WINTER, 2022 VOL. 22, ISSUE 2





# Marine Search & Rescue crisis



#### It's here!

It's time to throw another log on the fire, and explore our new SPCG website.

#### www.sandypoint.vic.au

And time to read this latest Winter edition of the Sandy Point NEWS. There are community issues to understand, reports on community events and group activities, and interesting articles to enjoy.



We acknowledge the Bunurong people and 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.

WINTER 2022

# At Show 2022 Award Winners

**A11** winners listed page 20

22 ISSUE 2



**Best in Show, Open Award** Jenine Pallant - Did someone say my name? Sponsor: Bendigo Community Bank



Mixed Media Julie Lundgren-Coulter Sponsors: Gene Laity & SG Concrete



Best in Show, Junior Award Arielle Humphreys - Wittier self Sponsor: South Gippsland Shire Council

**People's Choice Open Award** Keith Haycroft - Coastal path Sponsor: ArtworkStudio757

People's Choice, Junior Award Jarrah Cicero - Fish trap Sponsor: South Gippsland Shire Council



#### **New SPCG Website**

Enjoy, and be informed about all the wonderfulness of Sandy Point.



We wanted the website to have a fresh, modern look, and to be easy to use. Easy to navigate, to find the information you are looking for, and to discover even more along the way. Easy to access, whether on your mobile, tablet, laptop or PC. Easy for you to join us with a membership of the SPCG, and to sign up for eNews.

Website design and logo were by Cooke Creative. The website was produced with the assistance of a grant from the South Gippsland Shire Council. It will enable us to enhance our engagement with the community, thereby assisting us to advocate on behalf of the community, and to further our goal of preserving our unique natural environment.

We hope you will love this Sandy Point website as much as we all love the place that is Sandy Point, and the community that we enjoy it with.





#### https://www.sandypoint.vic.au/

#### Visit the new SPCG website to find:

- News. What's been happening in and around Sandy Point?
- **Events**. What's coming up to enjoy? Live music events, the famous Sandcastle Competition, the annual Foodies and Artisans Market, the Easter Art Show, and other local activities.
- **Groups**. What groups and clubs are part of the Sandy Point Community? What are they doing, when and where do they meet, who do you contact to join up or to participate in their activities?
- **Projects**. What initiatives are currently being pursued by the SPCG? What are the issues that the SPCG is advocating about on behalf of the community? What have we achieved?
- **History**. Learn about the history of our natural and built environment, the township and local area.
- Have your say. An online contact form enables you to send us your ideas, concerns, issues, and sometimes maybe your accolades for our achievements.
- Online SPCG membership. You can make a contribution to Sandy Point by joining us. Become a member of the SPCG with a very small annual membership fee, which can now be paid by credit card online

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## SPCG President's Report



As many of you are aware I am travelling (an adventure on the long way back to Qld), so I will not pretend that I have been enduring the winter at Sandy Point and have not received much sympathy for my complaints of the heat and humidity! Hopefully now we have passed the winter solstice you will be gaining a little more sunshine!

The lack of internet and mobile phone service in some of the remote areas we have travelled has been a challenge at times (not unlike Sandy Point!) but I have endeavoured to keep abreast of SP happenings and responded as timely as I can. We have so many projects /issues on the go. I sincerely thank our committee for their support, patience and their continuous enthusiasm and dedication to SPCG.

#### Marine Rescue

We were shocked and saddened to learn that our Marine Rescue members have stood down from the Sandy Point MSAR. These dedicated volunteers have donated an enormous amount of time, energy, expertise and experience and committed to extensive training for over 10 years. They have now been placed in an appalling situation in which they feel they cannot continue to provide this essential service to our community.

# Please Join Us ... become a member of the SPCG

Annual membership per financial year Individual \$10
Family \$20

#### Easy online credit card payment 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.

The SPCG wholeheartedly supports the Sandy Point MSAR and their bid to operate independently and place utmost value on their contribution to the safety and wellbeing of our community and its visitors. For the safety of our community this situation needs to be resolved immediately to enable them to continue this vital service.

### Di and Sally

Although there have been several articles written thanking Di and Sally for their enormous contributions to the community of Sandy Point, I felt it would be very remiss of me not to include and thank them for their support of SPCG. Di was a committee member for over 10 years and as well as being the community guru, she also managed our website and contributed extensively.

Over many years we have worked together on ideas, events and projects. Dot mentioned that many get confused with SPCC (Community Centre) and SPCG (Community Group) so we often swapped emails and messages that we meant for the 'other' group. Eg: I would provide her with Art Show enquiries and she with Foodies Market bookings. It made for collaborative communication!

Di was always there to help us with events, technical assistance and the sharing of resources. Sally, supported SPCG through promoting our events, projects and issues through her "Sally's Snippets" in the Mirror. I also appreciated that I was on her 'out of towners' email list to receive her snippets prior to publication. I looked forward to Sunday night to read of the local 'happenings' and sometimes gossip of Sandy Point. I loved it that she didn't hold anything back and nothing escaped her!

I was honoured to be asked to open the 2022 Sandy Point Art Show and was overawed yet again, by this prestigious event which is a direct result of many years of the efforts of Di and Sally organizing with their small committee. I felt quite emotional that my Father (T.P.Taylor) would have been so proud that his dream of a community centre where people could come together was again realised. It was a wonderful evening and to have my family (especially my Dad's Great Grandson) present was very special. Thank you, Di and Sally, can't imagine SP without you both - you will be sorely missed.



### SPCG President's Report (continued)

#### Update on current projects & issues

**New Website** – We are delighted to finally have our new website operational! It is a 'work in progress', with further updates and modifications to come. Already we have found the online membership successful and I particularly appreciate the online mailout which facilitates the newsletter and email deliveries to members. It is a great relief that I don't have to battle to send them out manually – my apologies for those who received multiple copies or not at all last time.

Many thanks to those who responded to our request for constructive feedback. We appreciate hearing from you on any issue or comments on projects etc.

#### **Community Engagement re Town Centre Plan**

The team is well underway in communicating with all Sandy Point Groups. The outcomes can also be utilized to form an updated Community Plan. See page 9.

**Caravan Park Planning Application** – a comprehensive objection has been submitted to the South Gippsland Shire Council.

See page 8.

#### Wildlife in Sandy Point (WiSP)

As we have been advised by Christy, who is currently overseas visiting family, that she is stepping down from the Management and Operational roles of WiSP, we are needing to find someone or a few to share the organizational duties to assist this wonderful group to continue to run. Please contact me if you can help out in any way.

Stay safe, healthy and happy, Anne Kinne, President, Sandy Point Community Group



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https://www.sandypoint.vic.au/enews





#### Waratah MSAR Crisis

### Marine Rescue Service closed after local members stand down from operations in protest at proposed changes in management

In 2007 Waratah Beach Surf Lifesaving Club received a 6 meter Zodiac rigid inflatable rescue boat (RHIB) as part of an expansion of Marine Rescue Services around the Victorian coast. The idea was to "embed" these services within Surf Lifesaving Clubs operating under the auspices of Life Saving Victoria (LSV).

Unfortunately, the whole process was flawed, and little thought was given to funding of operational costs, recruiting and training crew, and storage of vessels.

