



SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 27TH. OCTOBER 2013 PRESIDENT'S 2012 - 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

The Association's primary purpose, from its 1996 establishment has been "*To pursue the public ownership and development of Ocean Grove Park as a Central Park for Ocean Grove for passive recreation and community use*". The public ownership aim was initially achieved in December 1997, as an interim measure, by the then Minister for Planning, with the proviso that permanent public owner required the Association to raise \$200,000 towards the purchase within 3 years. The Association raised \$100,000 and an incoming state government funded the remaining \$100,000; so the Park was finally secured and transferred to the Trust for Nature in 2000.

Since that time the Association, through a management agreement with the Trust, has undertaken the remainder of its primary purpose *the development of the park for passive recreation and community use* and also the other purposes for its establishment, "*To conserve environmental features of the site and to raise funds from such sources as the Association may determine*."

With the dedication of its members the Association's development of the park, in accordance with its master plan, adopted in 2000, is effectively complete; apart from the construction of the long envisaged Performance Space, which has now been fully documented and costed. Funding has been identified for the project and financial agreements are being finalised.

However, as the community's use of the park continues to increase significantly additional facilities continue to be identified for the community to enjoy, and the life cycle of the infrastructure needs to be monitored to ensure its timely maintenance.

The Association has now been instrumental in raising some \$600,170 since its formation - \$640,170, including the \$40,000 COGG grant for the design of the performance space and \$940,170 if the State Government's \$300,000 towards the purchase of the park is included.

All the funds raised are being judiciously spent in the interest of the Ocean Grove community by maintaining the Park and enhancing its infrastructure for the ongoing benefit and enjoyment of people of all ages from both within and outside Ocean Grove. The funds expended have been substantially increased in value by the hard work of our volunteer members, both in raising the funds and working in the Park. Members should rightly have a sense of achievement for 17 years of dedication to all that has been achieved to date and is ongoing.

2. PARK DEVELOPMENT FOR PASSIVE RECREATION AND COMMUNITY USE

A) Implementing the Park Master Plan:

The Performance Space: As reported to the 2012 AGM, all the necessary documentation has been completed to enable the calling of tenders, subject to final vetting and the receiving of a building permit, for construction of the performance space. The documentation includes a quantity surveyor's estimate for construction. (Dated August 2012) of \$1,003,000, excluding GST and any allowance for escalation but an allowance for some fit out and furnishings.

The documentation has been used as the basis for a comprehensive report "***Proposed Ocean Grove Park Performance Space, August 2012***" which has been used, in recent months, to seek funding for the project.

Sufficient funding to match the August 2012 estimate has now been committed thanks to \$500,000 from the Regional Development Victoria Fund, \$150,000 from the Ocean Grove Community Enterprise and \$200,000 from the City of Greater Geelong to complement \$155,000 from your association's funds.

B) Park 2012-2013 Improvements and Maintenance:

Vehicle/pedestrian separation for Tranquility Fair: Given the difficulty experienced by entertainers accessing the stage for the Fair, after the necessary permits were obtained, an additional vehicular street crossing and gates in the Avenue were installed together with the removal of four pine trees. The gates were installed by association members and the other works by tradespeople. Total cost, \$3800 +GST. The work was completed prior to the 2013 fair.

BBQ Installation: Numerous families using the playgrounds have enquired as to the possible availability of a BBQ. Following investigations and an initiative by Councillor Farrell, the City of Greater Geelong provided a grant of \$10,000 as a contribution to the installation of an electric BBQ. The committee of management resolved the appropriate location was abutting the gazebo and also resolved to extend the gazebo roof to provide users with additional shelter. The committee also acknowledged that, to minimise vandalism, power use for the BBQ by the community would be paid for by the association. The BBQ and required structural materials were purchased during 2012/13.

General Park Maintenance: Public safety is an on-going responsibility. Inspecting and maintaining all play and exercise equipment is an important task. Trees are also frequently inspected and any hazardous limbs promptly removed.

During the year other regular maintenance by association members included regular mowing both in the park and its surrounding nature strips. Members also re stained several of the seats and picnic setting and spread fertilizer on the grass where appropriate.

The association has a great team of committed volunteers all keen to ensure the park is well cared for, clean and safe for the community to enjoy.

3. FUND RAISING REVENUE - 2012-2013:

Fund-raising revenue from all sources allows the Association to continue its sound financial and park management practices year by year.

