

THE KOO WEE RUP BLACKFISH



AUGUST 2021

Upgrading the Koo Wee Rup Road

Major Road Projects Victoria (MPRV) attended the July Township Committee meeting to provide an update on the road upgrade.

Once completed, the Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road from Manks Road to the Pakenham Bypass will be a four lane divided carriageway with two lanes in either direction with a sealed 3m shoulder next to each left lane. There will be three new roundabouts built at Ballarto Road, Hall Road and at the corner of the O'Connor abattoir and



new traffic lights at Greenhills Road. There will be no crossing places on the new road other than at the roundabouts. This will mean that there will be only left turns onto and off the road which will significantly reduce the risk of accidents.

MPRV told the meeting that there has been, and will continue to be, significant soil testing in the area to make sure that the pavement of the new road will be appropriate to the swamp surface and to the volume of traffic travelling on the road. They believe that the new road will not become potholed after every significant rain event. So far they have identified 5 different types of pavement for different sections of the road.

From Manks Road to Ellett Road, two new lanes will be built to the east of the current road. Once complete, the traffic will be diverted onto those lanes and the old road will be dug up and completely rebuilt. From Ellett Road to the new roundabout at O'Connors four new lanes will be built, these new lanes will eliminate the bends which create problems on the existing road. Once completed, the old road will be dug up and rebuilt and will serve as a two way service road for those properties on the western side of the old road, this will also be the access road for Soldiers and Watson Roads. The service road will be accessed from the new roundabout at Hall Road. From O'Connors to the bypass two new lanes will be built. The O'Connor driveway will be rerouted to enter the road at the new roundabout.

A shared walking and cycling track will run the full length of the new road and across the bypass to Bald Hill Road, the path will be around 3 metres wide. Council have undertaken to build a linking path from Koo Wee Rup to the Manks Road start of the path.

Because of the difficulty of detouring around the road, the project is designed to minimise road closures or speed limit reductions.

The first stage of the project has already commenced with teams locating services along the road. The first visible signs of work are anticipated to be in October when the relocation of services commences. It is hoped that the actual build will begin late this year or very early 2022 with completion date anticipated to be 2025.

Caroline Roff, Editor

*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
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What's on in Koo Wee Rup and District

Lockdown restrictions permitting

August

Sun 1st	National Tree Planting Day with CWA (<i>page 11</i>)	Orchard End Farm	9am
Mon 2nd	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Mon 2nd	CWA Meeting	Zoom	7.30pm
Wed 4th	Koo Wee Coffee Club (<i>back page</i>)	Royal Hotel	10am
Wed 4th	Township Committee Meeting	Community Centre	7.30pm
Wed 4th	Lions Club Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7.30pm
Thu 5th	SW Gippsland Midweek Bowls	Bowls Club	10.30am
Fri 6th	KWR Regional Health Service Ladies Auxiliary AGM	RSL Clubrooms	<i>postponed</i>
Fri 6th	Winter Triples	Bowls Club	10.30am
Sun 8th	Bayles Fauna Park Working Bee & Committee Meeting	Bayles Fauna Park	9am
Mon 9th	KWR Senior Citizens AGM (<i>page 5</i>)	Senior Citizens Club	<i>postponed</i>
Mon 9th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Mon 9th	Chair Pilates (<i>page 21</i>)	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 9th	Mat Pilates (<i>page 21</i>)	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Tue 10th	Have a Chat Chuesday (<i>back page</i>)	Uniting/Anglican Church	2pm
Wed 11th	KWR Swamp Historical Society Meeting	KWR Museum	7.30pm
Fri 13th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 14th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sun 15th	Social Bowls (<i>page 21</i>)	Bowls Club	1pm
Mon 16th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Mon 16th	Chair Pilates	Eco House – Hospital	5pm
Mon 16th	Mat Pilates	Eco House – Hospital	6pm
Mon 16th	CWA Craft Night	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Wed 18th	Koo Wee Coffee Club	Chandelier Cafe	10am
Wed 18th	Lions Club Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7.30pm
Fri 20th	Winter Triples	Bowls Club	10.30am
Fri 20th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 21st	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Mon 23rd	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Mon 23rd	Chair Pilates	Eco House – Hospital	5pm
Mon 23rd	Mat Pilates	Eco House – Hospital	6pm
Fri 27th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 28th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sun 29th	Social Bowls	Bowls Club	1pm
Mon 30th	Kays Classic Fashions (<i>back page</i>)	Masonic Lodge	11am
Mon 30th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm

