

Sandy Point

Sandy Point Community Group



NEWS

Quarterly Newsletter



Winter edition

Photo credit: Marco Hoefler



Scan this QR code to learn more about Sandy Point. sandypoint.vic.au



Please JOIN US - sandypoint.vic.au/membership

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

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

Art Show 2023



- Photography, First Prize - 'Last Light' Kylie Whelan
- Oil, First Prize & Equal Best in Show - 'Evening near Fish Creek' Harris Smith
- Equal Best in Show & Oil, Second Prize - 'The Artist's Materials' Angus Wishart
- Drawing, First Prize - 'Red Fox' Jenine Pallant
- Acrylic, First Prize - 'Landscape 1' Bonny Coote

Photos by donnakilleenphotography.com

**All Winners
listed page 11**



**Sandy Point
Community Group**

*President's
Report*



Although we have moved into the supposedly 'quieter' Winter months you will see from the various reports in this Newsletter that the SPCG have been kept busy responding to our issues and projects. We are making progress and look forward to positive outcomes. We also appreciate the contribution of the many articles which makes for interesting and informative reading.

Whilst I have been 'on the road' since late March, travelling with our caravan along the coast of SA and WA, taking the long way back to the Sunshine Coast, I have managed to keep abreast of events and provide support to our committee and subgroups - although at times with great difficulty due to lack of internet/mobile service in some of the more remote areas. Fortunately, we have a wonderful, reliable committee who offer to step in and volunteer their time and expertise and share the load.

We are currently in Broome and staying at the iconic Cable Beach which, upon our arrival, was closed due to a crocodile sighted swimming between the flags and then sunbaking on the nearby rocks! At least we don't have crocs to contend with at Sandy Point! I am also quite amazed that many are swimming alongside where big sharks are being caught off many of the beaches. I will just enjoy the sunsets!

We were delighted to catch up with SP locals Jo, Paul, Will & Ned Healy at Exmouth and enjoyed comparing our travel experiences. It always surprises me how many people we meet who know of Sandy Point or have lived in the vicinity - small world!

Although we have had an abundant amount of local seafood along the way – nothing beats our King George Whiting we catch at the Inlet and our beach is undoubtedly the best! After going through the entrance at Denmark on a Lobster Pot Pull tour I also decided our entrance isn't even that scary!

The people we have come across either in the caravan park or towns have been so friendly and always there to help and offer advice or lend a hand – that certainly reminds me of our Sandy Point community. However, I am concerned with the latest trend of decorating caravans with an over-abundance of fairy lights – obviously they are not aware of the effect on the night sky – hope it doesn't catch on!

We have had the misfortune of having to seek medical attention several times throughout our travels and have found the hospital Emergency Departments, even in remote areas, have been amazing. It has certainly restored my faith in our medical system and we are very appreciative of the care and service they provide – we haven't required the Flying Doctor Service but it's good to know it is available especially when we are so far away from home!

I hope you are enjoying the brisk walks on the beach, drinks by the fire and engaging with our wildlife. Thanks for your continued support.

Anne Kinne,
President, Sandy Point Community Group




Can you lend a hand?

Perhaps you can offer an hour or two at a future sausage sizzle or sandcastle competition?

Please let us know if you are happy to be asked.

Email to info@sandypoint.vic.au
or leave your details at www.sandypoint.vic.au/helpers



www.sandypoint.vic.au/helpers

CARAVAN PARK

We await its fate



The fate of our Caravan Park has been an ongoing community concern for some years. This time last year we advised in our newsletter that the owner of the Caravan Park had now made a Planning Application to Council for subdivision of the land into 14 lots.

In response, the Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG) made a submission to Council, and recently representatives of the SPCG Committee made a presentation to a Council hearing on the matter at the Sandy Point Community Centre. Council is still considering community submissions and we are currently awaiting a decision.

Our position remains as outlined below, which summarises our submission to Council. 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. 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.

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 concept diagram below is one idea of how this could work.

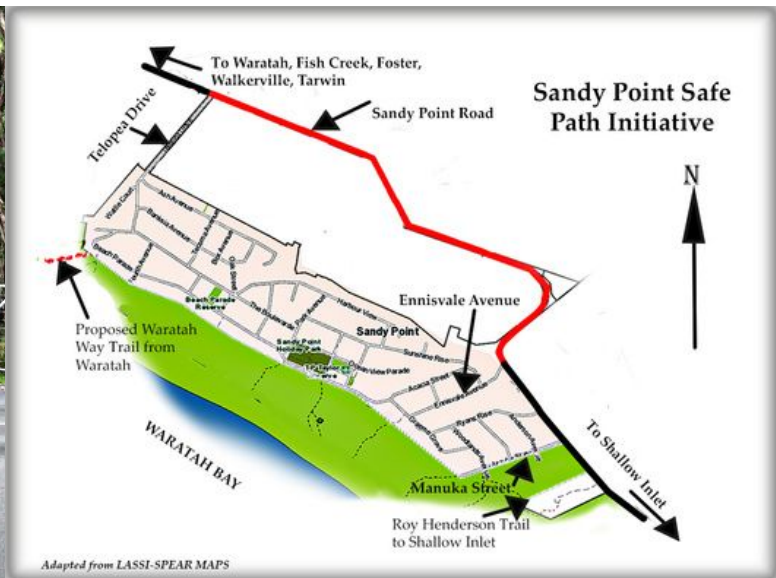
Our view collectively, as previously endorsed by the community, is that the most beneficial location for a camping site is in the town centre, where it provides benefit to businesses and access to the patrolled beach. Its loss, if subdivision is approved by Council and the Catchment Management Authority,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

We will post an update on our website when the Council announces its decision.

www.sandypoint.vic.au/news/caravan-park-subdivision

Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG)





The petition for the Sandy Point Road Safe Path has now been sent to Council

We are thrilled to announce that we received an amazing response from the community. A total of 127 people signed the joint letter, demonstrating their support, and 23 people wrote comments and shared their experiences using this road.

What happens next? After being tabled at the May Council meeting, the petition will "sit on the table" for a month or so until the next meeting on June 28th.

We will post updates on our website as this progresses!



www.sandypoint.vic.au/road-safe
Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG)

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promcoastelectrics@gmail.com



Grant approved! COASTAL BANKSIA WOODLAND PROJECT

Wildlife in Sandy Point (WiSP), under the auspice of Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG), has been successful in applying for a grant through Coastcare Victoria's Statewide Coastal Programs. SPCG acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government.

The aim of the project is to remove invasive species to prevent further spread, and to enhance the opportunity for natural regeneration. Additionally, there will be planting of 200 locally sourced indigenous species that are appropriate to the Coastal Banksia Woodland site.

Banksia woodland was once widespread along Waratah Bay and the South Gippsland coast. Clearing for farming and coastal development has significantly reduced this. The project site is one of a small number of remnant banksia woodland areas that remain in the Shallow Inlet Coastal Reserve.

This particular site is important to our community as it is along the Roy Henderson Trail, which links the township of Sandy Point to Shallow Inlet. The trail is very well used by walkers, runners and bike riders. The project area is a high profile one, directly behind a picnic table along the trail. Its other boundary is Sandy Point Road, with views directly into the project site. Conserving this area of banksia woodland is important to the community from both an educative and a biodiversity perspective.

