



AIDA

March 2023 • www.aireys-inlet.org

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

AIDA acknowledges the traditional owners of these lands, the Wadawurrung People of the Kulin nation, and the Gadubanud People of the Eastern Maar nation. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present, and future.



NOTICE OF 2023 AGM

4pm Saturday 15 April, Aireys Community Hall / Zoom

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 15 April at 4 pm in the Community Hall and on Zoom. We have invited our ward councillors, Libby Stapleton, Mike Bodsworth and Gary Allen, and the shire's CEO, Robyn Seymour, to join us to update us on council activities that are relevant to our area. There will be an opportunity for questions.

One of AIDA's successes this year was to receive a council grant to get wi-fi installed in the hall. We will use this for a Zoom link. However, we are not sure whether we will be able to set this up to allow members to participate in the meeting or to have vision as well as audio. Members wanting to be sent the link should register their interest by emailing aida.aireys@gmail.com. You will be sent the Zoom invitation a few days before the AGM.

Among the items on the agenda will be the election of the AIDA committee for the next year. If you

are interested in joining the committee please contact me on c.allen@bigpond.net.au or complete the Committee Membership Nomination Form attached at the end of this newsletter

Members will also be asked to approve AIDA's updated Aims and Objectives, which the committee have recently reviewed and revised so that they more accurately reflect AIDA's activities and areas of interest. Links to the current aims and objectives and the revised document are included in this newsletter or can be accessed here: <https://aireys-inlet.org/aims-and-policies/>

This link <https://aireys-inlet.org/aida-agm-2023/> will provide members with links to the Agenda for the AGM, plus the financial report, minutes of the last AGM, and information about the election of new and existing committee members and a proxy voting form for members who are not able to attend the AGM at the Community Hall. A copy of the proxy form is also attached at the end of this newsletter.

Completed nomination or proxy forms can be posted to PO Box 359, Aireys Inlet, Vic 3231 or scanned

or photographed and then emailed to aida aireys@gmail.com to arrive before Monday 10 April.

We welcome questions from members who cannot attend the AGM, and these can be attached to your proxy form and sent prior to the meeting as directed above.

After the AGM we are very pleased that Krystal De Napoli, Gomerioi woman and astrophysicist, who spoke at our Dark Sky event in September, has agreed to return to Aireys to tell us more about the night sky and how First Peoples have understood and used the night sky. The title of her talk is 'Deadly Dark Skies.' Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the world's first astronomers with astronomical traditions that have been sustained for over 65,000 years. In this talk, Krystal De Napoli will explore the ingenuity intrinsic to Indigenous astronomy while demonstrating the necessity of sustaining our dark skies.

We are sure members who were at the Dark Sky event will look forward to learning more – and those who were not at the event will welcome the opportunity to hear from her. Krystal's co-authored book, *Astronomy: Sky Country*, recently won the People's Choice award in the 2023 Premier's Literary Awards. She will have copies of the book at the AGM to sell and sign.

Members can renew their 2023 subscriptions on the day. Membership forms will be available and new members will be welcome to join prior. Tea, coffee and wine will be available at the end of the meeting.

AIDA committee membership

There are vacancies on the AIDA committee and we would welcome some new faces and thinking. Please consider nominating to join the committee, particularly if you have IT, communications, legal, planning or an environmental background and skills. But nominations from all members would be welcome.

The committee meets on the first Friday of the month at 7.30 – on Zoom or in the Community Centre – and occasionally there are other meetings or events where committee members are called on to contribute their time if they are available. The committee's work is fun as well as important. Please call me on 0418 567 977 if you would like more information about the committee's activities. As noted above you can find a committee nomination form at the end of this newsletter.

Charlotte Allen

AIDA revises Aims and Objectives

Recently the AIDA committee met to discuss and revise AIDA's aims and objectives and is proposing a number of changes. These are evolutionary not revolutionary and, the committee believes, more accurately reflect the association's activities as well as simplifying the

document. The proposed changes include grouping the aims and objectives into five categories:

- 1 valuing local character,
- 2 stewardship of the environment,
- 3 strong community,
- 4 thriving local economy and
- 5 advocacy.