September

Wed 1st	Koo Wee Coffee Club (<i>back page</i>)	Royal Hotel	10am
Wed 1st	Township Committee Meeting	Community Centre	7.30pm
Wed 1st	Lions Club Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7.30pm
Fri 3rd	KWR Regional Health Service Ladies Auxiliary meeting	Hospital Education Room	9.30am
Mon 6th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Mon 6th	Chair Pilates (<i>page 21</i>)	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 6th	Mat Pilates (<i>page 21</i>)	Eco House - Hospital	6pm

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

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

For document signing and associated services
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JP duties are a free community service

Koo Wee Rup Over 60s Cricket – Are you interested in playing?

The Koo Wee Rup Over 60s cricket team first played on 9 October 2016 in the Victorian Over 60s Cricket Association (VOSCA), now called Veterans Cricket Victoria (VCV). With 9 players now aged in their 70s, we are looking to recruit youth, players in their 60s, but anyone from 60 to 100 (or older!) is welcome to come down for a hit. Women are more than welcome to play. It's a great way to stay active.

The club plays every Sunday both at home on the Rec Reserve main ground and away. We play around 15 games each season. Pre season training will commence in August at the Koo Wee Rup Nets. The season starts in October and is played until the end of February.

We have social events as well as an annual pilgrimage to Echuca for the state carnival every March. In 2021, after a losing 20 games in a row in the regular season, Koo Wee Rup played at the Echuca carnival and won 2 games and played off in the final, unsuccessfully.

In the 71 games that Koo Wee Rup have played in the VCV, 66 different players have played at least one game but 5 players have played over 50: Graham Davey (66), John Moore (65), Bob Phillips (58), Ron Milnes (53) and Bruce Potts (50).

Koo Wee Rup have had 8 players represent Victoria at the Australian National Championships in over 60s or over 70s.

In their first year, the club played 16 games, winning 11, losing 4 with 1 abandoned. Since then things have slid a little losing a few more each year, but having a good time doing it.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Steven Nadj 0407 976 445, or Graham Davey 0439 977 453.





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Koo Wee Rup Township Committee Meeting

The Township held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, 7 July at the Koo Wee Rup Community Centre. Township Meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 4 August at 7:30 pm at the Koo Wee Rup Community Centre.

Major Road Projects Victoria (MRPV) is a state government organisation to develop major road projects. The Department of Transport, which includes Vic Roads is responsible for planning, operating and maintaining the road network.

Healesville – Koo Wee Rup Road upgrade is part of the Suburban Roads Upgrade package. Originally planned as a Public Private Partnership the Healesville – Koo Wee Rup Road upgrade will now be delivered under the Program Delivery Model. This means that MRPV can have greater control over the contractors and delivery, and reduces procurement times, and allows for more direction in how the work is completed.

Land acquisition is being finalised and final design being agreed with contractors. During the period July to September investigations will be completed, and the contract will be awarded in October 2021. Construction is expected to start in early 2022, although some site preparation may take place in late 2021.

The project includes:

- an extra lane in each direction between Princes Freeway and Manks Road
- Pavement upgrades
- new traffic lights at Greenhills Road
- a new bridge over Deep Creek near the water recycling plant
- new roundabouts at Hall Road, south of Deep Creek, and Ballarto Road
- a new shared walking and cycling path
- safety barriers along the road.
- new bus stops in Pakenham industrial area
- Approximately 40 fauna underpasses
- 10 frog ponds

During construction traffic will use the existing road whilst the new lanes are built and then traffic will be directed on to the new lanes whilst the old road is basically re-built from scratch.

