



## Message from the President

It has been a wonderful year of achievements with dedicated efforts in finalising the Red Hill Community Park and war memorial. In the coming year RHCA will focus on five key issues.

With phase I of the Red Hill Station Reserve Master Plan complete, attention will now be directed to implementation of the second and final phase of the Master Plan. This includes the historic station platform and engine turntable area and improvement to the Red Hill-Merricks Rail Trail.

We have already made a submission for this in the MP Shire budget along with a submission for a traffic management study which is becoming a more critical issue around the Red Hill South shopping district, the Red Hill Consolidate School and market days

We will be campaigning to ensure the MP Shire Coastal Towns Strategy, formerly the Coastal Villages Study, to guide development works in the area, gets underway after many years. Red Hill has been nominated as one of three pilot studies and consultations are expected to commence in the first quarter of 2017, all going well.

With summer upon us, Fire safety and fuel reduction programs along roadside verges in the residential areas will be a priority to ensure asset protection. Community based activities will continue to be part of our work

with the Australia Day barbeque, sausage sizzle fundraising and war memorial events.

Our work is not limited to these issues and we welcome your views and comment. We want to help residents stay informed about all matters affecting the community. Your support and membership of the association is very important in terms of participation and influence. So please let your friends and neighbours know of our good work.

Lastly, I'd like to wish you and your families and safe and enjoyable festive season.

Mark Stirling  
President

## New look committee

There is a host of fresh new faces leading RHCA.

Elected at the November AGM are Mark Stirling as the new president and Kerry Watson as vice president. David Maddocks has taken on the role of treasurer and new committee member Lee Burton was welcomed as the secretary. Joining them on the committee are John Eldridge, Carolyn Massola, Tom Orr and Melissa Goffin.

We thank outgoing president David Maddocks for his many dedicated years of leadership, and the former secretary Carolyn

Massola. Retiring are former treasurer Jenny McIlroy and committee member Felicity Jackson and we thank them for their incredible efforts over the years. We will miss you!

## Free Community BBQ

All welcome!

**Saturday 28 January**

(Australia Day weekend)

**12noon – 3.30pm**

**Red Hill Community Park,  
Corner Shoreham and Point  
Leo Roads, Red Hill**

Hosted by the Red Hill Community Association and generously supported by the Mornington Peninsula Shire

## Free Community Barbeque

You're invited to a free community barbeque this coming Australia Day weekend in 2017. It's a great opportunity to come along, have fun and meet other residents. There'll be free barbeque foods, soft drinks, live music and children's activities. The event has been made possible thanks to a MP Shire Triennial Community Grants Program. Funding was secured for 2017 through to 2019 and builds on the successful opening event held early this year. We look forward to seeing you there from 12 noon!

## Change in membership dues

We've decided to align our yearly membership with the financial year, just to make it easier all round.

That's means memberships due on this coming 1 January will take you through to 30 June 2018.

That's 18 months membership for just \$40.00. It's great value!

Full details are available on the website at

[www.redhillcommunityassociation.com](http://www.redhillcommunityassociation.com)

Invoices will be sent to all current members and our mailing list reflecting the changes in early January.

## Green Wedge

An issue that is of great interest and concern is the matter of Green Wedge Zone (GWZ) statutory requirements being eroded. Described by one associate as "death by 1,000 cuts".

As early as 2009 a VCAT decision was made in favour of Treasury Wine Estates Ltd, the owner of T'Gallant Winery, Main Ridge for the operation to host 150 patrons at the restaurant and 40 patrons at the cellar door. The GWZ regulations allowed for these numbers to be present provided the land area was greater than 40Ha. In fact the T'Gallant property was approximately 16Ha.

Since that time there has been similar evasion of the GWZ requirements or incursions into the GWZ by tourist-based developments. The RACV development at Cape Schank is an example of the evasion of GWZ requirements and the

proposed development at Moonah Links rests on the precedent. There are numerable cases where the GWZ requirements have been set aside and the numbers are gathering pace annually. The latest being for a hotel/winery combination allowing for 280 patrons on a 18Ha site.

The concern to the RHCA's committee is that this trend will continue unless the Shire becomes more determined to protect the GWZ which is such a primary asset of the Mornington Peninsula. Our GWZ is a great asset of all residents, of the state and valuable to all visitors. With each slice of erosion or incursion there will be a precedent for the future. RHCA will work hard in this issue.

## Keep Victoria Beautiful Award

The Red Hill Community Park won state-wide recognition in the Protection of the Environment Category at the annual Tidy Towns, Keep Victoria Beautiful Awards.

The Community Park is part of the Red Hill Station Reserve project and includes a high-quality nature-based 'playspace', BBQ and picnic area, bike park, walking paths and extensive planting of more than 2,000 indigenous species of trees, shrubs and ground covers. It is located on the corner of Shoreham and Point Leo Roads and was officially opened in January 2016.

***RHCA – giving a voice to the Red Hill and Red Hill South communities***

## 2015-16 Year in Review

Read the RHCA President's Report for 2015-16, prepared by David Maddocks, for the year in review on our website at [www.redhillcommunityassociation.com](http://www.redhillcommunityassociation.com)



## Welcome to our new councillor

Cr David Gill was elected as the Red Hill Ward councillor at the November Local Government elections.

David was previously a Mornington Shire councillor in his twenties and has experience and knowledge that will stand him in good stead. He is involved in local community associations and has a strong interest in ensuring developments are in keeping with the character of our villages and the region. He's also expressed strong views about accountability, roads and council expenditure. We look forward to working with him.

Former Cr Tim Wood did not seek re-election after representing the Ward for the past two and a half years. We thank him for his support and wish him well.