The other major change is to include recognition of the history and continuing presence of First Peoples. The proposed aims and objectives can be read below and both the current aims and the proposed revised version can be accessed at <https://aireys-inlet.org/aims-and-policies/>

Members will be asked to approve the proposed changes at the AGM in April. In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments please get in touch at aida aireys@gmail.com

Revised Aims and Objectives

AIDA's overall aim is to conserve the natural environment and special character of the low-key coastal communities that lie between Eastern View and Urquhart Bluff, and of the adjacent hinterland, as the area develops and changes.

Objective 1: Valuing local character

- generate appreciation of the unique, informal character of the Aireys Inlet district;
- support environmentally sensitive development and infrastructure by contributing to the formulation and upholding of planning guidelines and policies;
- support conservation and regeneration of the Painkalac Creek valley and its environs, including the wetlands and timbered hillsides, freehold and public land;
- support preservation of the night sky through education, advocacy and planning.

Objective 2: Stewardship of the environment

- participate in and support actions to highlight, mitigate and adapt to climate change and its effects;
- support an environmentally and aesthetically sensitive policy for traffic and parking management and road and pathway construction; and
- support appropriate conservation and regeneration of the beaches, dunes and cliff areas.

Objective 3: Strong community

- encourage an appreciation of the region through deeper knowledge, especially of the history and the continuing presence of First Peoples;
- support other groups working to strengthen community wellbeing;
- encourage the creation, protection and maintenance

of public open spaces and appropriate location of public facilities; and

- support effective and environmentally sympathetic fire protection measures for the district.

Objective 4: Thriving local economy

- support a diverse economy by encouraging local businesses and services, regional produce and creative enterprises;
- promote Aireys Inlet as a destination for nature-based, sustainable and regenerative tourism; and
- seek to influence decisions made by external agencies on the environmental and management impacts of tourism and its marketing.

Objective 5: Advocacy

- raise community awareness of, and canvas the community's views on, current and emerging issues of significance in the district;
- work with other Great Ocean Road communities to achieve common objectives through engagement with government and other public authorities; and
- initiate and participate in 'future-proofing' research, planning and actions undertaken by external agencies and community groups.

Is the Painkalac Creek healthy?

Community Forum, 21 January

AIDA has surveyed its members and other residents on many occasions since its foundation in 1965. The surveys have indicated consistently that the single most valued environmental 'asset' is the Painkalac Valley: the creek, the inlet, the estuary and hillsides. Indeed, AIDA itself was founded in response to a proposal to open a caravan park on what is today Mellor's Swamp, the council nature reserve near the skate park.

There are many locals who have high levels of knowledge of the nature and behaviour of this creek. The creek and its estuary have also been the subject of a series of high-level scientific reports highlighting the richness of its biodiversity and the complex relationship between creek and ocean.

In 2017, the Federal Environment Minister amended the list of threatened ecological communities to include *Assemblages of species associated with open-coast salt-wedge estuaries of western and central Victoria ecological community*. The Painkalac Estuary is specifically included in the Endangered category.

In June last year there was a Painkalac Creek Flooding Information Session convened by Surf Coast



Shire. About sixty people attended the session in this hall. The 21 January forum explored two chief areas of concern that were left unresolved or unclear from that meeting.

First, when the Painkalac reservoir was decommissioned in 2015 it was anticipated that water releases would 'mimic' natural flows as much as possible, continuing the improvements in the health of the riverine system. However, an unusually wet few years have increased the frequency of mechanical openings of the river mouth to avoid possible flood damage to low-lying buildings. The forum sought information about the ecological impact of the increased frequency of short-term estuary openings, and about which agency is responsible for monitoring these impacts.

Are there feasible and less impactful options for mitigating flood risk other than current mechanical openings?

The speaker from the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) noted that artificial openings are highly likely to have negative effects on fauna and flora, but there is a lack of precise information on this. Longer-term increases in sea levels will exacerbate impacts of salinity on estuarine vegetation. The speaker from Estuary Watch added that detailed testing of salinity and other readings have not identified significant changes in profile. The shire representative outlined protocols for artificial openings and noted that the shire was open to investigating other possible processes.