The project will commence in July 2023, so keep your eyes and ears to the ground for announcements relating to volunteer activity sessions throughout the coming six-month project period.

Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG) & Habitat Group, WiSP





**Senecio angulatus - Climbing Groundsel
also called Cape Ivy***

Flowering late autumn/ winter which makes it easy to spot now. It can be seen on the main beach access track, Ryan’s Rise, Sandy Point Road, and the Roy Henderson trail in Sandy Point. It is an invasive plant that is native to South Africa and is capable of climbing to 5 metres and spreading many metres. It is often confused with a similar yellow flowered climbing invasive plant - *Delairea oderata, that is also often referred to as Cape Ivy.

Suitable methods to manage this invasive climber include hand weeding of young plants and using cut and paint methods to apply Roundup or Vigilant Gel. Always check and follow instructions for herbicide use.

Find more information at South Gippsland Landcare Network > Weed Identification > scroll down to 'Climbing Groundsel' <https://www.sgln.net.au/resources/weeds/weed-identification/>
or
Contact: sandypointhabitat@gmail.com

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COMMUNITY EV MINI-BUS PROJECT

The electric community bus project has gained a bit of momentum. Sandy Point and Venus Bay have decided to continue to pursue the opportunity and have developed a funding application submission. There is a possibility of support from the Victorian Department of Transport which will help to make the project a reality. There is still a great deal to be done before it can become operational. A specific, representative body has to be set up, a committee established and a host of tasks completed to develop schedules, provide driver training etc.

But, should it eventuate, with the bus housed at the Men's Shed and using the EV charger and solar array to recharge its batteries it will hopefully be a great community asset.

Progress to complete the internal shed fitout remains very slow; but we're gradually chipping away at the tasks to make ready for a grand opening. There is no news yet on the outcome of our grant application for funding to cover the costs of the floor coverings and kitchen fitout.

PUBLIC EV FAST CHARGER

On a more positive note, we now have DEECA's agreement to the necessary lease modifications to allow the EV charger installation to proceed. Some minor site works have been completed to facilitate parking for the charger. It is hoped that the charger will be connected and ready for service within the next couple of weeks.



Site prepared for EV charger beside Men's Shed



Image: E6 Ebus. from joylongautomobiles.com.au

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 aprons, caps, mugs ...

waratahinspired.com.au

Our list of community projects continues to grow. It's amazing what a great range of skills we can draw on from our membership to tackle a wide range of activities. If you need some help with something get in touch and we'll see what we can do. And if you would like to lend a hand, definitely get in touch.

For those interested in joining us, we meet regularly, two mornings a week, 9.00am, at the shed, to work on active projects and also once a month (second Wednesday at 7.30pm) at the Community Centre to manage the group and discuss and plan future activities.

You can get more details of our activities at <https://www.sandypoint.vic.au> We welcome new members and would encourage anyone interested in joining our group to contact us by sending an email to spmensshed@gmail.com, or by writing to Sandy Point Community Men's Shed, c/- Post Office, Sandy Point, Victoria 3959.



Sandy Point Community Centre & TP Taylor Reserve Community Asset Committee

The Sandy Point Art Show was a very successful event with over 150 visitors viewing the art works each day. Record sales, once again and all sponsor monies went directly to the artists. The hanging system and freshly painted display stands added a professional touch to the show, and the event was celebrated with a thankyou lunch for the many volunteers that helped before, during and after the show.

We have been notified by Council that they will recommence works on the playground after June 21st. No doubt our local kids and visitors are waiting patiently for the playground to be completed and we are looking forward to seeing it being well used.

The use of the Centre is slowing down after our busy Summer and Autumn, with numerous weddings and other private functions alongside the ever successful Sandy Point Music Group, as well as the proactive WISP group. The quieter time will give the committee a chance to tackle some working bees and sorting of equipment.

We have installed our new stove which appears to be easier and safer to operate, along with a small dishwasher for use with smaller groups. We are now looking to update the computer in the office.

Council have completed the repainting of the steel beams on the North side of the building which were beginning to show their age. Council are also in the process of updating the air conditioners, with one being out of action since November.

Danny, our President, has written a letter of support to the Sandy Point Power group who are working on having an electric bus, located at Sandy Point for residents' use.

So all enjoy our beautiful part of the world during the quiet time, stay safe and warm.

Dot Devine, Secretary
Daniel Millton, President

sandy point
COMMUNITY
YOGA

Seeking expressions of interest for Monday evening classes
Sandy Point Community Centre
\$15 per class

Slow flow yoga.
suitable for all bodies & abilities

Trauma-informed & inclusive
Movement, breathwork & somatic stress-relief practices

Contact Anna Cuttriss
ANNA.CUTTRISS@GMAIL.COM

Register interest in Weekly Community Yoga at Sandy Point

Slow Flow Yoga; suitable for all bodies and abilities. Monday evenings at Sandy Point Community Centre commencing in July. Complete the form [here](#), or scan QR code to register your interest and find out more.



SCAN ME

About the Facilitator ...

Anna completed her 200 hour Yoga Teacher Training in 2017 and her 60 hour Trauma-Informed and Community Yoga training in 2019. Her teaching focuses on the connection with breath and physical sensations in the body and aims to provide a non-judgemental place to move your body

Sandy Point Community Centre & TP Taylor Reserve Community Asset Committee

Advance Notice.
August 20, 2023. 11:00am

AGM

A public meeting to nominate persons for appointment to the Committee of Management for the Sandy Point Community Centre for the term of 1 year will be held at the Sandy Point Community Centre

Details: president@sandypointcc.org.au
or Dot Devine, Secretary 0409011842

20th Easter Art Show 2023

Hard work over the last 12 months by our small but dedicated Sandy Point art show committee, paid off with the 20th Sandy Point Art Show over the Easter weekend proving hugely successful.

New systems enabled orderly receipt of and return of art works to artists and a more visible improvement was the installation of a new hanging system which made hanging art easier and safer with professional looking results.

The decision was made to rename the popular People's Choice Award to the Joyce Crawford People's Choice Award. Joyce was a long-term resident of Sandy Point until she relocated interstate to be closer to family. Joyce, who recently passed away, was a stalwart of all Sandy Point community groups. She worked tirelessly for the community and Sandy Point owe her a big belated thank you for her dedication and tenacity.



Art Show Committee: Sue Stanecki, Tony Cornish, Di Cooper, John Stanecki, Judy Barnard - missing, Geri Wild

It was fitting that the honour of officially opening the 20th Sandy Point Art Show was bestowed upon Di Cooper. Di has been an integral part of the community for many years and though she and her partner Sally have recently moved to Cranbourne East, Di is still involved with the Sandy Point community.

Over the following three days volunteers enabled 150 visitors per day to view the art. Many who viewed the exhibition purchased art. 31 pieces of art were sold from both the open and junior sections and many happy faces were seen as purchasers picked up their selections at the end of the show.

Of course, we must mention and thank our sponsors - without whom we would be unable to offer such sizeable prize money. This year income from sponsors totalled \$3700 all of which goes to the artists. Our wonderful sponsors are South Gippsland Shire Council, Toora & District and Foster Community Bank, ArtWorkStudio757, Bravtec Cleaning, Southern Sass Hair Studio, Atoll Travel, Waratah Ice Cream Co, SEJ Real Estate, Paragreen Real Estate, Alison Lester, Prom Coast Holidays, Williams, Tracy & Associates, Sally Gibson Portraits, Gene Laity, Steve Coad, Fish Creek Discount Pharmacy, Johnoelec, South Gippsland Concrete, The Hand Makers Store, Prom Coast Electrics, Rob Davies Carpet Cleaning, Barnes Fencing, Sandy Point General Store, Narkabundah Nursery, Rob Davies Carpet Cleaning and Brent Sinclair Catering. Thank you sponsors - without your support the show would not attract such quality artists.

