

# Port Mandurah Residents' Association

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

## *Welcome to the Annual General Meeting*

### **AGENDA**

1. Opening of Meeting
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of minutes of AGM 2019
4. Annual Report
5. Election of Committee Members
6. General Business
7. Guest Speaker – Mandurah Mayor Rhys Williams

# PORT MANDURAH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC.

## *President's Report*

*Presented at the AGM on 10 September 2020 by Jim Booker*

In summary, the OBJECTS of your Port Mandurah Residents Association are:

1. To represent the ratepayers to oversee the expenditure of the Canal Frontage Rate (SAR), maintaining and where possible improving the quality of the development and preserve the resident's lifestyle. Via quarterly PMCWAG meetings.
2. To support and encourage the maintenance of standards throughout the precinct.
3. To liaise and foster good working relations with government departments and other relevant bodies.
4. To foster good working relations with media and inform the public.
5. To publish information sheets and newsletters, benefitting members and non-members.
6. To encourage and foster social interaction between members.

*To represent the ratepayers to oversee the expenditure of the Canal Frontage Rate (SAR), maintaining and where possible improving the quality of the development and preserve the resident's lifestyle.*

Reading through previous President's Reports it is obvious that both PMRA and the City of Mandurah (CoM) share a common interest in maintaining safe, navigable waterways.

The CoM has the responsibility for dredging, to maintain these safe, navigable waterways and also preserve the integrity of other canal structures. Your Canal Frontage Rate (SAR) contributes to this maintenance.

Again in 2019/20 as in many past years, their efforts seem to have fallen short of the standards expected by your PMRA committee. Consequent to insufficient dredging, several vessels have run aground, and a number of canal residents have given up waiting for adequate channels to be maintained and have sold their boats. The shallow waterway creates a dangerous situation especially during the summer months affecting the wider boating community as well as residents. Repairs to Cambria Island Retreat bridge abutment walls are, after a temporary fix some years ago, still pending a final decision of how to proceed. These points reinforce the need to maintain a close relationship with the Marina and Waterways, CoM and our local representatives.

*To support and encourage the maintenance of standards throughout the precinct.*

John and Jill Randall continue as a shining example with their daily litter pickup around Port Mandurah. Their efforts are recognised by the CoM and your PMRA receives financial reward.

Also, a special thank you to the many volunteers who helped deliver the hard copy newsletters and assisted with social events or helped out in other ways this past year.

Max Begley, your retiring Vice President refused to accept the proposition that a Speed Radar capable of working on water in the 5 knot range could not be made. The Radar was made, commissioned, and has proven operational. Well done Max. Recognising the value in reducing speed on the canals, the device was subsequently purchased by the City of Mandurah. Though deployed early 2019, your PMRA committee agreed to extend the CoM payment to this current financial year. Further examples have been developed and are now also operating along Australia's eastern seaboard.

*To liaise and foster good working relations with government departments and other relevant bodies. To foster relations with media and inform the public.*

PMRA members have, year on year, provided a mesmerising Christmas Light Display which draws tens of thousands of visitors to the Mandurah precinct stimulating and growing the number of tourist businesses. Your committee has also strongly pursued the need to improve safety during the Christmas Light season with reference to better directional signage, improved vessel lighting and reduced vessel speed. A further recommendation, in line with the BEN (Beach Emergency Number) scheme is to identify each individual canal should any emergency occur.

Late in July 2019 Max, Peter and myself met with Paddi Creevy and executive staff of the Peel Development Commission to discuss the mechanics and feasibility of installing a permanent Sand Bypass System at the mouth of the Peel Estuary. The cost of the plant and the complexity of acquiring the necessary permits etc. from the Department of Transport (DoT) has been a major setback. In spite of the PMRA enthusiasm for a permanent more efficient system, the last notice from Neil Carroll at the PMCWAG March 2020 meeting is that DoT have little appetite for the venture and choose to continue with the existing slurry, track design.

*To publish information sheets and newsletters, benefitting members and non-members.*

Online and printed newsletters organised and produced by Linda Thorpe, continue to inform PMRA members of local events and happenings.

Kerrie Andrews, an ex officio member is continuing as PMRA's Facebook page editor. Kerrie introduced several ideas, including a St. John's First Aid refresher course and spent many hours, co-editing with Peter Hick; the eagerly awaited PMRA book Port Mandurah 30 Years - Making a Community.

*To encourage and foster social interaction between members.*

The Santa Afloat Committee with the team of lolly packers, Santas, skippers and elves again provided a seasonal pinnacle of a safe and fun attraction for the children and canines on the canals.

Ross Gibbs as your function coordinator brought several great ideas to the table highlighting in the extremely successful Hotham Valley Restaurant Train excursion.

The 2019 Christmas Party was again held at Mandurah Offshore Fishing & Sailing Club. The Port Mandurah 30 Years – Making a Community book was also launched at this event. It was a less formal dining event, was well attended by members and guests and from the majority of feedback a great success. A loud shout out Thank You to Santa extraordinaire - Geoff Campbell.

### *The Committee*

On your behalf I sincerely thank the outgoing PMRA Committee for all the voluntary hours spent successfully running your association.

