



ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

Montville Village Association
Memorial Close, Montville, Queensland

MVA Management Committee 2022/23 members and areas of responsibility and involvement

Michael Bradley	President and Sportsground
Deb Davis	Past President
Wayne Parcell	Vice President, Rangebow Festival
Michael Shine	Treasurer
Janny Spilsbury-Schakel	Secretary

Ruth Kuss	Montville Village Hall
Frith Duggan	Montville Village Market
Eric Anderson	Russell Family Park (RFP)
Doug Patterson	Montville History Group (MHG)
Skye Parker	School Liaison

Additional subcommittee chairs and representatives, not members of the MVA Management Committee

Lou Tasker	Small Events Subcommittee
Michael Spilsbury	Western Avenue Action Group
Andrea Radford	Streetscape
Max Standage	Oscar and Futures

Contact the MVA: secretary.mva@gmail.com

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

An annual report is an opportunity to take stock, reflect and look ahead. As I step down this year, I shall also make a few comments on the past four years that I have been President.

As an umbrella organisation, we receive regular reports at our monthly General Meeting and Management Meeting. These include:

- The Markets which go from strength to strength. Many thanks Deb and Frith.
- The Village Hall which continues to attract a diversity of hirings. Many thanks Ruth.
- History whose series of books expand and are popular. Many thanks Doug and Cate.
- Russell Family Park which has seen a significant number of trees planted. Many thanks Eric and Dianne.
- Montville Sportsground whose three tenants, Woodies, Tennis Club and Soccer Club, have seen numbers and activities expand.
- Rangebow Festival which completed a second year of success. Many thanks Wayne and Skye.
- Montville Village Country Fire Service so important to our community. Many thanks John.
- Montville State School with whom with now have a liaison officer. Many thanks Skye and Adam.
- Montville Masons supporting the community. Many thanks John.
- And, jointly with Montville Village Chamber of Commerce and Sunshine Council, the Streetscape Committee. Many thanks Frith and Eric.

What a list! A very well-rounded list.

To oversee the MVA we have a Management Committee meeting monthly. Thank you to fellow members for their work.

To communicate what happens I thank Lou Tasker for editing Happenings and our diligent secretary, Janny, for her succinct email newsletter. Many thanks Janny for this and your role as Secretary.

Financially we continue to stress and must watch expenditure carefully as well investigate other income sources. Many thanks to Mike our Treasurer for his survival work. Council and Government at state and federal levels have helped in small but important ways with grants. They are thanked.

I thank Councillor Winston Johnston, State MP Andrew Powell, and Federal MHR Andrew Wallace for their support for the Montville community. Each has addressed a General Meeting. These meetings are well attended giving members the opportunity to raise issues as well as hear first-hand what is happening. Outside of these meetings I have met with the three politicians to discuss issues. They have always been positive and helpful.

A feature of the monthly MVA General Meetings is the range of speakers and topics covered. They are a focus and this year included talks on the referendum, Russel

Family Park and weed control. The MVA has been very active, especially through Max Standage, who is thanked, representing the MVA at Oscar Meetings, in addressing development issues across the Blackall Range. We encourage debate and where necessary and requested by members, have taken up issues with a degree of success though sadly, where unable to stem the loss of our local medical practice and pharmacy: both of which are sorely missed.

Added to our meetings are events including Australia Day, ANZAC Day, and off course, the second edition of the successful Rangebow Festival in August. Over 4 days the festival highlighted the community through a spectacular and varied program supporting and celebrating diversity and tolerance. Thank you, Wayne, Skye, and all volunteers who helped and we look forward to seeing another great festival in 2024.

New this year, or revival, was the establishment of the Events Subcommittee. They have successfully run a Drag Bingo, put on an original murder play and have an upcoming trivia night (Oct 21) plus a range of events planned for 2024: a great set many thanks to the team.

The Montville Hall is 120 years old and is showing its age. We are very conscious of this. We are trustees for the Hall. We have a building maintenance program, but the issues are beyond this.

