

Chairman's Message



I have pleasure in presenting the Committee for Geelong's 2006 Annual Report.

First, I would like to thank all our members for their continued participation and commitment. We are privileged to have a diverse and multi-talented membership base of business and community leaders, giving us an outstanding foundation to act as Geelong's leading think tank and lobby group.

The Committee for Geelong's goal has always been to make a real impact on the development of the region. And while we are pleased to be able to claim success on this count, we remain committed to maintaining incremental improvements.

To achieve our long-range goals we must forge strong relationships with all three levels of government - continuing to ask questions and deliver relevant and credible arguments for the advancement of the Geelong region.

The past year has been marked by many highlights including the Deakin Medical School success, the TAC headquarters siting, the launch of the Edgewater apartments and securing Eugene von Guérard's painting 'View of Geelong'. The challenges ahead lie in securing sustainable water supplies, developing Avalon Airport, delivering major projects, strategic planning, the next stage of Deakin University's development, realising the inventory of major infrastructure and supporting our growth aspirations. A big list, but by no means unachievable.

Election years are always significant for the Committee for Geelong, providing an opportunity to push forward our ideas and aspirations. While politicians usually listen, they appear to be more attentive in an election year, so timing is everything.

In 2006 we again had the opportunity to discuss our leading issues with Prime Minister John Howard. There followed an invitation to attend a briefing with Mr Howard's senior advisor in Canberra where we discussed major projects including water recycling, port facilities, roads and Skilled Stadium. The meetings provided the perfect platform from which to launch our 2007 Federal Government lobbying campaign.

Government relations often require that an intermediary carry a region's message on the community's behalf. In the case of Geelong, this job often falls to the Committee for Geelong and we are more than happy to accept the challenge.

We look forward to working with each of you to advance our vision for Geelong in the year ahead. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Board Members for their dedication and the Task Force Chairs and Executive Staff for their enthusiasm to the task and cause.

I commend this report to you.

Dr Jim Cousins AO, Chairman

EXECUTIVE and BOARD 2006

Mr	Jim Cousins, AO	Chairman	<i>(Chairman)</i>	Melbourne Recital Centre
Mr	Nicholas Carr	Managing Director	<i>(Deputy-Chairman)</i>	Harwood Andrews Lawyers
Mrs	Helene Bender, OAM	Director	<i>(Treasurer)</i>	Travelworld - Newtown
Mr	Peter Dorling	Executive Director	<i>(Secretary)</i>	Committee for Geelong
Mr	David Alexander	Director		Geelong City Motors
Mr	Michael Betts	Managing Director		Betts Williams Group
Mr	Shane Breheny	Chief Executive Officer		CitiPower Pty & Powercor Australia Ltd
Mr	Ed Coppe	Principal		Strategic Management Investment
Ms	Claire Higgins	Chairman		Barwon Health
Mr	Michael King	Managing Director		King's Australia
Mr	John Loughnan	Managing Director		The Communicators
Mr	Richard Marles	Assistant Secretary		Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU)
Cr	Peter McMullin	Mayor		City of Greater Geelong
Mr	Bryce Nielsen	General Manager		K-Rock / Bay FM
Ms	Michelle Plane	Chief Executive Officer		St Laurence Community Services
Dr	Huck Poh	General Manager, Geelong Refinery		The Shell Company of Australia Limited
Mr	Kevin Roache	Director		Bendigo Bank Ltd
Ms	Kay Rundle	Chief Executive Officer		City of Greater Geelong
Mr	Grant Sutherland	Director/Chief Executive Officer		Gordon Institute of TAFE
Ms	Bernadette Uzelac	Managing Director		People @ Work
Mr	Stephen Vaughan	Chairperson		Barwon Water
Prof	Sally Walker	Vice-Chancellor & President		Deakin University
Mr	Paul Whelan	Chief Executive Officer		GMHBA

Executive Director's Report – A Year in Review



USA Connections

In May I joined Committee for Geelong Deputy Chair, Nicholas Carr, on a trip to the USA to visit successful cities and projects that could be replicated in our region.

Central to our itinerary was a visit to Norfolk, Virginia, on the American east coast to observe the Norfolk Downtown Council. This city has undergone tremendous change in the last 10 years and like Geelong is carrying out some extensive streetscape works. What we found was a mature and strategically focused community that understands its position in the American hierarchy and is delivering on its long-range strategic plan. Strong, consistent and brave leadership was a standout characteristic of the city.

The Committee for Geelong has invited the Executive Director of Downtown Norfolk Council, Cathy Coleman, to visit Geelong in March 2007. Cathy will be available to talk to a number of groups and organisations in Geelong about city development in the USA.

