



Frankston Beach Association Inc.

Preserving the beach for all to use

Winter 2012 Newsletter

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FBA Committee:

President -	Graeme Lyell
Vice Pres. -	Frank Hart
Secretary -	Trish Cooper
Treasurer -	Trevor Paganoni
Committee -	Olwen Bawden
	Pat Bentley
	Johan de Bree
	Kath Hassell
	David Paterson
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	Eve Welch
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For enquiries about voluntary work on the foreshore or in the nursery, please contact Johan on 0418 374 981.

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Frankston Beach Association Aims to:
Preserve and improve the natural features of the Frankston foreshore, having regard for appropriate and sustainable development, and to support the provision of recreational facilities that are consistent with recognized coastal management principles.

Life Membership Award

Margaret Grice was recently awarded inaugural life membership of the Frankston Beach Association in acknowledgement of her outstanding contribution to our organisation and to the environment in Frankston.

Margaret, the FBA historian and a founding committee member, has now moved across the bay, after a lifetime of community service in the Frankston area.

A daily walker, she knew the beaches and the Kananook Creek area, in significant detail. Margaret had detailed knowledge of the notorious "Selwyn fault" and the impact it had on the cliff areas of Olivers Hill and the Daveys Bay beach. Many people know the issues of the area but few negotiated it, as she did, due to the difficult walking terrain.

Margaret was able to present first-hand knowledge of these beaches to the Council and government departments, as she witnessed the short and long term changes and erosion issues of the beach front. Quietly spoken, Margaret was tenacious in ensuring environment issues were taken seriously.

She was also an active member of the Mornington field naturalists, the animal aid op shop and other local organisations. Margaret's father was a founder of the Frankston Yacht Club and Margaret sailed locally on the bay prior to and after the 1940's.

Margaret's wisdom and advice will be greatly missed by the local community and especially the members of the Frankston Beach Association.

We wish her well in her new area and hope she returns here to visit often.

Call to abandon the Olivers Hill Marina Proposal

The Central Coastal Board is to commence community consultation in relation to the 2013 Boating Coastal Action Plan in July this year. The Frankston Beach Association is of the view that for the benefit of the Frankston Community and for the benefit of all persons interested in boating in Victoria, the proposal to construct a marina at Olivers Hill must immediately be abandoned.

The reasons are listed below:

1. Olivers Hill is in the most unsuitable and the most dangerous location in Port Phillip Bay for a marina. It is on an exposed, rocky part of the coast with no natural protection from the prevailing winds and the biggest seas across the bay.
2. Estimated cost of the proposed Olivers Hill Marina has escalated from a few million dollars in 1998 to more than \$300 million in 2012, together with an increase in size to 31 ha. This is an area equivalent in size to the Frankston CAD, that has to be reclaimed from the Bay.
3. There are problems with slippage of the side of Olivers Hill and problems with heavy traffic numbers on the Nepean Highway.
4. More than 15 coastal scientists have warned that the effect of a marina constructed at Olivers Hill will result in the erosion of Frankston Beach and the silting of Daveys Bay.

Currently Frankston Council has only put the flawed marina proposal on hold, which means that it can be reactivated at any time. A marina at the base of Olivers Hill will always be too expensive and an environmental disaster.

Passing of George Hassell

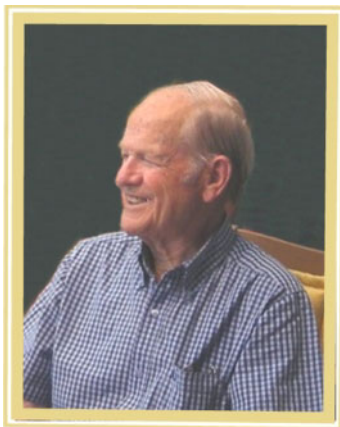
The FBA Committee wishes to express our condolences on the passing of local identify George Hassell, a long standing member of the FBA, and husband of current member Kath.

George was known as being an all-round sportsman – in the summer he played Pennant A tennis and district cricket, and in winter he was a handy left footer for the local footy league. From 1946 to 1949, George played for AFL club Essendon, playing in 5 grand finals, and winning two. In 1948 George represented Victoria against South Australia. Over his football career, George played alongside the greats John Coleman, Dick Reynolds and Billy Hutchinson.

George had a strong sense of social justice and community and he valued helping others. He was a Special Minister taking holy communion to the sick in hospital, and volunteered for St Vinnies. For the past two decades, George has been a great supporter of the FBA. He sat on the committee for a number of years and he actively participated in planting on the foreshore. For a long time George also was more than willing to have the family home used for FBA meetings and was always there to support his wife Kath in her ongoing pursuits of the FBA mission.

Importantly George was always gracious in his dealings with everyone. He will be remembered by all of us as a true gentleman.

Our heartfelt thoughts go out to Kath and her family.



FBA protecting the foreshore

During 2012, the Frankston Beach Association has contributed to consultation, education, and volunteer development. We have raised issues of concern on foreshore planning, development and management.

The FBA has made a significant contribution to the future of our foreshore through submissions and presentations to a range of government departments and reviews.



Revegetation of foreshore between Mary and Beach Streets

FBA was successful in obtaining a significant grant through the *Caring For Our Country* program, to begin the process of removing weeds and planting native dune flora in the above area.

Work began on the project on Tuesday April 17 with FBA volunteers assisting Frankston City Council staff in weed removal. The project seeks to reduce the exotic weed population and supplement remnant native vegetation with 4500 native seaside plants. The area is a narrow strip of beachfront approximately 0.6ha in area that has lots of exotic weeds growing amongst some excellent stands of native vegetation.

Another aim of the project is to increase biodiversity via revegetating. Greater floral density & diversity should encourage colonization by native fauna species. Increasing dune plant density will aid dune stabilization and reduce erosion.

FBA is working closely with the Frankston City Council, managers of the shoreline. The project is due for completion in June 2013.

The FBA encourages & welcomes volunteers to participate in beach revegetation working bees. Currently these are being held fortnightly, weather permitting, on TUESDAY MORNINGS 9.30am – 11.30am followed by morning tea. Contact details on front of Newsletter.



New members

New members from the local community who support our aims are encouraged to join us. A membership form can be found on our website, or contact the Secretary (for details see the front of the newsletter)