

RHYLL REPORTER

RCA Meeting

The Rhyll Community Association **Meeting** will be held at 10am
Saturday 15th March 2025
Rhyll Mechanics Hall
All residents welcome

Residents Afternoon Tea

The scheduled **RCA Afternoon Teas** will be held at the **Rhyll Hall** at 2pm on the following date
Thursday 6th March 2025
Everyone is welcome

Anyone Going to Adelaide?

We have a resident who requires a small package to be delivered to anywhere near Adelaide. They will arrange a suitable collection place.

Please contact Andrew if you can help andrew@marston.com.au

Phone: 0448 999138



FIRE!



Don't Think It Will Happen Here? (think again)

The Rhyll Community Association will be holding a **VERY IMPORTANT** meeting on Saturday 15th March at 10am at the Rhyll Hall.

After the recent tragic fires in Los Angeles, some of which were bordering on the ocean, it is a lesson for all to take heed.

What would you do if a rampaging bushfire was approaching Rhyll? We only have two roads out, and in heavy smoke which one do you pick? How can you protect your home? Well, you're about to find out.

Rhyce Davis, Municipal Fire Prevention and Emergency Management Officer from Bass Coast will be speaking to Rhyll residents at the next RCA meeting on fire awareness and safety, and what we should do in case of fire in Rhyll.

Then we have some very exciting news for Rhyllians!! Those who love history (and who doesn't?), how about our very own Maritime Museum in Rhyll? More details at our RCA meeting.

So please come along to our next RCA meeting and hear all about museum plans, how to escape fire and about our new website, plus much more.

You will find a summary of January's RCA meeting on page 7.

Foreshore Restaurant Closes on 23rd February 2025

It is with great sadness that we announce that Anita and Roy will be closing the Foreshore Restaurant on 23rd February. We will miss their friendly faces but are sure that they will be in something creative and special in the near future. Good Luck Anita and Roy.

Businesses in Rhyll

Beauty Therapy

Bombshell Betty 0400 120777

Electricians

Electrical Insight 0418 100389

Cafes/Restaurants

My Seaside Cafe 5900 0666

Tides Fish & Chips 5956 9230

Rhyll General Store 5907 6796

Garden Maintenance

Kerrin Sutherland-Parker 0484

145252

Hairdresser

Elements 5900 0811

Home Maintenance

John Kroon 0433 319716

Mechanics

Phillip Island Motorcycles 0400
567424

Marine Supplies

Phillip Island Marine 5956 9238

Rhyll PickleBall/Tennis Courts

Available for casual hire. \$15 per hour (plus \$5 refundable key deposit) from the General Store. Racquets can also be hired. For more information call Cheryl 0427 680483 or Mandy 0409 186521

Do you have a Drone?



Rhyll Coast Action is in the process of establishing a three year forward plan for vegetation management along the Rhyll Coastline.

This is quite an extensive area and being able to map the area from the air would be invaluable.

If you or anyone you know of would be able to help us with aerial drone photography to record current vegetation status and help with our planning, we would be extremely grateful.

Please contact Peter Balfe on peter.balfe@bigpond.com

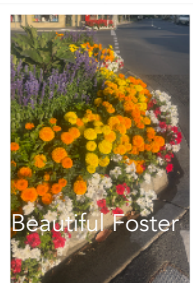
Our Community Garden....

A Rhyll Community Garden is back on the agenda.

After visiting Foster (see photos) and see the gardens they have around their town, we think it's time we re-visited our long held dream of creating a peaceful and tranquil environment for all residents. Foster Community have interspersed vegetables with flowers creating a wonderful display for visitors to enjoy.

The position of our original Community Garden caused some grief to some residents which is why it had been put on the shelf.

However, the position we are now putting forward is the eastern side of the tennis courts, opposite the General Store. This piece



of land is rarely used and would be ideal for a relaxing and purposeful garden. More

information and discussion will take place at the RCA meeting in March.



Pickleball at Rhyll Tennis club



Come along and try Pickleball, a fun and social game that's easy to learn.

Regular sessions:

Tuesday 9.30am

Wednesday 9.30am

Friday 9.30am

For those new to Pickleball, you can have 2 free sessions, including equipment and coaching. Subsequent games are \$10 per session, including equipment hire.

Membership:

Adults \$70 (includes \$20 joining fee)

Families (2 Adults/2 children) \$150 (Includes \$20 joint fee)

The clubrooms will be opening these sessions with tea/coffee available for a gold coin donation.

