



shoulders. For example, our financial membership as at Friday morning was 44. It was around 60 last year when my Presidency commenced. Bit of a worry. Your Executive Committee who contribute the great bulk of work hours has operated for the past year until September with an unfilled vacancy. That is six members instead of seven. Open invitations to join the Committee went unanswered. A call for volunteers to assist with ground maintenance in our Reserves resulted in two residents offering to help and whilst we thank and appreciate their community spirit so very much, in a population of around 400, where is everyone else? In years past, community service was seen by most folk as a valued contribution of their time. For many almost an obligation. What has changed? Letter box drops to all village properties conducted recently resulted in around just 10 responses.

So much has been achieved by NACRA and earlier Resident Associations over the years with Community support. To name just a few, Fire Brigade, Community Hall, Tennis Court, Picnic facilities in Casuarina, Dinghy Ramps in Casuarina and Water St. and more recently the wonderful open space of Yallahah Park. The Cove Website, designed, constructed and maintained by Doug Kohlhoff is in my opinion exceptional. Very recently, in cooperation with the Hall Committee and Tennis Club, a grant was gained that enabled LED lighting to be installed in the Hall car park. Other projects are still ongoing and yet others are still to be established or even not yet dreamt of. With continued community support and involvement much will be achieved including a boat ramp and community jetty north or south of the village and play facilities for Cove children in Casuarina and Heros Reserves. I should also mention here a comment made to me by a senior Council manager to the effect we had to look after Doug Kohlhoff as he was the best writer of financial grant applications they knew. That is some recognition.

The two key operative words here are Community and Support, without which nothing will be achieved. Just as none of the above community facilities which started out as ideas then became projects would ever have come to fruition without community support. For the sake of all residents now and those yet to come, please give your support by joining and becoming a financial member and then maintaining that membership. For without your commitment, the Cove will never be even more wonderful than it is.

With the Council amalgamations now behind us, and ignoring your objection or support for the change, it is now up and running. The Council has undergone major internal restructuring of both its people and systems. So major that some settling in is still occurring. A number of staff known to us are gone with new faces and new relationships being and to be established. The most significant change for your Association in recent times involves how we interact with and work through Council to improve our village. Last year Council established a grouping of local resident associations under the name Southern Area Reference Group or SARG for short. The concept being to provide a gateway to and from Council for ratepayers via their associations. This contrasts to communications under the old Great Lakes Council where staff were contacted directly by all and sundry (how did they find time to do their jobs?). The new system provides a far more efficient and reliable means of communication to and from Council. This Area Reference Group concept is now being established in all main geographical areas of the municipality.

Your 2018 Committee has focused on the following new and pre-existing issues since 2017. Drainage (various issues/locations), Parcel Delivery into the Cove, Ambulance Response Times, Fame Cove, Road Signage, Urban/Non-urban Structures and Illegal Dumping and Logging (both seeming to be increasing). The Committee has also had the valuable assistance of Janine Reid in keeping members informed of Aquaculture issues affecting our village and marine activities. The most contentious issues remaining outstanding, Parcel Delivery and Ambulance Response Times have a way to go but immediate assistance with the time it takes to provide emergency first aid in resuscitation incidents could be helped by locating an Automatic Emergency Defibrillator (AED) centrally in the Cove. Whilst our Fire Brigade vehicles carry this equipment, in the event of a major disaster, with a number of our population sheltering here in the Community Precinct the Brigade may not be here. We must be self-supporting in such circumstances at least. To these issues I would add the fact this association has to pay MCC for the use of this Hall notwithstanding the fact its Executive Committee make up the majority of unpaid volunteer parks maintenance workers. A most unfair situation that needs to change and does not occur in all other locations in the municipality.

A Drainage survey involving two full days was conducted to ascertain progress on problems identified in a 2014 consultants report. This report by your Association was provided to Council via the SARG gateway and as a result, some issues affecting individual residents and safety concerns are already scheduled for attention this financial year.