Integral to the success of the art show are the many volunteers in varying capacities who support the committee to put on this amazing exhibition. Volunteers tasks included compiling of the catalogue, counting votes for the Joyce Crawford People's Choice Award, welcoming visitors at the door and a special thank you must go to the Sandy Point Mens Shed who refurbished the art panels and plinths and installed the new hanging system. Thanks to all.

Di Cooper, Co-ordinator Sandy Point Art Show
Photos: Donna Killeen



South Gippsland Shire Councillors Schelling, Gilligan, Davies and Darakai with Certificate of Appreciation

This year we received our highest number of entries yet - 172! 63 artists entered the open section, and 16 junior entries were received. Art was delivered on the Tuesday prior to Easter and over the next couple of days volunteers hung the art which was then judged by dedicated and diligent judges.

On Good Friday evening, more than 70 guests attended the official opening. Master of Ceremonies, Mr John Stanecki welcomed everyone - artists, sponsors, judges and Shire of Gippsland councillors Davies, Gilligan, Schelling and Darakai. Representatives of the three major sponsors, Mr Joe Bucello, a volunteer director of Toora & District and Foster Community Bank, Councillors Sarah Gilligan and Mohya Davies and Gillian Carpenter of ArtWorkStudio757 took turns with the microphone.

Award Winners



Best in Show:

Sponsor - Toora & District and Foster Community Bank
Joint Winners

Angus Wishart – The Artist’s Materials

Harris Smith -Evening Near Fish Creek

Oils:

1st – Harris Smith -Evening Near Fish Creek- \$200.00

2nd – Angus Wishart – The Artist’s Materials- \$75.00

Acrylic:

1st –Bonny Coote – Landscape 1 - \$200.00

2nd – Janie Frith – Summer Stroll - \$75.00

Watercolour:

1st – Lynne Muir – Dance to the Nautilus - \$200.00

2nd – Florence Crighton – The Prom - \$75.00

Mixed Media:

1st –Violet Hartley – Gerald the Gang Gang- \$200.00

2nd – Lynne Charles – Alive with Colour - \$75.00

Photography:

1st – Kylie Whelan - Last Light - \$200.00

2nd – Donna Killeen – Prom Cove - \$75.00

Sculpture:

1st- Graeme Anthony – Balancing Eagle - \$200.00

2nd – Domenica Wallace – An Offering - \$75.00

Pastel:

1st – Jennie Pallant – Sky Puppies - \$200.00

2nd – Julie Lundgren-Coulter – Summer Light - \$75.00

Drawing:

1st – Jennie Pallant - Red Dog - \$200.00

2nd Maureen Harley – Crutching Time - \$75.00

Junior Best in Show:

Jarrah Cicero – Hope - \$ 50.00

R/U Best in Show:

Montana Owen – Ruth Wilson at 5 years - \$25.00

Drawing Under 8 years:

Emilia Jozefowicz – The Colourful Window - \$25.00

Drawing 10 years and under:

Dyaran Thorpe-Edwards – Dead Pool - \$25.00

Watercolour 11 – 14yrs:

Molly Clark – Pickle Fun - \$25.00

Acrylic Yr. 9 – Yr. 12:

Jarrah Cicero – Hope - \$25.00

Watercolour Yr. 9 - Yr. 12:

Sarah Dayrit – No Title - \$25.00

Mixed Media Yr. 9 – Yr. 12:

Noah Sheehan – In Memory - \$25.00

Drawing Yr. 9 – Yr. 12:

Montana Owen – The Look - \$ 25.00

Joyce Crawford People’s Choice Award:

Sponsor - ArtWorkStudio757 - \$350.00

Ling Wang – A Young Gallah

Jnr People’s Choice:

Arielle Humphreys – Gurf?Two - \$50.00

R/U Joyce Crawford People’s Choice:

Sponsor - ArtWorkStudio757 - \$150.00
Harris Smith – Afternoon Light
Shallow Inlet

R/U Jnr People’s Choice:

Montana Owen – The Look - \$25



SANDY POINT COMMUNITY POWER



TRANSFORMER CAPACITY RESTRICTS SOLAR FEED-IN IN PARTS OF SANDY POINT

The experiences of a Sandy Point resident have shed further light on restrictions across the Sandy Point electricity distribution network.

The resident submitted an application to install solar panels on their roof via the AusNet on-line portal. The application was approved but restricted to zero feed-in. Dissatisfied with this outcome, the owner contacted AusNet to be informed that there was a note on the AusNet system outlining that the transformer servicing this area of Sandy Point had a phase imbalance, that his house was connected to the phase that was 'at-capacity' and therefore restricted from further solar feed-in, and that an engineering assessment would be required to determine if this imbalance could be corrected by switching the phase sourcing his property. A fee would be charged for this engineering assessment.

AusNet's outlines that their policy for applying solar export constraints is currently based on a 60% rating of the transformer capacity. That applies across the board for transformers up to 500kVA. They use % rating of the transformer capacity to ensure safety and reliability of the network, by preventing potential over voltage issues to rise beyond acceptable limits, which can lead to faster ageing of the asset and breach of compliant voltage limits.

However, they are currently trialling a policy of increasing the rating capacity to 85% across some transformers on their network for transformers of 300-500kVA capacity. If successful, they anticipate to roll-out that policy for transformers above 300kVA across the network (including in Sandy Point) to begin at the end of 2023, when the trial is finalised. This would unlock more solar exports. Customers with exports restricted below 5kWh would be notified.

For smaller transformers, with less than 300kVA capacity, they consider it prudent to maintain the rating of 60%, to ensure reliability and quality of supply in those areas with less capacity.

In the case in point, the resident paid for the engineering assessment which revealed that if his house was switched to a different phase, a feed-in allowance would be granted, but that another fee would be charged for an AusNet crew to attend site to perform this work. We understand that the owner has agreed to this.

COMMUNITY EV MINI-BUS PROJECT

The team leading the project which is advocating for a community EV mini-bus in both Sandy Point and Venus Bay recently met with Department of Transport Officers to discuss the project. The Department was receptive and has agreed to consider part-funding a 2-year trial. If funding is secure, Sandy Point would then need to determine how it will manage the service.

The crew at Sandy Point Community Power
Email: energy@sandypoint.vic.au
www.sandypoint.vic.au/community-power



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PH: 5684 1362

GAS BOTTLES. The General Store is no longer supplying 45kg gas bottles. They are now available from Fish Creek Hardware 5683 2378 or Welshpool Gas 5688 1304.



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 on some of these humble volunteers and thank them for their contribution.


Neil was interviewed by SPCG Committee member, Bronwyn Parry-Fielder.

Dr Neil Shaw, former physics professor, and his wife Mary Shaw, artist, photographer and former dietician and allied health services manager, run the Sandy Point Art Gallery and the Gallery Cottage. Neil purchased and ran the Sandy Point "Internet Café" for several years from 1999 and was president of the Sandy Point Community Group from 2012 to 2014.

