



## ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER TO MEA 16 MARCH '16

### RESIDENTS FREE TREES ISSUE MARCH 2016

Ratepayers and residents can collect two free trees or shrubs in tubes on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 9am-1 pm and Monday 21 March 9am-4 pm, from Advance Community College Native Nursery in Mitchell St, Mornington (previously Youth Enterprises) or at Hastings Hub or Rosebud (check [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au)) = good opportunity to get an indigenous plant for your garden (but keep watering until we get rain!)

### WORKING BEE DATES

**Mills Beach** is next Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 9.30 am on Mills Beach Area A (near boatshed 8);

**Tanti Creek Friends** is Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 9.30 am – Green Paddock (end of Morell St) – further details later.

Could you help check **Scouts Beach** during the Easter holidays? Can anyone come and help Jan Oliver on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April** say at 10 am to check the spinifex (planted in winter 2015 but suffering in the drought)? Ring or SMS 0417986077 – an hour should do it – park car above in Shire Football Memorial car park and walk down path or walk along beach from Shire Hall or Mothers.

We are currently planning for further work on **Red Bluff to Shire Hall Beach** using donated funds, the Shire and probably Green Army and even a Coastcare grant! More details later.

**Denis Cox guest speaker soon:** We are arranging a special talk with Denis Cox, retired Coastcare Co-ordinator, on Harbour issues and water circulation and sand changes, plus other issues. Probably will be a week day so watch for date and place!

**MEA GENERAL MEETING;** Please note: there is **NO MAY 2016** meeting in the library meeting room due to the Shire requiring the room.

### CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup>

The national clean up day was poorly supported by MEA members and the general public. No publicity was given by either the Shire or the local media and our numbers suffered! We didn't even get all of Mills Beach cleaned up and Tanti Creek (with a lot of rubbish at Hunters Crossing) had 3 people only – a great burden for both organisers Brian and Judy. Please continue to pick up rubbish and recyclables, and remember, CUA Day is ALWAYS first Sunday in March.

*Thanks to SPIFFA News for the items below.*

**FRIENDS SURVEY:** If you're in a friends or Landcare group, you're invited to participate in an online survey being conducted by the [Victorian Environment Friends Network](http://Victorian Environment Friends Network). The Network has been operating for over 25 years aiming to support Friends groups' network and better achieve their aims. VEFN are conducting an online survey as part of a review to plan. The survey can be accessed by the link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/55V3MKX>

**PENINSULA SPEAKS** has taken over the list and assets of Peninsula Exchange (all \$24 in the account!) so do support them as per this: [Peninsula Speaks](#) are undertaking independent online research in order to get local opinions for the future. This ongoing survey will canvas local public opinion on a broad range of topics and is open to all residents of the Mornington Peninsula. All survey information will be managed by local independent firm Market Metrics and analysed by the Strategy Planning Group P/L, a recognised and independent demographer. Confidentiality is assured. You can register to receive these surveys by emailing [info@peninsulaspeaks.org.au](mailto:info@peninsulaspeaks.org.au)

**DOGS BANNED ON MORNPEN NATIONAL PARK:** After an enormous amount of pressure and not before time, the responsible minister, [Lisa Neville has instituted a total ban on dogs](#) in the Mornington Peninsula National Park to assist the preservation of the [Hooded Plover](#) population on our ocean beaches. This is a start to helping these little beach nesting birds to recover their numbers on our ocean beaches although it will take some years to educate most people and to eventually dissuade with penalties the many people who will deliberately flout the ban. MEA put in a detailed submission 2 years ago requesting banning of dogs and people during the nesting season as fewer than 10 or fewer chicks survive their first months.

**NO CHANGE TO GREEN WEDGE BOUNDARIES:** Councillor Bev Colomb has reassured MEA that there is no proposed change to Green Wedge boundaries – despite the rumours circulating amongst residents of the Green Belt. So, we CAN take it that Mornington will not expand into our farming countryside – at least for the present!

Due to lack of time and holidays of key people in MEA, this is an apology for a newsletter!

Jan Oliver, President MEA

PS I need to retire as president at our AGM in September-October 2016 – and MEA needs a new look! Would you put your hand up to help us? Contact me on [oliverjs@bigpond.net.au](mailto:oliverjs@bigpond.net.au)

April News Sheet on next page >>>

Dates to react to:

**No charge Green Waste Weekend** 30 April-1<sup>st</sup> May at the Shire's tips. Mornington (Watt Rd.) will be open 8 am to 5 pm on each day. You can take residential green waste (up to 3 cubic metres). You will need to produce your driver's licence or proof of residency (e.g. Rates notice).

**SPIFFA Monthly meeting at Seawinds Hub on Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup> will be worthwhile** - speaker is shire Heritage Archaeologist Adam Magennis and the theme is Applied Archaeological Management in the MP Shire. Check SPIFFA web.

**MEA Monthly General Meeting:** There is NO May General meeting (Normally the second Thursday evening).

**Friends of Mills Beach Working Bee** is Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May. Depending on rain, this may be our BIG planting project on Red Bluff along the seaward side. So watch for further information and please turn up!

**Tanti Creek Friends** next working bee is Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May. Under consideration is the moving of most working bees on Tanti to a Tuesday morning for this next year. What do you think? You can comment on this to Martin on [molenard@bigpond.net.au](mailto:molenard@bigpond.net.au)

**Looking Forward: Mornington Peninsula 2030:** Peninsula Speaks, the community organisation on the Mornington Peninsula to which MEA belongs, is asking for your help to complete a survey to get a broad range of opinions on the future of the Peninsula – say up to 2030. They need a representative sample of 3000. They are requesting that people email [info@peninsulaspeaks.org.au](mailto:info@peninsulaspeaks.org.au) to register their interest. Then you will be contacted when the Survey commences. It is important that you contribute and any individual information and names will be treated confidentially.

MEA has recently renewed our **Memorandum of Understanding** with the Shire for works on RedBuff and Mills Beach. We have also renewed our insurance cover for all our activities (not just working bees). Our web page [www.morningtonenviro.org.au](http://www.morningtonenviro.org.au) continues to provide other details.

We are also waiting for the starting date for **Mills Beach Precinct Car park** and BBQ area works.

We intend holding a **special meeting** later this year with guest speaker, former Coastcare Co-ordinator, Denis Cox, speaking about the water circulation issues, and sand movement along Mornington beaches following the Pier restoration and the installation of the concrete wave screens on the outer side of the Pier.

**Queries:** Jan Oliver, MEA President, [morningtonea@gmail.com](mailto:morningtonea@gmail.com) or [oliverjs@bigpond.net.au](mailto:oliverjs@bigpond.net.au)

May News Sheet on next page >>>

## Mornington Environment Association News-sheet May 2016

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We are also waiting for the starting date for **Mills Beach Precinct Car park** and BBQ area works.

We are also waiting for news (hopefully positive) about **Coastcare Grant applications** for Red Bluff-Shire Hall Beach restoration, for the Beleura Cliff Path planting, and re-planting of the areas behind the Life Saving Club on Mills Beach. The latter two we helped with and all will see the continuation of our long term "Sea of Green" along the foreshore.

We intend holding a **special meeting** later this year with guest speaker, former Coastcare Co-ordinator, Denis Cox, speaking about the water circulation issues, and sand movement along Mornington beaches following the Pier restoration and the installation of the concrete wave screens on the outer side of the Pier.

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