

THE KOO WEE RUP BLACKFISH



JUNE 2020

Restoring Koo Wee Rup's Railway Station

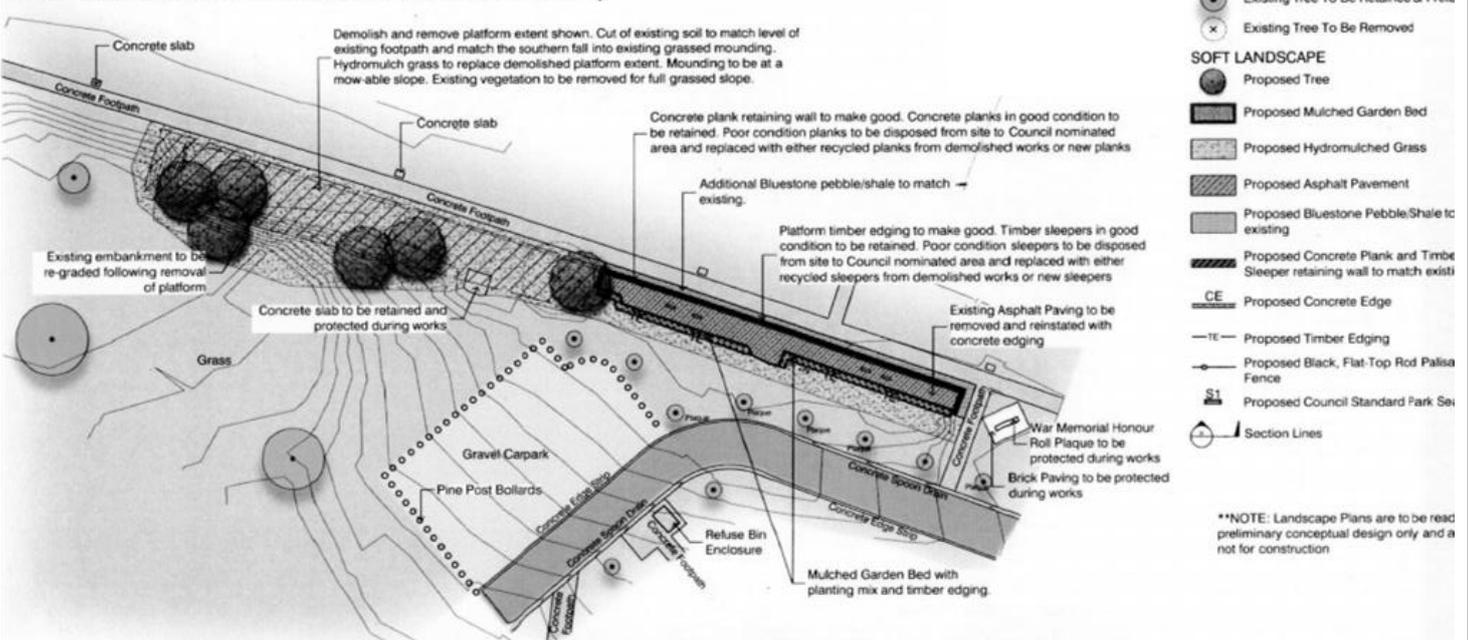
Council and VicTrack have been working together to come up with a plan to restore the crumbling railway platform. Their draft concept is outlined in the plan below. Basically, they will use the existing materials of the station, where possible, to reconstruct around half of the platform. The new platform will extend from the Rossiter Road end to where



the cypress tree is growing through the existing platform (that's the big tree in the photograph). The other half of the platform will be removed and the level of the grass lowered to the level of the rail trail footpath.

Once the works are completed, there are plans to erect a signboard with pictures of the station as it was and a history of the station and railway and its importance in the development of the township.

Koo-Wee-Rup Historic Railway Station PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN & MATERIAL PALETTE.



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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 Koo Wee Rup branch



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KWR Cafés and Restaurants

All of our food shops are operating a takeaway service. To help keep everyone safe, call first if you are ordering a meal or, if you want to order in person, take a walk after you've ordered, unless it's just a coffee, rather than wait inside. If you can pay by card, rather than cash, that would be appreciated.

Opening Hours and Phone Numbers

Abz Pizza & Fish & Chips	Phone: 5997 2373	Wed, Thu, Sun, Mon 4pm - 9pm Fri, Sat 12noon to 10pm	Delivery available
Aravi Restaurant	Phone: 5997 2520	Tues to Sun 11am - 10pm	
Chandelier Café	Phone: 5997 2322	Drinks and limited menu Mon to Fri 7am -2.30pm, closed Sat & Sun	
Degani Café	Phone: 5997 2555	Full take away menu Mon to Sun 8am - 4pm	
KWR Bakery	Phone: 5997 1884	Mon to Sun	
KWR Charcoal Chicken & Souvlaki	Phone: 5997 2354	Tue to Sun 11am - 7pm	
KWR Fish & Chips	Phone: 5997 1244	Mon to Sun 11am - 8pm	
Lynny's Take Away	Phone: 5905 4760	Mon to Sat 11am - 8pm	
Ray's Pizza and Pasta	Phone: 5997 1038	Wed to Sun 3pm - 10pm	Delivery available
Royal Hotel	Phone: 5997 1414	Limited menu Wed to Sat 5pm - 8.30pm	Drive through pick up
Simon's Noodles	Phone: 5997 1878	Mon to Sun 11.30 am - 8pm	
Tandoori Recipes	Phone 5997 1484	Weds to Sun 4.30pm-9pm	Menulog available

What's on in Koo Wee Rup?

Township Committee Meetings Will resume on Wednesday, 1 July.

Bowls Hoping to start playing again soon. Contact club for details

Soccer Lang Lang Soccer Club have at this stage cancelled all activities related to the club until April the 15th at this stage. We will be trying to upload activities that the players can do at home on our Facebook page in the interim.

Lions Lions have cancelled all meetings for the foreseeable future. All our activities have been postponed or cancelled.

Coffee Club Will not be meeting until cafés reopen.

Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens Club Due to the current health situation, the Seniors Club has ceased all activities until further notice. We look forward to seeing you all when we reopen. Stay healthy and safe until then. All enquiries to: Dianne D - 0419 405 404 Diane K - 0408 663 655

Heart Foundation Walking Groups Due to the Corona Virus the Heart Foundation has suspended all walks. We'll be visible again in October when the summer season starts again with the restart of daylight saving. In the meantime please be active and say hello as we walk the streets on our own.

