

REDBANK PALMS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR OCTOBER 2025 .. E & OE

For our newer residents and others who may have not caught up yet, we have an arrangement with our NEW mowing contractors from TNA Lawn Services to mow the lawns of those residents who are not covered for this service in their contracts.

If interested, you can contact Fletcher (the boss) on 0429 881 644 and he will arrange for Tom to come and do the job. Payments can be organized by cash or through the slightly more expensive online invoice system...easy to manage without having to worry about being home or leaving cash out. ... Fletcher and Tom can also take care of most of your gardening needs from paving to mulching, clipping hedges, doing garden edging etc, as well as mowing ... in fact most things that we need to keep our gardens looking top rate. Don't hesitate to ring – Fletcher is very easy to do business with and will hopefully become one of our 'trusted tradies' as well.

Residents are requested to please **NOT** feed the native birds....

unless you are doing so in a manner which is also NOT FEEDING & ENCOURAGING THE PIGEONS. Your village committees recently spent a large amount of money to have feral pigeons removed/discouraged from nesting here, but some residents who continue to put out feed for the birds, have caused an increase in pigeons returning for a free feed. We really cannot afford to be paying out again for pigeon removal. If you must feed ????? then to discourage pigeons, try using feeders designed for smaller birds and prevent seeds from accumulating on the ground. Suet cake feeders also attract a variety of birds but do not appeal to pigeons. Use a caged feeder that allows access by the smaller birds but not by the pigeons. Planting native shrubs and flowers that provide seeds, and fruit is the most effective way to attract native birds to your garden and supports the local ecosystem.

Reasons to Birdproof your solar panels ... Nesting pigeons and other pest birds can accelerate the wear and tear on your panels, damaging the wiring underneath the panels. Corrosive bird dropping damage the solar panels and spread diseases such as Cryptococcus, Staphylococcus, Histoplasmosis and Bird mites/lice. Solar panel warranties do not cover scenarios where the above happens. This can leave you, and your neighbours responsible for repairs that could have been prevented.

Pigeons nesting under solar panels can create a fire hazard by accumulating dry organic nesting materials, that can ignite in hot weather.

Feral pigeons carry over 60 potentially lethal pathogens and can transmit 30 different diseases to humans and animals. They pose severe risks to lung health which can rapidly escalate leading to nervous system paralysis and even death. The presence of feral birds can reduce the efficiency of your solar installation by up to 88%. They can also cause severe damage to your roof and guttering, as well as to your neighbours. Your committee has organized for one of our trusted tradies, who cleans solar panels, to visit here in November. It is suggested that residents also look at bird proofing their solar panels.

The go ahead was finally given to the supplier of the new audio/visual equipment for which we recently obtained a grant. Delivery and installation is expected to take place in October, all going to plan. Residents should be delighted to have this facility available. **A HUGE TV Screen**, better sound system and public address system, along with other media refinements will give our residents a state of the art, top notch entertainment hub that will be greatly appreciated. The new equipment will enable us to access Netflix, Amazon and other streaming services. This is a huge expenditure with little change left over from \$13,000.00. We can look forward to some beaut movie nights, Melbourne Cup Days, Footy fever State of Origin, Live Tennis – whatever rows your boat. You'll need to supply your own popcorn though.

A big thank you to David Morgan, our RPRA Secretary for the hours of work he put in, getting quotes etc to get this organized, and to our President John for organizing and driving committee people to the retailers in our new Village bus, to nail down the best prices and see what it was that we actually getting. Hometown



Redbank Palms Residents Association Inc

kindly added some \$'s into the kitty for this project and forward planning for next year's budget, Hometown is getting quotes to replace the common area fencing and the lounge furniture in the Grand Hall and Library, and flyscreens were also mentioned I seem to recall.