Neil, when did you first discover Sandy Point?

Neil: "I had an old 1948 Chev and I used to bring down mates from university and we'd go surfing at the Prom, and often we'd come around here to Sandy Point, just for something different. I was married in 1967 and Mary and I purchased our vacant block on our honeymoon. We were both uni students and we didn't have much money and we paid \$700 for the block. There were no (made) roads and no electric power. In 1976 we built a little cottage, a tiny place, that's still here" (and forms part of the Art Gallery).

Sandy Point
Art Gallery & Gallery Cottage
 33 Beach Parade, Sandy Point



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

Community profile:

Neil Shaw & the University of the Third Age

In 2011 Neil decided that the active retirees in the local area would benefit from a program of educational and recreational activities, similar to the existing U3A (University of the Third Age) groups operating in Victoria. Neil was already active in the Victorian U3A network, where courses were offered by U3A members for other members.

Neil, I'm interested in your role in starting up the U3A Prom Coast, based in Foster, in 2011. Can you tell me how that happened ?

Neil: "For some time I was involved in the U3A Network and I was chair of the Policy and Planning Committee and representing the needs of rural U3As. What our real image is about, is positive ageing. We're 100% voluntary, so all our tutors are volunteers. All our admin is volunteers. We have absolutely no paid staff. You don't get charged for any course, but you have to be a member. And membership is \$55 a year... Let's say now, for a dollar a week, you can do as many courses as you like".

The U3A Prom Coast came into existence based mainly in Foster, but includes people from the local towns such as Sandy Point, Waratah, Yanakie, Toora and Fish Creek. For an annual fee, members have access to as many activities as they wish, in areas covering literature, French language, computers, art, science, history, music and craft and also physical challenges such as table tennis, pickle ball and dancing. The classes are much loved by members and add to the social and intellectual life in the Prom Coast area.

Thank you for all you have done and contributed to our community Neil.

<https://u3apromcoast.com.au/>



Wildlife in Sandy Point

Learn more: www.sandypoint.vic.au/koalas



SANDY POINT LOCAL INJURED OR SICK ANIMAL CONTACT LIST



Kerrie de Cort
0457 562 515
Vanessa Weaver
0409 401 475
Jan Hallas
5684 1045
0408 709 049
Marg Grumley
0427 977 310
Katie Glassock
(carer specialist)
0414 414 055
Sue Moore
(carer specialist)
0429 016 695

Wildlife Victoria 8400 7300

OTHER RESPONSE GROUPS

Local Mangle Management
Christy Fejer
0425802669

Marine Response Unit
(Seals and seabirds)
1300 245 678

DEECA Whale and Dolphin
Emergency
1300 136 017

Dead animals can be reported for pick up via Snap Send Solve app.

ANIMAL WELFARE

This period was marked by involvement with mangy wombats. There was an existing mangy wombat on Ennisvale Ave Sandy Point which disappeared. Our field cameras discovered it had been replaced by a healthy wombat. The residents are still monitoring for the mangy wombat of evidence of spread. Two wombats were reported in Waratah Bay. WiSP was able to treat one of them (and will look to provide a second dose when appropriate) and one was killed before we could treat it. More recently a mangy wombat was reported in Sandy Point and has had initial treatment provided by a WiSP rescuer and is being monitored by a local resident.

A number of shearwater birds (mutton birds) were called in and responded to by either WiSP rescuers or the local Wildlife Victoria representative.

An injured/sick animal response contact list has been issued, distributed and posted. Download or print from [here](#).

HABITAT REHABILITATION

The Habitat Program held multiple working bees to progress the trial rehabilitation project in the Shallow Inlet Coastal Reserve. The area chosen is around the picnic table at the inlet end of the Roy Henderson Track. Ivy has been cut from around the trunks of the infested banksias by the volunteers and cleared from around the tree bases. Some younger banksias have had tree guards installed to protect them from browsing animals.

Tea trees around the ancient Manna Gum were pruned to prevent koala access.

For safety reasons, more accessible paths into and around the area have been established by mowing or slashing areas of ivy and other introduced plant species.

At WiSP's Walk and Weed session on Saturday 8 April the rain held off and volunteers had perfect weeding weather. A total of 20 participants removed bridal creeper, asparagus fern, pittosporum, and mirror bush along the edges of the Roy Henderson Track from the track/road intersection down to the Banksias that are infested with another climbing weed - Dolichos Pea. But that's another project. It was fun to be able to fly the new WiSP flag and use the tools the Council Grant provided.





Wildlife in Sandy Point

Learn more: www.sandypoint.vic.au/koalas

FUTURE EVENTS

1 July - Out of the Shadows Dance Night

Studio RE is putting on a dance night. 50% of the profits will go to WiSP. From 6pm – 10pm Sandy Point Community Centre, Buy tickets here:

<https://events.humanitix.com/out-of-the-shadows-dance-night>



22 July - Whale Watching in South Gippsland.

David Donnelly, marine mammal expert from Dolphin Research Institute and host of Two Bay Whale Watch and Killer Whale Australia Citizen Science hubs, will talk about whale watching and the portals to report sightings. The session will be held from 10-11.30 am at the Walkerville Community Hall. Participants will then convene at 1pm at Cape Liptrap (weather permitting) for practical whale and other marine animal spotting.

August Meeting: TBA

23 September - Hooded Plovers and other Shorebirds

Information Session times to be determined.
Sandy Point Community Centre

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

On April 15 2023 WiSP organized a marine mammal information session featuring Dave Donnelly, an Australasian expert with 25 years of experience. We had a well-attended children's session to start things off where Dave interacted with the children. One participant illustrated the length of the different dolphins and whales by walking out the distance with a measuring tape. Very entertaining.

The adult session was also very well attended. Dave delved into the facts and helped us to understand the difference between Southern and Northern Hemisphere whale migration. Hint: it has to do with land mass obstruction. Both sessions were very well received, so much so we are having another information session 22 July at the Walkerville Community Hall and a practical session at Cape Liptrap. Click here for more info:

<https://www.sandypoint.vic.au/events/marine-mammals>

If you'd like to sign up to participate in the whale migration/killer whale monitoring citizen science please send your details to: killerwhalesaustralia@gmail.com.



The spit roast fund-raiser was also held 15th of April. It was delicious food and we sold a lot of what we had as the weather held off for us. We are able to collect \$650 to donate to Wildlife Carer, Sue Moore so that she could attend a special koala conference held in May. Big thanks to the organizers, our presenter, the cooking crew, setup crew (Men's Shed) and serving crew. Thanks to all who attended and or consumed, it made for a fun successful community event.

- If you want to see or post Sandy Point area wildlife sightings please become a member of our Facebook notice board here.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/364325165518116/>
- If you want to be on the WiSP email distribution list please contact us on wildlifeinsandypoint@gmail.com
- If you want to support our Wildlife in Sandy Point program please make a direct donation to the account with:
Pay id: wildlifeinsandypoint@gmail.com ...or
WiSP
BSB: 633 000
Acct: 161 432 976

Thank you for your continued support and interest.

Two Bays
Whale Project

DOLPHIN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Guest presenter David Donnelly

Identifying
& Reporting

MARINE MAMMALS

WALKERVILLE
COMMUNITY HALL
WALKERVILLE NORTH

Saturday
July 22
2023

The morning information session at the Walkerville Community Hall will be limited to 25 people, and it's asked that 12 year olds and above attend.