A visit by Peta Stimson and David Oates from MCC Compliance Department occurred this past week to look at issues your Committee has raised over a number of years regarding illegal structures in and around the village and to inform Bill Moller and myself on legal and practical aspects of urban/non-urban land usage and structures there on. We also took them on a guided tour of sites previously identified by Doug and Kath plus some new ones. Where appropriate, processes will now be undertaken for resolution. Also, recently we introduced a Welcome to Cove gift pack for new residents which contains a cake of Lemon Myrtle Soap courtesy of The Soap Man, a jar of Home-Made Jam courtesy of The Garden Group and a Brochure detailing information on services available in The Cove. One issue I have only recently looked at is the question of Boat Racks in Casuarina and Water St. Around 90% of these vessels never leave the racks and in the case of Water St. are an eyesore and Mosquito breeding area. I have been advised by Council, Racks have been removed from a number of areas for these reasons. Something for the new Committee to investigate I suggest.

In conclusion, I wish to acknowledge and thank the following individuals for their assistance and advice during my term as President. The Executive Committee:

- Susan Carter - Secretary                      Gayl Chappell - Committee (Big welcome joined 15/09/18)
- Doug Kohlhoff - Treasurer                      Bill Moller - Vice President
- Trevor Vandenberg - Committee (Non-urban blocks, Illegal Dumping and Logging)
- Len Yearsley - Committee (Fame Cove)

Appreciation and thanks also for advice and support to:

Maureen Kelly, Kate Washington, Len Roberts, David Read and the staff of MCC who have provided so much assistance as they worked through their own challenges in times of change.

Special mention also needs to be made of the significant contribution of Len Yearsley for his ongoing management in monitoring the Fame Cove development and leadership of the Fame Cove Sub Committee. Your efforts appear to be paying off Len. Well done.

Thanks, and recognition also to the Parks Volunteers who keep our Reserves and Community Precinct grounds maintained. You give freely to your community, mostly unnoticed but your generosity is so valued.

Pat Brennan    Patty Moller    Len Yearsley    Lorraine Conroy    Bill Moller

Tony Hann    Bob Reid    Doug Kohlhoff    Jan Walker

If I have missed anyone, my apologies but thank you.

Special thanks also to Tony Hann. Whilst not on the Committee this year, Tony has provided invaluable support and guidance in many ways but especially with the Web Site. A very clear thinker too. Lastly, to those residents of North Arm Cove who give their unselfish support to the Association through membership and attendance at Meetings so that all residents benefit- We thank you with love and appreciation.

THANK YOU AND I WISH YOU ALL, A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PEACEFUL YEAR AHEAD.

Gary Sylvaney

Moved: Len Yearsley

Seconded: Kath Kohlhoff

**Carried**

**That the President's report be received**

**Elections** Gary declared all positions vacant and vacated the chair for Doug Kohlhoff as returning officer.

The following people were nominated for the positions of **Treasurer (Lynette McKee - Doug Kohlhoff, Kath Kohlhoff )** and **Committee Member (Andy McNaughton - (Gary Sylvaney, Susan Carter)** were nominated prior to the meeting and appointed.

The following people accepted nomination and were elected:

**President James Parnell** (Maria Pickles, Michael Pickles)

**Secretary Maria Pickles** (Bill Moller, James Parnell)

There were two nominations for the position of **Vice President (Barry Young – Maria Pickles, Kath Kohlhoff)** and **Michael Pickles** (Maria Pickles and Len Yearsley) and **Barry** was elected.

There were four nominations for **two positions of Committee Member: Michael Pickles** (Bill Moller, Maria Pickles); **Trish Parnell** (Maria Pickles, Michael Pickles); **Trevor Vandenberg** (Gary Sylvaney , Len Yearsley) and **Gayl Chappell** (Gary Sylvaney , Len Yearsley).

**Gayl Chappell** and **Trevor Vandenberg** were elected.

Submitted – Susan Carter

Approved as a true and correct record

..... Date.....

Chair