

Season's Greetings



Reg'n No A0004521S  
RMB 5090 Cowes Vic 3922  
President: Phil Dressing  
0423 058 510  
Secretary: Robyn Dale  
0414 706 148  
Email  
smithsbeachcomber.com

## **SBA NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2016**

Welcome to our final edition for this year. If we have some holidays, we could be looking forward to some lazy days reading a book, taking walks, building a sandcastle or taking a dip at our favourite beach. There's also no better time for getting into shape than summer in the great outdoors. Statistics say more of us may live to be 100. Seeing that we are all going to live longer, we need to think about what we eat and how to get healthier as we face another year.



### **What Is Your Attitude?**

Have you ever thought about your 'attitude? What is meant by 'attitude'?

The Macquarie Dictionary defines 'attitude' as 'your own manner towards a person, situation or thing.' It can show up as negative, such as a 'menacing attitude'. An Aussie attitude may be "She'll be right mate!" The Government says that we need 'to foster attitudes in the labour force that jobs mean growth.' What is your attitude to unwanted telephone callers at mealtimes?

Where do we get our own attitudes? Are they positive or negative?

Much of our attitudes come from our personality with either an optimistic or pessimistic outlook. They say that 50% of which is hereditary, 10% from circumstances and 40% is the bit we can change from our actions, thoughts and intentions. Our attitude helps us to cope or not to cope with life's events, i.e. our resilience. It also influences our decision and choices in life.

To some extent we can change how we approach adverse situations or respond to people with negative attitudes. We can accept that others will have different attitudes to us or we may need to change our own thinking towards these situations or people.

Attitudes can be influenced by your family beliefs and values, observations of respected peers, TV characters, or heroes. In our own life we have developed our morals and values about life's events and made our decisions and choices.

**WE  
CHOOSE  
WHAT  
ATTITUDES  
WE  
HAVE  
RIGHT  
NOW**



Can you identify whether you have mostly positive or negative attitudes? Only some of these can be blamed on hereditary factors. The rest depends on our actions, thoughts and intentions, which are the part we can change. Who is an example of someone with a positive attitude?

What are some of the attitudes and intentions that you could change in the coming New Year 2017?

Ian Shand. SBA Newsletter Editor

### **SBA Facebook Page**

We would like more people to be a friend of The Smiths Beachcomber Facebook page and post and read items of interest to our community.

You can access it at <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsBeachcomber2016>

Our Facebook ID is 1129303750428285

For more information, you may contact David Van Dort email on [dav11car3@gmail.com](mailto:dav11car3@gmail.com)

Good information is on our **SBA Website** [smithsbeachcomber.com](http://smithsbeachcomber.com) See our beautiful beach.

The Smiths Beachcomber Association Committee takes this opportunity to wish you all a happy joyful and relaxing time for your Christmas season and a healthy and prosperous new year.

### Phillip Island Integrated Traffic Study (PIITS)

A recent VicRoads survey counted 12,000 cars plus buses and trucks per day that travel past Surf Beach. You can almost double that number in the peak season. In 2014, an amount of \$70,000 was funded by the State Department of Transport and the BCSC to create this PIITS to guide our traffic management through to the year 2030. Provide for peak seasonal demands.

They produced a VISION which was 'to create a transport system that provides real alternatives to private vehicle travel. It will focus on improvements to the walking, cycling and public transport networks is required while balancing the ability to provide vehicles and freight to more efficiently access the Island and the townships within it.'

Community forums have been and are still being held connecting the residents, visitors and business owners. Great work had previously been done by the Southern Communities Planning Group who worked tirelessly with VicRoads. From this, a 12-member PIITS Community Reference Group was formed to work with VicRoads to fine-tune the plans for our infrastructure upgrading. The State Government has recently announced a funding boost of \$3.2 million to help improve the traffic flow, safety and access for our residents and visitors. This amount has come from this year's state budget and will be used to develop VicRoads Business Case to go to next year's State Government's May Budget for consideration. The future estimated costs for road widening and three planned roundabouts (one on our Back Beach Road and the Phillip Island Tourist Road corner) will be between \$30 million to \$50 million. Let's hope that the VicRoads recommendation is a winner.