Historical Society Our meetings have been cancelled until further notice due to the restrictions put in place by the Government to combat the Corona virus outbreak. Our Museum is also closed until further notice

Bayles Fauna Park Working bees are back on. First one on Sunday, 7 June at 9am.

CWA All meetings and activities cancelled until further notice.

Scouts All face to face activities cancelled until further notice. Online Scouting programs are available.

Mens' Shed Reopening soon. For personal assistance during the closure please contact Brian Harlow on 5997 9687.

Mat Pilates classes at Koo Wee Rup Regional Health Service Will resume in Term 3.

Outlook Community Centre The Outlook Community Centre Term 2 Program is available to view at www.outlookvic.org.au and programs are printed. However due to uncertainty and changing restrictions surrounding COVID-19 we do not know when we will be operational. Bookings will be able to be made once operation recommences. You are welcome to call the Centre 5940 4728 and express your interest in a proposed course if our phone lines are open. We wish you all well.



Outlook
community centre

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

Here's what's happening at the Men's Shed.

With the COVID-19 virus environment still with us - albeit that there have been some recent and gradual relief from restrictions - some of the members have been dropping in to the 'Shed to discuss and improve their own mental health and anxiety problems caused, in some cases, by their solitary loneliness over recent weeks. All these visits whilst observing stage 3 physical distancing of course.

With the reduced numbers of members now coming into the 'Shed it was thought to be the perfect time to re-paint the floors. So ... with our intrepid president Bernie Sheldon leading the way, the 'Shed floors look really good now and you can see this in the photos. Well done to all concerned. Another good job done during the semi shut-down was the installation of two 3000lt water tanks at the new Metal Work shed. With the easing of stage 2 restrictions coming into effect, we will soon be reopening the 'Shed to all of our regulars although our computer classes will remain off limits for now. However during this inoperative time, we are hoping to upgrade our computers to the latest desk top designs and all to a Windows 10 operating system.



Pilates Term 3 2020

First Class Free

Coming out of Covid-19 restrictions lets reengage with exercise. Strict hygiene measures are in place. Pilates Suitable for all ages & abilities.

When: 6.00pm Mondays or 9.00am Saturday
Where: Hewitt Eco House, Kooweerup Regional Health Service, 215 Rossiter Road Koo Wee Rup.
Cost: \$10 casual & concession of \$5 available.

Enquiries to:
 Marlene on 0429 814 410

Term 3 2020 commences Monday 13th July

Despite the current situation, the Koo-Wee-Rup Men's Shed continues to grow in stature and it is now recognized as one of the very best in the State if not in Australia. This amazing achievement has been won by the untiring work of the president, the committee, and of course the steadfast work of all the members and our esteemed retired members. If you live in Koo-Wee-Rup and District, take note that all of our very friendly members will give you a real warm welcome as you come through the door. You don't have to be old either; we have a membership spanning all ages from youth to - well you know - somewhat older. Indeed there is always a genuine open invitation 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. Come on, call in, try us.

It's time for our Tradies' joke for the month: -
Two painters are painting a church roof. They realise that they don't have enough paint to finish the job so they pour some water into the paint and easily finish their job. Five minutes later a huge thunderstorm rains down and washes all the paint away. A loud booming voice from up above comes over from the clouds as the painters watch. The voice says: - "Repaint and thin no more"

Geoff Stokes



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What was that siren?

April / May 2020

It was the Koo Wee Rup Fire Brigade back up siren to alert all the volunteers to attend the station for a turn out call. It's also used to let the local community know we are about to be out and about on a call.

Our calls since the last report were:

21/3/2020 – Car Fire – McDonalds Drain Road Pakenham South
 21/3/2020 – Car Fire – Number Five Drain Rd Koo Wee Rup
 25/3/2020 – Large Gas Cylinder Leaking – Station St Koo Wee Rup
 1/4/2020 – House Fire – Grange Crt Koo Wee Rup
 2/4/2020 – Car Fire – Koo Wee Rup Healesville Rd Koo Wee Rup
 6/4/2020 – Fire Alarm Operating – Moody St Koo Wee Rup
 14/4/20 – Car Accident – Sth Gippsland Hwy Koo Wee Rup
 15/4/20 – Tree Fire – McDonalds Track Lang Lang
 17/4/20 – Hay Shed Fire – Eight Mile Rd Nar Nar Goon
 18/4/20 – Car Fire – Bass Hwy Lang Lang
 18/4/20 – Scrub Fire – Seven Mile Rd Koo Wee Rup
 19/4/20 – Possible garage fire/false alarm – Bailey Bvd Koo Wee Rup
 20/4/20 – Assist Police – Lang Lang
 24/4/20 – Possible tree fires – Sth Gippsland Hwy Tooradin

On Wednesday 29/4/20 at 17:40, Koo Wee Rup Fire Brigade, along with many other CFA brigades sounded their station four times as a mark of respect to the four police members who tragically lost their lives the week prior. RIP.

1/5/20 – Car/Shed fire – Diamond Drive Koo Wee Rup
 16/5/20 – Smoke sighting – Station St Koo Wee Rup
 16/5/20 – Car Fire – Ballarto Rd Koo Wee Rup
 17/5/20 – Grass Fire – Salisbury St Lang Lang
 18/5/20 – Garbage Truck fire – Station St Koo Wee Rup
 21/5/20 – Car Fire – McDonalds Track Lang Lang
 21/5/20 – Powerlines sparking – Ballarto Rd Bayles

Silence is deadly

Did you know that many fatal fires start at night and the smell of smoke won't wake you up?



Smoke alarms should be installed in every living area and bedroom, including in hallways and stairs between floors. This increases the opportunity that a fire will be detected more quickly and will give your family the best chance of escape.

Consider installing interconnected smoke alarms so that when any alarm activates all smoke alarms sound, making it more likely that everyone will have the best chance of getting out before they are overcome by smoke.

Almost all children do not wake to the sound of a smoke alarm. This makes it important that adults in the home can hear them. In modern homes where the parent's bedroom is often in another part of the house, they may not hear the smoke alarm in the children's bedrooms.

Register Your Burn-Off

Before you carry out and notify your planned burn, make sure you check and follow local regulations or laws set down by CFA or your local council.

