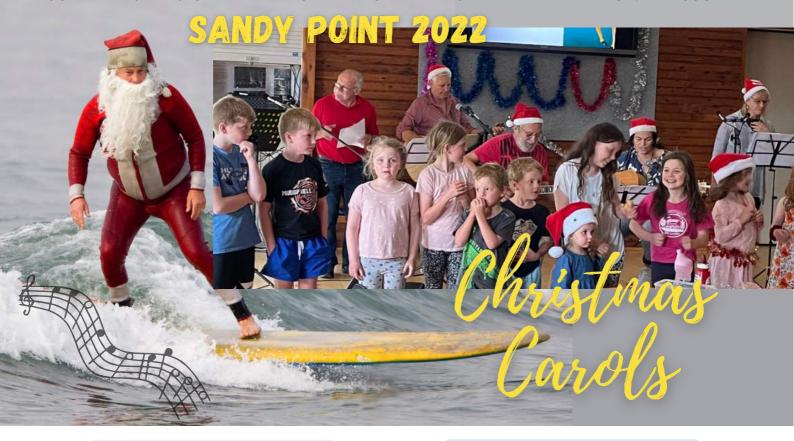
Mel's strong and soulful voice beautifully accompanied Matt's amazing guitar and foot drum kit, as well as Nathan on bass. Matt can sing, too!

Fun fact Matt also set his own personal (and Sandy Point hall) record for breaking the most guitar strings. A true sign of a guitarist giving their all.

If you couldn't make it on the night due to a heavy schedule this time of year, we plan on having them back.

Words and photography by Gabrielle Stefani





#### 2022 Final PACK RUN

Saturday 31 December. 8:30am start, meet at the Fish Creek Train Station.



## 2023 First Sandy Point BEACH 8km RUN

Sunday 8 January. Gather on the beach in front of the Surf Club at 8:15am.

- No cost Donations accepted for the South Gippsland Hospital.
   PACK RUN Facebook
- No Registration. Participate at own risk as there is no insurance.
- No Presentations.. Certificate of Participation (including your time) issued.

Stay tuned on the PROM COAST PACK RUN Facebook page



**Sandy Point** 

## Art Gallery & Gallery Cottage

33 Beach Parade, Sandy Point



(03) 5684 1094 www.sandypointgallery.com.au

#### Steven Coad

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## Follow-on from the Renewable Energy Opportunities Study

You will recall that we recently released a consultant's report into renewable energy opportunities at Sandy Point. As a follow-up we made application for \$50k DELWP grant funding to support the installation of more household energy storage batteries at Sandy Point through subsidies. Unfortunately we recently learned that our application was not successful.

#### **EV Charger for Sandy Point**

In conjunction with the Energy Innovation Co-op, funding has been sourced through a Bendigo Bank grant for the installation of an EV charger at the Men's Shed. At the time of writing, approval is being sought from DEWLP for its installation.

You may have seen media reports about neighbourhood or

#### Neighbourhood-sized batteries

community-sized batteries being installed in locations around Victoria. We are following these projects closely to understand their costs and benefits to local communities. While these installations have the potential for direct benefit to communities, there are several problems that are emerging. To build community resilience against the impact of bushfire, DWELP have partnered with AusNet to install a micro-grid at both Mallacoota and Corryong. These micro-grids allow for the portion of each town encompassing key services such as; fuel supply, access to banking, and food outlets to be 'islanded' away from the grid during an electricity supply line failure. Each micro-grid includes a community-sized battery but, as the installed battery capacity is insufficient for prolonged power outages, in each case the system also includes a big diesel generator. This is not an ideal outcome given we should be taking every opportunity to move to 100% renewable ASAP. Further west, as part of an evaluation of options to augment the now undersized Philip Island electricity system, AusNet invited tender responses for installation of a community-sized battery on the island. The winning tender came from Mondo who are the commercial arm of AusNet. Mondo will own and operate the battery. The project encompasses a 'community benefit' obligation. Mondo have been working with Total Renewable Philip Island (TRPI) to evaluate the potential to 'reserve' a portion of the battery's capacity for community use. A scheme has been devised that would be open to community members where they could virtually store their solar feed-in in the community battery, then virtually reuse this power at a later time. The virtual storage and reuse of power would be represented by lower power rates in each community participant's bill. At the time of writing, Mondo and TRPI are seeking an energy retailer willing to give up some of their profit margin to make the scheme work. This looks challenging given that some smaller energy retailers have recently gone under. AusNet have declined to reduce their network tariffs for the scheme.

