WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

The PLA Vic/Tas Region Board is excited to be delivering its 3rd annual State Conference following the success of Conferences in Geelong and Ballarat. It is wonderful to be able to visit the Regional areas of Victoria and have this opportunity to network with local colleagues and connect with each other again.

The response to the ‘Call for Abstracts’ was outstanding, and I thank all members for their time, interest and effort in submitting an abstract. As a result, the program is high quality in content, is diverse in the types of sessions available, and is relevant for all sector professionals, irrespective of whether you are rural, regional or City based.

The Conference Organising Committee has done a wonderful job putting together the program and associated activities. I appreciate their work and commitment to enhancing the learning and networking opportunities for all workers in our sector.

Thank you also to the Conference principal sponsors, Surf Coast Shire, Toro Australia, GLG Group, Belgravia Leisure, and Christie Parksafe, and the other support sponsors and Trade participants. The Awards of Excellence Dinner is generously supported by UMS and 11 other organisations sponsoring award categories. We greatly appreciate your involvement.

So enjoy the Conference, and I look forward to catching up at a concurrent session, a networking event, or perhaps out enjoying a hit of tennis.

SPONSORS

CONFERENCE

Sponsor Logos

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Lanyards

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE DINNER

UMS

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Darren Bennett (Convenor), City of Banyule
Aaron Biscan, City of Hobsons Bay
Ashley Fleming, City of Brimbank
Chris Munro, Mornington Peninsula Shire
Jason Summers, City of Hume

Jacquie Anderton, Moyne Shire
Liam Cole, Wellington Shire
Talia Holloway-Roden, City of Ballarat
Kirstie Robinson, City of Casey
Richard Simon, PLA Vic/Tas Executive Officer
CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

Conference Warm-Up
Tuesday 3 May
7.00pm - 9.30pm
Drinks and Canapes followed by the showing of the movie, ‘Project Wild Thing’

Day 1
Wednesday 4 May, 9.30am - 5.45pm
Keynote Speaker
Bradley Fauteux, Chief Executive, Parks Victoria
13 concurrent sessions covering the Conference streams of Sport, Leisure and Parks
Sport Forum
Soccer Athletics Cricket
‘Play and Chat’
Programmed Recreational Activities
7.00pm - 11.00pm
UMS Awards of Excellence Dinner

Day 2
Thursday 5 May, 8.45am - 4.30pm
Keynote Speaker
John Jacoby, Adventurer
19 concurrent sessions covering the Conference streams of Sport, Leisure and Parks
Site Tours
• Deakin University Elite Sports Precinct
• Banyul Warri Fields ‘Djila Tjarri’ Play & Skate Zone

RACV TORQUAY RESORT
1 Great Ocean Road, Torquay
The RACV Torquay Resort is a 75 minute drive from Melbourne’s CBD and 20 minutes from Avalon Airport.
Perched within the backdrop of the Torquay and Jan Juc beaches, the resort is set on an expansive golf course with spectacular ocean views.

Car Parking
There is free car parking available underneath the resort or in the visitor’s car park at the front of the building for all Conference delegates.

RACV Torquay Resort
From Melbourne
Torquay
Jan Juc

Deakin University Elite Sports Precinct
Banyul Warri Fields ‘Djila Tjarri’ Play & Skate Zone
ACCOMMODATION

For the ease and convenience of staying on site, RACV Torquay Resort is offering discounted rates for all delegates .... and if you are an RACV Member the discount is larger.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROOM</th>
<th>CONFERENCE GROUP RATE</th>
<th>RACV MEMBER RATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Golf/Ocean King/Twin (incl. Breakfast)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Premium Ocean View King/Twin (incl. Dinner)</td>
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To book, contact the RACV Torquay Resort Reservations Department directly and quote the PLA Group Reservation Number 2743165

T: 03 5261 1600
E: reservations_torquay@racv.com.au

REGISTRATION

To register for the Conference and the Awards of Excellence Dinner, refer to the Registration page on the Conference website, or REGISTER HERE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONFERENCE</th>
<th>Earlybird Registration (before 16 March)</th>
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Group Discount - Full Conference registrations only
Purchase 3 or more full registrations (from the same organisation) to receive a 10% discount. You must register all delegates at the same time to be eligible for the discount. Group registrations may comprise members and non-members.