### 2016 BCSC Elections

All local council elections in Victoria are held every four years on the fourth Saturday in October. As a result of the BCSC election held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November, three councillors were elected in three wards. Cowes and most townships such as Smiths Beach were in the **Island Ward**, Sunderland Bay, Surf Beach, Cape Woolamai and San Remo were in the **Westernport Ward**. Wonthaggi, Inverloch and Cape Patterson were in the **Bunerong Ward**. The following Councillors were chosen.

**Island Ward** :- Pamela Rothfield, Stephen Fullerton and Michael Whelan.

**Westernport Ward** :- Clare Le Serve, Bruce Kent and Geoff Ellis.

**Bunerong Ward** :- Les Larke, Julian Brown and Brett Tessart.

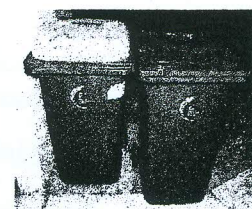


Best wishes for a successful four years ahead.

The Councillors at their first meeting elected Cr Pamela Rothfield to be our new Mayor and Cr Brett Tessari to be our Deputy Mayor for the next twelve months.

### Phillip Island Waste Services

The Cowes Recycling Bank in Dunsmore Road is open from 10.30 am to 3.30pm on every day except Wednesdays and Thursdays. Each year, the BCSC reduces the potential of fire hazard material in preparation for the coming fire season. It offers a Green Waste Amnesty for disposal of non-noxious greenery from 28<sup>th</sup> October to 14<sup>th</sup> December and it's FREE for these six weeks.. General domestic waste is acceptable as well as scrap metal, motor oil and recyclable materials.



### **President Phil Dressing's Message.**

Warmer weather has arrived. Not much warmer, but it's a start to the summer influx of visitors. Undoubtedly we will see our beaches well patronised.



The Victorian Civil and Administration Tribunal (VCAT) convened a hearing in respect of a proposed development at 62 Waikiki Crescent, Smiths Beach on the 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2016. The review site is located on the north-eastern side of Waikiki Crescent, near the intersection of Beachcomber Avenue. The proposed development was for a three storey dwelling and the removal of vegetation at the site.

Without replicating the extensive VCAT findings in this newsletter, the Tribunal Member declined the Applicant's Permit request to construct the three storey dwelling. Reasons for the declination are extensively detailed in the Member's ten (10) page decision findings. (not mentioned here) This further enhances the SBA's desire to support the thirteen member Small Coastal Township Alliance's push to have the Bass Coast Shire Council's Design and Development Overlay strengthened in respect of inappropriate development. Priorities previously adopted by your Association remain very relevant and we will further elaborate on these at our January 2017 meeting.

I look forward to meeting new faces and re-acquainting with others.

I take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a Happy Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year. Where has the time gone?

Phil

### **SBA ANNUAL SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER**

10.30am on SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2017

HOME OF LYN AND IAN SHAND

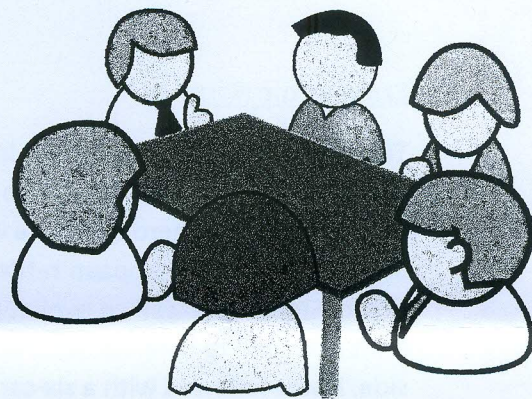
37 WAIKIKI CRES, SMITHS BEACH

**GUEST SPEAKER**-- BCSC Mayor Cr Pamela Rothfield.

**All welcome** - including your Neighbours and Friends

Bring a plate or drinks to share. We boil the billy for a cuppa!

We look forward to seeing you there.



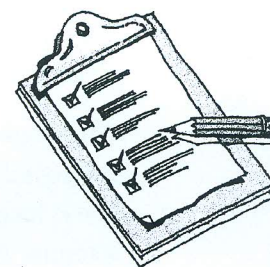
### **SMITHS BEACH GENERAL STORE**

Kally, Johan and Jenny and staff welcome you and provide us with our daily milk, bread and newspapers to start our day. They have built a fine reputation for serving quality coffee, food and great friendly service. Bring in a DVD, CD or book for a free swap. Some second-hand clothing and records are also on sale as a private trial. See you there.



