

# NIGHT BEFORE TUESDAY 3 MAY 2016

7.00pm Conference Warm-Up ..... for those arriving early (refer page 9)

## DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY 4 MAY 2016

9.00am Registration

9.30am Welcome **Paul Jane**, PLA Vic/Tas Region President  
**Cr Rose Hodge**, Mayor, Surf Coast Shire

9.45am Opening Keynote **Bradley Fauteux**  
Chief Executive, Parks Victoria

10.30am MORNING TEA

	SPORT Great Ocean Road Ballroom 1	LEISURE Great Ocean Road Ballroom 2	PARKS Great Ocean Road Zeally Room 1
11.00am	<b>Brooke Mezzetta</b> Moreland City Council <i>Increasing Junior and Female Participation Through Strong Policy</i>	<b>Nicky Angus</b> - Surf Coast Shire <i>From Weeds and Cracks to an Innovative Rural Tennis Playspace</i> <b>Linda Smith</b> - Glen Eira Council <i>Meeting Changing Demands</i>	<b>Cathy Kiss</b> Melbourne City Council <i>Domain Parklands Master Plan</i>
11.45am	<b>Jessie Doull</b> Sport and Recreation Victoria <i>Female Friendly Facilities - A State Government Perspective</i>	<b>Andrea Jackson &amp; Andrew George</b> Maribyrnong City Council <i>Revitalisation of Maidstone Tennis Courts and Heritage Pavilion</i>	<b>Matthew Barbetta</b> Glen Eira City Council <i>Creating New Open Space From Unusual Places</i>
12.30pm	LUNCH		
1.15pm	----- <b>SPORT FORUM</b> Football Federation Victoria <i>Getting it Right</i> <i>Football Engagement in Victoria</i>	<b>Michelle Anderson</b> Sport and Recreation Victoria <i>Leveraging Shared Outcomes in Health and Wellbeing in Regional Victoria</i>	----- <b>WORKSHOP</b> <b>Barbara Champion</b> Play Australia <i>How To Increase Public Engagement in Risk Taking Activities</i>
2.00pm	Cricket Victoria <i>Community Cricket on Common Ground</i>  Athletics Victoria <i>One United Body</i> -----	<b>Vanessa Phillips</b> <b>Rayoni Nelson</b> VicHealth <i>Innovative Transformation of Local Places for Physical Activity</i>	-----
2.45pm	AFTERNOON TEA		
3.10pm	<b>Phil Saikaly</b> Sport and Recreation Victoria <i>The Future of Community Sports Infrastructure in Victoria</i>	<b>Scott Crabtree</b> Parks Victoria <i>Planning and Priority Setting Across the Park Network - Parks Victoria's New Visitor Experience Framework</i>	<b>Ross Wissing</b> Surf Coast Shire Council <i>Sustainable Management of Open Space</i>
3.50pm	<b>Sally Jeavons</b> @leisure <i>Play Meets Sport in Schools</i>	<b>Tim Oberg &amp; Tony O'Connell</b> parkrun Australia <i>parkrun..... much more than a run in the park</i>	<b>Nicky Angus</b> Surf Coast Shire Council <i>Spring Creek Connecting Community Project</i>
4.30pm	CLOSE DAY 1		

4.45pm Play and Chat  
Programmed Recreational Activities (refer page 8)

7.00pm UMS Awards of Excellence Dinner (refer information page 10)

# DAY 2 - THURSDAY 5 MAY 2016

8.30am Registration

8.45am **Keynote** **JOHN JACOBY**  
Adventurer

**SPORT**  
Great Ocean Road Ballroom 1

**LEISURE**  
Great Ocean Road Ballroom 2

**PARKS**  
Great Ocean Road Zeally Room 1

9.30am **Darren Bennett** - Banyule Council  
**Gavin Jordan** - Inside Edge SLP  
*State of Sport Dashboard*

**Dean Joel - a\_space**  
*Trends in Community Outdoor Fitness*  
**Richard Simon** - PLA Vic/Tas Region  
*The Outdoor Gym Guide*

**Chris Munro**  
Mornington Peninsula Shire  
*Use of Technology in  
Open Space Development*

10.15am **MORNING TEA**

10.45am **James Lake**  
Whittlesea City Council  
*Club In-kind Contribution Policy*

**Rob Anderson**  
People and Parks Foundation  
*Connecting Active in Parks and Local  
Councils for Community Health*

**Erik Kinlon**  
HG Turf  
*Hybrid Turf Technology*

11.30am **Steve Pallas**  
Sports Community  
*Empowering Volunteers and  
their Community Sport Clubs*

