



**MAGNETIC  
ISLAND  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
ASSOCIATION**

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ABN: 88 303 909 978

Incorporated Association: 11505

**President's Report**

29<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Let me share a recent experience at the ANZAC Day Dawn Service in Alma Bay.

Getting out of bed early, standing in the dark with cyclone winds and very heavy rain that turned my umbrella inside out and soaked me to the skin was not great. I felt like walking away and going home. Then I thought of the people at war and what they experienced. This made me determined to stay, weather the storm, and represent MICDA.

After, I had a hot shower and watched a movie called Kokoda. Emotionally moved, I thought about the values demonstrated at Kokoda, our community efforts through MICDA and some Facebook comments at the time. There is a sign erect halfway along the track where the intense fighting took place.

The sign said – ***Sacrifice, Endurance, Mateship and Courage.***

MICDA has taken a partnership approach to building relationships and engagement across the whole community and with key stakeholders. This approach appears to be having success. At the last MICDA AGM in 2020, the President's report started with **Wow! What a year.** Well, what can I say but - **WOW & WOW! What a couple of years in 2020-21.** There was no AGM 2021 due to Covid. So, this AGM is catching up.

Please see the diagram circulated. It provides an overview of the roles/activities that MICDA engages with our community. You will shortly hear more on these great activities from various working groups.

(Les discusses the diagram)

The diagram resulted from attempts to structure our new website – [micda.com.au](http://micda.com.au). We have been trying to develop a new web site for last couple of years with limited resources and we couldn't get a grant to help us. However, we are finally there.

A THANK YOU to Sara Shaw for the blood, sweat and tears in making a great web site as well as her ongoing efforts in communicating through our Facebook Page, regular Newsletters to members and Community Workshops, etc.

I would also like to acknowledge the incredible efforts of the MICDA members, Working Group Coordinators and the MICDA Management Team. THANK YOU.

I would like to note a very special mention of our Treasurer, who has shown extraordinary efforts in her contribution to MICDA through managing grants totalling over \$600, 000 in 2021 as well as employees, projects, payments, and reporting. THANK YOU.



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MICDA has one life member – Lorna Hempstead who is now living in France. She still stays involved and regular contact. The Management Team would like to announce that MICDA now has two life members. For services to infinity and beyond please join us in congratulating **Tania Thoreau**.

Volunteering in the Community can be absolutely uplifting and absolutely demoralising sometimes. Recently, we were all working so hard in MICDA on many activities as well as developing an informative and transparent web site, when 2-3 people in our community started to question MICDA and its members' values, ethics, and activities.

There is nothing wrong with asking questions and requesting more information. That is what I would call a focus on the "What" or the "Matter". However, it also comes with a responsibility to focus on the "How" or the "Manner". What their beliefs and agendas are as well as their lack of willingness to engage in a respectful manner is still not transparent to our community.

I am absolutely uplifted and congratulate our community and key stakeholders on how they demonstrated great values by rallying in various ways to support MICDA, the members and our efforts.

A BIG - THANK YOU Community.

The Community knows that by volunteering it requires:

***Sacrifice, Endurance, Mateship and Courage. If not YOU, Who?***

Thank You.

Les Sampson  
President MICDA