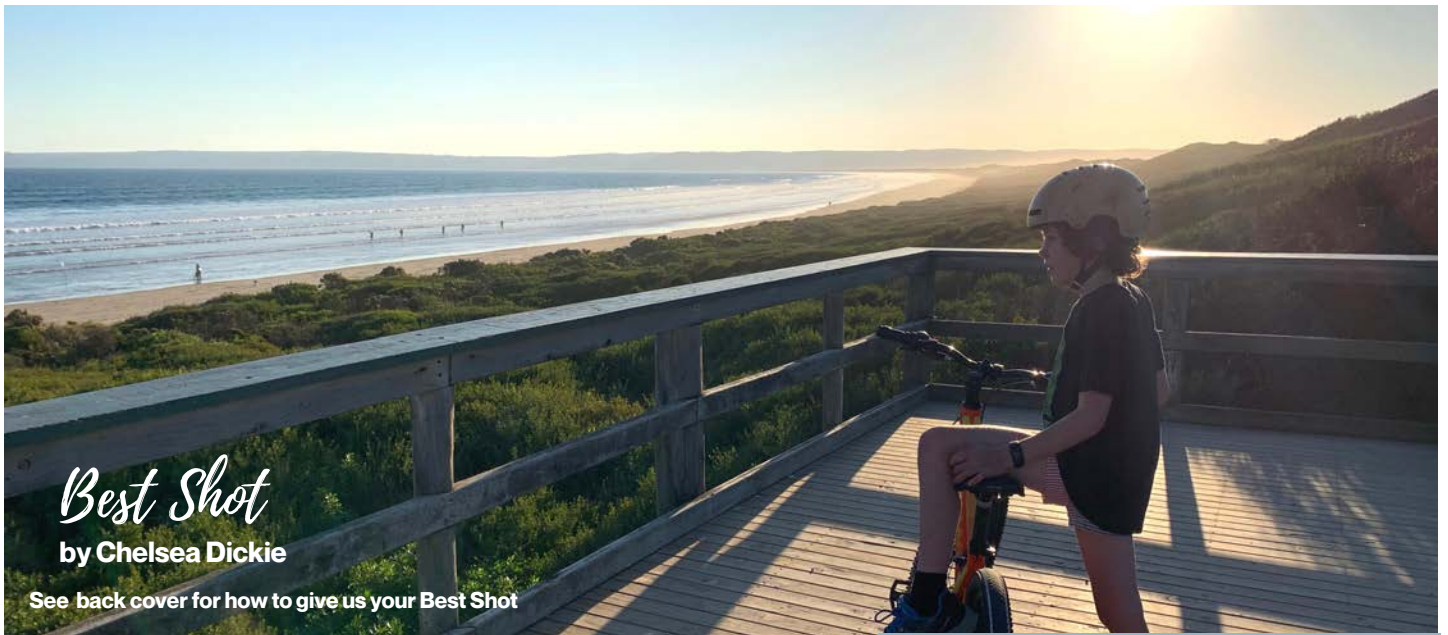


Sandy Point NEWS

Sandy Point Community Group's Quarterly Newsletter



Best Shot

by Chelsea Dickie

See back cover for how to give us your Best Shot

Town Centre Plan

With changing Victorian demographics our town centre will need to evolve to support/accommodate visitor numbers and demands. The Sandy Point Community Group would like to plan for tourism demand without destroying our township amenity, for example, acres of car parking in prime locations to satisfy peak loads.

We hope to work with and align with the Council's [Visitor Economy Strategy](#), which will download from this link.



Currently we have a central town centre arrival point for shops, beach/surf club access, picnic area, toilets, parking, Community Centre and tennis courts. It has one adjacent super lot being the caravan park which helps with safety as it has only three entrances.

Principle discussion points for town centre brief could include:

- Public space needs to expand as do support facilities such as showers, toilets, lawn picnic areas
- Support town business viability
- Beach access and amenity at more than one point
- Investment in shared community facilities, clubs, lawns, showers, toilets, halls, parking, recreation
- Reinforce shared roadway system
- Preferred routes for through-vehicle traffic - design to encourage drivers to use these routes.

Continued page 3

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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sandcastle Competition ..p.2

Easter Art Show .. p.17

Sandy Point Music ... p.14

WiSP Events ... p.13

PRINT EDITION
\$1 coin
 at Sandy Point
 GENERAL STORE

Sandy Point Community Group

SANDCASTLE Competition

SATURDAY
APRIL 16
2:30 PM



SAUSAGE
SIZZLE
from
midday

Categories

- Adult - Individual
- Adult - team
- Family
- Junior - under 12
- Junior - under 8
- Most Creative
- Best Traditional
- Best Sea Creature
- Highly Commended

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SP General Store

Entries

- Register on the day, main beach at 2:00pm
- \$1 per person
- BYO bucket and spade
- Enjoy sausage sizzle from midday.

Town Centre Plan

▶ Principle discussion points (continued)

- Preferred, safe routes for pedestrian flow - different to vehicle flow route. Design to encourage pedestrians to use these routes.
- Clear beach access points aligned with pedestrian flow routes.
- Clear access to commercial premises and community buildings.
- Designated, preferred areas for vehicle parking. Open to considering parking away from central area. Preference is not to have our precinct dominated by parking areas.
- Recognition of bike riding flow & bike parking.
- Strong desire for more open space/parkland with direct pedestrian flow from exiting open space.
- Open access to recreational facilities eg. playground, BBQ's, tennis courts, community garden.
- Consideration of community events in design.
- Alignment of design with envisaged future community facilities eg. skate park, EV charger parking.
- Access for emergency vehicles.
- Willing to consider methods to disperse crowds to other locations also suitable for desired activity eg. surfing to Manuka beach access point, fishing to Ned's access point



Next steps:

- Stakeholder engagement/common vision
- Council engagement and follow up with the leadership team at South Gippsland Shire Council
- Continue briefing of ward councillors.

A sub-committee has been formed to progress this discussion and use the principles above to guide our thinking in relation to any work that emerges. We hope to be able to continue to engage with all of you as this initiative develops.

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SPCG *President's Report*



Hope you all enjoyed this summer at Sandy Point – we did have many wonderful days of perfect beach weather although the easterly winds were somewhat of a challenge! It was great to see the township thriving again and the return of most of the regular events.

Unfortunately, our January sandcastle competition was postponed due to inclement weather but the Foodies and Artisan Market went well despite the understandable reduced numbers of patrons and stallholders. Thanks to our loyal vendors and hard working committee, we achieved another successful market.