The project is approximately 10 kilometres long and will be delivered simultaneously in two 5km sections by two contractors.

There has been extensive engagement with council and local community and there will be continued communication via a regular newsletter update, and via the MRPV Facebook page.

Where possible work will be coordinated with other projects such as the works on Racecourse Road, Level Crossings and Monash Freeway works.

The project will be completed by 2025.

The two candidates for the Westernport Ward byelection, David Young and Kaye Cameron, spoke to the meeting about their priorities for the community. The byelection was by postal vote and results will be declared on Friday, 30 July.

There has been flooding on Boundary Drain Road properties after road works to seal the road have resulted in a change to drainage. Cr Graeme Moore said that the drains will need to be assessed to manage the change.

Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens Club

Icke Road, Koo Wee Rup

Once again, our rooms are closed. We will re-open as soon as restrictions are lifted. We have had to cancel our Christmas in July event. The Annual General Meeting has been deferred until Monday September 13th at 10.30am. Look forward to seeing you all again.

All enquiries to:

Dianne D	0419 405 404
Diane K	0408 663 55
Leonie	0477 249 000



Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup-Lang Lang
Community

Who can we help?
How can you help us?

For more information
facebook page (Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup-Lang Lang)
or our website

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Phone: 0499 101 953

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Damien Fitzgerald: 0419 524 824

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We are located at:

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and

1, 1-3 Main Street, Bunyip.

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Koo Wee Rup and Districts Lions

Written by Linda Sanders

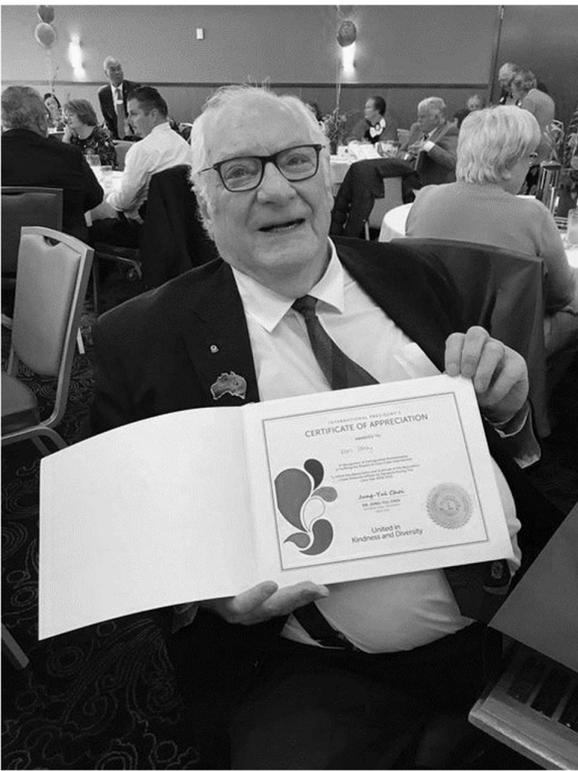
Lions Meetings

Koo Wee Rup Lions have meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the RSL rooms, Station Street, Koo Wee Rup at 7pm.

We are committed to serving our local, national and international communities.

If you would like to join our merry team, please come along to a meeting to see how things are run or call Ron Payne on 0429 042 911.

Congratulations Ken



Secretary Ken Blay was awarded the International Presidents Certificate of Appreciation at the Lions District 201 V3 Changeover lunch at Warragul on Sunday 11th July 2021.

The International President's Certificate of Appreciation is usually awarded personally by an International Director, after the recipient has been nominated by the District Governor. The award is in recognition of distinguished achievements in fulfilling the service mission of Lions Clubs. It is the 4th highest LCI award.



Lions Kindness Matters Koalas

At the Changeover dinner, Ian Gration had the Lions Koalas for sale. He immediately sold the box of 12 bears and has orders for another 8. Well done Ian! If you would like one, they are \$20 each.