11.15am **Belinda Conna**  
City of Greater Shepparton  
*Activities in the Park - Outcomes of  
Social Impact Research*

**Simon Branson**  
Green Change Solutions  
*A Sustainability Index for  
Public Landscapes and Parks*

11.45am **Sarah Dowling &  
Rayoni Nelson**  
VicHealth  
*Be Active - Strengthening Local  
Government Policy to Enable More  
Active Communities*

12.15pm **LUNCH**

1.00pm -----  
**FORUM**  
**Use of Synthetic Surfaces on  
Grounds Hosting Contact Sports**

**Lincoln Fitzgerald**  
City of Greater Bendigo  
*Off the Deep End -  
Moving to Modern Aquatic Facilities*

**Jason Summers**  
City of Hume  
*Making Space for Trees  
Underground in Urban Areas*

**Martin Sheppard**  
Smart Connection Consultancy

1.45pm **Ricky Bell**  
Football Victoria  
-----

**Talia Holloway-Roden**  
City of Ballarat  
*Water Parks in Ballarat Reserves*

**Matthew Daniel**  
Tree Preservation Australia  
*Protecting and  
Managing Heritage Trees*

2.30pm **AFTERNOON TEA**

3.00pm **PRESENTATIONS AND SITE TOUR**

**Andrew Crowley & Simon Taylor**  
Deakin University  
**Ricky Bell**  
AFL Victoria  
*Deakin University Sports Precinct*

Following the presentation staff from  
Deakin University will lead a site tour

**PRESENTATIONS AND SITE TOUR**

**Aaron Wallis** - Playce  
*Reimagining Play  
From young children...adults...and  
importantly, everyone in beTWEEN*

**Shaan Briggs** - Surf Coast Shire  
*Banyul Warri Fields 'Djila Tjarri' Play &  
Skate Zone Project*

Following the presentations staff from  
Surf Coast will lead a site tour

-----  
**WORKSHOP**

**Mary Jeavons**  
Jeavons Landscape Architects  
**Joey Boothby**  
City of Manningham  
*Unpicking Nature Play*

4.30pm **CLOSE DAY 2**

## ABSTRACTS

WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

11.00-11.45

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

**Presenter**

**Brooke Mezzetta**

Moreland City Council

**Increasing Junior and Female Participation Through Strong Policy**

In 2010, Moreland City Council introduced its ground breaking 'Sports Ground and Pavilion Allocation Policy' that redefined the allocation of sports grounds and pavilions to facilitate an increase in junior and female participation in sport.

This presentation will outline the policy, but more importantly Council's 'no-nonsense' approach to its implementation.

WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

11.00-11.45

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

**Presenter**

**Nicky Angus**

Surf Coast Shire Council

**From Weeds and Cracks to an Innovative Rural Tennis Playspace**

We aced it accidentally and the community has been served a winner! Freshwater Creek Reserve's innovative tennis play space is a surprising solution to two issues:

Issue 1 - a significant stand of old River Red Gums with heavy branches spreading out over a popular and picturesque but 'closed due to risk' play and picnic facility.

Issue 2 - a once vibrant rural tennis club folded 10 years ago and now the barely used, cracked and weed covered courts are at risk of being decommissioned due to lack of demand to warrant resurfacing expenditure.

The idea of relocating the play and picnic area onto one of the courts raised some eyebrows. However, the unexpected community bonus is an all ages and abilities tennis play space with play equipment and a range of other recreation facilities and spaces. The space is delivering great results in connecting community and encouraging physical activity.

**Presenter**

**Linda Smith**

Glen Eira City Council

**Meeting Changing Demands**

How can a council respond to the emerging passive and active recreation

demands of a growing population, whilst restrained by limited open space?

Glen Eira City Council recently completed a review of its Recreation Needs Study, which gave validity to Recreation Services' awareness that there were underused assets that could be redeveloped to address service gaps. Council is now addressing the demand for community based small-sided soccer, and ball sport activities, by converting underutilised tennis courts at two locations into multi-purpose sport facilities.

The new facilities will be managed by Council's Recreation Services, and will be available for hire. The works will see the existing courts converted to a mix of synthetic grass and plexi-pave surfaces with purpose built infrastructure. Existing floodlighting will be remodelled along with installing additional new light towers to provide lux levels at the appropriate Australian Standard.

The small-sided facilities will have the ability to address the increasing demand from local schools, tenant sports clubs for alternate training, small-sided soccer games, fitness sessions and a variety of ball sport matches, including handball, basketball and netball

WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

11.00-11.45

GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

**Presenter**

**Cathy Kiss**

Melbourne City Council

**Domain Parklands Master Plan**

The City of Melbourne is preparing a new master plan for the Domain Parklands, which will guide its future development and management for the next 20 years.