Shared Registration
Two delegates can share a full registration over the two days, but entitles only one to attend the Dinner

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SOCIAL EVENTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>UMS Awards of Excellence Dinner</td>
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MEETING ROOMS

There are several small meeting rooms (up to 10 people) available at the resort for use by delegates. If you would like to book a room for a meeting during the Conference please contact us at the Vic/Tas Region office.
Thanks to all the Conference speakers
Thanks to Smart Connection Consultancy for providing the speaker gifts

Smart Connection Consultancy is committed to creating opportunities for the next generation.

We concentrate on Australian and international sport, recreation and leisure management best practice. We are passionate about working with clients who want to invest, plan, and develop active communities through sport and recreation.

Our core areas of expertise include:
- Sports surfaces
- Sports strategies
- Recreation planning, facility developments and feasibility studies

Contact: Martin Sheppard
T: (03) 9421 0133
E: martins@smartconnection.net.au
W: www.smartconnection.net.au

Thanks to Brand Architects for providing the lanyards

Brand Architects is an architectural practice, which is almost entirely devoted to the field of community infrastructure, including a wide range of education, early years, health, sporting and recreation facilities.

Our projects tend not follow an aesthetic agenda, but evolve through consideration of context and client objectives. We are industry leaders in 3D building information technologies, and our expertise in these areas enables us to communicate more effectively with stakeholders.

Contact: Laurence Robinson
T: (03) 9419 3500
E: laurence@brandarchitects.com.au
W: www.brandarchitects.com.au
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

BRADLEY FAUTEUX

Bradley Fauteux is the newly appointed Chief Executive of Parks Victoria, which manages over 4 million hectares of parks and waterways across the state. Bradley supports Parks Victoria’s Healthy Parks Healthy People approach to managing parks, and brings with him extensive experience in park management, environmental issues and stakeholder relations.

Bradley will share his experiences as Managing Director of Ontario Parks in Canada, and explain his vision for parks in Victoria.

JOHN JACOBY

‘If you are going to hurt yourself you might as well do it in a nice environment’

John was a four time world marathon kayak champion in the 1980’s before diversifying into multisports and adventure racing. He won the New Zealand Coast to Coast race three times and remains the only non-Kiwi to win the open mens event. John has won numerous long distance adventure races around the world.

In 2004 John co-founded Rapid Ascent, one of Australia’s leading adventure sports event management companies.

He won the prestigious 2015 Australian Geographic Society ‘Adventurer of the Year’ Award for his recent sea kayak circumnavigation of South Georgia Island in the South Atlantic, and his transverse of the island on the same path as Sir Ernest Shackleton 100 years before. This expedition represents a tale of planning, commitment, determination and organisation. The relationships involved, and the resilience required to get to the starting line, were in some ways more challenging than the trip itself. John will tell the story about the trip and how he got there.

SPORT FORUM

SARA DAILEY

Government Liaison Manager

Football Federation Victoria

GLENN TURNOR

Chief Executive Officer

Athletics Victoria

ROHAN O’NEILL

Game Development Manager

Cricket Victoria

The Forum will be an opportunity to continue the conversations between LGA’s and State Sporting Associations. It will include an extended Q & A session.

An overview of each panellists’ session can be found in the Abstracts section of this Guide on page 14.

SITE TOURS

Deakin University Elite Sports Precinct, Waurn Ponds Campus

Thursday afternoon

Due to be completed in April 2016, the Precinct will become a hub for local sport, with a wide range of sports competitions and events being held at the site. It has also been designed to be a destination for visiting sports teams to train and test elite athletes.

Staff from Deakin University will outline their learnings from the development of the Precinct and then lead you on a tour of the site.

Banyul Warri Fields ‘Djila Tjarri’ Play & Skate Zone

Thursday afternoon

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.
## NIGHT BEFORE TUESDAY 3 MAY 2016

- **7.00pm**: Conference Warm-Up …… for those arriving early (refer page 9)

## DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY 4 MAY 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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</table>
| 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 |
| 10.00am| MORNING TEA                                                             |
| 11.00am| **SPORT**  
Great Ocean Road Ballroom 1  
Brooke Mezzetta  
Moreland City Council  
Increasing Junior and Female Participation Through Strong Policy |
|       | **LEISURE**  
Great Ocean Road Ballroom 2  
Nicky Angus  
Surf Coast Shire Council  
From Weeds and Cracks to an Innovative Rural Tennis Playspace  
Linda Smith  
Glen Eira Council  
Disused Tennis Courts Come Alive |
|       | **PARKS**  
Great Ocean Road Zeally Room 1  
Cathy Kiss  
Melbourne City Council  
Domain Parklands Master Plan |
| 11.45am| Jessie Doull  
Sport and Recreation Victoria  
Female Friendly Facilities - A State Government Perspective |
| 1.15pm | **SPORT FORUM**  
Football Federation Victoria  
Getting it Right  
Football Engagement in Victoria |
| 2.00pm | **LEISURE**  
Cricket Victoria  
Community Cricket on Common Ground  
Athletics Victoria  
One United Body |
| 2.45pm | **PARKS**  
Ross Wissing  
Surf Coast Shire Council  
Sustainable Management of Open Space |
| 3.00pm | **SPORT**  
Phil Saikaly  
Sport and Recreation Victoria  
The Future of Community Sports Infrastructure in Victoria |
|       | **LEISURE**  
Scott Crabtree  
Parks Victoria  
Planning and Priority Setting Across the Park Network - Parks Victoria’s New Visitor Experience Framework |
|       | **PARKS**  
Nicky Angus  
Surf Coast Shire Council  
Spring Creek Connecting Community Project |
| 3.50pm | Sally Jeavons  
@leisure  
Play Meets Sport in Schools |
| 4.30pm | CLOSE DAY 1                                                             |
| 4.45pm | Play and Chat  
Programmed Recreational Activities (refer page 8) |
<p>| 7.00pm | UMS Awards of Excellence Dinner (refer information page 10)               |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.45am</td>
<td>Keynote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td><strong>SPORT</strong> Great Ocean Road Ballroom 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 9.30am | Darren Bennett - Banyule Council  
Gavin Jordan - Inside Edge SLP  
*State of Sport Dashboard*                                                                                           |
|       | **LEISURE** Great Ocean Road Ballroom 2                                                                                     |
|       | Dean Joel - a_space  
*Trends in Community Outdoor Fitness*                                                                                   |
|       | Richard Simon - PLA Vic/Tas Region  
*The Outdoor Gym Guide*                                                                                                   |
|       | **PARKS** Great Ocean Road Zeally Room 1                                                                                    |
|       | Chris Munro - Mornington Peninsula Shire  
*Use of Technology in Open Space Development*                                                                              |
| 10.15am | MORNING TEA                                                                                                               |
| 10.45am | **SPORT** Great Ocean Road Ballroom 1                                                                                      |
| 11.00am | James Lake - Whittlesea City Council  
*Club In-kind Contribution Policy*                                                                                          |
|       | **LEISURE** Great Ocean Road Ballroom 2                                                                                     |
|       | Rob Anderson - People and Parks Foundation  
*Connecting Active in Parks and Local Councils for Community Health*                                                             |
|       | **PARKS** Great Ocean Road Zeally Room 1                                                                                    |
|       | Erik Kinlon - HG Turf  
*Hybrid Turf Technology*                                                                                                   |
| 11.15am | Belinda Conna - City of Greater Shepparton  
*Activities in the Park - Outcomes of Social Impact Research*                                                                    |
| 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                                                      |
|       | Martin Sheppard - Smart Connection Consultancy  
*Ricky Bell* - Football Victoria  
*Use of Synthetic Surfaces on Grounds Hosting Contact Sports*                                                                     |
| 1.45pm | Lincoln Fitzgerald - City of Greater Bendigo  
*Off the Deep End - Moving to Modern Aquatic Facilities*                                                                      |
|       | Talia Holloway-Roden - City of Ballarat  
*Water Parks in Ballarat Reserves*                                                                                           |
| 2.30pm | **PRESERVATIONS AND SITE TOUR**                                                                                             |
| 3.00pm | Andrew Crowley & Simon Taylor - Deakin University  
*Ricky Bell* - 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*                                                   |
| 4.30pm | CLOSE DAY 2                                                                                                               |
‘PLAY AND CHAT’
The active Conference session

**WEDNESDAY 4 MAY**
4.45pm-5.45pm

Following delegate feedback from last year’s State Conference a new optional session has been introduced comprising recreational activities. These sessions will provide an opportunity to continue networking with colleagues whilst enjoying some gentle exercise and fun.

Choose the session of your choice when you complete your registration. There is no additional cost to participate in any of these sessions.

**YOGA CLASS**

The practice of Yoga combines breathing, postures and relaxation, revitalising body and mind. A great way to relax after a day of conferencing.