At the Hall Gates, revamped drainage at the Hall walls was completed and paid for by Council but failed to fully address the problem. Water still comes into the area under the wall: not as much but still enough to cause problems. Council acknowledged this. They agreed to rectify but, surprise, surprise, after almost four months have failed to act. We will continue to pursue this which is just one part of the problems affecting the Hall.

For example, when you look at the building you will see that it is sinking at the front, the roofline is crooked and needs replacing, the Hall leans towards the south, the floor is at the end of its life and cannot be sanded back anymore, the roof leaks, there is no insulation in the roof, the supper room ceiling is water damaged and may collapse, there are no sprinklers. Much of this is due to the way the Hall was constructed and added to over time. To address these, we have less than \$25,000 in the bank and though asset rich, have an income stream inadequate to address them. These realities have not stopped us from developing a plan. One is to seek money from the State Gambling Community Benefit Fund to replace the floor for which estimates exceed \$60,000. Unfortunately, the Fund currently only has a \$35,000 limit until next year when we hope the super round returns with a limit of \$100,000.

Thankfully and significantly this year we gained the support of the Sunshine Coast Council in funding the Montville Memorial Precinct Conservation Plan.

This was undertaken by Conrad Gargett and presented to the MVA in March. This 110-page report is very important in addressing the future of the Precinct which include St Marys, both halls and the green. This Report will be the base upon which to develop plans with which to approach local, state, federal and private funding sources to replace the roof, address structural issues, to replace the floor, to install insulation, to heat and cool the Hall, to replace the supper room ceiling, to repaint inside and outside, to refigure interior areas to ensure better use, to modernise the lighting and to meet current fire and safety regulations. When complete the Hall will attract a wider range of hirers, including at the higher end, which will improve our income stream.

One start on this journey is the establishment of the Montville Precinct Coordinating Committee, with representatives from stakeholders i.e., MVA, St Marys and Sunshine Coast Regional Council. It held its first meeting this month. The Conservation Plan will be the bible from which the MVA can draw as it addresses Hall issues.

I said at the start that I would make a few comments re my four years as President. When I told a person this, I was asked had I enjoyed myself in the role. My answer was that I put my hand up to undertake this role as I was interested in it and never thought about the enjoyment side though on reflection must admit that I did enjoy chairing the meet the candidates' meetings and listening to the range of speakers at both the General Meetings and events. I will always remember the address given by Paralympian Chris Bond.

During the past four years the MVA has faced a number of issues in particular for two years COVID. COVID almost bankrupted the MVA. We squeezed through on an oily rag and the bountiful hope and positivism of members and in particular the careful eye of Mike our Treasurer who is thanked for this.

I could document the changes implemented over the last four years along with successes and failures and challenges, but I won't, and would not seek to take credit for what is a team effort. I will leave that to history writers, such as Doug and Cate, who can, with the hindsight of time, reflect better on the years. But what I will do is to briefly outline the challenges the MVA faces. First amongst these is addressing the substantial financial issue of funding the renovation of the Hall: which I estimate the MVA needs one million dollars. One way out of this is for the Council to take over the Hall and have the community run it for them. The future of the Sportsground is, in comparison, in better shape and could develop into a major community precinct and exploration of this has commenced. There are other challenges as well, but I will leave it at one for this evening and see how the incoming Management Committee, on which I will remain as immediate past president, identifies and meets them.

Just one final comment.

Over the past 2 years I have worked closely and met regularly, with Vice President Wayne. This has been appreciated, thank you Wayne, and as I nominated him for incoming President I need say no more as to my regard for and confidence in him.

In conclusion I thank everyone for their support of the MVA and as your president for four years. Thanks, and goodbye.

Michael Bradley

President MVA

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Despite a low level of grant income from the Council and Other Governmental bodies, due to the outstanding efforts of the Markets Team and our Hall Coordinator, the Association has enjoyed a very successful financial year, generating a surplus of \$11,359 for the year ended 31 July 2023.

