

Summer fun at the beach

December	Sunday	22	8-9am	Beach Clean Up MBFC
	Sunday	29	8-9am	Beach Clean Up MBFC
	Monday	30	10am	CFA Fire Ready Information Session
	Thursdays			Drinks in the MYC clubroom
	Look out for the sandwich board			Friends of Bill Carroll Reserve Working Bee
	Friday	27	10-2pm 6.30pm	Try Sailing Program Movies Night, Merricks Yacht Club
January	Sunday	5	8-9am	Beach Clean Up MBFC
		5	10-11.30am	Merricks Beach Residents' Association AGM
	Friday	10	6.30pm	Movies Night, Merricks Yacht Club
	Sunday	12	8-9am	Happy Hour in the MYC clubroom
		12	11am	Sand Modeling Competition & Sausage Sizzle MBRA
	Wednesday	15	6.30pm	Movies Night, Merricks Yacht Club
	Sunday	19	8-9am	Beach Clean Up MBFC
			8-9am	Beach Clean Up MBFC
	Sunday	26	8-9am	Beach Clean Up MBFC
		26		Community activity MBFC
	Thursday			Happy Hour in the MYC clubroom
February	Sunday	2	8-9am	Beach Clean Up MBFC

Dog beach walking times – summer – before 9am & after 7pm – **No dogs on beach between 9am and 7pm.**

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How Is Your Mobile Coverage !

Mine is terrible! Just floating the boat . . . Do Merricks Beach people want better mobile coverage?

Does that mean a tower? Where would it be located? NIMBY? (Not In My Back Yard)!

What would it look like? We have heard about mobile towers that are low profile, ie not 30 meters high and that look like trees...but this is unconfirmed.

First step - tell us how you feel about it...we are seeking your feedback.

Contact Roy 0418 148 123 roywied@vic.chariot.net.au

Roy Wiedemeyer, President, MBRA

Merricks Matters Summer 2014

All set for another super sailing season

Sunshine and kind winds helped make the MYC's sailing season opening day a great success -it was wonderful to see so many boats out on the water for the official sail past and opening race. Our special guests, local sailing champion, James Wierzbowski, and author, Shane Moloney, entertained the crowd at the commodore's cocktail drinks as the sun set and another bumper sailing and social season was officially launched. A big thank you to those who attended our working bees in October to ensure our club, yard and surrounding environment are in great shape for the busy summer season. We've got an extensive sailing and social program over the Christmas period that promises something for everyone. Get out on the water and have fun with the Try Sailing and junior race programs, be entertained at our movie nights, check out the kids' groovy dance moves at the Little Dudes Disco, and eat well at our ever-popular themed dinners and balcony breakfasts. Check the website for details. Don't forget our Thursday night Happy Hours! Hope to see you at the club and on the water over summer.

Patsy Maloney, Newsletter Editor, Merricks Yacht Club

SPRING.... and the Reserve is looking pretty good!

Over the last few years we, the committee and members, and some dedicated volunteers have worked hard to improve the Reserve. First was the need to make the lagoon more water tight, which has resulted in a wonderful playground for frogs of different species, and after rain one can experience music while you walk. Second and third there have been large mass plantings of local indigenous species of plants sourced from a local nursery. Much of this work has been undertaken at working bees and a few walkers who pluck a weed or two as they wander around the park.

An AGM will have been held by the time this goes to print so keep your eye out for the sandwich boards advertising working bees and please come along to help. Even just 15 to 30 minutes of weeding or pruning can make a huge difference. New members will be welcomed with open arms as the dedicated group, so long involved is slowly dwindling. Please come and enjoy a stroll and check out the park and if you look closely you may see lots of hidden wildlife. If you have an interest in gardening, local plant species, frogs or just want a nice place to wander, sit, picnic, walk the dog, or meet the locals – the Reserve is waiting!

Jan Gilfillan Friends of Bill Carroll Reserve ph.0400573635

The CFA can help answer your questions

What: Free bushfire information session for Merricks Beach residents
Where: Merricks Beach Yacht Club
When: 10am Monday 30 December 2013
Find out: Up to date and important information for this fire season
Information: CFA District Office - 9767 1800

Every home in Merricks Beach should have its own Bushfire Survival Plan. For further information on how to develop your plan go to www.cfa.vic.gov.au

Come along and speak with the **CFA** about your fire questions and concerns for this season.

Dogs and Kids and Dogs and Poo and Dogs and Responsibility

We all love our dogs.

Some people may not share your view.

Be responsible.

Kids and people who don't have dogs are often scared of dogs, which often makes dogs more aggressive.

Be considerate, be a responsible dog owner.

Oh and if your dogs run free and you can't find its pooh . . . pick up someone else's . . .

I'm sure you agree, that's a fair trade. Pretty easy really !!

Merricks Meanderings

Members of the MBRA thought that you might be interested in the various activities that keep Merricks Beach residents busy when they are at the village and so we present *Merricks Meanderings*. 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! In this edition, Merricks Beach artist Carole Milton shares some memories, and some art.



Do you remember this Merricks dwelling?

Artist Carole Milton recalls when she made these sketches.

I had been attracted to this small rustic building up the road for a few years. One sunny, perfect Merricks Beach day, I decided to do a water-colour sketch of it. Armed with my stool, pens and paints, I walked up the street, then made myself comfortable in the long grass and started sketching.

It wasn't long before I drew interest from locals walking by, and they volunteered some information about my subject.

The quaint building was known locally as Aub's Shed. And yes, it was still inhabited.

I enjoyed painting this subject so much, that I did two, each from a different angle. As I recall, Aub's Shed stood on land near where The Davies family residence is now, in Surf Street.

Not long after doing these sketches, the little building disappeared.

The year was 1993.



Merricks Beach Foreshore Committee

The MBFC works hard to keep the Reserve a sustainable and natural environment that protects the indigenous flora and fauna, while providing a safe and attractive asset for the local and wider community to enjoy. Did you know the Committee is granted around \$10 for every hour community members spend helping to keep the beach clean? We held 13 beach clean-ups in 2013 involving a total of over 500 people. **So please help us by continuing to participate.** This year, beach clean-ups will be held from 8am to 9am on the first Sunday of every month during daylight saving, and every Sunday during the Summer school holidays. Please sign on at the Yacht Club gate.

The Committee's worst problem this year has been in relation to dog control, including one serious attack. We are relying on you to support your community by abiding by the rules – please leave your dog/s at

home when you visit the beach during the day (between 9am and 7pm), keep your dog/s on a lead when you walk them on the beach outside of these times, and always clean up after them.

Joyce Lawrence Secretary

Seeking a New Auditor for MBRA Accounts Next Year

Graham Henderson has performed a wonderful role as the Honorary MBRA auditor over the past 5 years. Thank you Graham. The MBRA is now seeking a replacement for next years' accounts.

If you can perform this function, please contact Roy 0418 148 123 roywied@vic.chariot.net.au

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


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