

Focus Newsletter

Dromana Foreshore

Autumn 2012

The Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management would like to welcome new member Jacinta Banks, and Madeleine Pitt who is returning to the Committee after a two year absence. Rob Tannahill, Ron Elleray, Mark Barson and Ray Greenslade have signed on for another three years.

More committee positions will be available in November 2012. See our website for more details later in the year.



Best Boatshed Award

Boatshed number 122 was awarded the best boatshed for 2012, a plaque was presented at the Australia Day Festival.

La Trobe Reserve Friends Group

Meet on the third Saturday of each month from 9am to 12noon
Meet Rangers Michael Everitt and Pia Spreen and local botanist Gidja Walker for a rewarding and interesting morning.
See website for monthly activities

Matthew Flinders Plaque

On the 28th April 2012 The Hon. Greg Hunt MP unveiled a plaque that commemorates the landing by Captain Matthew Flinders on 27th April, 1802.

Accompanied by Landscape Artist William Westall and Botanist Robert Brown, Captain Matthew Flinders rowed from the ship "Investigator" anchored well inside Port Phillip Bay and climbed Arthur's Seat, which had been named in February 1802, by Lieutenant John Murray.

The plaque and rock, funded by The Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management is located on the Dromana Foreshore opposite Codrington St (Melway Ref 159 F7).

The unveiling was attended by The Hon. Greg Hunt, Cr Graham Pittock, Nepean MP Martin Dixon, Committee Members Rob Tannahill, Mark Barson, Jacinta Banks and about 50 members of the public.

The Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management would like to thank Rock and Redgum, Steve Vezer Bob Cat Services, John McKelvie of McKelvie Earthworks, Ranger Michael Everitt and Rob Tannahill who has been researching the landing place of Captain Matthew Flinders for well over a year!

The Hon. Greg Hunt and
Committee Member
Rob Tannahill



Dromana Foreshore Ranger
Michel Everitt overseeing the
installation of the rock.

A Brief History of Dromana

On the 2nd, June, 1881, the Government Gazette declared the Dromana Foreshore an area of Public Park. From 1929 the Foreshore was managed by volunteers and in 1978 the Dromana Foreshore Committee was formed and appointed by the State Government to manage the Foreshore as it still does to this day.

From that date, the Dromana Foreshore, plus an area bounded by Point Nepean Road and Latrobe Parade known as Latrobe Reserve giving a total of some 28.5 hectares, has been under management by the Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management, a volunteer group appointed by the State Government, with each member on a three year, renewable term. The Foreshore Reserve actually starts at a point near the intersection with Marine Drive and Point Nepean Road and runs down to a point at Anthony's Nose. The Mornington Peninsula Shire manage land either side.

The Dromana Pier was opened in 1872 and was 1.2 km in length, unfortunately it has been shortened over the years when being rebuilt. Many passenger ships called into the pier laden with visitors and holiday makers and by 1881 Dromana was established as a coastal resort. A train line from Red Hill ran down the middle of the pier carrying timber and other produce for loading onto ships for transport to Melbourne and other ports. What a sight it must have been.

From the 1930's through until the mid 1960's, there was a camping ground on the south side of Point Nepean Road near Anthony's Nose. Following the death of a person crossing the road from the camping ground to the beach, the Country Roads Board as it was then known, had the camping ground shifted to the beach side of the road to where the caravan park is now located. There are now 47 caravan sites occupied from early December through to the end of April. Many of the campers have been returning to the same site since its inception.

On the beachfront, there are now 242 boatshed/bathing boxes with about half that number being fitted with electricity. Owners are required to maintain them in a neat and tidy condition and the DFCoM present an award each year for the best presented Boatshed/Bathing Box. They are very popular with visitors, particularly those from overseas, to photograph as they are possibly unique to the Port Phillip Bay coastline.

In more recent years, under the guidance of Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management, the Foreshore has undergone significant change and improvement. With the completion of over 75% of the Bay Trail through the Reserve, many more people are now enjoying this area. This has been assisted by the placement of viewing platforms along the Bay trail and areas where easier access has been made for disabled people.



New plantings and revegetation of many previously sparse areas have contributed to the revitalisation of this unique environment. The use of indigenous plant species, (many of which have been propagated by the Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management at their depot) has contributed to a resurgence of bird and animal life to both the Foreshore, and to Latrobe Reserve areas.

By Rob Tannahill



*Where the Mountain
Meets the Sea*

Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management

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