The year has been one of consolidation following two difficult preceding years in the COVID era with repairs being fairly low but our bank accounts rising to a fairly healthy \$32,144 with our only significant inventory being that consisting of history books in the order of \$8,000.

I would like to thank Michael Bradley for being so supportive of my role. As I am still working, he has attended to many an acquittal to help me out so generously. He has been a pleasure to work with.

The markets have performed very well during the year with sales consistently above \$1,500 and the GP% in excess of 40%.

While the Association has \$32,144 in the bank it needs to raise significant funds in order to carry out the major refurbishment that is needed to be undertaken from time to time.

Michael Shine

Treasurer

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Auditors Report on 2021/22 Financial Year statement


MONTVILLE VILLAGE ASSOCIATION
ABN: 76 179 975 189
Statement by Members of the Committee
For the year ended 31 July 2022

The Committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in the attached independent auditor's report to be read in conjunction with the financial statements.


In the opinion of the Committee the Income & Expenditure Statement, Statement of Financial Position and Notes to the Financial Statements:-

1. Present fairly the financial position of the Montville Village Association Inc. as at 31 July 2022 and its performance for the year ended on that date,
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

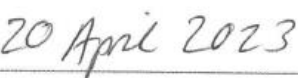
This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:-



President



Treasurer



Date

**Montville Village Association
Profit and Loss Account**

1 August 2022 to 31st July 2023

	2023	2022
Income		
Grants Received	7,600	12,006
Donations Received	610	1,945
Other Income	-	-
Sportsground Income	3,803	-
Donations Redeemed	-	6,201
Rent	26,758	25,985
Interest Received	105	3
Functions	28,152	15,930
Total Income	67,028	62,070
Expenditure		
Advertising and Promotion	426	627
Audit fees	1,210	1,155
Bank charges	804	702
Cleaning Rubbish Removal	4,210	5,124
Depreciation	3,629	3,561
Donations expense	-	-
Electricity	789	1,525
Function Expenses	14,384	8,700
General Expenses	1,142	1,173
Hall Management	6,000	6,000
Historical Group	-	-
Insurance	11,936	14,750
Market Management	2,970	3,260
Printing stationery	-	-
Rates and Land Taxes	-	-
Repairs Maint Hall	5,884	7,410
Repairs Maintenance Sports Ground	2,286	-
Tennis	-	-
Total Expenses	55,669	53,987
Net Profit	11,359	8,083

Montville Village Association
Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2023

	2023	2022
Current Assets		
NAB Everyday Account	15,998	7,698
NAB Isaver Account	16,146	14,446
NAB Verandah Account	-	-
NAB Tennis	-	-
NAB Sports Account	2,110	1,861
Cash on Hand	550	550
Prepayment	-	-
Total Current Assets	34,804	24,555
Non-Current Assets		
Freehold Land at Cost	700,000	700,000
Sportsground land	374,520	374,520
Soccer Field Construct at cost	24,858	24,858
Sportsfield amenities block	32,622	32,622
Function and Meeting Hall	770,043	770,043
Sportsground Improvements	68,000	68,000
Building exteriors	94,497	94,497
Hall Verandah @ Cost	182,214	182,214
Plant and Equipment @ Cost	64,138	64,138
Accumulated Depreciation	(37,585)	(33,956)
Hall verandah WIP	-	-
Total Non-Current Assets	2,273,307	2,276,936
Total Assets	2,308,111	2,301,491
Current Liabilities		
TFN Withholding Tax	(513)	(513)
Hall Deposits	250	200
Rent Deposits	3,779	2,592
Tennis Club Funds	246	246
Verandah Account Liability	-	-
Accruals	12,653	15,972
History Group Funds	553	3,211
Montville Tourism Funds	1,880	1,880
Total Current Liabilities	18,848	23,588
Net Assets	2,289,263	2,277,903
Members's Funds		
Capital Profits Reserve	1,081,327	1,081,327
Assets revaluation reserve	1,018,884	1,018,884
Accumulated Surplus	189,052	177,693
Total Members' Funds	2,289,263	2,277,904

MONTVILLE VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Over the past 12 months the Hall has been quite busy. We've had the regular classes during the year of Tai Chi every Monday, Qui Gong every Monday and Wednesday, Yoga every Thursday morning, Youth Theatre every Tuesday and Thursday during school term and Yoga every Friday.