The name 'Domain Parklands' has been created to describe the collective parks and gardens known individually as Alexandra Gardens, Alexandra Park, Queen Victoria Gardens, Kings Domain, Sidney Myer Music Bowl, Royal Botanic Gardens, Shrine of Remembrance Reserve and Government House.

Council is working with various land managers to develop the Domain Parklands Master Plan. While it will focus on the areas managed by the City of Melbourne, it will address the way the parkland relates to these places. Our vision is to knit the individual parts of the park together to better recognise the magnificent parkland as "One Domain", while also celebrating the individual places within it.

There are multiple layers of themes being explored. These include history (the parklands are on the Victorian Heritage register), landscape character, managing tree senescence and development of an Arboretum, integrated water management, encouraging and supporting recreational use, managing events, access and circulation, tourism, urban ecology and biodiversity, the role of memorials, and vehicle movement and parking.

This presentation will explore some of the complexities of the project.

WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

11.45-12.30

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

**Presenter**

**Jessie Doull**

Sport and Recreation Victoria

**Female Friendly Facilities – a State Government Perspective**

The State Government has made a game-changing commitment to delivering a \$10M investment into the development of facilities for women and girls across Victoria. This investment, delivered through the \$100m Community Sports Infrastructure Fund, seeks to change the face of community sport by providing places and environments that are equitable, welcoming and safe for women, girls and their families.

SRV will reflect learnings from the Community Sports Infrastructure Fund to help stakeholders better understand the opportunities to develop greater participation for women and girls.

This presentation will explore good models of provision and engagement that will lead to higher levels of success for community sport and recreation organisations.

WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

11.45-12.30

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

**Presenters**

**Andrea Jackson**

**Andrew George**

Maribyrnong City Council

**Revitalisation of Maidstone Tennis Courts and Heritage Pavilion**

The Maidstone Tennis Courts and Tennis Pavilion were revitalised in 2015 after being decommissioned and left dormant since 2007.

In 2013, an extensive community engagement process was implemented to gain community feedback on the best way to develop the site. Based on this

## ABSTRACTS

feedback a development plan for the site was created, which included the demolition of the community hall, the creation of a boutique style pocket park and reinstatement of the two tennis courts and Federation style tennis pavilion.

After overcoming a number of site issues the Maidstone Community Tennis Courts and Pavilion was completed and has resulted in two free access tennis courts, which are currently experiencing extensive community and club use, and a beautiful new modern pavilion with a heritage facade for both sport and community bookings.

### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

11.45-12.30

GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

#### Presenter

**Matthew Barbetta**

Glen Eira City Council

#### Creating New Open Space From Unusual Places

With open space provision often just an afterthought of development, this presentation looks at how Glen Eira City Council has planned, fostered and delivered new meaningful open spaces.

Expanding the public open space network and providing high quality recreational facilities is a high priority for Council. Central to this has been Glen Eira's Open Space Strategy which has guided planning, identification and design of new spaces - this also includes a framework to support a fair and equitable open space contributions program.

The identification and creation of new open spaces is not straight forward in established suburbs, with competing uses, existing services, community perception, and financial constraints, all important considerations.

This presentation will include an overview of current and planned projects, the processes employed and some of the challenges faced.

### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

1.15-2.45

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

#### SPORT FORUM

##### Panelist 1

**Sara Dailey**

Football Federation Victoria

#### Getting It Right - Football Engagement in Victoria

Over the last five years, football has grown significantly, with a 14% increase in participation alone in 2015. FFV recognises Local Government as one of its key partners, as most football facilities are owned and/or managed by Councils. Continued success of the game in Victoria relies on Local Government support.

Responding to the call for better collaboration with key stakeholders, FFV has developed an 'Engagement Plan' to ensure the needs of this fast growing sport can be efficiently discussed and resolved to optimise participation and facility development opportunities into the future. This session will outline the 'Engagement Plan', and will provide a forum for delegates to ask questions, and better understand the overall framework for effective partnerships in 2016 and beyond. Other up to date news and information from FFV will also be shared during this Forum, as necessary.

##### Panelist 2

**Rohan O'Neill**

Cricket Victoria

#### Community Cricket on Common Ground

Common Ground is the facility development plan for Victorian Cricket. An update on how the plan is progressing in terms of delivering on the two key principles of community value and collaboration will be provided.

The session will also look at what's next, so the session will also be seeking input from delegates on how Cricket Victoria can further develop strategic alliances between the sport and LGAs.

