

THE KOO WEE RUP BLACKFISH



JUNE 2018

Building the Koo Wee Rup Clocktowers



The Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society facebook page recently featured a series of photographs showing the building and opening of the Clocktowers in 2001. The photos above show the bus station before the building of the towers (you can see a bit of railway line at the bottom right corner), during construction, the finished clocktowers and the opening ceremony.

The Township Committee Meeting Minutes

The Township held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, 2 May. Township Meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 6 June at 7:30 pm at the Community Centre.

Cr Ray Brown reported that a review of phone waiting times to the council customer line has resulted in a new program being established by the Communications group to improve the response times.

- 8,000 calls received, callers call between 2 and 10 times
- Redeveloping web portal to make it more user friendly and redesigning information and reports

The proposal for more gaming machines in Officer which council had denied was presented at VCAT. VCAT upheld council's decision.

continued page 4

Items printed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the thoughts or beliefs of the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any items, where necessary. All work associated with the production of The Koo Wee Rup Blackfish is done on a voluntary basis.

Edited by C Roff email: blackfish@live.com.au
PO Box 64, Koo Wee Rup 3981, Tel 5997 2333
Printed by KWR Township Committee

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Which Season to Sell In

We have all heard the hype that spring is the best time to sell but as the colder months approach does this time of year deserve the stigma of being the worst time to put your property on the market?

Spring

It does make sense to sell at this time of year, especially if your property's best feature is the garden. You can use the garden as a selling point because, let's face it, the flowers are blooming, the weather is perfect and everything looks and smells great.

But... often the supply of properties on the market increases in spring, yet demand may not. Buyers have more to choose from and hence may reduce their offers in terms of price and conditions.

Summer

Over the Summer/Christmas holidays is the busiest time of year around the beachside areas as holiday makers' flock to enjoy the sun, surf and sand. If you have a home near the water or one with an attractive, inviting outdoor entertainment and pool area, you can use these stand out features as a main selling point to the seemingly never ending stream of potential buyers.

Autumn

Many people do go away over the Easter break and there are more public and school holidays during this time. However... this could be used to a seller's advantage as there are usually less properties on the market to choose from. People have also had time over the January/December break to re-evaluate their goals for the year ahead and moving to another area, purchasing a first home or acquiring an investment property might be one of the things on their to do list.

Winter

Winter has always had the stigma of not being the best time of year to sell your home. It's cold, wet and dark, which may translate to fewer buyers being out and about searching for their perfect house. However, don't instantly discredit the colder months, as there also tend to be less properties on the market during this time of year, meaning less competition for you.

Your property might be the type to come to life during these cooler months, especially if it has a comfy, cosy feel to it because of the warmth from an open fire place, and from the sunlight streaming through the north facing windows.

So when it comes down to it, think about the unique selling points of your property and use them to their best advantage.

One Agency Robert Mure will be able to provide you with the best advice and strategies to gain you an optimum price.



**148 Station Street, Koo Wee Rup
Ph: 5997 2425
E: kooweerup@oneagency.com.au
W: oneagencykooweerup.com.au**

If In Doubt, Don't

That's the message Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) – the state's fair trading regulator – is giving older Victorians when it comes to staying safe online.

Many older Victorians are attractive targets for scammers because they often own substantial assets and have access to life savings and superannuation.

Older Victorians are also the fastest growing online user group in the country. Many of you go online to keep in touch with your children, family and friends, to correspond via email, watch YouTube videos or catch-up TV, or to research and book travel, to name a few.

Life events such as financial hardship and recovering from illness, loss and trauma can also leave you more vulnerable to scams.

CAV is working with the Public Libraries Victoria Network to reduce the detriment caused by scammers by building greater awareness and understanding of online scams amongst older Victorians.

Scammers are professional criminals. Anyone can fall for a scam because scammers are getting smarter and using more sophisticated tricks to dupe thousands of older Victorians every year.

Here are some tips for staying safe online:

- Do not open suspicious text messages, pop-up windows, or emails.
- Be wary of any emails or requests on social media from people you do not know.
- Avoid sending money, personal or financial details to someone you have never met in person, especially if you are online dating.

And remember, if in doubt, don't.

Think you're a scam savvy senior? Take CAV's quiz and find out at consumer.vic.gov.au/scamsquiz

To learn more about common types of scams and how to avoid them, come along to an information session presented by CAV at;

Emerald Library, 400A Belgrave- Gembrook Road, Emerald on 13th June 2-3pm.

Pakenham Library Cnr John & Henry St Pakenham on 16th July 2-3 pm.

To register your attendance contact 5949 4600 or <https://www.cclc.vic.gov.au/events/>

For more information about scams visit consumer.vic.gov.au/scamsavvy

Seeking expressions of interest for Cardinia Age Friendly Alliance Group

Are you interested in volunteering to be involved in discussions about age-friendly initiatives for the benefit of older residents in our local community?