Just something to think on – your Residents Association acts for and on behalf of all of our community of over 200 people. Currently less than 20% of residents are showing up for these meetings, where the decisions made are put in place for EVERYBODY. If you don't come to the meetings, and participate in the discussion and decisions made, please don't whinge if you are not happy with the outcome. For those who didn't make it along and might be interested, here are extracts from the minutes from the

Redbank Palms Residents Meeting – Minutes - Date: 1 August 2025 -

Attendance - 35 residents present

Site Manager's Report

- Driveway Scam: A resident was approached by a fraudulent driveway contractor...Residents are reminded to report any uninvited salespeople to the site manager, request identification, and verify offers before accepting services.
- Fencing: Hometown will fund the replacement of common ground fences bordering residences as a goodwill gesture.

Finance Report

Available Funds: \$15,470 (including grant allocations)

Grant Funds Received: Grant Fund Amount Gambling Fund \$9,500, Council Fund \$3,700

Expenditure to Date (Grants): - Starlink equipment: \$550, - Starlink installation: \$800

Moved by: J. Liew , Seconded by: D. Morgan

General Business

- Garden edging painting will be scheduled during the non-growing season.
- Hall will NOT be air-conditioned; quotes are being obtained for flyscreens.
- Replacement of hall furniture included in next year's budget.
- Solar installation is still under review.
- Pathway trip hazards are being addressed.
- Audio-Visual Equipment: Quotes are being sought for additional equipment.
- Visitor Parking: No designated visitor parking at the lower end of the village; visitors occasionally use the wash bay or residents' driveways.
- Seniors Expo Update: 35 exhibitors invited, flyers distributed to local home parks, media outlets contacted; morning tea provided by Social Club for a gold coin donation.

The next residents meeting will be held on **Friday 28th November in the Hall at 4.00 pm** The minutes and other info relating to our Redbank Palms community are available for all to read on our web page - <https://rprared.wixsite.com/website/residents-meeting-minutes>

Currently our gates are open Monday to Friday between 7am and 5pm. We are reviewing this with the intention of having them open 7 days a week from 7am to 6pm. This consistent schedule will make access easier for residents, visitors, health workers/carers and couriers while supporting our community. Whilst there are considerations re security and maintenance, the benefits of improved access and reduced maintenance and frustration, outweigh the drawbacks.

Some resident's phones are not working with the gate system (land lines) or they cannot get to their phone quickly enough to activate the 'open sesame' button, and the delivery person leaves. With the current system we are finding that some couriers who are unable to contact a resident or access the gates are throwing parcels over the gates or just leaving them outside the office – which leaves them vulnerable to theft and in the case of groceries subject to spoilage. On weekends, family and unexpected visitors are also inconvenienced with the gates being closed. We believe the extended opening hours will better meet resident's needs.

Just a reminder – yet again – that if residents are walking their dogs around the village and it Poops, then YOU SCOOP.... it's not rocket science people; it is called responsible pet ownership.

We don't mind sharing, but if you really don't want to share the hall, library and kitchen with Blue Tongue Lizards, Snakes, Birds and even (God Forbid) an Ibis that crapped all over our lovely piano – then **PLEASE SHUT THE BLOODY DOORS** when in the hall and when you leave. Flyscreen doors are in the pipeline.



One of our residents has raised the question re poor reception down the bottom of the Village, saying that sometimes it is impossible to dial out and they then have to rely on Text messages. This is a safety concern, and climbing a tree to get a better signal is apparently not an option. Does anyone know how to overcome the problem? (That's the phone issue – not the tree climbing one) If so please come along to the next residents committee meeting and share your knowledge, or let a committee member know..

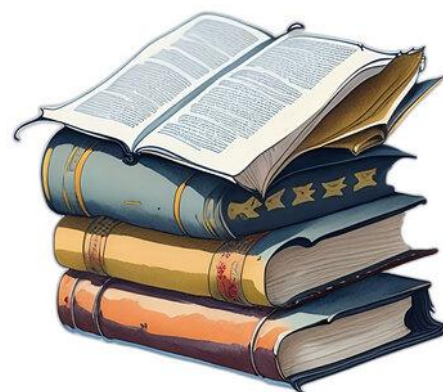
LIBRARY NOTES ... Unfortunately, this didn't make the last newsletter as it was received after the cut off time, but our Volunteer librarians, Laurie and Lee would like to thank all those involved in the packing and unpacking of the library during the recent repaint at the hall. Many of those who helped were unknown to them – but a big THANK YOU too all.