##### Panelist 3

**Glenn Turnor**

Athletics Victoria

#### On-Track Trends and News

*Session outline to provided later*

### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

1.15-2.00

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

#### Presenter

**Michelle Anderson**

Sport and Recreation Victoria

#### Leveraging Shared Outcomes in Health and Wellbeing in Regional Victoria

In a dynamic regional and rural environment where resources are scarce and the challenges mounting traditional, approaches are not leveraging the health and wellbeing outcomes communities aspire to. In response to this, communities in the Grampians Region are challenging the traditional approach to sport and recreation and community facility infrastructure provision.

This work led by SRV in partnership with local government, is an innovative, structured and disciplined approach to cross-sector partnerships, integrated planning and delivery of shared outcomes in health and wellbeing to leverage social sustainability in regional communities.

This presentation will explore the model and present a regional case study.

### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

1.15-2.45

GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

#### WORKSHOP

#### How To Increase Public Engagement in Risk Taking Activities

##### Facilitator

**Barbara Champion**

Play Australia

Children's play today is very different to children's play 20-30 years ago – but need it be? Kids were once encouraged by mum and dad to go outside and meet up with friends to play hide and seek, cycle about, or play cricket, footy or hopscotch on the street outside. Now, its "In the car, kids, and let's go to the park" (or to the pool, or the sports oval, or to the shopping centre).

What is risk? What does it mean to our children, or to others in our communities who engage in activities or other pastimes that could be considered 'risky', such as skateboarding, road cycling, bush walking, swimming, or other aquatic activities? Are we as leisure planners, facilitators and advocates too concerned with risk minimisation, to the point where risk omission is adversely affecting people's experiences and learnings through play, leisure and sporting participation?

The Workshop will be facilitated by Play

## ABSTRACTS

Australia and other industry partners and will explore 'risk', and what it means to children and other participants in 'risky' activities. The findings and outcomes from the Workshop will be compiled by an industry professional into a discussion paper on 'leisure-risk', which will assist PLA to advocate for greater activity and risk-taking across the sport and recreation industry.

### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

2.00-2.45

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

#### Presenters

Rayoni Nelson  
Vanessa Phillips  
VicHealth

#### Innovative Transformation of Local Places for Physical Activity

This presentation will share the journey of five council projects that have transformed under utilised spaces into places that engage the local community in a range of physical activities. Under VicHealth's Community Activation program, the five projects transformed a range of spaces including parks, streets, civic spaces and car parks, within both metropolitan and regional areas.

Using principles sometimes known as tactical urbanism or place making, the fast, low cost, temporary and dynamic site transformations included elements of arts, discovery and play. Over several months the sites became a focus for a range of physical activities that aimed to engage and inspire local people to be more active as well as strengthen social connections.

Many of the projects have been a platform to influence longer-term change for creating community spaces which support active living.

### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

3.10-3.50

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

#### Presenter

Phil Saikaly  
Sport and Recreation Victoria

#### The Future of Community Sports Infrastructure in Victoria

SRV has undertaken recent research, including the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Futures Paper that sought to better understand the future demand for community sport and recreation infrastructure across Victoria. SRV has also sought to better understand the breadth, type and environment for this infrastructure and the rationale for its development.

In this presentation, SRV will provide insight into these developments, how they can best deliver community sport and recreation outcomes, and provide information to inform future decision-making.

### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

3.10-3.50

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

#### Presenter

Scott Crabtree  
Parks Victoria

#### Planning and Priority Setting Across the Park Network – Parks Victoria's new Visitor Experience Framework

The Visitor Experience Framework enables Parks Victoria to define its future visitor offerings by planning what experiences to provide and prioritising where to invest.

Increasing visitation, changes in recreation activities and service expectations need to be managed across a spectrum of major tourism destinations, through to quiet and reflective places in more remote areas.

The new web mapping system that supports the framework provides a transparent, structured and accountable decision-making process that can respond to changes readily. The presentation will work through some case study areas showing how it is currently being applied.

### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

3.10-3.50

GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

#### Presenter

Ross Wissing  
Surf Coast Shire Council

#### Sustainable Management of Open Space

Nearly a quarter of all land within the Surf Coast Shire is reserved as open space. However, only a small proportion of this, about 1%, is actually managed by the Surf Coast Shire. The rest is managed by other land management agencies, the majority by Parks Victoria.

The Shire has been one of the fastest growing municipalities in the Victoria for a couple of decades, yet currently only about 40% of its population is permanent. When non-permanent residents and tourists arrive, the Surf Coast population can increase 10 fold over summer. This has significant implications for current and future management of open space within the Shire.