The Sandy Point Music event was sensational and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The combination of the two events worked well and our bar was certainly well patronised! Many thanks to the Sandy Point General Store for their generous sponsorship.



See page 2 for details of our Easter Sandcastle competition and sausage sizzle which we had to reschedule from a morning to an afternoon event due to the tides – beyond our control!

Our Annual General Meeting held on Jan 22nd was well attended and current projects and issues discussed. Thanks to those who came along and contributed their feedback, comments, questions and ideas. Minutes of the meeting will be emailed to members and a link available on our new website when operational.

Update on current projects and issues:

New Website – very close to being live! You will be impressed!

Congratulations - to Glenda Scott on the production of her first SPCG Newsletter – great job Glenda! Also, you will have noticed our Facebook page has had a resurgence and we are now on Instagram! Glenda is certainly doing her best to get us “out there” and keeping you all informed!

Town Centre Plan

Thanks to our sub-committee for making significant progress in advocating for this exciting and much needed plan. (Front page story)

Caravan Park Planning Application

The caravan park has been a significant part of Sandy Point since its inception. The owner of the caravan park has applied to Council to subdivide the park for sale as individual housing lots. It is likely that the application will be advertised shortly.

The planning website lists the details of this application.

https://eservices.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/webdocs/Web_Docs/385878/89%20Beach%20Parade%20Sandy%20Point%20-%20Planning%20application.pdf



Once the advertising period commences the process for responding is available to interested/affected parties.

This is a significant change to the Sandy Point township and will have community ramifications. The owner of the land is entitled to apply for a change of use. In other jurisdictions when a change of this magnitude is considered, a community open space contribution is also considered.

SPCG President's Report (cont.)

Sandy Point Community Plan

The Sandy Point Community Plan is long overdue for an update. To facilitate gaining support from Council and other stakeholders in our various current projects, and to advocate for improved infrastructure and facilities, it is important to have them included in the plan. Our aim is to have our goals/projects/issues documented and an action plan which includes nomination of a champion for each.

As SPCG is the custodian of the plan we would like to invite representatives of local groups and community members to join us in submitting a current version of our desired plans for Sandy Point. I am attending Community Planning Network workshops provided by the SGSC Community Strengthening Team to assist in the process and will organize a community meeting to enable us to take the next necessary steps (date TBA) Please feel free to send through any ideas/suggestions for consideration and further community discussion

Community Garden

We thank South Gippsland Shire Council for their grant to fund the new signage for the SPCG Community Garden (see page 11)

Skate Park and Waratah Way

Michelle Jelleff, SPCG Projects Coordinator reported that both projects are moving slowly as she tries to link up and progress conversations with potential pro-bono consultants and firm up a plan to move forward.

Signage Group Project

We are all very proud of the achievements to date by this small, select group (see page 11) and appreciate Michelle's expertise and diligence in sourcing and applying for the grants. We look forward to the next stage with fingers crossed for a positive outcome in the submission to the Public Records Office for Historical Interpretive signs. We should be advised in May/June.

Happy Easter everyone and enjoy the school holidays! As always please be mindful on our shared roads and adhere to Dogs on Beach regulations.

Anne Kinne, President SPCG

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Welcome to Waratah Bay Community Group

Thank you to the SPCG for including the Waratah Bay Community Group in the distribution of Sandy Point News.



We hope that by distributing the Sandy Point News amongst our group we can make both communities more connected and involved in the local community. The Waratah Bay Community Group is a much smaller community. In total, there are around 100 homes at Waratah Bay with about 60 permanent residents.

We have some shared interests with the Sandy Point Community Group such as access to a good mobile network, the development of Waratah Way and engagement with the local council. We also have some different issues to the Sandy Point community, such as access to Cape Liptrap National Park. One of the major events for Waratah Bay is the Charlie Brown Day, held on Easter Saturday each year. Stay tuned for information on this year's events.

We very much look forward exploring ways of working together on shared issues and learning more about the activities in Sandy Point. Likewise we look forward to sharing more about Cape Liptrap National Park and activities connected with Waratah Bay.

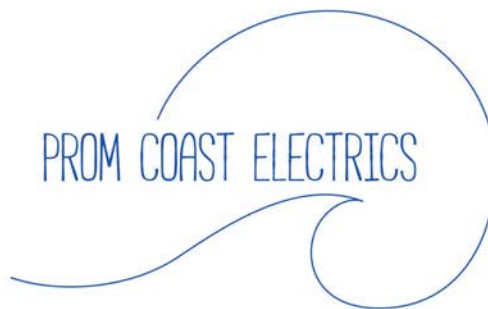
Liz Kindellan, President, WBCG

The community noticeboard is back!



After an absence of over 12 months the community notice board that was on the Mini Golf wall is back for the Community to use. It's now the side of the shed near the playground. It will not be locked, it is there for anyone who wants to advertise items for sale, meeting dates and times of local groups and any upcoming events in the area. So please feel free to put your notices up.

Special thanks to Peter Kinne for dusting off the cobwebs from the board, putting a new backing board on it and erecting it. Thanks Peter, your efforts are really appreciated by the community.



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Thanking our Volunteers

Most communities are like the proverbial duck gliding across a pond, looking calm and serene on the surface, while under the water there is a lot of paddling and hard work going on. Sandy Point is no different. So many people, both permanent and part-time residents, volunteer their time and effort to make this the caring, vibrant community it is. Let's shine a light, in this and future newsletters, on some of these humble volunteers and thank them for their contribution.

In this issue we thank our retiring editor, Di Cornwell

We asked Di about her experience as a Sandy Point volunteer ...

When and why did you first come to Sandy Point?

We first discovered Sandy Point in 1978 when we were looking for somewhere to sail our Fireball dinghy. Shallow Inlet was perfect! We came regularly after that, camping in the caravan park initially and then in 1985 we bought a block of land and built a holiday home on it. We only moved here permanently after we retired in 2012.

Why did you join the Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG), and volunteer to be on the Committee?

I always like to be involved in what's going on and in 2012 I attended the SPCG's AGM, when Neil Shaw became President, and ended up putting my hand up to help on the committee. It just seemed like a good idea!

What are some of the SPCG projects you have worked on, and given you most satisfaction?

I soon took over updating Neil Shaw's new Sandy Point website and then created a new quarterly newsletter that involved contributions from all the groups and clubs operating in Sandy Point. As an editor I loved the challenge involved in getting contributions in time for me to meet my deadline!