To coincide with Lions Australia commencing celebrations of 75 years of service in Australia, Lions Crimewatch has introduced a new member of the family... a unique Australian Lions branded Koala called "Amitie" meaning 'friendship'.

"Amitie" Koala features an embroidered Lions logo on its chest along with a smart blue ribbon necktie. Lions Crimewatch is promoting these Koalas to clubs to celebrate those wonderful 75 years of service. The small profit from the sales of these Koalas will be donated to the Australian Lions Foundation to be distributed to Lions clubs throughout Australia, supporting projects centred around families in need.



Koo Wee Rup and Districts Lions

2021 – 2022 Changeover Dinner



Congratulations to the new officer bearers who were installed at the Koo Wee Rup Lions changeover dinner at the Tooradin Sports Club on Friday 2nd July 2021. It was a great night and I think everyone enjoyed themselves.

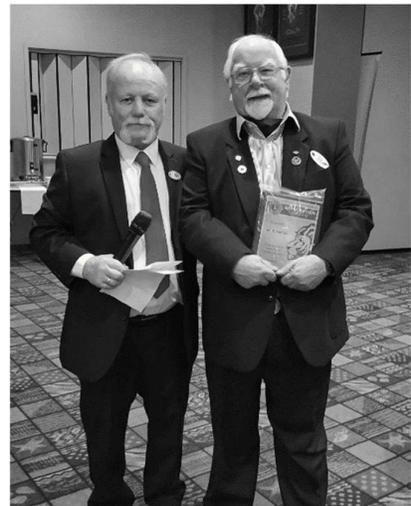
Tooradin Lions were also included in the Changeover and it worked well. Also attending were Council Graeme Moore and his wife Sue, PDG Graham Cockerell and his wife.

Lion Jacqui Armstrong did a wonderful job as MC and kept the evening rolling. The food was good, the room was good and the speaker and sound system worked well!



President Rex Sanders presented the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award to Sheryl Blay (left) who was blown away. This award is the highest recognition in Lions and it is well deserved by Sheryl. Congratulations!!!

President Rex also presented achievement awards to (clockwise from right) Linda Sanders, Ron Payne, Shirelle Lean and Andrew Mortimer.



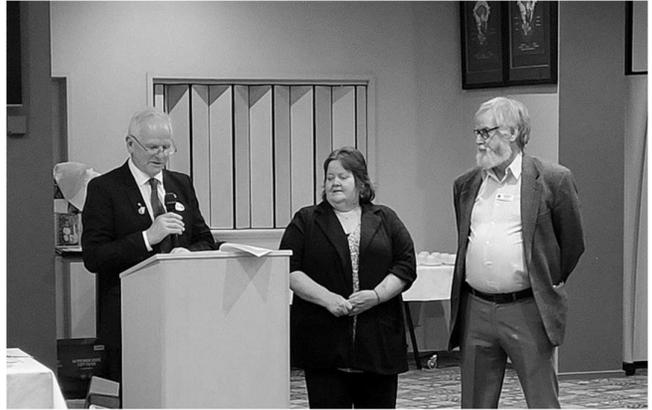
Koo Wee Rup and Districts Lions

2021 – 2022 Changeover Dinner

PDG Graham Cockerell gave a talk and welcomed Leonie Smith as a new member to our group.

The Op Shop Ladies were acknowledged for all their hard work and were given certificates of appreciation by Op Shop Co-ordinator Sheryl Blay. Well done ladies, you really are appreciated and it is great to be able to acknowledge your dedication and effort.

Sheryl Blay also presented the groups who worked in the Op Shop and helped make it a success with their electronic cheques. The groups who received the magnificent amount of \$4544.21 each are:



- KooWeeRup Support Fund
- Bayles Regional Primary School
- RSL
- Historical Society
- Hospital Ladies Auxiliary
- Lions
- Uniting Church Fellowship
- Scouts
- Senior Citizens

Well done groups and congratulations on such a large sum.