For many years from inception, the services struggled to survive due in part to the seasonal nature of Surf Lifesaving Clubs, which generally operate only from November to April, and minimal support from LSV.

With the Inquiry into Marine Search and Rescue (MSAR) services in Victoria in 2014, there appeared to be new hope for the future, with one of the main recommendations being the establishment of one integrated service with all MSAR units under the one banner.

Many rank and file MSAR members were disappointed when the final Victorian Government decision was for Marine Rescue "lite" with only relatively minor changes, the establishment of the Office of Marine Search and Rescue within Emergency Management Victoria, but leaving 3rd party oversight by Coast Guard and LSV of the units under their control. Initially, while far from ideal, this appeared to function reasonably well with insurance cover and operational funding provided to the individual units.



For various reasons, mainly seen as lack of support in the past, out of the original 8 units established in 2007 under the auspices of LSV, only 2 are still in operation, Waratah and Portland, with Waratah the only stand-alone service as Portland is really just a backup service for Portland Coast Guard.

After many years of trying to establish a viable independent local community-based management regime for the Waratah MSAR service, in 2021 the Waratah Beach Surf Lifesaving Club agreed to the separation of the MSAR service from the Lifesaving Club. After discussion with the MSAR Office, it was established that there was no procedure under the Marine Search and Rescue Arrangements to transfer to a new organisation and the Waratah MSAR members would need to lodge an application to become a "New Service Provider". There would also be the need to create a new legal entity as an incorporated association and obtain an ABN number and establish a bank account in the name of the new entity.

The MSAR group subsequently went ahead and registered "Sandy Point Marine Rescue Incorporated", obtained an ABN number, opened a bank account, and lodged the application for New Service Provider with the MSAR Office on 14/02/22. After not receiving any response for some time, a meeting was finally arranged by the MSAR members between the Waratah Beach SLSC, LSV, the MSAR Office, and local Marine Rescue Crew.

We were under the impression that we were catching up for a "chat" about the transition to an independent unit, but were completely blindsided when LSV announced, without any consultation whatsoever, that they had decided to manage MSAR operations centrally in Melbourne, and would completely take over the Waratah vessel and equipment and also provide all financial management.

As this was completely opposite to what we were planning and had been used to, a local community based and supported service, we objected strongly but were informed that the decision was final. Interestingly, LSV's Strategic Plan 2021-25 has no mention whatsoever of Marine Rescue Services

Subsequently, the local MSAR members held a meeting and advised Waratah Beach SLSC that if no attempt was made to reach an amicable agreement, we would have no option but to all stand down from operations and training until such time as a satisfactory proposal was produced.

As no revised proposal was forthcoming, we stood down as from midnight on 06/06/2022, and subsequently advised the MSAR Office and Water Police RCC of this decision.

There is currently a stalemate as Waratah Beach SLSC/LSV appear determined to go ahead with their proposal which cannot succeed, as the local MSAR members will never operate under the auspices of LSV moving forward. We also believe there are also some Coast Guard units who would prefer to be independent, and this is a failing of the current Marine Search and Rescue arrangements.

The local community are likely 100% behind the MSAR members, and the Sandy Point Community Group have already offered a grant to assist with the establishment of the new entity. Sandy Point is a small close-knit community, and as such many volunteers belong to more than one organisation, so any attempt to establish a 24/7 Marine Rescue Service without local members would fail. Already 2 of our members have permanently resigned, and many, if not all, will join them if this issue is not resolved in the very near future.



Sandy Point is fairly unique, in that there is no formal boat ramp and vessels must be beach launched into Shallow Inlet, and access to Waratah Bay is over an ocean bar, so local knowledge is absolutely essential. There has been an investment in the local MSAR service of at least a quarter of a million dollars since the establishment of the MSAR Office, and it will all remain idle until we have a solution, with potentially no Rescue Service for the coming boating season.

A letter has been written to the Emergency Services Minister, Jaclyn Symes, requesting that she intervene to resolve this ridiculous situation as soon as possible.

MSAR Crew



In an EMERGENCY call triple zero (000)

#### CARAVAN PARK PLANNING APPLICATION

#### As many will have noticed, Planning Application advertising signs appeared relating to the proposed subdivision of the caravan park.

Whilst the Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG) acknowledges that this is privately owned land, we all note the public and commercial benefit of a caravan park that is in and adjacent to our town centre. Community endorsement of this position is well known and well publicised

To that end we have endorsed Professor Rob McGuaran's objection to the Planning Application. In essence we argue:

- 1. That the form of the subdivision, if approved, could be improved by maintaining the two existing entry points with an internal roadway so that the perimeter of the caravan park/subdivision remains as is, with no conflict between driveways, parking, vegetation, and pedestrian and bicycle movement.
- 2. That the loss of community benefit should be off-set by a public open space contribution as is commonplace in other jurisdictions in relation to planning applications such as this. The diagram below is one idea of how this could work.



Professor McGuaran is a member of the Sandy Point Community Group, a noted Architect and Urban Designer and has worked tirelessly with our sub-committees on a number of initiatives.

Our view collectively, as previously endorsed by the community, is that the most beneficial location for a camping site is in the town centre, where it provides benefit to businesses and access to the patrolled beach. Its loss, if subdivision is approved by Council and the Catchment Management Authority, could be compensated in part by the creation of a village green as shown which would augment various community activities.

Sandy Point
Community Group

# Community



As we all know Victoria's population has grown, day visitor and regional tourism numbers are up and regional populations have seen unprecedented change. The Sandy Point Community Group is acutely aware that we all value what we have in Sandy Point and its hinterland and we are very interested in how we can best advocate for the protection of what we love whilst acknowledging that visitor numbers will grow.

To that end we have embarked on a long term engagement strategy with council and a consultation engagement strategy with all other community organisations in preparation for a council led engagement strategy about what is important to all of us in Sandy Point, so that any accommodation of council's tourism and economic development strategy is sensitive to our town centre amenity and does not detract.

We are fortunate to have in our midst noted urban designers, environmentalists and planning lawyers, and we'd be happy to hear from you if you have skills that could be applied to advocacy for the common good.

In our next newsletter we hope to share with you the common themes that are emerging from conversations and consultations.

We are so lucky to live in and visit a beautiful part of the world that incorporates such diverse activities and contributions from so many.



The following link to Council's site highlights significant work that Council is undertaking to future proof and assist the Shire.

https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au
Of particular interest, the Great Southern Rail
Trail Visitation and Marketing Plan, The South
Gippsland Regional Profile and a review of the planning scheme.

You can contact the SPCG at <a href="mailto:info@sandypoint.vic.au">info@sandypoint.vic.au</a> or on our website <a href="https://www.sandypoint.vic.au/contact-us">https://www.sandypoint.vic.au/contact-us</a>

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

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# SANDCASTLE



We were unable to hold the Sandcastle competition in the Christmas period, because of the bad storms during that time, so it was decided to hold the event on Easter Saturday.

This turned out to be a great success, even though it was a different time format, because the time of the tides only allowed us to hold it in the afternoon, with the sausage sizzle being before it at lunchtime.

We were thrilled to see that the numbers were similar to those of other years and everyone enjoyed building some wonderful exhibits. Thanks to the 3 judges, Ben, Jess and Glenda who did a brilliant job in deciding the victors.