Marilyn Carpenter; your Treasurer and sponsorship coordinator has provided accurate and timely financial records, we are extremely grateful and sorry to see her leave. Marilyn's excellent work secured sponsorship from Mandurah Canvas, Mandurah Cruises, R Marine Mandurah, Play's Kool, Bendigo Bank, Renee Hardman of The Agency, Battery World, Club Marine and Hind's Sand. We appreciate their generous contributions and recommend that PMRA members support these businesses. Our Christmas activities were also supported by the CoM Mayoral Grant.

Crawford Flaherty and Steve Pearson served as general committee members providing valuable knowledge, meaningful discussion and assistance wherever needed. Crawford and Steve were also available to attend PMCWAG meetings as required.

Peter Hick served as a PMCWAG member along with Max Begley and myself. Peter's wealth of knowledge and valuable input in every facet the Port Mandurah Canal precinct is borne out in the editorial text and comments of the PM History Book.

Linda Thorpe has, as in the past 10+ years, been the backbone of the PMRA team. Linda's knowledge base of all things PMRA and her willingness to assist in any capacity has been invaluable. Her excellent works involved Secretarial duties, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster among other roles. Linda excelled in these tasks from her Port Mandurah residence for much of the year and from many European destinations for the balance. Linda has relocated to Dawesville and will be retiring from the PMRA committee though is prepared to mentor, train and provide needed context to assist members of the new incoming committee.

# PORT MANDURAH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC.

## *Santa Afloat - Event Report*

*Presented at the AGM on 10 September 2020 by Mick Georgeff*

**On behalf of the Santa Afloat Team I provide the report for the Christmas Eve 2019 event:**

### **The Event**

On Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December 2019 a beautiful sunset heralded the arrival of Santa to Port Mandurah. Once again we were fortunate as many of the same teams have contributed their boats, crews and Santa as in past years. It was a bit windy which made for a few U-turns to ensure Santa was able to greet every child.

### **Skippers, Boats and Santas**

Boxes of sweet packages were delivered to skippers on Christmas Eve and their 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**

Again Raymond Hind provided his boat and was skipper teaming up with Geoff Campbell as the perfect Santa. They did all of the Leeward side of the Old Marina; everything from the Southern Entrance and the cul-de-sacs to Leisure Way. This boat had 170 gift bags which was more than last year, with only a few left over.

### **Boat 2**

Selby Munsie was the skipper providing his own 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. 170 packages were supplied and about 15 were left over.

### **Boat 3**

A new skipper this year was Rob Anderson who provided his boat and crew. Santa again was Wayne Williamson. This boat did all the area North of Mary Street in Stage 1. 110 bags were allocated to this boat and only a small number were left over.

## **Sweets Purchasing and Packing**

Kerrie Andrews again sourced the sweets and Jill Randall provided the bags. Kerrie, Angela and Jill unpacked and counted sweets and bags prior to the packing working bee. The packages once again contained sponsor Plays Kool's items.

450 bags were packed on the afternoon of Sunday 16th December in Mick's garage and we had a very enthusiastic crew of packers with refreshment breaks between each boat allocation and the promise of the BBQ after-party. Sincere thanks go to the hardworking crew of lolly packers and BBQ set-up and food preparation helpers: Linda Thorpe & Martin Robinson, Crawford & Dawn Flaherty, Dianne O'Driscoll, Max & Jeanette Begley, Kerrie Andrews & John O'Grady, Bob Baxter, Carol & Adrian Hudson, Angela Cream & Jim Booker, Thelma Jessop, Marilyn & Adrian Carpenter, Jill & John Randall, and first time helpers Ella & John McColl and their daughter Dior, Angela Purcell and, of course, Mick Georgeff.

## **The After Parties**

Mick hosts an after party BBQ at his home following both the Lolly Packing workshop and the Christmas Eve Santa trip. The Lolly Packing BBQ was attended by about 30 people. The Christmas Eve BBQ was attended by about 20 people. Everyone had a great time enjoying the 'bring a plate' fine food provided by those attending, with the BBQ meat provided by Mick. PMRA provided the refreshments sourced by John Randall for both the BBQs.

## **Christmas 2020**

This year's planning will begin in the next couple of months and we will once again be seeking your assistance with boats and skippers. Both Kerrie and Jill will be organising the workshop and after parties. We welcome assistance from anyone in PMRA who would like to be involved in the organisation of Santa Afloat in the future as both Jill and Kerrie have each spent more than 10 years on the event and need some back up support.

In summary the 2019 event was just as successful and enjoyable as in the past. As always, boats and Santas need to be confirmed well before the event, banners have to be provided to skippers in time for boat decorations and skippers need to be encouraged to make more noise during the trip. The Santa Afloat team again asks the incoming Committee to consider some more widespread publicity of Santa's visit to ensure that the young people of Port Mandurah know he is coming to the canal outside their home after 5.30pm on Christmas Eve.

I would like to thank all those who contribute their efforts to make this a most memorable event for all involved – the skippers and their crews, the Santas, the ever energetic lolly packers, and the committee and friends who make the after parties such enjoyable events, and of course our event sponsor Plays Kool Child Care Centre of down town Mandurah and McLarty Road Halls Head.