10:00 - 10:45am



Marine mammal identification. Learn what marine mammals to expect along the South Gippsland Coast, and which conditions produce the best sighting results.



Morning tea provided

11:15 - 12:00 midday



Marine mammal identification and how to report sightings.

1:00pm onwards



The afternoon session at Cape Liptrap Lighthouse is open to all ages. Bring binoculars, weather specific clothing, lunch and drinks.

WiSP is proud to have David Donnelly, Research Officer, Dolphin Research Institute, as special speaker for this event. David has over 25 years' research experience across south-eastern Australia, and runs the Two Bays Whale Project and Killer Whales Australia, both citizen science portals that track whale migration and movements of dolphins, including the largest dolphin - killer whales.

Register by 18th July at
wildlifeinsandypoint@gmail.com



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sandypoint.vic.au/events/marine-mammals

Girls going places -Ibiza, Spain

by Dot Devine

I had the privilege of travelling with my niece Penny Nevill and Josie Mulcahy to support them at the 2023 World Triathlon Multisport Championships in May.

Many of you would know Penny and Josie Mulcahy, long time Waratah Beach Surf Lifesaving Club members. They are both regular competitors at the annual Sandy Point swim, and Penny has been involved with the Waratah Warriors (bike riders) and the Waratah Walruses (swimmers) for the past couple of years.

A few years ago Greg Buckland when presenting Penny with her first prize at the Fish Creek Football/Netball Club annual fun run announced "that we should watch this girl as she is going places." Well Greg, you were right.

Josie and Penny decided to participate in the World Triathlon Multisport Championships in Ibiza, Spain this year. Alongside the 79 Australians, they both qualified for the duathlon and the cross triathlon, which meant they needed two bikes each. A support crew of Marie, Melanie, Annika and myself enabled the four bikes to be transported to Europe.



L-R: Josie Mulcahy, Penny Nevill, Dot Devine

The duathlon was the first event and with Penny nursing a tear in her calf muscle and unable to run the week prior, our expectations were that it would be a success if she finished. She had nursed the injury for five weeks and thought that it would either hold up for the race or tear more. Josie was keen to represent Australia, a first for her. Results were outstanding, with Penny finishing World Champion in her age group and Josie completing PB's in the run and ride.

The second event meant we had to move to the other side of the island and the girls would use the mountain bikes. A number of rides through the course had them coming home each day just a little concerned about the toughness of the course, apparently the hardest x bike course in the world.

A one kilometre swim, 20 km mountain ride and a 10 km run, saw Penny take out a fourth and Josie in the top ten. On reflection they both thought they could have done better but were quite overwhelmed with the toughness of the course. Not a bad result for two ladies who had qualified with little experience of cross bike racing.

It was an amazing experience being part of such an outstanding and successful campaign and we understand that they were the only two who had travelled over 15000km with four bikes.

No doubt you'll see them round town, running and riding around Sandy Point over the holidays.



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 www.sandypoint.vic.au/gig-guide

Coming Up

June & July - No Gig
 What no gig? Yep! It will be cold and we all want to snuggle in.

August 5th - D'Arcy Spiller and Kate Spacey

TICKETS: www.trybooking.com/CIXGE
 D'Arcy is returning to share a bit of blues, alt and pop. A very talented singer songwriter. Check her out [here](#)
 Kate is from South Gippsland and known for being a sensitive soul. A local singer songwriter on the comeback, and you know how we love our locals.

September 2nd - Minnie Marks and Kathleen Halloran.

We will be shaking our bootie with two solo acts. This is going to be a knockout.

Minnie Marks has her own style with some really slick guitar work. Minnie is a singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, who consistently pushes musical limits with her mind-blowing guitar wizardry and her powerful voice, that roars out her truth through songs, as if her own life depended on it. Fans agree and consequently she took out the 'People's Choice Award' at both Blues At Bridgetown and Nannup Music Festival, plus earned the winning place of 'Best Guitarist' for the Open Arms Festival competition as well as winning the world renowned 'Bluesfest Busking Competition'.

Kim Churchill says "she plays guitar like nothing I've ever seen before, she sings like Janis Joplin, she's going to blow the world apart."

Certainly, she will blow Sandy Point Music apart. Check out this link. <https://youtu.be/MMbNuK2allw>

Kathleen Halloran has a diverse array of skills making her one of the countries most exciting and in demand upcoming musicians. As a guitarist for Kate Ceberano, Kathleen tours and performs all around the country. She's performed with the likes of Felix Riebl, Iva Davies, William Barton, Jade MacCrae, Jimi Hocking and Darren Middleton to name a few and has performed at the 2023 Melbourne Guitar show, Crossroads Guitar Festival, The Melbourne International Jazz Festival, to name a few. Kathleen is currently working on her debut album which is set to showcase her skills as a guitarist, vocalist and songwriter.

See for yourself <https://youtu.be/6YM1b1XKVuE>

We will be on the dance floor for sure. Can't wait!



Images supplied



- AUGUST 5 - D'ARCY SPILLER AND KATE SPACEY
- SEPTEMBER 2 - MINNIE MARKS AND KATHLEEN HALLORAN
- OCTOBER 7 - AUNTY BLUE
- NOVEMBER 4 - MEKL (FORMERLY MISS EILEEN & KING LEAR)





facebook.com/sandypointmusic

email: sandypointmusic@gmail.com

www.sandypoint.vic.au/gig-guide

SANDY POINT MUSIC



Looking Back

On 15th April we had Matt Joe Gow and Ally Row.

Ally Row indeed reminded us how exceptional the talent is in Gippsland. The indie folk duo, who write heartfelt songs, delivered them pitch perfect with an infectious energy.

Matt Joe Gow trio had us hooked and dancing away to their distinctive rhythmic style that took us to the end of the night with an electric bang and a mock fireside session when the lights went out, following a song he dedicated to his mother. The whole town blacked out, so electrifying was the music!

At Sandy Point Music the show always goes on especially when you have such great sports like Matt Joe Gow and his band who literally just shrugged their shoulders and played in the dark without amps, mics, lighting and sound.



How Good are Your Chef Skills?

Sandy Point Music are looking for some help in preparing a meal for our visiting artists. We're hoping to find some volunteers to help on a rostered basis to prepare a simple meal for our musicians. SPM will manage contact with artists and cover the costs of ingredients.

So in return for a ticket to the gig are you willing to cook up a storm?

Let us know
sandypointmusic@gmail.com



On 27th May - The Soutlanas

It was great to finish up the Autumn season on the dance floor and who better to provide it than the Soutlanas. Just the tonic!

The seven-piece band from Gippsland had us on our feet quickly and even those not normally seen dancing joined the Ministry of Silliness, on the dance floor.

Between the brass trio, the drums, bass, guitar and keyboard the guys kept us on the floor ensuring a terrific night with brilliant mastery of their instruments and music sets.

Words and SPM gig photography by donnakilleenphotography.com

Early Schooling in Sandy Point



Photo: Ennisvale house

Learn more: sandypoint.vic.au/history

The children of the early settlers in Sandy Point were educated initially by their parents in their homes. However, by 1919 there were ten children between the ages of 4 and 14 living in Sandy Point and the community successfully petitioned the Education Department for a school and teacher.