Meanwhile, through the DEWLP Neighbourhood Battery program, the Victorian Government has funded a trial battery in Fitzroy which was recently commissioned with much media fanfare. The grant funding for the battery went to Yarra Energy Foundation (YEF), an independent organisation which was set up and is funded by the Yarra City Council. The final report from the project outlines that, even though YEF successfully negotiated a network tariff trial with Citipower (their equivalent of AusNet), virtual storage is not economically viable. They advocate that a network tariff waiver is required for community batteries. Further, the report states that, as it is, a project of this nature will not generate enough revenue to cover the initial capital and operating costs. Of note is that YEF have shelved their original plan to invite local community ownership of the battery.

As our own study identified, there are benefits delivered with neighbourhood batteries, specifically that they reduce voltage instability in the electricity system and therefore allowing more local renewable energy to be connected to the grid. But it is clear that there needs to be changes in the rules governing the electricity system to make community-ownership and virtual storage systems work financially.

Stay tuned!



Photo: Fitzroy Nth Community Battery

#### Information on Solar Vic Rebates

We have had an offer from Solar Victoria to come to a community meeting at Sandy Point to present information on the suite of rebates that they make available. We'd like to get a gauge on how much interest there would be in such an event. Please register your interest in a quick email to us; <a href="mailto:energy@sandypoint.vic.au">energy@sandypoint.vic.au</a>. In the meantime, here is a link to their website <a href="Welcome to the Solar Homes Program">Welcome to the Solar Homes Program</a> | Solar Victoria.

The crew at Sandy Point Community Power

---18---



#### Spring and summer veggies are planted!

And they're thriving with the plentiful supply of rain, and the slowly improving warmth. However, the poor old tomatoes have been battered by the strong winds.

A big thank-you to all of the passionate gardeners in our community group, and the community who are harvesting and generously donating into our donation tin. Also to seed growers at Sandy Point who have given us seedlings ... thank-you Judy, Adrian, Joyce. Lastly thanks to the Fish Creek Community Composter, Margie and her group, who have kindly donated their compost tea to fertilise our plants.

A group of us are making veggie shopping bags to sell at the Sandy Point General Store as a fundraiser, as well as food produce, preserves at the upcoming **Foodies and Artisans Market**.

For enquiries or more information about the Community Garden, call Liz 0438 447 667

#### **Happy Gardening!**



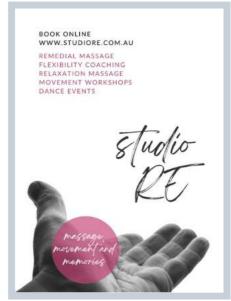


The Community Composter in Fish Creek supports our Sandy Point Community Garden by supplying compost tea to help our plants thrive. It also supports our WiSP Habitat group by eating up the proceeds from our environmental weeding activities.



A new weekly fresh food market is starting on 7th January 2023, until 25th March. Running every Saturday 8-10am. The market will be located on the old tennis court in Fish Creek. This is an initiative of Buckley Park Community Farm ... supporting the community to be able to feed the community.

For more information about the produce market or the composter: Marg Watson 0488 592 725



#### **Future Events**

26 December to 2 January 2023 - Koala Survey 7 January at the Foodies Market - Marg Grumley Wildlife Quilt raffle

8 January - Information sessions: Kids wildlife session, Habitat improvement and Koala Survey results (Sausage sizzle at Sandy Point Community Centre)

15 April –Kid's Whale session, Whale Watching and the Importance of Citizen Science (Lamb spit at Sandy Point Community Centre)

#### **Recent Activities**

WiSP organizes itself in three streams Animal Welfare, Habitat Rehabilitation and Community Engagement. Our effort and reporting will focus on these three streams.

