



AIDA

March 2016 • www.aireys-inlet.org

Urquhart Bluff • Aireys Inlet • Fairhaven • Moggs Creek • Eastern View

Reminder: 2016 AIDA memberships were due 31 December 2015 • AIDA AGM Saturday 9 April 2016 at 3.30 pm



Notice of meeting

AGM and Forum

The AIDA AGM will be on Saturday 9 April from 3.30 to 4.30 pm at the community hall, Anderson Roadknight Reserve, Aireys Inlet.

All members are welcome to come and hear about the year's activities and current issues, to accept the financial report and the election of the committee.

Members will be able to pay their subscriptions on the day and new members will be able to join.

New committee members are welcome and if anyone would like to nominate they can get in touch via the AIDA website or use the nomination form on p. 7. Nominations will also be taken at the AGM.

Painkalac Creek Forum

At 5.00 pm, following the AGM, there will be a discussion about the management of the Painkalac Creek, its estuary and water flows.

The Painkalac Reservoir will no longer be used to supply water from the middle of the year when the

pipeline to Anglesea begins delivering water to Aireys Inlet and Fairhaven.

What will this mean for water flows down the creek, the health of the estuary, the frequency of flood events and the need to open the mouth?

These, and many more questions, will be explored in a community forum about the management of the Painkalac Creek, its estuary and the valley.

The Surf Coast Shire, Barwon Water and the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority are all involved in managing the creek, and representatives from the three authorities will speak before answering questions from the floor.

- Shaun Cumming Manager, Operations Barwon Water
- Rowan Mackenzie, Manager Environment and Community Safety, Surf Coast Shire
- Trent Wallis, Manager Integrated Catchment and Strategy, Corangamite Catchment Management Authority

The Painkalac Forum is expected to wrap up at 6.00 pm. Everyone is welcome to share a glass of wine and cheese with the AIDA Committee and Members.

Charlotte Allen, President

Painkalac Reservoir

Painkalac Reservoir will be taken out of service when the coastal townships of Aireys Inlet and Fairhaven are connected to the Geelong supply system via a pipeline from Anglesea. The changeover will provide a more secure long-term supply.

Work on the \$6.6 million connection is well underway, with the 11-kilometre pipeline to Anglesea constructed and pump station upgrade completed over the past six months.

The next stage involves decommissioning and removing some treatment systems and infrastructure from the Aireys Inlet water treatment plant.

Once the work is completed, there will be opportunities for the future use of the reservoir.

One opportunity is future recreational use, which is the subject of a separate article in this newsletter.

Another is the potential for enhanced environmental flows in the downstream Painkalac Creek and estuary. This is currently being investigated with the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority.

An environmental flow determination for Painkalac Creek, conducted in 2008, is being used as the basis for this investigation. A report on the environmental flow determination is available through the following link: http://www.ccmaknowledgebase.vic.gov.au/kb_resource_details.php?resource_id=2178

We propose to provide an overview of the investigation at the AIDA forum on 9 April 2016.

*Shaun Cumming, Manager
Operations Barwon Water*



Recreation at the Painkalac Reservoir

Aireys Inlet and district will soon have a new recreation area. It will include picnic benches, improved walking tracks, a bird hide, interpretative signs at key locations and recreational fishing.

So how did it come about? Once it became obvious that the existing water treatment plant was going to be replaced by a pipeline bringing water from Anglesea, AIDA and the wider community started exploring the idea that the Painkalac Reservoir could provide additional recreation for residents and visitors. This idea was also raised on a number of occasions at Barwon Water's community open days.

As part of the project, Barwon Water established a community and agency group to identify community ideas on potential future uses of the reservoir. They sought expressions of interest from local individuals and organisations to join a committee along with relevant agencies. All who applied were accepted, making a diverse committee.

The first task was to develop a vision. It was agreed that recreation in the reservoir should focus on two aspects: (1) low impact uses that engage with the natural beauty of the area and (2) educational/interpretive opportunities. Ten potential uses were considered to fit this vision. They were then tested against a number of criteria including cost, public safety, fire risk and environmental impacts. The result was the list of activities in the second sentence in this article. Note that if the reservoir is found by Fisheries Victoria to have the potential for stocking, it will enhance recreational fishing. The committee also recommended that Barwon Water in the future consider seeking funding to:

- create a loop around the reservoir by building a bridge to span the upper Painkalac Creek where it enters the reservoir, and
- develop an educational app for the area.

The rollout of these activities will depend on how heavily the reservoir is used. People counters will be installed to track the number of visitors to the reservoir.

