

PORT MANDURAH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC.

President's Report

Presented at the AGM on 14 March 2019 by Dianne O'Driscoll

I would like to welcome you all to this the 25th AGM for PMRA.

PMRA was established in 1994 by the residents of Port Mandurah, for the residents to have a voice in the maintenance and protection of our unique precinct.

My tenure as President has been in caretaker role due to the resignation of past president Angela Cream in August last year. During her time as President, Angela met with City of Mandurah representatives and brought to their attention several issues regarding the then upcoming Christmas lights boating frenzy that happens in December each year. As you all know, dredging was delayed until just days before 1st December, which resulted in a lot of complaints from residents which we passed on to the City. I thank Angela for her time given to PMRA. I was appointed President in October.

I would like to thank our Committee for contributing their time and effort to maintaining the work of PMRA: Linda Thorpe, Jim Booker, Peter Hick, Max Begley, Crawford Flaherty and Steve Pearson. Also Kerrie Andrews who was co-opted back onto the Committee in October and was appointed Vice President.

Secretary

Linda Thorpe carries the biggest workload for PMRA and has been diligent and efficient in her role for many years now, and has given of her time and skills willingly and professionally as usual. Linda continues responding to all correspondence and enquiries as well as carrying out her secretarial duties whenever she's away. Linda also manages the website and puts together a great newsletter keeping us all informed.

Treasurer

Jim Booker has provided our financial reports each month along with maintaining the accounts and the budget.

Sponsorship

Max Begley has done an excellent job of securing sponsorship from Mandurah Cruises, R Marine Mandurah, Play's Kool, Bendigo Bank, Renee Hardman of LJ Hooker, Mandurah Canvas, Flik Lighting, Battery World, Club Marine and Hind's Sand. We appreciate their generous support and hope that members will continue to support these businesses. We are also supported by the City of Mandurah.

Waterways Subcommittee

Peter Hick, Jim Booker and Max Begley (with Crawford and Steve as reserve members) have met with City officers each quarter. However, the Councillors elected to also attend these meetings have been a no-show which is very disappointing. In November the Mayor announced his intention of attending future meetings but has not attended as yet.

The dredging has become an ongoing problem that was not envisaged to the extent it has become since the initial canal precinct proposal was accepted by the City.

Max Begley has been the instigator of a trial for a new speed detection monitor that will hopefully be seen on our canals in the near future. His efforts in bringing this to fruition have been tireless and generous. We await the outcome.

Our many years of lobbying for the transfer for jetty administration responsibility from the Department of Transport to the City of Mandurah has not resulted in any changes to the current status. The new committee will need to review its part in this issue.

The Mosquito report and Water Quality report will be supplied to PMRA once they have been ratified by Council.

Social Events

Kerrie Andrews as well as being Vice President also updates and maintains the PMRA Facebook page with points of interest and photos of our social gatherings. Kerrie also purchases and sources the lollies and goodies for the bags handed out from our Santa Afloat boats on Christmas Eve.

1. **The Christmas Party** held at Mandurah Offshore Fishing & Sailing Club was well attended and, from the feedback received, was a great success. Kerrie and Linda organised this great night. Thank you also to Santa - Geoff Campbell.
2. **Santa Afloat** this year was a great success with an increase in lolly bags being distributed. This is organised each year by Jill Randall, Kerrie Andrews and Mick Georgeff. Jill and Kerrie organise a band of helpers for the lolly packing. Mick Georgeff organises the skippers and their boats, and also generously offers his garage and house for these events. We are always looking for volunteers to help with these fun events. We recognise and appreciate the generous time and effort given by the Skippers and their crews each year: Raymond Hind, Bill Treby and Terry Rhode as skippers and Wayne Williamson, Geoff Campbell and Mick as Santas.
3. **Car Rally** Jim Booker kindly organised a Car Rally in January that was a lot of fun with about twenty people joining in. It was a hot day with a few hot moments, however everyone made it to the Sandy Cove Tavern for a welcome lunch and great prizes kindly donated by Lane Ford.

All Committee members have helped with all events in some capacity this year as we did not have a specific social committee.

John and Jill Randall continue to do the litter pickup around Port Mandurah. They are great examples of residents who are engaged with their community and do an excellent job.

To the many volunteers who have helped with delivering newsletters, with the social events or have assisted PMRA in any other way this past year..... **THANK YOU** one and all.

Mandurah Matters

In November Linda and I participated in a cruise with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and other Mandurah groups to express our views on what matters to Port Mandurah residents.

The importance of maintaining the health of the waterways turned out to be a priority for the people of Mandurah as outlined in stages two and three of the Mandurah Matters consultation.

History Book

Peter Hick and Kerrie Andrews are in the process of writing a book on the history of Port Mandurah and the Committee has agreed to make this a PMRA project. Though not in the current budget, the next committee will see this to fruition.

Proposed New Rules

The Constitution is now known as The Rules of the Association. The Committee has updated the Rules of PMRA to comply with the new Act.