Functions over the past 12 months:

Private Functions and Weddings x 14. Attendees average 50
 Art and Crafts Expo x 2. Visitors approx. 500 over 2 days
 Memorial Services x 2. Approx. 150 at each service

Concerts and Events:

Australia Day
 ANZAC Day
 Trivium Ensemble Concert x 2 approx. 70 attendees
 Drag Bingo Sold Out
 Murder in Montville Sold Out
 Montville Markets x 12

Resin Workshop approx. 15 students per class - 15 classes
 Suzie June Chocolate - Kitchen Use only - 8 sessions
 Lions Club Meetings x 12 - 6 members
 Rangebow Festival Meetings
 Community Halls Meetings x 1

We seem to be holding our own regarding bookings and Hall use. There are a lot more Function Centres opening across The Range accommodating parties and weddings. To date we have 6 functions booked for 2024.

We've had no major maintenance work, but our beautiful Hall needs a lot of ongoing maintenance and repair.

When Elements on Montville closed down, they donated a chest freezer and a Church Pew.

Thanks to Mike Spilsbury for being my go-to Lawnmower Man.

Ruth Kuss
Hall Co-ordinator

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Montville Village Market (July 2022 to July 2023)

The 2022/2023 year has been one of consolidation and growth. The market profits were increased this year due to better weather conditions and lifting of covid restrictions. Notably the annual average profit margin increased from 43% to 47% this year. This year's annual profit was approximately eleven thousand dollars.

During this year we have continued to run the market, attracting a new cohort of young volunteers, provided children's activities as a regular part of the market and enjoyed the support of the Montville P&C running the BBQ P&C Stall and reinvigorated Finders Keepers Stall. It's been heartening to see children playing on the grassed area below the deck and parents relaxing with a picnic rug.

Volunteers:

Over the last 14 years, we've built a capable and resilient volunteer base who have supported the market and its important role in contributing to the MVA and the upkeep of the Hall. We are very grateful for our volunteers who have steadfastly supported the market.

Each month the market requires 85 hours of work including preparation, setup and market day operations. This excludes planning, management, promotion in the Hinterland Times conducted by the subcommittee and the extraordinary work done by our Stalls coordinator, Liz Harris who manages stallholders, participates in the hinterland market trail group and manages social media.

On average we operate with 25 volunteers per market, contributing an average of 3.4 hours per person. Most people contribute 2.5 hours; however, core group of volunteers contribute significantly more fulfilling multiple roles. There are 39 separate positions available on our volunteer roster. This is the optimal number of people required to ensure that volunteers work no more than 2 hours per shift.

This year we have reviewed our social media presence. We have taken Erin Green up on her kind offer to contribute her youthful and artistic abilities to creating an engaging social media presence for the market.

Kitchen:

The number of pancakes per market experienced some fluctuation over 2022-2023 (See Figure 1). We averaged 123 servings of pancakes per market. This is an increase of 5 serves compared to the previous year.

The workflow, portion control and kitchen checklists continue to work well, with volunteers easily being able to comfortably manage up to 130 pancake serves. However as can be seen April was an exceptional month where we managed to successfully serve 168 pancakes.

With the lifting of Covid restrictions many of our regular volunteers have taken the opportunity to travel overseas to reconnect with friends and family. This has made filling the roster in the kitchen challenging at times. We appreciate the flexibility and

willingness of our volunteers fill the gaps. We've welcomed back some old volunteers and have begun training new youth recruits in the kitchen.