Lobbying

Influencing government policy and lobbying for our region are core activities of the Committee for Geelong. The state election made 2006 a big year for us, with the 2007 federal election shaping up to be just as important.

The Committee articulated its Top Ten issues to both the Victorian Government and State Opposition during the state election lead-up. A 'Top Ten' will also be presented in the federal arena in February and March. To assist with our efforts the Committee for Geelong has engaged the services of a professional lobbyist.

Leadership

Initiated by the Committee for Geelong, the Leaders for Geelong Program was officially launched by the Governor of Victoria, Professor David de Kretser AC, in May.

Twenty-four participants are now working through a busy two-year program designed to nurture aspiring community leaders for our city. The idea of fostering community leadership is not new, however this program provides a professional platform structured to challenge aspiring leaders.

Discussion on key issues affecting Geelong now and into the future is central to the first year of the program. In the second year participants apply their knowledge to grassroots research in a more detailed analysis of a Geelong-centric issue.

The next intake for the program commences in the first half of 2007.

Special thanks goes to Program Co-ordinator Jean Paul for her enthusiasm, skill and dedication in fostering and delivering this great program.

Geelong Play Space

Situated in the beautiful Eastern Gardens, Geelong Play Space was officially opened in April. With thousands of families having used the Play Space, it has been a key driver in regenerating interest in that section of Eastern Park and the Botanic Gardens.

The brainchild of the Committee for Geelong, the Play Space has attracted national attention, receiving several awards for its design, ambience, functionality and user-friendly appeal.

The Committee for Geelong sincerely thanks every person and organisation that helped in making this dream a reality.

Water

Water sits at the top of the Committee for Geelong's list of key priorities in 2007.

Understanding that the resource is critical for the growth potential of this great city, the Committee has, since its inception, been relentless in its push to secure reliable water supplies for our region.

From innovative recycling schemes to large-scale inter-connections, the Committee has advocated, lobbied and supported Geelong's case.

Water is now on the critical, 'must solve' agenda. And while the situation is desperate, it is often at times such as these that people produce their best results. Hard decisions need to be made and new schemes delivered, with the Committee planning a continual push to turn this crisis into a positive outcome.

Regional Planning

Having been intimately involved in the creation of G21, the Geelong Regional Alliance, the Committee for Geelong has a keen interest in the formation of its Regional Plan – a key task of the group.

In our view it is vital that the plan be long ranging, innovative and implementable. A rehash of what we already know is of no value. A plan that clearly articulates the region's intentions in terms of population growth, business development, environment protection and infrastructure requirements is the goal.

The plan should also easily convert into actions, with the macro planning directions transcribed into municipal strategic statements. This regional plan was commissioned to lead the way and therefore by definition must be bold and brave.

The Network

The Committee continued to strengthen its national and international ties in 2006 and formal alliances are now in place with the 'sister' Committees of Melbourne, Ballarat and Werribee. We are also fostering a working relationship with the newly initiated Committee for Perth.

The Committee for Geelong maintains strong relationships with the Committee for Economic Development of Australia and the Property Council - Australia. Both these organisations have been instrumental in delivering the Geelong message to the national market.

The USA was the target of our international foray in 2006, the highlight being an invitation to attend the AGM and Strategic Planning Session of the Committee for Economic Development America in New York.

Looking Forward

The Executive and Board of the Committee for Geelong are dedicated to their task, believing that this organisation can - and does - make a difference.

Its combined membership cannot be ignored at any level with the Committee the envy of many cities that struggle to harness their movers and shakers. We are proud to have achieved that status and to have it noticed at the highest levels of government. From the Prime Minister of Australia to the Victorian Premier, we are getting the Geelong message across.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Chairman, Jim Cousins, for his continued and relentless commitment to the Committee for Geelong as well as the Committee's Executive and Board. I would also like to thank my Personal Assistant Mary Schofield for her dedication, often beyond the call of duty.

To truly reach its potential the Committee for Geelong must act as a think tank, attempt to influence policy and harness new ideas – we need knowledge and information. We achieve this with a robust speaker/briefing program. Some of the sessions held in 2006 included:

April	Play Space Launch Jenny Wallis (Director, HK Economic & Trade Office, Sydney)	- Hon. Michael Ronaldson, Hon Justin Madden, members and guests - Members and guests
May	Leaders for Geelong Launch "An Afternoon at 13 th Beach Golf Links"	- Prof. David de Kretser, Mrs de Kretser, members and guests - Members and guests
	CEDA "State of the Nation" Conference	- Lobbying opportunities
June	Bryan Moulds (ED, Property Council – SA Division)	- Member briefing
July	John Gardiner (CEO ConnectEast)	- Member and guest briefing
September	Committee for Geelong/GPAC Breakfast	- Harold Mitchell, members and guests
October	Kate Sullivan (Director, Urban Planning - CoGG)	- Member Briefing
November	Edgewater 'Turning of the Soil' Launch The Hon Greg Hunt MP (Federal Member for Flinders)	- Member and guests luncheon - Water and Environmental issues
December	Prof. Sally Walker (Vice-Chancellor, Deakin University)	- Guest speaker at 2006 Annual Dinner
	AGM/Christmas Drinks	- Members and guests