The purpose of the Cardinia Shire Age Friendly Alliance Group is for a group of older residents to have a voice and support Cardinia Shire Council to create an age-friendly shire.

This group meets quarterly at Council's head office on Thursdays from 11am – 1.00pm.

Register your interest by email to Council's Ageing Well Facilitator mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au or post your contact details to PO Box 7, Pakenham 3810.

General information sessions will be held at council in late July.

Please note that new members will be confirmed in writing following these sessions.

Expressions of interest close Monday 9th July.

Can You Help?

The Koo Wee Rup Secondary College knitting club needs knitting needles and crochet hooks.

If you have any that you don't need, the school would really appreciate the donation.

Please drop off any knitting needles and crochet hooks to the school office attention Megan Webb.

Thank you

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

For document signing and associated services contact;

GARY KING JP

59971238/0438 663 655

HAVE YOU GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

Have you got some news, a photo, or an opinion you want to share with your community? Why not say it in the Blackfish?

Just drop me a line at blackfish@live.com.au
post to PO Box 64, KWR or phone 5997 2333

Caroline Roff, Editor



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Township Committee Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*

A group of southeast councils had advocated to state government for the upgrade of some important roads including Thompson Road, Healesville – Koo Wee Rup Road and Golf Links Road.

The ANZAC dawn service in Koo Wee Rup was again well attended, and Councillor Brown passed on his congratulations to the Koo Wee Rup RSL for the smooth running of the ceremony.

Council is reviewing Off Leash Dog areas. Cochrane Park is to be upgraded from a district to Regional Park. This will allow council to access funding to upgrade the park, including agility equipment, bin, fencing, drinking water.

CCTV cameras are being deployed across the shire to combat rubbish dumping. Council is looking for locations to install cameras, so if anyone is aware of hotspots for rubbish dumping please contact Ray.

Social and affordable a housing strategy is being developed by council officers. 220 people were listed as homeless in Pakenham in the 2016 census.

Tenders have been called for the upgrade and construction of the tennis courts in Cochrane Park. Fencing at Bayles tennis courts is to be repaired.

There were several questions from the attendees for Councillor Brown:

- The Drum muster program has not been properly advertised or promoted prior to the collection date or drop off centre dates. Records of chemical packaging being returned for disposal or recycling is required for farmers to meet some of the accreditation programs. Councillor Brown will follow up to try to get better promotion for the next round of collections.
- Tyres on Koo Wee Rup Road and other roads in the shire. These are a Vic Roads responsibility as the roads are under their management.
- Councillor Brown will follow up on requests for an extra bin at the Skate Park in Cochrane Park, and soil to tidy up around the storage shed at the Community Centre.
- In response to a question about watering of the new street trees; they are being watered but Cr Brown was not sure of the schedule.

The President noted that the electoral redistribution will see Koo Wee Rup move from Flinders to the new seat of Monash. Russell Broadbent's seat will be exclusively rural.

The announcement of the duplication of the Koo wee Rup – Pakenham Road to Manks Road roundabout will be of great benefit to Koo Wee Rup. There will be lights at Hall Road and Ballarto Road. This is a natural extension of the work that the Township committee and previous state governments had completed to get the bypass constructed.

Andrew Butt – KWR Scouts told the meeting about a crowd funding endeavour to raise money to upgrade the scout hall. The Scouts have a target of \$150,000 to complete the improvements.

June Wright officially stood down from the Scouts as of the 1ST May 2018.

Grants for Christmas Decorations for the town will be available in October.

The Koo Wee Rup Recreation Reserve Committee is seeking a new Secretary and Treasurer if anyone is interested or is aware of anyone who would be suitable.

Aged care questions

Help at home

Would you like to know more about the help that is available so older people can live at home for as long as possible?

Come and meet staff from Alfred Health Carer Services and Cardinia Council who will provide you with an overview of aged care services.

This is a must for carers and family members trying to navigate the aged care system.

You will learn about:

- The My Aged Care call centre and website
- Options for taking a break from by using respite care
- Services available from the Commonwealth Home Support Program and Home Care Packages
- Assessment and paperwork needed to access some services

Who should attend?

Carers, family members and friends who are supporting an older person or someone living with dementia at home

Assistance with in-home respite, transport and interpreters can be arranged; please make a request when booking.



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FREE CARER EVENTS



WHEN
Tuesday 17th July 2018
1.00 - 3.00pm

WHERE
Pakenham Library
Cnr John St & Henry
Pakenham VIC 3810

Melways: Map 317 Ref E8

Bus routes 926, 927, 928 and 929 stop near the Library, as does the Koo Wee Rup–Pakenham Bus.

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Koo Wee Rup CWA

The ladies at CWA have had several activities this month.