Please also give us a call to register your burn so we don't have to drop everything and check out your burnoff for no reason.

Phone 1800 668 511 to register your burn.



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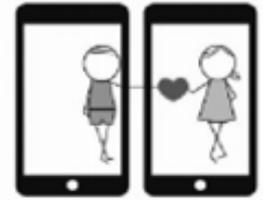
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Joshua Harvey
 0425 283 501

Harveys.electrical.solutions@outlook.com

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Is Selling A Home Much Like The Process Of Online Dating?



A vendor's experience of the process of selling their home can be like internet dating. Here's how ...

First Impressions Count

You need to present your home in an attractive way to get people to swipe right and take a closer look. Was your house presentation good enough to secure a buyer hook, line and sinker?

Don't Fool Around With Your Online Image

Just like styling your online image that is not a true likeness of who you are, fooling around with your home images to misguide people will set you up for failure and disappointment and you will remain on the market for a long time.

Have A Tinder-style Triumph Write Up

Get potential buyers' hearts pounding and imaginations working by talking up all the positive features of your home. This will not only help to get your agent's mobile dinging with 'virtual likes' but actually get it ringing with genuine enquiries.

Act A Little Hard To Get

Not opening your home to the masses can be a great ploy. Exclusive, private inspection by appointment only, one on one, can really help sort out your 'suitsors' from the just curious.

If There's Not A Spark, Don't Lead People On

Potential buyers should not ghost the agent and give them the run around. Tell them the truth. If it's not the one, then it is better to be upfront about it rather than trying to force an attraction that is just not there.

Don't Kittenfish - Make False Claims

Call it what it is, ie; not a 4th bedroom, but 3 & a study. There is nothing worse than being promised or lead to believe something and you turn up and it's not true at all.



Playing The Dating Game

It is okay to delay your response so you don't look too eager or you don't want to come off as being too desperate but if it is the one, don't wait too long. The seller maybe swept off their feet by another buyer with an offer as attractive as yours.

Negotiations

Further dating and investigation may be necessary and should be encouraged before a full commitment is made by signing on the dotted line.

Ask One Agency Robert Mure to be your 'wingman'. We will be happy to find you a compatible buyer or assist you in finding the 'one' you have been searching for.



Tel: 03 5997 2425

Email: kooweerup@oneagency.com.au

Web: oneagencykooweerup.com.au

Remote Learning Skills for the Future at Koo Wee Rup Secondary College

At the beginning of this term when we embarked on our remote learning journey, it was hard to imagine how many positives would come out of such an “unprecedented” time at Koo Wee Rup Secondary College (KWRSC). Both students and staff were facing something completely new, and despite all the preparation that had gone in over the preceding school holidays, it was nerve wracking to be outside our comfort zones.

Six weeks later, we have been amazed at the resilience of our students and community as a whole. While there is no doubt that we have missed many of our usual routines and interactions as a College, and there have definitely been hiccoughs, there have been a number of positive lessons learned that as we transition back to face-to-face teaching over the next few weeks we intend to incorporate into our routines back on-site at the College.

The success of communicating through our online platform, Microsoft Teams, has been unquestionable. Our students have taken to using this like ducks to water, and the quick and efficient communication tools are something that will continue to be used. The ability for students to have video meetings with their whole class, or one on one with their teachers has been invaluable. We have also held staff meetings with over 90 people attending, from Wonthaggi to Arthurs Seat to the Melbourne CBD. There is no doubt that the confidence with which we can now operate this platform will benefit and influence our teaching in the future.

Teachers have also become confident in many other online programs to deliver engaging and interactive lessons to students, and these will transfer back to the classroom, enabling our students to gain greater experience in the use of up to date ICT tools.

Students have learned valuable life lessons in organisation and in having agency over their own learning. Many have enjoyed having the freedom to complete work at their own pace and have thrived in this type of learning environment. In a survey carried out recently, approximately 80% of students reported having a positive remote learning experience. Teachers have been very proud to see how students have faced and overcome challenges in this area too. Our Education Support staff and Wellbeing staff have been a fabulous support to those students who need that extra bit of guidance, again learning ways to manipulate the use of online platforms to best provide support for those in need.

We have been impressed with the creative ways that our students have worked together to maintain contact with their peers and maintain school spirit. The College band adapted their usual participation in the Anzac Day parade to creating an online performance from the comfort of their individual homes, the Physical Education Department provided students with both recorded and live workouts to maintain physical wellbeing, the College Captains made the effort to reach out to students with messages of support and social teams were established to maintain friendships while we were apart.

They say that when pandemics have occurred through History, they force people to re-evaluate the way that they live and to make changes. At KWRSC, where learning is our everyday focus, we feel that we have gone into overdrive through this experience, and we intend to listen to our students’ voices to take the positives and use them to further benefit their learning in the future.

Nicola Power, Learning Specialist, KWRSC



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Dear Koo Wee Rup Secondary College Community

We are nearing the end of week 6 for Remote Teaching and Learning. It has been a journey of new learnings, surprises, frustrations and celebrations. We have all had lessons in patience and resilience and many of us as parents have become 'experts' in a wide range of academic fields we never knew we had before.

As parents and carers I thank you for your consistent and persistent dedication to supporting your children and my staff.

As students I thank you for your resilience in undertaking this journey that has been placed on you. Thank you also for the support you have given each other.

Thank you to parents and students for the valuable feedback supplied to us about your experiences. We will use that information to take the best parts of remote teaching and learning for adaptation for future practice.

As education staff I thank you for the amazing, brilliant work you have undertaken and the adaptations you have had to make to your practice in such a short time. What normally would take 18 months to put in place you have undertaken in two weeks and delivered a first class system of practice over six weeks. We recognise it has not all been perfect and easy but we have all gained so much learning and strength from the experience.

As a community and what we are facing as a community has brought us all closer together as we have gained empathy and understanding towards what we are all having to deal with.

As we enter week seven we are delighted as a college to welcome back our wonderful staff onsite and our wonderful Year 11 and 12 students and those year 10 students undertaking VCE subjects.

This transition back has seemed like an eternity and we understand that for some of us it will not be easy. As a college we will be doing our best to support our students and staff through this transition.

Our Wellbeing team will continue to engage with our school community throughout this process.

