

RADDAi presidents report 2009/ 2010

RADDAi has continued to quietly go about its business this year and has achieved a great deal. Usual events have been undertaken with great success. These events include the Don Chorale Choir once again performing at the Railton RSL club for the entertainment of the community. As with previous years a fantastic night of choral music which was appreciated by all in attendance. Finished off to perfection with a homemade supper that was fit for a king (or Queen to be politically correct).

This year's light up Railton competition was much better patronised than recent years with more displays entered and entries of a very high standard. Two fantastic prizes were given out to the two winning entries. I would like to thank Darren Brown from the Shoreline Hotel at Howrah for his donation of two night's accommodation and Paradise place B & B from Hawley Beach for their donation of an accommodation package as the prizes.

The annual Christmas Bar B Q in lions park was well patronised considering the cold weather. Thanks must go to the Railton Primary School for their enthusiastic rendition of many old Christmas Carol favourites. Also special thanks to the Clayton Sturzaker for his support of RADDAi in the past and for organising the Children to sing at the Bar B Q. Clayton has transferred to East Devonport Primary School and we wish him well in his new position.

Recently RADDAi representatives met with staff from the Kentish Council regarding our budget submission. Some of the things discussed were

- The provision of a full time towns person.
- Annual hard rubbish collection.
- The continuation of the main street development
- Further developing the motorhome area (make larger, Possibly erect a Gazebo, outdoor gym equipment for the community and visitors.)
- Information area.
- Water fountain.
- Dump point

We hope that these things can be budgeted for and installed over the next year or two

The second stage of the main street redevelopment is almost complete. There has been many positive comments about the red and black footpaths and the spiral topiaries. When the street furniture and bins are installed it will finish it off nicely. Thank go out to the Kentish Council for their consultation on the project. Also to Reenie and his two sons who were constantly looking for ways to minimise the impact of the works on the community. Also thanks to Ridsen Knightly for his help with the project. He was regularly on site and made minor changes to the project to accommodate the needs of the community.

This year RADDAi has continued to promote the town in many ways.

- We have been advertising on tv.
- Once again we advertised in Blooming Tasmania
- Continued to host our Town of Topiary website. (special thanks to Lyn Richards for her work on the website)
- Through the visit to the town of Costas Gardening Odyssey

- And the ongoing production of Topiary maps that are distributed to the public by the shops around town.

One of the highlights of the year was the visit to the town of the SBS film crew for Costas Gardening Odyssey. Costa Georgiads has a gardening and lifestyle program on SBS TV. Costa and the film crew spent the entire day in town filming the Topiary, the trimming of the topiary, the building of the frames and interviewing various members of the town about the Topiary. A highlight was the planting of a new, huge topiary frame of a Tasmanian Devil. Many of the towns people and children assisted with the planting and placement of the frame in a new garden bed that was purposely built for topiary during the main street redevelopment. When the show was aired on tv it was the highest rating show of the second series (over 550 000 viewers Australia wide). Already people have visited Railton as a result of seeing the show. This will only increase over the summer months.

As usual I must thank the following people for their Support, Assistance, and donations.

- Local and neighbouring businesses for their donation of goods for our christmas raffle.
- Cement Australia
- Railton Post Office
- Cossies Marine
- Don Chorale Choir
- Ruth and Colleen for their constant efforts on the cake stall and catering for events
- TOT Tea rooms
- Looking Glass Cottage
- Whiterock Vineyard
- Seven Sheds Brewery
- Cherry Shed
- Barringwood Park
- Anvers Chocolates
- Lyn Richards

I am sure that I haven't thought of everybody and I apologise to those that I may have forgotten.

Just to finish off I would like to express my gratitude to the Kentish Council for the great relationship that has been created between ourselves and Staff.

Finally to the members of RADDAi thank you. Without your work within this group our town would not be the great place that it is today. Special thanks to Diedre Rice for your work as Treasurer and I would like to wish you all the best for the future.

RADDAi President
Rodney McCarthy