

Reg'n No A0004521S
RMB 5090 Cowes Vic 3922
President: Phil Dressing
0423 058 510
Secretary: Robyn Dale
0408 765 365
Email
smithsbeachcomber.com

SBA NEWSLETTER SPRING 2017

he blossoming days of Spring are upon us. Put away your beanie and scarf. No longer it's time to retreat, eat, repeat. Now we will experience times of mild, sunny days. It's time to get back into a healthy, active routine and love a life of nourishment of the body again. Spring brings nature to life. We welcome Spring fever but not Hay-fever.

Life Goes On

In the 1950's, I served my five year apprenticeship. I worked from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm with an hour for lunch. I wore my overalls each day and expected to be still wearing them when I retired as a tradesman at aged 65. I would be given a gold watch for my service. There was generally no superannuation then either. That retirement age of 65 was the norm in those days as most people did not live much longer after that. Most thoughts of retirement in those days were non-existent.

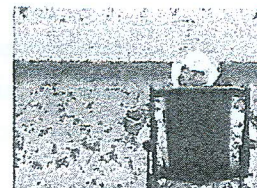


'That was then, this is now.' My working life since that time would have been turned on its head. We know that most of the jobs and skills of that era in trades or business are very different now. Globalisation and technology has changed the way people have lived and worked. Some current jobs may no longer exist and many have also not been created yet. The future that was lying ahead of me as an apprentice or tradesman at that time has well and truly moved on.

These days, school-leavers and graduates face a life full of possibilities as they prepare for their future. What sort of workplace will they have? Career pathways are not straight forward anymore. Currently, a 15 year-old can expect to have 17 jobs across five careers in their lifetime. Recent statistics have reported that the sort of apprenticeships that I once had have declined by 45% since June 2012. We didn't have computers, automation and robotics. The pace of change has never been as great nor as disruptive as it is today. My life has moved on and retirement dreams have greater possibilities.

Now I'm going to live longer. If I remain healthy, statistics show that today's 65 year old male has a current life expectancy of 84.5 and a female 87.3 years of age. People over 90 are the fastest growing population group in the country at the moment.

We now have compulsory superannuation and perhaps what we will earn over our lifetime may be enough for an old-age pension and hopefully may give us a comfortable retirement..



Everyone's retirement dreams are different. What are yours?

There are many retirees living at Smiths Beach. A recent census told us that there was 511 dwellings in Smiths Beach and 17% were occupied full-time. It has become holiday home heaven. With some Positive Aging, is Smiths Beach going to be your little bit of retirement heaven?

Ian Shand. SBA Newsletter Editor

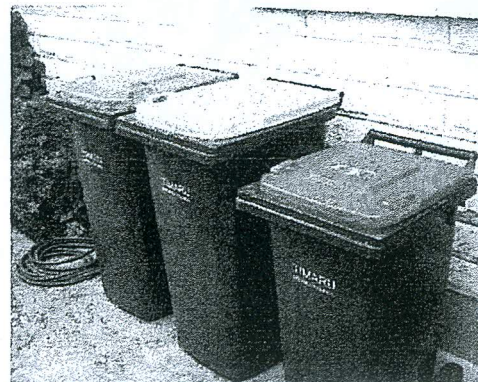
BCSC Waste Management Strategy/Collections

As part of the BCSC new three-bin system which began on 4th September, each household that received a kerbside service was to be provided with their three new bins for garbage..

A **weekly 240 litre green colour bin** is for organics such as kitchen food scraps, tissues and paper towelling, pet manures and compostable kitty litters, lawn clippings, garden prunings and weeds.

A **fortnightly red colour 120 litre bin** is to contain broken glass and mirrors, crockery, nappies, plastic bags and soft plastics, polystyrene foam and old clothing will go to Landfill.

The **fortnightly 240 litre recycling yellow bin** collection will continue to operate. It contained glass bottles and jars, solid plastic containers, aluminium and steel cans, milk and juice containers, plastic cutlery, cardboard boxes, newspapers and magazines.



We have been requested to "Be a good sort!" but is this new system wasteful and inadequate? With the usual five-fold increase of visitors to Phillip Island in the summer months, the following questions need answers.

Our perfectly good bins are being replaced and wasted unnecessarily. What is going to happen to our existing current bin? How many of these good bins are involved?

Why should people who compost be forced to pay for a compost bin? Some stinky contaminations on hot days perhaps?

What will our kerbsides look like in the January period when all three bins may be put out each week with collections from all those busy trucks?

Will casual renters know the difference between bin colours and their appropriate collection days?

Will holiday home owners need to use all the bins or fill each one up as much? Maybe they should make the green waste fortnightly and the general waste weekly, especially those who live in units or townhouses.

Will holidaying families and friends using nappies find the new Red bin system adequate for their needs once a fortnight? Will there be a possible health risk too? Should it be weekly in January?

There is to be no Transfer Station proposed for Phillip Island so the current Cowes Recycling Centre will be in operation every day of the week.

Ratepayers have been arguing about the fact that the scheme has been thrust upon us with little obvious public consultation. The contract costing \$66 million over ten years, was said to be the biggest decision made behind closed doors in the four year cycle of the previous councillors.

