

**Electoral structure review - Mornington Peninsula Shire Council - Response Submission  
Terry Wright - Capel Sound - 15 November 2023, 11:54 am**

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**From:** Terry Wright [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2023 11:54 AM  
**To:** Mornington Peninsula Submissions 2023  
**Subject:** Mornington Peninsula Council - Ward Review  
**Attachments:** LocalGovernment-VEC Redefinition of Wards-2023-Submission.pdf

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Dear Review Team

Thanks for the opportunity to contribute to this review. My response is attached.

[REDACTED]

All the best

Terry Wright  
[REDACTED]

## The case for Ward Name ‘Capel Sound’

This submission makes the case for the use of the name ‘**Capel Sound**’ for the proposed Ward stretching along the bay coast from Rye to Rosebud or, alternatively, to adopt the indigenous name ‘**Gunawarra**’ (meaning black swan)

### The name CAPEL SOUND

#### What is a ‘sound’

A ‘sound’ is a body of water sheltered from rip currents or ocean swell. It is a place where ships can lie reasonably safely at anchor without dragging while riding out a storm or waiting their turn to enter a port of call.

#### About ‘Capel Sound’

‘Capel Sound’ lies close to the shoreline at the southern end of Port Phillip Bay adjacent to the current townships of Rye, Tootgarook, Capel Sound and (to a lesser degree) Rosebud as depicted on this marine map.



It was charted and named during the first marine survey of the Bay in 1836 by HMS Rattlesnake and was named after Thomas Bladen Capel who, at that time was Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Navy’s Far East Squadron - seems a case of seeking favour with the big boss.

#### Its Significance to the Southern Peninsula

Due to its significance as an important natural marine feature of the southern peninsula, since its charting and naming in 1836 the name has been adopted for many public and private places, facilities and institutions. As a sample of the public bodies:

Year	Feature
1840s	The earliest known reference to Capel Sound as a land locality was in the 1840s when it was used to describe a position ‘seven miles from Arthur’s Seat and ‘a little to the south of what used to be called the Big Swamp’ (the Tootgarook Swamp that stretched from near the then base of Arthur’s Seat).
1950s	Following a subdivision of what was known as ‘Leisureland’ in what is now the Capel Sound Capel Shopping Village, a new road was named ‘Capel Avenue’.
1998	When the crown foreshore reserves of Rosebud West and Tootgarook were amalgamated by the Victorian Government the new reserves were named the ‘Capel Sound Foreshores’.
2008	The Rosebud West shopping village was renamed by Shire as the Capel Sound Shopping Village.

2016	The township of Rosebud West was renamed by the Victorian Government as Capel Sound.
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There are also many private businesses along the length of this section of the southern peninsula that have adopted the name.

#### WHY THE NAME 'CAPEL SOUND' SHOULD BE PRESERVED

Capel Sound is considered the best of the three proposed options in the Models 1, 2 and 3 for the following reasons:

- **The use of 'Rosebud Ward'** (Model 1). This does not represent a natural iconic feature and it is unlikely most people along the length of the proposed ward would easily relate or have any affection for it as a Ward name. Most of the Ward names proposed under the models are those of well-known and features highly valued by the public (eg. 'Seawinds', 'Briars', 'Nepean', 'Seawinds' and 'Tanti Creek'). As the various Wards proposed overlap many different localities, this would seem to represent a better naming practice and would preclude the name of 'Rosebud'.
- **The use of 'Truemans Ward'** (Model 2) does not represent any natural feature, is not well-know and is confined to a very small area.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Please note that this submission is not an attempt to select a Ward name based on the township of Capel Sound but one based on the iconic marine feature after which the township of Capel Sound Capel was renamed.

#### An Alternative (Indigenous) Ward Name?

The entire coastline forming the northern border of the proposed Ward features shallow water and seagrass that attracts hundreds (even thousands) of black swans to feed on the seagrass all year round.



In the language of the local Bunurong people the name '**Gunawarra**' might be apt. This is the name for the 'Black Swan'.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide input to this re-structuring of the Wards. Please note that this submission is made as an individual resident and not on behalf of any organisation.

All the best

Terry Wright

[REDACTED] Capel Sound 3940 [REDACTED]