Whilst the audited financial report is attached to this report and the Treasurer will present the full financial statement for the year at the AGM, some of the financial highlights of the year were:

- **Total income for 12/13 was \$39,518.78** (11/12 - \$36,250.23). The total includes a \$10,000 grant from COGG as a contribution towards the purchase and installation of a double electric barbeque. The total also includes \$11,180.57 in interest on investments through the careful management of funds as they continue to be accumulated for future improvements to the Park.
- The success of the Association's own 4 fundraising events undertaken during the year is a credit to all involved – particularly those who have been organising and participating in them for many years. The amount raised by the 4 events was \$14,183.91. The events included:

15th Tranquility Fair: In 2013: This year the fair was again held on the 1st. Saturday of 2013.

Once again all 124 stall sites were occupied whilst Jon Mamonski presented the excellent on-stage entertainment selected and programmed by Colleen McEwan.

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

Once again the volunteer staff of Ocean Grove CFA operated the BBQ stall and donated a share of the profits to the Association. The CFA provided an excellent service to the community and gained some funds to assist with their community duties.

The fair's contribution to the Association's fund-raising was \$9,608 (2012 - \$14,115). It is estimated there were some 4,800 attendees, including children (down from 7000 in 2012).

The efforts of our volunteers were much appreciated; they had a busy day, from set-up to clean up.

Ocean Grove Voice, the only sponsor of the 2013 fair, provided significant sponsorship via advertising and editorial, crucial to informing the community of the time, location and activities on the day. In addition, Association members undertook a letterbox drop with more than 4,000 flyers.

In 2014 the Fair will be held on Saturday, 4 January.

Car Boot Sales on the Park: 2 car boot sales were again held on the Park. In the year under review they raised slightly more than \$ 3,300, down from \$4,000 in 2011/12. For the April '13 sale the Association did not hold a trash and treasurer stall but the sausage sizzle was well patronised. . These car boot sales are clearly appreciated by the community; with almost 60 spaces occupied at the December sale. Without the efforts of our members who collect the donated goods, price and take them to the park, and those that staff the Park's stalls, these sales would not be so popular.

What has now grown into a welcomed event is the **January book sale** in the riverside caravan park. The opportunity to purchase books on site at the caravan park has proved to be much appreciated by campers and make a contribution of \$408 to the Association's funds in 2013.

The Combined Churches of Ocean Grove held their annual Carols in the Park on Sunday 9 December. Once again the Association's members were pleased to provided refreshments as a fundraiser. \$1,194 was received.

Other Fundraising Activities:

Exercise Classes in the Park, presented by Step into Life, are continuing on the basis of 10 one hour sessions per week; they contributed \$1,862 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 farmers and producers taking the opportunity to sell their products. The range of goods has certainly been welcomed by the expanding members of the community making purchases. The market is conducted under an agreement whereby the Association receives a portion of the stall site fees. \$1,202 was received for the year. Total funds raised by the events and other activities \$17,528 (2010/11 - \$20,101).

4. THE COMMUNITY ON THE PARK

The Play Equipment continues to be enjoyed daily by an ever expanding number of children, mainly accompanied by parents or grandparents, whilst the use of the fun and fitness track and equipment usage continues to grow. We never fail to notice the large number of children enjoying themselves.

The Picnic Settings established throughout the park continue to be much appreciated by locals and visitors; thanks to the quality of their maintenance by the association's members.as were the numerous seats and picnic setting throughout the park. Their use increases year by year as more community activities take place in the park.

Movies in the Park were again presented as free events on 12 and 23 January 2013, thanks to the City of Geelong's financial support of the presenter Ocean Grove Community Enterprise.

5. FINANCIAL PROGRESS

At 30 June 2013, the Association held \$246,569.39 in its bank accounts (June '11- \$231,544.45). A healthy 6.5% increase despite \$16,302 plus \$7,000 via TFN being expended on park improvements.Net income, for the year was \$39,518.78; up from the \$36,250.23 for 2011/12, a 9% increase. As reported earlier your committee of management has now identified \$155,000 of the accumulated funds in hand as a contribution to the establishment of the performance space to enable it to proceed.

Park maintenance and administration costs were kept to a minimum, thanks to your diligent committee and hard work in the park by the members minimising the amount of contractor payments.

The audited financial statements for 2011/2012 are attached and will be fully presented at the AGM by the Treasurer.

6. ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

At June 30, 2013 the number of financial members was 125, down on recent years, but still demonstrating a very committed membership.

We continue to encourage all members to renew their membership and invite their friends to join, particularly those who make regular use of the Park and its facilities.

7. ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

At the 2012 Annual General Meeting the following members were elected unopposed as the Committee of Management for the ensuing year:

Colin Atkins (President), Murray Waugh (Vice President), Leigh Holloway (Secretary), Betty Glasgow (Treasurer), Phil Dix, Shelley McKiernan, David Lidgett, Don Pietrapertosa, Terry Riordan and Neil Wallace.

