

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Welcome to the 2026 VRRRA Annual General Meeting

The VRRRA began 2025 in a difficult position, with the May AGM unable to form a committee. This resulted in a period of recession that, while challenging, also gave us space to reflect on the role and direction of the Association. In November, a Special General Meeting successfully elected a new Committee, allowing us to resume regular meetings and re-establish momentum.

It is fair to say the past 12 months have been a tough period for the VRRRA. However, with new committee members and renewed energy, we are optimistic about rebuilding engagement and strengthening our advocacy for Vincentia. We also recognise that the current economic climate is affecting many in our community, which in turn impacts participation in local organisations such as ours. The VRRRA is nothing without community support, and we encourage members to stay involved wherever possible.

Community Consultative Bodies Update

In December, Shoalhaven City Council announced its intention to reform the Community Consultative Body (CCB) model. In Council's words: "Council has reviewed its CCB model and is proposing a more contemporary, consistent and transparent alternative to ensure place-based feedback is representative and constructive. The Accredited Community Forum (ACF) model has been developed in collaboration with the CCB Working Group and remains open for community feedback via Council's website."

Representatives from 22 CCBs met several times and voted to form a Working Group to prepare a position paper and meet with the CEO and Mayor. This matter remains active, with public submissions closing on Sunday, 19 April 2026. We encourage all members of the community to visit Council's website and comment on the preferred Accredited Community Forum model. Find survey here: [SCC Get Involved!](#). If you need help with responding to the survey, please contact us.

VRRRA Business

Communication. Over the past year, the VRRRA received only one formal communication from Council regarding local matters—the proposal to install signage in Burton Street Mall to reduce risks associated with cycling within the mall. Consultation occurred with landlords and retailers, and the VRRRA provided a submission to Council. I am unable to advise the outcome of this submission.

DA Tracking. DA reporting was disrupted for several months due to a software issue on Council's website. We are pleased to advise you that the latest DAs can now be found on our website, which is updated regularly. The trend of DAs continues toward older homes being replaced with larger duplex-style developments.

Submissions. The VRRRA lodged two submissions on controversial local DAs [2 Barnett St and 12 Vincent St], and we await the outcomes. Planning matters are complex, and community input is essential. Your committee intends to strengthen our local planning agenda, which we will discuss further this evening.

Newsletter. Our monthly email newsletter continues to be widely read. I would like to acknowledge the valuable work of Anna Everts for her research and writing efforts throughout the year.

Socials. Our Facebook and Instagram audiences continue to grow, with regular posts on local events and issues. Please encourage friends and neighbours to follow our social media channels to stay informed.

Jervis Bay Community & Sports Club. We continue to support efforts to return the Club to community control. We look forward to hearing directly from Tom Karp regarding progress toward de-amalgamation.

Closing

I would like to thank all Committee members for their commitment and participation over the past six months as we rebuild the VRRRA's role in advocating for the Vincentia community. I also thank the community members who attend meetings, engage with our work, and support our efforts.

I look forward to continuing to serve as VRRRA President, if re-elected tonight, and to helping shape the VRRRA into a strong, constructive and community-focused voice for Vincentia

Thank you David Pursley