#### **Animal Welfare**

This quarter we responded to four injured/sick animals. A possum that was treated and released. One old koala who died in care, a mangy koala that was euthanized due to poor condition, a seal pup who later died naturally. Another beached seal (most likely a juvenile) was reported though left the area. Also Mange Management is treating a mangy wombat in the village. Hooded plovers are nesting and eggs and chicks have been observed. Please stay along the water's edge when walking past the Horse Track along the sandspit (the area between the beach and Shallow Inlet).

Two field cameras have been purchased with our grant money acquired this year. WiSP will be monitoring animal road crossings and foxes.



#### **Habitat Rehabilitation**

WiSP has held four weeding working bees since September. The first two dealt with Asparagus Fern along the Roy Henderson track. The last two sessions dealt with gazanias along the roadside to Shallow Inlet. The session were very well attended and productive and the weeds were taken to Fish Creek Community Composter for proper disposal.

The two Habitat Coordinators have met with knowledgeable people to determine the program's focus and direction. An area to focus on regarding weeds and rehabilitation has been chosen. The area will be photographed and set up as a grid to offer a "before and after" perspective (in order to monitor effect).

The planting program is going through an evaluation/development process to ensure that our efforts (and the funds) are focused on what's best for the whole of the area not just koalas.





More Information about Gazanias, from:

#### **Gazania Weed Management Fact Sheet.**

Government of South Australia.

Gazanias are a highly invasive and adaptable weed that grow well on most soil types. In agricultural areas they have become invasive in cultivated and irrigated areas. Along roadsides they have spread through maintenance activities of slashing, grading and through resistance to herbicide spraying. They readily establish in sand dunes and can dramatically alter plant communities by outcompeting native plants with their high demand for nutrients and moisture.

It has also been suggested that gazanias may have allelopathic properties (able to inhibit the germination or growth of surrounding plants via chemical compounds that are released into the soil). The plant rapidly outcompetes native plants leading to a decline in biodiversity. It has the ability to form dense monocultures to the exclusion of other plants.



• If you're interested in volunteering, or for further information, email: sandypointhabitat@gmail.com

#### **Community Engagement**





WiSP held a sausage sizzle during the Grand Final weekend and an information event during Melbourne Cup Week. The information event included a session on checking the pouch of animals struck by vehicles. The other session covered the shorebirds we have in the area and why it's so important to control dogs and ourselves during the nesting season. Both events netted nearly \$1000 for WiSP projects and carers.



- If you want to see or post Sandy Point area wildlife please become a member of our Facebook notice board here
  - https://www.facebook.com/groups/364325165518116/
- If you want to be on the WiSP email distribution list please contact us on <u>wildlifeinsandypoint@gmail.com</u>
- If you want to support our Wildlife in Sandy Point program please make a direct donation to the SPCG's Koala account with:

Pay id: wildlifeinsandypoint@gmail.com .... or ...

WiSP BSB: 633 000 Acct: 161 432 976

Thank you for your continued support and interest.









## Thanks to some hard work over recent weeks by Shed members we are getting closer to having the meeting room/kitchen area finished.

Plastering is now complete and ready for painting and final fixes of electrics and plumbing will soon follow. We have most of the appliances necessary for the kitchen fit-out thanks to the generosity of donors but are still looking for the cabinetry. If you or someone you know is renovating a kitchen and has cabinets in reasonable condition they wish to dispose of please get in touch.



Perhaps of interest, the Mens Shed is custodian of several Myna bird traps purchased by the Community Group some time ago. These pesky birds have now advanced into the township and pose a threat to many of our smaller native birds. If you are interested in borrowing a trap (or two) please get in touch.

As well as working on the shed we continue to assist with other community projects. Most recently we have been helping the Foreshore committee with their work to stabilise the dunes near the surf lifesaving club.



We now have a registered list of 50+ people interested in membership and 20+ active/financial members. We meet regularly, two mornings a week, Mondays and Wednesdays, at 9.00am, at the shed, to work on active projects and also once a month (second Wednesday at 7.30pm) at the Community Centre to manage the group and discuss and plan future activities. You can get more details of our activities at

https://www.sandypoint.vic.au We welcome new members and would encourage anyone interested in joining our group to contact us by sending an email to <a href="mailto:spmensshed@gmail.com">spmensshed@gmail.com</a>, or by writing to Sandy Point Community Mens Shed, c/- Post Office, Sandy Point, Victoria 3959, or just drop in on our open days as above..

