



TWENTY FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 18th NOVEMBER 2018 PRESIDENT'S 2017 – 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

THE ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN MANAGING THE OCEAN GROVE SINCE ITS 1996 ESTABLISHMENT:

Twenty-two years on and the Committee of Management together with The Association continues to maintain the park, providing a wide range of facilities for community use. This has only been achievable through fund raising and having a dedicated resourceful group of committed volunteer members.

2. PARK OWNERSHIP:

The Park continues to remain in TFN's ownership and the Association's responsibilities for its management continues unchanged. A new Management Agreement was signed off in the last 12 months as Trust for Nature felt that since the Master Plan of the Ocean Grove Park is now complete, a new agreement was required. The Agreement was drafted by the Trust For Nature with minor alterations required by Committee Members of the Ocean Grove Park Association with the final version agreed to and Executed in March 2018 by both The Executive of the Ocean Grove Park Association and the Executive of Trust for Nature. The Agreement is to be reviewed once every 3 years, with the next review to be in 2021.

3. PARK DEVELOPMENT FOR PASSIVE RECREATION AND COMMUNITY USE

(i) The Performance Space – Grove Pavilion:

The Grove Pavilion Committee is: Chair-Jon Mamonski, Deputy Chair-Mark Edmonds, Financial Coordinator-Mark McLean, Colleen McEwan, Don Pietrapertosa, and Murray Waugh. The Pavilion has now been operating for just over 3 years. In the past 12 months there has been a significant increase in the variety of bookings. To name but a few – school concerts by all of the local primary schools & fun runs, Yoga groups, Weight Watches, Self-Help groups, Rotary, Probus, Wedding receptions, Birthdays, Funerals, Anniversaries & Karingal.

In February 2018, the Grove Pavilion Committee members merged with the Ocean Grove Park Association to work together as one unity, which is working extremely well.

Karingal Group (now operating as GenU) is still utilising the Grove Pavilion and has approached the Ocean Grove Park Association and the Trust for Nature for a proposed Sculpture Trail in the Park. This has full support from both the Trust for Nature as well as the Committee Members of the Ocean Grove Park Association and hopefully will come to fruition over the next twelve months. A Memorandum of Understanding is being signed off by all three parties.

(ii) Park 2017-2018 Improvements and Maintenance:

General Park Maintenance:

In August 2017, the Shipping Container was installed on the Park Grounds as indicated at the last Annual General Meeting. All works were completed. There was a hiccup as unknown to the Committee Members, the Park has a Heritage Overlay and a Planning Permit was required. This was done retrospective to the shipping container being installed and Planning Permit was issued in February 2018.

Also in August / September 2017 an upgrade to the irrigation system was carried out to supply water down to the Pavilion and Cenotaph.

During the year other regular maintenance by Association members included regular mowing both in the park and its surrounding nature strips, repairs to playground equipment and maintaining playground soft-fall. Removal of dead and dangerous tree limbs in line with the Arborist Report carried out in March 2017.

Installation of a Tree Library thanks to Tony Sheenan for making and installing the Tree Library which is being used by the users of the playground.

On behalf of the committee, we cannot express enough, our gratitude to the very small group of volunteers who do a wonderful job of maintaining the park, doing regular safety inspections of the playground, exercise equipment, trees and vegetation.

4. FINANCIAL PROGRESS

At 30 June 2018, the Association held \$117,629.96 in its bank accounts (June '17- \$110,149.90).

The audited financial statements for 2017/2018 will be fully presented at the AGM by the Treasurer.

5. FUND RAISING REVENUE - 2016-2017:

Fund-raising revenue from all sources allows the Association to continue its maintenance and development of the Park.

The fundraising events held during the year were a great success. The amount raised by the events and other revenue was \$19,056.39 (16/17 \$4,120.63).

The Association's Fundraising Events included:

21st Tranquillity @ Twilight Fair: This year's fair was moved from the 1st Saturday of the year to the 20th January 2018 due to extreme weather conditions. This was the first Tranquillity @ Twilight Fair and what a great success it was. In relation to fund raising, it was one of the best we have ever had.

Once again, all 124 stall sites were occupied thanks to the tremendous work by the stall organizer, Luke McGrath. The on-stage entertainment was again excellent, selected and programmed by Colleen McEwan and presented on the day by Steve McEwan.

Also I would like to thank all of the committee members getting together as we had to reorganise the stall holders due to the date change and we managed to get the majority of stall holders to come along on the new selected date.

Event advertisements were placed in Ocean Grove Voice, The Echo, The Geelong Advertiser, Bellarine Times, What's On, Talking Heads and Queenscliff Herald and Social Media. Placements were accompanied by editorial material before the event and significant pictorial coverage of the fair afterwards.

The fair's contribution to the Association's fund-raising was \$12,235.95 (2016 - \$12,644.12), our second best result in the 21 years the fair has been running. Attendance was one of the highest and feedback from the public was positive with everyone having enjoyed the fair.