A big thank you to Tommo and the General Store who provided all the prizes for the event, something that was unexpected but very much appreciated.

thank-you, General Store

Rick provided his sausage sizzle that contributed greatly to the event as well, as it was busy all afternoon until the sausages ran out around 5pm, Thanks Rick and his helpers for the long hours contributed. Thanks in particular to Anne and Pete Kinne for your help all day.

Doug & Liz Brown, Event organisers.



VIDEO: https://youtu.be/4ChyO99gLKc





#### We've got a few more things to report since the last newsletter.

Progress on the shed fit out has continued with the plaster now delivered and ready to be installed; final electrical and plumbing work will hopefully follow soon thereafter. In the meantime we have received several donations of tools and other equipment. We'll need a big sort out to determine what stays and what can be offered for sale or donation; watch out for a mighty big garage sale!

With the easing of Covid rules we were able to arrange an outing and visited the Inverloch shed. A great visit and chance to discuss mutual issues. They also kindly donated to us some valuable equipment.

In other news we've secured some additional funding for further projects at the shed. Firstly a grant from the South Gippsland Shire Council will allow us to landscape the south side of the building with a planting of native shrubs and grasses planned.

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Secondly (as also reported in the SPCP article page 15) working with the Energy Innovation Cooperative we've been successful in receiving grant funding from the Bendigo Bank for an Electric Vehicle charger to be installed at the shed. This will enable the use of excess solar generated at the shed to recover a modest financial return.

We continue to meet regularly on a Monday morning at 9.00 am to work on Community projects, enjoy a cuppa and a chat; so why not drop in? And, once a month (second Wednesday at 7.30) the committee (plus support) meet to discuss the logistics of managing the group.

You can get more details of our activities at <a href="https://www.sandypoint.vic.a">https://www.sandypoint.vic.a</a>u 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.

Phil Cornwell, Secretary, SPCMS



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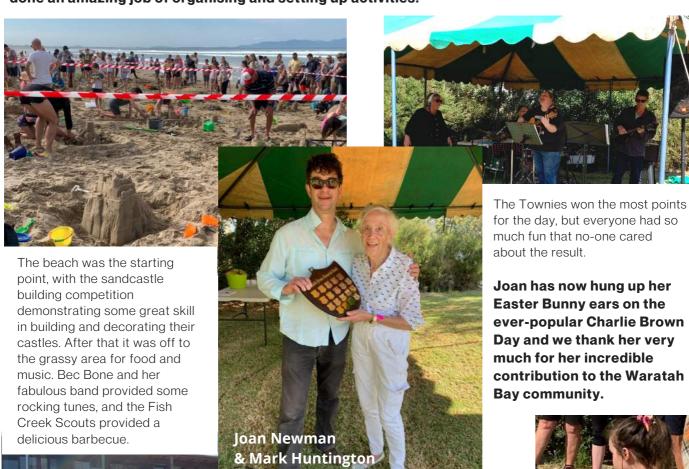
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#### Waratah Bay Community Group

# Fun and games CHARLIE BROWN DAY

Easter Saturday once again produced a sparkling sunny day for the annual Charlie Brown Day, a fun and definitely frivolous competition between the 'Parkies' from the Caravan Park and the 'Townies' from the township. Joan Newman and her merry bunch of helpers had once again done an amazing job of organising and setting up activities.



with the Winners plaque.

Joan has now hung up her Easter Bunny ears on the ever-popular Charlie Brown Day and we thank her very much for her incredible

On to the races, which proved to be very popular. The events included three-legged race, sack race, egg and spoon, sprint and relays, with everyone from tiny under fives to grownups participating enthusiastically. The final event was a tug of war, hotly contested between the two teams. The event concluded with an Easter Egg scramble; definitely popular with the younger generation.

Liz Kindellan, President, WBCG

# Community

Winter has come with a vengeance, tomatoes, capsicum, kale, lettuce, beans and cucumber have been harvested over the summer and autumn, and any excess has been given to our much-appreciated coffee shop.

Produce has been picked by locals and holiday visitors, with donations gratefully received via the donation box.





A big thank you to Tommo and the crew from the General Store, for the support they have given to the Community Garden, especially when they held the original Trivia night, that was a great success. Also thanking Jess for her enthusiasm, support and expertise in helping out at our regular gardening sessions. Jess and Alec have gone back to their home in Melbourne, but we hope to see them when they have time to visit.

Over the colder period, we will meet every 3 weeks, everyone is welcome to join our group. Contact 0438 447 667.

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# Community Power projects update

#### COMMUNITY CENTRE BATTERY NOW OPERATIONAL!

Installation and commissioning of the battery system at the Community Centre is now complete and functional. The Centre's solar array charges the batteries, providing blackout protection and offsetting the energy requirements of the centre during evening activities.



#### VIRTUAL POWER PLANT STUDY UPDATE.

The consultant undertaking the analysis of opportunities for additional Distributed renewable Energy Resources (solar, batteries) at Sandy Point has drafted their preliminary report. The study examined electrical power data at both an individual property and aggregated feeder-line basis to draw conclusions about the potential for community-sized battery storage and a micro-grid for Sandy Point.

The analysis revealed some very interesting findings, for example that the reliability of our power supply line is one of the worst in the state. Also, that during sunny days and outside of school holidays times, our solar feed-in exceeds the consumption needs of the town so power actually flows back up the supply line away from Sandy Point, creating a voltage control headache for the network operator.





The report will make recommendations about the economics of solar and battery installation at properties in Sandy Point that are permanently occupied, weekenders, and holiday homes.

We will be holding a community meeting at 10:30am on Saturday 23rd July in the Community Centre

to present the findings and give you the opportunity to ask questions. Please come along and pass the word.



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# VOL. 22 ISSUE 2

COMMUNITY POWER

### Community Power

#### FUNDING ANNOUNCED FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGER

#### IN SANDY POINT.

We are pleased to announce that grant funding from the Bendigo Bank has been secured to install a publicly accessible electric vehicle charger in Sandy Point.

We are working with our partners the Energy Innovation Cooperative and Sandy Point Men's Shed on this project.

The proposed location for the charger is the south side of the Men's Shed. EV drivers will pay a fee to use the charger with profits after transactional costs being returned to the Shed. It is anticipated that the installation will encourage EV drivers to come to Sandy Point with flow-on benefits for our town.



Ray Henderson, Gill Nicholls (Toora & Foster Community Bank Director), Frank Schrever

#### ENERGY TRADING SCHEME NOT A GOER.

You will be aware that we've put a significant effort into a project that would have seen us being able to trade energy with each other. Unfortunately, the scheme will not be up and running in the short term due to fundamental changes in the scheme design imposed by the provider, and electricity network regulations that make such a scheme difficult to justify economically.

Chris Harvey, President SPCP.



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It was with a sad heart that we had a quiet thank-you lunch for Di and Sally and wished them all the best on their move to Clyde. It was with Di's request that the event be low key. It is difficult to acknowledge all that they have been part of in and around Sandy Point over the past 18 years. The town has certainly benefitted from their contribution, not only at the Centre but in all aspects of the town. They will be sadly missed.



