

UKVCA Newsletter

No 1. December 2012

A word from the Chair

It is with pleasure that I write to you, for the first time, as the Chairperson of the newly formed Upper Kiewa Valley Community Association. Since our first committee meeting in August we have met fortnightly to get through the administration aspects of our new organisation. The committee has worked tirelessly to get things done and feel we are ready to cut back to monthly meetings starting in January.

We have been busy building a 'priority list' and have half a dozen of the more 'do-able' projects on the go. We want to represent our community where ever the benefits are more for the good of the community than the individual, and to foster a good working relationship with the Alpine Shire and other bodies such as Vicroads and government representatives such as Bill Sykes.

We invite you to approach us any time through our email (ukvca2012@gmail.com) or postal address (PO Box 87, Tawonga South. 3698). We have applied for a Council grant to finance the development of a website. If any of you have expertise in this area, we would appreciate you letting us know rather than outsourcing to strangers. Our logo is in the pipeline and hopefully it will become a unique and recognizable symbol for our group.

We held a membership drive at the October market and our first community forum in Dederang in November. We have scheduled a forum for Mt Beauty on the 28th of February 2013. I look forward to seeing you there.

Finally I want to thank the members of the committee and the small band of volunteers who have helped in making the association become a reality.

I wish you and your family a happy and safe Christmas and New Year

Kind Regards

Jodee Betheras

First Project finished.

We seem to be such a busy community with events happening all the time. Often these events clash with others to the detriment of each event. We have installed a Community Calendar in the Visitor Information Centre. It is a yearly planner for people to write in their events and to cross-check planned dates for events. Please ask at the Enquiry Desk and follow the simple instructions to fill it in. It will only work if it is used. Please spread the word that it is there and encourage people to use it. The more people who use it, the better it will function.

Projects already underway.

- Working with CHAG to obtain more disabled parking spaces for the Mt Beauty parking area.
- Working with the Alpine Shire on finding one workable name for the VIC Auditorium.
- Working with the Alpine Shire on Public Toilets for Tawonga South.
- Making sure DSE know when the prescribed burning is a problem to our festivals and tourist peak times.
- Lodging a complaint to Vic Roads over the bad condition of the access roads to our area.

- Sending in applications to the Alpine Shire for our local Shire Citizen of the Year.
- Applying successfully for a Shire grant to start a website.
- Receiving some start up funding from the Bendigo Bank.
- A surprise project which we hope will be visible early in 2013. Come along to the Australia Day celebrations.
- The Mount Beauty Urban Design Strategy or Facilities Strategy as it is better known continues to pass through draft after draft. The committee of co-opted locals, which included two members of the UKVCA Committee, will continue to work with the Council staff until they reach the best outcome for local residents.