

RHYLL REPORTER

RCA Meeting

The next Rhyll Community Association **Annual General Meeting** and elections will be held at **10am on Saturday 19th September 2026.**

This will be followed by the **September General Meeting** at **10.30am.**

Our Guest Speaker will be **David Cox** who is the Emergency Management Officer at BCSC.

Rhyll Mechanics Hall
All residents welcome

New Cleaner Appointed

Following advertising here for a new cleaner, the Rhyll Hall and Parks Committee are pleased to advise that a new cleaner has been appointed, an arrangement that is working well and to everyone's satisfaction.



An exhibition of work by local artists will be held in the Rhyll Hall on the last weekend of September.

The organisers hope to attract a wide range of creative works including painting, sculpture, ceramics, textiles, woodcraft and photography. To be eligible the work must be original and for sale, and must be handcrafted by a full or part time resident of Rhyll 3923.

Raffle tickets will soon be on sale with some wonderful prizes, including a beautiful painting by Jenny Jackson, wood turning by Frank Maiolo and a voucher from the Rhyll Tavern.

Detailed Guidelines for prospective artists will be posted on the Rhyll Community Association website shortly <https://rhyllcoa.com.au>. Anyone interested should contact Peter Balfe (peter.balfe@bigpond.com)

Reid Street Roadworks

Bass Coast Shire Council have confirmed that a road seal upgrade will be offered to Reid Street residents at a one off cost of \$4000 per property. Shane Dougherty has been working with and on behalf of residents to achieve this, but it requires 100% participation. As of the date of this publication all responses should have been lodged with council, so watch this space for updates.

Businesses in Rhyll

Beauty Therapy

Bombshell Betty 0400 120777

Electricians

Electrical Insight 0418 100389

Silverleaves Elect 0401 929977

Cafes/Restaurants

My Seaside Cafe 5900 0666

Tides Fish & Chips 5956 9230

Rhyll Tavern 5956 9370

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 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

Rhyll Hall Bookings

Phone 0491 641 331

Thermomix Consultant

Contact

Carolyn May 0409 252 099

Dine Out for Refugees

Saturday 12 Sept 2026
6.30 pm

Rhyll Mechanics
Institute Hall
54 Loch Road Rhyll

Guest speakers
Special Efforts
Music by Marty Box
\$43 donation per person
Bring your friends and
make a table
BYO drinks

Bookings open 14 August
<https://www.trybooking.com/DOMQH>

Gabrielle 0410 441 540
gabesmahony4@gmail.com



New parking and landscaping at the Rhyll Hall

The wet weather has stopped work progressing at the hall, but we will be back at work as soon as the ground dries out.

The new handrail alongside the hall is for the gravel path that will link the new off street parking to the hall, and the concrete plank retaining wall that has been built in front of the hall will enable the area to be levelled using the material excavated from the new car park locations.

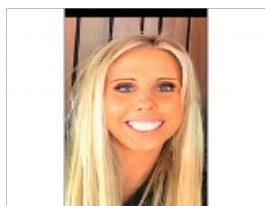
We hope to have the all this work completed and grassed as soon as work as possible but at the moment we are in the hands of the weather gods.

Rhyll Community Association Annual General Meeting

Please note, the Annual General Meeting of the Rhyll Community Association will be held at 10am on Saturday 19th September. At that time, all positions on the Committee will be vacated, and elections will be held. If you would like to nominate yourself for a position on the Committee, nomination forms are at the end of this newsletter.

We look forward to seeing many of you there on the day.

World Vision Winter Warmer Lunch



Guest Speaker **Vicki Risby** is the Regional Manager of World Vision Australia's Church Specialist Team, CEO of the not-for-profit coffee initiative **MiracleGround**, a contemporary artist, humanitarian, wife, and mother of four children.

Vicki has lived and served as a missionary in both Armenia and Mozambique, experiences that deeply shaped her passion for justice, compassion, and community transformation. Over many years, she has worked alongside communities experiencing poverty and hardship, supporting health initiatives, food distribution programs, community development projects, and advocacy efforts with government leaders to help drive meaningful and lasting change.

She is a respected speaker and advocate, known for inspiring others to engage in issues of justice, generosity, and global citizenship.

Whether through leadership, advocacy, art, or community engagement, she is passionate about helping people discover their capacity to create positive change in the world.

World Vision
Phillip Island Club

Warm Winter Lunch

Phillip Island Bowling Club
40 Dunsmore Road Cowes

12:00 noon Sunday 30th August

\$40.00 per head
includes 2 course meal &
special effort tickets

Tickets:
Tickets at Try Booking:
<https://trybooking.com>

Drinks at Bar Prices
Guest Speaker
Special Effort Prize

All proceeds to World Vision

Phillip Island Nature Parks Impact Statement

WARNING: PLEASE STAY ALERT

Bird flu has been detected on Phillip Island. While the current risk to people is considered low, the virus is highly infectious and can spread easily among birds and some animals.