The Art Show Committee had a lunch in May to celebrate the success of the Sandy Point Art Show, along with many of the volunteers who assisted. Even though some of the Committee were struck down with Covid, the show was still a great success. Some statistics from the show:

- No of Entries 144
- No of entries Junior 10
- Fish Creek Primary 10
- Foster Secondary 34
- Painting sold 26
- Plants sold 38.



We were fortunate to secure sponsorship of \$3700 which was distributed back to the artists. After the wash up the profit was around \$4060. Plans are already underway for the 2023 Show, so if you are interested in lending a hand, let us know.

This money will go towards some of the projects at the Centre, namely, better ventilation in the consulting room (an opening window), a small dishwasher for when we have smaller groups use the Centre, and a security system in the form of cameras. We are working closely with the Men's Shed, who are willing to help us with many of the tasks.

Unfortunately, we have had reports that some people are climbing onto the roof, and are doing damage. In the past we have had solar panels damaged and most recently two of the air conditioners were vandalised, at a cost of \$400+ for repairs. Hopefully the security cameras will deter this behaviour. Unfortunately we have witnesses who have reported it is not out-of-towners.



I had the pleasure of attending the 50th Sandy Point Music Group event with the band Swipe Right, and we were greeted with beautiful cup-cakes at each table (well done Music Group). Although it wasn't as well attended as usual it was a great night and they had everyone up dancing with their second song. At the end of the show, we were lucky to chat with one of the band members who was full of praise for the Music Group, especially their hospitality and willingness to provide accommodation. They will be back!

At the last two Community Centre Committee meetings we have invited our local coastal Councillors to attend which has given us an opportunity to showcase our wonderful Community Centre along with the newly installed battery packs. We even took them on a tour of the Men's Shed and showed the progress that is being made there. Councillor Sarah Gilligan is very active with the Venus Bay community and was keen to take some of our ideas back to her community. They were very receptive to us and promised to follow up any concerns we have in the future. It's just great to be able to have direct contact back with Councillors again.

Dot Devine, Secretary, Sandy Point Community Centre & TP Taylor Reserve Community Asset Committee

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#### SPCC or SPCG ??

Around town, there is at times some confusion regarding Sandy Point Community **Group** and Sandy Point Community **Centre**.

The Sandy Point Community Group, through community engagement, advocates on behalf of the community and is committed to preserving our unique natural environment. It organises the Sand Castle Competition and the Foodies & Artisans Market.

The SPCC is a Section 64 Committee which is a Community Asset Committee responsible for the Community Centre and the TP Taylor Reserve (tennis courts and playground). We report directly to the South Gippsland Council, our contribution to the Community is the organising of the Sandy Point Art Show and in the past a Trivia night over Summer.



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# Farewell Di & Sally

Recently, and sadly, we have had to farewell two wonderful contributors to Sandy Point community life.

Di Cooper and Sally Gibson purchased a residence in Sandy Point almost 20 years ago, and soon after became involved in community fund-raising and development of the then existing community hall.

Di's greatest achievement was in leading community efforts, and securing considerable government investment in the construction of our current community asset, the Sandy Point Community Centre. As President of the Committee of Management, Di continued to source additional funding for the community, for recreational facilities around the Centre, and for community events. She has managed the Centre as it has developed into a much valued community facility.

As described on the SPCC website ....

"We feel really lucky to have this space in our beachside community.

Since it was built with some major community and government input in 2012 we have seen many fun times, important times and fascinating times - all of them adding to the fabric of our lives and memories. Weddings, art shows, music events, markets, celebrations, classes and conferences have been held here and we are open-minded about the future possibilities.

That's what makes the Sandy Point Community Centre such an asset: it's a modern space with solar powered, sensibly designed facilities that can accommodate human imagination in a myriad of ways."

This Community Centre is Di Cooper's legacy, and it is a truly awesome contribution to life in Sandy Point. She was also an active member of the SPCG Committee for many years, and spearheaded community projects such as the provision of new and improved signage around the town. Additionally, her care and hard work has extended to supporting our wildlife, particularly addressing the devastating issue of mange in our wombat population.

Sally Gibson has been well known as a talented local artist, and was an initial driver of the annual Sandy Point Easter Art Show. As an annual event supporting local artists it has gone from strength to strength, and you can see the following pages in this newsletter to catch up on the art works and winners of this year's Art Show. Until recently Sally was also the writer of the much loved "Sally's Snippets", a weekly column in The Mirror newspaper, keeping the region informed of all the local happenings in Sandy Point.

Di and Sally have now moved on to a new lifestyle and new challenges away from us, but they will forever remain good friends of the grateful people of Sandy Point.

# 19th annual Easter Art Show 2022

We thought we would be hard pushed to improve on last year's Art Show but how wrong were we, 56 artists in the Open Section creating 144 amazing pieces of art has made the 2022 Show bigger and better, the standard of the works is incredible.

Things kicked off at 6.30pm on Friday 15th April with our MC John Stanecki welcoming Jan Bull – Chair of Bendigo Community Bank Toora & Foster, Mayor Mohya Davies and Councillors Jenni Keerie, Nathan Hersey, John Schelling and Adrian Darakai.



John Stanecki, MC, and Jan Bull, Bendigo Community Bank, Toora & Foster.

Jan Bull expressed that Bendigo Community Bank is proud to be a Platinum Sponsor for over 10 years and briefly gave an update on support that Bendigo Bank is giving to the community.

Mayor Mohya Davies spoke on how the Council is once again supporting local communities. Gillian Carpenter of ArtworkStudio757 was introduced as another Platinum Sponsor.

It was then over to Anne Kinne, President of Sandy Point Community Group, who told the gathering that the community spirit of her father Thomas P Taylor, or Tommy as he was better known, still continues as represented by the Community Centre itself. Tommy was the prime mover in getting our first hall which was an old SEC shed brought over from Yallourn to Sandy Point. Anne then did the honour of cutting the ribbon and declaring the show open with Mayor Davies assisting.



Cutting the ribbon: Anne Kinne, President Sandy Point Community Group, assisted by Mayor Mohya Davies, with Jan Bull, Bendigo Bank, and Gillian Carpenter, ArtworkStudio757

Thank-you to all our sponsors who have supported our show over the many years, and this year have contributed \$3,700.00, all of which will be going to the artists as prize money.

Over the weekend 26 paintings were sold and the funds raised by the Art Show will be going towards purchasing a new hanging system as the current system is past its use-by date.

.An event like the Art Show does not take place without the tireless work of the volunteers, the support of the community for attending the show and of course without the artists there would be no art to be seen, so a huge thank you to everyone who supported our Art Show.

The winner of the lucky door prize was ticket number 177 and Millie Boyle will be enjoying a session with Studio RE.