**VENUE:** RACV Resort Fitness Centre  
**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** Suitable for all levels of fitness

**WALKING**

Enjoy a walk through Spring Creek Reserve, Torquay’s newest park. Enjoy a stroll on the newly established pathways whilst looking out for the new playgrounds, picnic areas, shelters, the bridges over the creek, fishing/ canoe platforms, and more.

**VENUE:** Meet in the Resort foyer  
**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** Suitable for all levels of fitness

**PILATES**

Pilates is a form of strength and flexibility training designed to strengthen the whole body without undue strain or injury.

**VENUE:** RACV Resort Fitness Centre  
**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** Suitable for all levels of fitness

**FINSKA**

Finska is the addictive ancient log-tossing game from Finland. It is a unique outdoor game that provides genuine entertainment. A race to 50 points, where every game is different, Finska requires both strategy and skill to defeat your opponent and claim victory.

**VENUE:** Meet in the Resort foyer

**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** Suitable for all levels of fitness, just don’t get addicted!

**RPM SPINNING CLASS**

RPM is the best indoor cycling class available. Take on the terrain with your inspiring instructor who leads the peloton through hills, flats, mountain peaks, speed work and interval training.

**VENUE:** RACV Resort Fitness Centre  
**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** Suitable for those who want to discover the athlete within and sweat and burn!

**JOGGING / WALKING**

Join the team from parkrun Australia as they give you a behind-the-scenes look at how they operate their events. See how this event has grown from one location in 2004 to over 700 in 2016. Participants will complete a 5km run or walk, but if you don’t want to get physical take up one of the volunteer roles and still experience and observe how a typical parkrun event is conducted.

**VENUE:** Meet in the Resort foyer

**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** Suitable for all levels of fitness – walking or jogging

**TENNIS**

Have a laugh whilst challenging your tennis skills as you go head to head to reign supreme. Short sharp tennis games, a bit like speed dating but with a tennis racquet and a killer forehand. Equipment supplied.

**VENUE:** Meet on the RACV Resort tennis courts

**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** Suitable for all levels of fitness

**GOLF PUTTING CHALLENGE**

Enjoy the glorious views over the course as you challenge each other on the putting green participating in fun filled challenges. Equipment supplied.

**VENUE:** Meet on the RACV Resort golf practice greens

**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** Suitable for all levels of skill
Conference Warm-Up

...... for those arriving early

drinks, canapés and movie

Tuesday 3 May
Arrive 7pm

Come and enjoy drinks and canapés followed by the showing of the movie, ‘Project Wild Thing’

Spring Creek Retreat Room
RACV Torquay Resort

Cost $30
Book for this event when you register for the Conference

Watch the movie trailer
PLA VIC/TAS REGION
AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE
DINNER
WEDNESDAY 4 MAY 2016

RACV TORQUAY RESORT
1 Great Ocean Road, Torquay
7pm - 11pm

The evening will showcase the most creative, sustainable and innovative projects with the announcement of the winners of the Awards of Excellence.

Host SAM LANE
An award winning journalist for The Age, Sam holds her own alongside some of Australia’s best known comics and sports commentators.

BOOK TICKETS
### PLA VIC/TAS REGION

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Register for all upcoming events on the PLA website

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 24 February</td>
<td>Sportground Management and Field Day</td>
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<td>Casey Fields, Cranbourne East</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 10 March</td>
<td>Increasing Role of IT and Social Media in the Sector</td>
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<td>CB Smith Sport and Education Facility, Fawkner</td>
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<td>Tuesday 12 April</td>
<td>Tennis Forum</td>
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<td>Mornington Tennis Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13 July</td>
<td>Leadership Program</td>
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<td>Wednesday 10 August</td>
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<td>Wednesday 14 September</td>
<td>Venue TBC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 20 July</td>
<td>Horticultural Seminar (in conjunction with BGANZ)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Venue TBC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Trusted partner of Local Government providing

GROUND & OPEN SPACE SERVICES

Management and Maintenance of:
- Turf and Lawns
- Sportsturf and Sporting Infrastructure
- Comprehensive Open Space and Grounds
- Outdoor Furniture and Park Assets
- Landscape Design and Construction
- Arboriculture Work and Vegetation Control
- Gardens and Landscapes
- Playgrounds
- Turf Renovations
- Watering Systems
- Horticulture Spraying Services

Urban Maintenance Systems is an established provider of maintenance services. Privately owned and proudly Australian, UMS has been partnering with Local Government for over 20 years.