Phil Cornwell, Secretary, SPCMS

### Good guy? - Bad guy?

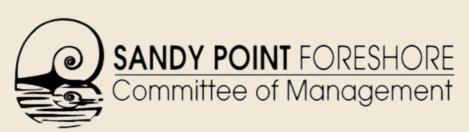


Noisy Miner, native honeyeater, mainly grey



Common Myna, introduced starling, brown and black

The native Noisy Miner looks and sounds similar to the non-native Common Myna bird (also known as Indian Myna) The native bird can also be loudly aggressive, and will gang up to protect its nest. However the non-native Myna bird is thought to have a negative impact on native birds by denying them access to nesting hollows.





The Sandy Point Foreshore Committee of Management has been successful in obtaining two important grants this year for the benefit of the Foreshore Reserve and the public.

The first is an international grant for upgrading the Roy Henderson Path from Sandy Point to Shallow Inlet provided by Two for the Trails grant.

This is a grant provided through Athletic Brewing Company makers of non-alcoholic drinks.





A big thank you to Michelle Jelleff from the SPCG who applied for this grant in conjunction with the Committee. Works will be undertaken in the new year.

The next grant obtained is for the construction of an extension to the successful erosion fencing along the foreshore and revegetation of the dune area East of the main walkway to the Life Saving Club vehicle access ramp. This grant was awarded due to the success of the last erosion control fencing and dune repairs. The grant was provided by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and is underway.

As there has been delays in obtaining special Stainless Steel cabling and fittings the works will not be completed until the new year. We would hope the public respect that we have planted out the area and keep away from the dune area.

It is also concerning that we have other areas where the public are accessing dunes and damaging the vegetation causing erosion so we would ask that there be respect given to these delicate areas so they are strengthened through vegetation growth.

With regards to our annual works the Shallow Inlet roadway has been repaired which is an ongoing issue as most are aware and our Rangers are completing track maintenance and erecting the missing beach access path signs.

We have this year also been blessed with volunteers from WISP who have diligently instigated weed control in certain areas and a special thankyou to Henriette for initiating this ongoing program.

As a final note we must remind all visitors and locals that there are no dogs on beach rules that come into play over the season and would request on behalf of all beachgoers that the rules be adhered to.

All the best and have a happy and safe season. The Committee

### prom protecta

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## **Sandy Point Superstars**

"We were all stunned and delighted to discover our team had won the Women's Relay Event!"



The Sandy Point Superstars came to be when Sandy Point local, Deanne Trimmer, was inspired to participate in the Ironman 70.3 Melbourne after

having fulfilled a support crew role last year for a friend who completed the entire event solo. Deanne discovered there was a team event, so as a swimmer, she decided to recruit a cyclist (Ivana Cicchelli) and a runner (Michelle Jelleff) to make up the team, the 'Sandy Point Superstars'. The event was held out of Catani Gardens, St Kilda, with the 1.9km swim in the Bay, the 90km bike ride along Beach Road and the 21.1km run along the bayside path toward Brighton.

The biggest concern approaching this event was not whether the team's respective training programs would hold them up on the day, but good old-fashioned Melbourne weather. With torrential rain and thunderstorms forecast, it was all looking pretty grim. However, the weather gods changed their minds and the rain stayed away, leaving them with rather warm, humid conditions. Deanne kicked off the event with a terrific swim and although she was concerned about the 600m run to meet Ivana in transition, her feet barely touched the ground. Ivana had a sound plan for the two 45km circuits she needed to complete, and was right on her target time when she made her way back into transition. Michelle took over the reins for the running leg and the two out-and-back circuits from Catani Gardens south to North Road, Brighton. The team was able to come together and run the final 100m through the finishing chute to cross the line together.



"While in the recovery zone, the results began coming through. We were all stunned and delighted to discover our team had won the Women's Relay Event! The experience of completing the event together was so much fun and very rewarding, and to realise our team had come first was an added bonus." (Michelle) Deanne & Michelle both live in Sandy Point and Ivana's family have had a holiday house at Waratah Bay for many years, so she is somewhat 'local' to the area.