In 2015, the Shire reviewed its Open Space Strategy and developed a new one

for the next 10 years. The review found that most people within Surf Coast Shire are happy with the quality and amount of open space and that the natural aspects are most valued. With tourism visitation along the Great Ocean Road projected to increase by 2.5 million people per year to 9.7 million in 2030, and current projected climate change data indicates a likely reduction in available open space in the future across the Shire, it is important to ensure that the very features that attracts residents and visitors alike to the Surf Coast Shire are not 'loved to death'.

This paper outlines the approach taken to date by the Surf Coast Shire to ensure that open spaces are sustainably managed within its social, cultural, environmental and economic capacity.

### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

3.50-4.30

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

#### Presenter

Sally Jeavons  
@leisure

#### Play Meets Sport in Schools

This presentation will explore the importance of the value of relationships between schools and local government in the provision of community sport and recreation activities.

Schools play a very important role in introducing children to sport and establishing patterns of activity. The session will explore the tension between play and sport in schools. Schools are a very important layer in the pathway for children into sports competitions, clubs and employment. However, there is often disconnect between school and community provision for sport, and between schools.

The presentation will discuss the future of sport in schools and a model for schools in capturing the opportunities that sport provides. It will also consider the role of LGAs in assisting schools to plan and construct suitable, compliant and accessible infrastructure, including the barriers that need to be overcome. The relationship between schools, clubs and LGAs to develop and deliver sports opportunities, including management, will also be investigated during the session.

## ABSTRACTS

### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

3.50-4.30

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

#### Presenters

Tim Oberg  
Tony O'Connell  
parkrun Australia

#### parkrun... much more than a run in the park

From humble beginnings in April 2012, parkrun has grown to be one of the largest and most significant community health and wellbeing initiatives Australia has ever seen.

Parkrun's use of technology and social media has seen it attract a quarter of a million members in less than five years with no marketing budget. But how has this come to be?

During this session delegates will find out about parkrun's beginnings in Australia, how parkrun events happen each Saturday morning and how it recruits and retains volunteers.

### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

3.50-4.30

GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

#### Presenter

Nicky Angus  
Surf Coast Shire Council

#### Spring Creek Connecting Community Project

The Spring Creek Connecting Community Project is a multi-component partnership project that has sensitively developed and linked numerous facilities within a linear open space reserve that follows Torquay and Jan Juc's iconic Spring Creek.

The outcomes of the project have been to improve accessibility to the area, to improve connections between the communities of Jan Juc and Torquay, to encourage healthy lifestyles and to create interesting and enjoyable places for families to spend time together. The \$1.38M project has delivered an abundance of open space improvements, social infrastructure, and improvements to access within the creek corridor. Many individuals, groups and artists were involved in the collaborative project, which has exceeded expectations and has got the community buzzing!

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

9.30-10.15

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

#### Presenter

Darren Bennett  
Banyule City Council  
Gavin Jordan  
Inside Edge Sport & Leisure Planning

#### State of Sport Dashboard

Evidence based decision-making and using data we collect is becoming more and more critical for LGA's. The purpose of the State of Sport Dashboard is to present to and analyse meaningful information for decision-makers, and to help guide future investment on one easy-to-use interactive dashboard.

The State of Sport Dashboard builds on the concept of the G21 Region State of Play Report and compares local club participation rates against state participation averages across different cohorts, facility information against SSA facility development guidelines and stores critical information relating to overall club health.

The State of Sport Dashboard can be updated at any time allowing users to measure, monitor and report on participation trends from year to year. During the session the State of Sport Dashboard will be presented and participants will have an opportunity to suggest other key information that would enable better decision-making in their local area.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

9.30-10.15

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

#### Presenter

Dean Joel  
a\_space

#### Emerging Trends in Outdoor Fitness

It's great to see new style outdoor gyms getting more people out and active. Despite this there's a long way to go to reverse our communities declining health trends. The presenter, Dean Joel, has led the way in the outdoor gym movement in Australia with his company successfully rolling out more than 250 of them across all states and territories over the past 5 years. This presentation will outline emerging trends in outdoor community fitness along with a range of practical ideas for implementation to bring greater levels of wellness to communities.

#### Presenter

Richard Simon  
PLA Vic/Tas Region

#### The Outdoor Gum Guide

PLA Vic/Tas Region has been granted funds from SRV to develop an industry reference document, Guidelines for the Installation and Maintenance of Outdoor Fitness Equipment.

The Guidelines will be a valuable reference source to inform land managers with the planning, location, equipment selection and maintenance requirements for outdoor fitness equipment, and options for programming their use.

