



# Frankston Beach Association Inc.

*Preserving the beach for all to use*

## Winter 2020 Newsletter

Frankston Beach Association (FBA) thanks members and friends who continue to support our efforts to preserve the beach for all to use. We appreciate your encouragement for the Association to continue with its aims and do hope that you, your family and friends will renew membership with us for the current financial year.

### Vale Pat Bentley

#### **FBA Committee Member Pat Bentley**

We are deeply saddened by the sudden passing on July 15 of our dear friend and colleague Pat Bentley. A committed environmental activist, a founding member of the Association and an FBA Committee Member for more than 35 years.

Pat leaves a lasting effect on all those who came in contact with her as she moved from one environmental endeavour to the next, from one community group to another, from local government issues to business activities. Pat was always there – heading up the stall, waving the placards, handing out brochures, engaging with all members of the community, having her say and getting the message across.

At 90 years of age Pat was actively engaged in the Frankston Environmental Friends Network, Foreshore Advisory Committee, Downs Estate Community Project Committee, War Memorial Advisory Committee and the Kananook Creek Association. Pat was also a foundation member of the Western Port Biosphere.

Pat will forever be in our thoughts. We will remember her engaging smile as she entered the meeting room, her valued input across a broad range of topics, the suggested alternative solutions to the issues at hand and the cheeky asides that many will remember as a calming effect during in-depth discussion.

Our sincerest condolences to Pat's family and friends. *Rest in Peace Pat*, you will be sorely missed.

***Pat Bentley 1930-2020***

#### **A personal reflection from Peta Murphy, MP**

Pat Bentley was a champion for and of her community. She loved the beach. She loved the environment. She loved her family. And everyone loved her. Pat was a voice for environmental protection and projects until her final day. Many members of Frankston Beach Association knew Pat for more years than they can count. They can and have spoken of Pat's lasting legacy to our community.

As someone who had the pleasure and privilege of knowing Pat over recent years, I want to acknowledge that legacy and her service - and add my personal reflection of what a gentle, supportive and encouraging woman she was.

One of the last times I saw Pat was when she opened the composting toilet at the Downs Estate. She was tickled pink to be doing so, announcing to all present that she never expected in her life that she would get to formally open a toilet!

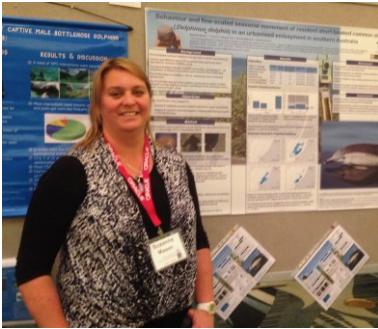
Pat will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved her and in her impact on our community. And, if her spirit ever wants to visit us all to make sure we are behaving ourselves, the (hopefully soon) restored farm house at Downs Estate will clearly be the venue.



## Frankston Beach Association Inc. 38<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

You are cordially invited to attend the **FBA AGM on Sunday 27 September 2020 at 10.30 am**  
The event this year will be a Cloud Meeting via ZOOM

**Guest Speaker: Dr Sue Mason: "Whales and Dolphins of Port Phillip Bay"**



Sue is a Melbourne-based whale and dolphin biologist, science communicator and educator. Sue's PhD research focused on common dolphins, one of two species of dolphins that reside year-round in Port Phillip. She has worked on humpback whale projects as a volunteer and scientist in Australia and Hawaii, and has presented her research at international conferences and journals.

While working as the Research Director at the Dolphin Research Institute, Sue founded the Two Bays Whale Project with her colleagues. This social media-based citizen science project validates and documents sightings of whales in Port Phillip, Western Port and the Bass Coast.

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### Managing activities

FBA continues business through virtual Committee Meetings, supporting environmental issues as they arise. While we appreciate that only some activities can continue through this medium, we do find progress a little hindered as we battle to conquer the art of getting the message across the airwaves. A planning session will now focus on Management and Operational plan actions.

The Secretary is currently managing the new FBA website. We do seek support and would love to hear from anyone with expertise in this area who may be interested in assisting the Association.

### Our Recent Focus

Several environmental issues have come to light over the last three months and attention has been drawn to FBA concerns in submissions on the following:

#### **Frankston City Council (FCC) Annual Budget and Capital Works programs:**

Clarification was sought on proposed expenditure for fit-out for the accommodation of the Frankston Coast Guard at the Frankston Yacht Club as well as some of the budgeted Capital Works programs.

#### **FCC Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP)**

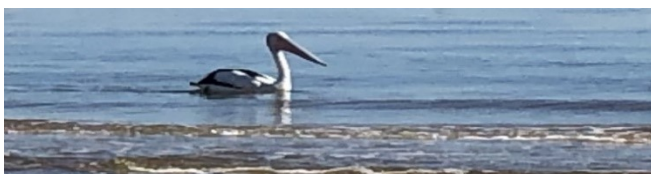
FBA is concerned by the increasingly observed presence of domestic cats on the Frankston foreshore reserves and surrounds and by evidence of their damage to native wildlife. To help reduce their impact on native wildlife numbers, FBA advocates a requirement in the DAMP for domestic cats to be registered, de-sexed by the age of 6 months, with exemptions for cats belonging to registered breeders, and confined 24-hours a day to an owner's property.

**FCC Yacht Club permit application:** Several issues were highlighted including the sale and consumption of alcohol in administration areas and a reduction in car parking spaces when the aim is to attract further business. FBA opposes any future additional areas of the coastal foreshore land being utilised for permanent or temporary car-parking spaces or for additional service functions for the Yacht Club.