I also helped out with Sandy Point's Koala Action Project, a 3 year project run by a group known as WHiSPA -

Wildlife and Habitat in Sandy Point Action Group - which was about protecting our native wildlife and improving their natural habitat in and around Sandy Point. We obtained a \$ 50,000 grant from the Victorian Government in 2017 to do this. A very rewarding project to be involved with.

What will you miss, and not miss, now that you've retired from your editor roles?

I enjoyed the regular contact with other members of the SPCG committee and also the other groups and clubs within the Sandy Point community. I always enjoyed the challenge of setting and achieving deadlines for the newsletter and website.

What I won't miss are the long days and late nights on my computer spent achieving all this!

What advice would you give others who may be considering how they may contribute, in any small way, to the Sandy Point community?

Please put your hand up to help even if you only come to Sandy Point occasionally. You don't have to live here permanently. Nowadays with the advent of Zoom you can be involved and attend committee meetings from anywhere! The committee needs fresh faces and new ideas so please don't be afraid to put your hand up to help.


You will find the rewards for being involved with the Community Group and helping our wonderful little town easily outweigh the amount of time involved.

Reach out to learn more about how you can help the Sandy Point community

You can contact the Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG) at info@sandypoint.vic.au

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First community-owned

Battery storage for Sandy Point



We are very pleased to be able to report that the installation of the Community Centre battery system has resumed. With completion of repairs and bird proofing work on the Community Centre roof, the solar panels have been reinstalled and JohnoElec have completed the final tie-ins to the new battery system. The last step before the system can be turned on is the electrical inspection.

The completion of this step will mark a milestone achievement for Sandy Point. Our first community-owned battery will both reduce the Centre's power bill and provide a place which retains power during a black out. We thank the Percy Baxter Charitable Trust, administered by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal, the Federal Government Stronger Communities Program, administered by our local member Russell Broadbent, and the South Gippsland Council, who each awarded us a grant for the community battery project. We received significant support from the Community Centre Committee of Management and Council Officers during the process to confirm approval for installation and thank the Sandy Point Men's Shed for building the battery enclosure. A great example of our community coming together as a team.

Looking into the future, our vision is for many more private and community-owned batteries networked together to form a Virtual Power Plant (VPP)



The battery stacks and control box in the enclosure adjoining the community centre built by the Men's Shed crew

Consistent with this vision, Sandy Point was selected for a study examining the feasibility of a VPP as an example of an 'end-of-supply-line' coastal township. The study is being funded by LaTrobe Valley Authority and carried out by a consulting company called The Energy Project.



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We thank community members who allowed the study to use 30-minute electricity meter data from their property. The data has been used to evaluate the benefits of solar and battery systems on properties that are; permanently occupied, weekenders, and holiday-homes, respectively. Aggregated data from the Waratah/Sandy Point feeder line is being used to assess the feasibility of community-sized batteries. A preliminary study report is due for issue at the end of March. We plan to run a community meeting once the final report is available so that you all have an opportunity to understand the findings and to ask questions.

Sandy Point Community Power representatives recently met with Indigo Power to explore mutual opportunities. Indigo Power is a community-owned energy retailer based in Yackandandah and classified as a Social Enterprise. They have provided significant support to community-based renewable energy projects in the NE Victoria region and have pledged that 50% of any profits made will be returned to communities. While having an impressive history of being awarded government grants and associated list of successful projects, they did stress that the retailing arm of their business was very tough road to travel. We heard their message and won't be hurrying down the same path.

You may have seen reports in the media about a program funded by the State Government and AusNet (the owner of the electrical poles and wires in the eastern half of the state) to protect bushfire-impacted communities with new fire resilient energy infrastructure to ensure people will have access to power even if a fire destroys electrical poles and wires. The program will see the creation of micro-grids comprising a mix of solar panels, batteries and other energy infrastructure for essential service buildings, commercial and industrial buildings, and households, to provide reliable power supply in all conditions. These projects are a breakthrough for our State as historically the main power supply line needed to be restored after a natural disaster before any power could be conducted along the poles and wires. While Sandy Point was not in the region considered for the program, the potential future opportunity for us is that Governments and AusNet will be able to assess the benefits delivered by these projects, and perhaps 'end-of-line' communities like ours will be next!

Publicly accessible Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers are coming to South Gippsland! Funded by a State Government program, EV chargers are to be installed at Foster, Korumburra, Leongatha, Loch, Meeniyan and Mirboo North. South Gippsland Council has put forward a request for further funding to expand the network of chargers around the Shire and have committed to consulting with us about the possibility of placing one at Sandy Point should their request be successful.

Chris Harvey
President, SPCP



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At the Shed

Quite a bit has happened at the Shed since we last reported. Early in January the builders finally managed to obtain the necessary materials to make a start on the internal fit out and despite a brief disruption due to a Covid scare have achieved significant progress.

The dividing wall separating the spaces used by Marine Rescue and us Sheddies is in place keeping our dust from their boats. The meeting room and bathroom toilets are all framed up and the first fix plumbing and electrical works completed. The septic system should be installed as I write this article.

We have a slight pause as we assess our financial situation and decide the next priorities. These will be the internal plastering, final electrical and plumbing connections and fitting of appliances. We are already contemplating a date for an opening party!



Despite the delays in getting the shed finished, the group continues to flourish. We have 30+ registered, financial members. We 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 <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 spmensshed@gmail.com Or by writing to Sandy Point Community Mens Shed, c/- Post Office, Sandy Point, Victoria 3959.

Phil Cornwell,
Secretary, SPCMS



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Community Garden



The Sandy Point Community Garden

is progressing well, despite the easterly winds, and hot days. Tomatoes have been ripening, cucumbers, beans, lettuce, herbs have all done well. New plants for the autumn and winter period are being discussed.

The Community Garden has provided a contact point for people interested in growing food in wicking beds. Kids also have helped to water plants and harvest food with guidance from parents and the garden group. Others have brought their food scraps to the compost bins, or picked some produce and left a small donation.



Thank you

Thanks to all the crew at the **General Store** who are happy to support the garden by selling our shopping bags.



Thanks to the **Fish Creek Community Composter**, and Margie, for donating composted mulch. Please contact Margie 0488592725 if you have agapanthus flowers, ragwort, ivy, or other plant material for the hungry composter.

Thanks to our sensational supporters **StaSk Cafe** for donating proceeds of \$120 from their Trivia Night. Also for donating food scraps to the Fish Creek Composter.



Join us...

Come along and join us every 2nd and 4th Wednesday morning, 10:00am at the garden beds adjacent to the tennis courts.