# Australian Junior Surfing Titles

Well done to local young surfers who represented Victoria at the Australian Junior Surfing Titles. Jarrah Cicero, Rye Cicero, Lilly Bassed and Evie Bassed. The Titles were held at North Stradbroke Island, Queensland, from November 26 to December 3. More information on the event can be found at australianjuniorsurfingtitles.com



### South Gippsland Septic Tank Cleaning

Call: Chris Whittle 0427 350 360





#### Waratah Worriers is a social cycling group from Sandy Point and Waratah Bay.

During summer and holiday periods, cyclists meet at the Waratah turn off ( usually at 8.00 am ) for a group ride of between 40 to 60 kms and sometimes more.

We welcome a toot and a wave from motorists and more importantly a 1.5 metre passing distance.

### Jour de Prom

On the weekend 17-19 March 2023 we will again host with the Luna Riders (top notch Melbourne cycling group) - the famous Tour de Prom which sees upwards of 30 riders join in a very competitive cycling weekend.

For more information or to join contact Linda 0459 036 086. Everyone welcome.



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### **Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club**

#### **Events & activities**

We are looking forward to welcoming new and old friends to WBSLSC this year as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the club. You will find a full calendar of events and activities in the next few pages – and more details are available on the website:

https://tinyurl.com/eventsWBSLSC

#### **WARABAR**

We will once again have a members discount at the Warabar this year - so don't forget to renew or start your membership through this link.

<u>tinyurl.com/joinWBSLSC</u>

#### **JOIN US FOR A SPIT ROAST NIGHT**

After the success of the the Spit Roasts nights last year - we're pleased to be bringing the team from **Coast to Coast** - **The Golden Roast** back for four events on the calendar. We sold out quickly last year, so get your tickets early!

4th of January - <u>buy tickets here</u> 1lth of January - <u>buy tickets here</u> 18th of January - <u>buy tickets here</u> 25th of January - <u>buy tickets here</u>



#### **CELEBRATING 60 YEARS**

We are fortunate to have some wonderful images of the club house and club activities from the past 60 years, but are sure others hold some of these memories too.

If you have any photos, artefacts or stories that you'd like to share, please get in touch! <a href="mailto:news@waratahbeach.com.au">news@waratahbeach.com.au</a>

Included in this edition of the Sandy Point Community Group newsletter is an invitation to celebrate this milestone event - we'd love to you to join us.





#### **EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS ON MSAR**

The Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club is excited that the Marine Search and Rescue (MSAR) unit operations will be managed by Life Saving Victoria (LSV) from this summer onwards.

A very significant benefit of the new arrangement with LSV is that the unit will be separately and fully funded which will alleviate the significant pressure which our Club volunteers were under to secure grants and funding for the MSAR on top of core Club activities. We are delighted that with LSV managing the unit, that the club strengthens the relationship with MSAR, and this will improve our capacity to cooperate in emergency situations as appropriate, to support training and to share resources where practical.

LSV oversee MSAR operations with a team of people who have decades of Victoria Water Police experience, providing a level of management not previously existing at the Club. The Club is very confident that standards will rise to meet the increasing expectations of the public and other emergency service organisations. Of paramount importance is the need to ensure equipment, operator capability and training are of the highest quality to ensure everyone always comes home safely.

The previous vessel gave good service but has recently developed numerous faults and over winter was deemed in need of replacemeny. LSV have negotiated with Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) to secure a two-year-old vessel which is extensively fitted out.

The picture below shows members at an early December training and induction session at Life Saving Victoria headquarters in Port Melbourne.

It is wonderful that the MSAR unit will provide a readymade pathway for active members from any Surf Life Saving Club, including Waratah Beach. Interested parents and members of the public are encouraged to become involved and obtain the necessary certifications to become a part of this elite group.

Please note that dialling 000 in a boating emergency will get the best resources engaged quickly.

WBSLSC members attend training at LSV headquarters with the new MSAR vessel secured by LSV and EMV





#### **IN OTHER NEWS**

The Club is proud to see Chief Instructor Sarah Seddon recognised in the Herald Sun's feature on 'The best lifesavers of the Bass Coast'. You can read more here (note, this article is behind a paywall).