Come along and enjoy a delightful outdoor activity.

Rhyll Tennis Club
rhylltennis@gmail.com



Is Your Cat Obeying The Law?



We have had several calls from residents over the summer asking if we could highlight the laws regarding cats in Rhyll and in fact, the whole Shire.

Here is a summary from the BCSC website.

Why should I keep my cat contained?

- reduce risk of sickness
- Reduce risk of being impounded
- Reduce risk of harming other animals
- Preventing them from interacting with un-desexed cats
- Avoiding problems with neighbours
- Giving them a chance of a longer, healthier life

What happens if I don't keep my cat contained?

From 1st July 2023 owners whose cats are found roaming and picked up by Council Community Safety Officers risk a \$192 fine, as well as pound release fees.

How do I keep my cat contained to my property?

- Cat proof boundary fencing
- Cat enclosures
- Keep your cat indoors

Roaming cats can annoy neighbours by spraying, fighting, yowling and digging in gardens. They kill millions of birds every year. Do the right thing.



"BILL'S BAR" for 3 Rhyll Twilight Markets in this Season

After a fabulous 3 markets with enormous assistance from our wonderful community members, Bill Overton wanted to personally thank everyone who helped in the bar....

Firstly, I would like to thank all the fantastic volunteers who looked after the Bar these last Markets. Jim Kylie, Boss Man !!! And our new Boss people, Brian and Michele, who are taking over the running of the next season's Rhyll Markets Bill's Bar.

Secondly. Our wonderful bar workers: Carolyn May, Jo Tucker, Korral Guy, Mary Lu Burt, Robyn Kemp, Leon Martin, Judy Lawrence, Peter Lawrence, Mandy Walker and Cheryl Overton.

Thirdly, Peter's 'set up' and 'pack up' team who set-up chairs, tables, fence, marquees, umbrellas etc. It's a big job and finishes pretty late but you are much appreciated. You all did a great job.

*Fourthly, Rick from **Purple Hen Winery**, a huge THANK YOU for your ongoing support and generosity to the RCA. To our members, don't forget to please support our local Rhyll Winery.*

*And finally, a huge contribution to the success of the Bar is the generous support from Nick & Vyshu from the **Rhyll General Store**. They are always willing to support ALL of our community activities. As such, we ask you in turn to give your business to this lovely Rhyll community family.*

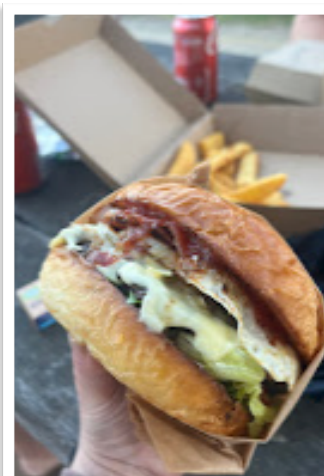
Bill Overton



The Rhyll General Store Phone 5907 6796

The Rhyll General Store, open 7 days a week from 7am to 7pm, has a wide variety of groceries and small goods. They can also assist with your banking, not to

mention our mail and all of your alcohol supplies! Beer, Wine & Spirits. They also have the BEST TAKEAWAY on the Island (people travel from all around to enjoy their food). If you don't have a menu, look them up online or ring 5907 6796



Are you being bugged by AIRBNB guests?

Here are some local laws regarding short stay accommodation in Bass Coast Shire....



What is the Short Stay Rental Accommodation Local Law?

In July 2022, Council adopted the *Short Stay Rental Accommodation Local Law*, providing clear guidelines on the required standards for the operation of this type of accommodation. The Local Law places the responsibility for occupant behaviour on the owner of the property.

Short Stay Rental Accommodation is defined under the Local Law as "accommodation provided by the owner of a property, for fee or reward, to another person, for no more than 30 consecutive days on that property but does include any property that is required to be registered under any other Act or regulation".

Short Stay Accommodation does not include other business types registered under other laws, such as Bed and Breakfast providers, hotels and motels, hostels, student dormitories or holiday camps.

Council recognises that most operators of Short Stay Rental Accommodation act responsibly and manage their property appropriately. However, the extent of community concern has been identified that controls were considered necessary.

The controls for this type of accommodation are known as the *Short Stay Rental Accommodation Local Law*.