The work load as always was required from our volunteers which is greatly appreciated; setting up the day before to final clean up in the evening.

In 2019 we are reverting back to the 1st Saturday in January and continuing on with the Tranquillity @ Twilight

Car Boot Sale on the Park: Successful car boot sale was held in February 2018 with 45 sites occupied and on 6 May 2017. Net income was \$951.40 for the day.

6. OTHER FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES:

Exercise Classes in the Park: Conducted by Step into Life, based on 10 one-hour sessions per week; they contributed \$1,636.32 (net of GST) to the Association's funds. Members of the general community are still required to have access to the park for their enjoyment.

Bellarine Community Farmers Market: This monthly event in the park commenced in January 2012 and continues to expand with local producers taking the opportunity to sell their products. The market is conducted under an agreement whereby the Association receives a portion of the stall site fees. \$1,459.09 (net of GST) was received for the year.

Rotary Club of Ocean Grove: This monthly event in the park commenced in October 2017 through to April 2018 with Rotary Club of Ocean Grove organising local stall holders taking the opportunity to sell their products. The market is conducted under an agreement whereby the Association receives a portion of the stall site fees. \$2,490.90 (net of GST) was received for the year.

7. COMMUNITY EVENTS ON THE PARK

Numerous community events are presented by various local groups for which the Committee of Management makes the park available free of charge apart from defraying the cost of power used. In the year under review the following community events were presented:

Carols in the Park: An annual event presented by the Combined Churches of Ocean Grove, was held on Sunday 10 December 2017. From all reports, possibly the largest crowd ever.

Movies in the Park: The family movie night was held on 3rd March with an estimated 600 people in attendance. A fantastic result. The pavilion's new professional movie screen and project worked a treat.

Ocean Grove Primary School Apple Fair 2018: The Apple Fair was held at the Ocean Grove Park for the first time this year and was a great success for the Ocean Grove Primary School. It was such a great success for them that they are holding their event again next year at the Park.

8. ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

At June 30, 2018 the number of financial members was 129 an increase from last year (110). Hopefully we can see those numbers go up over the next 12 months.

To reduce the ever increasing costs of postage and printing and the uncertainty of postal delivery time, the Management Committee is once again endeavouring to forward all correspondence to members via email addresses. If you haven't already provided an email address, would you please do so when renewing your membership application form.

9. ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

At the 2017 Annual General Meeting the following members were elected as the Committee of Management for the ensuing year:

Don Pietrapertosa (President), Jon Mamonski (Vice President), Murray Waugh (Secretary), Mark McLean (Treasurer), Leigh Holloway, Terry Riordan, Andrew Kelly, Luke McGrath, Alan Smith, Kelli Finlayson.

Ten committee meetings were held during the year. All were well attended and members were kept busy. This year the committee had bi-monthly meetings during the mid-year when there is less activity on the park.

10. LOOKING AHEAD:

The Association has another busy year ahead.

On-going maintenance of the park and the pavilion, implement the tree audit report, repairs & possible upgrading of some playground equipment through State Government funding opportunities we will be looking to apply for.

Additional concrete paving around the Pavilion so access can be made available to all (another Government Grant Opportunity)

The Sculpture Trail in the Park where we will assist GenU to achieve their vision which will hopefully come to fruition.

11. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

For the financial year 2017/2018 The Association's Honorary Auditor, Mr Roger Davies FCPA has once again undertaken the audit. Your Management Committee acknowledges his professional input and expresses its appreciation for his auditing of the Association's financial statements.

On behalf on the Ocean Grove Park Association, our sincere thanks to Mr Roger Davies.

The Association's Hard Working Volunteers: As always, the Management Committee gratefully acknowledges the untiring efforts of the committed, the unsung volunteers who participate in working bees, those who just get on and do park things, and those who work hard organising and presenting the Association's events for the community to enjoy and at the same time, raise funds for the betterment of the Park.

Retirement from Committee:

At our 2017 AGM, Leigh Holloway stepped down as Secretary after 11 years to be an ordinary member of the committee. On behalf of the Association, I wish to convey my sincere thanks to Leigh for a job well done as Secretary for those 11 years.

Terry Riordan who has been committee member for 8 years and co-ordinated many of our working bees, maintained the park maintenance equipment will step down from the committee at the AGM. Terry has been an instrumental part of the committee helping out and ensuring that the Park is looking great as always.

Murray Waugh who has been a committee member for 22 years, servicing as Vice President for 16 President for 3 years and Secretary for 1 year will step down from the committee at the AGM. Murray has put his heart and soul towards this park and the Pavilion and his services to the community of Ocean Grove through his commitment of the daily maintenance of both the park and pavilion has been nothing but outstanding. Once again, a sincere thanks to you to Murray.

Both Terry & Murray will remain members of the association and continue to help maintain the park and assist with events, which is greatly appreciated.

On behalf of the Association Members & the Committee of Management I would like to thank all of our members for attending today's Annual General Meeting.



"The Natural Heart of Ocean Grove"

Don Pietrapertosa - President