Di Cooper. Art Show Coordinator



### mers & Sponsors WINTER 2022

**Best in Show** \$500.00 #100 Jenine Pallant - "Did Someone Say My Name" **Bendigo Bank** 

**Runner Up Best in Show** \$200.00 #88 Grant MacIntyre- Wamoon#1 **Bravtec Cleaning** 

**People's Choice** \$350.00 #61 **Keith Haycroft -**"Coastal path" ArtworkStudio757

**Runner Up People's Choice** \$ 150.00 #116 Harris Smith ArtworkStudio757

**Encouragement Award** People's Choice \$ 50.00

#123 Ling Wang **Prom Coast Electrics** 

**Mixed Media** 

Winner #84 \$150.00 Julie Lundgren-Coulter **Gene Laity & SG Concrete** 

Runner Up #20 \$50.00 Dianne Colk **Johnoelec** 

#### **Pastel**

Winner # 86 \$150.00 Julie Lundgren-Coulter **Waratah IceCream Co** 

Runner Up # 100 \$50.00 Jenine Pallant Williams, Tracy & Ass

#### Acrylic.

Winner # 46 \$150.00 Leigh Fraser **Paragreen** 

Runner Up # 68 \$50.00 Caron Jenkins Williams, Tracy & Ass Highly Commended # 108

Diana Scambler

Sculpture

Winner #1 \$150.00 Graeme Anthony **Prom Coast Holidays** 

Runner Up # 25 \$50.00 Kerrie de Cort **Fish Creek Pharmacy** 

**Drawing** 

Winner # 40 \$150.00 Lyn Firestone Steve Coad & SG Concrete

Runner Up #98 \$50.00 Paris Owen

**Barnes Fencing** 

Highly Commended # Lyn Firestone

Oil

Winner # 85 \$150.00 Julie Lundgren-Coulter S.E.J

Runner Up # 47 \$50.00 Janie Firth

**Fish Creek Pharmacy** 

Highly Commended # 36 **Bron Elmore** 

**Photography** 

Winner \$150.00 #88 Grant MacIntyre **Atoll Travel** 

Runner Up \$50.00 #5 Yianni Banikos Johnoelec

Watercolours

Winner \$150.00 #24 - Florence Criahton **Alison Lester** 

Runner Up # Carmen Legues \$50.00 **Rob Davies Carpet** Cleaning

Sponsored by South Gippsland Shire Council

**Junior Best in Show** \$100.00 J6 - Wittier Self **Arielle Humphreys** 

**Runner Up Jnr Best In Show:** \$50.00

J1 - Fish Trap - Jarrah Cicero

**Junior People's Choice** \$50.00 J1 - Jarrah Cicero

Runner Up People's Choice: \$25:00

J6 - Arielle Humphreys

**People's Choice Encouragement Award \$25.00** J9 My Guy - Montana Owen

1st Drawing 15-18yrs: \$25.00 J9 - My Guy - Montana Owen

1st Photography 11 -14yrs: \$25.00

J2 - Koala Cuddles - Rye Cicero

1st Sculpture 11-14yrs: \$25.00 J1 - Fish Trap

- Jarrah Cicero

1st Drawing 11-14yrs: \$25.00

J6 - Wittier Self - Arielle Humphreys

1st Painting 8-10yrs: \$25.00

J56 - Bridge over Lily Pond - Lennox Watt

1st Photography 8-10yrs: \$25.00

J5- Buffalo Sunset - Archie Henning

**Primary School** 

Grade 1 – 1st J50 Pippa Murray

Grade 2 – 1st J49 Frankie Heal

r/u J51 Charlie Bright \$10 Grade 3 – 1st J47 Bodhi Prosser

Grade 4 – 1st J46 Ruby Aaarts

r/u J48 Daisy Gilliam Rodda \$10 Grade 5 - 1st J53 Billie James \$15 r/u J52 Jakarn Roberts \$10 Grade 6 – 1st J55 Fynley Hamlet r/u J54 Mabel Richardson \$10

VOL. 22 ISSUE 2 Award winners pictured page 2

**Jnr People's Choice Encouragement Award** \$ 25.00 J51 Charlie Bright -Grade 2

**The Handmakers Store** 

Sponsored by Southern Sass Hair Studio

Secondary School

Digitial Art: 1st \$25.00 J12 Family -Heidi Szajer

Acrylic:1st \$25.00

J19 Mona Lisa App - Maya Haywood Bannister

**Graphite: 1st \$25.00** 

J27 Portrait - Flise Brown

Pencil: 1st \$25.00 J32 Eve

- Mia Stone

Paint: 1st \$25.00 J39

- Alyssa Allen

Mixed Media: 1st \$25.00 J44

- Hannah North

**Runner Up \$15.00** 

J40 Artist Book

- Katelyn Lavarda

Collage/Pencil: 1st \$25.00 J35

- Jorjja Tayler

**Jnr People's Choice Encouragement Award \$** 25.00

J27 - Portrait - Elise Brown **The Handmakers Store** 

Trivia nights have been a huge success, raising funds for the Men's Shed in May and our most recent trivia night selling out and raising money for WiSP, Wildlife in Sandy Point. We will be running them the first Thursday of every month Our next one coming up on July 7th is raising much needed funds for the Sandy Point CFA. Teams are capped at 6 ppl per team and trivia will start at 6.30pm. **Bookings are essential!** 

It's all happening



Open mic nights every
Thursday from 6pm
provides a fun and chilled
atmosphere for anyone who
would like to come down and
have a sing, play or just
enjoy the live music. We
usually have local, Mike,
come up and play tunes to
get everyone started. Also
parma, chips and salad
special Thursdays \$14!!

We have also been busy with darts on Sundays ... check out this action shot!

Every first
Sunday of the
month we have
The Rusty Poet
come down and
join us for open
mic poetry
where anyone is
encouraged to
come along and
read some
poetry or just to
listen.

We have had amazing live music here at StaSk with the Beady Eyes Band who performed Friday 10th June. And we have more live music coming up with No Promises, date to be advised - make sure to book your tickets!



With School Holidays
coming up be sure to pop
down and see what's on
at StaSk - and keep an
eye on our Facebook
page for things coming
up!!

The StaSk Team







The WiSP group is a group of part-time and full-time Sandy Point residents who want to help support, protect and promote healthy native wildlife around Sandy Point.

Several WiSP members are wildlife rescuers, and have enabled sick or injured koalas and other wildlife to be rescued and rehabilitated successfully.

#### Local Wildlife Rescues

Local rescuer, Kerrie DeCort, reports that through April and May there were

- 3 koalas rescued two euthanised with mange and one was treated for dehydration and released in Sunshine Rise
- two baby ringtail possum babies, mum was deceased on the road babies still in pouch
- · a seal that had to be euthanised



# Wildlife Emergency Contacts

- Wildlife Victoria 8400 7300 or their online report form
- Foster Veterinary Clinic –
   PH: 5682 2757
- Local rescuer, Kerrie DeCort -0457 562 515
- Sue Moore Tarwin Lower
   Wildlife Shelter 0429 016 695
- DELWP 136 186
- Seals, seabirds, turtles Marine Response Unit 1300 245 678
- Whale and Dolphin Emergency Hotline - 1300 136 017

WiSP is also concerned with keeping Sandy Point an environment friendly to wildlife. The wildlife of Sandy Point is recognised as part of the valued unique, quiet, low-key nature of Sandy Point, as is its shared roads, low traffic levels, lack of street lighting, and minimal infrastructure (water, sewerage, footpaths etc).

WiSP will be planning to look at practical ways our group can support our wildlife, ranging from support of rescuers and carers, to vegetation, traffic measures, wildlife-friendly fences, and long-term planning for such issues as wildlife corridors.