The Sandy Point State School No. 3986 came into being on 11 February 1919 and a head teacher (Mr Alexander King) was temporarily appointed.

Initially the Education Department rented a room from Evelyn and Charles Pilkington in their home 'Ennisvale'. Classes were conducted here until the school was built. The teachers also boarded at Ennisvale.

Construction of the school itself, on a large block near what is now 31 Ash Avenue, was commenced in 1920 with the Education Department contributing £30 in lieu of rent towards the cost of materials. The parents contributed £70 and did the actual building. Despite delays with the delivery of furniture and requisites, the school building was opened in July 1921.

Vi Pilkington in her memoir *South of Dividing Creek* wrote that the school was:

"... a simple structure of weatherboard, unlined, malthoid roof cover, entrance porch and a row of windows looking east into the thick green bush. Many teachers served that little bush school and taught the brood of Pilkingtons, and one Griffin. There were play times of riotous imagination and energy in the bush and a 40 acre paddock as a playground."

The first permanent teacher was Louisa O'Kelly. A series of other teachers were appointed over the years the school remained open, the last being Margaret Ebert who finished when the school closed in 1928.

Initially the Education Department did not consider that the number of enrollments at the school warranted a full-time teacher so, much to the dissatisfaction of the parents, it was decided that a teacher would be appointed to work across two schools, teaching at both the Sandy Point and Waratah North schools.



Children on the beach with their teacher c.1923

The Waratah North School was located approximately 9 miles from the site of the Sandy Point School. Initially it was decided that the Waratah School should hold classes on 3 days a week and Sandy Point on the other two. The number of days the schools would hold classes was reversed when the enrollment numbers changed. The teacher would travel by horse between the schools. It is not clear if the children were ever transported between the two schools, but it seems unlikely. They were more likely given work to do at home by the teacher.

Due to a declining number of students, on 25th May 1927 the Department announced that the school would be closed and the remaining students were to be educated by correspondence.

The parents expressed their dissatisfaction with this arrangement, pointing out in a letter that the nearest other schools that children could attend were Waratah Bay which was nine miles away and Fish Creek, which was 13 miles away. They also argued in the letter to the Department that:

"... education by correspondence requires supervision by parents and the vast amount of work and the multifarious duties imposed upon the parents at Sandy Point owing to their financial position render it impossible for them to give any reasonable supervision to the method of education suggested. The fathers are out working from daylight till dark and the mothers have got to attend to all the various matters appertaining to the households and owing to the distance from the nearest centre, bread and other food is not obtainable in the ordinary way and has to be made by the mothers."

Early days Schooling (cont.)

The parents managed to gain the support from the local MP, Mr G.L. Davis MLA and were able to convince the Department to keep the school open until the end of the year.

When the school finally closed on 18 January 1928 there were only 3 students of primary school age left. After the closure of the Sandy Point school, the building was taken down and materials sold off for re-use. Unfortunately we don't have any photos of the school when it was in use.

Children were either taught once more by their parents or sent to live with relatives or family friends in the bigger towns like Leongatha or Melbourne. This provided greater educational opportunities and enabled them to complete their schooling.

A school bus service commenced in the early 1950s allowing children from smaller towns like Sandy Point to attend schools in Fish Creek and Foster. This service continues to this day.



The site of the Sandy Point State School at 31 Ash Avenue. There are still some remaining large pine trees and a plaque marking the school site erected by the community in recent times.

By Di Cornwell, Virginia Pilkington, Nicky Walker

 **Kim Pammer**
Garden Design

kimpammer@gmail.com
0488992779

Profile
Kim grew up in rural Victoria where much of her childhood was spent exploring the bush and enjoying the freedom of living in the country. As a graduate from Burnley Horticultural College, Melbourne University, her love of the outdoors is reflected in her design work, where she aims to create spaces that are not only beautiful but encourage a connection with nature and are individual to each situation. She mainly uses natural materials and plants suited to the local conditions. The outcome is a garden that not only meets the clients' needs, but also has meaning and helps create a 'sense of place.'




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Sandy Point Community
GARDEN

Our wicking beds are looking good considering the cold weather and heaps of rain.

Juneen Schulz, community garden 'guru', has visited the garden, offered advice on what to plant, and was also very impressed with the quality of the soil and worms. Thanks to all the community, and also the enthusiastic holiday visitors who are providing food for our compost.

Just a reminder that tomato plants and potato plants spread fungal disease, so avoid adding these to the compost. Thanks also to Margie and her compost helpers at Fish Creek for their compost juice (\$5 bottle) which helps our plants to thrive. Thanks lastly to our Sandy Point garden team.

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

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On the morning of Easter Saturday it looked like the weather was going to spoil Joan and Lindsey's last hurrah, and there was even talk of cancelling the event, but Joan's optimism won out, and the event went ahead, despite the strong wind and occasional shower.

Our thanks go to Joan and Lindsey for many years of fun!

Of course everyone still turned up for the sandcastle competition and the races were run, the band played and sausages were consumed enthusiastically. Everyone had lots of fun, especially the kids, which is the most important thing.

The volunteers did a great job and everything ran smoothly. Joan and Lindsey wowed the crowd with a celebratory egg and spoon lap, and there was an air of celebration, along with a little sadness. Our thanks go to Joan and Lindsey for many years of fun!

Liz Kindellan, Waratah Bay Community Group



Organisers Joan Newman and Lindsey Williams,
with helpers Neil and Marge Arnup.
L-R: Joan, Neil, Lindsey, Marge

Friends of the Corner Inlet Libraries

BOOK SALE

Foster War Memorial Arts Centre
Friday July 7, 9am - 4pm
Saturday July 8, 9am - 1:30pm

For more information contact Liz Kindellan
0448 256 193

WOMBATS IN OUR (THEIR) BACKYARDS

WILL'S STORY

as told by the human owner
of Will's backyard



Over the recent long weekend, an intruder arrived in my backyard ... actually I should say, in Will's backyard.

Will is a young wombat known to roam regularly around Manuka St, often grazing in a backyard containing a juicy patch of grass near chooks sleeping in their shed, and an old burrow useful as a bolt hole for rapid retreat if needed, and sleeping.

Recently Will was noticed grazing during the day for the first time, on close inspection a rapidly advancing case of mange was recognised by widespread thickened skin, loss of fur and scabs on its face. Untreated, mange infection overwhelms a wombat causing extreme suffering from unbearable itch, blindness and deafness, till death inevitably results. Unusual thirst and a voracious appetite require the wombat to graze 12-14 hours per day in an effort to obtain adequate nutrition to survive the infection- Will became rapidly emaciated once winter cold set in.

Will's intruder on the King's Birthday weekend was a healthy adult wombat that had been temporarily displaced from its own backyard home when humans (who thought **they** owned the place) and their dogs, arrived at Sandy Point. For much of the year this solitary wombat freely roams its territory in the township, grazing on native perennial grasses between 2 to 4 hours each night, retiring at dawn to sleep in one of its numerous burrows so rarely observed by humans. During the long weekend on a moonless night, when many backyards were occupied, it explored unfamiliar wombat-worn paths looking for food outside its own territory, following the scent of other wombats and piles of cube-shaped scats left as strategic messages along regular routes. It had to go through and under unfamiliar fences inconveniently placed in a regular design separating the humans' sleeping places oddly built above ground, so vulnerable to bushfire and extremes of weather.