ABSTRACTS

**WEDNESDAY 4TH**
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 4TH**
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

**Disused Tennis Courts Come Alive**

Abstract to be provided later

**WEDNESDAY 4TH**
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 4TH**
11.45-12.30
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

**Presenters**
Andrea Jackson
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 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 4TH**
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 will focus on the next 20 years. This investment, delivered with open space provision often just an afterthought of development, this presentation will focus on the next 20 years. 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.
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.

**ABSTRACTS**

**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 4TH**

1.15-2.00
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

**WEDNESDAY 4TH**

1.15-2.45
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 2

**SPORT FORUM**

**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 4TH**

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 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 4TH**

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.
ABSTRACTS

WEDNESDAY 4TH
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 4TH
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 4TH
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.

WEDNESDAY 4TH
3.50-4.30
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 4TH
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.
ABSTRACTS

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 5TH

9.30-10.15
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

Presenter
Darren Bennett
Banyule City Council
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 5TH

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 5TH

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 5TH

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 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 5TH

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.
Thursday 5™

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.

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

Thursday 5™

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 outcome of the Activities in the Park program. The program is being evaluated. The research will be undertaken 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™

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 proactively assist their clubs, maximise participation, community engagement and overall club sustainability, the task of supporting clubs, can be overwhelming.

Thursday 5™

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 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™

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.
ABSTRACTS

THURSDAY 5TH

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 lifespan.

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 5TH

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 5TH

1.00-1.45
GREAT OCEAN ROAD FACE TO FACE 2

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 5TH

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.

THURSDAY 5TH

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.
ABSTRACTS

THURSDAY 5th

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 Waurn 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 5th

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?

4.30-5.00
GREAT OCEAN ROAD BALLROOM 1

Workshop

Unpicking Nature Play

Facilitator
Mary Jeavons
Jeavons Landscape Architects

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.

Thursday 5th

3.00-3.45
GREAT OCEAN ROAD ZEALLY ROOM 1

Workshop

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A_SPACE

After more than 10,000 projects over 20+ years a_space (formerly A-Play) has evolved from being a leader in playgrounds, to also become the leader in outdoor gyms across Australia.

Proudly an Australian designer and manufacturer, a_space takes pride in their ability to collaborate with clients to create great outdoor spaces that bring a greater ‘buzz’ to communities, whilst delivering positive health outcomes.

Contact: John Oxlade
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Website: www.aspaceco.com.au

ANCO SEED & TURF

For almost 40 years Anco has been growing and supplying quality instant turf to Victoria’s councils, golf courses, racetracks, sports fields, landscapers and home gardeners. With farms located at Torquay and Cranbourne we are one of Australia’s largest growers of instant turf specialising in Sportsturf and contract growing for major projects.

Our turf is grown on fumigated sandy soils, ensuring the product is of the highest purity and weed free. Our expert staff can assist you in making the correct turf choice for your needs.

Our history in special projects is extensive and includes the Princess Park redevelopment, Flemington and Caulfield Racetracks, Huntingdale and Victoria Golf Clubs, Scotch College, Penleigh Essendon Grammar and Geelong College.

Contact: Bruce Stephens
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HG SPORTS TURF

HG Sports Turf is a global leader in the design and construction of elite, natural, synthetic, reinforced, and hybrid turf sports fields. Across Asia Pacific and the Middle East, our turf systems have staged some of the world’s most prestigious sporting events.

With current market demands for ‘Hybrid Grass Systems’, HG Sports Turf is well positioned to offer a range of bespoke options and a full turnkey solution to meet any client’s requirements. Constantly looking to innovate and committed to offering the very latest technology, HG Sports Turf partners with local and international companies to supply the most innovative and technologically advanced solutions in the market.

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DISABILITY SPORT & RECREATION

Disability Sports and Recreation is the health promoting peak organisation for the disability sport and recreation sector in Victoria. Our mission is to provide and promote positive health outcomes for Victorians with disability through participation in sport and recreation.

Contact: Richard Amon
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WILLPLAY

WillPlay designs and manufactures play and fitness equipment in Australia for Australian conditions. With extensive industry experience, we offer full-service playground solutions, including equipment, installation, and softfall surfacing. With a commitment to high quality, environmentally-friendly Australian made products, WillPlay offers exceptional play value and quality.

WillPlay offers a complete design and construct service in a wide variety of styles and materials. As part of our commitment to the environment, WillPlay’s products feature extensive use of post-consumer recycled HDPE panels, recycled timber/plastic composite panels, and Australian manufactured aluminium and stainless steel components.

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