Changes to the Port Mandurah Boundary

You will notice in the proposed new rules of the Association that PMRA membership has been redefined as follows: *"Membership is automatic to owners of property in the boundary determined by committee resolution who have paid residential rates to the City of Mandurah on one or more properties within the association's boundary during that financial year."*

The committee determined the boundary at our last meeting. As well as residents who pay the Specified Area Rate (SAR) for the upkeep of the Port Mandurah canal precinct, the boundary will now include several streets of landlocked blocks that do not pay the SAR. But it is my personal opinion that these future members may not have the same priorities as we do.

The Committee was split about this issue and I did not support this change. The boundary can be changed by committee resolution at any time as needed, and I recommend that the new Committee revisits this to ensure that this is what the majority of existing members want.

In Closing

I have been part of the PMRA Committee for the past five years, starting with the Social Committee, then Treasurer followed by Vice President, and I have enjoyed it immensely.

The Committee continues to work with City of Mandurah to maintain and enhance the Port Mandurah precinct on your behalf.

I would urge anyone who would like to meet new friends and contribute to a very worthwhile organisation that is not onerous and a lot of fun, to consider nominating for the Committee.

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Santa Afloat Event on Christmas Eve 2018

Presented at the AGM on 14 March 2019 by Michael Georgeff

The Event

Christmas Eve Monday 24th December 2018 enjoyed perfect sunny, calm weather taking the pressure off the skippers. In the past we haven't been very lucky with the weather causing skippers to draw on all their boat skills to cope with the wind. Also, we have been fortunate as the same teams have contributed their boats, crews and Santa as in the past few years. The Santa Afloat committee thanks all the volunteers who help out with their time and effort.

In summary this year's event was just as successful and enjoyable as in the past. However, we are still not sure, in this day of social media overload, whether people are informed or are aware that Santa will arrive after 5.30pm on Christmas Eve. We have noticed many families are surprised when they realise that Santa is in their canal. Quite a few times he has sailed past before they come out on the jetty and the boats have to return to greet the children. The Santa Committee would like the Committee to look at the possibility of dropping a small, not very lavish flyer in letterboxes the week before Christmas Eve so people will know when Santa is coming and will keep a look out. We would like the Committee's thoughts on this matter.

Skippers, Boats and Santas

Boxes of sweet packages were delivered to skippers on Christmas Eve and boats, Santas and the crews invited by the skippers were on the water by 5.30pm displaying their PMRA banners, and Christmas decorations, as well as broadcasting loud music.

Boat 1: We had Raymond Hind providing his boat and also acting as skipper teaming up with the wild, woolly and ever jovial and charismatic Geoff Campbell as the epitome of Santa. They did all of the Leeward side of the Old Marina, everything from the Southern Entrance and the cul-de-sacs off the 'far-canal' to Leisure Way. We took 150 gift bags which was more than last year but there were fewer takers this year as we had about 20 bags left over.

Boat 2: Terry Rohde was the skipper and provided his friend [& neighbour] John McNair's boat [Terry's old boat]. Santa was the charismatic Michael Georgeff, with a loud speaker and plenty of decorations on the boat. This boat did all of Stage 2 and 3, which includes the area south of Mary Street, the canal adjacent to the homestead, the cul-de-sacs off the Grand Canal and the Aztec Island/Starfire precinct. We took more gift bags this year as we embarrassingly ran out last year. This year 170 packages were supplied and about 15 bags were left over.

Boat 3: Bill Treby provided his boat and was skipper. Santa was the debonair and reclusive Wayne Williamson [we only see him once a year when he turns up for the job]. This boat did all the area North of Mary Street in Stage 1. Once again we increased the number of gift bags on last year but had again an oversupply.

Sweets Purchasing and Packing:

Sweets provided by PMRA were again sourced by Kerrie Andrews, who with Jill Randall unpacked and counted sweets and bags, provided by Jill, prior to the packing working bee. The packages once again contained the sponsor's items.

The lolly packing was held on the afternoon of Sunday 16th December in Mick's garage and we had a very enthusiastic crew of packers perhaps buoyed by refreshments and the promise of the BBQ after-party. Sincere thanks go to the hardworking crew: Linda Thorpe & Martin Robinson, Crawford and Dawn Flaherty, Steve and Janie Pearson, Dianne O'Driscoll, Max and Jeanette Begley, Kerrie Andrews and John O'Grady, Kay and Bob Baxter, Megan and Terry Rohde, Carol and Adrian Hudson, Jill and John Randall and Mick Georgeff and Melva Stone.

Mick generously hosted the after workshop BBQ at his home where we were joined by others who could not make the packing, and everyone had a great time enjoying the fine food provided by the lady volunteers, with the BBQ meat provided by Mick. PMRA provided the refreshments sourced on special by John over the previous weeks with the remainder of the refreshments available for the Christmas Eve after party.

The Santa After Party

Once again Mick hosted the after party BBQ at his home and those attending enjoyed PMRA's refreshments and the wonderful 'bring a plate' food with meat generously provided by Mick. This was very well attended and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Banners:

This year Bill Treby and Raymond Hind have kept their 2 banners as they have volunteered their services again for Christmas Eve 2019. The remaining 2 banners are stored in Mick's garage.

I would like to thank all those skippers, Santas and their helpers and crews, the ever energetic lolly packers, and our sponsor Plays Kool, who contributed their efforts to make this a most memorable event for all involved.