

## Recreation and Reserves Committee 1960-1968

Dulce Castley

Prior to and during this period Taroona was a fast growing residential area but lacked so many amenities, and in particular recreational facilities. This aspect was of concern to many residents and to the then Kingborough Municipal Commission.

With a view to improving this situation the Commission suggested a committee be formed to act in an advisory capacity, the committee to consist of a chairman, secretary and representatives from each of ten local organisations and to be known as the Taroona Recreation and Reserves Committee.

Brigadier E.M. Dollery, Chairman of the Commission, attended the first meeting held in July 1960. Mr W.E. (Bill) McIndoe was appointed Chairman and Mr C. Coates as Secretary. Brigadier Dollery discussed the functions and usefulness of Recreation and Reserves Committees, gave details of Commission procedure in dealing with committee recommendations etc., and suggested that this committee not limit its activities only to recreation and reserves but to act as an advisory committee in all matters within the Taroona area.

As a member of the Taroona Bowls Club, it was as their representative that I became a member of this Committee.

During 1961 Mr Coates resigned as Secretary and I was appointed to this position. In 1963 Mr McIndoe retired as Chairman and this vacancy was filled by A.M.(Marc) Ashton, who was on the Committee representing the Ex-Servicemen's Club.

Committee meetings were held monthly at the homes of members, and inspections of reserves, foreshores etc., were undertaken on many Saturday mornings. Copies of minutes, including recommendations, were forwarded to the Commission following each meeting. Brigadier Dollery, and the Secretary, Mr M.G. Doyle, attended meetings from time to time and discussed matters of concern. With the completion of the Taroona Tennis Clubhouse in 1966, monthly meetings were transferred to that venue.

The organisations represented, some for only short periods, were the Bowls Club, Tennis Club, Scouts Association, C.W.A., Church Representatives, State Primary School Parents and Friends Association, Town Planning Committee, State High School Parents and Friends Association, Ex-Servicemen's Club and Rugby Union Club. The representatives also changed from time to time.

The following people served on the Committee during the eight years of its existence:

Mesdames D. Ireland, E. Lane, D. Hartley and Messrs. W. Shelley, C. Spradbury, R. Crawford, C. Volk. L. Bell, C.R. Kimber, R. Wisbey, G. Howard, S. Badcock, G. Debnam, B. Webb, D. Linton, D. Stranger.

By the end of 1968 the twenty members who had at various stages given time and expertise to this Advisory Committee, could see results. Some of these were: a bowling green with clubhouse and improved access roadway, tennis courts with clubhouse, practise wall and car park, gravelled area and improved access to scouts hall, lights installed and roads upgraded in Taroona Park, toilet facilities, barbecue areas, picnic tables, launching ramp etc. at Taroona Beach, playing areas levelled and fenced, trees planted in streets and on reserves, removal of rubbish dumps, placing of boundary markers on reserves and many other improvements to areas from Oakleigh Reserve at the Town Boundary to the foreshore at Taronga.