Surprisingly, some activities were rejected:

- camping because there will be no toilet facilities, no potable water and because of bushfire risk;
- swimming because the spillway, when overflowing, constitutes a significant hazard;
- boating because there is no public road access to bring in boats and because of the spillway hazard. Most visitors will access the area by walking from Distillery Creek Picnic Ground.

Residents have visited parts of the beautiful area around the reservoir for quite some time. Barwon Water, who will continue to manage the dam and reservoir into the future, are providing Aireys Inlet and district even more options for enjoying walking and the natural environment. New facilities are expected to be in place by late 2016.

Gary Johnson



Underpass update

Have you seen the ‘Yellow Peril’?

Well so have we, on the Great Ocean Road at Fairhaven! And, with concerns about lack of local consultation and a design that appears more suited to a suburban railway station than a coastal underpass, AIDA joined community representatives Libby Mears and Paul Greene along with Surf Coast Shire CEO and officers, a ward councillor, GORCC CEO; Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP); and the Fairhaven Surf Life Saving Club to discuss lack of consultation, ways to ameliorate the impact of the design itself, reduction of night lighting, future landscaping and a limit to further sealing and signage within the Yarringa car park.

The first meeting was held in mid-December and AIDA members were sent an email outlining the meeting and the issues raised. VicRoads agreed that

there was limited community consultation and agreed to improved consultation by placing information brochures in local shops and newspaper advertisements that would contain updates on progress and contact details for community feedback. Following that meeting a letter was sent to the group by AIDA, Libby Mears and Paul Greene requesting the following:

- an agreement to full community consultation for any further works;
- community involvement on underpass wall colour/ murals with an expected outcome of a more recessive profile;
- removal of the large and highly visible black lighting fixtures and replacement with less intrusive movement controlled lighting;
- installation of movement sensors to all lighting in the tunnel;
- investigation of possible engineering solutions to the underpass itself including cutting the concrete wall on the sand dune and capping the tunnel allowing for restoration of the sand dune over the top and removal of steel capping; also covering the car park tunnel with either concrete or clear material to again allow removal of all unsightly barriers and lighting;
- removal of steel topping barriers and replacement with a more “coastal” safety railing;
- a commitment to community consultation in plant choice in landscaping proposed for autumn.

We drew the committee’s attention to the provisions of the Surf Coast Planning Scheme and the Victorian Coastal Council’s *Siting and Design Guidelines for Structures on the Victorian Coast*. These provide planning guidelines to ‘ensure sympathetic development which complements the surrounding landscape and results in excellent design and more generally by raising awareness of the importance of achieving sensitive design and development along the Victorian Coast’.



The urban design of this underpass does none of this, and also fails to adhere to the hard-won principles of the Aireys Inlet to Eastern View Neighbourhood Character.

A follow-up meeting was held on 11 February with all in attendance. VicRoads acknowledged once more the lack of community consultation on its part during the design and construction process. It was agreed the publicity that had been committed to at the last meeting had not been very effective. Surf Coast Shire reported that it had missed opportunities for input and that the local councillors had not been kept in the loop.

VicRoads could not commit to re-engineering the underpass, which would cost about \$2million and there were no funds available for this. They produced a draft vegetation plan and mock-ups of different colouring treatments for the tunnel, including murals. There was a long discussion on how to reduce the impact of the steel topping, including painting or replacement with other materials such as plexiglass. VicRoads had a professional look at the lighting and agreed that it was 'over lit'. Suggestions included toning down the effect by removing some globes, reducing the lighting to the minimum required and investigating options to get rid of the black standard lamps – e.g. strip lighting on the stairs – but they were not keen on sensor lights.

VicRoads will prepare photomontage mock-ups showing what the underpass would look like if the various options raised were used – different colours, planting, using different materials to replace the mesh. They will also prepare a community consultation plan for seeking responses from the wider community to the various options.

The committee will meet again in 3–4 weeks. Members are encouraged to contact VicRoads at greatoceanroad@roads.vic.gov.au with concerns and email AIDA with these and any suggestions for improvement.

Barbara Fletcher



Bottom Shops pedestrian refuge

An article about a new pedestrian refuge at the Bottom Shops, and unrelated works at the entrance to Inlet Crescent, was included in the December 2015 newsletter. This included information about the proposed works for the refuge and Inlet Crescent and a meeting AIDA had with VicRoads and the shire in November to discuss our concerns with the draft plan. These included the visual impact, loss of vegetation, new lighting, scale and site of the refuge.