To Rosie, Jordan and Julie – a big THANK YOU for the hours you put in to help get the shelves sorted – after 3 weeks it was finally done.

We thank all of our residents for your patience through this.

Don't worry about any gaps you may notice as they won't last for long as new titles and authors will be added from time to time. We welcome new and cleaner books at any time, but ask from now on, that no damaged, dirty, or very small print books be donated as they will not be accepted.

A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life..... Cheers – Laurie Caldwell & Lee Hickey



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VILLAGE BUS TIMETABLE FRIDAY PICK UP TIMES FOR REDBANK PLAZA ... (Will not apply to public holidays)

Pick up Points:	8.55 AM Car Wash Bay
	9.00 AM Grand Hall
	9.05 AM Bowls Club at side exit gate
Pick up for return journey:	11.30AM at Taxi Rank Redbank Plaza

HANDY PHONE NUMBERS

Village Hairdresser Cynthia
Managers Office
Ambulance, Fire, Police

07 3814 1111
07 2104 5044
000

Electrician Justin
Village Doctors Surgery
Taxi Yellow
Plumber Steve
Kruger Village Pharmacy

0411 969 479
07 3814 5803
131 924
0418 193 957
07 38144244

Ipswich City Council provides a Free Plant Program each financial year to assist residents in developing a greener and more beautiful Ipswich. As an Ipswich resident you are entitled to 6 free plants every financial year

A driver licence or senior card showing current residential address will be accepted as proof of residency. Plants are available at the Queens Park Nursery on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday between 8am and 12 pm and on the **25th October** at Evan Marginson Park - Woogaroo Street, Goodna near playground -picnic area between 8am and 11am and on the **1st November** at Redbank Plains Recreational Reserve - Cedar Road, Redbank Plains



Our thanks to Lance McCallum and to his staff for their generous assistance in the printing of this newsletter. Lance is our local member for Bundamba, Labor member of the Queensland Legislative Assembly and a great supporter of our Village community. Lance has a proud history of fighting for a fair go for his community and working people. He can be contacted at his Electorate Office at

Shop 39, St Ives Shopping Centre, 2 Smiths Road, Goodna QLD 4300

Phone - (07) 3447 9100 Email - Bundamba@parliament.qld.gov.au

Don't forget to check for any last-minute updates on our Community Notice Boards located in the Hall.

For those residents who have shared their email addresses with the Editor, email communication will be sent ASAP advising changes whenever possible.



Monday	Cards (Bowls Club)	4.30 pm .. <i>bring a plate to share</i>
Tuesday	Mixed Darts (Bowls Club)	9.15 am
Wednesday	Bowls - games start at	2.45 pm
<i>Place rubbish bins on front lawn</i>		
Thursday	Croquet	9.00am
	Dinner – (Grand Hall)	6.00pm .. <i>Check noticeboards for updates</i>
Friday	Bimonthly Residents Meet	4.00pm - <i>At the Hall - please sign in</i>
	Happy Hour at the Hall	5.30 pm
Saturday	Bowls – games start at	2.45 pm
Sunday	Trivia at the Hall	2.00pm <i>3rd Sunday – BYO Nibbles</i>

2025 TRADIES DEALS FOR REDBANK PALMS ... Over the next couple of months your Residents Association has organized again for the following services to be available for our residents. These are tradies that we have used here for many years Our 'trusted tradies'. They give a fair price and do a good job without ripping any of us off. **We are happy to recommend their services but take no responsibility. Ring Maureen 3812 9818 to book in for any of these.**

David Jung – House Washdowns and/or Windows only

Wednesday 1st October, Monday 6th October, Tuesday 7th October.

External house washing (all the wall and eaves) \$ 200.00

Cleaning windows. (inside/ outside/ tracks/ fly screen) \$ 200.00

If combining several areas - for all services .. Tuesday 4th & 11th & Wednesday 5th & 12th November, are the allocated dates.