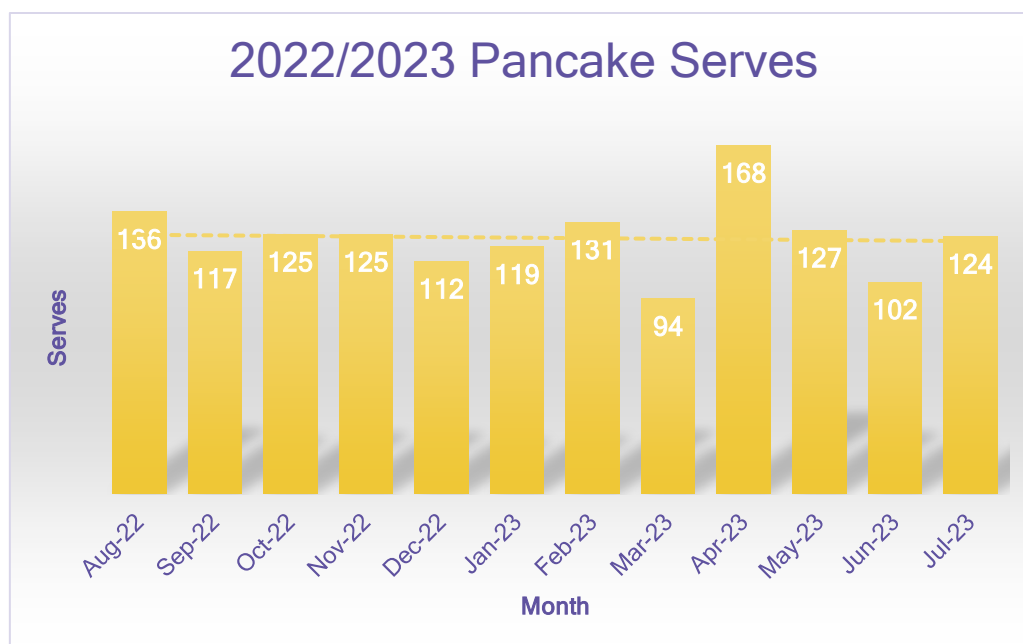


Figure 1 Montville Growers and Makers Market 2022-2023 Total Pancake Serves

Stallholders

This year we have been refining our Stallholder Criteria to ensure that only locally grown or produced food, art and craft and community organisations are represented at the market. Liz Harris has capably undertaken the role of processing applications and enquiries. This comprised reviewing Stallholder compliance with market criteria, communicating requirements and logistics of stall placement and overseeing the safe setup/pack up on the site. She also is responsible for collecting the Stallholder fees.

An average of 27 stalls attended the market each month, peaking at 34 stalls in June. Notably this year the coffee van has changed ownership, we raised funds for one of our long-term stallholders when they experienced a health crisis and thank our regular musicians and youth buskers for helping to create a joyful and festive market atmosphere.

Future

In the coming year, we plan to continue to nurture community connections by providing opportunities for people of different ages and backgrounds to converse over pancakes and tea. As our children's activities have been a huge success, we intend to provide a free children's activity at each market. We'll be encouraging people to join our volunteer base and undertaking a review of expenses associated with the pancakes and reviewing our prices accordingly.

Market committee: *Deb Davis, Judith Sinnamon, Liz Harris, Frith Duggan, Ally Rexa, Claire Green*

Sports and Recreation Subcommittee

The Montville Village Association is responsible for the Montville Sport and Recreation Grounds. At the grounds three clubs have leases with the MVA to operate.

They are:

- Blackall Range Woodworkers Guild
- Montville Tennis Club
- Range United Soccer Club

All of the club's members are, by default and as per 2022 MVA constitution changes, members of the MVA. This will be reflected in the terms of the lease with each club as their lease becomes due for renewal.

The MVA does not get involved in the day-to-day operations of the three clubs but is ultimately responsible. The Sport and Recreation Subcommittee has representatives from each club plus the MVA and is chaired by the MVA. In 2022 Max Standage relinquished the position of Chair and was replaced by Michael Bradley. The Subcommittee has met on four occasions this reporting year.