Avoid sick or dead birds and do not touch or go near them, as bird flu can infect pets and, rarely, humans.

For more information: [Bird flu \(avian influenza\) | Australian Centre for Disease Control](#)

Watch out for H5 bird flu in Victoria

Know what to look for

 **AVOID** touching sick or dead wild birds or animals.

 **RECORD** what you see. How many? Where? When?

 **REPORT** to **DEECA** by using the **QR code** or calling the **Emergency Animal Disease Hotline 1800 675 888**.



Report groups of five or more sick or dead wild birds anywhere in Victoria.
Report even one:



- sick or dead pelican or penguin



- sick or dead black swan



- sick or dead bird of prey (e.g. hawks, owls, eagles)



- sick or dead marine mammal (e.g. seals, sea lions, dolphins).

wildlife.vic.gov.au



Energy,
Environment
and Climate Action

Cruise Ship Visits

Cruise Ship Visits for Rhyll

We have 7 scheduled cruise ships due into Rhyll from December this year.

Amazingly, we have none over the January/February months, which makes life easier as it's Rhyll market time.

Our 'Cruise Ship Welcome' committee is always looking for assistance. If you can help either with setup or pack up, you will be warmly welcomed.
Ring Peter 0417 375584

Date	Ship	# Passengers	# crew	ETA	ETD
Wednesday, 2 December 2026	Carnival Adventure	2636	1100	8.00am	5.00pm
Tuesday, 15 December 2026	Noordam	1972	811	8.00am	11.00pm
Tuesday, 22 December 2026	Noordam	1972	811	7.00am	11.00pm
Wednesday, 23 December 2026	Seven Seas Explorer	750	548	7.00am	5.00pm
Friday, 5 March 2027	Riviera	1250	800	8.00am	6.00pm
Friday, 12 March 2027	Norwegian Spirit	2032	912	7.00am	7.30pm
Saturday, 3 April 2027	Norwegian Spirit	2032	912	10.00am	7.00pm

Rhyll Tennis Club & Pickleball

WELCOME Spring with Pickleball celebrations at Rhyll Tennis Club.

We welcome beginners, novices and advanced players to pick up a bat, hit a ball and enjoy good laughs and fun times.

Join us on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Friday mornings.

- Tuesdays 9:30 – 11am: intermediate & advanced play.
- Wednesdays & Fridays 9:30 – 11am: intermediate and above play.
- Wednesdays & Fridays from 10am onwards we welcome beginners and novices to join us for small-group tuition & games.

Rhyll Tennis Club embraces individuals with specific interests or special needs.

- If you are part of or support the LGBTIQ+ community, please join our **PRIDE CELEBRATIONS** on Friday 11th Sept.
- If you consider yourself a **SENIOR** or support someone who is experiencing the challenges of growing older, come along for some good laughs and have a hit during our **SENIORS FESTIVAL** activity. Please contact us if mobility is an issue and we'll assist with rule & equipment modification.
- If you are **DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING**, consider coming along with friends or by yourself to our introduction to pickleball on Wed 21st October.
- If testing your knowledge and connecting with the Rhyll community is more your thing then the **TRIVIA EVENING** might be your perfect fit.



Friday 11th September	Pride Celebration and Pickleball fun	9:30 – 12noon
Friday 9th October	Seniors & friends of all ages Pickleball	10:00 – 12noon
Wednesday 21st October	Hard of Hearing & supporters Have a Hit of PB	10:00 - 12noon
Saturday 24th October	Trivia Night	6:30-10pm

Whether it's general or special interest sessions please email us for more info and registration on rhylltennis@gmail.com



Rhyll Resilience Group August Focus

Summer is coming and we MUST reduce our fire risk to ensure our safety.

Adopting a Hydrant and keeping your property clear of overgrown vegetation and stored flammable items such as fuel or firewood away from your house are just a few actions you can take. Come along to the community meeting Saturday September 19 to hear Dave Cox Emergency Management Officer speak about how to minimise your Fire Risk! And what services are available.

Hydrants allow Victoria's fire services to access water "as quickly as possible" during emergency operations, identification and maintenance is important so that precious time is not wasted trying to locate and use them. Any delay in getting water to a burning house or property will most likely increase the fire's intensity and ultimate damage!