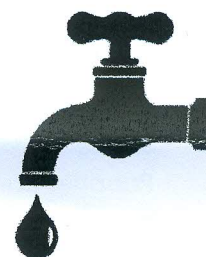
### Your Fire Plan (what's on it?)

If there was a major fire and an ember attack at Smiths Beach and your home and possessions were in danger, what does your own **Household Fire Plan** say to do? It could be a fight or flight situation. Is your garden hose, fire extinguisher and battery radio (for 774 information) and mobile phone accessible? Do you have an evacuation plan? Where would you go, to the beach, the car-park or where? And what would you carry with you? On your list would you have documents for banking, insurance, medications or some photo albums? Think about It! **PREPARE – ACT – SURVIVE**



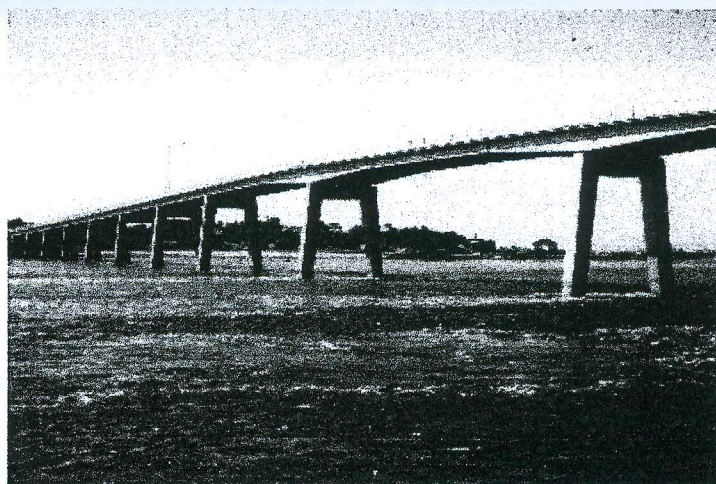
### "Put On The Kettle!"

The first water pipes were laid on our streets of Smiths Beach in 1969 and water flowed into our taps in 1970. Residents were encouraged to connect up to the mains and in doing so, it would get rid of all those outdated, unsightly and unhealthy water tanks. The Candowie dams were full at the time and it was OH so lovely and convenient to put on the kettle and make a cuppa at the kitchen sink once the water was on. There may have been a slight taste of chlorine in those days. In early 2007, due to lower than expected rainfalls and drought conditions, our Candowie Reservoir was reduced to only 7% capacity. (that's 93% empty). Stage 4 water restrictions were a fact of life. Something had to be done! The Westernport Water Board increased the dam wall by three metres in height and that doubled the capacity of the reservoir. Work was completed by June 2013. The moveable signage outside their office building in Boys Home Road recently showed the storage to be at 88%. We still have to be cautious about our water usage over the summer season. Hand held hoses must be fitted with a trigger nozzle. It can be used to wash your car and water your garden at any time. We take it for granted that it's good to drink water from our taps.



### Crossing the Narrows

They have a 'Channel Challenge' in February every year where competitors swim across the water next to the bridge from San Remo and then run back over the bridge to where they started. In the past, the Bunerong people who lived there would also swim across the channel or cross it in bark canoes. Early European settlers initially rowed across from San Remo to Newhaven on Phillip Island. Stock were walked over at the turn of the tide when the water was calm. In 1929, a two-car punt operated to connect San Remo to the other side. It was followed with a six-car punt in 1938. The first bridge to Phillip Island was declared open in 1940. This two-lane suspension bridge meant that it was the end of an era. Islanders no longer had to rely on ferries and time-tables and they could come and go as they pleased. It also meant that day-trippers could travel to the Island and return home the same day. It was replaced with the current bridge in 1969. These bridges made "crossing the Narrows" an easy and safe task and the problems of those early visitors are now a distant memory. But now it too, is too narrow for today's traffic.



