

PRESIDENT'S REPORT to the 5th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
on 17th July 2016 of the
SHOREHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION Inc.

OPENING

This Report is made on behalf of a thoughtful, committed, hardworking team – the SCA Committee.

Let me introduce the members: Rob Patrick (Vice President), Kathryn Shain (Secretary), Barbara Kelly (Treasurer), Peter Kelly, Verity Saunders Ducos, Alan Fisher, Ian Joy – Lee Collins & Sue Boggan are absent today & during the year Kerrie Hopkins found work commitments were too demanding & retired.

1. ORGANISING SHOREHAM VOICES

There are many ways someone can express their enjoyment of living or holidaying at Shoreham. It is very important that we hear the stories of older residents, & people who have families associated with Shoreham over generations. Learning of the past interests, activities & achievements of past times inform us today - how facilities we take for granted now - relied on the foresight, blood, sweat & tears of our predecessors.

That is why the SCA Committee asked Loris, Fiona & Michael to tell us about some of their personal recollections, as each is a member of a family with long associations with Shoreham.

From the earliest days of European settlement to the present, people living in the area known as Shoreham, have formed strong social & emotional bonds with each other. They have mixed with each other on a daily basis or at holiday times, sharing in common residence, schooling, worship, recreation & work.

As the village grew during the twentieth century & into the twenty first century, experience taught people that local organising of interest & concern was required to secure, preserve & develop specific Shoreham interests. Over the years various interests have been, and continue to be, handled by a School Committee, a Church Parish Committee, a Foreshore Committee, a Tennis Club. The Shoreham Rural Fire Brigade was one of the Shoreham Progress Association's initiatives in 1949. Many of the public utilities we enjoy today – retention of the Old School building, play ground, bus shelter, roads, electricity, reticulated water - were gained following persistent lobbying by the Progress Association as it engaged with the Shire and State Government.

The existence of the Shoreham Community Association is the result of one lesson Shoreham people have learned very well – that the local voices need to be organised. For governments & other institutions take heed of voices that are organised – of bodies that validly claim being representative..

This is the second lesson well known to the Association - that that the local organization must be representative of the voices...that it must ensure it has a mandate to represent. AGM's with their annual reporting & properly conducted

election of office bearers & committee members by a membership who subscribe to the organization's 'goals & objectives' are ways of guaranteeing its accountability to the visions & wishes of the community.

2. REPRESENTING SHOREHAM'S VOICES ABOUT SPECIFIC PROPERTY DEVELOPMENTS

In 2006, more than one hundred property owners, campers, holiday makers & permanent residents met to object to the construction of unwanted & inappropriate buildings at the Post Office & former General Store sites. Together they demonstrated a very strong sense of how belonging to Shoreham was expressed as a shared vision of the shape & character of the village environment. This action reflected the same spirit displayed by earlier generations of Shoreham people who had recognised the vital political importance of forming an organisation in order to defend & to prosper their image of a desirable built character for Shoreham – one without loss of social & retail well being. For nearly a decade the Shoreham Village Community Taskforce has exhibited that value.

As you know, the Shoreham Community Association accepted the Taskforce's charter a little more than a year ago.

The SCA well knows the visible scar, the felt social cost, & the emotional toll experienced by Colin Fairley, Jenny & most Shoreham folk, arising from the failure of the developer to action works at the Post Office. The SCA continues to regularly & persistently advise the developer's agent of the hurt to, & impatience of, Shoreham people – that we want a post office & a general store. We have asked: Why has nothing happened for so long? & When will the works begin?

The latest advice concerning the Post Office site is: Planning Approval has been obtained from the Shire; VCAT has mediated a resolution between an objector & the developer; a Building Permit has been given....so that works are expected to start in July 2016 – yes, may be up to 14 days to go!

Furthermore, local architects - Russell Barrett & Sally Draper - on a pro bono basis – have considered the Agent's proposed design for holiday units at the former General Store site. Whatever is the agent's response, the SCA will give the community every opportunity to express their viewpoints at a public community meeting so the community's voice will provide a mandate for the SCA to negotiate with the agent & developer.

3. CURRENT SCA PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

- **Trails** – a joint project with the Shire, the Foreshore Reserve Committees of Shoreham & Point Leo, & eventually the Department of Environment to construct two Trails/Pathways linking Point Leo & Shoreham – one along the road verges, & the other a narrow grass path at the rear of the two foreshore reserves – while protecting the beach dunes. Convenors are Rob Patrick & Lee Collins.
- **Shoreham Common Village Community Placemaking Project** – in conjunction with the Shire who have committed \$40,000 over the next 12 months, the project aims to produce a plan for the Common's development as a result of a

consultative process that ensures the participation of all Shoreham stakeholders, residents & interested parties; & involves public meetings, a Reference Group of residents & stakeholders, & an advisory Creative Group of local resident professional landscape architects & architects. As owners responsible for the Common, the Shire must finally approve the plan – Convenor: Verity Saunders Ducos

- **Common Signage** – SCA has received a grant from the Shire to design & construct a historical information display, probably to be located on the Common. This is a project with the Flinders District Historical Society & volunteer assistance from Alina Kelly & architect, Adrian Bonomi – Ann Renkin, Barbara Kelly, Verity Saunders Ducos, & Ann Lorkin are the planning group.

