

BEECHMONT AREA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2012 – 2013

Firstly I would like to acknowledge two members who have given years of dedicated service to the Beechmont Community. The late Bill Sproul who was always prepared to do great signage for us and his wise council was greatly appreciated. The other person who also gave a life time of service to Beechmont is Iris Rankin, who has now relocated to Nerang. Iris attended meetings regularly and volunteered to help wherever needed.

I would also like to record here, the support I have received from all committee members over the last twelve months. We are only a small group but everyone has contributed to the successful running of this site.

This year we have implemented many new activities at the Community Centre.

It was decided early in the year to have a paid cleaner come in on a regular basis to keep the buildings up to standard.

To advertise Market Day, banners were placed at the intersection at Mt Nathan Road and on the fence at the Canungra Bowling Club. These have proven to be successful in encouraging people from off the mountain to drive up on the third Sunday of each month.

We welcomed to the committee, Ger Vloothuis, who has taken over as administrator of the local web site from Emily Pearce.

In June, Terri Brown, started the Community Garden with twelve people attending the first gathering. This continues to be going along successfully and the group recently elected their own subcommittee, which reports back to the main committee each month. BAPA decided to kick start this project with a donation of \$25 for each garden club member. At the October meeting a motion was passed to grant another \$2,500 to the garden club for purchases to be monitored by Treasurer Tom Blake.

Sally Mc Kinnon approached BAPA with the proposal that we should take over the BBEN directory and the running of the Annual Zest Fest, as their current committee was no longer functional. This was agreed to, on condition that the former committee would organise this year's festival and that the directory will now be published bi-yearly. The directory would also be available on the Beechmont Community web site. Zest Fest had \$4,600 in an account which has now been transferred to BAPA and this will be used to promote this year's event. The expenditure from this account will be overseen by the BAPA treasurer. In theory enough money should be generated from each festival to promote the next year's festival. It is felt that this festival is an integral part of life on the Beechmont Plateau.

The Scenic Rim Concil has generally been very diligent in the repairs required to the buildings but unfortunately we have been informed that the painting, so badly needed to the cottage, will not be done until into the next financial year. To this end, we applied for a grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund for the sum of \$20,000 which we would use for repainting the cottage and

for the reconnection of the water from back creek for the use of the Community Garden. The result of this application should be known in the next few days.

The Community Garden committee applied to Energex for funding, and were granted \$3,500.

Our main source of income is of course from the very successful, Op Shop, which is ably run by Doreen Sproul. We also must thank those few who have helped her in maintaining this enterprise.

The Info Centre has continued to provide a service, that each Sunday provides weekend papers to the community. Recently this has been extended to include Saturday operation, as Karen White has taken over the coffee shop and extended the trading hours. Hopefully, locals will take the opportunity make this a drop in centre for a social chat.

The Markets, held on the third Sunday of each month, fluctuate in terms of success, at the mercy of the weather conditions. It is still an important meeting point for locals and provides something for the tourists to enjoy while on the mountain. Each month local musicians are invited to perform, which gives them exposure and adds to the atmosphere at the markets. Thank you to all of our loyal and regular stall holders.

The demountable is well utilised by various groups. The ladies of the Craft Group meet on Wednesday, Yoga on Mondays, The children's music group also used the facility and a church group also has begun services. Beth Nielsen can still be contacted for art classes also.

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In closing I wish the incoming committee every success and sincerely thank all who have assisted me during my time in office.

Maurice Hansell

President