Firstly, we held a Walk for Women on Sunday 29th April at Cochrane Park. About 30 members met up at 10.30am and we had a lovely walk around the park and clock towers. Diane and Lindsay gave us a guided tour with lots of information about the area. We were happy to welcome members from several other groups. After our walk, we had a lovely morning tea at the Senior Citizens hall. Many thanks to Lindsay for doing so much baking for the event, it was delicious.

On Sunday 6th May, members attended a church service at St John's. There was a good attendance and then CWA supplied morning tea for the congregation.

We have decided to hold our meetings and craft nights at 7pm over winter. With the colder weather setting in, it will be an earlier return to our warm homes.

On each alternative craft night, we have decided to have an organised craft. We have learned how to crochet and have made hats and flowers. It is a new skill for some and a refresher for those who have done it before. We have also made no-sew bags made from T shirts. They are quick and easy and look really good.

Our next project will be cross stitch. We have been lucky to have some kits donated to us, so we are going to learn how to do it.

On the alternative craft nights, we bring along our own projects but sometimes not much gets done but we do have a good chat.

We have moved venues for our meetings and craft nights to the Senior Citizens Hall. We find this to be cosier during winter and has better lighting. Many thanks to the Koo Wee Rup Primary School for allowing us to use the school over the past few years. We really appreciate it.

Next meeting:

Monday 4th June, 7pm at the Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens Hall, Icke Road.

Next craft night:

Monday 18th June, 7pm at the Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens Hall, Icke Road.

Bring your own project.



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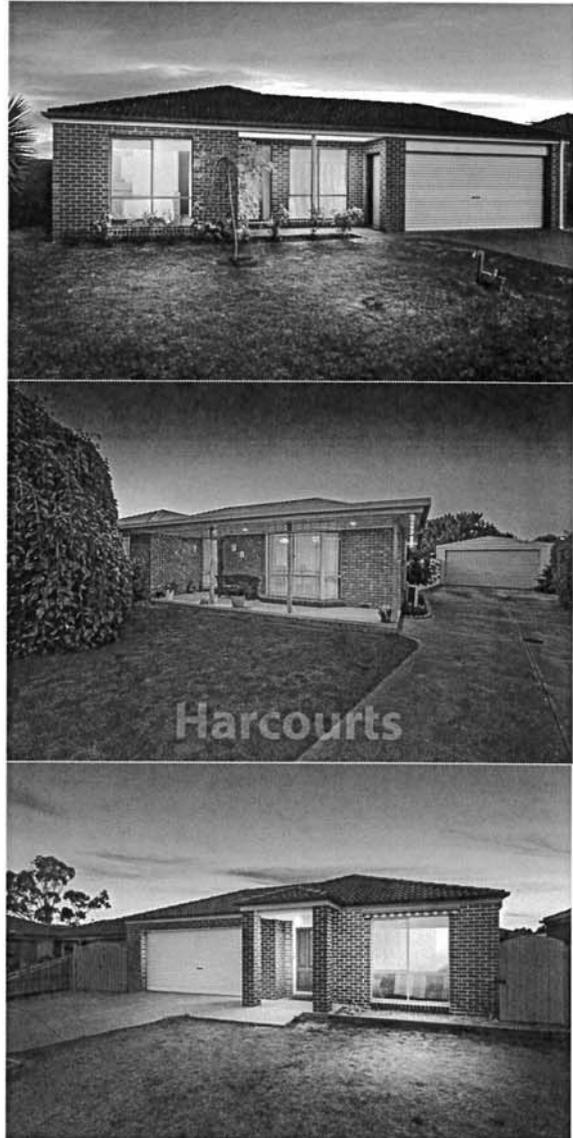


It is a **great time to sell**, so if you are considering selling, or just want a **free, no obligation, appraisal** on your property, then please call or text me on **0400 344 660**.

Cheers

JOHN COUGHLIN
Sales Consultant
Harcourts Pakenham
PH **0400 344 660**
john.coughlin@harcourts.com.au

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Some of the many properties we have sold in Koo Wee Rup

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KOO WEE RUP

More news from the Men’s Shed – Read all about it!

Now that colder wintery weather has arrived the frenzy of outdoor work in the community garden has subsided somewhat. However, some planting of vegetables has taken place, namely: mixed lettuces, garlic, beetroot, carrots and red cabbage. Ready to harvest right now is rhubarb, parsley, spring onions, kale, salad onions and broccoli. The reason we are telling you about all these healthy foods is that you can pick and purchase these super fresh vegetables yourself with just a simple donation to the Men’s Shed. Come along and at least have a look! The donation box is easy to find.