Second, increased pressure on Painkalac Creek for recreational purposes has highlighted occasional concerns about the cleanliness of the creek water, especially over summer. There have also been instances of serious malfunction of the sewerage pumping station at the junction of Great Ocean and Bambra Roads. The forum asked about the current and future water-quality testing regimes for the creek, and who is responsible for implementing these and publicising results. What results from current *E. coli* monitoring are available for the community? The shire representative noted that recent *E. coli* levels have been a concern near Butler's Bend, but not further downstream to the estuary, but that sources of this contamination are as yet undetermined. The shire plans to continue its monitoring.

The forum featured short presentations from the five key agencies and from an eminent scientist, Prof David Kennedy, Director, Office for Environmental Programs, University of Melbourne, whose research focusses on the impact of climatic and environmental change and how sea level, storms and tsunamis drive our dynamic coast. David's research partners range from Surf Life Saving Australia, to AusAID as well as state

and government agencies in Australia and overseas. (Presentations are available on the AIDA website.)

Barwon Water	Jarod Scott, Coordinator Systems, Waterways & Catchments
CCMA	Jayden Woolley, Estuary and Environmental Water Manager
Estuary Watch	Rod Brooks, Local Coordinator
GORCAPA	Alex McDonald, Environment Manager, and Scott Hives
Surf Coast Shire	Sharna Whitehand, Community Emergency Management & Resilience

Peter McPhee

Remembering Ash Wednesday

16 February 1983

About two hundred people crowded the community hall on 16 February to recall and reflect on a destructive and unforgettable time in the history of the surf coast and its hinterland forty years ago. Surf Coast Shire Mayor Liz Pattison spoke of the significance of the event in the region's history, before bushfire and emergency response expert Jamie McKenzie chaired a panel which included Dr Rob Gordon (Disaster Recovery Psychologist), Bill Bubb (former Anglesea brigade captain), Pat Hutchinson (former Aireys publican) and Sharon Rawlings (a survivor from Pennyroyal). Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action Barwon South West facilitator Birgitte Hutchens also spoke.

The personal recollections of Bill Bubb, Pat Hutchinson and Sharon Rawlings were profoundly moving, evoking both the horrific scale of the challenge faced by firefighters led by Bill and their great courage and selflessness. We also heard of the extraordinary actions of other people of all ages. Pat described how he and others managed to erect a temporary pub almost immediately and the role it played as a community hub. Sharon's account of schoolchildren sheltering together as the fire passed over the hall in Deans Marsh then rushing outside with buckets of water to douse embers was unforgettable.



Council staff went to great lengths to create a superb gallery of photographs, maps and quotations from locals and are to be congratulated on enabling a significant community occasion, one which will have many positive outcomes. Among those is that many more people have signed up to be interviewed by or provide photographs to Alex Watkins, the project officer for AIDA's bushfire recollections project.

Alex recorded the anniversary event and the recording will be uploaded to AIDA's website together with the other oral and visual resource materials he collects during the remembrance project.

Peter McPhee

Ash Wednesday memories preserved

The 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfires destroyed much of the area from Urquhart Bluff to Eastern View, AIDA's area of activity. The Surf Coast Shire marked the fortieth anniversary of this catastrophe at the community hall.

There is no oral history of the experience of those who lived through the Ash Wednesday fires in our district. Visual imagery is scattered between households. Now AIDA has been successful in securing a grant from Surf Coast Shire Council to employ a project officer to compile an oral and visual record of the environmental and social impact of the fires. A generous AIDA member has matched the grant. A project officer, Alex Watkins, has been appointed and is currently interviewing people who lived through the fires, either as a witness to Ash Wednesday on the day itself, or in its lead up and aftermath. He is also keen to scan photographs and compile background information. The outcomes of the project will be accessible through the AIDA website. It will be an oral and visual resource that can be added to in future years.

If you would like to participate through an interview, by providing photographs or in some other way, please contact Alex: alex@alexanderwatkins.com or 0408 322 459.

AIDA has been delighted to receive a donation from the Corr family to match council's grant. In

the next column Chris Corr explains the powerful motivation behind this generosity.

The Corr Family have owned a holiday house in Philip Street Aireys Inlet since the late 1990s and always love their time at Aireys Inlet and surrounds. Members of the family have been CFA volunteers both at Arthurs Creek, 35 km north-east of Melbourne at the foot of the Kinglake Range, for over 50 years and also in Bendigo for the last 15 years. Family members have experienced and participated in both the fire fight and/or community recovery associated with the Ash Wednesday and Black Saturday fires and many others.