This presentation will provide an update on the development of the Guidelines.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

9.30-10.15

GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

#### Presenter

Chris Munro  
Mornington Peninsula Shire Council

#### Use of Technology in Open Space Development

In the last decade, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) has grown into an important social medium. Examples of blended technology in public open space, includes digital displays, Wi-Fi provision, tourist information display, CCTV, apps, broadcasting and urban games etc. At present, these are uncommon and diverse, but forever increasing. The interaction between digital and physical domains, which previously was considered largely separate, is now increasingly becoming more connected.

This presentation explores opportunities for use of technology in management, planning and development of new uses for public spaces.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

10.45-11.30

GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

#### Presenter

James Lake  
Whittlesea City Council

#### Club In-kind Contribution Policy

Councils know that clubs often have the ability within their membership and networks, to source goods and services for a heavily discounted rate, or no charge. Using these "in-kind contributions", clubs can undertake and fund minor facility

## ABSTRACTS

enhancements that would otherwise not be a priority for Council.

However, some councils are reluctant to allow these works to proceed due to a variety of reasons, such as poor quality outcomes and bad experiences in the past, OH&S concerns, procurement issues, insurance etc.

To allow these types of projects to proceed, the City of Whittlesea has developed a policy that addresses the relevant risk and project management issues that exist for Club In-kind Contribution projects. The policy also provides a consistent application/approval process.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

10.45-11.15  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

**Presenter**  
**Rob Anderson**  
People and Parks Foundation

#### **Connecting Active in Parks and Local Councils for Community Health**

People and Parks Foundation's multi-award winning program, Active in Parks, connects people to the outdoors for improved health and wellbeing.

This presentation will outline the importance of a collaborative approach to community health and wellbeing. Active in Parks can complement existing LGA active living programs by:

- Forging key partnerships to assist LGAs to take existing programs outside.
- Enhancing existing outdoor programs by offering additional exposure and providing additional programming opportunities.
- Introducing new partners to augment existing outdoor programming.
- Making connections on both individual and community levels to help foster sustainable practice.
- Forging connections between different LGAs by recognising the value of a collaborative approach in order to achieve improved health and wellbeing for all communities.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

10.45-11.30  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

**Presenter**  
**Erik Kinlon**  
HG Turf

#### **Hybrid Turf Technology**

There has been an increased demand for 'Hybrid Turf Technology' in both a sporting and recreational context.

HG Sports Turf is currently installing two sports fields for Auckland Council, which will be the first of their kind in Australia and New Zealand. Both sites are in dense residential areas where the capacity of usage demands don't meet current needs and the option of fully synthetic pitches is not viable due to local community resistance and other factors.

This presentation will be a case study and an investigation of the potential for hybrid turf for our sports fields, parks and recreation areas.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

11.30-12.15  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

**Presenter**  
**Steve Pallas**  
Sports Community

#### **Empowering Volunteers and their Community Sport Clubs**

The obligations, responsibilities and challenges for sports clubs and their volunteers are getting larger by the day. As a result, most clubs at some stage will turn to their local council for support and assistance. The roll-on effect is that many Councils are getting inundated with requests for support. For Councils wanting to proactively assist their clubs maximise participation, community engagement and overall club sustainability, the task of supporting clubs, can be overwhelming.

This session will highlight innovative case studies from around Australia of how councils, peak sporting bodies and Sports Community are proactively supporting their community sports clubs.

The session will also highlight how technology and the internet is now being used to overcome barriers such as the tyranny of distance for rural, regional and remote clubs who traditionally have had little access to training and resources.

Finally, the session will examine what the future holds, and what it could mean for volunteer support.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

11.15-11.45  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

**Presenter**  
**Belinda Conna**  
Greater Shepparton City Council

#### **Activities in the Park - Outcomes of Social Impact Research**

Greater Shepparton City Council's Activities in the Park program is in its fourth year of providing free and low cost activities in parks and reserves over a six month period each year.

The program encourages people to engage with their community, be outdoors and physically active. To date over 30,000 people have participated in a range of activities, such as outdoor exercise classes, fishing, star gazing, kite making, gardening, bird watching, mixed games, sports come and try clinics to name a few.

Council has partnered with The University of Melbourne to measure the social impact and outcomes the Activities in the Park program has on the community, and to fill a research gap on social impact studies of programming outdoor recreation spaces.

This presentation will describe approaches to measuring the social impact and share the evaluation findings due to be released in April 2016.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

11.30-12.15  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

**Presenter**  
**Simon Branson**  
Green Change Solutions

#### **A Sustainability Index for Public Landscapes and Parks**

Sustainability needs to be more than a 'buzz' word. Public landscapes and parks are inherently aligned with the environment for preservation, education and public enjoyment. Competition for resources within local government and external pressure on resource usage, require park managers to be sustainable in their management and operation. Public parks and landscapes tend not to have well defined or widely adopted sustainable business practices.