Committee meetings were well attended and members were kept busy throughout the year organising and participating in fundraising events, progressing the proposed performance space, and also improving and maintaining the park with the support of several other volunteering members.

8. LOOKING AHEAD:

The BBQ: The installation, including an upgrade to the nearby power box is planned to be completed before October 2013 at a total cost of \$17,000.

As changes to the park's electrical circuit are necessary the opportunity will be taken to install a new power box with additional outlets for stalls etc. To minimise the financial cost a significant amount of the installation will be undertaken by association members.

The Association will cover the cost of the ongoing power supply used by the community.

RSL Cenotaph Relocation to the Park: The management committee has agreed to the Ocean Grove/Barwon Heads RSL branch relocating its cenotaph to an agreed site in the Park close to The Avenue. The COGG will be involved in the relocation and an appropriate agreement is currently being prepared. The relocation should be completed in 2013/14.

Performance Space Construction: With the completed contract documentation for the performance space and its companion report "**Proposed Ocean Grove Park Performance Space**" agreements are being finalised with the funding organisations. When all are in place a pre-tender estimate will be sought and, if necessary, any minor adjustments made to ensure the estimate is within the \$1,005,000 (excluding GST) available. Construction is expected to start in January 2014.

Future Control of the park: The Trust for Nature has reviewed its responsibilities under its legislation and coincidentally the park committee of management has been considering succession planning for the park. As a result both organisations consider it timely to look at transfer of the Park's ownership to the City of Greater Geelong subject to a mutually agreed covenant, under the Victorian Conservation Act, ensuring the park remains un-subdivided and a public park for passive recreation and related community activities or events. Such a covenant cannot be changed or removed under the Planning and Environment Act. The TFN is working on a draft covenant in consultation with the Park committee of management. The committee is insisting upon a covenant that protects the park as a facility for passive recreation and community enjoyment and stops inappropriate development.

9. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

For the financial year 2012/2013 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 2012/2013 financial statements.

The Association's Hard Working Volunteers: The Management Committee gratefully acknowledges the untiring efforts of the committed, 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, co-incidentally, raise funds for the betterment of the park.

Association Members: Finally, as President, I express my personal appreciation to my dedicated fellow committee members and volunteer members who keep fund raising, maintaining and improving the Park of the community to enjoy. And to all our committed financial members, thank you.

"The Natural Heart of Ocean Grove"



Colin Atkins
President

/

Roger Davies FCPA

Certified Practising Accountant

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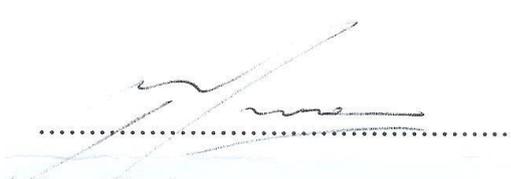
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OCEAN GROVE PARK INC.
2012 / 2013 AUDIT

To: Ocean Grove Park Incorporated

Re: Audit of your 2012 / 2013 Financial Accounts.

In my opinion the financial report presents truly and fairly the financial position and the results of the Ocean Grove Park Inc for the year ended 30th June 2013.



.....
Roger Davies
FCPA
Date: 28/08/2013

OCEAN GROVE PARK INC
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

	\$	<u>2013</u>	\$	<u>2012</u>	\$
ASSETS					
Bendigo Bank General Account		16,569.39		11,544.45	
Bendigo Bank Term Deposits		225,000.00		215,000.00	
Sandhurst Term Deposit		5,000.00	<u>246,569.39</u>	5,000.00	<u>231,544.45</u>

These funds were represented by:

MEMBERS FUNDS					
Balance at beginning of year		231,544.45		199,100.47	
Surplus for year		15,024.94	<u>246,569.39</u>	32,443.98	<u>231,544.45</u>

OCEAN GROVE PARK INC
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
RECEIPTS		
Fundraising Activities	17,528.21	20,416.90
Sponsorship & Donations	-	2,500.00
Members Fees	620.00	690.00
Miscellaneous	190.00	-
Grants	10,000.00	1,000.00
Interest on Investments	11,180.57	11,643.33
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	<u>39,518.78</u>	<u>36,250.23</u>
PAYMENTS		
Transfer to Trust for Nature (equip & materials)	7,000.00	-
Park Maintenance & Improvement	16,302.73	2,879.53
Administration Charges	674.56	513.54
Utilities	516.55	413.18
	<u>24,493.84</u>	<u>3,806.25</u>
NET INCREASE / DECREASE IN CASH HELD	15,024.94	32,443.98
CASH AT BEGINNING OF FINANCIAL YEAR	<u>231,544.45</u>	<u>199,100.47</u>
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	<u>246,569.39</u>	<u>231,544.45</u>

ocean grove park inc xl