**Note:** On August 11 Frankston City Council advised FBA that the Planning Permit Application to use the land for a Yacht Club, food and drink premises, office and the sale and consumption of liquor, has been withdrawn.

#### **Gould Street building concerns**

Concerns were raised with FCC in relation to the height and positioning of a proposed new building construction on a primary dune at the foreshore. FBA asked that consideration be given to erosion which may impact Frankston Foreshore.



*Pelican loves it when the waterways are quiet*

**Kananook Creek Governance Group:** FBA welcomes the formation of this group and upon request to FCC was granted representation on the newly formed Kananook Creek Governance Group. Bob Graham has been elected to represent FBA.

**Boardwalk Lighting:** FCC withdrew the night lighting of the beach boardwalk proposal and approved a redirection of the funds to a COVID -19 relief package.

**New swimming and boating zones** have been introduced around Port Phillip Bay beaches including Mordialloc to Seaford. FBA seeks further details from Sonya Kilkenny, MP for Carrum, regarding potential flow-on effects on Frankston beaches and foreshore.

**Mt Eliza Property:** FBA lodged an objection with Mornington Peninsula Shire Council to the \$80 million proposal by Ryman Healthcare to develop property at 60-70 Kunjung Road. Upon news of a Ryman appeal to Council knockback, FBA then wrote to Richard Wynne, MP. Minister for Planning.



### **Foreshore Activities Report**

FBA's foreshore activities were to begin on April 6 but Covid-19 intervened. Fortunately, three working bees were held prior to the second Government lockdown. Many thanks to the 6-9 volunteers who attended the sessions on Monday June 1, 15 and 29, planting 1200 tubes and removing a considerable amount of weed.

Thankfully, extensions were granted to all 3 ongoing projects. The Commonwealth funded Communities Environment Program - Palm Court to Fiocchi Avenue ends 30/6/2021 and should be completed by the deadline. The water tank and pump purchased through this grant is performing to task and made watering so much easier. A Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Coastcare grant project and a DELWP, Port Phillip Fund project are complete, thanks to the Frankston City Council Coastal Management unit under the direction of Cameron Ashwood. Scott McHarry, the attendant Ranger on site is to be congratulated on facilitating the work. Through Coastcare Victoria, DELWP had offered help to complete the Coastcare funded project using W4V crews. The Working for Victoria (W4V) initiative helps Victorians who have lost their jobs due to the economic impact of COVID-19 find new work opportunities. Fortunately, the Coastal Management unit was able to complete the work without DELWP assistance, which could then be directed elsewhere.

The foreshore team looks forward to a COVID-free 2021 so that work can continue unabated. Working Bee members will continue to receive regular updates from Johan De Bree, Foreshore Coordinator.

### **FBA AIMS**

Frankston Beach Association (FBA) aims to preserve and improve the natural features of the Frankston foreshore, having regard for appropriate and sustainable development. We support the provision of recreational facilities that are consistent with recognized coastal management principles.

**FBA Reg No. A0031686R,**

**ABN 68 874 762 64**

**FBA Website**

[www.frankstonbeach.org.au](http://www.frankstonbeach.org.au)

#### **Contact Details**

FBA Secretary, LPO Box 5092

Frankston South, VIC, 3199

Telephone: 0409 001 838

Email: [fbainc2006@hotmail.com](mailto:fbainc2006@hotmail.com)

#### **FBA Committee Members**

Joan Cavanagh, **FBA Secretary**

Ash Steegstra, **Treasurer/Membership Secretary**

Johan de Bree, **Foreshore Coordinator**

Kathy Cooper

Bob Graham

Maree Gray

Kath Hassell

John Maudsley

Vladas Petrulis

Eve Welch

The Committee highly appreciates and sincerely thanks community members Michele McKinlay and Judy Wachendorfer for the research undertaken and guidance provided to support FBA activities.



# FBA Membership Application

July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

Annual membership for the 2020/2021 financial year starts from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020. We welcome new members and invite you to apply to join our group by taking out an annual membership. For current members, renewal of membership is now due and we welcome your timely payment.

Membership is \$10 (family) or \$5 (concession). Concession includes seniors and pensioners.

It is more economical for us to make contact with you via email. If you agree to make this your preferred method of our communication with you, would you please include your email address below.

Thank you,

Ash Steegstra  
Treasurer FBA



I/we wish to join or renew my/our membership of the Frankston Beach Association and agree to support FBA aims and be bound by its Rules of Incorporation.

Name(s):

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

☐ This is my preferred means of communication

I/we are available to assist with voluntary work (e.g. planting out, research, foreshore maintenance etc.).  
My particular interest is:

I/we wish to further assist the FBA's activities, and enclose an additional one-off donation of \$

**Payment** Please send payment with this form **by post** to the Membership Secretary, Ash Steegstra, PO Box 5092, Frankston South 3199, **via email** to: [fbainc2006@hotmail.com](mailto:fbainc2006@hotmail.com) or **to pay your subscription via EFT, please refer to the following FBA bank details:**

BSB 033-362 Account No. 176020

YOUR SURNAME AND INITIALS must be included in the REFERENCE FIELD when using EFT so we can identify your payment.

Dear Member,

We thank you for another year of support and do hope that our performance over the past twelve months meets with your expectations in respect of the Association's aims and activities.

We would like to remind members who joined over the past five months that their joining fee covers membership for the 2020/2021 financial year.

Yours sincerely,  
Ash Steegstra, **Membership Secretary**