

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Thursday 3th October 2019
AGM -2018-2019 –MORNINGTON ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

Welcome everyone. We have had a busy and happy year. I have enjoyed being the Chairperson and am particularly grateful for the kindness, respect and cooperation everyone extends to each other.

I would like begin with a big thank you to our Secretary, Jill McIver. She has done an amazing job – so many hours of work behind the scenes. It is her motivation and enthusiasm, energy and knowledge, which keeps us all afloat. Thank you Jill.

We are sad that our long standing Treasurer is stepping down. Many thanks Jim Price for the wonderful job you have done for us over the past 13 years. Congratulations and many, many thanks for a job well done.

Thanks to Ann Robb, Vice President – quietly active behind the scenes.

I would like to extend a special thanks to Jan Oliver for her on-going support and advice, and to congratulate Jan on her recent award from the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

Thanks to Carolyn Rose for her attendance at meetings and reporting back to MEA
Next is acknowledgement of the leaders of our “Friends Groups”, and sincere thanks to all the volunteers who turn out to support them – planting, weeding watering and picking up rubbish.

~ Martie Leonard “Friends of Tanti Creek”

~ Peter Nicholson “Beleura Hill Cliff Path”

~ Brian Burrow “ Friends of Mill’s Beach

~ Peter Deerson “Friend’s of Fishermens Beach”

~ Dan Suffern, Nature links for her organisation of plants, tools, grant writing and great communication skills – always with a smile, no matter what ever the weather.

We are thrilled that Dan was able to assist with our application to the
Port Philip Bay Fund for Mornington Foreshore restoration – and
congratulate her for the \$42,000.00, announced by the Minister.

Other highlights from the year:

- Kaufland. MEA made a power point Presentation to the Panel, objecting to the hypermart proposal on the Bata site. We are thrilled that this proposal has been rejected. Thanks Marty for your work on the ppt.
- Tanti Creek Friends won an award at World Environment Day.
They obtained \$5000.00 from Beleura Hospital for a fish survey, which shows eels and fish at 6 sites, but no fish in the estuary.
There was a successful ‘bus tour trip” along the creek, to increase community awareness
- Interactive signs have been erected at Mills Beach and Stones crossing – after 10years of planning. There was a special unveiling ceremony – including our 3 Ward councillors and the press.
- We have been successful in getting grants – enabling on going volunteer projects
- We are supporting the Mornington chamber of Commerce in a campaign to remove Playne trees in Main St and relace with indigenous trees
- We supported the residents behind the David Collins Centre – who are to be affected by lighting towers erected over soccer fields built directly behind their houses
- A morning tea information session was held at Morven Manor – educating the residents about the path along the creek, which is now open.
- We supported the concern about spraying mosquitos against the burulli virus.

Many thanks one and all for joining forces with us to protect and preserve the unique Mornington Environment.

Kind regards
Margaret Howden.