The coffee shop is now going really well, especially when you take your chosen coffee and just sit around by the warm log fire. Very soon you will see the sign outside which will say – “The Bullshed Coffee Shop”. Come along on any Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm and enjoy yourself with a coffee of your choice and the friendly company. Our members will give you a real warm welcome. There is always an open invitation to the men of Koo-Wee-Rup and District to come along, meet us, and enjoy the company of real good blokes and maybe get a boost to your own health and wellbeing at the same time.

Four of our members have recently been awarded certificates for the safe handling of food and this achievement will help a lot when we organize and cook a barbecue or supper in the future for the members and the general public. In fact on Wednesday the 30th of May we are cooking a free barbecue meal to raise awareness of the Youth Services that we provide at the Men’s Shed. Although the day will have passed when you read this you have to know that the hotly contested monthly pool tournament was cancelled for May so that the members could attend the ‘meet and greet’ get-together at the Community Centre to introduce the Men’s Shed to the new citizens of Koo-Wee-Rup.

Finally the local CFA are having a training night, sometime this month, on the lawn outside of the Men’s Shed. Their members will practice and work with a piece of equipment called the ‘Human Spider Web’. We proudly tell you this because the ‘Web’ was manufactured in the Men’s Shed by VCal Secondary College students. They are all very excited about this. We think it is a good job really well done.

Computer lessons continue on Friday mornings at 9:00 am in the Men’s Shed for true beginners and at 10:15 for the more advanced user. Ring Geoff on 0435085002 for details.

To finish, here is the latest Men’s Shed Tradies’ joke:

A frustrated carpenter said to his foreman, "I have cut this piece 4 times and it's still too short!"

Geoff Stokes

Koo Wee Rup

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St John the Baptist Primary School



Cross Country training and competitions have been a big focus for many of our Yr3 to 6 students over the past month. Sixty students represented our school in the District Cross Country event on May 9th. Congratulations to Seth for coming first in his age group. Ten children will go on to compete in the Division Cross Country on 4th June.

Many St John's mothers enjoyed a special lunch in celebration of Mother's Day at Chandelier Café on 10th May. This event, organised by The Friends of St John's, is held every year and not only provides our mums with a great day out but also raises funds for the school. In addition to the lunch, a Mother's Day stall was held for students to be able to purchase a gift

for their mum. We appreciate the amazing effort our parents go to in helping make St John's such a vibrant and supportive community.



Children from the Westernport Kinder came to visit our school and spent time with our Year 5 students on a number of fun activities. This is an opportunity for the Kinder children to see what primary school is like and to experience how our 'Buddy' system works in the transition process from kinder to school.

If you are interested in exploring the wonderful educational, social and wellbeing opportunities that St

John's have to offer, please contact the school to arrange a tour and to meet the principal Mr Justin Greenwood 5997 1653



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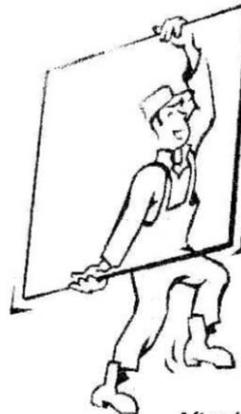
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KOO WEE RUP Primary School

A Happy Mother's Day!

It was wonderful to see so many of our mothers and other special ladies in attendance for our Mother's Day lunch. Whilst the weather was not kind to us, it was lovely to see all of our students along with the special ladies in their lives enjoying each other's company in the BER building. A massive thank you to our amazing Parents and Friends who organised this lovely community event. I hope all of our mums were spoilt rotten on Mother's Day.



KOO WEE RUP Primary School

'Footsteps into Foundation 2019' Parent Information Night 6-7pm Tuesday 5th June, 2018

Please join us on Tuesday 5th June from 6 pm for a brief overview of the wonderful programs in place at our school and take a tour of our facilities.

Our 'Footsteps Into Foundation' program has been established for new Foundation enrolments.

It involves nine planned transition sessions as well as a parent information session.

More information and dates will be available on the night.

As Principal of Koo Wee Rup PS, I invite you to visit our welcoming and friendly school and see for yourself the high quality teaching and learning programs on offer for all students.

If you are unable to make it on the night we would welcome you at a more convenient time by contacting Therese O'Callaghan on 5997 1272 to arrange a personal tour.



Nathan Jagoe
Principal

Moody Street, Koo Wee Rup 3981
Website: www.kooweerupps.vic.edu.au

Phone: 5997 1272
Email: koo.wee.rup.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au



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1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group

Jiggai Joey Mob (5 – 7 yrs)
 Cub Scout Pack (8 – 10 yrs)
 Scout Troop (11 – 14 yrs)
 Swamp Rats Venturer Unit (15-17 yrs)
 Odonata Rover Crew (18-25 yrs)

meet every Thursday 6.30pm – 7.30pm
 meet every Tuesday night between 7pm - 8:30pm
 meet every Wednesday night between 7pm - 9pm
 meet every Friday night between 7pm -9pm
 meet on Friday nights from 8pm

New Members always welcome!