The Local Law objectives are to:

1. Regulate the control and use of short stay rental accommodation.
2. Ensure an appropriate standard of management affecting the peace of neighbours.
3. Minimise the risk of such accommodation affecting the peace of the neighbours.
4. Regulate and control the use of Short Stay Rental Accommodation by implementing a registration requirement.
5. Include a "maximum stay" duration for customers.
6. Ensure that any waste is managed to protect the environment that visitors come to enjoy.

What is the Standard of Management?

The Local Law establishes a Standard of Management detailing the requirements for the use of the accommodation. This includes the following:

1. The owner or appointed agent must not use or allow to be used a Short Stay Rental Accommodation property in breach of this Local law.
2. The owner or appointed agent must **provide contact details of the designated contact person to adjoining and immediate neighbouring properties.**
3. The Owner must display Local Law No.1 Neighbourhood Amenity 2022. Part 7 Standard of Management and make available to all occupants and visitors to the dwelling including availability on their website or any social media used by the owner to promote the Short Stay Rental Accommodation.
4. The owner or appointed agent must ensure the use of Short Stay Rental Accommodation property **does not interfere with the reasonable use and enjoyment by the residents of their land,** or otherwise cause a nuisance.
5. Must ensure that the **maximum number of vehicles per booking as prescribed in the registration is not exceeded.**
6. Maximum number of vehicles per booking as prescribed in the registration is not exceeded. The Owner must provide information to occupants on parking arrangements prior to arrival.
7. Additional accommodation is not allowed on site by way of tents, caravans, campervans or similar facilities.
8. The Owner must inform occupants of waste disposal arrangements and remove any excess waste left by occupants within 24 hours of occupants departing.
9. An adequate number of bins must be provided for collection and storage of all rubbish. All rubbish should be regularly removed. Council requires the submission of waste management plan.
10. The Owner or agent must **not leave residential waste bins out for more than on day before or after the designated collection day.**

A Cemetery Tour: A walk through History

By Pamela Rothfield

The recent cemetery tour hosted by the Phillip Island Cemetery Trust for the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo drew an impressive crowd, demonstrating the strong local interest in the stories of our past. Pamela Rothfield, Secretary of the Cemetery Trust, who led the tour said, "The tour provided a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge Rotary's ongoing support for the cemetery, a commitment that has spanned many years."

Throughout the tour, attendees were captivated by seven unique stories, each shedding light on the lives of those laid to rest in the historic cemetery grounds. However, the tale that sparked the most discussion was that of young Freddy Smith.

Freddy Smith was born in Gloucester in 1914. His father, Percy, a sergeant in the army, tragically died in France in 1919 from influenza when Freddy was just five years old. In 1924, Freddy and his mother, Gertie, set sail for Australia, seeking a fresh start. Gertie later married Walter Gibbons, and the family settled in Kerang.

Unbeknownst to his mother, Freddy had contracted Encephalitis Lethargica, or 'sleepy sickness,' a mysterious and devastating disease that affected nearly five million people worldwide between 1915 and 1926. The illness often left victims trapped between wakefulness and unconsciousness, aware of their surroundings but unable to move. In children, the disease manifested in behavioural changes, which modern science equates to ADHD-like symptoms.

Due to Freddy's perceived 'poor' behaviour, his stepfather brought him to Melbourne to consult Professor Richard Berry, a leading psychiatrist of the time.



Above
The boys accommodation building
at The Seaside Garden Home in Newhaven
Housing 40 boys



Above: The Housemaster's residence at the Seaside Garden Home
in Newhaven

Berry recommended Freddy be sent to The Seaside Garden Home for Boys in Newhaven. Freddy arrived at the institution on June 26, 1926.

(Photo Left - The Housemaster's house in Newhaven) Tragically, House Master William Baye dismissed Freddy's illness

as mere malingering—faking illness to avoid work.

Instead of receiving care, Freddy was brutally punished. He was repeatedly beaten and deprived of food.

Within three weeks of his arrival, Freddy died on July 17, 1926, aged just 12. His mother was not informed of his passing until after he had been buried at the Phillip Island Cemetery on July 19, 1926.

An inquiry into Freddy's death revealed signs of malnutrition and bruising on his body, yet no charges were laid against Baye.

Seven years later, in 1933, the Seaside Garden Home for Boys once again faced scrutiny following another avoidable and tragic death. Eleven-year-old Rex Simpson, suffering from tetanus, was subjected to a brutal thrashing—including being struck with a cricket bat—by Baye, who again accused the child of malingering. This time, Baye was twice sent to trial for manslaughter but was acquitted. Rex was not buried in Phillip Island but in Melbourne.

