



President's Report AGM 6th December 2020

Firstly I would like to thank Dr Russell Cockman for his work as our President over the last 2.5 years. Retiring due to changes in health priorities, Russell has consistently contributed to the ongoing aims of IDA Vic and continues to support Committee and we all greatly value Russell's ongoing support to achieve Dark Sky awareness and improved lighting outcomes.

The Covid19 restrictions have produced a growth in Zoom conferencing for IDA Vic and IDA. This has resulted in the first International Dark Sky Week which IDA Vic partnered with BAS to have 3 online lectures for the Public as well as IDA having global lectures and the IDA Global Annual Conference events being accessible to anyone on the planet who wanted to join in.

IDA Vic supported ADSA and Globe at Night in July with promoting the GWR for an online lesson in protecting the night sky and reducing light Pollution with Radio interviews, Facebook (plus NZ members), media and website support.

We welcomed Jason Hammer onto committee in mid-year and Jason has brought additional skills and experience to the Committee from the Lighting Industry.

In August the 2nd Anniversary of the Friends of Lake Wendouree Natural Environment (FoLWNE) saw 120 registrations to hear Dr Peter Gell speak about Inland Lakes and how they are affected by different environmental impacts. Peter is a co-author on a Research Paper which included light pollution on inland lakes. 75 logged on the event which was in partnership with Ballarat AS who support FoLWNE.

The work of IDA Vic has brought an increase in approaches from now 6 Victorian communities regarding gaining Dark Sky Place accreditation. The most recent being from Aireys Inlet District Association, Mallacoota and the Island Astronomy Group located in the Bass Coast Council area.

IDA have received over 15 requests over the past year for Dark Sky place accreditation and the process now has been revised with the number of accreditations per year restricted, time limits on the process period and a fee review. IDA are volunteers and the work of the volunteers is increasing. Fundraising for the organisation has increased as the growth of the organisation world-wide continues to grow. IDA Vic continue to support IDA in their fund raising efforts.

Attending IDA Advocates meetings has been a good way of meeting people from around the Globe and sharing experiences.

Submissions: 2020 by IDA Vic Members to:
Heritage Victoria Permit application P3267 NGV Art installation on the St Kilda boulevard
Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria
Environmental Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act Review
Lake Wendouree Lighting Project
Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C269

In October IDA Vic had great pleasure in presenting a Good Lighting Award to a project established for bike riders, the Upfield Bike Path situated in the Moreland Council area. Nicholas Elliot, now retired Council Officer, led the project and reduced all light to be directed only towards the purposes of lighting the actual pathway, a very worthy project.

I would like to thank all the Members for helping in so many ways to continue the work Of IDA Vic over the past year.

President
Judith Bailey
6th December 2020