The 3 R's, Roads, Rates and Rubbish are the regular headaches of all municipal councils and shires. Our BCSC Rubbish category is about to be tested as we sort the problems out. All will be revealed one day.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK.

Phillip Island Nature Parks new CEO.

I had the pleasure of meeting Catherine Basterfield recently. We met for nearly an hour talking about various issues relevant to our Association. I understand Catherine will be looking at the potential of extending the walkway from Sunderland Bay to Smiths. We spoke about the Beachcomber YCW Master Plan, pathways and renovations to the western walkway beach access amongst others.

Western walkway beach access. Phillip Island Nature Park Staff will be renovating the western beach access at Smiths Beach. I understand the renovations will be complete before this year's summer season. A new base for the walkway to the observation deck will be trialled and the deck itself will be upgraded.

Smiths Beach Life saving Patrol Centre. The Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club's patrol centre to be located at the western end of the switchback ramp beach access is finally under construction and all being well will be in place in readiness before this Christmas. The shelter has been seven (7) years in the making and has involved a great deal of hard work and planning. A State Government grant of \$225,000.00 accessed through the Emergency Services Volunteer Sustainability Program has reduced the surf club's need to publicly fundraise for the construction and installation.

Smiths Beach Road "Rumble Strips". The Shire have recently added raised "rumble strips" to Smiths Beach Road in the hope they will force drivers to slow down when approaching the Back Beach Road intersection. Having driven along Smiths Beach Road more times than I care to count, the strips certainly bring about an awareness of the intersection. Personally, I think more can be done to make this intersection safer.

Noticeboard. One of the noticeboards outside the Smiths Beach Store is in a poor state of repair. I have spoken to the Shire about getting it replaced as I think it is beyond renovation.

Phil Dressing

President



Mirror Bush

The Coprosma was called the New Zealand Looking-glass Plant. It has broad glossy leaves and thrives anywhere particularly near the sea. As an evergreen shrub, it was nicknamed the 'Dunny-bush' as they were often used to cover the outside toilets. They pop up from time to time in most of our gardens. It's a noxious and invasive weed and it is recommended that it should be banished from your properties. This can be done easily by hand removing roots and all but once it takes hold it needs to be cut at the base and dobbed immediately with Glyphosate. Other areas of the Island have declared war on this weed. The Phillip Island Nature Parks and the BCSC particularly request the support of owners of holiday houses who attend their house less frequently.

It's only good feature was that kids could fold a leaf and play a tune.



Some Ogden Nash

The dog is man's best friend, He has a tail at one end.

Up in front he has teeth. And four legs underneath.

The cow is of the bovine ilk; One end is moo, the other, milk.

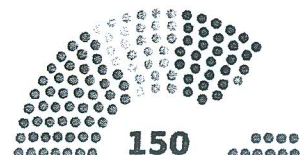
The trouble with a kitten is THAT, Eventually it becomes a CAT.

Population Growth

The world is growing by more than 10 million people a year. Our Phillip Island's population share has recently grown to **more than 10,000**. According to the front-page article in the "Advertiser" of 19th July, the Australian Bureau of Statistics taken during the 2016 Census, show that there are **10,387** people living here. Of these, there are 2180 under the age of 19, but the biggest grouping of residents is the people over 65 years of age who comprise 27.6% of the population. A further breakdown of the figures show that more families (236) moved on to Phillip Island than elsewhere in the Shire. Schools, pre-schools and kinders are a lot busier this year.



Phillip Island is also growing older. It will be celebrating 150 years of age next year in 2018. A Planning Committee has been formed. Festivities and celebrations are some of the events being planned with a Gala Masquerade Ball, a Wooden Boat Festival at Rhyll, Historical re-enactments and Street Parades are some of the coming events. The 150th celebration marks the first sale of land on Phillip Island on November 2, 1868. at a ballot held at Schnapper Point (now Mornington). While aspects of indigenous history will be featured in the coming year, this date was being celebrated as it was the first island-wide year of European settlement. Any suggestions or contributions from residents to celebrate this year-long birthday party will be appreciated. Contact your councillors.



Cowes Recycling & Waste Depot

Did you know that the Cowes Recycle Bank in Dunsmore Road will now be open seven days-a-week? Opening hours will be from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm from Friday to Tuesday and 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm on Wednesday and Thursday. The new hours hopefully will cater for everyone, particularly the garden maintenance businesses and holiday accommodation operators who have a change-over day on weekends. The new three-bin system for waste will also be operating from September



Short-tailed Shearwaters

The Mutton-birds are soon flying in from their holidays in Alaska. Phillip Island is the home of 5-8 percent of the world's population of these migrating birds. They will be returning once again to their old burrows or creating new ones and breed around our coast in the summer months. They are often killed by wandering dogs so please confine your dog to your property and keep your dog on a lead particularly near their colony areas.



Odd Jottings

Handkerchief - Cold Storage

Life isn't fair. The caterpillar does all the work and the butterfly gets all the glory.

Plastic bags are to be minimised in local supermarkets. It's a form of plastic surgery.