And check out our bright and friendly new signs ... thanks to Paul McVilly.

Garden enquiries: Liz 0438 447 667



Wild Activities

WiSP had a table at the the SPCG Foodies and Artisans Market to promote the Koala Survey and get donations including the raffle for the Koala Quilt made by Marg Grumley.

The Koala Survey was held from 8-15 January. There were 49 Koala observations of which 41 were counted in the survey. Through the process we feel confident that the population is stable. We have older koalas represented strongly in the last responses and want to know more about how we can support them.

Wildlife Welfare

On 29 January we had an adolescent male (150 kg – where mature is 280kg or so maximum) Australian fur seal come ashore. Over a 4 day duration he declined in health. The Marine Response Unit and Parks Victoria evacuated him from the beach but unfortunately he died whilst in the ambulance soon after transfer. His story was published in the March 2 2022 edition of The Mirror and reflects the profound effect he had on the community and the direction of WiSP



During the summer we had two possums taken from their dead mum’s womb (struck by a car) and taken to Sue Moore’s Tarwin Lower Wildlife Shelter for care. A possum was also attended to by a good citizen and reported on social media. WiSP responded to an old female koala being down and later she was euthanized due to poor condition and blindness. Four young seals were reported dead over the period.



Sandy Point’s Wild Weekend, March 12 & 13

An information session was held on 12 March. The program included how to be prepared to assist a sick or injured animal. Our expert Jonathan Stevenson took us through what was needed and offered this contact list as part of preparation. Everyone should have it and know the state contacts when traveling outside Victoria.

- Wildlife Victoria 8400 7300
- Foster Veterinary Clinic – 5682 2757
- Local rescuers – Kerrie 0457 562 515 WiSP – Christy 0425 802 669
- 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 Activities (cont.)*

We also met our carers and responders. The important message coming out of that for everyone is if you see an animal crossing a road or a dangerous area... relocate them to where they want to go, not where they were. So important to know and remember!!!!

Attendees heard and saw unpublished pics about the Seal story and the Koala Survey photos and detailed results.



Jonathan Stevenson and Strez the Koala, AKA Anda Banikos

If you would like to support our Wildlife in Sandy Point program please make a direct donation to the SPCG's Koala account:

Bank: Bendigo Bank
 BSB: 633 000
 Acct: 161 432 976

If you want to be on the WiSP email distribution list please contact us on sandy.pointkoalas@gmail.com

Also promoted during the Wild Weekend was the new WiSP Facebook Group whose sole purpose is to share pics and videos of local wildlife.

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Strez the Koala let us all know the importance of the South Gippsland koala and how to participate in Friends of the Earth's SKAT (Strzelecki Koala Action Team) Collective koala sighting program.

The WiSP Flea Market was held on the 13th of March. We had the Koala Quilt raffle, Beanies by Sue, Koala Cards by Leanne and Monica, Jams, Chutneys, donations and private sales including a young entrepreneur, his mum and his mate. Very astute sales people creatively bundled items to make the donations flow. Participants helped with promotion on the day and we had a good crowd attend. Thanks to all. We raised more than \$1200 that will go directly to our carers.

Upcoming WiSP Events

- May 15, WiSP meeting. 9:30 – 11:00. Mange Management Project and other current issues.
- Winter vegetation working bee(s) to be scheduled.
- July 17, WiSP Workshop 9:30 – 11:30

Thank you for your continued support and interest.
 Christy Fejer, WiSP



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Live Music *is back!*



It's barely April and we have already hosted 6 musicians. We were so ready to Rock and Roll when the year started. On January 8, **Kim Churchill, Meg Doherty and Little Oberon** attended the Foodies Market to play on the outdoor stage for over 4 hours. What a ripper way to spend the afternoon and kickstart the musical year for Sandy Point.



Then on January 15 we had the energetic powerhouse of a band called **The Little Quirks**. A very multi-talented group of young musicians that can sing and play a whole cacophony of instruments, including the mandolin, tambourine, drums, and guitars. Just when you thought it couldn't get any better, Abby the lead singer jumps right off the stage and continues to sing, play and delight before jumping back on stage. A knock out event.



On February 12 there was a massive Karbooom, just like a detonator, and the night was off with a bang, it stayed lively and ended with an almighty bang thanks to **The Detonators**. Their music had us dancing the night away outside and came with a bit of light entertainment too which was all part of the great show.



To round off the quarter, on March 5 there was a Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On with **Sun Rising** – "The Songs That Made Memphis". It was a foot stomping tribute band that had us dancing and swinging all night. Almost two hours and two encores later we had to alight the tribute train. A terrific night enjoying live music and dancing away to a ridiculously talented band.



Upcoming Shows

April 9:
The
Maes



trybooking.com/BTELA

April 30:
Mia
Dyson



trybooking.com/BMTDK

May 14:
Swipe
Right



trybooking.com/BTEKX

- BYO Drinks and Nibbles or pick them up from the General store.
- Tickets \$30
- Show starts 8:00PM (Doors Open 7:30PM)
- Allocated table seating applies. Bookings under the same name will be seated together. If you make a separate booking, please ensure that all bookings are under the same name so we know to seat you together.

Many thanks to the Federal Arts Grant which has enabled us to put on these top-notch events to kick start the tunes in 2022.

Reviews and images
by Donna Killeen
donnaKilleenphotography.com

History of Sandy Point

What's in a Name?

Have you ever wondered why Waratah Bay is named after a flower that's the state floral emblem of NSW? Well, actually, it's not! Not directly anyway. Local historian, Nicky Walker, explains how we came to be living and playing by a bay called Waratah.

The Waratah Bay area is part of the traditional lands of the Bunurong and Bratualong People. They lived, hunted and fished in the area for hundreds of years before displacement by European settlers.

Nicholas Baudin, a French naval officer initiated a scientific expedition from 1800-1803 to chart the coastline and record the native flora and fauna of New Holland (Australia) and Van Dieman's Land (Tasmania). His navigators named what is now Waratah Bay as Paterson Bay in honour of Lieutenant Paterson, a close friend of George Bass. (1)



Map from the Baudin expedition showing Paterson Bay. Adapted from Cs109 Bass Strait, PROV Digital Collection.

