



Dear Members

I'm pleased to report that after a hectic six months the cricket/soccer clubhouse on Graceleigh Park has now been completed. The Scenic Rim Regional Council (SRRC) has issued building and plumbing approvals and the grant has almost been acquitted with the Department of National Parks Sport & Racing (DNPSR). Plans are now being laid for the official opening on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April and I hope many BRASA members and members of the community will join us to celebrate this special occasion.

The clubhouse renovation has presented many challenges since it began late last year making it a steep learning curve for the committee and all those involved. There are too many people to thank here, not least of all the project builder Marcel Vaars who did a fantastic job. I would however, like to take this opportunity to make special mention of our secretary Janis Rossiter who has worked tirelessly on the project from start to finish, taking control of the considerable administrative duties and liaising with the DNPSR and the SRRC. These efforts came on top of her increasing BRASA secretarial duties so three weeks or so ago, just to make life harder for herself, Janis decided to chase her chooks around her yard in the dark of night and stumbled breaking her leg in the process. Not to be defeated and only two days later, she had her friends set up her office downstairs and continued on with BRASA business undeterred.

Hats off to you Janis for a great effort this year and last. We hope to see you up and about walking again in the very near future.

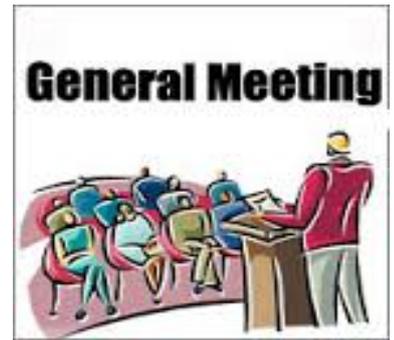
I'm sure most of you have noticed how good the oval is looking and with the irrigation system now in place it's only going to get better. And on that note I'd like to thank BRASA member Chris 'Eddie' Edmond, who has stepped up to the plate taking charge of the roster for mowing the oval. Chris has done a tremendous amount of work on the grounds around the clubhouse and the fine state of the pitch is largely down to his efforts.

The next project in the pipeline is the installation of floodlights on the oval. All the paperwork has been lodged with SRRC and we are expecting the green light to begin the works any day now.

Greg Slater  
BRASA President

The next BRASA General Meeting will be held on **Sunday 23 April 2017 from 8am to 9am** at the Cricket/Soccer Clubhouse at Graceleigh Park, Beechmont. All BRASA members are invited to attend.

The meeting will be held on the same day as the opening of the Clubhouse.



### **Beechmont Cricket**

The Axemen will host a 6-A-Side cricket match Sunday on 23 April 2017 commencing at 9.30am with a break for lunch at 12noon and recommencing at 1pm for a finish at 3pm.

BRASA members are encouraged to attend and new cricket players are always welcome.

Pizza, hamburgers and coffee will be available from the BRASA Entertainment Trailer and Beechmont Cricket Club will run the

bar. It will be a family friendly day, so bring the kids.

***Please contact Dan Blunt (President BCC) on 0407 757 319 should you wish to play or enter a side.***

### **Official Opening of the Cricket/Soccer Clubhouse**

All BRASA members and friends are invited to attend the official opening of the newly upgraded Beechmont Cricket/Soccer Clubhouse:

Date: 23 April 2017

Time: 12noon – 1pm

Venue: Beechmont Cricket/Soccer Clubhouse

Graceleigh Park

1908 Beechmont Road

Beechmont

Cricket on Beechmont has been rejuvenated with a number of very keen new members and younger talented players coming up through the ranks.

The much needed upgrade of the Cricket/Soccer clubhouse to provide showers and toilets means that Cricket and Soccer can now invite other clubs in the region for matches.



### **Upgraded Cricket/Soccer Clubhouse**

As has been reported in previous Newsletters, BRASA was fortunate to obtain a \$75,000 grant thru the Queensland Government, Department of National Parks, Sport & Racing in late 2015. Thank you sincerely, DPNSR.

The grant has enabled BRASA to produce a community facility of which all Beechmont can be proud.

The clubroom has been completely re-vamped with dedicated storage for cricket and soccer, a refurbished servery area and new windows and doors. An internal change room and toilets has been installed, plus an external disability friendly toilet and baby change table and external seating. A water tank has been installed with the clubhouse and roof painted throughout. In addition, an architecturally designed verandah ensures that players and spectators have a welcome shaded area to view matches.

Once again, the Beechmont community came to the fore. Many volunteers contributed many hours, there are too many to thank individually, but BRASA sincerely thanks the contribution made by the consultants and tradies who so freely gave their time and the locals who donated a fridge and coffee machine. BRASA provided 20% of the total cost of the project (a condition of the grant funding), but the Beechmont community has achieved a facility worth approximately \$300,000.