I'm starting to think I will never be 'old enough to know better'.

Treat your password like your toothbrush. Don't let anyone use it. Get a new one in six months.

With all the climbers on Mt Everest, they will be needing traffic lights soon .

Our Smiths Beach Life Saving Patrol Centre is currently being built and will be ready for summer.

SBA Facebook Page

The Smiths Beachcomber Facebook page is now up and running.

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

It has been set up as a page as opposed to a profile.

The Facebook ID is 1129303750428285

It is set to accept posts from anyone.

Your comments and suggestions are most welcome.



Find us on
Facebook

Smiths Beach Master Plan.

We still have plenty of work to do to scope the development of a Smiths Beach Master Plan. Your working group continues to explore opportunities. Discussions included the following issues:- A "Town Centre", storm water drainage, Smiths Beach Road car parking and walking paths included.

Palindromes

Do you remember them? You can spell them backwards.

(first introduction in the Garden of Eden) "Madam I'm adam" Was it a rat i saw A potato Pa?

No, it is open on one position (Napoleon exiled to Elba) "Able was I ere I saw Elba"

strap on no parts Was it a bar or a bat I saw? Won't pews fill if swept now?

Oh Ho Hah HaaHa AHah Hah Oh Ho

DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHERS THAT YOU REMEMBER?

It's Time to Sign Up and Give Life

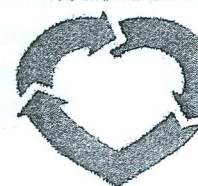
We often read of some tragedy in someone's life and that person was an Organ Donor. The story then continues to say how some other recipient has benefitted from this great and worthwhile act of selflessness. More than 1600 Australians are suffering while stuck on a waiting list for an organ or tissue transplant and about 50 of these people die each year before an organ becomes available.

Registration is a simple process. For some reason, we Victorians are much less inclined to sign up than our fellow Australians. About 20% of Victorians have done the right thing compared with the national average of 34 percent. Part of the reason is lack of understanding about organ donation. To find out, just email 'Organ Donor' for readily available information.

Contact the Australian Organ Donor Register and complete and send the Registration Form. Registration Forms are also available from Medicare and Centrelink. You can also tick the Organ Donation box that comes with your driving licence renewal application notice. Make sure that you notify your family about this too.

With one signature you could save or transform more than ten lives. That signature is the one that you place on an organ donation registration form. Don't put it off. Register now and give life.

donatelife



Smiths Beach General Store

Enjoy the taste of good coffee and great friendly service from Kally, Johan and staff. We serve the best burgers and nice food. Our focus on local produce includes Sourdough white and rye Bread delivered fresh every day. Buy your morning paper and stay for breakfast. Place your orders on 5952-2615. Don't forget to use your discount voucher for the Priceline Pharmacy and buy your regular copy of 'Phillip Island & San Remo Advertiser' at our Store.



SMITHS BEACH LIFE SAVING FACILITY

Letter from Mr Mark Donaldson, Manager, Smiths Beach Project planning phase

As reported previously, the Woolamai Beach SLSC has received all necessary permits for construction of the life saving facility at Smiths Beach. Construction is already underway led by Inverloch-based builder, Kane Worthy Constructions.

The main structure will be built off-site, and craned into position in two parts. This approach minimises construction activity at the beach. The facility should be ready for use by the start of this coming life saving season, and Smiths Beach can look forward to regular volunteer patrols from the last weekend in November to Easter Monday.

In anticipation of this activity, WBSLSC is currently gearing up its training activities to ensure that there are sufficient numbers of qualified lifesavers to cover Smiths and Woolamai. The club is hopeful that with its increased service delivery at Smiths there will be scope to build deepening relationships with the Smiths Beach community. There are lots of ways that residents can get involved and enjoy the camaraderie of the Club and support the good work that it does. If interested to know more you can contact Mark Donaldson, who managed the Smiths Beach Project planning phase at mgdonaldson@me.com.

Mark Donaldson

0438 585 864

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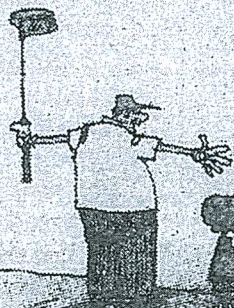
Working Bee.

Come along and make our Smiths Beach Township more beautiful. Everyone is invited to join the happy planters at a working bee scheduled for Sunday 17th September. We plan to meet at the Smiths Beach carpark, eastern end at 10.00am. I understand David Martin from the BCSC will be coordinating the planting around Smiths and the drainage reserve. He will provide all the necessary tools, plants and equipment. It will be a good opportunity to meet other Smiths Beach property owners. Bruce Wilson will be leading the team.



Non Sequitur by Wiley

SOMEDAY, SON,
WHEN I'M GONE,
ALL THIS WILL
BE YOURS.
OF COURSE, IT'LL
BE UNDERWATER
BY THEN, BUT IT'S
THE THOUGHT
THAT COUNTS



1ST TEE

GLOBAL
WARMING of
the HEART

PHOTO BY ANDREWS BEECHER/ARTIST

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