For our returning Year 11, 12 and year 10 VCE students my message to you as Principal is to aim to settle into your Onsite learning as quickly as you can. You will all be excited to be back with your friends and teachers and this is important. We recognise you will need time to debrief with each other and share your experiences. Our aim is to make your transition back as "normal" as we can. There will be some changes that you will notice to the way we operate but understand that any changes are in place for all of our health and safety.

I wish you all the very best for your restart next week.

For the rest of our student community, while you will continue to learn remotely for a further two weeks, you will still be first and foremost in our minds and we will continue to provide support and education for you.

We ask that you remain patient and know that we look forward to you all returning on June 9 so that we can be a whole school community again.

With gratitude, Felix Patton, Principal



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St John the Baptist Primary School

Well what a different start to Term Two we had at St. John's. Students began Remote Learning using our Seesaw platform. Teachers created videos for students to watch just like they would in the classroom. The teachers were so impressed with the resilience and responsibility shown by our students during this challenging time. A big thank you to the staff at St John's for adapting their classroom practice to Remote Learning.

During Remote Learning we were able to continue our annual Mother's Day Stall, with pre-ordered packs made up for families. Thank you to Mel, Belinda and Di for organising this and keeping the tradition alive.

We held a Virtual House Cross Country. Students were encouraged to walk, jog or run to earn points for their house colour. It was an exciting finish to the event with Scott House (Green) and Wood House (Yellow) tying for first spot. Thank you to all those students who participated. Students in Grade 3-6 were able to log their run as part of the District Cross Country. Our school came 4th overall. Congratulations to all students who got involved. Thank you to Mrs Dennis for organising this event.

We would like to thank all our students and parents for their support and engagement with our school's Remote Learning. It was lovely seeing all the Junior students on Tuesday 26th May. They came back to school with big smiles on their faces and settled back into the routines of school very quickly. We can't wait to see our Grade 3-6 students on Tuesday 9th June.

COVID19 Update from turningpoint Church Koo Wee Rup

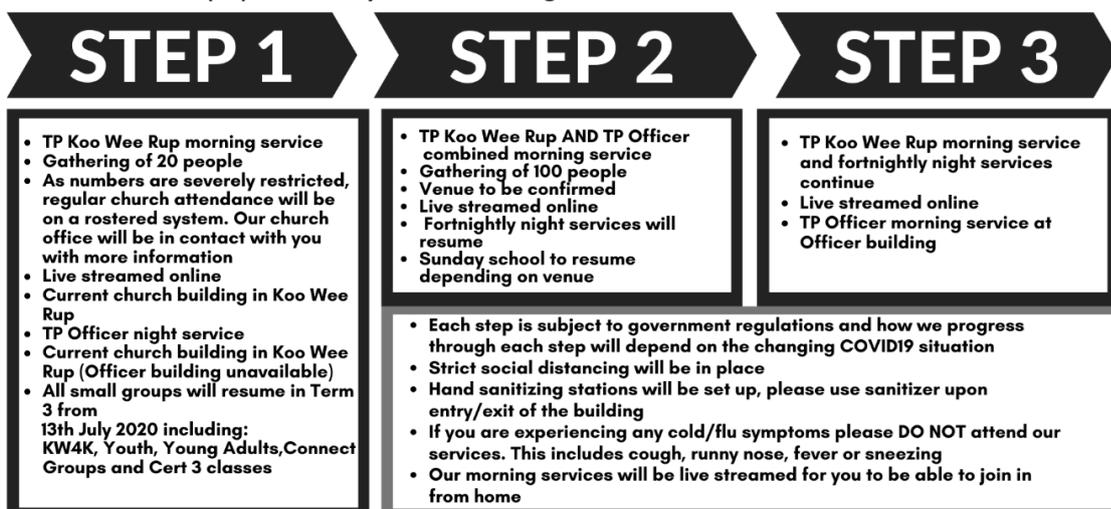
Dear KWR community,

As of 07/06/2020 we will be easing restrictions within our church subject to government regulations. The Roadmap below is an outline of how we will proceed and what you can expect. Our highest priority is the safety and wellbeing of our church members and guests.

There will be strict protocols in place including social distancing and hand sanitizing stations upon entry and exit. Whilst we look forward to seeing everyone again, we strongly advise our elderly community and those with medical conditions to seek medical advice before attending our services. Our service will continue to be

Roadmap to a COVIDSafe Church

A three-step pathway for easing restrictions



Please note: Turningpoint Church reserves the right to refuse entry and/or ask you to leave if we think there may be a health risk

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KWR CONNECT

We offer food relief services for the community with DELIVERY NOW AVAILABLE.

In order to adhere to Covid-19 regulations; please book an appointment before you visit us. Pre-packed parcels will be given out.

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facebook.com/turningpointkwr
www.turningpointkooweerup.org.au

live streamed for those wanting to watch from home. Please note that as COVID-19 is a rapidly changing situation, the guidelines below are subject to change according to government regulations.

Koo Wee Rup Connect remains open every Friday from 10.30am – 2.30pm. Please contact our church office on 03 5997 2217 to book an appointment. We have delivery services available for those in self-isolation.

You can follow us on Facebook for weekly updates of our church and ways you can get connected. www.facebook.com/turningpointkwr

Blessings,
Ps Sean and turningpoint Church Koo Wee Rup

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KOO WEE RUP Primary School

We're back.....

It was wonderful to have our Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 students back to school on Tuesday 26th May. The students have settled back into their classes so well. We are so grateful to all of our families for the phenomenal job they have done throughout this challenging period. We are looking forward to having our Year 3-6 students back on-site from Tuesday 9th June.



2021 Foundation Enrolments

The school is currently exploring ways that we can run the School Information Session for prospective parents of 2021 students. This night will provide families with the opportunity to learn more about the incredible educational programs that Koo Wee Rup Primary School provides. For people wishing to register their interest for further information, please email the school (koo.wee.rup.ps@education.vic.gov.au) so that we can communicate with you as soon as we have further information to share.

What's Happening

Monday 8th June

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Tuesday 9th June

Year 3—6 Students return to school

Friday 26th June 2:15pm

End of Term Dismissal



NEWS FROM BAYLES REGIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

3730 Ballarto Road, Bayles 3981 Phone: 5997 7261 www.baylesps.vic.edu.au

Welcome to Term 2

Next week we see the long awaited return of our Foundation, Grade 1 and 2 students. While students in Grades 3—6 will continue their 'Remote Learning' for two more weeks. School is going to be different but it will be wonderful to have students back in classrooms, with their teachers and friends.

