

# Annual General Meeting

Celebrating 70 years of protecting nature together

You are warmly invited to attend our 70th AGM, with guest speaker Dr Don Garden, followed by a presentation from Matt Ruchel, Executive Director, and Caitlin Griffith, Manager – Community Learning and Engagement.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, 11 October 2022

**TIME:** 6.00pm for pre-meeting drinks and canapés

**WHERE:** Melbourne City Conference Centre, 190 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, 3000.

**RSVP:** Essential. Please confirm attendance by Tuesday, 4 October.  
Email [vnpa@vnpa.org.au](mailto:vnpa@vnpa.org.au) or phone 03 9341 6500.  
Please indicate whether you will attend in person or online and any dietary requirements.

If you are unable to attend the AGM in person, you can join online via Zoom from 6.50pm.  
Visit [vnpa.org.au/agm-2022](http://vnpa.org.au/agm-2022) for more information.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Dr Don Garden OAM FFAHS FRHSV  
Associate Professor, University of Melbourne.

## PRESENTATION: Conservation Journeys – History of the Victorian National Parks Association

Associate Professor Don Garden is the Immediate Past President of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies and the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, and a former member of the Australian Heritage Council. He served on the Council of the Australian Conservation Foundation and is a life member of the National Trust (Victoria), and is active in community history organisations.

Dr Garden taught History and Environmental History at the University of Melbourne and has written 17 books, including an environmental history of Australia and the Pacific and a history of El Niño events in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific. In 2016 he received the Medal of the Order of Australia for

service to community history and heritage preservation organisations.

Don is a loyal member of the Victorian National Parks Association and author of *Conservation Journeys – a short history of the Victorian National Parks Association*. In 2012 he completed four chapters covering 1952 – 1992. Don is generously volunteering his time to write the next instalment from 1993 – 2010, to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Victorian National Parks Association.



## PRESENTATION: Protecting nature together

- Matt Ruchel, Executive Director will update us on the progress made for nature and parks over the past year.
- Caitlin Griffith, Manager - Community Learning and Engagement will share how our community has been enjoying, learning about, and protecting nature.



Little Penguins are found in French Island Marine National Park, one of the 24 marine parks and sanctuaries established in 2002 after an 11-year campaign. Photo: Wikimedia Commons

## 70<sup>th</sup> AGM agenda

- 6.00pm** Pre-meeting drinks and canapés
- 7.00pm**
- Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country, Dr Bruce McGregor, VNPA President
  - Guest speaker: Dr Don Garden – *Conservation Journeys*
  - Presentation: *Protecting nature together*
    - Matt Ruchel, Executive Director
    - Caitlin Griffith, Manager - Community Learning and Engagement
- 8.00pm** **AGM, Chaired by Dr Bruce McGregor, President**
1. President's welcome and introduction
  2. Confirmation of the minutes of the 69th AGM
  3. Adoption of the 2021-22 Annual Report
  4. Adoption of the audited 2021-22 Annual Financial Statements\*
  5. Appointment of the Auditor
  6. Election of Council (see Agenda item 6, detail below)
  7. Awarding of Honorary Life Memberships
  8. Other business
- 8.45pm** Meeting close

\*The full audited financial statements will be available at [vnpa.org.au/agm-2022](http://vnpa.org.au/agm-2022)

### AGENDA ITEM 6 – ELECTION OF COUNCIL

Following the calling for nominations for Council, the following nominations were received:

- President – One nomination received: David Nugent
- Vice President – One nomination received: Lara Bickford
- Treasurer – One nomination received: Marilynne Crestias
- Secretary – One nomination received: Doug Robinson
- Councillors (up to 8 positions) – Jan Hendrik Brueggemeier, Michael Feller, Chris Harvey, Dianne Marshall, Bruce McGregor, Gerard McPhee, Askin Morrison and Michael Young.

Note: Clause 9 (1) of the constitution states: At the Annual General Meeting there shall be elected a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer (the "officers"), and up to eight (8) others (the "members") who shall form the Council of the Association for the ensuing year.

The Victorian National Parks Association acknowledges the many First Peoples of the area now known as Victoria, honours their continuing connection to, and caring for, Country, and supports Traditional Owner joint-management of parks and public land for conservation of natural and cultural heritage.

Our office is located on traditional land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We offer our respect to Elders past, present and future.