In 2006 the Committee for Geelong took on a number of new members. We welcome them to our network:

Ken Jarvis	- Aerolite Quarries Pty Ltd
Terry Powell	- 2significance
Paul O'Connor	- Transport Accident Commission
Patricia Scheltus	- SingTel Optus Pty Ltd
Craig Bremner	- Lake Imaging
Graeme Hoy	- Chartwell Enterprises



L to R: **Jim Cousins** Chairman Committee for Geelong, **The Hon. Greg Hunt** Federal Member for Flinders and **John Anderson** Director Anseed Pty Ltd



MISSION

"Working together for a better future for the Geelong region"

L to R: **Alison McKean** Marketing Manager 13th Beach Golf Links, **Allison Murphy** Director Redstick Strategic Communications and **Kate Scaddan** Marketing Manager United Way enjoy the 2006 Committee for Geelong Annual Dinner (Photograph courtesy of Geelong Advertiser)

Committee for Geelong ANNUAL REPORT 2006



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 Chairman: **Jim Cousins, AO**
 Executive Director: **Peter Dorling**
 Executive Assistant: **Mary Schofield**

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2006

2005 \$		\$	\$	\$
	MEMBERS' FUNDS			
	<u>Reserves</u>			
206,917	Accumulated Profit			198,847
	Represented by:			
	PROPERTY PLANT AND EQUIPMENT			
	Office Equipment – at cost	8,240		
	Less Prov'n for Depreciation	395		
				7,845
	CURRENT ASSETS			
100	Petty Cash		100	
	Cash at Bank			
18,411	- Commonwealth Bank	29,477		
618	- Bendigo Bank	-		
	- CBA Leadership Program	65,736		
19,029			95,213	
	Interest Bearing Deposits			
249,720	- Bendigo Bank	233,103		
202,690	- BBL Playground Trust TD	-		
452,410			233,103	
471,539				328,416
471,539	TOTAL ASSETS			336,261
	CURRENT LIABILITIES			
2,504	Trade Creditors		5,595	
35,968	Other Creditors		34,744	
4,242	Net GST Liability		9,118	
202,690	Project Reserves		68,740	
19,218	Prov'n for Staff Entitlements		19,217	
264,622				137,414
206,917	NET ASSETS			198,847

Statement of Financial Performance for the Year Ended 30 June 2006

2005 \$		\$	\$	\$
	INCOME			
11,578	Interest Received		12,962	
24,390	Function Recoupments		13,912	
-	Leadership Program - Income		70,000	
43,700	Project Contributions			
466,927	Subscriptions		521,980	
26	Sundry Income		1,438	
546,621	TOTAL INCOME			620,292
	EXPENSES			
8,683	Advertising & Promotion		15,204	
494	Bank Charges		294	
3,000	Computer Software/Maintenance		3,000	
-	Depreciation		395	
2,517	Fringe Benefits Tax		2,379	
36,751	Functions		36,654	
6,933	General Expenses		9,570	
10,000	Equipment & Furniture Hire		14,000	
	Insurance:			
5,340	- Workcover	4,649		
3,167	- General	3,161		
8,507			7,810	
28,494	Lease Charges Motor Vehicle		11,890	
-	Leadership Program - Expenses		63,186	
3,906	Motor Vehicle Expenses		4,575	
18,728	Meeting Expenses		20,105	
3,382	Office Expenses		2,585	
5,270	Professional Fees (Financial)		6,330	
6,306	Printing & Stationery		7,702	
70,000	Media Promotions		70,000	
44,164	Playground Project		2,861	
5,000	Rent		6,000	
37,113	Research & Strategic Planning		44,980	
-	Project Development		50,000	
165,058	Salaries, Wages & Oncosts		164,649	
217	Staff Amenities		127	
3,021	Staff Training		2,246	
7,326	Subscriptions		7,990	
45,339	Super (incl. Employee Contributions)		45,947	
2,073	Telephone		2,985	
3,067	Temporary Staff		5,511	
12,344	Travel and Accommodation		19,388	
537,693	TOTAL EXPENSES			628,363
8,928	Operating Profit/Loss and Extraordinary Items			-8,071
197,989	Retained Profits at July 1			206,918
206,917	Profit Available for Appropriation			198,847
206,917	Retained Profits			198,847