The main topic of discussion this year was the construction of an all-weather access road into the grounds. The Soccer Club successfully won a \$100,000 grant from the State Gambling Community Benefit Fund to undertake this work. Initially the plan was to bituminise the entire road and carpark. However, estimates to undertake this came in considerably higher than could be funded and therefore the work was changed to two stages: Stage 1 construction of an all-weather hard service road and Stage two bituminisation of the road. Stage 1 is taking place in October 2023. Investigations are underway to find monies for Stage 2. Additionally, work is underway to identify funding sources to fund the installation of roadside lighting to address safety and security issues, and construct appropriate access, such as ramps, to each club's facilities for persons with access issues.

Each club continues to prosper adding to their facilities and activities as outlined in their reports to members and the community and are commended for their contributions.

Michael Bradley
Chair

Russell Family Park

In general, the Park has been regularly maintained and no dramas. The proposed Senses Trail appears low on Council's priority list and in fairness to them we have been too occupied in other areas of the park to consider any follow-up. Some additions to the Children's Playground occurred but the planned extension of the toilet block is still to eventuate.

BushCare Group

In January 2008 the Russell Family Park BushCare Group was established and began revegetation in the western and northern areas of the park. At the start of the project the site contained 42 native plant species and 66 introduced, mostly weed species. Since then, the amount of weed species has been significantly reduced while the revegetation work has boosted the native plant species present to 222. This has been achieved by planting to date some 8,840 local plants.

This year the six regular volunteers, Eric Anderson, Diana O'Connor, Alan Felmingham, Stephen Kirby, Kerrie Davis, and Athena Lathouras, contributed 547 hours of work in the park that saw another 1,591 plants established and much maintenance weeding done. Included in these plantings were contributions from the community.

Firstly, when we welcomed 109 Montville State School Students who planted 195 trees to celebrate National Schools Tree Day on 28 July, to help the environment and assist us in replanting the original vegetation. Many thanks to Council who paid for the plants and organized the site preparation of mulching and digging the holes for planting.

Secondly, 485 plants were established as part of the Rangebow Festival when 92 people signed on to plant, a plant or two. Again, the planting was an extension of our current project to return the original vegetation, mainly rainforest, to the park. The planting preparation such as spreading the mulch over the area and digging the holes was done by Council, for which we are grateful. Barung Landcare donated 400 of the rainforest plants and had several volunteers present to help on the day. The other 85 plants were used on the edge of the planting and were provided by Council.

We would like to acknowledge all those who have helped us during the year with particular thanks to the Blackall Range Lions Club who have been of great assistance on several occasions to move and spread mulch and John Davis who has dug many of the holes prior to planting.

Eric Anderson

Montville History Group

After a great 2022, the last 12 months have not been as productive. Book sales were down significantly and as a result the MHG has had to seek new sponsors and funding options to purchase reprints of Book 2, *Fifty Years of Boom and Bust* and Book 3, *Fifty Years of Change*.

Unfortunately, our three main researchers/writers have all had health issues which has resulted in interrupted work patterns. We have only produced one book this year, Book 9 Part 1, *Montville Remembers World War One: 1914 - 1919*. With the help of many older Montvillians, we were able to not only recount the service of 27 Montville men but also capture glimpses of their life on the 'Range' before and after the war. Their descendants are delighted that they are remembered.

Thanks to the hard work of Gordon and Cate, we have managed to still post 11 stories on our website. These include:

- *Vale Tony Barnett*
- *The Spotted Chook: Dreams Can Come True*
- *Max and Catherine Standage*
- *Vale Dr Michael Leo Simpson*
- *Australia Day Awards*
- *Holidays at the Spotted Chook*
- *Knowing Things Military*
- *Recollections of Percy Dixon's Place*
- *Flaxton Vs Obi Obi*
- *Lighting up the Range*
- *Vale Margaret Farmer*

Cate is the MHG editor and therefore has edited everything that we have published in every format in 2022 - 23 while Lou continues to be our proof-reader for our major publications.

We wish to thank Victoria McGuin, Editor of *Hinterland Times*, Cameron Outridge, Editor of the Sunshine Valley Gazette, and Ann Wells and the staff of the Montville Post Office for their continuing support of the Montville History Group.