Ride for Sight Raffle:

Ian Gration drew the winning ticket for the Ride for Sight raffle and the winning ticket was #5470 sold by Mornington Lions to Mr Frank Doherty.





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What was that siren?

July 2021

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:

- 26/6/21 – Possible Shed Fire – Caldermeade Rd Caldermeade
- 26/6/21 – Smoke alarm operating – Dineen Rd Bayles
- 27/6/21 – Alarm Operating – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 27/6/21 – Alarm Operating – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 28/6/21 – Alarm Operating – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 2/7/21 – Burn Off/False Alarm – South Gippsland Hwy Monomeith
- 3/7/21 – Assist Ambulance - Station St Koo Wee Rup
- 4/7/21 – Alarm Operating – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 6/7/21 – Alarm Operating – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 10/7/21 – Alarm Operating – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 13/7/21-Motor Vehicle Collision – Manks Rd Dalmore
- 13/7/21 – Incident – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup



Location of Smoke Alarms

Did you know you can't smell smoke when you're asleep? All homes should have interconnected working smoke alarms installed in every bedroom and living area. It could save your life.

Register Your Burn-Off

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

Please also notify CFA to register your burn so we don't have to drop everything and check out your burn-off for no reason.

Go online <https://firepermits.vic.gov.au> or phone 1800 668 511 to register your burn.

Contact Us

You can contact Koo Wee Rup Fire Brigade for non-emergency enquiries via facebook @KooWeeRupFireBrigade



NATIONAL TREE PLANTING

The KWR CWA is delighted to assist Orchard End Farm in hosting a National Tree Day activity on 1st August 2021 from 9am to 12pm.

This is to be held at 55 Number Five Drain Road, Bayles.

Continuing on the re-vegetation project for the third year with approximately 500 trees and shrubs to plant in a wildlife corridor that runs parallel to the Koo Wee Rup-Longwarry Road, we are aiming to increase biodiversity and provide habitat for local protected wildlife, as well as provide them safe passage to Bayles Flora and Fauna park.

Whilst 500 trees sounds ominous, we have found in previous years that with a number of volunteers we are finished just prior to lunch.

A BBQ lunch will be provided for volunteers after the event. We welcome anyone who would like to come along and help.



OBrien Real Estate



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Sold.

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Koo Wee Rup

4 2 2

- 7 days on market
- 1 open for inspections
- 11 buyer inspections
- 3 written offers
- Asking \$600 to \$660K
- Sold at \$655,000

Mark Sewell
0413 719 821

Sold.

12 Catani Avenue
Koo Wee Rup

3 2 2

- 9 days on market
- 1 open for inspection
- 12 buyer inspections
- 4 written offers
- Asking \$560 to \$610K
- Sold at \$611,000

Mark Sewell
0413 719 821

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My adventures as a lad in the UK Air Training Corps, 1947 *by Geoff Stokes*

My previous story about the many air raids over our area of the UK during WWII reminded me of how things then progressed quite quickly for us all now that we were living a near normal lifestyle with the war over. I was crowding into my busy life as much as I could and it was early in 1947 that I joined the UK Air Training Corps (ATC). A couple of pals at school already in the ATC talked me into joining, including my best friend at the time, Peter Thurlow.

The headquarters of the Squadron was at Pendeford Airport, the other side of Wolverhampton town, now called Wolverhampton Airport. Therein lay a problem! Pendeford was difficult to get to from Bradmore the UK village where I lived; you caught a bus and had a considerable walk from the terminus at the other end. However, I did join 1045 squadron, 'D' flight, as No. 45/484 and although I was only with them a short time, I enjoyed every minute of my stay. We were given a very nice uniform to swank around in and, for once, we were treated like adults, mind you one had to behave like one too! Apart from being taught aeronautical facts and science, we also took part in a lot of sporting activities. There had been American service men at the base during the war and when they departed they left all of their sporting equipment behind. We played baseball wearing all the colourful gear with caps and three quarter trousers, unheard of in the UK at that time.