However, in 1854 the 375 ton SS Waratah, whilst transporting passengers from Sydney to Melbourne, took refuge near what is now Walkerville. A crew member, J.B. Lamond said (2) that the Waratah had passed Gabo Island in a heavy storm and suffered damage to her rudder requiring the captain to take refuge in an 'unknown' bay. When repairs had been completed and the storm had abated, the Captain, William Bell observed that clay was pulled up with the anchor, indicating good holding ground. Captain Bell forwarded this to customs on arrival in Melbourne. The Bay was then named Waratah Bay.

A Notice to Mariners was later published in the Victorian Government Gazette (3) noting that 'Waratah Bay affords good anchorage and vessels may anchor in good holding ground at more than a mile offshore during south westerly gales'. The notice also describes the landmark 'Bell Point, a large broad topped rock about 40 feet high and about a cable [approx. 185 metres] from the shore'. Bell Point was named after the Captain of the Waratah.

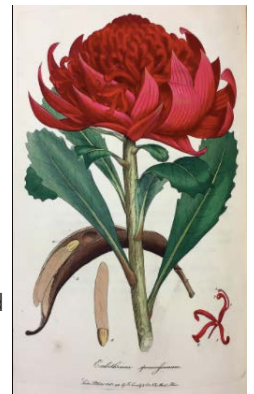


A 3 mast iron paddle steamer similar to the SS Waratah (of which there is no image available). *Flotilla Australia*, painting rendered by John Allcot, Sydney.

The Waratah (1851-1867) was 380 gross ton, iron paddle steamer built by W Denny and Bros, Glasgow. Equipped with 140 horse power steam engine she transported passengers between Melbourne and Sydney. The Shipping Gazette and Sydney General Trade List reported in 1852 (4) that she looks 'by far the finest steam vessel in the colony'. This ship (launched 1852) should not be confused with another ship of the same name launched in 1908 which disappeared off the coast of Africa.

Telopea Drive

Linked to the name of the ship is Telopea Drive in Sandy Point. *Telopia speciosissima* is the scientific name of the Waratah flower, a bright red flowering native plant and the state emblem of NSW.



Hand-coloured engraving of *Telopea speciosissima* by James Sowerby from *A Specimen of the Botany of New Holland*.

1. *Voyage de Découvertes aux Terres Australes Vol 1*, p114. Cited in *The Victorian Historical Magazine* 1911 Vol 1(3), p98.
2. *The Victorian Historical Magazine* 1911 Vol 1(3) p98.
3. *The Victorian Government Gazette* 22 February 1870 no 14 p364.
4. *The Shipping Gazette and Sydney General Trade List NSW 1844-1860*, p87

Fun Facts about Waratah

- The name waratah comes from the Eora Aboriginal people, the original inhabitants of the Sydney area. It means 'red flowering tree'
- The botanical name 'telopea' means 'seen from afar' and 'speciosissima' means 'most beautiful'.

Foreshore erosion control *Grant approved*

The Foreshore Committee had a busy season with the large influx of tourists to Sandy Point and Shallow Inlet.

Our Rangers did a marvellous job clearing tracks together with ongoing Volunteer support which continues.

The Committee only obtains funding for the Rangers from Car Parking fees, which are approved by DELWP, and the Rangers are only employed during the Xmas period.

There is always a question about track clearing that arises every year and that is "Why do the cleared trees remain on site adjacent the tracks"? Well DELWP requires us not to remove any vegetation from the crown land we manage and whilst we would like to undertake mulching this is not practicable.

We must thank those volunteers who are also undertaking localised weed removal although we are actively seeking funding through grants to undertake large area eradication.

Speaking about grants, we have been fortunate to be awarded a grant totaling \$42,000 to construct an erosion control fence along the toe of the dunes on the eastern side of the main beach track going along to the ramp that provides access for the Life Saving Club vehicle. The fence is the same as that located right next to the main beach access, which has been proven very successful.



Additional fencing will be located along the main beach path and ramp area to restrict access to the dunes in this area which are eroding quickly due to wind erosion. This will allow revegetation to be undertaken on the dunes which also forms part of the grant monies. The works will be undertaken during spring.

For now we would hope everyone has a good Easter and remind everyone that the restriction on dogs is not lifted until end of April. So please respect our no dog limitations and think of others before you go to the beach with your dog/s.

The Foreshore Committee

WATER BORING

**New bores - Maintenance
Decommissioning**

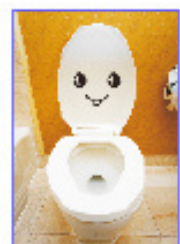
**Lic. Driller 239
30+ years experience**

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



South Gippsland Septic Tank Cleaning

**Call: Chris Whittle
0427 350 360**



Sandy Point Community Centre & TP Taylor Reserve Community Asset Committee

Chairperson's Report

The replacement of the Solar Panels has now been completed, special thanks to Johnoelec - Jayden and the boys for removing the original damaged panels and installing the new ones.

So now the Solar Battery Storage can be commissioned, the Sandy Point Community Power team are hoping this will happen soon. (see pages 8-9)

Installation of a satellite dish to ensure NBN connection even when power is lost has been done, this will be backed up by solar battery. This is vital to the community as Sandy Point Community Centre is a designated "Place of Last Resort".

It's been rewarding to see The Centre being the venue for weddings again and it never ceases to amaze me how the Centre can be transformed into the perfect place for a wedding.



Of course the next event is the Easter Art Show, so come along and enjoy the brilliant art works on display. Special thanks to our sponsors without their support there would be no cash prizes for the artists as all sponsor monies is allocated to prizes.

Di Cooper – Chairperson



Can you help?

Looking for Volunteers to assist with the 2022 Art Show

- to assist with receiving and hanging of the works
Wed. 13th and Thurs. 14th April
- to assist at the front desk or in our Café
Sat .16th – Mon 18th

Please contact Di - 0418 336 690

Progress on Signage

Wow, have you seen the new sign in the reserve opposite the shops. The signs went up just prior to Christmas and it has been great to have so many positive comments.

Thanks to Sandy Point Mens' Shed for constructing the frames and assisting with the installation.

Peter Cook and Trevor Smith then put the finishing touches by attaching the signs to the frames



If you haven't been over to look at the signs, why not head over to see them and enjoy reading the informative history.

Interpretive signs for TP Taylor Reserve

The group has applied for a grant from the Local History Grants Program which encourages and fosters community activities that preserve, record and share the local, social and community history of Victoria and Victorians. This program is administered by Public Record Office Victoria on behalf of the State Government of Victoria.

If successful the funds will be used to construct and install 2 information signs in the vicinity of the Centre. The signs will tell the history of the development of the community (post 1957), and community groups and buildings including the commercial buildings.