Works in progress include:

- *Book 9 Part 2 Montville Remembers World War Two: 1939 - 1945*
- *Book 10, Montville's Buildings*
- *The History of Skene Creek Farm*
- *The History of High Tor*
- *This Old House* (A series of articles on old, historic homes commissioned by the Sunshine Valley Gazette.)

We will need to secure funding to publish Book 9 Part 2 and Book 10 in 2024.

The day-to-day business of the MHG continues. Cate has again responded to an average of 4 queries a month. In the main, these relate to family histories but often, also offer additional information or photos relating to stories we have published.

However, we have had feedback that our webpage is becoming dated and 'clunky' and needs to be updated to make it more user-friendly and better linked to other MVA webpages.

New members are always welcome, whether they want to be on call to help, have something that they want to pursue, have a story that they want to write or join an ongoing project. If interested, please contact Cate Patterson at montvillehistorygroup@gmail.com.

Doug Patterson
Secretary

Small Events Subcommittee

The Small Events Committee started life in early 2023 with Kyleigh Simpson, Jeff Tasker and Louise Tasker discussing ways in which community life could perhaps be enhanced with more events suitable for all to attend.

The first event held in May was Drag Bingo with Roxanne Redacted as the Bingo MC. This event was a sell out and hugely enjoyed by all.

The second event held in July was a 'one night only' production of Murder in Montville, written by Kyleigh Simpson. All the players were residents from Mapleton, Flaxton, Montville, Hunchy and Dulong. This interactive play was sold out and again very well received.

We have started using TryBooking.com for bookings to our events and this has worked very well to date.

The Small Events Committee has purchased hand-held plus face microphones for the hall use.

We have a Trivia Night event coming up in October 2023 and several events in the pipeline for next year.

Louise, Jeff, and Kyleigh

Western Avenue Action Group

The WAAG is yet to meet, however we have been informed that Council intends to conduct a scoping study for a partial footpath from the Main Street to the Narrows junction in the not-too-distant future. We believe that funds have been allocated in the current fiscal year for this study and are hopeful for a positive outcome.

Michael Spilsbury
Chair

MVA REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Streetscape

This year, the Montville Streetscape Committee has progressed with Council in the beautification of the Main Street and its Beautification Levy works Plan.

A Scope of Works agreed in January 2022 is progressing with the primary project for the streetscape artworks in development and expecting to be on schedule for completion early next year. Finn Cossar is the successful artist whose work was chosen by joint panel of Council with assistance from the Streetscape Committee, who were impressed with his proposal.

The refresh of the southern entry corner funding has been secured totalling \$21,000 for the project. The design and plan have been submitted to Parks and Gardens and quotes have been accepted. This is expected to be completed in mid 2024. The new landscape design will address the entry corner making a safer access and easier maintenance for the Parks & Gardens Crew.

Richard Newport, the original artist who designed and installed the footpath inlays has been engaged to repair damaged artwork and replace missing metal components. This work has been approved and is expected to be completed in 2024.

The footpath upgrade design has been finalised and submitted to the civil engineers and the cost has been quoted at approximately \$260,000. Work is continuing on funding sources.

The raised garden beds proposal outside Crystal Multiverse has been withdrawn.

Andrea Radford
MVA Representative

Oscar

It was expected that during 2023 there would be a compulsory public consultation carried out by the Sunshine Coast Regional Council on the draft planning scheme. Planning requirements on the Blackall Range for Montville, Mapleton and the surrounding district are covered by the Blackall Range Local Plan which contains a number of specific provisions that protect the iconic character of the villages and the surrounding landscape. However, the consultation process will not now take place until next year.

The reason for the delay is that State Government has only recently released the 2023 SEQ Update planning document which will inform the Council's preparation of its draft plan that is now expected to be submitted to the State Government by year's end. The compulsory public consultation is now expected to take place in 2024, probably after the local government election in March 2024.

OSCAR (Organisation of Sunshine Coast Associations of Residents) of which the Montville Village Association (MVA) is a member, has made a submission to the State Government on the Update and BRLUPA (Blackall Range Local Use Planning Association) has also made a submission endorsed by the MVA and the Mapleton and District Community Association (MADCA).

