

FOCS newsletter

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Welcome to the first FOCS newsletter for 2019.
It's hard to believe it's already March!

Cape Schanck community social initiatives

FOCS Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Our sausage sizzle was once again a great success. This year we were fortunately blessed with good weather that made the day even better. Our thanks go to the FOCS members who volunteered on the day; to Greg's Family Butchers for giving us a special price on his wonderful sausages and to Bakers' Delight at Rosebud Beach for donating the bread.

'Drinks & Nibbles' at The Views on Trent Jones Drive.

Our first 'Drinks & Nibbles' evening (previously called TAPAS) for 2019 was held on 15 February. It was a very pleasant way to spend a late afternoon / early evening. There were lots of good conversations happening, some nibbles and drinks of course as well as glorious views over Cape Schanck and beyond.



These evenings are open to all residents of Cape Schanck – you don't have to be a financial member of FOCS to come along. The next 'Drinks & Nibbles' evening will be held on Friday 26 April. Finger food is provided at \$15.00 per head with drinks at Damien's very generous bar prices.

Neighbourhood Day

As we do every year FOCS will once again be holding a Neighbour day BBQ for all residents of the Cape Schanck Community. This year the theme is "Loneliness". Weather permitting we will host the event at Fingal picnic grounds at the Pines - from 12 pm on 24 March. As always you can expect lots of fun good food, the opportunity to catch up with neighbours you know and to meet some new ones. FOCS will once again provide the food. All we ask is that you bring your own chair, drinks and glasses/cutlery.

This year we will have a special guest speaker - our local snake catcher - Barrie Goldsmith. You might have seen Barry on TV or in the newspaper. His knowledge of local snakes is well respected.



After his presentation (don't worry no real snakes will be on hand!) there will be an opportunity for you to ask Barrie questions.

For catering purposes, please let us know by Monday 18 March if you are planning to come along. RSVPs can be sent by email to friendscapeschanck@gmail.com or by phoning/texting Robyn on 0400 557 832.

If we have inclement weather on the day – don't worry – we have a Plan B up our sleeves. The event will definitely go ahead and we will advise those who have RSVP'd of any change of venue on the morning.

Members' only events

From time to time we hold a members' only event – as a way of saying thank you for being a member; for volunteering; for whatever really.

Our first "Members' only" Christmas/New Year recovery event was held early in the New Year. Again it was a fabulous afternoon with good food, good wine and great company.



We'd love residents of Cape Schanck to consider becoming members. You can contribute as much or as little as you feel able. And our membership fees are a bargain!!! We are here to represent and give a voice to our community.

Community matters

Post Office Parcel delivery to Cape Schanck

In response to a request from help from a resident, FOCS organised an on-line petition for residents to respond to the Australia Post delivery of parcel policy. Once finalised it will be forwarded it to Australia Post on your behalf.

Ongoing discussions with RACV local management re use of facilities

Representatives of FOCS met with the Resort Operations Manager to further discuss access, by the local Cape Schanck community, to the pool and gym. We were once again advised that the facilities would not be made available to the Cape Schanck community because the building is a resort and not a community facility. We were also told that this was a decision of RACV management including Head Office officials.

This discussion is the polar opposite to what the RACV provided in their application to the Mornington Peninsula Shire when they sought to obtain a permit to build the Resort. In that application the Shire was told the Resort would also be a community facility.

It is interesting to note that the local communities of both the Torquay (VIC) and Royal Pines (QLD) RACV “resorts” are made to feel very welcome. Those communities have use of the gym, pool and golf facilities (at least in the case of Royal Pines). Of course there is a fee involved. We at Cape Schanck aren’t looking to “freeload” – we’d be happy to pay a fee to use the facilities – and most of us would be prepared to do so during weekdays only so as not to interfere with the amenity of guests on weekends.

FOCS has decided to raise the issue with the President and the Board of the RACV in an endeavour to resolve the matter to everyone’s benefit.