Contact Andrew Butt our Group Leader on 0433 100 342



Happy Trails June!

Thank you to all that attended June's farewell from the group and helped her celebrate her 40 years in Scouting. It was a fantastic day full of emotion and fond memories. Don't despair, June hasn't left us completely! She will still be around town, selling raffle tickets and keeping us all on the straight and narrow.

Cubs presenting June with farewell gift (Left)

Speaking of happy trails... Congratulations to Amelia for planning and running a Grey Wolf Hike for herself and 5 other Cub-Scouts. (Right.)

And well done to the Scouts who participated as a learner patrol in their very first Scout Hike. (Below)



Burger Anyone?

The Venturer-Scouts and their entry into the Big Burger Challenge! (Below)





Outlook Community Centre has many programmes to keep you social through the beginning of Winter and beyond. Have you ever been to one of our Morning Teas? They are amazing! Come along and enjoy a great morning in June either on your own or with a friend. It is also a great time to attain that First Aid

Certificate that you need your volunteer work, job or to help you secure a job in future. For our full our full Term 2 Programme please visit www.outlookvic.org.au.

HOW TO ENROL IN A PROGRAMME: **In Person:** 24 Toomuc Valley Road, Pakenham; **Online:** www.outlookvic.org.au; **Telephone:** 5940 4728; **Email:** communitycentre@outlookvic.org.au; **Payment:** Credit Card - online, over the phone or in person, Cash, cheque or EFTPOS

'ALL TOGETHER' CHOIR'

Sopranos we need you!

Love Singing? This Community choir is made up of people from all walks of life. Come along and meet like-minded individuals that enjoy singing. No previous singing experience needed

A variety of wonderful performance opportunities are available.

Thursdays 11.00am - 12.30pm

Cost: \$6 includes light lunch

SENIORS MORNING TEA

Come along and enjoy a morning filled with guest speakers, information and entertainment.

Guest speaker topics include MyGov – My Health Record, Centrelink – Retirement Income Streams , and Beyond Blue – Mental Health.

Tuesday 19 June, 10.00am – 12.30pm

Cost: \$5

FUNCTIONAL FITNESS FOR OVER 50s

Improve balance, agility and muscle strength. Functional fitness exercises train the body to make it easier and safer to perform everyday activities. Suitable for all ages and abilities.

Thursdays 10.30am - 11.30am

Cost: \$7 per session

SELF DEFENCE SESSION

This session is designed to teach you how to respond in a potentially dangerous situation

The class will provide you with techniques on breaks, locks and reflexes and teach you some precautions to take when travelling alone or at night.

Friday 8 June, 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Cost: \$20

PRESERVING FOR BEGINNERS Learn to preserve seasonal produce. Enjoy making delicious jams, curds and relishes. These techniques can be applied to a range of fruit and vegetables. You will learn to make your own preserves, how to sterilise jars and even get to take home a taster.

Wednesdays commencing 6 June for 2 sessions,

9.30am – 11.30am

Cost: \$45

PROVIDE FIRST AID (HLTAID003)

This training will give you the skills and knowledge required to provide a First Aid response to a casualty in a range of situations. Some homework prior to the class is required. First Aid training provided by Asthma Foundation Victoria, RTO No. 4987

Saturday 23 June, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Cost: \$175 per session. 50% off if you qualify for the Cardinia Shire Volunteer Subsidy Programme.

PROVIDE CPR (HLTAID001)

The first five minutes is crucial in saving a life. This course will provide you with the knowledge and skills necessary to maintain breathing and circulation in an adult, child or infant following a cardiac arrest. First Aid training provided by Asthma Foundation Victoria, RTO No. 4987

Saturday 23 June, 9.30am - 12.00pm

Cost: \$70 per session. 50% off if you qualify for the Cardinia Shire Volunteer Subsidy Programme.

PROVIDE AN EMERGENCY FIRST AID RESPONSE IN AN EDUCATION AND CARE SETTING (HLTAID004)

Designed for educators, support staff and carers working within an education and care setting who are required to respond to a first aid emergency, including asthmatic and anaphylactic emergencies.

Some homework prior to the class is required. First Aid training provided by Asthma Foundation Victoria, RTO No. 4987

Saturday 23 June, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Cost: \$175 per session. 50% off if you qualify for the Cardinia Shire Volunteer Subsidy Programme.



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What is the latest news from the Customer Advisory Committee?

Just a reminder that the aim of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) is to provide the Koo-Wee-Rup Regional Health Service (KRHS) with feedback and advice to improve and strengthen the services, information, forward planning, and the future policy development of the KRHS. The Committee will furnish advice to the KRHS Board of Management taken from a Patient, Resident or a Carer's point of view, and also from the Koo-Wee-Rup Community's point of view.