While the students have been 'Remote Learning' our weekly assemblies to announce our Student of the Week recipients have been presented by our Principal Alison Andrews and each week she has had a fun theme. Some of the themes have included pyjama day, pirates and a special visit from Sully, Mike and Boo from Monsters Inc. Next Weeks theme is already planned and will be just as much fun. The students are all enjoying watching the assemblies and having their certificates personally delivered to their homes.



Enrol now for 2021

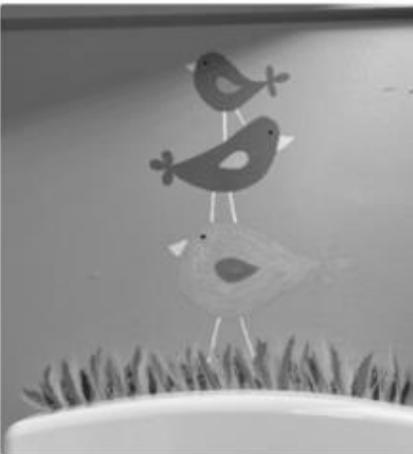
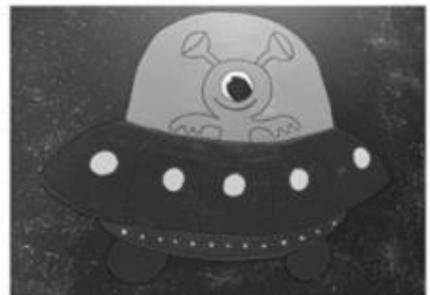
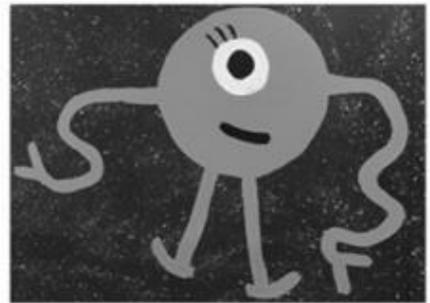
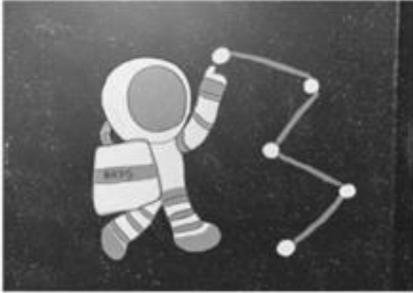
Have a look at our Website and Facebook page for more information about us and our programs.

Check out our Foundation 2021 video on our Facebook page.

Surprise Toilet Updates

While the students have been learning at home, Alison and Annette have been very busy giving the children's toilets an update. The girl's toilet now has a nature theme and the boy's toilets have gone to space. It has taken three weeks of constant painting to complete the intricate paintings but the completed designs look amazing. We can't wait for the students to be able to see them in person, as they have seen them recently on a grand opening video but it just doesn't give the full effect. See over the page for some photo's of our updates

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From birthday parties to weddings, conferences to community seminars, the Community Centre caters for many different events in its three function rooms.

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**Bookings subject to Committee approval*

Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club News

Our Club has been closed down for some time however with the lifting of some restrictions the possibility of playing soon, until 31/5/20, is now with us. Our Club competitions were well under way until restrictions forced the closure. Winners to date are Wayne Stevens (Men's Champion), John Durrant ("B" Grade), Bryan Walker & Trevor Kitchen (Pairs) & Jim Jenkins (President's hcp). The only competition left is the 100 up hcp. At the time of writing this report the only Ladies competition completed was Pauline Gray (Ladies Champion). Hopefully we may be able to finish the remaining games which are all to the semi-final stage.

Our Sec. has spent 6 weeks recent with major surgery followed by rehabilitation, he is now home following a further rehab. program. As long as he takes it easy over the next month or so things should go to plan.



Rex Alexander, Sec. 03.59961862

Reminder: Applications for 2021 kindergarten registration open

Families in Cardinia Shire are encouraged to register for 2021 kindergarten places by 5pm, Friday 26 June 2020, for first round offers.

Kindergarten is a play-based learning program that builds children's confidence, enhances their social and language skills, expands their physical abilities and prepares them for schooling. In Cardinia Shire, Council provides a central registration service for both three-year-old and four-year-old community kindergarten programs offered in its facilities.

Research shows more time at kindergarten prepares children for success at school and has a positive impact later in life. Kindergarten is an essential part of social and personal development for children, and assists in developing language skills, problem solving abilities, self-confidence and more.

The four-year-old kindergarten program is partially funded by the Victorian Government for up to 15-hours per week for eligible children who are four years-old on or before 30 April in the year they attend kindergarten. Additionally, other subsidies may be available depending on different criteria.

The three-year-old kindergarten program is not currently government funded and usually only includes sessions up to six hours per week. To register in a three-year-old program the child needs to have turned three years old by the time they will start the program.

The application process has remained online for the 2021 registration process and uses Council's central registration portal, providing an easy, step-by-step process for parents.

First round offers for four-year-old kindergarten in 2021 will be emailed to parents from Monday 6 July 2020. Any registrations received after 5pm on Friday 26 June 2020 will be processed in later rounds and throughout the year as places become available or as required.

Cardinia Shire Council will email first round offers for families for the 2021 three-year-old kindergarten places from Monday 3 August 2020.

For more information about kindergarten registration, visit Council's website at www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/kindergarten or call the Central Registration team on 1300 787 624.



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Koo Wee Rup RSL Sub-Branch Report

A little more on the RAN deployment during the Vietnam war.

The coastal province of Phuoc Tuy was the centre of operation for much of the Australian military effort in Vietnam between the latter half of 1966 and into the first months of 1972. While the harbour municipality of Vung Tau was the base for the 'First Army Logistical Support Group' (1ALSG) from 1965 to 1972 it was also home based to the RAN Clearance Diving Team Three (CDT3). No 9 Squadron and No 35 Squadron RAAF were also based at Vung Tau airfield.

The Vung Tau Peninsula juts out into the South China Sea near the mouth of the Saigon River complex and was known under the French colonialists as Cap St Jacques (that is also how we knew it). At the mouth of the Saigon River, marshy flats have formed an area known by the South Vietnamese as Rung Sat (Forest of Assassins). The Rung Sat is a large expanse of inhospitable mangroves and swamp stretching from the northern periphery of Vung Tau Peninsula to the upper reaches of the Lang Tao Shipping Channel.

