

Celebrate Seaspray

A free quarterly newsletter produced by the Seaspray Ratepayers' Association
with the support of the Wellington Shire Council



SPRING EDITION

OCTOBER 2019



Merriman's Creek has continued to run into the ocean and has consequently had a big clean out and is ready for summer swimming.

SEASPRAY RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S REPORT (by Kaylene Wheeler)

The Seaspray Ratepayers' Association works very hard for our community and does so willingly in such a positive way, which is why I'd like to congratulate all members of the Association on the support they give me in my role as President as it certainly makes my role much easier.

As part of my role, I recently attended a Wellington Shire seminar with fellow member Jo Richardson to find out more about how the SRA can best organise community events and also to better understand the insurance and budgeting requirements for such events. The knowledge we gained will prove invaluable as the SRA continues to run successful events in Seaspray such as our Anzac Day service, our Mingle Markets, childrens' activities over summer and our Australia Day service.

During this seminar we were also briefed on the new Government Child Safety Standards which came into effect on 1 July and how we can best implement these standards at our events. Being across these Standards is just one way we can continue to run such great community events in the future and I strongly urge everyone who is able to help us run our events to get a Working With Children's check, which is free and can be done online.

In other news, I'm pleased to report the SRA was also successful in obtaining a Wellington Shire grant, which will help us cover the printing costs for this newsletter for the current financial year. Thanks to the Wellington Shire for its support and thanks to fellow committee member Zoe Cutis who publishes this newsletter for our community to enjoy. As part of this grant process we had to update our editorial, advertising and dispute resolution policies, which we have included in this newsletter for all to read.

Over the past few months there has also been much discussion regarding our avenue of cypress trees at the entrance to our town. VicRoads is the responsible party for the care and maintenance of these iconic trees and we thank it for regularly monitoring their ongoing safety on behalf our community. We hope we can look forward to driving through these lovely cypress trees for as long as is safely viable.

I'm also pleased to report that work should start very soon on better safety measures at the Futcher St/Shoreline Rd corner (near the Caravan Park). This work is to be completed by the Wellington Shire and will make it much safer for our Caravan Park visitors to access the beach and it will also force traffic to slow down, which will benefit the safety of all pedestrians. This has been a big win for our community.

(continued over page)

(from previous page)

I would also like to announce that over Christmas and New Year, Seaspray will host a small four-day carnival on the Foreshore Reserve, which will be accompanied by a Mini Market. Please keep monitoring the Celebrate Seaspray Facebook page for more information as it comes to hand.

Childrens' activities will be held at the Seaspray Hall over Christmas and New Year and I encourage you to keep an eye out for more information, which will also be posted on the Celebrate Seaspray Facebook page and in the Summer/December edition of this newsletter.

Finally, I'd like to remind you that everyone is always welcome to come to our meetings and become a member of the SRA, which is as simple as paying a \$5 annual membership. Our next meeting will be held on Saturday November 2 at 11am at the Seaspray Hall. By holding this meeting on the Melbourne Cup long weekend, we hope it will make it easier for members to attend who don't live permanently in Seaspray but would still like to join us for some meetings. Please support us as we support you. Success is strength in numbers.

Cheers,

Kaylene Wheeler - Seaspray Ratepayers' Association President

* * * * *

VALE (by Sue Kennedy)

It is with sadness that the Seaspray community recently learnt of the death of Mr Colin Bock. The name Bock is historically significant in the history of Seaspray as five generations of the Bock family have been associated with our town since the 1860s when Colin's great grandfather Fred Bock would first visit Seaspray (which was then known as Prospect). Fred's eldest son Ernest and wife Eleanor built a house in Bearup Street in 1910 before the town was surveyed, they named the house "Eleanora" and became permanent residents after retirement. All five generations of the Bock family have since enjoyed holidays in this house and Bock Street in the centre of town is named after the family. Ernest and Eleanor were leaders in the community and were known for organising many social events in the old hall, working for the Church, CWA, the Hall and Foreshore committees and the summer school. The couple had four children: Jack, Eric, George and Norma. George Bock was the first baby ever to be christened in the town (in the Hall) and Norma was the first bride to be married in the Church of the Epiphany in Buckley Street. Ernest and Eleanor's son Eric had three children: Brian, Colin and Jill. Colin contributed amazing early photos and personal memories for the Seaspray history book *On the Prospect*. He and wife Lois lived their retirement years on the Sunshine Coast where he passed away on July 14, 2019. Colin's sister Jill shared the following story about his final days: "Colin was unconscious and on life support for about two weeks (before he died). On one day visit I asked if I may play my collection of music called 'Favourite Songs from around the piano at Seaspray'. They reduced Colin's medication for that visit and we played my collection of those favourite and nostalgic Irish and Australian songs from those very early days around the piano at Seaspray."



SEASPRAY BUSINESS DIRECTORY :: snake catchers

- Snakes Alive Gippsland (Kathleen Cropley): 0408 520 630.
- Latrobe Valley Snake Catchers (Robert Harkess): 0417 523 104.
- Josh Neille (limited availability): 0438 590 648.

CELEBRATE SEASPRAY'S EDITORIAL POLICIES

Celebrate Seaspray welcomes editorial contributions, which are published on its Facebook page and in the print newsletter at the editor's discretion. Editorial submissions can be made via a direct message (DM) on the Celebrate Seaspray Facebook page or via email at celebratesseaspray@gmail.com

Advertising Policy: Celebrate Seaspray does not accept paid advertising.

Dispute Resolution Policy: If a dispute arises from any content published by Celebrate Seaspray it will be responded to by either the Celebrate Seaspray editor or the Seaspray Ratepayers' Association president. Serious complaints will be raised at the following month's Seaspray Ratepayers' Association meeting and a printed apology will only be offered if a serious error has occurred that cannot be resolved by any other means.