

Merricks Matters

Spring 2014

Newsletter for the Merricks Beach Community

Spring sunshine is here!

September	Monday	29	9am-11am	Tennis coaching: Bookings Grant O'Callaghan 0417 528 502
	Tuesday	30		
October	Look out for the sandwich board notices			Merricks Beach Foreshore Committee working bees and Friends of Bill Carroll Reserve working bees
	Thursdays		5pm	Drinks in the MYC clubhouse
November	Saturday	1		Merricks Yacht Club Opening Day and sail past at MYC Clubhouse
	Sunday	2	10am	MBRA Special General Meeting at Merricks Yacht Club
		2	9.30-12.30	MB Foreshore Committee Working Bee Merricks Yacht Club
	Sunday	2	2pm	Norma Larsson Memorial Celebration at Merricks Yacht Club

In this issue:

New MBRA website	Page 1
Successful MBRA plant giveaway.....	Page 1
The Merricks Beach Story.....	Page 1
MBRA Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)	Page 2
New Red Hill Ward Councillor	Page 2
Action on Speed.....	Page 2
Merricks Yacht Club	Page 2
Vale Norma Larsson.....	Page 3
Bill Carroll Reserve.....	Page 4

New MBRA Website

Katherine McGrath has generated the MBRA website on behalf of the MBRA Committee. While we have enjoyed the benefits of the MYC site for many years, we wanted to engage with residents more directly. After the Extraordinary General Meeting (Sun 2 Nov 10am MYC) we will be able to post notices of meetings by email and copies of these and other documents will be held on the website, delivering less paper, work and effort for MBRA committee members, and greater flexibility for residents. We welcome suggestions as we continue to develop the site. So take a few minutes to view <http://merricksbeach.org.au/> Thanks Katherine McGrath!

Successful MBRA Plant Giveaway

It was encouraging to see so many residents collecting their free plants during the giveaway on the Queen's Birthday long weekend. Approximately 250 plants were collected with the remaining ones planted through the Foam St walkway, and at the Foam St / Palmers Hill Road and Bayview / Palmers Hill Road intersections by energetic volunteers. We thank them for their time and enthusiasm for improving the environment around the village. The remaining plants were donated to the Foreshore Committee.

Roy Wiedemeyer MBRA

The Merricks Beach Story

Profits from the sale of *The Merricks Beach Story* have now reached \$2000, which Jenny Ferguson and Meg Paul have donated to the Foreshore Committee and the Bill Carroll Reserve. This was especially welcomed by them due to recent cuts to environment funding by the federal and state governments. So help pay for keeping the paths to the beach clear of blackberries by buying another book/s. Remaining copies are available at \$7.00 per copy or two copies for \$10.00 plus \$2.00 p&h. Cheap Xmas cards? Interested? Leave a message on 03 5983 5848 or email megpaul3@bigpond.com

Merricks Matters Spring 2014

MBRA Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

On Sunday 2 November at 10am at the Merricks Yacht Clubhouse, the MBRA will hold an EGM. As previously foreshadowed, the committee of the MBRA is proposing that the association adopt new rules. The rules are, in effect, the constitution of the MBRA. Earlier this year, members were sent the proposed new rules, together with a copy of the existing rules, a comparison table and an explanatory letter, and were invited to comment. Those who commented did so favourably, and no queries were raised or changes suggested. Accordingly, the MBRA committee has convened a special general meeting of the members of the association to be held on 2 November 2014 for the purpose of voting on a resolution to adopt the new rules. The MBRA decided to have a special meeting rather than incorporate the discussion into the AGM in January so we could make a very clear and unambiguous distinction between the AGM and the EGM. We are keen for your support, so please come along to the meeting. It will be a good forum to meet with the MBRA. If you have any queries, please send them by email to peter@cashhogarth.net or by letter to the MBRA's postal address, as soon as possible.