Revitalising Decorative Surfboards

You may have noticed that the charming beachside scenes that had adorned the decorative surfboards on the foreshore were faded and in need of a makeover. They have now been painted over and a new artwork is underway by local artist Judy Schrever. In keeping with the original concept which incorporated local children's illustrations, the new design will include several of the much loved animals, birds and flowers for children to spot. Judy hopes that the 'community mural' that is the surfboards will provide an opportunity over time for various artists to express themselves and showcase our love of Sandy Point. Check out her work which she hopes will be finished by Easter.'

New Town Welcome Sign



New Welcome Sign on Telopea Drive to replace existing sign.

Plans are under way for the new sign but this is going to be an expensive project quote for sign, delivery and installation comes in around \$17,000 so our grants guru, Michelle will be sourcing what grants are available. We're going to be approaching local business and groups to assist with funds as the new sign is going to benefit all of Sandy Point.

Di Cooper, Project Manager

Summer Season



Our SCB summer 2022 surfing season has now come to an end. Super Groms have been meeting Fridays at the shipping container, enthusiastically hitting the waves, and enjoying fun times with family and friends afterwards at the BBQ.

Three club competitions were held during the season at Sandy Point and Wilson's Prom. All boardriders put on a great performance at each Comp. The SCB Presentation Night will be held at the surf club on a date to be advised.

We thank our wonderful sponsors: Island Surf at Phillip Island, Serious Surf Stuff at Inverloch, Chapmans Free Range Butchery and Aherns Fruit Market.

The Committee of South Coast Boardriders is always happy to have new members, so please get in touch if you're interested in joining us.

Email: boardriderssouthcoast@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/southcoastboardriders



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As the peak holiday maker boating season draws to a close, we look back on a successful season despite covid related disruptions. There is no doubt that being in and out of lockdowns, unwell and isolating crew members and state mandated protocols all created difficulties getting up hours of training this season, but despite this skippers and crews took every opportunity to upskill and deliver an optimal service.

Over the summer we had a number of call outs and happily none of these involved serious injury. We located a missing kayaker off the prom near the Glennies in very strong winds, towed back a fishing boat from Norman Island whose motor had caught fire on an overnight trip, recovered a jet ski in the inlet and dragged out a sunken boat from the inlet that had caught fire. Waratah Marine Rescue also provided valuable support to the Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club by patrolling the course and keeping recreational craft in the inlet away from swimmers. On Good Friday the Walkerville Walrus swimming group will do their annual Walkerville to Waratah swim and we will be keeping close to provide any assistance if required.

Training this season included many hours developing navigation and boat handling skills in a wide range of conditions that included bar crossings, strong winds, poor visibility, night-time and beach launching inside Shallow Inlet, around the islands of Wilsons Promontory and along Waratah Bay. Always an enjoyable and valuable experience is working in with Surf Club members so both groups build awareness of each other's skills capabilities, and how we can work together for training exercises and in potential emergencies.

A few of us also took part in EMV coordinated radio operation and crew skill courses and multi agency simulated search and rescue exercise in Corner Inlet.

And with a shortage of trainers before Christmas, LSV kindly arranged a First Aid course for us so we could remain operational in readiness for the season ahead (all crew must have up to date First Aid qualifications, Victorian boat license, Working with Children Certificate and be a paid up member of WBSLSC).

From our annual EMV grant plus a couple of business and community donations plus support from LSV we have renovated the rescue base (along with the Men's Shed), installed a new state of the art navigation system and new motors, received a new ute (yet to be branded) and our expert boat repairer and valued skipper, Doug Taylor, is getting close to completing 'Sinkalot', a purpose built vessel that allows recovery training on a simulated sunken ship that can fill with water and be purged as required.

This season we signed up 3 very committed and experienced trainee crew members, Mike Jamieson, Andrew Makowski and Rhys Williams who have put in a heap of time to gain familiarity with the service and quickly become valued members of the team. If anyone, permanent or non-permanent resident, would like to join our Waratah Marine Rescue then please do not hesitate to reach out to myself or any of the group. We will remain active over the colder months and our 24-7 Marine Rescue Service will be skilled and ready to assist as required.

paul.minahan@waratahbeach.com.au

In an EMERGENCY call triple zero (000)



CURRENT CRUISER 2022

On New Years Day the Waratah Beach Surf Club coordinated another successful WIN Network Current Cruiser, the fourth consecutive one including last year's virtual swim.

This year we had 150 swimmers competing across the 500m and 1500m events, many of whom travelled some distance, and a great day was had by swimmers and spectators alike. Because the first Saturday of January fell on New Years Day we considered moving it but decided to progress, we missed some folks but also gained a heap more on the day from holiday makers. We did miss a few due to covid and associated complications (yours truly included) but still had a great turn out.

Collectively through the generosity of swimmers and sponsors we raised a very well received \$17,000 for the surf club, an amazing contribution that allows us to keep life saving equipment up to scratch and contributes to the recently renovated club bar.

Each year we are getting better at promoting and running the event and delivering value to sponsors and entrants.

This year's t-shirts look amazing and have been a frequent sight across Sandy Point this season. We had an unfortunate problem with the timing system and thankfully swimmers were forgiving. For next year's swim we have taken steps to improve this as well as increasing the number of buoys along the course and starting each division separately with different coloured caps. Without lockdowns and having greater forward visibility we will start planning early this year and are grateful for any assistance.

I would like to extend thanks to all participants, helpers, supporters, clubbies, the foreshore committee, the community group and in particular our sponsors. We are looking forward to next year's event being even bigger again, our story also features in a recent history of Victorian Ocean Swims.. we are on the map....



Paul Minahan, Current Cruiser Race Director



Summer Season

Kiteboarding Australia Wave Nationals

Local Champion Kelly Tytherleigh-Laity

The Kiteboarding Australia Wave National Championships were held in Sandy Point on Saturday March 26. Originally planned for Woolamai, a last-minute change of venue due to a lack of wind, saw the event moved to Sandy Point. Sandy Point turned it on with a strong easterly and 3-4ft swell.

The women's national championship title was won by Kelly Tytherleigh-Laity. Kelly grew up in Sandy Point and went to high school at Foster Secondary College. She completed a degree in Physiotherapy at Monash University, and is currently working on the south coast of NSW where she lives with her partner Declan.



Photo: Rob Pignolet



Kiteboarding has become increasingly popular, and with its reputation for strong winds, Sandy Point is a popular venue. The sport combines different aspects from other water sports including surfing, windsurfing, snowboarding and paragliding.