### Phil Wright

Phil was a valued contributor to SBA activities and had a vision for our future. With his planning and organising skills, he formed the SBA Master Plan Sub-Committee which made recommendations to BCSC and State government departments for appropriate use of our coast, beaches and roads. He arranged regular working bees/plantings including quite a few early 'Clean Up Australia Day' events. Many of these community activities took place prior to his election to the BCSC in 2008. Cr Phil was the only Councillor to be returned out of the seven BCSC Wards in the following 2012 council elections. He always had his 'big picture' for Phillip Island but Smiths Beach and its community was his priority. He regularly attended SBA Committee meetings up in town and in our neighbourhood. He wrote articles for our SBA Newsletter and conducted the SBA election of officebearers at our A.G.M.'s each year. Thanks, Phil for all that you have done up until now and in the future for our SBA. May you have more time to spend surfing and with Irene and family.

At the recent end of his time as a BCSC councillor, our SBA President Phil Dressing sent this letter.

Dear Phil,



On behalf of the SBA we would like to sincerely thank you for your untiring efforts in representing the ratepayers in Churchill Ward over the last eight years.

We can feel your disappointment in that you no longer serve in this capacity but you should take comfort in knowing that your contribution to public life on Phillip Island has had many successes and you should take pride in these achievements.

Your support of the SBA on so many issues will never be forgotten.

You often went beyond the call of duty in attending committee meetings and helping us prepare submissions.

These notably included VCAT submissions opposing the Fox Developments and more recently supporting us in opposition to the Gap Road Recycling proposals.

You were a most valuable conduit to council and certainly played a significant part in establishing the good working relationships that exist between our association and local government today.

We look forward to your continuing involvement with the SBA committee.

Yours sincerely,

### Odd Jottings

The last confirmed sightings of foxes on P I was August 2015.

Teenagers often suffer from FOMA (Fear Of Missing Out) or FOBIA (Fear Of Being Invited Anywhere)

One thing about telling the truth is that you don't have to remember what you said.

Old age is coming at a really bad time.

Nbn has arrived in selected areas. Have you got those green boxes in your street?

Don't forget to bring your bicycles to try out our new shared pathways from Cowes to Wonthaggi.

### BlueNet Police Patrol Cars

Victoria Police have been equipped with new High-tech BlueNet Patrol Cars that are successfully scanning our car number plates. The technology integrates in-car video, automatic number plate recognition and mobile data technologies. This provides the opportunity to equip the operational units with world's best practice road traffic enforcement and emergency management tools. Cameras mounted on the exterior of the car scan the number plates and alert the police officers inside the car to any stolen vehicles/plates, unauthorised drivers and unregistered vehicles. With these new patrol cars, so far it has meant that the millions of scans have detected unlicensed drivers, unregistered vehicles and preventing serious traffic offences resulting in hundreds of impounded vehicles. Resulting in more than three times the number of suspended and disqualified drivers than the non-BluNet patrol cars do.



### Star Gazing @ Smiths Beach

"and at night the wondrous glory of the everlasting stars" – Banjo Patterson wrote these lines in his poem, 'Clancy of the Overflow.' The stars in our night sky at Smiths Beach are so brilliant that you can almost reach out and touch them.

Your first lesson in astronomy was to tell the difference between stars and planets. You learnt that stars do change position in the night sky but they do it all together. They rise and set a few minutes earlier each night but nothing in their positions will change. Planets in our solar system appear to move in specific orbits across the sky, and may twinkle or shimmer.

One of our first constellations in the sky that we identified was the Southern Cross and its 'pointers'. Indigenous people say that if you look carefully at the dark spaces between the stars of the Cross, you will see 'Bunya' the possum. The tip of the cross is the nose and his tail hangs down to the left. (Bunya ran away from Tchingal the Emu and hid in a tree for so long he turned into a possum.)

It is estimated that there are two trillion galaxies in the universe. Can you name some of them? Gazing at the vastness of the universe reminds us of how small we are.



### Annual Subscriptions

At this time of year the SBA has to remind you that our Annual Subs are due and payable from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January each year. Attached is your subscription form for you to complete and to then forward your reasonably priced membership application to our hard-working Treasurer. You will then be "financial" Send it off this week. **This is what your Annual Subs pay for**



Keeping contact with the members

Printing and postage of the SBA Newsletter four times each year

Other mailouts for the AGM and special events during the year

Insurance premiums for Public Liability, working bees etc (currently \$766.56)

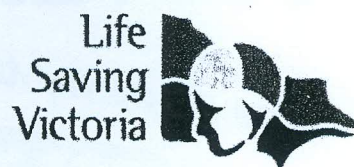
Informing politicians, local organisations, newspapers etc of our activities

SBA Publications e.g. our Plants for Smiths Beach Brochure, SBA History Notes

Tubes of Plants given out to encourage local residents to 'green' our gardens.