The Corr family donation is partly in memory of Gayle Corr (Pat's wife and mother of Chris and Nick), who passed away in mid 2021 associated with cancer. Gayle voluntarily worked tirelessly in the Arthurs Creek area for a full two years following the Black Saturday fires supporting and in many ways a key leader of the community support and recovery effort. Sadly 27 people died in the Arthurs Creek – Strathewen CFA area on Black Saturday including the only two CFA members (a father and son) to lose their lives to the fire.

Pat and sons Chris and Nick were very pleased to hear that the stories, memories and experiences of the Ash Wednesday fires in Aireys Inlet and surrounds were to be captured and documented and wanted to ensure that sufficient funded time was available for this important task. Thus we have been delighted to double the available funding and we look forward to the outcomes. Gayle loved Aireys Inlet so much.

Pat, Gayle (dec), Chris and Nick Corr and families

Peter McPhee

Aireys Inlet Dark Sky event

It's on again, pack your woolly jumpers, tasty snacks, and hot drinks. Dust off your telescopes and download a stargazing app. AIDA will once again be hosting a Dark Sky event on Saturday 16 September, the last Saturday before daylight savings begins and when there is a new moon.

This year will be a little different. We hope to link up with other Dark Sky places across the world in real time to see what they are doing in their bid to preserve the night sky. We are still planning on going to the back of Aireys for stargazing, lots of informative talks, and observation of the wonders of the night sky. AIDA will keep you informed as details are finalised.

The Dark Sky event is part of AIDA's bid to get accreditation as an international Dark Sky community. Currently there are accredited Dark Sky parks in Australia, such as the River Murray Dark Sky Reserve in South Australia, and the Warrumbungle Dark Sky Park in New South Wales but no Dark Sky communities. It

Courtesy Ross Girvan, CFA





Sally Webber

The Aurora Australis at Freycinet National Park Tasmania

would be fabulous if our area could be the first.

To be accredited AIDA needs to show community support from local residents and businesses, as well as support from local government. To date AIDA has met with local businesses, who have shown their support. One business in particular has modified its outdoor and advertising signage to be more sympathetic to a Dark Sky environment. It's a great example of less is more, and the business clearly exhibits the low-key coastal character that makes Aireys such an attractive destination.

A Dark Sky policy

AIDA is lobbying the Surf Coast Shire Council for a Dark Sky policy to be incorporated into the local planning scheme. AIDA met with council officers in December last year and has put in a bid for a 'community projects and partnerships' project to further develop this policy. The policy would reflect the five principles of outdoor lighting as endorsed by the International Dark Sky Association. These principles are:

- a) All lighting should have a clear purpose
- b) Light should be directed only where it is needed
- c) Light should be no brighter than necessary
- d) Light should only be used when it is useful
- e) Use warmer coloured lights where possible

This policy will apply to all future lighting installations, including street lighting, and other public lighting. Where existing fixtures are replaced, it should be shown how light pollution will not be increased.

The globe at night

At the first Dark Sky event in September last year, the Painkalac Valley was recorded as the darkest place within 1.5 hours from Melbourne. This observation was done using the Globe at Night web app. This app is part of an international citizen science project designed to raise public awareness on the impact of light pollution on the environment. Citizen scientists, guided by the app, observe the brightness of the night sky, then submit their observations from a smart phone to the Globe at Night website. If you are interested in participating in this project, the app can be downloaded directly from the internet – not from an Apple store or Samsung Galaxy store, <https://www.globeatnight.org/webapp/>.

If you would like further information on how to use the app you can go to this you tube clip <https://youtube/arR8A07kGnY>, and for further information on the study findings to date go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hXvdNrlQp5s>

The collection of data in this way will help scientists track the increase in light pollution, which in turn will lead to a push to reduce it and restore what has always been a fundamental part of who we are. On a local level this collection of data will support AIDA's bid to become a Dark Sky community. It would be wonderful if our community could contribute to this global initiative.

The next step in accreditation will be a submission to the International Dark Sky Association. AIDA will keep its members updated on progress.

Frieda Wachsmann

GORCN & GORCAPA meet quarterly

Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority met with the Great Ocean Road Communities Network on Zoom in mid-February. AIDA is one of the eighteen community groups from along the Great Ocean Road that belong to the Great Ocean Road Communities Network (GORCN).