Kelly beat the current GKA World Tour Womens number one to take out the National Title. Growing up in Sandy Point with the ocean at her doorstep, Kelly has a strong surfing background with a history of competitive surfing and surf coaching at local Offshore Surf School. This background inspired and assisted Kelly to pursue wave kiting, where she only recently entered her first competition at the NSW State Wave Titles held in Nov 2021, placing first.

Report by Nicky Walker



196 Nippers registered for our Nipper Program this year, which equals our best ever enrolments from a couple of years ago.

We were thrilled to have the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter visit and talk to the Nippers on the first Friday. They landed in the paddock at the entrance to town; spoke about their services and we were delighted to hear that the swimmer on the helicopter was a former Nipper.



Another highlight was the talk from Matt Momenturo from the Marine Mammal Foundation who introduced the Nippers to our marine environment and how to look after it.

Every year I am in awe of how early nerves at the beginning of the program turn into the confidence we see at the Club Championships, in such a short time – our program was just 8 sessions this year (we lost a session to the extreme weather) and most Nippers do not complete all the sessions. So to see the outstanding development of our Nippers in such a short time is a real credit to our Age Managers and Water Safety Team.

Age Managers

Our Age Managers brought a special combination of leadership, enthusiasm and friendly organisation skills and it is that combination that ensures the success of our program and the special vibe that we all feel. They do a lot of preparation in the background, arrive early to setup and sign all the Nippers in and have ‘stepped-up’ over the past two years to lead the sessions because of our COVID-safe ‘on the beach’ format. They make sure our program runs so seamlessly and they play an enormous role in building the leadership and confidence of our Water Safety team.

This year our sincere thanks goes to: Chantelle Waters, Jo Healy, Rebecca Omura, Tristan White, Justin Friebe, James Habersberger, Ros Lethbridge, Andrew Edbrooke, Trent Waters, Andrew Dyall and Ruth Lancaster.

Water Safety

70 Water Safety including 26 new SRCs contributed over 500 volunteer hours to our program this year. Under the stewardship of our Water Safety Captain, Adam Clark, it was incredible to see the Bronzies, step up as ‘Senior Water-safety’ to lead the sessions including Nathan Ashdown, Darcy Curl, Banjo Curl, Jeremy Lewis, Issy Tremewen and Alyssa Clark.

Special shout-out to Darcy Curl whose leadership earned him a Nipper Volunteer of the Year nomination; special thanks to our adult Water Safety Paula Clark, Ted Clark, Mark Cook and Andrew Ashdown. They all managed a range of conditions whilst encouraging the Nippers and sharing their skills. Our new SRC’s, most having just graduated from Nippers last year, came back to volunteer and give back to the program and we look forward to seeing them develop.



BBQ Team

Our BBQ expert Mike Taylor-Sands handed over the tongs and the ‘Great BBQ Manifesto’ document to Yuki Omura and he did a great job with a new group of volunteers to bring our BBQ to life; cooking over 800 sausages and organising the equivalent number of soft drinks. They had our BBQ ready for the hungry Nippers, families and Nippers team as we marched up from the beach each Friday.

Nippers



Special thank yous...

Our thanks to the amazing Bronwyn Betro who managed all our membership registrations and a million questions behind the scenes; and to the super enthusiastic and joyful Tracey Tremewen who moved from being an Age Manager to becoming the Queen of merchandise and BBQ ticket selling; to our President Richard Tremewen who arrived early every morning to start getting our gear ready and was also there for packup at the end of each session; the wonderful and generous Barb Webb who makes and donates all of our crazy caps which are so popular; and to Anne Dell for her donation.

Nipper of the Year – Alexandra Dyall

The Nipper of the Year is awarded to the Nipper who personifies what it means to be a Nipper at Waratah Beach SLSC. This year we congratulated Alexandra (Alex) Dyall. Alex started Nippers as a Penguin and many of us remember the tiny little Nipper in the over-sized wetsuit, running out of the water and freezing. Now as we watch Alex run out of the water, we see a Nipper who has developed into a great young athlete who is always smiling and giving her best. Alex is polite, friendly and inclusive and we wish her well as she progresses to SRC and hopefully into future years of leadership.

Nipper Volunteer of the Year – Andrew Edbrooke

The Nipper Volunteer of the Year is named after Lindsay Dell, life member and long-term supporter of Nippers. Today the Dell Family continues to donate to the Club to enable the success of our Nipper program. This year we congratulated Andrew Edbrooke. Andrew is a long serving Age Manager, who has mentored hundreds of Nippers, Water Safety and our Age Managers over the years. He is also our 'ideas man' and several of Andrew's ideas have been implemented to immediate great effect, for example the Board trailer last year and the use of laminated sign-in sheets this year. Laminating sign-in sheets might not seem like much, but once implemented, it left us wondering 'why haven't we done this before?' Andrew's approach makes us all look good and he is one of the reasons our Nippers program has been so successful over the years.

Club Championships

It's become a joke now to talk about the weather for Club Championships and to expect the worst. You only have to look back at past Nipper's reports and photos to see just how bad the weather has been. But this year, despite the threat of thunder and lightning, the rain held off and the overcast conditions and a moderate easterly wind gave us great conditions.

Watching the Iron Nipper event was very inspirational. Nippers across the age groups sprinted into the water, with 'flicky' legs and high knees, diving under the waves for the swim leg. They then sprinted to the boards and it was so great to watch the paddling, out and across and then to see them catch the waves – pushing up on the board. Even the littlest Nippers with their one-on-one Water Safety helpers implemented everything we had learned over the season. Add to this the flags, sprints, board, wade events, the Nippers implemented their skills, with a spirit of cheering each other on, doing their personal best and having fun.