The Community Advisory Committee will listen closely to these consumers and acknowledge their concerns and aspirations so that these alternatives they may offer are consistently understood and considered. This advice, and the recommendations developed, will be broadened into balanced information to assist the complete understanding of a particular topic by the KRHS Board of Management.

A meeting of the CAC was held at the end of April 2018; just too late to meet the editor's deadline for the May edition of 'Blackfish'. Susan Potter, a new member of the committee, was warmly welcomed by all the attendees. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge of community welfare and needs.

Megan Daley, a Nurse Practitioner, gave an informative talk on Palliative Care and End of Life Care Directives. Megan's talk was not as morbid as the subject sounds. In fact it was very enlightening in making everyone aware that at some fixed point in time we are all destined to depart this life. So ... it is wiser and better to plan and make our decisions now, today, whilst we are 'compos mentis' – still know what we are doing - than leave it to others to decide for us.

The committee was given an update by Ruth Dubois, the new Home Care Support Officer, about the Home Care Program. Currently KRHS has 16 Home Care packages and 3 pending approval. This was followed by a short video on what is Health Literacy; it was presented by Ms T Kilgour, Health promotion Practitioner. She also gave the committee an update on the work of the Health Literacy committee. The CAC will undertake an assessment of KRHS signage via a scavenger type hunt with other persons who are not familiar with the placement of signs around the hospital grounds.

Finally, the committee was told of a new project that KRHS is developing. It is a project that will include a new personal role to support patients and residents - a volunteer Patient

Advocate – to assist patients and their families during and after their stay. This is just one part of the proposed Patient Advocate Liaison Service. More details later.

If you have a suggestion or some nagging thoughts about your difficulties, or your dependants' comforts or indeed any problems with KRHS that you would like the Committee to look into on the, then please get in touch with the Customer Advisory Committee as soon as you can.

Simply phone 5997 9679 or **Geoff Stokes** on 0435 085 002. Or you can email: geoffreystokes@geoffstokes.com Your email will be acknowledged.

Geoff Stokes



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FIREWOOD

Koo Wee Rup Lions Club

On the evening of Friday 25th May the Koo wee Rup Lions Club presented this year's 'Newcomers and Neighbours Dinner' at the community hall in Cochranes Park. What a fantastic night it was, and a just result for all the hard work put in by the organizing team of Jacqui Armstrong, Shirelle Lean, Linda and Rex Sanders, not only four of our newest Club members, but four of the five new members who joined the Club after attending last year's dinner. Thanks also to Ron Payne, who provided guidance to this hard working foursome.

Almost 110 guests arrived to be welcomed by the music of the multi-talented Chantelle Riordan, the President of the Cranbourne Lions Concert Band and a most colourfully decorated community hall bedecked with balloons, flowers and brightly coloured table cloths. Chantelle, accompanied by her trusty ukulele, provided the entertainment during breaks in the proceedings with a broad range of hit songs from years gone by.



Chantelle with her trusty ukelele



Brendan McGreal does his thing

After welcoming all in attendance, Ron handed over to Brendan McGreal, the Balla Balla Lions Club President, who, with his usual panache, carried out the duties of Master of Ceremonies for the evening. Special mention was made of the major sponsors Stockdale & Leggo and the Bendigo Bank and all the other businesses that had generously supported the event through their sponsorship and provision of prizes.

The idea behind the dinner continues to be to give newcomers and those who have been in the town for a while an opportunity to get to know each other in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere and at the same time find out about some of the businesses and services offered in Koo Wee Rup. To this end, there were five speakers representing organisations in the community, as follows.

Koo Wee Rup Health Service Youth Development Officer. Youth Worker, Brian Harlow outlined a host of services provided through the KRHS available to the youth of the community, including a drop-in centre, The Hub, where, in a private and non-confrontational environment, young people can seek support for medical, sexual, drug and alcohol related issues. Vocational training programs are also available.

Continued page 21



The venue gradually fills in readiness for the evening

BRIAN PAYNTER MP
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Please contact my office if I can assist you

talk to BRIAN

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Koo Wee Rup Lions Club *(continued from Page 19)*

Koo Wee Rup RSL. President, John Camilleri provided an outline of the *raison d'être* of the RSL, namely that the RSL's mission is to ensure that programs are in place for the well-being, care, compensation and commemoration of serving and ex-service Defence Force members and their dependents. John then went on to highlight the high level of involvement the Koo Wee Rup RSL has with many community groups, including this Lions Club.

Koo Wee Rup Seniors Citizens Club. President Diane Divola confirmed the Club has a membership of approximately 100 members and the Club offers a large range of activities, such as bowls, bingo, which are held regularly, together with monthly outings to a range of both diverse and interesting places. The Club is a great place to meet and socialize and new members are always welcome. Funds raised by Club members working in the Op Shop are used to subsidise Club activities.