The US Commander of Naval Forces Vietnam, defined the Rung Sat as Special Zone (RSSZ). The area was centred 20 miles east to west and 20 miles north to south. The importance of the RSSZ lies in the fact that the main shipping channel for ships proceeding to Saigon from the South China Sea - the Long Tao Shipping Channel and to a lesser degree the Soi Rap River - flow through this area.

The threats to shipping along the length of the Long Tao Shipping Channel could take two forms; one was from mining and the other was attacking ships with rockets and heavy machine guns. The most serious threat is mining as this could result in a ship being sunk in such a manner as to block further traffic on the river for an extended period of time. Therefore one of our major tasks in the RSSZ was that of conducting mine counter measures to keep the Long Tao River channel open to the port of Saigon.

To achieve this, the USN had a force of 12 mine sweeping boats. USN operations were coordinated with those of the South Vietnamese Navy who operated motor launch mine sweepers out of Naval Headquarters Saigon. In their efforts to keep the Long Tao Shipping Channel open, over the period of May of 1966 to May 1967 the MSBs sustained severe losses. Three were lost to enemy mines and several other boats were badly damaged with 10 fatalities and 35 wounded. In the course of these operations, the MSBs swept and recovered numerous mines. With the exception of a 500kg Russian manufactured contact mine discovered in December of '66, they were all of the command detonated variety. Against this type of mine the chain drag sweep, which cuts the electronic lead(s) from the mine to the hidden detonating point on the river bank, proved the most effective.

On our very first deployment to the area, which would have been around mid 1965, as we dropped anchor, two boats were lowered and patrolling of the anchorage commenced. Mining incidents along the Long Tao River for the period of May '66 to February '67, for example, included attempts by the Viet Cong divers of mining at least four merchant ships; Easter Marnier suffered extensive damage from the impact of a mine which blew a very large hole below the water line on her starboard side. Similar damage was sustained by Baton Rouge Victory when a mine extensively damaged her on the port side adjacent to the engine room, also below the water line. Milos de Mar suffered only minor damage from her brief encounter with an unidentified mine attached to her anchor cable. The fourth ship, Our Lady of Peace, had a crude 130 pounds of TNT removed from her hull by USN Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team. The ship had a cargo of 500 pounds bombs at the time. Dangerous as it may be, it was the safest way.

Steaming ships up rivers is more than dangerous, the ship and her crew are exposed to enemy fire from both sides as well as from beneath with no room to manoeuvre or to turn the ship around, the risk of running aground and always slow going. As well as carrying all types of ammunition and various types of fuels, these ships were a prime target, remembering that 7 out of 9 oil tankers were sunk, mostly by 'U' Boats during the battle of the Atlantic, it was still considered safer and quicker than using road transport.

We will remember them,

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PO Box 58 Koo Wee Rup Vic. 3981.

**Contact:** Dwayne Lester (President) 0410556581 **Email:** juniors@kooweerupfc.com

Dear Players, Parents and Supporters,

In light of the recent removal of some Government restrictions, and the document released by AFL Victoria, the Koo Wee Rup Junior Football Club committee, in conjunction with the coaches, have decided on the following return to training schedule;

- **U/8s combined with U/9s-** Every Monday (starting on the 15th June) between 4.30pm and 5.30pm
- **U/10s combined with U/12s-** Every Wednesday (starting 17th June) between 4.30pm and 5.30pm
- **U/14s-** Every Friday (starting 19th June) between 4.30pm and 5.30pm.
- **Auskick-** No sessions are permitted.

All of the above training sessions will be held at the Koo Wee Rup Recreation Reserve and have been decided on in consideration of availability and economic factors.

The following protocols, as outlined by AFL Victoria and the State Government, must be adhered to at all times and will therefore have an impact on the approach to our training sessions.

Before Arrival At Training

- If your child is sick or has been in contact with someone who is sick, then they are NOT permitted at training or the training venue. Parents/Care Givers, must contact the relevant coach/covid safety officer. Your child may be required to isolate for 14 days or provide a negative result for COVID-19 before being permitted to train again.
- Ensure your child has properly washed their hands before leaving home. *(continued next page)*

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Contact: Dwayne Lester (President) 0410556581 **Email:** juniors@kooweerupfc.com

(from previous page)

Arrival At Training)

- Please ensure your child arrives with their own drink bottle (already filled), with their full name clearly written on the drink bottle. The club will NOT be supplying water bottles for training sessions, nor do we have any access to the change room amenities (part of the AFL Victoria protocols)
- At this stage it is recommended that only one parent/care giver be permitted to bring their child to training and take them home. The parent/care giver is permitted to stay at the training venue (provided they adhere to the 1.5m social distancing rule and they do NOT enter the training oval at any time).
- Once you and your child have arrived at the oval, please send your child (you may accompany them if you wish) over to the undercover area in front of the change rooms, so he/she can be assessed by the relevant COVID safety officer and marked down on the register. Please ensure your child arrives early (before 4.30), as they may not be permitted to train if they arrive after this time (as the coaches are also the COVID officers).
- Once your child has been marked off on the register they will be required to clean their hands with sanitizer in front of the COVID officer (sanitizer will be provided by the club, or you may prefer your own)
- From there your child will be advised to place their water bottle within a certain marked off area on the oval (or you may choose to hold on to it yourself), and then they will be asked to take their place on a marking cone on the oval

During Training

- Only 2 groups of 10 (not including coaches/assistant coaches) are permitted for each training session.
- The oval will be divided in half, and each group of 10 will only be permitted to train within their own half.
- Social distancing of 1.5m is to be adhered to by all participants throughout the training session (failure to do so could mean your child is removed from the training session). There can NOT be any high fives, pats on the back etc.
- All training drills will be strictly non-contact (no tackling, no marking contests etc.)
- We will not be using any equipment other than footballs and cones/witches hats (no tackle bags, coloured bibs, marking bags etc.)
- During a drink break, we will instruct the kids to go directly to their drink bottle, grab a drink and come straight back, whilst always observing social distancing.

After Training

- Once training is complete, we will advise the kids to grab their drink bottle (if you don't have it already) and send them over to you. Please ensure they know where you are parked, or standing, so they head over to you straight away.
- There will be NO kick to kick or mucking about after the training session has finished, kids are to go straight to their parents/caregiver and leave the premises as soon as possible.
- Coaches will ensure cones and footballs are wiped down with disinfectant spray and or wipes after each training session.