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|----|--|-----------|----------------------|
| 1. | High pressure front driveway | \$ 70.00 | |
| 2. | External house washing (all the wall and eaves) | \$ 200.00 | |
| | 3. Cleaning windows. (inside/ outside/ tracks/ fly screen) | | \$ 200.00 |
| | 4. Cleaning solar panels | | \$ 90.00 |
| | 5. Cleaning the air conditioner...per AC UNIT | | \$ 90.00, |
| | | | \$150 x 2, \$200 x 3 |

Eclipse Pest Control .. Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th November

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|--|-----------|
| Pest Control only | \$150.00 |
| Termite inspections | \$150 .00 |
| For pest control inside & out + Termite inspection | \$230.00 |

Seniors can save up to \$3,000 a year...but only if they have THIS card

The Commonwealth Seniors Health Card (CSHC) had long been a valuable but underused benefit. Despite around 1.9 million self-funded retirees in Australia, only 22 per cent had successfully applied for it. Retirement Essentials estimated that the savings could reach \$2,000 to \$3,000 annually, yet many had missed out.

The eligibility criteria for the CSHC was reviewed and updated on 20 September 2025 in line with the Consumer Price Index. For singles, the income threshold rose to \$101,105 from \$99,025, while couples saw their threshold increase to \$161,768 from \$158,440.

Deeming rates also shifted. Singles had the first \$64,200 of financial assets deemed at 0.75 per cent, while couples had \$106,200 deemed at the same rate. Amounts above those levels were deemed at 2.75 per cent. From September 2025, the CSHC would be issued as a laminated card, though older versions would remain valid until replaced.

Many had missed out in the past due to common misconceptions, not realising that eligibility can change from year to year. If you're over 67, it's worth checking again with Centrelink, you might be surprised at how much you could save.

Are you a caregiver bearing the full weight of daily responsibility, and you need a break? **4 RESPITE CARE OPTIONS THAT EVERY CAREGIVER SHOULD KNOW ABOUT...** Taking time out for yourself is not selfish it is essential. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oc9E8aB8icE>



REDBANK PALMS DARTS CLUB ... We meet in the Bowls Club Tuesday mornings 9.15 a.m. cuppa and chat then at 9.45 a.m. the games commence. Some Darts are available for use for newcomers who do not have them. ALL ARE WELCOME for an enjoyable morning..... Cheers - Graham Swinburne.



CROQUET ... Anyone interested in having a go would be very welcome, all the gear is provided and it's free. We start at 9.00am Thursdays in Summer, and 10.00am Thursdays in Winter. Anyone who needs more information, please phone Brian on 3814 1520.

TRIVIA Due to unforeseen circumstances last months trivia was cancelled at short notice but will be running again this month on Sunday 19th October. For those of you whose minds are filing cabinets full of trivial information this will be right up your alley. The sessions are great fun, lots of laughter and we all go home having learnt at least some new trivia to store away. You don't have to have all the answers, just be curious enough to find them...Come and join us and leave with a smile on your dial Cheers Agnes



SOCIAL CLUB NOTES: Well, our black-and-white night was quite successful and all of us who attended made a great effort in keeping to the black and white theme. Two gents looked particularly smart in their white dinner jackets while another wore a tuxedo design T-shirt. A good effort by the gentlemen but they were surpassed by the ladies. A wonderful collection of haute couture within a black-and-white theme. You all looked splendid. Well done and thanks for the effort.



Of course, our usual thanks to the cooks and kitchen staff and to those who set up and decorated the tables. And of course, to those who attended the Sunday morning cleanup. (groan!). It's this year 's committee's turn to do this work as the social committees have done for the past 25 years or so.

When I first came here in 2002, we had cream carpet in the hall with eight polished wooden tables and chairs. When we had a function, which was every Thursday night. Saturday night every second month., occasional Sunday functions, and a few champagne breakfasts -extra tables were needed. These had to be taken from the storage cupboards at the back of the hall and then each table had to be put away before we went home. Well, the cream carpet didn't last long, obviously and was replaced with a dark navy one and eventually we got sick and tired of putting the tables away so just left them out as they are today. There are a few residents who still remember those halcyon days of yore.

