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| November 21, 2020 |  |

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT – 2020**

RHCA has continued to play an important role in representing its members and the community in a range of issues and has been involved with key groups, the Red Hill Ward Cr David Gill and the Residents Associations Meetings (RAM), Mornington Peninsula Shire (MPS) officers, and local Landcare groups.

**AGM**

The Shire’s CEO was invited to our last AGM in October 2019 and talked about his experiences in his first 12 months in the role and his plans for the year ahead.

Cr David Gill attended and a lively discussion was held about the controversial Rural Living Rate (2020/21 budget) that was introduced for over 700 GWZ properties of less than 2 hectares (the RLR has subsequently been withdrawn in the 2021/22 MPS budget)

Amazingly in the “pandemic period” of early 2020 we started out with an activity that has now been banished:

**Bunnings Barbecue**

We supplied hundreds of Bunnings Rosebud shoppers with delightful snags and soft drinks on July 13, 2019. A key fund raiser for RHCA that raised just over $1,400. A lot of organisation is involved and many thanks to John Eldridge for his part and to the willing helpers.

**Community BBQ**

Just before the incredible changes inflicted upon us by the Corona virus, we were able to hold our Community BBQ.

With the financial support of the Shire, RHCA organised and conducted the “community building” bbq on January 25, 2019 in our community park. More than 200 adults and children enjoyed the feast and special thanks to the 1st Red Hill Scouts for their chef-work and music by Carissa Watts. Aussie Wildlife Displays were able to show some wonderful fauna that fascinated children and adults. The Red Hill Fire Brigade crew and truck came along which is always great – so thanks to them.

Again, this year a real feature was a walk and talk with local Aboriginal guide, Lionel Lauch through the adjacent bushland reserve followed by a didgeridoo meditation session in the Red Hill Bike Skills park for two separate groups. Special thanks to Kerry Watson for obtaining the funding and organising the whole show – brilliant!

Hopefully the barbecues will be out again in 2021.

**Red Hill Station Platform and Shelter**

Creation of the former Red Hill station platform and an interpretive shelter with characteristics of the original shelter was held up for the most of 2019/20 and the target completion of June 30, 2020 became impossible due to the Shire’s inactivity during the Covid-19 restraints and allocation of resources to other Shire work.

The platform has been partially created on the site but the shelter is still in its engineering and tender stage.

Funding from the Shire was raised to $150,000 due to the added costs associated with the Shire’s “processes” that took over the project from RHCA. Completion by June 2021 is now the new target.

**War Memorial**

The services for Remembrance Day 2019 was well attended even though it was a Monday.

However, by ANZAC Day 2020 the contrast was amazing. The Covid 19 lockdown for Melbourne applied equally to the Mornington Peninsula and so a service could not be help for the usual 150 or so attendees. Instead we held a service with an introduction, The Last Post, minute’s silence and Rouse and we are grateful to Anthony Pope for his wonderful bugle playing. The presentation enabled the good people of Red Hill to listen to the sounds from their driveway or veranda and a video was made for our Facebook page. The service was equally poignant but missed the loyal participants.

These services are important not only for the remembrance and acknowledgement of the service men and women of Red Hill and Main Ridge but also for all the men and women of Australia that served and the families.

**RAM**

Cr David Gill arranged a couple of RAM (Residents Association Meeting) which enabled each of the Red Hill Ward associations to present any issues and for them to gain information from Shire officers and for the Shire officers to get feedback from the attendees.

Unfortunately, the Covid-19 restraints brought an end to these gatherings for 2019/20.

**Traffic Management**

The traffic study was completed by OneMileGrid and RHCA contributed extensively to the consultant. The “consultation” process by this firm was lacking.

Despite the concerns expressed by RHCA and locals and the parents that drop off and pick up students the situation with traffic in the area around Red Hill Consolidated School.the issue has not been rectified at all.

The only outcome was that the Shire will adopt the OneMileGrid recommendation for a pedestrian crossing with a safety island on Arthurs Seat Rd near the entrance into the RH Recreation Reserve.

**NBN**

There is activity with erection of new transmission tower in the area (near the Red Hill Brewery) so residents can expect “fixed wireless” NBN in 2021.

**Track Safety**

RHCA has reported to MPS Infrastructure two sections of unsafe walking track:

1. Parts of the Arthurs Seat Rd walking/cycling track and particularly the section between Mechanics Road and Shoreham Road
2. The track at the rear of Centrepoint

Improvements have yet to be carried out.

**Exposure**

RHCA’s website at [www.redhillcommunityassociation.com](about:blank) has been kept up-to-date by Kerry Watson and it enables our members and the public know about our purpose, committee, our activities and issues along with past Newsletters. Articles were submitted to the Lions publication “Hill n Ridge”.

We have a Facebook page and notice boards near the post office and near the shops opposite the school.

**Membership**

With the Covid-19 situation there was reason for pre-occupation in 2020 and membership was down from last year from 65 to 44 members.

**Thanks**

Committee members dedicate a lot of time to support the interests of the members and the community with their attendances at meetings, communications with MPs, Councillors and Shire officers, reviewing Planning Applications as well as communicating with our members and contacts.

The committee of Kerry Watson, Hannah Stuart-Andrews, Roger Stuart-Andrews, John Eldridge and Bruce Kiloh has contributed greatly to the running of RHCA and I sincerely thank them for their efforts.

On behalf the committee I wish to thank all the members who fronted up to our committee meetings and for their ongoing support of RHCA. I encourage members to keep up their involvement, find new members and even to join the committee.

David Maddocks

President