The facility is available for meetings, small functions and other sporting activities.

***Please contact Dan Blunt (President BCC) on 0407 757 319 for more information***

## **Lower Beechmont Park Project**

Phase 1 of the Lower Beechmont Park Project at Syd Duncan Park is now complete. Approximately 250 people attended the official opening with children and parents enjoying the animal show, bird house building project and other environmental activities.

The afternoon activities were completed with an outdoor movie showing of “Oddball”. What a magnificent setting as the sun went down to be replaced by a huge silver moon on a clear, bright night.

The BRASA Entertainment trailer produced pizzas, burgers, coffee and soft drinks ... and sold out. BRASA would like to thank attendees who made sure they took their rubbish home with them when they left.

It is wonderful to see the adventure playground and half-court basketball/netball area in constant use.

BRASA also sincerely thanks Division 9’s, Cr Glen Tozer who was able to obtain funding of \$30,000 through Gold Coast City Council and Scott Buchholz, Federal Member for Wright who donated \$10,000 to the project. With BRASA’s input of \$6,000, a project that would have cost \$250,000 if done by Council cost less than \$50,000 – the power of volunteering.

BRASA wishes to extend a big THANK YOU to all the volunteers who donated many hours of time and expertise. The project was a truly fantastic effort by a dedicated team under the leadership of the two Sara’s.

## **Outdoor Movie Program**



The “Movie Under the Stars” program funded by Gold Coast City Council (GCCC) is now complete. Four movies were conducted using the BRASA movie theatre equipment.

The first movie was at Tamborine Mountain, followed by Springbrook, Lower Beechmont and Numinbah Valley. The children of the schools represented chose the movies and all were well attended by our small rural communities.

BRASA thanks Cr Glen Tozer who has championed the program in Division 9. The Movie program is conducted by GCCC to provide entertainment in all areas of the Gold Coast, not just the tourist strip. It is hoped that funding will be made available to run the program again next summer season.



### **Farmhouse Lunch:**

The long lunch is still on the calendar!

The Fitzgerald brothers have been very busy with their many other projects, but have not lost the enthusiasm to hold another event. They are now working towards a date to be advised after the Easter break. Cost is still to be decided and numbers will be limited, so continue to watch this space.

### **BRASA Interim Treasurer**

BRASA's Treasurer, Tom Blake has resigned. As many of our members would be aware, Tom is also President of Beechmont Area Progress Association Inc. (BAPA). With the advent of the very successful Head Master's Café at the Beechmont Community Centre, Tom was finding the workload associated with both community organisations far too heavy to handle properly .... and still have a life.

After seeking a suitable replacement amongst BRASA members, the Committee was fortunate to find Irene Zoubakin willing to take on the duties of interim Treasurer.

Irene, who has had a number of years as Office Manager for Vietnam Vets and in other positions in private industry, will very capably fill the shoes vacated by Tom until the coming AGM, when all Committee positions will be open for election.

We wish Tom all the best with steering through the growth program at the Beechmont Community Centre.



**BRASA** was fortunate to obtain six community grants in 2015/2016. Completion of the associated projects has meant a lot of hard work for a small number of volunteers, but when BRASA members look around at what has been achieved in our rural community, we can all be justifiably proud of our achievements.

The Cricket/Soccer Clubhouse upgrade is now finished and final acquittal documentation is being prepared and the Graceleigh Park Lighting grant is well underway. The Lower Beechmont Park Project, Volunteer grant, Seniors/

line marking grant and Irrigation grant have been successfully completed.

In addition, Beechmont Tennis was successful in receiving a grant to install a new water tank and pump on the Tennis/Netball Clubhouse.

Other grants are in the pipeline to complete the lighting grid for the Oval and an application has been lodged to commence work on the long awaited Netball facility.

The ride-on mower is nearing end-of-life, so a grant application will be submitted to enable its replacement.

The majority of grants require a financial input of sometimes up to 20% of the total cost of the project, but successful grant applications are the lifeblood of volunteer organisations. They necessitate much work, but the rewards are great.

BRASA has been seeking a Grants Coordinator for some time. If any BRASA member is interested in taking up the volunteer position, please contact the BRASA Secretary at [brascommittee@gmail.com](mailto:brascommittee@gmail.com)

### **The Annual BRASA Golf Day 2017**

Was scheduled for Sunday 2/10/16 at Canungra Golf Club, but was cancelled due to rain. An alternative date is to be advised.

**Watch this space!**



### **Race Day 2017**

The annual race day will be held on 9 December 2017 at Murwillumbah Races.



BRASA will hire a bus to travel via Tumbulgum, with race venue refreshments available much the same as for Beaudesert.

Cost of the day to be advised and bookings will open in October, so line up your friends and family for a good day out. Pre-payment will be essential to order the correct bus size and for catering purposes.