It is important for all parents/caregivers to understand that these training sessions are *completely voluntary* and there is no obligation for you or your child to participate if you are in any way uncomfortable with what we are proposing. The sole purpose of this exercise is just to provide the kids with a bit of an outlet, albeit a limited one, and to keep connected as a club.

We ask that all parents advise their relevant coaches if they wish for their child to participate (or not participate) in the upcoming training sessions, by no later than Monday the 8th June. This will allow us a week to prepare and organize rosters should we need to

U/14s	Mick Monkton	0431 172590
U/12s U/10s	Daniel Tannahill	0427 302137
U8s U/9s	Daniel Mullens	0403 134174

Please check the junior club Facebook page and your email inboxes for more detailed information and related documents. Should you need to speak with the club, you can contact **Danny Pirotta on 0413 023504** or contact your respective coaches. Please keep well and all the best to you and your family

Yours Sincerely, Koo Wee Rup Junior Football Club

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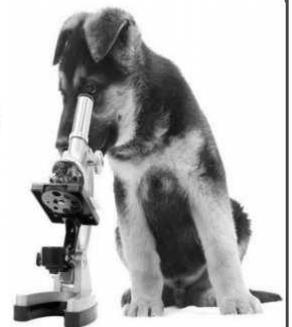
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Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup -Lang Lang



The Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup Lang Lang are continuing to meet via the new forum of Zoom with the community and the vulnerable at the forefront of our concerns with those that are in isolation in the pandemic state. Consideration to drought and the bushfires assistance is also our concern although our donation \$, like other community based organisations are having difficulty in finding those \$'s with fundraisers being put on hold. The East Gippsland Rotary Fire Aid Committee have been inundated with goods for bushfire relief and have ceased collecting items. They are busy distributing all those items to the bushfire effected areas.

At our recent Zoom meeting it was decided to continue our support for care packages being distributed through Koo Wee Rup Regional Health to those that are in vulnerable situations. It is also looking very promising to be granted an Arts Grant to have a bucking horse erected in Dick Jones Park. We still have plans to hold the prostate night when possible, we will let you know when restrictions are lifted to be able to bring this vital information to you all.

Normally at this time of the Rotary year we are winding down the year's business with the changeover of presidents at the end of June to the new President for 2020/2021. As social distancing is still putting a hold on face to face meetings the changeover automatically takes place at midnight on the 30th of June and I will be very pleased to hand over the reigns to Michael Boraston. Michael has the community and its needs very much his thoughts, I am sure he is going to keep us very busy in his year. Although it has been a challenging year with the drought, bushfires and COVID-19, I am so proud that our club and members continue to have the community and its need as the first consideration.

New members wanted, enquiries are most welcome, you can write to 'Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup - Lang Lang, P.O. Box 18, Lang Lang. Vic, 3984 or email rkooweeruplanglang@gmail.com or phone the secretary Graham Warry on 0499 101 953.

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup - Lang Lang, we thank you for the continued support. I trust that you are all safe and healthy in isolation.

Please if you feel at all anxious or in need, reach out to a family member or friend.

President of the Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup - Lang Lang, Judy Wright. 0417 582 252.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS EVENT WILL BE HELD AT A DATE TO BE CONFIRMED

***ALAN WHITE* is an author of**

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June 20

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An excerpt from the Premiers statement on the 24th May 2020

The whole way through this pandemic, our advice to Victorians has remained the same: "stay home". Now, as we begin to settle into a new normal, our message is "stay safe".

At the same time, we're urging Victorians:

- ◆ In all your activities, be considered. Be cautious. Use your common sense.
- ◆ And if you don't have to do it – don't.
- ◆ By making these small sacrifices, we're each contributing to something much greater than ourselves
- ◆ Working from home means we can go away for the weekend.
- ◆ Staggering start times means our kids can start learning face-to-face.
- ◆ Keeping our distance means we can open cafes and restaurants.
- ◆ And by only seeing those you need to, if you need to, we can help keep our friends and families safe.
- ◆ Because we all have a part to play.
- ◆ And it's up to all of us to make this work.

There are now 5 reasons (not just 4) that you can leave your home:

Medical Care and Caregiving



Exercise and Outdoor Recreation



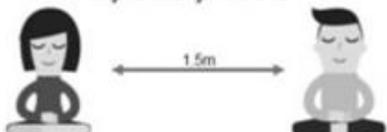
Work and Education
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Food and Supplies
That you need



Visit your Family and Friends
If you really need to



Thank-you to our wonderful volunteers, for EVERYTHING you do, big or small it all makes a HUGE difference to EVERYONE here. We miss you, and look forward to seeing you all again soon. Pictured below are some of our staff with a smile and a thank-you.



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Our Early Parenting Unit will be reopening the Day Program from Tuesday 2nd June, 2020.

Please visit our website for the latest information on KRHS and COVID-19 restrictions



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Next Working Bee

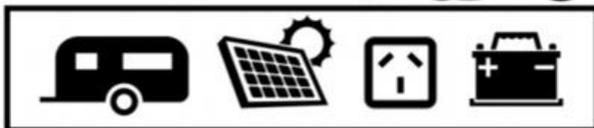
Sunday, 7 June, 9am start
 followed by a BBQ lunch
 Please bring own bottled
 water,

wear long pants and closed
 in shoes

Next Committee Meeting

Sunday, 7 June
 immediately after working
 bee

All welcome



- ALL CARAVAN WIRING ■ BATTERIES ■
- BATTERY CHARGERS ■ ANDERSON PLUGS ■
- 12 PIN TRAILER PLUG WIRING ■
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Waltonrvs@gmail.com