Now we're not over interested in the past, but it's nice to know a little of the background of the village. Therefore, looking ahead on **Thursday, 9th October at 6pm** we will be having a "build your own" sausage sizzle. We'll cook the sausages and give them to you in a bread roll and you can then embellish your meal from the salad bar. Put your \$10 in a clearly marked envelope with your name and Unit number and place into box 135 please, at the Hall.

Thursday, 6th November – dinner night with a menu of Pasta Bolognese. Remember we've set Christmas dinner for **Saturday, 6th December** and Christmas carols on **Sunday, 14th December**

Your committee is in the process of improving facilities with quotes for replacing the cloth on the pool tables and for a new portable PA for the stage. (the old one has broken down.). We have purchased a bus tag for the toll roads we go on. A little late, but thanks to the resident's committee for putting on the EXPO.

SO LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT OUR UPCOMING FUNCTIONS

Have fun.... Barry

BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2025

Welcome everyone, a new month and the weather is warming up already. The singles competitions have been up and running with the B Grade, Men's and Ladies completed.

The B Grade was won by Trish J against Trevor H, the Men's by Murray V against Graham R and the Ladies Marie R against Karen R. The games were thrilling to watch as a spectator and congratulations to all.

We welcomed three new people to the game after our Open Day, Wayne and Debbie and Bob. Shame we didn't have a few more join in. We will hold another Open Day further into the year.

Before the next newsletter we will be starting night bowls which will be much cooler.

All from me, keep smiling,..... Marie Ritchie ... Secretary 3463 9945



Car insurance premiums constantly rising? ... Have you considered **a pay as you drive policy?** Australian Seniors Insurance (and others) offer a policy where you agree to a maximum number of kilometres each year. Your premium is reduced to reflect the lower usage. You can apply to increase the limit at any time. Seniors often drive less frequently, and these policies are an ideal way to reduce your premiums.

RECYCLING ... Every little bit helps, and we can also help our community with a bit of judicious recycling. Bottles and Cans etc can be placed in the "rubbish" bin behind the Bowls clubhouse near the side gate. The 10c refund on them gets put back into village community projects by the bowls club committee. Clean used grocery bags can be saved for Marie Ritchie, at Villa 150, who recycles them through her charity shop for shoppers to take their purchases home, and clean books in good order can be recycled by donating them to our own library. Easy isn't it? Minimum effort and we've all saved a bit of space in our own homes and done some good for others.



For our newer residents – **DID YOU KNOW** that we have our own webpage which you can access here - <https://rprared.wixsite.com/website>

You will find a wealth of information on it relating to life here in the Redbank Palms Community, much of which is sure to be helpful to you.

Our **Welcome Book** is there as well. For those who may not have internet facilities and would like a hard copy of the Welcome Book, please contact our RPRSA Secretary David, and

he will organize one for you. We also have an internal phone directory for our residents which our secretary updates a couple of times a year. So, if you would like your name and number included in that, please contact David Morgan

Secretary Redbank Palms Residents Association. Email : rpra.redbank@gmail.com Mob: 0411860958

If you would like your news/newsletters delivered online, as soon as they become available, then please share your email address with our Editor. Any reports or items for inclusion in future newsletters or the web page should be emailed no later than 9am on the 25th of each month. Newsletter Editor... Maureen Clifford at - dickfrancis369@gmail.com



For some people, coming up with a gratitude list and positive affirmations is very easy. For other people, it can be really hard. Lots of people internalize a very critical interior voice. After a lifetime of listening to it, it's a monumental task to change how you think of yourself and your place in the world. However, it's possible to make changes at any age, so don't get discouraged. Try to think about yourself the way you would a good friend. It's not hard to come up with good things to say about our friends. Turn that kindness on yourself.

- I am grateful to spend time with my kids and grandkids. I am healthy and strong.
- Getting older means I have more life experience to share. I am worthy of living a rewarding life.
- I can reach out for help and trust my caregivers. I love my strong community.
- I can prioritize rest so I can live my life as fully as possible. My friends and family care about me. Every moment is a gift, and I will enjoy it as much as I can.