Green Change Solutions has reviewed international sustainable best practices for public landscape management and determined there was a void. We have developed a comprehensive set of sustainability metrics for public landscapes and parks. This initiative is designed to

## ABSTRACTS

address the unique sustainability challenges that present themselves in the public landscape and parks to assist parks managers to deliver sustainable parks whilst using resources in an effective and efficient way.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

11.45-12.15  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

#### Presenters

Rayoni Nelson  
Sarah Dowling  
VicHealth

#### Be Active – Strengthening Local Government Policy to Enable More Active Communities

Encouraging more active lifestyles amongst local communities can be a complex challenge. The three year VicHealth Be Active initiative, delivered by five Victorian local councils, aimed to address the lack of safe, accessible and inclusive environments that restrict people's capacity to participate in physical activity.

Approaches by the councils was led by strengthening physical activity and volunteering within council policies and strategic plans, to enabling collaborative local community partnerships and delivering innovative initiatives responding to the specific barriers to physical activity for their communities.

These approaches created opportunities to increase physical activity participation for children, older people and families, particularly through walking, cycling, active travel and use of open spaces, as well as improve civic engagement through volunteerism.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

1.00-2.30  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

#### FORUM

#### Use of Synthetic Surfaces on Grounds Hosting Contact Sports

#### Presenters

Martin Sheppard  
Smart Connection Consultancy  
Shayne Ward  
AFL Victoria

The first presentation will outline the latest trends, standards and certifications from FIFA, World Rugby and World Hockey for synthetic surfaces. It will also describe the new global standards for sport and synthetic surfaces, the management

issues around heat, the use of in-fills in Australia, safety and environmental concerns, design options and innovations, and the importance of maintenance to prolong a field lifespans.

The second presentation will outline some of the preliminary outcomes from a research project examining player perceptions and injury surveillance on the new synthetic sports field at Carlisle Park in Cranbourne. The project has been commissioned by the AFL/Cricket Australia, and the Federation University appointed to undertake the research project.

*Some important background* ..... The AFL/Cricket Australia Synthetic Turf Program was established in 2009 following a research project with the University of Ballarat to determine if the two sports could be played on a synthetic turf surface.

Following the research project, the AFL and Cricket Australia endorsed the playing of community level football and cricket on an approved synthetic product. Given that both cricket and football jointly use a majority of ovals at community level, it was important for both sports to work together to develop a solution that worked for both parties.

Through the establishment of a Licensed Manufacturers program, the two sports can ensure that any synthetic sports fields installed meets our standards from a quality, safety and playability perspective.

Time will be set aside for delegates to ask questions of a panel and to share their experiences with the use of synthetic surfaces for sports fields within their respective LGAs.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

1.00-1.45  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

#### Presenter

Lincoln Fitzgerald  
City of Greater Bendigo

#### Off the Deep End - Moving to Modern Aquatic Facilities

The City of Greater Bendigo has the most aquatic facilities of any municipality in Victoria. With 12 pools and a splash park, the City is on a journey to move from aquatic facilities for communities of the last 30 years, to facilities that meet the needs of communities of the next 30 years.

Over the past five years, the City has demolished one pool, constructed a free outdoor splash park, attempted to close another pool without success, and demolished a leisure centre to make way

for a modern indoor aquatic and leisure centre.

This presentation will explain how the City is meeting modern aquatic needs and the hurdles faced along the way.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

1.00-1.45  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

#### Presenter

Jason Summers  
City of Hume

#### Making space for Trees Underground in Urban Areas

Trees are as important as ever in our growing cities - the need to provide large canopied shade trees to cool cities is important. Providing adequate root volumes to allow large healthy trees to grow without infrastructure conflicts is also important. Examples from Canada and the USA will be discussed and examined. Local examples in Sydney and Broadmeadows of different methods to achieve tree growth and root volumes will also be showcased.

Some systems include water treatment, and the session will discuss what the adequate root volume might be to grow healthy urban trees. In this time of changing climate we need healthy trees in our cities.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

1.45-2.30  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

#### Presenter

Talia Holloway-Roden  
Ballarat City Council

#### Water Parks in Ballarat Reserves

Ballarat City Council is installing water cannons, fountains, jets, waterfalls, soaking buckets, and water umbrellas into selected reserves - and don't the kids love it!