RACV as a ‘safe haven’ in the event of a major emergency

At the meeting to discuss use of the facilities, FOCS representatives also requested the thoughts of Resort management in relation to the Resort being a safe haven in the event of a major emergency e.g. fire. The RACV provided the following statement:

“RACV Cape Schanck Resort will always take advice and direction from official emergency services during any emergency situation. If requested to be a place where people are directed to seek refuge the RACV Cape Schanck Resort will always be available for this purpose”.

FOCS suggests that in the event of a major emergency residents should confirm with emergency service personnel in the local area e.g. Police, SES, CFA whether they have declared the RACV Cape Schanck Resort a Safe Haven.

Community Reserve

FOCS representatives have approached our Mayor (David Gill) seeking confirmation that community consultations in relation to a Community Reserve will be held in the near future. The Mayor has advised that the matter is being progressed.

Cape Schanck Local Business Directory

FOCS would like to support local businesses and in line with one of the priorities from “Your Big Ideas” we have included a list of local businesses at the bottom of this newsletter. If you would like to include your business in our list please let us know. The intention is to also have it included on our updated website when it goes live.

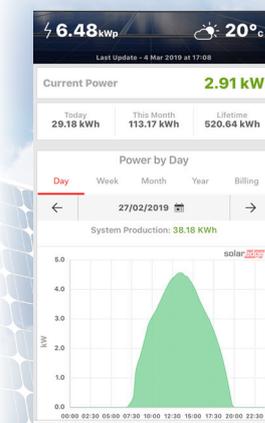
Business type	Business Name	Name	Phone Number	email	webpage
Electrician	Zentek	Brett	0409 862 667	zentek42@gmail.com	
Gateworks and security doors		Andrew	0408 991 015	sales@gateworks.com.au	www.gateworks.com.au
Printing and graphic design	Centreforce	Ian	0418 106 315	ian@centreforce.com.au	www.centreforce.com.au
Custom steel & aluminium gates and load racks.	Australian Truck Gates	Andrew	0429 110 174	sales@australiantruckgates.com.au	www.australiantruckgates.com.au
Accommodation, weddings, spa treatments	Views Cape Schanck	Damien	0417 393 225	damien@viewscapeschanck.com.au	www.viewscapeschanck.com.au
Art Gallery	Mike Rings Art Gallery	Mike	0438 961 957	ringoart@hotmail.com	www.ringoart.com.au
Tiler	Wall and floor tiler	Michael	0412 080 994	mlhathaway@bigpond.com	www.facebook.com/mlhathawaytiling/

Renewable Energy

Representatives of FOCS have met with several Photovoltaic (PV) providers and received further advice and recommendations depending on whether it was to be a new installation or changes to an existing setup. As a result of these meetings, two members have just installed PV systems on their roofs. According to Ian Renwick,

“I’d attended an earlier public meeting organised by the RACV and had taken up their sponsored opportunity for a free assessment of our situation as did a number of residents who attended that meeting. At the time I believed we might have been able to organise a significant discounts if we were able to organise a ‘bulk buy’ amongst Cape Schanck residents. This time around, I found it really helpful to sit down in a group with a knowledgeable provider (not just a salesperson) as everyone had different questions and the ensuing discussion gave me a better understanding about the options that I needed to consider. It helped me make a decision about the final configuration and provided greater confidence to act now.”

These members will be available at the next ‘Drinks & Nibbles’ get together to discuss the benefits of installing PV at your home in light of their recent experience and share some reasonably detailed analysis around their decision making processes. This includes their reasons for choosing different systems and a particular provider.



Mobile phone app tracking solar panel generation from newly installed 6.5kWp system.

User can view current and historical data for a given day, month, quarter or year and match this information to their power bill cycle. Also a record of CO₂ emissions saved.



Feedback and Enquiries

If you have any feedback or questions, or are interested in joining our group, please check our website. If you feel passionate about any of our activities and can devote some of your time we are always looking for some help with the championing of projects.

Contacts

Website: <http://focs.com.au>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Cape-Schanck-230727037008286/>

Email: friendscapeschanck@gmail.com