### Smiths Beach Rescue Base

Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club (WBSLSC) continues to work with State and Local Government, Life Saving Victoria and Phillip Island Nature Parks (PINP) to install a Rescue Base at our Smiths Beach.



A lease between the WBSLSC and PINP has been agreed and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) has also approved the project. A BCSC Permit may also be required

Given the stringent engineering and aesthetic requirements of the project, the completed facility will cost over \$345,000. The WBSLSC has applied for relevant government grants to assist in raising the required funds. A local builder has been appointed and detailed design work completed. Once that BCSC final approval and funding is confirmed, the facility should be completed in 4-6 months.

WBSLSC has commenced fundraising for the project. The local community has already offered strong support. The Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo have a long-standing donation of over \$40,000 committed. The WBSLSC will also provide funds from their own assets.

Donations from our community may be made on the Woolamai Beach Payments Page to the 'Smiths Beach Rescue Base Fund'. Contact Woolamai Beach SLSC, PO Box 49, San Remo VIC 3925

### Heidi and Heinz Demsky Have Stepped Down

One of Heidi's many contributions was to write a Letter to the Editor of the 'Advertiser' describing 14 of the deficiencies that troubled our Smiths Beach residents. Its content upset the BCSC mayor, CEO, council staff and councillors to the extent that the SBA were summoned to meet with them to explain how the Council should 'lift its game'. Five of us from SBA met with them and they made promises received in a minuted reply on 25/7/2006 to remedy all of our problems. On the occasion of our SBA's 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Heidi did a remarkable job of obtaining sponsorships for the occasion. One of the donations was a bottle of Grand Prix champion, Mick Doohan's best wine. It was later raffled and the proceeds went to the Warley Hospital. (Remember when we had a hospital on P.I.?) We've had many SBA committee meetings at your home and your regular comments and help made a difference to the SBA's achievements. The following letter was sent by the SBA President on the occasion of your resignations.

Dear Heidi and Heinz,

It is with the greatest reluctance that we accept your resignation from our committee.

You have been wonderful supporters since 2006 and we have appreciated your efforts particularly as you moved from the area some years ago.

We in particular acknowledge your achievements in raising sponsorship, for our Newsletter and also for obtaining support for our 30<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

What a wonderful note to finish on when you played such an important role in making our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary a resounding success.

On behalf of all your friends at the SBA we wish you every success and happiness and would like you to know you are always welcome at Smiths Beach.

Phil Dressing

President SBA



# PHILLIP ISLAND & SAN REMO ADVERTISER

*Your Community Voice!*

Publication No.  
VBF 9005897  
Registered by  
Australia Post.

editorial: [advertiser@pisra.com.au](mailto:advertiser@pisra.com.au)

advertising: [ads@pisra.com.au](mailto:ads@pisra.com.au)

sport: [sport@pisra.com.au](mailto:sport@pisra.com.au)

## ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Displays and classifieds  
3.30 p.m. Mondays

Suite 2, 60 Chapel Street, Cowes 3922

PO Box 667, Cowes 3922

Ph. (03) 5952 3201

Fax: (03) 5952 3024

## Priceline Pharmacy Cowes

Present this voucher to receive

# 10% OFF

## Storewide

Exclusive Priceline Pharmacy Cowes

Valid until 31st December 2015

Excludes gift vouchers & prescriptions

**Priceline Pharmacy Cowes**

24 Thompson Avenue, Cowes

Tel: 5952 2061

**Trading Hours:**

Mon - Fri: 8.30am-6.00pm

Sat: 8.30am-5.30pm

Sun: 9.00am-5.30pm



priceline  
pharmacy



### Pass On This Newsletter

When you have finished reading these pages, we would be pleased if you could give someone else your old copy. Better still, if they are not SBA members, you could suggest that they join and add to our voice in the community affairs that affect Smiths Beach.

An Application for Membership form can be downloaded from our website. The great value \$20.00 annual subscription can be forwarded to the Treasurer. RMB 5090 Cowes Vic 3922

### Non Sequitur by Wiley

