

Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

I would like to thank all boatshed owners for adhering to the restrictions on our Foreshore due to COVID-19. Our Committee responded strictly to all laws implemented by the State Government. A huge thank you to our Ranger who goes above and beyond the call of duty and continued to work to ensure our foreshore was safe during this trying period.

Unfortunately, there have been several break-ins/vandalisms on our foreshore. Whilst endeavoring to contact a boatshed owner to inform them of a break-in to enable the owner to make the shed secure, it is most frustrating to discover contact details have changed or been disconnected.

PLEASE update your contact details, if necessary.

I take this opportunity to thank all the boat shed owners who are upgrading, maintaining, and generally keeping their sheds in good condition. We are continuing our efforts to have all asbestos removed from the foreshore. This material is old, eroded, brittle and deteriorating. Your annual condition report will note the presence of asbestos and the DFC expect boatshed owners to act responsibly and have it removed.

Cyclic sand movement has meant a bit of scouring along our beach. If you feel your shed is in danger from sand loss, please contact us so we can provide you with hessian sandbags.

The DFC is working hard at overcoming the problems of dogs off lead on the beach. Last year we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the MPSC and DEWLP to have authorised rangers patrol the beach occasionally. We are continuing our efforts to make this work. In the meantime, if you have a problem with dogs on the beach do not contact the DFC, but phone the Shire on 5950 1000 or 1300 850 600.

The DFCOM operates under the guidance of the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning. When the Committee makes any decisions concerning boatsheds and bathing boxes, we are enacting State Government policy.

Thank you to the Committee who work tirelessly and selflessly behind the scenes. The skills and life experience they bring to the table is both extensive and varied. What they share is a passion for our local environment and a commitment to seeing the broader community's interests reflected in the management of the Foreshore.

Enjoy our beautiful Dromana Foreshore with its unique flora and fauna, as we enter the cooler quieter months.

Julie Allan, Chairperson.

Local wildlife



Best Boatshed Award

Each year the Committee makes an award to the Best Boatshed on the foreshore. The winner of this award receives their public liability insurance paid by the Committee. The winner for 2020 is Boatshed 112 Congratulations!

Asbestos Free Dromana Foreshore

Condition reports for the past number of years may have noted the presence of asbestos in your boatshed. The policy of the Foreshore Committee is to have all asbestos removed from the foreshore before licences are renewed in July 2022. When the asbestos is removed, for the safety of you and the public, it is best to use a professionally qualified contractor. Most public liability insurance policies do not cover for any claim or injury to anyone relating in any way to any form of asbestos in, or under your shed.

Boatshed Licence Agreements

If you are the holder of a Boatshed or Bathing Box licence issued by the Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management (DFCoM) then along with this edition of our Focus Newsletter you will have received your annual licence renewal invoice and contact update details form. The invoice covers the licence fee due for the 2020/21 financial year. In accordance with the DFCoM Management Plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) our licence fees have again been increased by 3%. However due to the imposition of Goods & Services Tax (GST) by the Australian Taxation Office, after a review of the previous GST free position, the actual increase in fees to the end user is obviously significantly higher. We wanted to reassure all licence holders that this is not an increase that is passed on to DFCoM but rather a collection of GST which we are required by law to pass on to the Australian Federal Government. DFCoM wish to thank all licence holders who pay their licence fee in a prompt manner as it cuts down on administration time that can be better used on the maintenance and improvement of the Dromana Foreshore Reserve. It is disappointing to note that as we send out our 2020 invoices for Boatshed & Bathing Box licence fees, that there are still some outstanding amounts from 2019. It is important to note that payment of the licence fee is a condition of retaining the licence and that non-payment may lead to ultimate forfeiture of the applicable licence back to DFCoM.

The DFCoM administers all licences for Boatsheds and Bathing Boxes on the Dromana Foreshore, including any repairs, renovations and rebuilding of Boatsheds & Bathing Boxes, whilst the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council only have planning authority for this area as the local government body.

Caravan Park

The DFCoM continue to look at opportunities to improve the caravan park facilities, we recently engaged Mt Martha drafting and design Service to provide a concept plan for the upgrade/redevelopment of one of our ablution facilities. These concept plans are now to be taken to the stage where we can obtain quotations for the works involved prior to the completion of a grant application for funding of the works. As in previous years the DFCoM has to balance the availability of funds with the desire to develop and maintain the foreshore area we manage and whilst we would like to implement a number of items on our Caravan Park works list, this is simply not financially possible.

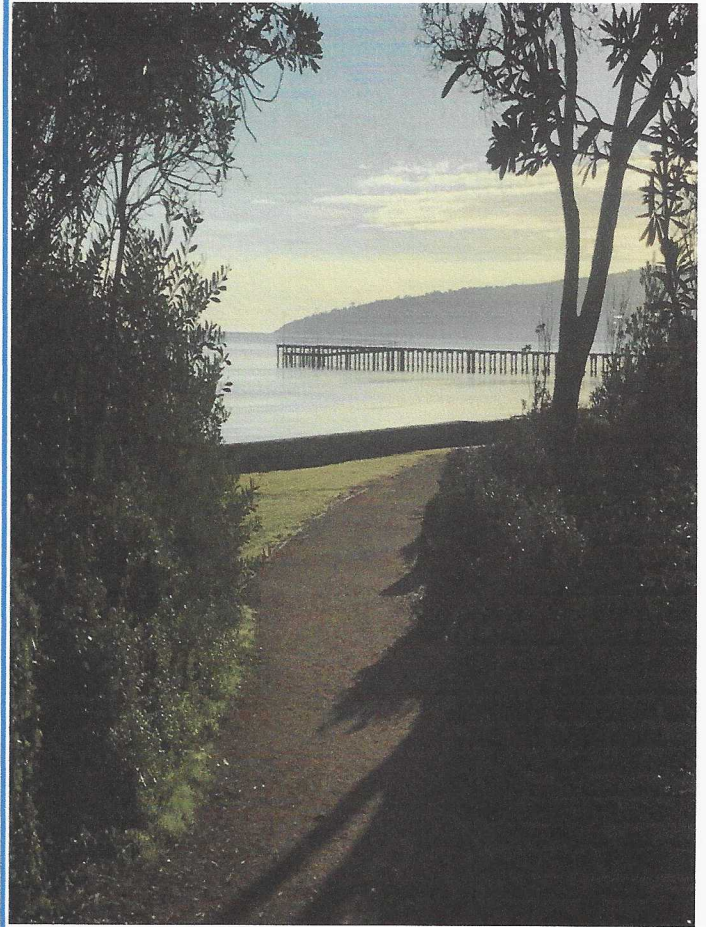
Items on our works program include

The provision of fire hoses and reels throughout the park – the CFA have advised that this is a priority in order to maintain our Caravan Park registration. Refurbishment/reconstruction of our facility infrastructure.

Provision of waste drainage to each site to allow for collection of waste water (but not shower or toilet waste)

Following the successful trialling of a system of swing gates at one chicane within the park during the 2019 season the DFCoM have determined that a second set of gates will be installed for the 2020 season. Unfortunately the public safety issues caused by cyclists continuing to ride through the Caravan Park require this course of action, it would be preferable if cyclists simply obeyed the existing dismount signs, whereby we could avoid the cost and personal inconvenience caused by these facilities. The DFCoM look forward to welcoming all our campers to the beautiful Dromana Foreshore for another enjoyable season.

Vegetation on Dromana Foreshore



Our aim for the Foreshore is to maintain as much of the original vegetation as possible but allow for public access and use as well. Whilst we do have the odd objections about vegetation, the general view of the public is overwhelmingly positive.