Peter Cash, Secretary, MBRA

New Red Hill Ward Councillor Elected

On 24th August the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council held an election for the position vacated by Frank Martin. MBRA thanks Frank for creating the Red Hill Ward Consultative Group, a forum where residents from the local villages can meet and discuss issues. Frank was also very supportive of the traffic calming features MBRA achieved at Foam St and Palmers Hill Rd. and Bayview and Palmers Hill Road. Tim Wood was elected as the new councillor and the MBRA will shortly meet with him to hear more about his ideas and to promote the interests and concerns of the Merricks Beach residents. During the election campaign, the MBRA asked all candidates a series of questions. Their responses were emailed to all on our mailing list. We received many positive responses from residents. No doubt the initiative hit the mark and we expect to repeat in about a year when the next election will take place.

Action on Speed

For the last few years the MBRA has partnered with the Council to improve the surface of our roads. The roads are probably in the best condition they have been for many years and held up remarkably well through the winter period. Now the MBRA has succeeded in convincing the Council to trial new traffic calming measures. Two slow points will be installed on Palmers Hill Rd (either side of the roundabout) and one at the intersection of Bayview Rd and Spray St. The bollards at the village entrances will also be replaced. The trial will monitor the effect on traffic speeds and highlight any issues. A successful trial will see similar treatments elsewhere in the village. Each site has been selected with a view to optimising traffic control while minimising inconvenience to householders. Council will pay the initial cost of each slow point, however, landscaping and additional points will necessitate a co-contribution. Installation is set for September/October followed by summer and winter traffic surveys. The trial should take about twelve months. The MBRA considers this trial to be a significant step forward, as Council has previously always resisted installing slow points on gravel roads.

Andrew Ellery MBRA: Bernard Barrett Roads and Drains Sub-committee

Merricks Yacht Club

The much anticipated renovations to our clubhouse have begun! By the time the season starts we should have a brand new kitchen, bar and trophy cabinet. Come along and help us christen our new space at the official sailing season opening day on November 1st. We'll have our usual sail past and race, followed by the Commodore's Cocktail party with canapés and open bar at 6.30. If you're around during the week, drop in at 5.30 every Thursday for Happy Hour at the club – share a drink and nibbles with the neighbours and catch up with old friends. Whether you want to get out on the water, or just socialize with other members of the community, with sailing and social memberships on offer, our club has something for everyone. New members are always welcome - if you'd like to know more, contact our membership coordinator at membership@merricks.org.

Patsy Moloney MYC

Vale Norma Larsson



Norma Helen Larsson, nee Brooks, died at the age of 97 on 10th May 2014. She was a well-known and actively involved member of the Merricks Beach community and the MYC. A celebration of Norma's life will be held at the MYC on November 2 at 2pm. All welcome.

Some years ago Catherine Mair interviewed Norma for a 2009 edition of *Merricks Matters* and we thought residents would be interested to read an edited version of that article.

Photo: Norma, aged 90, at *Noravelo*, Merricks Beach 2007.

(Thank you to Jo O'Neil and Perry and Elaine Larsson.)

Norma first came to Merricks Beach 83 years ago, in 1926! *I was 9 years old. My father Sid purchased the first lot of land sold off by the Coles family. The block was in Surf Street and he paid 45 pounds for the lot, with a 1 pound deposit. Dad was able to pay it off in 5 years and over the years my family purchased other blocks at Merricks Beach. I'm now here permanently. My daughter Carla has a home in Bayview Road and my son Perry is next door to me. Both spend a lot of time at Merricks with their children and grandchildren. Sitting on my front steps chatting with my great-grandchildren is something I especially enjoy.*

Tell us about those early years at Merricks Beach.

It used to take us well over 3 hours to drive here from Melbourne. It was a slow trip on the old roads and I remember Dad telling my brothers and I to "huff and puff" when we were trying to get up the hills! Our house had no water or electricity, and there were open paddocks all around us. Dad was a keen shooter and good at getting the rabbits. We had a Boat House on the beach and there used to be a supply cart that came from the Merricks General Store selling ice-blocks and drinks. That was a real treat my brothers and I enjoyed. I also have many happy memories of going for long walks. I used to walk everywhere - I've never driven - and it was a lovely way to meet new people.