Photo credit: Herald Sun



#### **BEACHSAFE APP**

You can do your bit to prevent drowning by downloading the BeachSafe app on your mobile. We'd encourage everyone to check this out. Even on days when Waratah Beach seems calm, risks are present. The beach is patrolled from the end of November through to Easter - during these times swimmers should swim between the flags. beachsafe.org.au/apps

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

The club is completely dependent on many dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers - we can't thank them all enough. Some of these roles are large, and others are small - each is critical to keep the beach patrolled and the cogs turning behind the scenes.

As our programs grow - particularly Nippers - we are looking for others to bring their talents and passions to the club. If you can help in any capacity - for one hour, or for 10 - we'd love to hear from you: tinyurl.com/SupportWBSLSC

#### **ANNUAL REPORT**

You can now <u>read the full Annual Report</u> presented at the recent AGM.









The Warabar will remain open on Saturdays until Easter.



### **CELEBRATING SIXTY YEARS**

Dear Members and Friends,

You are warmly invited to join us at Sandy Point on the evening of **Saturday 28th January 2023** to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club.

The 60th Anniversary will provide a great opportunity to come together and acknowledge the contributions of present and past members, sponsors, and friends, who have built the club into what it is now, and who will continue to

carry the WBSLSC legacy into the future.

**Adult** \$50.00 **Child (under 13)** \$25.00

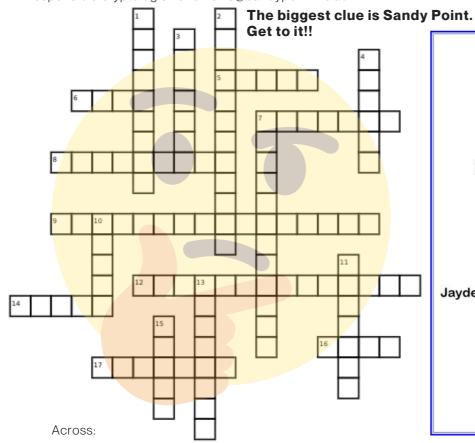
Tickets are <u>available here</u> under 'functions', please select 'add another transaction' to purchase multiple tickets, and leave your email address as we will provide further details to you soon!

We look forward to seeing you over the weekend, taking time to enjoy each other's company, to look back through time and celebrate our great club.

Kind regards, *Max Collins - 60th Reunion Organiser*0413 879 700 | max@compasspoolsvic.com.au | info@waratahbeach.com.au

## Sandy Point cryptic crossword

Here's a summer challenge for the family (and a bit of self indulgence from your SP newsletter editor)
The first correct solution will win the cryptic kudos. Send in a snap of your finished crossword, and a selfie of the responsible cryptologist/s to news@sandypoint.vic.au



## WATER BORING

New bores - Maintenance Decommissioning

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Jayden - 0418367386 Ray – 0490513523 sandypt@iprimus.com.au



- There's no point in a place name (5)
- "Swimmers Love Summer Coming" said the watcher (1,1,1,1)
- 7. The call of the board riders (5.2)
- Nickel is produced in a small English valley
   (9)
- 9. He genuflects and gazes in awe (3,6,7)
- 12. A red flower attracts a very large bird (7, 7)
- 14. Chippie chasers (5)
- The leaders of the Sandy Point Community Group (1,1,1,1)
- 17. Fix a war that loses time (7)

#### Down:

- 1. A part-time job assists by the sea (4,5)
- 2. Day dawns in the street (8,4)
- 3. This animal is chained but hiding (7)
- 4. It's a sweet street (6)
- 7. In opposition to a profound outcome (7,5)
- Start down under directions to sandy climb
   (5)
- 11. A boy and his mate lope along the road into town (7)
- Sounds like the way glue can feed koalas
   (5.3)
- But every amazing coastal holiday starts here (5)

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or #sandypointbestshot on your public Facebook or Instagram account.

#### **Got some SP news fit to print?**

Email to <a href="mailto:news@sandypoint.vic.au">news@sandypoint.vic.au</a>



/sandypointcommunitygroup



www.sandypoint.vic.au/membership

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