An issue of concern to the Range communities is the plan by the Council to privatize the Council owned quarries at Dulong and Image Flat. The stated reason for taking this step was the expectation that engaging a private operator would make the quarries profitable. The Hinterland Quarry Action Group (HQAG) has been formed to oppose privatization of the quarries, as residents are concerned that a private operator will want to increase the output from the mines resulting in increased heavy transport movements on local roads, more dust and noise and longer operating hours at the quarries.

The HQAG presented an extensive submission endorsed by MADCA and MVA to Council in early August pointing out a number of significant planning issues that could have consequences for the Council and a private operator. The Council temporarily suspended the release of an expression of interest (EOI), while they considered the submission, but have recently released the EOI which will close in late November.

Another issue of major concern to Montville residents has been the recent closure of medical and pharmaceutical services located at Montville, requiring residents to travel to Mapleton or Maleny for such services. The MVA has undertaken discussions with a number of parties to try and address this issue.

Max Standage
MVA Representative

RANGEBOW FESTIVAL

The Rangebow Festival (took place Thursday 10 to Sunday 13 August 2023) pursuant to the Community Festival Engagement Agreement signed by Range of Life Pty Ltd with the Montville Village Association Inc.

Range of Life Pty Ltd, is a Special Purpose not-for-profit private company, and registered charity, the objects for which the company is established are to be a company whose purpose is to advance culture by:

- the promotion of visual and performing arts including community arts and crafts through presentation to the public of exhibitions, performances, and festivals.
- celebrating the distinctive characteristics of various cultural communities through arts, entertainment, and festivals.

Events were scheduled to enable festival goers to have a wide variety of rich experiences of taste, arts, culture, music, theatre, film, and nature across the entire program in Montville, Maleny, Flaxton and Mapleton.

Festival highlights included:

- Forage, fire, feast - a First Nations bushfood gourmet experience - Flaxton Gardens - Flaxton
- Plant & Party music and tree-planting event in Russell Family Park, with almost 500 trees planted - Montville
- Chapel of Love (afternoon operatic performance) - Montville
- The Pageant of Pineapple Queens and Bunya Kings - attended by more than 180 people - Maleny
- Mumm Sparkling Symphony - Sunshine Coast Symphony Orchestra with special collaborated performance including local school students in The Rangebow Children's Orchestra - Russell Family Park, Montville - attended by 300 people - Montville
- After-dinner mintz cabaret show - Maleny Community Centre - Maleny
- The Longish Lunch at the Mapleton Public House - Mapleton

Festival outcomes

The response to the festival was overwhelmingly positive with an increase of 23% in ticket sales compared to 2022, with total festival attendance of 5803. Total expenditure stimulus delivered by the festival to the community was almost \$500,000 - according to an independent survey conducted by IER.

The following significant support is acknowledged:

- Ajuria Lawyers, Sydney as a major sponsor
- 91.9 SeaFM and Hinterland Times as Media Partners enabling the festival to reach hundreds of thousands of radio listeners
- Sunshine Coast Regional Council for their financial support
- The Hon Andrew Powell MLA and Councillor Winston Johnston for their financial support

- Roger Loughnan Real Estate of Mapleton, The Opalcutter of Montville and Suncoast Oral & Maxillofacial and Dental Implant Surgery Centre of Buderim for their sponsorship support
- Poet's Café, Eighty20 Partners of Maroochydore and Maleny Jewellers provided significant in-kind support
- Woodfired of Montville provided sponsorship support and acted as the festival hub
- Montville Art + Design, The De Deyne Family and Support2U provided financial support
- Visit Sunshine Coast, St Mary's Church and many small businesses named on the festival website in The Hinterland and the Montville Chamber of Commerce also provided support for the festival
- Montville State School for its support with use of the school oval for carparking
- Montville Village Association, its members and our dedicated band of more than 60 volunteers.

Wayne Parcell PSM
Festival Director