The Flax Mill at Koo Wee Rup

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

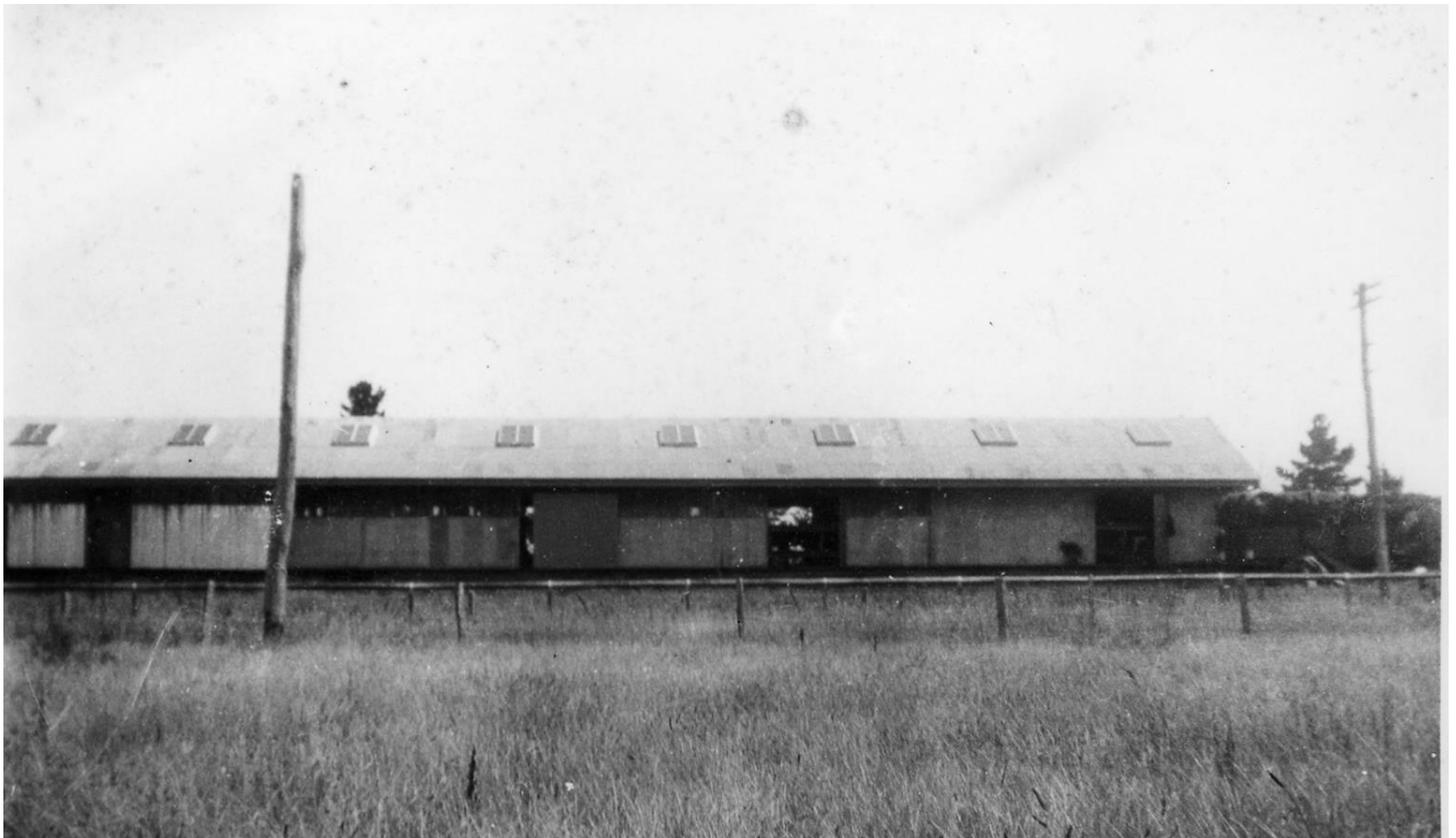
In 1940, the British Government asked Australia to produce more flax for the War effort. Britain had previously been supplied with flax from Russia, Belgium and Ireland, but as the War interrupted these supplies they looked to Australia. Flax was used for all sorts of clothing and equipment such as coats, parachute harnesses, ropes and tarpaulins.

England sent out 400 tons of flax seed to Australia and the Victoria Department of Agriculture approved 14,000 acres of land as suitable for flax growing. In the Koo Wee Rup area 1,374 acres were approved for planting.

The Flax Mill opened in the former Gippsland and Northern Produce shed at the Railway yards in December 1940 and the opening was celebrated with a 'sumptuous repast' at the Royal Hotel on New Year's Eve 1940. The Manager, Mr H.E Clark, had previously been employed at the Drouin Mill. The *Koo Wee Rup Sun* of March 6, 1941 reported on a meeting of the Koo Wee Rup and District Branch of the Victorian Flax Growers Association. Despite over seventy growers being notified there was only a 'meagre turn up the meeting'. The President was Cr Dan Kinsella and the Koo Wee Rup Branch included growers from Berwick and Pakenham. The report goes on to say that the district had 73 growers, growing 1,560 acres, with an average cultivation of twenty-one acres. In August 1941, two railway truck loads of flax fibre were being sent each week to the City.

In March 1943, thirty Land Army women arrived to work at the Flax Mill. They were housed in fifteen, newly built fibrolite huts in Station Street. The complex also had a shower room, mess room, kitchen and dining room. The arrival of the women was reported in the *Koo Wee Rup Sun* of March 18, 1943. The Australian Women's Land Army (AWLA) was formed in 1942 to provide labour to farming areas to replace the men who had gone off to war. The women had to be aged between 18 and 55 and be 'strong and intelligent' to carry out the 'essential national work connected with Victorian Flax centres' Conditions included a five-day week at award rates, plus overtime.

In September 1944, the Mill was destroyed by fire and the thirteen AWLA women on night shift were lucky to escape unharmed though about £800 worth of fibre was destroyed. At the time of the fire the Mill employed forty-six males and thirty-four females. The Mill re-opened in temporary premises a month later. The closure of the Mill was announced in the *Koo Wee Rup Sun* in November 1946 and by March the following year the buildings were disposed of. The amenities building of the Flax Mill was purchased and used as a Scout Hall. Another building, an army hut, was erected on land adjoining St John's Catholic School. At its peak the Mill employed up to 70 men and 40 Land Army women.



**The Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society meets on the second Wednesday of each month. We are currently closed due to Covid 19 and will not be holding a meeting or opening the Museum in June. Heather Arnold
harnold@dcsi.net.au 0407 521 637.**



Thank You Victoria.

While some restrictions have eased, limiting our movement everyday means everything. It means we slow the spread of the virus. If we keep working from home and we limit the number of us moving around, we can keep kicking a footy in the park. If we use common sense and keep our distance, we can visit cafes and restaurants. And if we only see those we need to, we'll keep our friends and families safe.

We all have a part to play.
It's up to all of us to make this work.



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