The proposed site for the refuge, which is well to the western end of the Bottom Shops, will mean many people will choose not to use it to cross the Great Ocean Road. It also requires a huge intrusion into the grassed area beside the car park and the loss of a lot of screening vegetation.

We are also concerned about the significant intrusive works to the entrance of Inlet Crescent being proposed by VicRoads. These are unrelated to the pedestrian refuge and, in our view, are unnecessary and will make the area less safe for pedestrians and should be removed from the plans.

At the November meeting VicRoads and the shire agreed to review the draft plans in light of our concerns.

The shire contacted AIDA in early February with the revised plans. The only major change is the removal of the green painted bike lanes and two minor changes to reduce some concrete curbing and amount of new seal at Inlet Crescent.

The AIDA committee then wrote to the shire's CEO with its continuing concerns about the impact of the pedestrian refuge, its placement and efficacy, the works to Inlet Crescent and our view that they are a suburban response that conflicts with the local character.

The shire has committed to providing the community with opportunities to comment on the plans before any final decisions are made. We will email you with details of the community consultation details once we have them.

Charlotte Allen



Mobile Black Spot funding

Members may recall that AIDA applied for federal government funding under the Mobile Black Spot program to overcome the telecommunications failures that many residents experience, especially in summer when the population increases eight-fold. Unfortunately, we were not successful in that first round of funding.

AIDA has reapplied for Aireys Inlet, Fairhaven, Moggs Creek and Eastern View to be considered in the \$60 million second round. The member for Corangamite, Sarah Henderson MP, has the opportunity to nominate three areas for funding. We were pleased to learn that she has nominated the Aireys Inlet area as one of her three priority areas (along with Anglesea and Bellbrae). If the application were successful, a base station would be installed in Aireys Inlet to improve mobile reception. The member for Corangamite hopes that, if the application is successful, the siting will accommodate all of Aireys Inlet and district.

The opportunity to nominate a town has closed, and a competitive selection process will soon begin with mobile network operators bidding for what they can achieve for the money available. Co-contributions, for example from the Surf Coast Shire, are also important. Successful nominations should be known before the end of 2016 and the rollout from both funding rounds completed within three years.

Some members of the AIDA committee met with Sarah Henderson on 29 January to discuss our application for funding. We emphasised the poor mobile reception, the need for better communications in a bushfire-prone area that needs access to information (including the FireReady app) for safety, the single significant road for evacuation and a tiny place of last resort (Bottom Shops car park).

Gary Johnson

Aireys Inlet Primary School solar panels fundraising

Deadline extended

Donations to the Aireys Inlet fundraising campaign are still open (see December, 2015 AIDA Newsletter) <https://www.thepeoplesolar.com/projects/laic-aic/>

Aireys Inlet PS had a fundraising trivia night on 4 March to boost donations to their project, but they still need donations from the community to reach their goal of \$20,000 for a 15 KW system that will save the school \$3500 in energy bills per year.

The savings will help the school invest in

sustainable programs such as: passive cooling systems, a kitchen garden program, rain gardens and frog ponds.

'I urge anyone who has a soft spot for the primary school in Aireys Inlet to chip in a little or a lot to help us reach our target.'

Meg Parker Assistant Principal

Lorne Aireys P-12 Campus

Mangowak Lane – naming the lane at the Bottom Shops

AIDA proposed and, with the agreement of the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation, the Surf Coast Shire accepted the name Mangowak for the lane connecting the Bottom Shops to the Painkalac Creek. The suggestion was based on the Aboriginal history of the area.

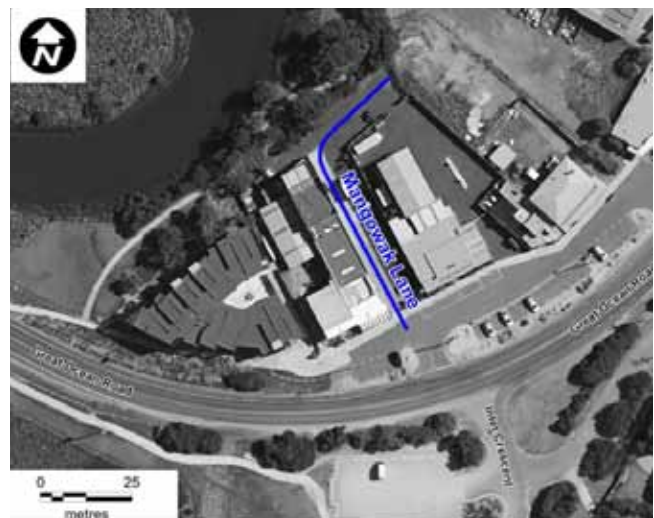
Aboriginal people have inhabited this area for at least 25,000 years. Long ago the Painkalac Creek valley formed an enormous lake, which separated two tribes. On the Aireys side were the Wathaurung people or Mon-mart clan and on the Fairhaven side were the Gadubanud, or King Parrot people, who occupied land west to the Gellibrand River.