Age Category	1 st place	2 nd place	3 rd place	Iron Nipper
U6 Girls	Roxy Nicolaci	Annika Edwards	Elowen Costin	Annika Edwards
U6 Boys	Harvey Weisz	Jack Hamilton	Alfie Hooper	Harvey Weisz
U7 Girls	Alexis Nicolson	Josie Best	Claire Habersberger	Josie Best
U7 Boys	Ned Healy	Patrick Scanlan	Lachlan Hughes	Patrick Scanlan
U8 Girls	Harriet White	Daisy Dickie	Isabella Willcock	Harriet White
U8 Boys	Hugo Hooper	Louis Ingram	Jack Coulthard	Hugo Hooper
U9 Girls	Lucy Friebe	Laynie Henham	Matilda Scanlan	Lucy Friebe
U9 Boys	Harry Carter	Otis Butler	Sunny Armstrong	Harry Carter
U10 Girls	Hilary Worley	Lauren Weisz	Ivy Nicolaci and AJ Henham	Hilary Worley
U10 Boys	Archie Green	James Marriott	Edward Habersberger	Archie Green
U11 Girls	Alannah Henham	Neko Armstrong	Alex White	Alex White
U11 Boys	Peter Sumaru	Wesley Johnston	Joshua Rowlands	Peter Sumaru
U12 Girls	Sophie Waters	Lacey Nicolaci	Kyla Henham	Sophie Waters
U12 Boys	Will Healy	Matt Meadley	Henry Lewis	Will Healy
U13 Girls	Rosie Marriott	Mathilda Chesneau	Alex Dyall	Rosie Marriott
U13 Boys	Lewis Sumaru	Lachlan Cook	Mitchell Clark	Lewis Sumaru
U14 Girls	Curi Main	-	-	Curi Main

Natalie Ashdown - Nippers Coordinator



That’s a wrap – nearly! Our 2021/22 season is drawing to a close on Anzac Day, but we have had a fantastic season despite a few hiccups.

The unofficial re-opening of the social room on Boxing Day saw a ‘standing room only’ crowd that continued to return each evening until the 3rd Jan when covid-19 finally got hold of the club. With a positive case confirmed in the bronze camp, all candidates and trainers residing at the club were considered household contacts and immediately had to isolate for 7 days. Nippers was cancelled the next morning as shared equipment underwent deep cleaning. On the same morning we had lightning and strong winds and the turquoise waters of Waratah Beach had turned to grey murk mixed with white caps. With the bronze camp and nippers shut down, the club became a ghost town overnight.

Cath Greives, CEO of LSV had planned to visit the club on this day. Our club could not have been quieter. Not only was our club devoid of life, but the weather was atrocious. It was such a shame she did not see our club bursting with the usual chaotic energy of water safety getting organised, nippers and their parents trudging down to the beach and the bronze camp training all at once. On a positive note, it was great to show Cath the challenges we face as our facility continues to age under the harsh coastal conditions and explain the need to expand our members' training areas and sleeping arrangements due to the growth and demand to hire our facility.

The Current Cruiser swim was held on 1st Jan and although that date initially looked risky, being New Year’s Day, it was a blessing in disguise as it had minimal impact from the wave of covid that was about to hit the community. Paul Minahan had done a huge amount of work during the year to organise this event and it was such a shame that he could not attend on the day due to being infected by covid-19



We had 142 competitors who all had a tremendous day and enjoyed the cooler waters on what was a fairly hot day. The current cruiser is our biggest single fundraising event raising around \$17k. Thanks to Max for being race adjudicator on the day and all the help with raising sponsorship.

The following week was very quiet both around the club and in the township. It appeared that covid-19 had caused local hibernation and limiting social contact was on everyone’s minds and the change in weather had also scared off campers.

As covid-19 infections began to rise, the decision to cancel the Development camp was made. LSV were concerned that lifeguards and key personnel required as leaders on the camp would be considered household contacts and then required to isolate for 7 days if a case was to arise. Having lost 50% of local lifeguards to covid, there was a concern that there would not be enough guards to patrol during the season.



Once covid-19 settled down and the club returned to normal activities, we were once again the first choice for many to enjoy an evening drink and nibbles whilst watching the sunset over Cape Liptrap. Our first spit roast dinner event was touch and go for a while. 24 hours out and only 30/70 booking secured, however, by noon the event was a sell-out.

The food was delicious and plentiful. Word must have travelled about the quality and quantity of food as the next event sold out within days after the first. The caterers did mention that they ‘have never seen a group eat so much food’. The same caterers have been booked for next January and we will host a spit roast on each Wednesday and Friday from Boxing Day to Australia Day (8 events).



President's report

Covid-19 had an impact on almost everything we did this season. A local singer, Fiona Curram was booked to perform 4 shows, but could only make 2 due to being positive with covid-19. Both events were a hit, and once again it was standing room only. Fiona has a powerful voice and we enjoyed having her play at our venue. We look forward to many more music and social nights over Easter.

Well done to Keegan Clarke and the active members for navigating their way through another season of uncertainty. I thought last summer was sure to be the last that had covid-19 restrictions, but I was clearly mistaken. I believe this summer was worse with several members testing positive during the season, resulting in training and camps being cancelled and the Jan bronze camp being shut down midway through the course. The challenges were noticeable and I'm proud of the integrity and effort applied to each situation. Well done for keeping our beach safe and not missing any required patrols.

Million dollar views, cold beer, hot pizza and spontaneous BBQ's are just the beginning. Next season we plan to have many more functions and would greatly value feedback from the community as to what functions and events you would like to see in the social room.

Don't forget to check out our opening hours over Easter and the school holidays. The social room is open up to Anzac Day and our official season close. More information on opening hours and events hosted during the holidays can be found on our website at www.waratahbeach.com.au and we hope to see all of our community pop in over the Easter holidays.

We cannot thank the community and our members enough for the support they have shown over the 21/22 season.

All feedback welcome and can be sent to: info@waratahbeach.com.au
Please also follow the surf club on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

Richard Tremewen, President WBSLSC



On the 22nd Jan we held the Waratah Beach club championships, including the Dell board paddle and the Cope ski Paddle. There was a good sized group on the day and for a change the weather was on our side. Well done to everyone who participated this year, and I hope to see a larger crowd next year.

I can't recall how many times people from the community praised the work that had been done around the club and in the social room. As a result of this, many people have signed up as new members or re-joined. Having the social room open again and looking world class was certainly a proud moment.



BEST VIEWS IN TOWN!

WBSLSC Social Room Opening Hours April 2022



- Easter Friday - 4pm till late
- Easter Saturday - 4pm till late
- Easter Sunday - 12md till late including live broadcast of Bells Beach Classic from 12 md and BBQ from 5pm fundraiser
- Easter Monday - 4pm till late
- Friday April 22nd - 4pm till late
- Saturday April 23rd - 4pm till late
- Sunday April 24th - 4pm till late



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Sandy Point

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BELLS BEACH MELBOURNE
LIVE BROADCAST
FROM
12 MIDDAY

SURF BOARD AUCTION
BIDDING NOW OPEN

BBQ
FROM 5PM

Easter Sunday 17th April
Waratah Beach
Surf Lifesaving Club Social Room

WBSLSC Bar Open From Midday Onwards

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.

Please ... Give us your best shot!

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