The arrival of this intruder had an impact on how Will's mange was treated. His initial treatment had been applied on unaffected skin along his back, using the 'pole and scoop': This method allows a volunteer to creep up unnoticed then apply solution from a distance causing minimal stress.

Wombat mange is 100% curable if treatment starts early and continues till mange is eradicated. Most adult wombats are treated in the wild since captivity causes extreme stress in adult wombats; if they survive it is then difficult to safely return them to the wild since existing wombat territories are fiercely defended.

Mange Management supplies treatment kits to volunteers, including 'burrow flaps' which are set up along wombat pathways, under fences and at burrow openings; when the flap is pushed open solution is dispensed along the back of the wombat traveling beneath, again minimising stress from ongoing treatment. While the neighbouring wombat was intruding into Will's patch, Cydectin, used in dogs and cattle and known to be safe in wombats, was chosen for further treatment via burrow flaps to avoid possible toxicity. Landcare supplied field cameras for monitoring.

Will's treatment is ongoing, the neighbouring displaced wombat returned to its own territory when the humans went home, and we are alert for more wombats grazing for lengthy periods during the day since that can be a sign of mange infection. When this article was written 2 more young wombats had been reported, one healthy and one with early mange, also treated. The total number of wombats living in Sandy Point, and the number infected with mange is unknown, nor how many have succumbed to mange unnoticed. The best we can do is attempt to relieve suffering of individual wombats by recognising unusual wombat behaviour and reporting any suspicion of mange to MangeManagement (0431 600 125) who arrange response by local volunteers and supplies treatment kits to landowners.

REPORT A WOMBAT

Use this online form to report a wombat which may have mange....

<https://mangemanagement.org.au/report-a-wombat/>

or phone: 0431 600 125

LEARN MORE - How To HELP.

<https://mangemanagement.org.au/>

WOMBATS IN OUR (THEIR) BACKYARDS

WILL'S STORY (CONT.)

as told by the human owner
of Will's backyard



Will's now free-ranging with the chooks that initially had set up a loud alarm alerting me each time Will arrived during the day, thus helping to deliver the first treatments.

They're used to each other now so it's a surprise whenever I glance out my kitchen window to unexpectedly see a scabby little wombat cruising around with the chooks. It's still completely wild so it's a privilege to be able to share a wombat's world while hopefully improving its chance of survival, albeit only because Will is so desperately unwell.

Will has not yet become part of the chook's pecking order although these chooks do chase rabbits and sparrows, pigeons, blackbirds etc which enter their space stealing their food, so I'm surprised how casual they've become since Will doesn't behave anything like a chook.

By Wendy Hayes



To see a video of Will free-ranging with the chooks, go to sandypoint.vic.au/our-place/will

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Solar storms and dancing ladies

AURORA AUSTRALIS

Image created: A.I.

An aurora at its best can be a spectacular display of pulsating lights and fluoro colours in the night sky. Sometimes called Lady Aurora, or the "lady who dances", our aurora is the Aurora Australis, also called the Southern Lights, whereas in the northern hemisphere, the Northern Lights are the Aurora Borealis.

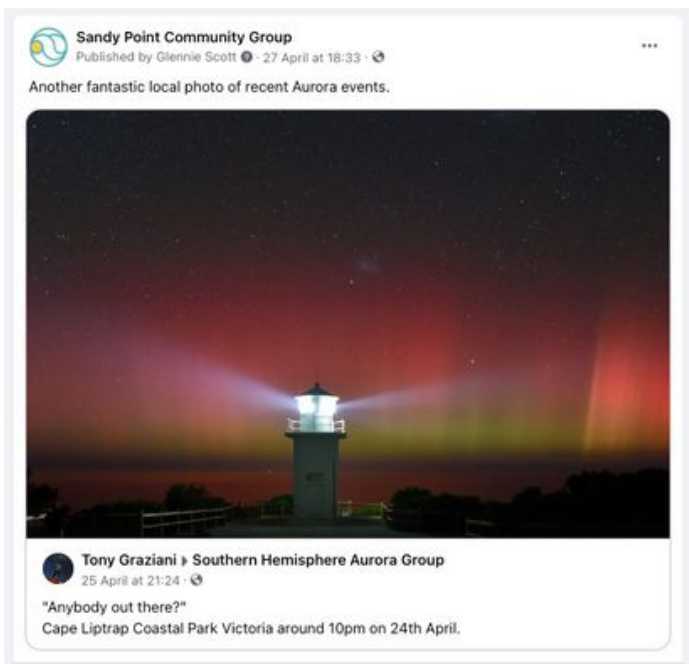
In April this year we were treated to an aurora event that was visible across the southern coastal region of Victoria. In particular, the night of Anzac Day eve put on a display that was witnessed and photographed by many. Photos taken in and around Sandy Point appeared on social media, such as this one taken at Cape Liptrap lighthouse by Tony Graziani.

Although most visible at the poles where they occur overhead, further away the aurora lights may be visible closer to the horizon. To see them with naked eyes is one of nature's rare treats. If you are aurora chasing you need to be alert to favourable space weather conditions. You also need clear skies without cloud cover here on Earth, as well as dark skies without full moon or light pollution. Often the lights can be seen more vividly through a camera using long exposure on a tripod, and even using a phone camera on night setting.



Video: BOM Weather Guide: Catching the Aurora <https://youtu.be/OxUF82rVjE>

An aurora occurs when increased sun activity, such as solar flares, creates solar wind that carries charged particles towards Earth. This is called a coronal mass ejection (CME). Our planet's magnetic field directs these particles north and south towards the poles where they collide with atoms in our atmosphere, creating the glowing colours - reds, greens and yellows from oxygen, blues, pinks and purples from nitrogen. This short video from the BOM gives a more detailed and scientific explanation. *Ask the Bureau: What is an aurora?* <https://youtu.be/FpLd20 htF8>



Original Facebook post by Tony Graziani

www.facebook.com/groups/SouthernHemisphereAuroraGroup/

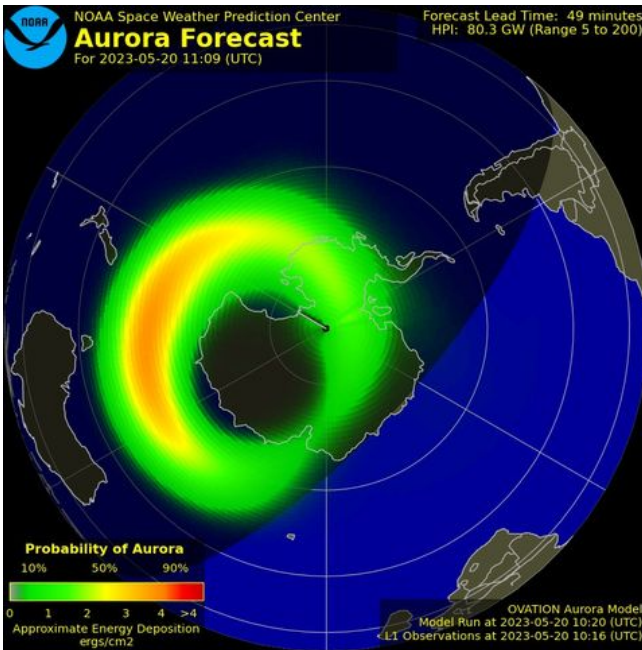
The Southern Lights are mostly able to be seen further south, in Tasmania and Antarctica. However, when the aurora is very active, our location in Sandy Point makes us one of the best mainland locations to view it. This is due to our proximity to the most southerly point of mainland Australia (Wilson's Prom), to our valued dark sky status, and our coastal view towards the south, unimpeded by light pollution.