Agenda items included GORCAPA's five-year strategic themes, the Geelong City Deal, community engagement, tourism, climate change, and land transfers.

The key items were the four strategic themes and GORCAPA's approach to tourism.

- 1 To 'bring the best of contemporary science and Traditional knowledges and practices to manage, protect and enhance our environment, ecosystems and the wellbeing of all who live in our region.'
- 2 To 'attract more tourists who are actively seeking opportunities to enhance the environment ... learn the history and culture ... and invest in local businesses.'
- 3 To support 'a greater role for [First Nations] peoples in ... management and planning ... for this region, ... as economic participants and to ... incorporate cultural values and considerations in GORCAPA's business practices.'
- 4 To 'reinvest in place and communities', which will be achieved by generating 'revenue equitably to fund our operations and our reinvestment in the Great Ocean Road's coasts, parks and communities.'

GORCAPA will be seeking Eco Tourism Destination Certification which involves them benchmarking themselves against eco best practice and supporting nature-based tourism in the region.

They will also develop a sustainable visitation strategy that will be aligned to the Great Ocean Road Visitor Economy Masterplan which is a collaboration between the Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism Board and Visit Victoria. It will target nature-based tourism and overnight stays.

Anyone interested in reading GORCAPA's PowerPoint presentation can access it here <https://aireys-inlet.org/wp-content/uploads/GORCAPA-powerpoint-for-GORCN-meeting-15.02.2023.pdf> AIDA will continue to liaise with GORCAPA and GORCN on issues of common interest along the Great Ocean Road.

Charlotte Allen

Surf Coast Shire Electoral Structure Review

AIDA put in a submission to the Victorian Electoral Commission's review of the structure of the Surf Coast

Shire Council. The council is one of 39 councils in the state under review.

Changes to the *Local Government Act 2020* introduced several changes to local government including changes to the types of electoral structures councils can have. The changes require councils to be either unsubdivided (no wards) or be divided into wards with an equal number of councillors representing each ward. Also, each ward must have the same number of voters within + or – 10 per cent.

A panel will review all submissions and will consider if the council:

- has an appropriate number of councillors
- should be one large unsubdivided area or subdivided into wards.

If subdivided, the panel will consider:

- how many wards the council should have
- how many councillors should be in each ward
- the ward boundaries
- the name of each ward

The panels will consider whether there are 'communities of interest' that could influence the grouping of communities within a ward.

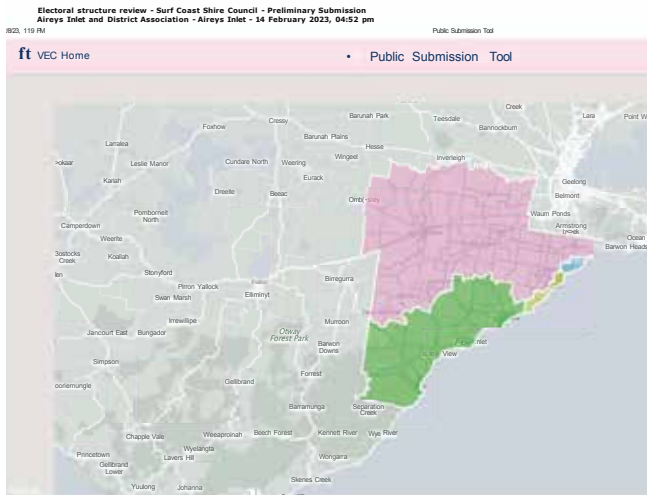
Fortunately, one AIDA member is an election analyst with detailed knowledge of all things electoral. He guided AIDA in preparing its submission, which the committee very much appreciated. The deadline for preliminary submissions closed on 22 February.

On 22 March a preliminary report will be published and an opportunity for submission of responses to the report will be open until 12 April. The final report will be available on 12 May.

The AIDA committee is concerned that our area's interests and issues would become overwhelmed by those of Torquay and submitted 'that the coastal communities and rural hinterland have their own strong communities of interest and that the dominant population centre of Torquay, which has its own issues and urban communities of interest, be divided into two Wards and that there be one Ward for the communities of interest in the hinterland and one Ward for the coastal communities of Anglesea, Aireys Inlet, Fairhaven, Moggs Creek, Eastern View and Lorne.