Rhyll residents have heard members from the CFA Phillip Island Volunteer Fire Brigade talk about their Adopt a Hydrant program. If there is a fire it is vitally important that the nearest fire hydrant can be easily located quickly! A Fire Hydrant is marked by a white post with a red painted top in front a property's fence line.

The Fire Brigade asks us to ensure there is always clear access to the hydrant, that the marker post is well maintained, the blue reflective marker is on bitumen road (not on graded roads), and there is no vegetation over the hydrant - any surrounding grass or plant material has been trimmed back and that vehicles do not park over the hydrant.

Contact Bass Coast Shire on 1300 226 278 for missing marker post, missing hydrant cover or blue reflector.

Contact Westernport Water on 1300 720 711 for leaking hydrant or burst water main.

Take a walk along your street to see if you can find the nearest hydrant to your house; it could save your life!

Rhyll Resilience Group (a subcommittee of the Rhyll Community Association)

New project launched on Engage Bass Coast

This consultation relates to Speed Reviews and Parking Improvements, Roads, Drainage and Local Traffic Management, Tracks, Trails and Footpaths.

Road Safety Strategy and Management Plan.

Help us develop a road safety strategy and Action Plan for Bass Coast.

Learn more about the project engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/RSSAP

One of the Island's Quiet Success Stories

By Pamela Rothfield

There was wonderful news for Phillip Island recently when Melaleuca Aged Care received the highest possible 5-Star Rating under the Australian Government's national aged care assessment system. Achieving 5 stars, places Melaleuca among the very best aged care providers in Victoria, ranking it within the state's top 6 per cent.

For many people, that announcement simply confirmed what local families have known for years.

My mother, now almost 102 years of age, has been a resident at Melaleuca Lodge for the past six months and, quite simply, she loves it. So do we.



There is warmth here, dignity, laughter and a genuine sense of belonging that is difficult to describe. For somewhere entrusted with caring for our oldest citizens, it feels remarkably like home.

She is certainly not alone. Speak with residents and their families and a common theme quickly emerges — appreciation for the attentive care, the

engaging activities, the friendships formed and, yes, even the food. In my mother's case, praise for the meals may be the highest compliment of all.

Yet Melaleuca's story began long before today's modern facilities and national recognition.

Its origins can be traced back to the late 1960s, when Phillip Island was still very much a small rural community. Cowes had a population of just 765 people, and like many country districts there were few options for older residents wishing to remain close to family and friends as they grew older.

Recognising this need, local doctor Dr Hopkins helped inspire a vision that would eventually become one of Phillip Island's most valued community organisations.

In 1969 the Jaycees convened a public meeting to gauge community support and seek volunteers. The response was immediate. A twelve-member committee of management was formed, supported by trustees Tom Beaton, Jim Manning and Eddie Paton — local people who believed the island could build something that would serve generations to come.

Their vision demanded patience and determination. Following the incorporation of Phillip Island Homes for the Aged, nearly ten years passed before the first stage became reality. In 1979, twelve independent living units — today known as Melaleuca Village — welcomed their first residents.

Ten years later, Melaleuca Lodge opened its doors, providing residential aged care in a setting deliberately designed to feel personal rather than institutional. Today, with 37 residents and a dedicated team of carers, nurses and support staff, that philosophy continues.

Daily life extends well beyond nursing care. Residents enjoy activities, outings, music, shared meals and opportunities to remain connected with one another and with the wider community. Families are encouraged to visit often, and the gardens and walking paths provide peaceful spaces to relax or spend time together.

Melaleuca has continued to evolve to meet the changing needs of the Island community. Melaleuca Place opened in 2005 with 17 additional independent living units, while Melaleuca Suites, completed in 2016, introduced an innovative style of accommodation that combines independent living with shared meals and



community life. Throughout more than five decades of growth, one thing has never changed. Melaleuca remains proudly local.

Governed by a volunteer committee and operating as a not-for-profit organisation, it is the only not-for-profit aged care provider on Phillip Island. That means decisions are driven not by shareholders but by the wellbeing of residents and the community it serves, as is evident in the attainment of the 5 star rating.



Community support has always been part of Melaleuca's story — from the volunteers who helped establish it almost 60 years ago, to initiatives such as Bill's Book Shed and the countless acts of generosity that continue today.

In an era when aged care is often spoken about in terms of challenges and shortcomings, Melaleuca provides a different story. It demonstrates what can happen when a community comes together with compassion, vision and determination.

The recently awarded 5-Star Rating is certainly something to celebrate, but perhaps its greatest significance

lies in what it represents. It reflects years of investment in skilled staff, a commitment to listening to residents and their families, and an unwavering focus on providing person-centred, dignified care.

For the dedicated staff, volunteers and committee members who have built upon the vision first conceived in 1969, the award is richly deserved.