Koo Wee Rup Secondary College. Assistant Principal, Leonie McGinley confirmed that currently the new intake of students each year comes from 25 different primary schools and many students travel significant distances each day to get to school. Over the last 35 years the number of students at the College has grown from 470 to almost 1,000, which is a perfect size. A wide range of options, both academic and otherwise, are offered by the College, with a great emphasis on sport and music and the College students continue to have a significant involvement with a whole range of community groups.

Koo Wee Rup Men's Shed. President, George Fittock provided a brief history of the Men's Shed, which started in 2008 and was seen as a way of addressing problems associated with men's health and well-being, particularly the concerning rate of male suicides. A significant range of community based programs are offered by the Men's Shed with a strong emphasis on youth related initiatives. The Men's Shed is self-funded, with its major fund raiser being the annual 'Music on the Grass' held in the hospital grounds each November and, because of its location, the Men's Shed has a strong association with the hospital.

Between the presentations we thoroughly enjoyed a two course buffet dinner provided by local butchers, Bunyip Meats and prizes were awarded to those who correctly answered several general knowledge questions, together with lucky seat prizes.

At this point, it would be remiss not to mention the fine job the Koo Wee Rup Venturers did in most efficiently and unobtrusively clearing the tables between courses.

Before the conclusion of proceedings came the grand raffle was drawn, which proved to be very popular and well supported, and the perpetual trophy was presented to Deanne Peck from Stockdale & Leggo, which, for the second year running had again sold most tickets to the dinner.

Finally, Ron thanked all those in attendance for supporting the concept of the 'Newcomer and Neighbours Dinner', with particular mention of MC Brendan McGreal and invited those in the audience interested in finding out more about Lions to attend one of its meetings.



The happy smiling faces of the venturers. What a great job they did.

KWR Senior Citizens Club

Icke Road, Koo Wee Rup

A good time was had by all at Morning Melodies last week. We look forward to June and our members 80s and overs birthday afternoon tea. We welcome you to become a member at an annual fee of \$10 to enjoy our activities

Weekly Activities

Monday	Bowls	1pm	members
Tuesday	Bingo	7.30 eyes down	all welcome
Friday	Lunch	11.45am	members
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June
2018

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Foot Care at KRHS,

commencing 21st June we will be providing an expert foot care service by qualified Health Care Professionals. This will include nail cutting, advice, support and treatments. The home service will continue with our new nurse Tracey.

Congratulations and farewell to Irene Smith who is retiring after 20 years working at KRHS, we wish you all the best for the future.



Young People, Body Image and Food.

Free Information Evening, Wednesday 20th June

Being a teen changes your body, the influence of media, your body image, healthy eating, what about diets, when eating becomes a problem and what parents can do are just some of the topics our guest speaker will cover.

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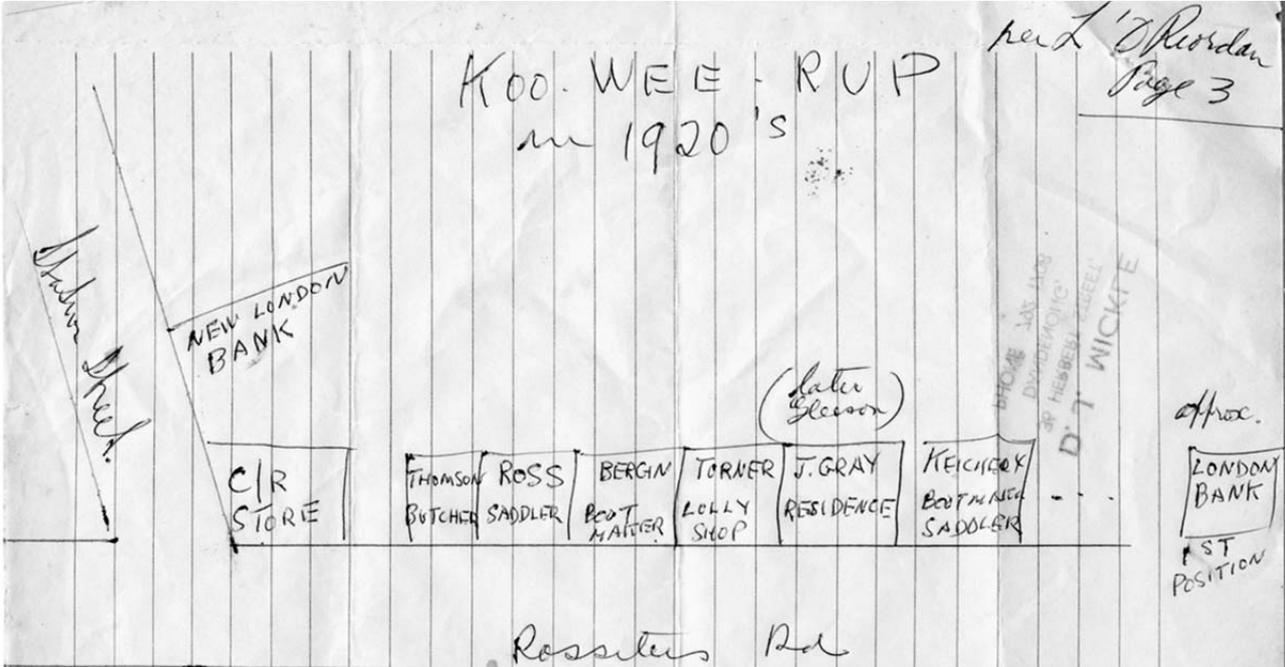
Les O’Riordan’s Recollections - Early Township Buildings

