



## FEBRUARY 2022 MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

The last monthly newsletter was 3 months ago in November. I said it would be my last as I was not standing again as President. At the December LEADA committee meeting the new committee appointed the following officer positions

President Matt O'Donnell  
Secretary Terrence Hoffman  
Treasurer Trevor Patten

The remaining members of the committee are Katie Zagami, Peter Sindrey, Alison Brewer, Daniel Schoeman, Brendon Kelly and myself.

The new committee is determined for LEADA to continue its advocacy for improvements to Lakes Entrance.

The vibe within the town is optimistic with the improvements to the Esplanade and foreshore and new businesses such as the Servo and the Aqua Park proving to be great attractions for locals and holiday makers. There are many other improvements including restaurants, accommodation places and new art galleries / centres.

Before Christmas it is expected that the slipway project, most of the planned improvements to Bullock Island, the foreshore park near the footbridge, the first stage of the Krauatungalung walk project and the first stage of the Upper Jemmy's Park lookout will be completed.

### **Committee positions and sub committee structure**

Earlier this month, Matt O'Donnell resigned as President of LEADA and Chairperson of LEADA's Business, Tourism and Events committee (BTE). Matt in his resignation letter said

*Hi LEADA Committee*

*I will be resigning as a committee member from the LEADA Management Committee effective immediately.*

*I will also be standing down as BTE committee chairperson at our next scheduled meeting.*

*My decision has not been an easy one, but with work commitments, staff shortages & the day to day of running my businesses I have had to make this decision to solely focus on them.*

*I will though be there to help in anyway with networking events, community events, farmers market etc but at this stage can not take a role within both committees*

*Kind Regards*

*Matthew ODonnell*

Because of his workload Matt was unable to actively take on the role of LEADA President during December and January.

Matt was instrumental in revitalising the BTE subcommittee during 2021. His achievements were many and included helping to organise the winter festival, establishing the farmer's market and being central to Lakes Entrance gaining the silver medal iHi LEADA Committee in the best tourist town in Victoria awards.

At LEADA's meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> February I agreed to be President again until this year's AGM.

At this meeting it was agreed to set up a subcommittee structure with the intention that most of LEADA's work will be carried out by the subcommittees. This idea was first flagged at LEADA's December meeting. The LEADA committee will meet bimonthly and the subcommittees in the main will meet at least once between LEADA committee meetings and will provide a written report to each LEADA committee for endorsement.

After discussion it was decided that the subcommittees will be

- Business, Tourism and Events – Chairperson to be appointed at next BTE meeting
- Major Infrastructure: Chairperson – Bruce Hurley
- Trails and Environment: Chairperson – Trevor Patten
- New Year's Eve fireworks and associated events – Chairperson Alison Brewer
- Membership – To be appointed

The sub committees will consist of LEADA committee members and importantly LEADA members wishing to join a subcommittee. I urge you to consider joining a subcommittee. If you wish to do this please contact myself [president@leada.com.au](mailto:president@leada.com.au) or Terrence [admin@leada.com.au](mailto:admin@leada.com.au)

### **Entrance Walk Celebration**

LEADA was responsible for the project to upgrade the Entrance walk. Thousands of people undertake this 5 km walk from the footbridge to the entrance and back each year. As many of you know the walk through coastal vegetation has excellent views of the lake, the ocean

entrance and Lakes Entrance town. Many species of birds can be seen and often dolphins and seals are seen at the entrance.

The walk has been improved by extra signage, mesh being laid on soft sandy sections, some planting and weeding and general maintenance.

There will be a celebratory community event marking the end of the project from 12.30 to 2.30pm at the flagstaff jetty BBQ area on Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> February. LEADA encourages all members and their friends and family to join in this celebration. There will be a free BBQ, short speeches and short guided tours of the entrance area taking in the entrance, the relics and the historic houses.

People attending are encouraged to walk however for those who cannot there will be transport from the footbridge jetty at 12 returning at 2.30pm.

A separate email will be sent by Trevor Patten to members giving more details.

#### **LEADA Priorities and 2022 Action Plan**

At the LEADA February meeting the committee set the headings for the 2022/23 action plan. The headings were:

- Effective working of the committee and its sub committees
- Communication with the Lakes Entrance community, governments, funding & industry bodies,
- Support for businesses and tourism
- Support for and organising events
- Major infrastructure projects
- Trails and the environment
- Specific projects based on survey results and members requests
- Growing LEADA's membership

After input from the subcommittee's actions will be developed for each of the priority areas and finalised at the April LEADA committee meeting. The recently completed community survey will inform actions chosen. Members are encouraged to send suggested actions to Terrence [admin@leada.com.au](mailto:admin@leada.com.au) In carrying out actions consideration will be given to funding opportunities and the amount of volunteer commitment and time available.

#### **LEADA's website**

The minutes of LEADA's committee meetings will be posted on its website together with arrange of other information. The website will continued to be improved during 2022. The website is [www.leada.com.au](http://www.leada.com.au) Please visit the site.

As LEADA's meetings will now be bimonthly the member's newsletter will also be bimonthly.

Bruce Hurley: President LEADA. Mobile 0400 196 797 email: [president@leada.com.au](mailto:president@leada.com.au)