How do you know when to look to the night sky to see an aurora? The answer is "It's not easy!". Astronomers are predicting that the sun will be going through the peak of its natural 11 year cycle of activity over the next two years, resulting in greater likelihood of aurora events. When attempting to predict an aurora event, you can check the geomagnetic data sets. For our location look for Kaus (not Kp) =>5, Bz <0, solar wind speed >400km/s. Detailed data and graphs can be found at the Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre (ASWFC), Bureau of Meteorology. <https://www.sws.bom.gov.au/Aurora>. There are also apps such as the Glendale App from the UK, which now covers Australasia. <https://aurora-alerts.uk/>

continued ...

Alternatively, you can get alerts from others who are constantly analysing the data for you.

- Sign up to receive email alerts of possible auroras from ASWFC Aurora Alerts at <http://listserver.ips.gov.au/mailman/listinfo/ips-aurora-alert>.
- Or go to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (US) and run the 30 - 90 minute forecast tool for the Southern Hemisphere. See sample results shown below. www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/aurora-30-minute-forecast



The coloured 'donut' indicates the area where the aurora is actually overhead - the range of visibility will extend beyond this depending on the intensity.

- If you're a Facebook user, groups such as Southern Hemisphere Aurora Group or Aurora Hunters Victoria will have a flurry of posts when conditions get exciting.
- And be sure to follow us for any tip-offs on www.facebook.com/SandyPointCommunityGroup

Good luck with your aurora hunting! Whatever happens, remember to enjoy gazing at the star filled night sky, the Milky Way, the awesome sunset beyond Cape Liptrap, or the magnificent dawn over Wilson's Prom - all hard to beat, with or without an aurora. All of these wonders are good reasons to value and retain our dark night sky in Sandy Point.


Please join us to support our advocacy for minimal and appropriate public lighting, and opposition to light pollution in Sandy Point. If you're not already a member of the Sandy Point Community Group, go to sandypoint.vic.au/membership to select either individual or family membership. A minimal annual membership fee ensures that we can continue to fight for the Sandy Point we all love.

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Waratah Beach SLSC

CELEBRATING OUR MEMBERS

I certainly feels like winter has arrived and - apart from a few very brave souls still tackling an early swim - the beach has changed in a few short months.

While the club is quieter, our wonderful members are as busy as ever. In this update, we have the pleasure of celebrating some of the familiar faces of the club.

LSV VALUING VOLUNTEERS

The Live Saving Victoria annual 'Valuing Volunteers' awards were celebrated recently, and we were delighted to see so many of our WBSLSC members recognised for their volunteer efforts across the 2022/2023 lifesaving season.

Eight of our active members dedicated over 100+ patrol hours over the summer, an incredible feat and we congratulate and thank:

Hamish Fitzgerald
 Sunday Doddrell
 Jack Kennedy
 Jameson Trainor
 Isabella Tremewen
 Oliver Wischer
 Thomas Murray
 Thomas Woods-Mill

SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO LIFESAVING SERVICES

Jack Kennedy (below) was one of 3 people across the state acknowledged for significant contributions to Lifesaving Services. Jack's award is a fitting recognition of his dedication to the WBSLSC, the Australian Lifeguard Service, State RWC (jetski) service, the MSAR, lifesaving communications, and operations support within the Bass district.

The club is incredibly proud of Jack's achievements and his leadership at the club and beyond.





KINGS BIRTHDAY HONOURS

We celebrate and congratulate current board director Natalie Wischer who recieved an OAM as part of the Kings Birthday Honours.

Natalie was awarded her OAM for service to the community, particularly to people living with diabetes.

We are ever impressed with Natalie's capacity to dedicate so much of herself to the many aspects of her life and work. At the WBSLSC, Natalie keeps things running in the background and is always one to jump in and help with any role that needs filling.

A most deserved recognition Natalie, congratulations!



Natalie Wischer OAM

VOLUNTEER WITH US

With expanding numbers, a growing nippers program, and many more community activities on the calendar - we are calling for volunteers again as we head quickly towards the 2023/24 season.

If you have an hour, a day or a skill that might come in handy around the club - please get in touch!

We rely completely on volunteers and know that many hands make light work!



IRB Carnival at Anglesea



Presentation Night 2023



IRB RACING

As we start to move into winter, the IRB racing season kicks off. Driven by our active members, a team was re-established and have put in the hard yards training over the past few months in all conditions.

The team made the long journey around to the hosting clubs each weekend to refine their skills, and had some excellent results.

This is a terrific series of events and is critical in building the capability of our active members so that they are ready to patrol when the summer season returns.

Well done to the team, officials, managers and trusty support crews who gave up their weekends to support the team.



@patrickmanning
IRB Training at Shallow Inlet

IRB racing at Anglesea





Sandy Point
Community Group

... just a few of our

ACHIEVEMENTS



beach toilets



foodies markets



boardwalk benchseat



playground long slide



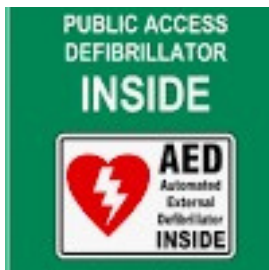
community garden



beach wheelchair



information signage



public defibrillator

Please
JOIN US



sandcastle competitions



WWW.SANDYPOINT.VIC.AU/MEMBERSHIP

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



Sandy Point Community Group

JOIN / RENEW

Start or Renew your SPCG Membership

Your SPCG membership or renewal may be paid by credit card at www.sandypoint.vic.au/membership For other payment methods, please complete this form, and see below for payment details.

Membership Application / Renewal Form

Name *

First Name Last Name

Email *

Membership Type *
 Individual membership \$15
 Family household membership \$25

Additional Name for Family membership

First Name Last Name

Additional family email

Address

Optional additional payment

Select any additional items you would like to include with your membership payment

- Postage of print quarterly newsletter \$12 (optional)
- Donation to SPCG (optional)

Donation amount (optional)

The SPCG appreciates your support.

\$

Payment method *

Select your intended payment method

- Credit Card online (preferred)
- Bank Transfer
- Cheque
- Cash

PAYMENT METHODS AND DETAILS

Post, deliver or submit your membership form

We need your member details with your payment. Please either ...

- Post or deliver this print membership form to -
 SPCG
 c/o Sandy Point General Store
 Beach Parade,
 Sandy Point 3959
- **OR** - Submit the online form at www.sandypoint.vic.au/payment-options

Bank transfer to SPCG Inc.

Sandy Point Community Group
 BSB: 633 000
 Account No: 1440 68590
 Reference: **YOUR NAME**

Cash or Cheque

Post or deliver with your completed form to -

SPCG
 c/o Sandy Point General Store
 Beach Parade,
 Sandy Point 3959

Email membership@sandypoint.vic.au for further payment options or inquiries.

Sandy Point Community Group (SPCG) membership

Please join us - go to www.sandypoint.vic.au/membership

or complete this paper form and see details for alternative payment methods



Photo by Roz Carter

*Give us your
Best Shot!*

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