The name the Aborigines used for the small estuary at Aireys Inlet was *Mangowak*, which meant 'a good place for hunting swans'.

The current name of the creek, the Painkalac, comes from their words, *paen* for fresh water and *killock* for camping place.

William Buckley, the escaped convict, camped at Mangowak in 1803 on his first foray westwards and later visited the area with the Aboriginal tribe that adopted him. He talked of using one of the filtered wells the Mon-mart dug near the salty river mouth.

Adapted from 'The Glen Cottages' Aireys Inlet



AIDA's strength is its members

AIDA's strength and ability to lobby and advocate is due to its membership numbers, which are almost four hundred. Your membership is really important to AIDA. Please renew it by or at the **AIDA AGM Saturday 9 April 2016**, and encourage your friends and neighbours to join if they also love the things that make this part of the Surf Coast so special. If you know someone who supports our aims but isn't a member, please invite them to join and give them a copy of the membership form to complete.

Charlotte Allen, President

Join or rejoin AIDA here or online – www.aireys-inlet.org/join-aida



Aireys Inlet & District Association Inc.

Membership Application and Renewal Form – 2016

Family (\$20) Single (\$10) Donation Total

Note: Family membership entitles voting rights for two adult members as named on this form.

Name: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Prof _____

Name: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Prof _____

Postal address : _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Aireys Inlet district address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Preferred telephone number/s: _____

Telephone _____

Mobile _____

Email 1 _____

Email 2 _____

AIDA wishes to contact members by email where possible. By giving your email address we presume your willingness to receive AIDA emails and electronic newsletters. Email addresses are of course confidential and will not be passed on to any third party.

New member (subject to ratification by AIDA Committee)

Renewal

I/We wish to join / renew our membership of the Aireys Inlet and District Association, support its objectives and purpose and agree to be bound by its Rules.

Signature(s): _____

Date _____

Payment option: Cheque Direct deposit Cash

Account name: Aireys Inlet and District Association BSB no. 063-860 Account number: 1003-8912

Reference: Please put your initial and surname, eg ASmith

Please post this form to: Lecki Ord, AIDA Membership, 1702/1 William St, Melbourne 3000
or scan and email to: AIDAmemb@aireys-inlet.org

Nominations for the 2016 AIDA committee

AIDA members may put themselves forward for election to the Committee or, with their consent, be proposed for election by another AIDA member. All members standing for election to the Committee should be prepared to sign the AIDA Code of Ethics (see below). Completed nomination forms may be mailed to the Secretary, Mary-Jane Gething, PO Box 359, Aireys Inlet, Victoria, 3231 not less than seven days before the AIDA Annual General Meeting or may be brought to the AGM. Nominations will also be called for at the AGM.

Nomination form for AIDA committee 2016

PERSON NOMINATED: (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE) _____

PROPOSED BY: _____

NOMINATED FOR: (PLEASE TICK APPROPRIATE BOX)

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

TREASURER

COMMITTEE MEMBER

ACCEPTANCE OF NOMINATION: _____

DATE: _____



AIDA code of ethics for committee members

- (1) To support the Aims and Policies of AIDA
- (2) To be an active and committed member in the best interests of AIDA, free of motives of personal advantage and/or information gathering for personal advantage or gain.
- (3) To accept all decisions of AIDA made by constitutional means, and to refrain from public adverse comment about those decisions in any form which claims or implies representation of AIDA.
- (4) To declare any actual or perceived vested or pecuniary interest, and to abstain from voting in cases where such an interest exists. This interest must be declared before any relevant agenda item is dealt with, or when such conflict of interest becomes clear.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



AIREYS INLET & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION INC

PO BOX 359 AIREYS INLET VICTORIA 3231

(Reg. No. A000710V)

APPOINTMENT OF PROXY FORM

I, (name) _____

of (address) _____

being a member of the Aireys Inlet & District Association Inc.

appoint (name of proxy holder) _____

of (address of proxy holder) _____

also being a member of that Association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the annual/special* general meeting of the Association to be held on 9 April 2016 and at any adjournment of that meeting.

My proxy is authorised to vote in favour of / against* the following resolution(s)

(insert resolution(s)): _____

and otherwise to vote without guidance on my behalf.

Signed _____ Date _____

* Delete as applicable