This presentation will outline the project background and management arrangements for the Midlands Reserve Water Park, and Council's move from traditional aquatic facilities into innovative local water parks across the municipality.

## ABSTRACTS

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

1.45-2.30  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

**Presenter**  
**Matthew Daniel**  
Tree Preservation Australia

#### **Protecting and Managing Heritage Trees**

Healthy soil supports healthy plants. Heritage trees are generally elderly specimens standing the test of time. Elderly trees are not dissimilar to elderly humans who have lived many years through the good and bad.

The environment determines the lifespan of an individual, be it a human or a tree. External pressures and vital life sustaining factors need to be identified and quantified to determine the best course of action required to sustain quality of life and possible life span extension. A doctor engages a patient with detailed observations and questions to then determine further appropriate scientific testing, through a process of medical care and intervention. Similarly, Tree Preservation Australia embraces scientific principles to support and manage the whole growing system. Adopting a process called the new NPK, Tree Preservation Australia addresses current tree decline by benchmarking soil and plant health parameters to restore microbial balance in the correct ratios, which drive Soil Health and Plant Health.

This presentation will share some of the methods and techniques used in the process to protect and sustain heritage trees.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

3.00-4.30  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

#### **PRESENTATION AND SITE TOUR**

**Presenters**  
**Andrew Crowley**  
Deakin University  
**Ricky Bell**  
AFL Victoria

#### **Deakin University Sports Precinct**

Deakin University's Elite Sports Precinct at its Waurm Ponds Campus is due for completion in April 2016. The Precinct has been designed to become a destination for visiting sports teams to train and test elite athletes. The facilities include:

- Eight-lane, IAAF-accredited 400-metre athletics track.

- MCG sized AFL Oval that will host AFL Victoria programs.
- Synthetic FIFA-grade soccer pitch,
- Outdoor teaching hub with direct access to the athletics track.
- 50-metre long-jump track and sandpit.
- 60-metre incline running straight.
- Basketball/ netball court.
- Outdoor fitness equipment.
- Baseball diamond.

The Precinct will become a hub for local sport, with a wide range of sports competitions and events being held at the site.

The presentation will highlight the strategic thinking behind the Precinct, and the partnerships with organisations, such as AFL Victoria, and the links to community use.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

3.00-4.30  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

#### **PRESENTATION AND SITE TOUR**

**Presenter**  
**Aaron Wallis**  
Playce

#### **Reimagining Play From young children...adults...and importantly, everyone in BETWEEN**

1 in 5 Australian children are overweight or obese, 2 out of 3 of kids regularly spend more than 2 hours a day in front of a screen for entertainment, and IT and smart phones are invading every moment of our lives. Health issues that kids are facing continue through to their teenage years and into adulthood. So how do we get people active, engaged and having fun?

So many kids are simply not interested or engaged in traditional sport, particularly girls where participation drops off markedly in high school. Play spaces traditionally cater primarily for younger children and as such, lose their relevance for older kids (particular tweens). Skateparks are great for skaters but do they provide other recreation opportunities?

One significant step is creating more relevant, exciting and fun spaces for people of all ages that actively encourage everyone to participate, and in doing so, being physical. Through a range of both strategic and design projects, Playce is taking a more inclusive, and much less prescriptive approach to play, with a focus on challenge and excitement, having fun and being active. This presentation will outline a number of recent projects that redefine what is possible in all ages play and why it is so important to do so.

**Presenter**  
**Shaan Briggs**  
Surf Coast Shire Council

#### **Banyul Warri Fields 'Djila Tjarri' play & Skate Zone Project**

The "Djila Tjarri" Play and Skate Zone Project (currently under construction) aims to deliver an exciting, unique and iconic youth recreation and play space. Positioned at a high profile location within Torquay's Banyul Warri Fields precinct, and adjacent to the new Surf Coast Shire Council offices, this \$1.4M development includes an accessible multi-age play space, a youth adventure play area, a regional skate park facility, shelters, BBQ and picnic spaces, and other ancillary items set within a landscaped site.

This partnership project has been funded by three levels of government, and has also involved the community in a collaborative project design phase. This presentation will take you on the project journey from design through to delivery and will also cover the project's successes and challenges.

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>

3.00-3.45  
GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

#### **WORKSHOP**

#### **Unpicking Nature Play**

**Facilitators**  
**Mary Jeavons**  
Jeavons Landscape Architects  
**Joey Boothby**  
City of Manningham

This Workshop will be an interactive session with lots of illustrations, practical ideas, and discussion time. Topics covered will include, what does nature play really mean?, is it a fad?, what are the purpose and benefits of nature play?, the practicalities and realities for different settings, and how the play areas can be maintained.