To see photos of local wildlife, check out the Wildlife in Sandy Point Facebook group. There may be a photo of a koala up a tree near you, posted that morning! You can post your own photos there too.

To contact WiSP, email us at sandypointkoalas@gmail.com.

Join our Facebook Group Wildlife in Sandy Point





# "Jumpy Humpy"

#### It's whale spotting season!

Humpback whales are the heroes of the whale migration story, with their annual migration from Antarctica to northern Australian or South Pacific waters, and back again. Unlike Southern Right Whales, which also reach our southern coast, the Humpbacks will travel much further north. Most will travel up the west coast, others up the east coast, including along the east coast of Tasmania. Some will travel a more easterly route past New Zealand towards Tonga.

Fortunately for us, some will travel east along the Bass Coast, and can be sighted off Phillip Island, Cape Liptrap or Wilson's Prom. We know they are heading north to breed in warmer waters, as their calves are born without the insulating layer of blubber they'll need to survive the colder southern waters when they return to their Antarctic feeding grounds.

Humpbacks, "jumpy humpies", are the most acrobatic whales breaching, tail-lobbing, pectoral fin slapping and spy hopping are common behaviours. They can also do full body leaps out of the water.



#### **LEARN MORE**

- Humpback Whale The Australian Museum.
- <u>Dolphin Research Australia Dolphin & Whale Species</u> Fact File
- <u>DELWP. A guide to boating and swimming around whales, dolphins and seals</u>
- <u>www.migaloo.com.au</u>
- <u>Wildlife Whales app</u> for reports of whale sightings at Phillip Island and Wilson's Prom.

#### **10 FUN FACTS**

- 1. The Humpback whale's Scientific name is Megaptera novaeangliae. Megaptera means "bigwinged" and refers to their extra long pectoral fins that can be up to a third of their body length.
- 2. They have a cruising speed of 8km/h but can reach 32km/hr in short bursts. In adults, dives usually last 10-15 minutes, but can be up to 45 minutes before needing to surface for air.
- 3. Humpbacks have 2 blowholes (nostrils) as do all filter-feeder whales with baleen plates in their mouths for sieving their food from the water.

  Toothed whales and dolphins have one blowhole.
- 4. They have a few feeding tricks to increase their catch of krill and small fish. The most intricate is "bubble netting" a whale dives down, then swims up in a spiral releasing bubbles of air from its blowholes. The bubbles float up in a column forming a 'bubble net', keeping prey inside the column. The whale lunges up through the centre of the column with its mouth open. People have seen several humpback whales lunge-feeding up through a "bubble net", one at a time.
- 5. Humpies are famous for their long, complex songs, but only the males sing. Their songs are thought to be a way of communicating with other whales, or perhaps to attract a mate. They may be sweet singers, but male humpies will also fight quite violently.
- 6. Life cycle life expectancy has been recorded at 48 years, but is believed could be much longer. They are sexually mature at 7 years, and fully grown at 12 to 15 years up to a size of around 16 metres. Gestation (pregnancy) lasts 11-12 months.
- 7. Mothers produce up to 600 litres of rich milk a day 35% fat content compared to 2% in human milk. Calves are weaned, feeding independently, at around 11 months of age.
- 8. Calves travelling with their mothers will reduce the risk of death by exhaustion by travelling in the slipstream of their mother's wake.
- 9. Sightings are easier during the return southerly migration as they travel closer to shore to protect their calves from predators, which are mainly killer whales and sharks.
- 10. Occasionally a famous all white male humpy is spotted along the east coast. His name is Migaloo, an Aboriginal name meaning "white fella". He is albino or hypopigmented, and is afforded extra protection from vessels which must keep at least 500 metres away (normally 200 metres)

HISTORY OF SANDY POINT

# What's in a Name? ... & WHO WAS RYAN?



We don't all live on Ryan's Rise, but we've all probably walked along it, or passed it on the way to the Roy Henderson Trail. Local researcher, Nicky Walker, explains who Ryan was, and suggests why he has a street named after him in Sandy Point.

Ryan's Rise runs in a north-south direction alongside Ryan's Ridge and between Graeme Grove and Sandy Point Road. There does not appear to be a formal record which explains the origin of the name, but it is possible that Ryan's Ridge was named after William Patrick Ryan, the first selector of Crown Allotment 22A. This was part of the property now known as 'Blue Meadows' which at that time, included the end of Ryan's Ridge. When the town was laid out in in the early 1960's, Ryans Rise may have been given its name from this adjacent landmark.

Ryan's father, also named Patrick, arrived in Australia in the 1850s from County Tipperary, Ireland and settled in Gordon near Ballarat. When, in 1884, advertisements appeared in the papers that Crown Land in the Parish of Doomburrim had been released for selection, he sent two of his sons, John Joseph (Jack) and Patrick, to select a block. The brothers travelled with a group of Irish potato farmers from Gordon and other areas east of Ballarat. These were Michael Synan, Patrick Harkin, James, Patrick and Edward O'Leary, JohnCahill and his son James (1), mostly young men in their 20s seeking opportunities to acquire cheap land and develop farms for themselves.

The land had not been subdivided or cleared and potential selectors had to pace out 320 acres through thick bush on foot. The granting of licences was delayed as unsurprisingly, many of the selected areas overlapped and there were several applicants for the same piece of land.

0487 963 528

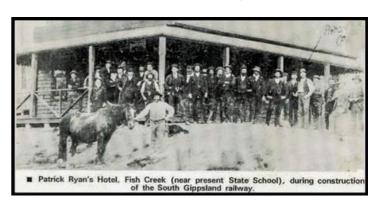
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Patrick (jnr) and Jack successfully selected Crown Allotment 25 on behalf of their father. Thirty acres of the block was later sold to be divided up into housing blocks for the residents of the new Township of Fish Creek. Patrick (jnr) also began one of the earliest Fish Creek businesses selling stores to the other selectors. He also operated the first hotel.



The enactment of the 1884 Land Act saw the classification of all Crown Land Across Victoria and the last of the available Crown Land was made available for selection. The 15,000-acre Sandy Point Run was finally broken up into allotments or larger areas.

In 1892, Patrick Ryan (jnr) applied to select Crown Allotment 22A in the Parish of Waratah North. The land at the time consisted of 317 acres and lay on the northern side of Sandy Point Road near the junction with Ryan's Rise and Manuka Street. The legislative regime entailed three successive 'tiers' of land tenure. First a licence was granted and if proscribed improvements were made (fencing, housing, tree clearing etc.) the licence could be converted to a lease. Later the selector could apply for a grant of freehold.