By the 60's more homes started to be built and by the 70's I'd say it was about as built up as it is now – of course, most of the homes from the 30's and 40's are now gone. The sense of community has never been lost and I hope it never is. You meet the nicest people here! Sitting on the deck at the MBYC is one of my favourite pastimes – there is always someone to chat to.

The yacht club came about in 1964 and I was involved with it from the beginning. Dad had a boat, but his interest was fishing, whereas my brother Vern was a keen sailor and I sailed on his boat. From about the early 70's I was the Race Controller and I did that for 20 or so years. I just loved it! I was made the 1st Life Member of the MBYC, and they named the tower after me. That was a real thrill and very kind.

I've had lots of fun times at the yacht club. I also like the Sand Modeling Competition as it brings young and old together. I'm never alone when I'm at the yacht club. You don't have to be a member to join in. Just come along, you'll always be welcome. That's what I like about Merricks Beach.

Friends of Bill Carroll Reserve

Bill Carroll Reserve is at last showing the results of the incredible work a small band of volunteers have put in, particularly over the last five years. Several winters of good rains have helped and the new gardens are starting to fill out beautifully. A meeting and working bee is planned for late in September. Please come, help with weeding, mulching, pruning and feel part of this special, relatively unspoiled part of the Peninsula. Keep your eyes peeled for the sandwich boards advertising times and dates. New members very, very welcome.

Jan Gilfillan FBCR

Merricks Meanderings

Members of the MBRA thought that you might be interested in the various activities that keep residents busy when they are at the village and so we are very keen to hear about your and your family's interesting pastimes so please email the editor with a photo and a short paragraph and you may see yourself in print!

We welcome any items of interest and photos for future editions of Merricks Matters. Please email your copy to Gai Wilson, wilsong@inet.net.au To join MBRA contact Roy Wiedemeyer 0418 148 123

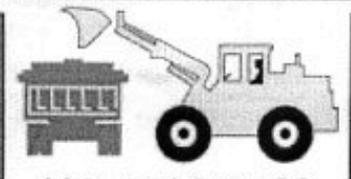


Coolart Carpentry & Construction
Quality work at a fair Price!

Sam Goode 0422-060-449
Postal Address: (03) 5983 5984
P.O. Box 310, Balnarring, 3926
AHN 5412902681 coolartcarpentry@bigpond.com

Satchwells Real Estate
Just love selling properties in
Merricks Beach.
We are very good at it.
Our results & success
for over 25 years speak
for themselves.
14 Balnarring Village
Phone 5983 5509

MKD EXCAVATIONS & PLANT HIRE



- +DRIVEWAYS
- +FOUNDATIONS
- +SITE CUTS
- +DRAINAGE
- +RUBBISH REMOVALS

- +TANDEM TIP TRUCK HIRE
- +ROCK AND SAND DELIVERIES
- 4WD BACKHOE

AH: 5983 0463
MOB: 0418 533 117

Karina@Lavender Hill

Karina Hilterman
B.H.Sc. Dip. Med Herb. M.V.H.A.
Medical Herbalist & Herbal Dispensary

Merricks Beach, Vic 3926
Ph: +61 3 5983 1534 • Mob: 0400 019 567
Email: karina@lavenderhillherbals.com • www.lavenderhillherbals.com



COOLART PLUMBING
Drainage
Roofing

Peter Tickell
Licence P# 22232
AHN 35 006 899 841

3 Bayview Rd, Balnarring Beach
Phone: 03 59 835 934
Mobile: 0407 329 800
Email: coolartplumbing@hotmail.com
PO Box 59, Balnarring, 3926



HALL power

REC: 19664
Chris Hall - A Grade Electrician
0438 087 852

New Homes & Extensions
Oven & Stove repairs
Power & Lighting
Safety Switches & Switchboard Upgrades
Phone, Data & TV points
No obligation free quotes

www.hallpower.com.au