- **Shoreham Triangle** – with Shire, implementing the plan to re-vegetate the Triangle with fire resistant, native plants/trees, pathways & interpretative signage for public education – Convenor: Peter Kelly

- **Restoration of the Old School Community Hall** – in the Shire Council’s 2016/17 Budget, \$170,000 has been committed to fund the restoration of the Heritage listed building’s foundations; & then renovate the other external & internal features of the Old School building – Convenor: Alan Fisher.

- **Byrnes Road Verge** – the Shire has committed \$7,000 to deploy their outsourced contractor Broad Spectrum to devise a plan to provide fire protection by landscaping & re-vegetating the road verge. The SCA has emphasised that the support of Shoreham people, especially neighbouring residents must be obtained – Convenor: Sue Boggan

- **Drainage Issues** – Drawing the Shire’s attention to various sites where there is a need for effective improvement; and the need for an overall drainage scheme for the village – Convenor: Peter Kelly

- **Defibrillator** – gifted by Balnarring Bendigo Bank to the Community. Alan Fisher has mounted the defibrillator equipment on the wall adjacent to the Post Office entrance. Already two training sessions have been held for local people – Convenor: Alan Fisher

- **“Black Spots” Nomination of Roads submitted to Local Federal Member Greg Hunt MP** – SCA has completed a submission to the Commonwealth Government seeking the construction of road safety improvements at Flinders-Frankston Road intersections with both ends of Byrnes Road, & at the Nelson Street intersection with the Flinders-Frankston Road. Our nomination for “Black Spots” funding followed a resident’s request to the Shire to make Buxton Lane a through road so that the unsafe entry from Nelson Street into/out off the highway was avoided. The Shire did not satisfy the request, stating no funds were available. The SCA told Cr Tim Wood it did not want the throughway; & a petition of 60+ affected resident householders was another deciding factor.

- **Heritage protection of ‘Alavina’** – SCA has been objecting to the demolition of this heritage listed house at 16 Beach Road, & will appear at a VCAT Hearing on 19th October.

- **Monitoring MPS Planning Permit Applications** – in order to preserve the character & amenity of Shoreham, to identify architecturally notable buildings & historically significant sites, & to protect against inappropriate developments. For example: the SCA has appealed to Ct Tim Wood to get the Shire to order the owner of the two cabins deposited on his property at Frankston-Flinders Road – the former Tec Nevin land.

- **Monitoring Post Office- General Store Site Developments** –

Rob Patrcik, Sue Boggan & Peter Renkin

- **The Communications Committee** – is responsible for: publishing an eNewsletter to SCA members & residents a number of times each year- copies are placed on the Post Office counter & foyer Noticeboard; & is responsible for the Community Website which is most competently managed by Linda Patrick – Convenor: Kathryn Shain with Bob Nottle, Linda Patrick, Verity Ducos & Barbara Kelly

- **“Cuppa & Talk”** a meeting arranged by SCA for anyone interested, but especially for older residents, including Shoreham House residents – on the first Friday morning in the month at 10.30am & held at the Rural Fire Brigade’s rooms Convenor – Lee Collins with Jean Downing, Kathryn Shain, Ann & Peter Renkin, & Verity Ducos.

- **‘Barb’s Walk’** – a monthly walking group (currently in recess) – Convenor – Barbara Kelly

- **‘Community Dinners’** – sponsored by SCA & held quarterly in the Old School Hall for Shoreham people – singles, couples, families, all ages – where people enjoy each other’s company & share their food & BYO drink - Convenor – Lee Collins

The SCA is an active member of the on the following bodies:

- **Shire’s Old School Community Hall Reference Group** – meets quarterly & is chaired by a Shire Officer - the Reference Group advises the Shire about what should be done to preserve & maintain the condition of the Hall & its facilities. The Reference Group membership includes: Ann & John Lorkin, Steve Dolman, Linda Patrick (representing the Flinders District Historical Society), David Maddocks, Peter Renkin, with Alan Fisher as Convenor.

- **RAM Meeting** – organised by Cr Tim Wood, Shire Councillor for the Red Hill Ward – a bi-monthly meeting of the Ward’s resident associations attended by the SCA President + one other SCA Committee member. The meeting agendas are set by the resident associations.

- **Red Hill Ward Consultative Group** – a bi-monthly meeting organised by the Ward’s community/resident associations: attended by the SCA President + Committee members.

- **SCA has a special relationship with the Shoreham Foreshore Reserve Committee** – Currently the issue of major concern is dealing with a Proposal of the Department of Environment, Water, Land & Planning to amalgamate the Westernport Foreshore Reserve Committees.

4. THANK YOU

- to everyone who is a paid up member of the SCA. Size of membership makes for a strong voice. The fall in the number of members this year has troubled the Committee.

- to members of the SCA Committee who have attended eleven meetings; & to their partners & children who share the burden of responsibility.

- to the Executive of Rob, Kathryn & Barb. They are on call to consider what & how to tackle key issues.

- to Linda Patrick for effectively managing the Community Website; & for being scrutineer today.

- to Helen & Brian Alcock for again so well organising the BBQ

lunch today

- to Cr Tim Wood & Shire officers
- to our Architects' Panel of Sally Draper & Russell Barrett. Sadly the other member of the Panel, Keith Lodge, died earlier in the year.
- to Loris Woods & Fiona Hasker for their speeches
- to all of you for attending this AGM

PeterRenkin
President, Shoreham Community Association

July 2016