#### A & K Electronics

SERVICE, SPARE PARTS AND INSTALLATIONS

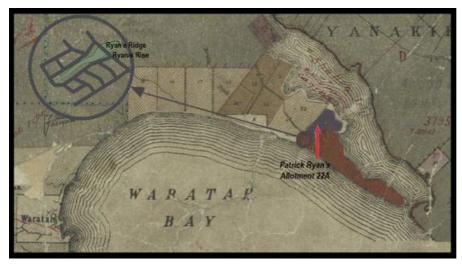
Television — Video — Microwaves TV antennas — VAST Satellite Dishes DVD Players etc

**ANDREW HEPBURN** 

Phone: 5682 1079, Mob: 0419 582 868 114 Station Road, Foster

#### RYAN'S STORY ... continued

A proposal had also been received by the Lands Department that the same block (22A) should be reserved for the establishment of a fishing village. The Lands Board obtained a surveyor's report to assess the suitability of the land for this purpose. The report stated that the "greater proportion of the land is flat and swampy and altogether unsuitable for a site for a fishing village." However, on "the north portion there is a patch of lightly timbered country which extends easterly. This extension is the most suitable site for a fishing village." About half a mile east of the block, there is "a bight admirably adapted for a landing place" and "Shallow Inlet teams with fish of the highest quality." (2)



Map (C1886) of Sandy Point showing William Patrick Ryan's selection (Excerpt from PROV LC212A Buln Buln map 6922), Ryan's Ridge above the 10m contour in green and Ryan's Rise

In 1892, Ryan (jnr) was granted the licence for 22A consisting of 307 acres of land. Ryan (jnr) had great difficulty meeting his rental payments and improving the land. In correspondence contained within his file3 at the Lands Department, he describes that when he selected the land, he was "doing good business in hotel and store business" and had arranged to have the land enclosed. However, business slowed and in 1896, his hotel burnt down. 1898 saw bushfires engulf the area and Ryan lost all the materials he had bought to build a house.

#### References:

- 1. Fitzgerald, B. A Tale of Doomburrim Its Earliest Pioneers of Land Selection. Sentinel Times Print, Korrumburra and Wonthaggi
- 2. PROV, VA 538, Crown Lands Department, William Patrick Ryna; Waratah North; 22A; 316--3--29 VPRS 5357/P0000, 1605/42.
- 3. The Advocate, Melbourne. 18 July 1929 Page 13 Mr WP Ryan

#### South Gippsland Septic Tank Cleaning

Call: Chris Whittle 0427 350 360



Following pressure from the Secretary of the Lands Department in 1898, he responds "I can pay 1/3 of my arrears by the 1st of January 1898 ...I am at present cultivating early Vermont potatoes for December market[s]...if not then I must lose the land...".

In January 1899 and notwithstanding he had been unable to meet his rental payments, Ryan (jnr) applied to convert his licence to a lease. He made a declaration that he had been living on the property for 6 years 'on and off' and had paid approx. £17 in rent. He promised "all outstanding rents will be paid at once." He stated he had made permanent improvements to the land including fencing 3 sides of the property but that the residence was burnt in the bushfires.

It is likely that the Lands Department refused his application as the land was forfeited in 1902. Ryan (jnr) died in 1924 after returning to Gordon in 1912. He was survived by his wife Catherine, three daughters Maude, Mary and Bridget and sons Patrick James and John Joseph

Nicky Walker

#### WATER BORING

New bores - Maintenance Decommissioning

Lic. Driller 239 30+ years experience

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



VOL. 22 ISSUE 2



celebrating





The last couple of months of Autumn saw the Sandy Point Community Centre come to life with three events. On the 19th April, **The Maes**, an award winning contemporary folk band, returned to Sandy with local band **The Stony Six** opening the evening. So many talented musicians played on the night, each swapping instruments and taking turns at leading the next song!



Sandy Point Music celebrated their 50th show with Swipe Right returning to rock the Sandy Point Community Centre. They pumped out hits from the 80s, 90s and naughties to celebrate the show on the 14th of May. All attendees were up dancing all night to this hugely entertaining 6-piece band.

With a quiet Winter season, our next gig is on the 20th of August, as we take a break over June and July. **Rise King Tide** are sure to please. These South Gippsland locals have made quite an impression in a short period of time. This original band will showcase their original tunes. Support act still to be confirmed.

On the 30th of April **Harry Hookey** was support act for Mia Dyson. Harry was nominated for Best Blues and Roots Album in 2014 and is from Gippsland. He played a treat of tunes with his folky, rock and punk style. Dad, Stephen, jumped on stage and confirmed what Harry had said earlier that dad taught him guitar around the kitchen table whilst they sang the Cat Stevens classic, "Father & Son".

**Mia Dyson** blew the rest of the night away with the clearest vocals and music playing skills that sets her apart as one of the best. The drummer, Dave Williams and the guitarist, Adam Donovan gave their all to ensure we received a night to remember, complete with an encore...so we could keep dancing.

### Upcoming Shows



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#### **Sandy Point**

### Art Gallery & Gallery Cottage

33 Beach Parade, Sandy Point



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



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

<u>www.sandypoint.vic.au/enews</u>



#### Tai Chi classes have begun again at the Sandy Point Community Centre.

There are two classes on Tuesdays, at 4.00PM and at 5.15PM. It's not necessary to book, just come along with a gold coin donation, and wearing loose comfortable clothing. Another regular class in Foster is on Thursdays at 9.00AM at the Foster Uniting Church.

The accredited instructor is Joyce, trained at Dr Lam Tai Chi for Health Institute.

"I have been practising tai chi for over 20yrs and teaching for more than 10yrs, it keeps me mobile and I enjoy helping other people. It improves breathing, balance, self-awareness and falls prevention and has many health benefits.

Contact Joyce 0402663055 for further information.



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# NEW SIGNAGE Looking Good!

Over the last two years the Sandy Point Signage Group has been working to renew and refresh the signage around the town.

#### Information Boards in Town Centre

The first stage of the project was completed just prior to Christmas with the installation of the information boards in the park opposite the shops. There has been so much positive feed back about the information boards which is so rewarding to hear.



#### Interpretive Signs for TP Taylor Reserve

The next project underway is the two Historical Interpretive Signs which, once completed, will be installed in the gardens of the Community Centre and will be similar to the existing sign acknowledging all who contributed to the building fund for the Centre.

A grant has been applied for to cover the costs and hopefully we should have heard by end of July.



The **Welcome Sign** is still very much on our agenda but we need to ensure that the cost of this project can be covered by grants. Council has approved the location proposed and specifications as you just can't put a sign up on the roadside reserve or any Council reserve without first getting approval.



#### **Decorative Surfboards**

The decorative surfboards are undergoing a long overdue "refresh". The weather has been against the artist but she has been very busy and the surfboards are nearly completed.

Not a group to rest on its laurels, it has been suggested panoramic signs on the viewing platforms (Main Beach and Ned Neales) but this project will involve Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club, Foreshore Committee, and then DELWP.

It is felt that the signage on the viewing platforms could easily be justified through the Visitor Development Economy Strategy of the Council and possibly, a great way to attract funding through the Council's grant schemes. Also, in relation to the panoramic signs for the viewing platforms, Michelle Jelleff has commenced the process to seek advice from the Gurnaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation with regard to appropriately representing the indigenous history of Sandy Point and adjacent areas.

It has been an honour to be involved with this vibrant and dedicated group but as I am leaving Sandy Point the role of Project Manager will be taken on by Michelle Jelleff ably supported by Ian Youd, Diane Cornwell, Nicky Walker, Trevor Smith, Judy Schrever, Ray Malins, Marianne and Peter Cook.