The coastal communities already have links between community organisations, and share many of the same concerns, such as caring for the coastal environment, pressures of tourism and traffic on the Great Ocean Road, public infrastructure and the impacts of climate change, particularly dealing with bushfires and erosion along the coast and the vulnerability of the Great Ocean Road. The inclusion of the immediate hinterland in this ward would also make sense given the close ties of population and employment with the coast.'

AIDA's proposed four ward structure and population data for the proposed wards are shown below.



My Wards			
Wards	Councillors	Voters	Deviation
Unassigned	0	0	
North West	3	8,128	-7.98%
South West	3	9,342	+5.77%
Torquay North	3	8,528	-3.45%
Torquay South	3	9,332	+5.66%
Total councillors	12		

Charlotte Allen

Statutory Planning Customer Experience Survey

A focus group was held by the Surf Coast Shire at their offices on Wednesday 15 February attended by seven representatives from all wards of the shire who had recent experience with the statutory planning process as objectors. AIDA was also represented at this meeting which was facilitated by Helen Jennings from Wayfarer Consulting.

The group was generally satisfied with the courtesy and respect shown by planning officers toward objectors. However, concerns were raised about inconsistencies with the approaches to decision-making resulting in some unsatisfactory outcomes. The group was generally of the view that high-level discussions between planning officers, applicants and potential objectors early in the planning process would avoid some of these problems occurring. This focus group also formed part of the Planning Scheme Review.

Ian Laging

AIDA members lend a hand!

From time to time AIDA members offer their professional expertise to the committee for the benefit of all members. From memory we have recently had a hydrologist, professional planners, a member with deep knowledge about the tourist industry, and an ecologist. This month we have been fortunate to have the assistance of a professional election analyst to help with AIDA's submission on the Surf Coast Shire Council electoral structure review.

This month we are putting out a call for someone to help AIDA with its Facebook page and posts and other communications. If anyone had this expertise to help AIDA and would like to know more about what would be involved please contact me at c.allen@bigpond.net.au

Charlotte Allen

New Speed Limit on the GOR

The 'new' 50 kph limits along the Great Ocean Road through Aireys almost feel 'normal', judging by conversations in the general store, Onda and Le Comptoir. They seem to have been well received and generally complied with well.

VicRoads (with Deakin University) are to do a follow-up survey (see article below) and AIDA has been in touch with the Deakin team to see if we can assist with that. In the meantime, our survey on sharing of roads https://aireys-inlet.org/wp-content/uploads/AIDA-Shared-Roads-Survey-Data_All_220429-1.pdf clearly suggests the next phase for AIDA lobbying and negotiations with government:

- bringing all the town roads into a 40 kph limit zone (as is the current condition for the lighthouse precinct)
- ensuring that the alternative route into town (from Distillery Creek and along Bambra Road) is at least as safe, speed-wise, as the Great Ocean Road
- Informing visitors that the district's culture and practice is for most roads to be shared – alerting vehicle drivers to the likely presence, on the road and on unmade roadsides, of residents walking (often with dogs) or stopping to chat; people on bikes; horses; parading ducks and ducklings; bemused kangaroos; and even lonely echidnas.

The strong support for such action has been flagged with the Surf Coast and as the year of 2023 unfolds, the AIDA committee will be following up with proposals for action.

Any members who have strong views on these issues are urged to contact President Charlotte Allen or committee member Chris Ryan. Offers for assistance in arguing the case will be gratefully accepted.

Chris Ryan

Great Ocean Road speed trial

AIDA has received the following letter from Susan Phillips, Communications and Engagement Advisor, Transport Communications and Experience, Barwon South West, Department of Transport and Planning:

We are continuing to work with Deakin University with a follow-up survey to understand community feeling about the Great Ocean in Aireys Inlet and Fairhaven. Please share your individual experiences in this second survey, even if you completed the previous survey, as some of the questions relate to current road conditions.

We're gathering information from people living, working or travelling this section of the Great Ocean Road through online surveys. This feedback, along with technical data collected at key pedestrian crossing points, traffic volumes, vehicle types and speed, will form part of an independent evaluation to determine future road safety improvements in the area.