For local families, including my own, it simply confirms what we already knew.

More than half a century after a handful of community-minded people imagined a better future for Phillip Island's older residents, Melaleuca remains one of our district's quiet treasures - founded by the community, sustained by the community and continuing to care for generations of Islanders with kindness, dignity and heart.

RHYLL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC. GENERAL MEETING 18/7/2026

Minutes Summary

18 Attended 16 Apologies

BUSINESS ARISING – Updates:

- Parking at the Hall – Construction started, retaining wall and earthworks weather dependant.
- Resilient Community: Carmen reported- July 27 Aus Alert a [National test I ausalert](#) through your phone. Telstra's outage last week caused great disruption. We need to purchase a failsafe Siren to avoid any outages in the event of an emergency here in Rhyll, this was endorsed by Council Officers with whom we met on that day. Also, we are looking at phone charging stations to use at the Hall should there be a power outage. MOTION: that the Rhyll Community Association grant a budget of \$500 for the Purchase of a portable Siren and earmuffs and 3/4 multi phone charging stations by the Rhyll Resilience Team. Moved: Carmen Bush. Seconded: Peter Balfe. Carried.

We will need community support to understand the needs of and resources in our community so that we can be well prepared should the time come. Come and see me if you are willing to help.

Financial Report: provided by Judy Lawrence. Subscriptions are Due; Judy will be sending out membership invoices shortly. Income: A big thanks for recent donations from local families of \$360 non-specific and \$500 for the Art Show and Community Grants, \$10,000 from Council and \$1,820 from PIRSL.

General Business

- September Art Show: over the Grand final weekend. Deputy Mayor to officially open. Rhyll artists showing a variety of creative media. A good turnout wanted. Help needed for the set up on the Friday. Reported by Peter Balfe.
- Rhyll Coast Action: Our annual planting is underway, along the Beach Rd foreshore. More to be done. New members are always welcome. Details on our Face Book page or contact rhyllcoastaction@gmail.com
- Rhyll Tennis Club: Mandy reported on winter activities and new members. The verandah has been completed and is being well used, and the notice board has been installed. Upcoming activities include All Abilities, Gippy Girls, Pride Week, Seniors Month, and Trivia Night at the Hall on 24 October. The Club is partnering with Rhyll Yacht Club to offer summer kayaking coaching and use of the Club on rainy days for table tennis. The Mosaic Interest Group is considering a community art project.

Other Business:

From the floor:

- update requested on the Headland Shared Path. MOTION: that RCA formally write to Council requesting design drawings of the Cowes - Rhyll Pathway Stage along the Headland. Moved G May. Seconded: Peter Balfe. Carried. ACTION: C Overton.
- Any News on the Dog Park? The RCA Survey was referenced and the June 22 Community meeting at the PIRSL also referenced where the Recreation Reserve Masterplan topped the Items wanted list. Some discussion ensued.

Meeting Closed: 10.32am.

Next meeting 19 September 2026 at 10am. AGM followed by the General Meeting.



Membership forms are available on our website
<http://rhyllcoa.com.au>

Rhyll Community Association Inc Committee Members:

President	Jim Kiley	jandkkiley@bigpond.com
Vice-President	Carolyn May	carolyn.may87@gmail.com
Secretary	Cheryl Overton	cheryl.overton@bigpond.com.au
Treasurer	Judy Lawrence	rhyllcoa@gmail.com

Committee members:

Sandra Inness	jimisan2@hotmail.com
Carmen Bush	ccbush@bigpond.net.au
Peter Balfe	peter.balfe@bigpond.com
Brian Morris	dbrianmorris@gmail.com
Shane Dougherty	sdougherty@bigpond.com

Committee Nomination Form



If you are interested in being on the Rhyll Community Association Committee please complete the form below.

Please provide details of your experience, knowledge and interest in the Community and any other details you feel are relevant. Expressions of Interest are to be submitted at least 7 days prior to RCA AGM - to the Secretary, Rhyll Community Association. All Committee members will be required to obtain a Working with Children Check, through the Rhyll Community Association at no cost.

Rhyll Community Association
Email: cheryl.overton@bigpond.com.au
ABN 38801779089

Name	
Address	
Telephone	
Email	

Community Committee Experience:

--

Particular interest in the Community:

--

Skills/Knowledge/expertise:

--

Committee Members are expected to:

1. Be a paid up member of the Rhyll Community Association
2. Contribute to the running of RCA
3. Should live in Rhyll
4. Assist with events (ie Cruise Ship Arrivals, Rhyll Markets)
5. Attend meeting when possible
6. Offer ideas and suggestions

Signed

.....	Date
	