Di Cooper Project Manager SPSG

#### From the Editor



Thankyou to all you amazing photographers out there who have sent in your best pics of Sandy Point. We all love this place, and thanks to modern phone cameras, have taken shots that have a real WOW factor. Please give us YOUR best shot .... we'll then be able to use it in our newsletter, website or socials, and acknowledge your brilliance as the photographer.

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

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>



Follow us: /sandypointcommunitygroup



# Are you a member? Please join us

www.sandypoint.vic.au/membership

This newsletter is produced quarterly by the Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG) on behalf of the local community. You may use content from it as long as you provide appropriate and proper reference to SPCG as its source. The newsletter can be purchased in hard copy from the Sandy Point General Store and is distributed by email to all members of SPCG free of charge. If you've received this newsletter by email it is because you subscribed to receive it when you joined the SPCG. You can unsubscribe or update your details by emailing <a href="mailto:membership@sandypoint.vic.au">membership@sandypoint.vic.au</a> or by writing to: The Membership Secretary, Sandy Point Community Group, c/- Post Office, Sandy Point, Vic. 3959.



In this edition of the Warbesulisac, you'll find all our news as we review last season and rapidly plan a bigger and better 22-23!



#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### RICHARD TREMEWEN

Email: president@waratahbeach.com.au

Now with a bit of time and distance from the past season, we have a chance to reflect on what went well and what we can strengthen in the upcoming 22-23 season. We are always keen for feedback from our membership and broader community and ask you to provide your thoughts in our brief member survey on the Warabar. The link is included in this newsletter.

All that is done at WBSLSC is on a voluntary basis and we continue to search for additional hands to share the load. In particular, if you can help with the Nippers program, grant writing, managing fundraising events or simply have some ideas on what we can do differently in the upcoming season, we want to hear from you. Again, a survey is included in this newsletter.

We look forward to continuing to bring you and your families a safe, inclusive and enjoyable experience in all aspects of engagement with our Club.



#### CLUB CAPTAIN REPORT KEEGAN CLARKE

Email: clubcaptain@waratahbeach.com.au

After the busy season has come to a close, it's time to reflect on how this season finished

This year, we had 15 members achieve over 100 Volunteer Patrol/Water Safety hours, and one of our members (Sunday Doddrell), being in the top 10% of the state! We ended the season with 5252 total hours patrolled, which is the second-highest amount of hours patrolled in a season in the last 10 years. We also had some huge patrol days, with the biggest being 34 people on patrol on the 26th of January.

This season, we gained 40 new Active, Bronze and SRC memberships, bringing our total count up to 204 members. This is reflected in an overall growth in membership for this year, which grew 5%.

I look forward to the season ahead, continuing to be bigger and better.



#### CHIEF INSTRUCTOR REPORT SARAH SEDDON

Email: sarah.seddon@waratahbeach.com.au

Upcoming dates for our 2022-23 season have been set! Bronze camp dates

- Monday 12th Dec to Saturday 17th Dec
- Monday 9th Jan to Sat 14th Jan

• Wednesday 27th Dec - Sat 30th Dec

#### Re-Quals

• Likely to commence at weekends across November. More information



#### WARABAR



We have formed a Warabar committee and are looking at ways we can improve in the 2022/23 season. We would love your feedback on what worked well and what we could do differently next season. Please help us by completing the 2minute survey HERE!

#### THE WINNERS ARE...

We ran a community survey in our last edition of the newsletter and had a fabulous response. The feedback on the thoughts and needs of our community will assist us in our plans for 2022-23 as well as discussions and advocy with the South Gippsland Shire.

Winners of our \$20 Warabar vouchers for 22-23 season are: Liz McQueen, Patricia Norden, Brandon Mahoney, Gareth Dimeck & Jenny Watt.

Congratulations! Details have been sent to your inbox.

#### CONNECT WITH US





info@waratahbeach.com.au



waratahbeach.com.au



instagram.com/waratahbeachslsc/



facebook.com/WBSLSC1963

**WBSLSC NEWSLETTER JUNE 2022** 

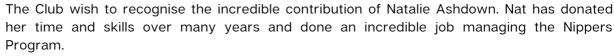


#### WBSLSC NEWSLETTER

waratahbeach.com.au

#### SOME EXTRA NEWS FROM WBSLSC...





Natalie has now stepped down from this role and we are looking for someone or a group of people willing to share the responsibility of running this valuable program for our young people of Sandy Point. If you can help, please complete the following form: https://forms.office.com/r/uWanKxzRdr



#### Marine Search and Rescue at Sandy Point



#### NEW INDEPENDENCE FROM THE CLUB WESTPAC HELICOPTER STRUCTURE

First things first: We are sure the wider community appreciates the efforts of many past and present members of the MSAR unit for their work to keep the public safe. Many regular members of the Club have also done their bit to support and fundraise for the MSAR unit over many years. Building for Growth: The resources to properly run the unit have been gradually pulled together. Since 2018 MSAR have received specific government funding to meet the group's needs for training and operations. In 2020, the Rob O'Brien base was opened and in 2021 a grant was obtained for a dedicated motor vehicle.

Now is the time: There have been moves for over a decade for the unit to have more independence. At the same time, the expectations of the public have continued to increase and there have been some well publicised incidents around the coast which have ended up in the Coroner's Court. Over the last two years, Life Saving Victoria have employed two people with massive experience in the Victorian Water Police to boost their resources in the area.

**The Problem:** The board of the surf lifesaving club have prioritised the viability of the unit over the next 10 to 20 years and ensuring that every member comes back safely. The board has been in the difficult position of being legally responsible but not having the full set of skills to provide the necessary oversight in this increasingly demanding environment. The MSAR group have been looking to streamline communications.

First Steps: Changes were put in place in 2020 for the unit to work directly with Life Saving Victoria who would manage the relationship with Emergency Management Victoria (who in turn represent the Federal Government) with the MSAR unit copied into all those communications. From time to time there have been robust debates over direction but in the main, people have apologised and urged everyone to be on board with the increasingly higher standards and requirements for compliance.

The exciting news is that the Club has secured an arrangement with Life Saving Victoria for the unit to operate as an independent unit in the same way as the Westpac Helicopter, ie, with training and operations by volunteers but with the administration, sourcing of finance and the equipment maintenance all managed by Life Saving Victoria and with the input and direction of professionals to training and compliance. The MSAR members can do what they do best out on the water. Long term budgeting flowing into full funding is an extraordinary opportunity.

Another benefit of this arrangement is the 'grandfathering' of awards for current members which allow the MSAR members to continue their work.

**Recruiting members** over the long term was a critical objective for the Club and having the unit still part of lifesaving gives a readymade pathway for active members and parents to become involved in MSAR as well as active members of other clubs, just like the Westpac helicopter service.

Life Saving Victoria are keen to work with members to finalise the details and talk through the mechanics of the best ways to start working together to deliver a great service.

Waratah Beach SLSC

#### We need you! Volunteer at WBSLC

From writing grants to cooking sausages for a fundraiser, helping out at the bar, learning surf rescue skills to take to the beach or volunteering in positions of leadership, we need you!

Have an hour or two and are willing to donate your time, skills and experience, please complete the following form: <a href="https://forms.office.com/r/uWanKxzRdr">https://forms.office.com/r/uWanKxzRdr</a>