You can access the Deakin University survey via https://researchsurveys.deakin.edu.au/jfe/form/SV_8kr7olkT7XbXvx4?O_CHL=qr or by this QR code



Coastal Character workshops

A series of workshops run by the Surf Coast Shire is currently being held in Anglesea, Aireys Inlet and Lorne. The aim of these workshops is to explore the elements that make up the coastal character of these townships with the local community. The workshops form part of a Planning Scheme Review being undertaken by the shire which is a requirement of the

Victorian Government Planning and Environment Act.

The first of these workshops was held in Anglesea on Saturday 11 February, the second workshop in Aireys Inlet on Saturday 25 February with the third workshop due to be held in Lorne on Saturday 4 March. The workshop in Aireys Inlet was well attended by approximately 50 local residents including representatives from local interest groups, including AIDA. Also in attendance were Surf Coast Shire ward councillors, the CEO and representatives from the Planning Department. The workshop was facilitated for the shire by local resident Helen Jennings from Wayfarer Consulting.

The workshop was divided into 5 separate tables with each table exploring a range of topics including:

- What is 'town character' and how has it changed over time?
- What does 'good or bad' built form look like and how can the planning scheme influence town character?
- What are the elements of town character that need to be addressed and which areas are most important?

There appeared to be broad support from all tables for the current planning scheme and in particular the Neighbourhood Character Overlay. Concerns were expressed regarding the height, bulk and appearance of some building developments which had been given a planning permit at the discretion of the shire. Other concerns raised included protection of views toward the lighthouse, the small size of some subdivided sites and the proliferation of paling fences in the area. There was also strong support for the idea of Aireys Inlet being a Dark Sky destination. Finally, there was recognition for the need to have some flexibility in planning policies to permit the development of housing which is affordable to a greater range of people.

The workshop concluded with statements regarding ongoing community consultation about the concerns raised and the development of an online survey to further inform the Planning Scheme Review.

Ian Laging



Nomination form for AIDA committee 2023

PERSON NOMINATED: (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE) _____

PROPOSED BY: _____

NOMINATED FOR: (PLEASE TICK APPROPRIATE BOX)

PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>
SECRETARY	<input type="checkbox"/>	TREASURER	<input type="checkbox"/>
		COMMITTEE MEMBER	<input type="checkbox"/>

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: _____

The completed form can be posted to PO Box 359 Aireys Inlet VIC 3231 or scanned or photographed and emailed to aida.aireys@gmail.com to arrive before Monday 10 April.

AIREYS INLET & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION INC

PO BOX 359 AIREYS INLET VICTORIA 3231 (Reg. No. A000710V)

2023 Annual General Meeting

APPOINTMENT OF PROXY AND VOTING FORM

I/We _____ (name/s)

of _____ (address)

being a member/members of the Aireys Inlet & District Association Inc. appoint the President of the Association as a proxy vote on my/our behalf at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 15 April 2023. Please indicate how you wish to vote on each agenda item.

1. Accept the minutes of the 2022 AGM held on Saturday 23 April 2022.

Member 1	For <input type="checkbox"/>	Against <input type="checkbox"/>
Member 2	For <input type="checkbox"/>	Against <input type="checkbox"/>

2. To receive AIDA's Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Member 1	For <input type="checkbox"/>	Against <input type="checkbox"/>
Member 2	For <input type="checkbox"/>	Against <input type="checkbox"/>

3. To approve AIDA's revised Aims and Objectives.

Member 1	For <input type="checkbox"/>	Against <input type="checkbox"/>
Member 2	For <input type="checkbox"/>	Against <input type="checkbox"/>

4. To accept the following nominations for positions on the 2023–24 AIDA Committee. (Additional nominations are possible prior to the AGM)

Charlotte Allen	President	Ian Laging	Vice-President
Frieda Wachsmann	Treasurer	Mary-Jane Gething	Secretary
Guy Abrahams	Member	Helen Berthelsen	Member
Annette Comte	Member	Barbara Fletcher	Member
Peter McPhee	Member	Chris Ryan	Member
Member 1	For <input type="checkbox"/>	Against <input type="checkbox"/>	
Member 2	For <input type="checkbox"/>	Against <input type="checkbox"/>	

Signed (1) _____ (2) _____

Date (1) _____ (2) _____