The story of Freddy Smith remains one of the many poignant reminders of the hardships faced by vulnerable children in institutional care. His grave in Rhyll serves as a silent reminder and reinforces the importance of preserving and sharing our local history, ensuring that the voices of the past continue to be heard.

Have you considered joining the Phillip Island & District Historical Society?



Did you know that the Phillip Island & District Historical Society relies almost entirely on the support of its members to continue its important work? For just \$30 a year—that's only 57 cents per week — the Society preserves and protects the stories, artefacts, and sites that make our island unique. Email j.gittus43@gmail.com for details

RCA MEETING 10am Saturday 18th, January 2025 Rhyll Hall - Summary of MINUTES

Business Arising – updates

5.1 Councillors at last general meeting: Formal meeting with BCSC CEO in February to discuss removal of ramp, Management of Hall & Park.

5.2 Dog Dispensers: the three in place are being used.

5.3 Cruise Ships: last to arrive; a great fundraiser for the community.

5.4 Christmas in the Park: was well attended, costs shared by RCA and H&P.

5.5 Community Raffle: Funds raised go to Christmas in the Park expenses

5.6 Twilight Markets: revenue up 30%. Traffic Management to be improved. 20-30 Stall holders on the wait list. Does Rhyll want it bigger?

5.7 Exercise Equipment in the Park: Plan sent to BCSC includes All Abilities equipment; seeking 50% funding from Council.

5.8 Community Garage Sale: Easter Saturday, contact J Kiley to take part.

5.9 Headland Path: Council Plan shows Path will follow as previously discussed with Council Officers. Heritage test pits to be dug.

6. Correspondence:

6.1 Outgoing: 3 x BCSC meeting with CEO, seats on foreshore, Letter of support against build on Beach Rd opposite Jetty. Hall Committee and MOU

6.2. Incoming: BCSC

7. Financial Report

7.1 Treasurer's report provided by Judy Lawrence: Suggest a new Term Deposit. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report moved: J Lawrence. Seconded: S Inness. Carried.

8. General Business:

8.1. Speed limits on dirt roads to 60kmph. Jim has added Lock and Beach Roads for review. Funding for Dusk to Dawn signage needed.2

8.2. Fire Plan for Rhyll - Rhyce, the Fire Prevention Officer is attending our March 15th meeting to talk about fire plans/prevention etc. Please try and make the meeting as it is important for the Rhyll Community to understand about climate change and they way fires are changing.

Rhyll Coast Action Group: Time to deadhead Agapanthus and other flowers before they set seed to avoid unwanted growth. Working bees will resume in March on the second Monday. Dates to be advised in the Rhyll Reporter.

Afternoon Teas: Karinda reported the December meeting was festive and well attended.

Other Business

Drain: P Balfe has been contacting various agencies to establish who is the Responsible Authority to "open up the beach or extend the drainage pipe."

RCA Membership: ask your neighbours to join. Rhyll Reporter emailed to 400 contacts. It is a community Newsletter; appropriate articles are welcome.

Rhyll Tennis Club: are inviting people to play Pickleball and join the club to increase membership and remain viable.

Reid St: surface seal is breaking down; becoming an increasing hazard for walkers, cyclists and drivers. Reid St is also a Bus route. Is it a drainage problem? ACTION: RCA

The Foreshore Restaurant is closing at the end of February

Air BNB opposite the Jetty is to be increased to house up to 20 people. It is in a mixed use zone and is now permitted to build up to the front fence line.

2025/6 Market dates: DEC 12, Jan 2 and 16. ACTION: Booking required

Meeting closed: 10.53am

Next meeting: 15th March 2025 Rhyll Hall 10am



MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

\$5 per year single \$10 per year family Date / /

I would like to become a member of the Rhyll Community Association and agree to be bound the Rules of the Association.

Bank Details: Rhyll Community Association

BSB: 633 000

Account: 131 997 751

Signed:

Please return this form to the Rhyll General Store

PO Box 8144,

Rhyll 3923

Rhyll Community Association Inc

President Jim Kiley

Secretary Cheryl Overton

Treasurer Judy Lawrence

Committee members:

Sandra Inness

Carmen Bush

Carolyn May

Peter Balfe

Brian Morris

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