By Heather Arnold, on behalf of the Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society.

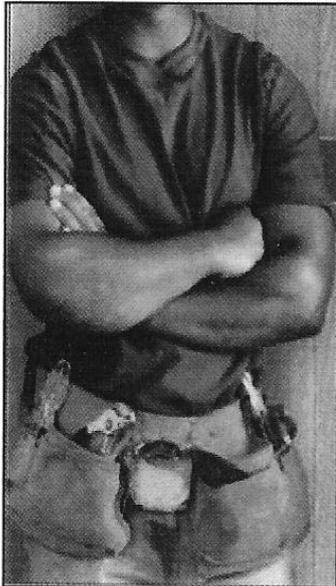
In 1968, Dave Mickle interviewed seventy-six year old Les O’Riordan. John Leslie O’Riordan was born on August 26, 1892 and is said to be the first white child born in the Koo Wee Rup Village settlement. His father, John O’Riordan, opened a store in the town in 1890 - it was a tin shed at the rear of what is now Light’s garage.

Les married Margaret Colvin in August 1918 and they lived at *Mallow*, the head quarters of the Historical Society. Margaret’s brother, A.C Colvin (Andrew) opened a cycle shop in the town in 1911 and later became an Agent for Ford Cars. Les died in 1978 and Margaret in 1955.

Continued next page



Left: Les O’Riordan’s hand drawn map



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Les O’Riordan’s Recollections - Early Township Buildings *(from previous page)*

By Heather Arnold, on behalf of the Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society.

Some of the interview with Les is published in Dave’s book *Mickle Memories*, but we also have the notes from the interview at the Historical Society, so what follows is a combination of both.

Rossiter Road

From the corner store going northwards (or down towards Bayles) On the left there was Thomson’s butchers shop, Ross the saddler, Bergin the bootmaker and Turner’s sweets shop, which was just before Jack Gray’s house. Next was Keighery’s bootmakers and saddlery. Still going north there was a timber building housing the London Bank (later moved to its current location – the old ANZ bank). When the bank moved, Ben Darlington operated his radio shop from the site (where the car yard was). Just over Gardiner Street was Mrs Greys’ shop, then the Presbyterian Church and the Memorial Hall.

Station Street

Back to the Rossiter Road/Station street corner - the corner store was built for Bullocks, then owned by Finnigan, Battersby, Malouf, W.A Stephenson, Ernest Cougal and Ernest Williams. Along Station Street was the new London Bank, then a small paddock and Joe Morrison’s black smiths shop. Next to Joe Morrison was Colvin’s cycle works and his Swastika café which he leased to the Misses Gallagher in 1922. The swastika was originally a symbol representing well being and was used by many cultures until the rise of the Nazi Party in the 1930s. In the 1920s in Koo Wee Rup it was just a symbol of good luck, nothing sinister.

Molly O’Riordan’s post office was next - it was described by Les as a small square building under a large pine tree, clearly seen in the picture. This little post office was removed and Colvin’s built a garage (Albons). At the rear of this site, the O’Riordans had built a coffee palace some years previously. It burnt down on the late 1920s/ early 1930s. O’Riordan’s residence and store were next, on the corner of Moody Street. A room at the back of the store was used as the first hall. Behind the hotel was Wilkins (later Johnson) bakery and Johnson Brothers (later De Vries) butchery.



Station Street KWR in the early 1920s

Check out *Koo Wee Rup: then and now* for more information <http://www.kooweebypass.com.au/koo-wee-rup-then-and-now.pdf>

The Koo-Wee-Rup Swamp Historical Society meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at Mallow house in Rossiter Road, corner of Henry Street. Our next meeting is Wednesday, June 13 at 7.30pm. New members welcome. The Museum will re-open in July. Check our Facebook page or contact me for an update. Heather Arnold harnold@dcsi.net.au ☎0407 521 637.

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