The airport was active, that is, it was still a military base. It was next door to Boulton and Paul's aircraft factory and as such was a testing ground for Wellington Bomber aircraft that were still rolling off their production line. Most of the regular air force personnel were just hanging around waiting for demobilisation day and I had the impression that they really liked giving us instruction and lectures. It was possibly such a relief to them compared to the days of not so long ago when their lives were in grave danger. I settled in well, due to my Boys' Brigade (BB) drill and discipline experiences I suppose and, after two months, was promoted to Corporal, as was my friend Peter.

At that time there were still German prisoners of war on the station; they too were awaiting repatriation. The prisoners were allowed to wander around and to fraternize with anybody but couldn't leave the air force base.

A novelty for us was that we could use the bar in the canteen although we were not allowed to drink alcohol. However, we took great delight in drinking fizzy soft drinks (we called it 'pop') from pint pots; these were normally used for beer. The highlight of my time spent in the ATC was, of course, the flying experiences I had. I still have my 'ATC Cadet's Gliding and Flying Log' of 1947 and it gives details of the flights I made from Pendeford and a couple more when we went off to North Wales for two weeks.

The only aircraft available for us to fly from Pendeford were Tiger Moths Type DH82A, a two-seater biplane, and one or two of them are still giving people scenic joy flights today. Our pilots seemed to be straight out of the Biggles stories. As I recall, when I reported to anyone of them for a flight detail, they were usually lying on the grass wearing the proverbial scarf around their neck with one or two lovely ladies lying very very close! These guys were not interested in joy flights, they always gave you the controls first to let you have a go and then they went into an exciting aerobatic routine – showing off to their girlfriends below I suppose. The student is in the front seat so the adrenalin really rushes when you turn upside down and you drop out on to your straps: we did wear parachutes by the way. I know all about stall turns, barrel rolls, spins and inversions, this was sensational stuff and I didn't realize how lucky I was at the time.



One day the pilot asked me where I lived and he flew me to Bradmore and there I was, over our house. Believe it or not my Mother was standing on the lawn in the back garden; that shows how low we were. Remember, there were still no height restrictions on military airplanes, and civilian airlines were only just making initial plans to get off the ground once again after a five year war. So here I am, it's the 30th of July 1947 and I am in a rather frail looking biplane, doing loop-the-loop over Victoria Road with my Mom watching her beloved son "risking his life". We were so low I could see her waving to me with a towel and she said she could see me, not only waving, but also smiling!

It was at one of these 'flying' afternoons that I saw my first jet aircraft and what a thrill that was. We heard this tremendous noise coming nearer and then into sight came this Gloucester Meteor jet fighter plane. It came over relatively slowly and suddenly, when it was directly over our heads, the pilot put the plane into a vertical climb on full throttle. With a roaring, thundering flame and streaming smoke, it disappeared into the sky; the fastest thing I had ever seen.

Continued next page

My adventures as a lad in the UK Air Training Corps, 1947 *(from previous page)*

At the end of August we all went away to get experience of an operational air force base. The plans were for us all to meet at the Wolverhampton railway station on Sunday the twenty-fourth. We were all lined up in military order when who should appear suddenly round the corner but my Dad and with him his brother Fred. My Uncle Fred, was a WW1 hero winning a DCM (one step lower than a VC) and twice winning a Military Medal (MM) for bravery in action. I don't know why but here he was, actually formally inspecting us. Whether our CO knew him or whether it was just his military bearing and manner, I do not know but it was all quite serious. As we stood down and at ease, Uncle came over and gave me a big and over-extended hug and said he was very proud of me; he gave me ten shillings for pocket money, a huge amount to me then. I never saw Uncle Fred again.

So off we went in the train and along the way we were entertained by a band called 'Felix and his Mandoliers', who happened to be on the same train going to some venue or other. They all played different types of mandolins and I have never heard a band like that since.

Our destination was Valley, a town on Anglesey, an island, part of North Wales. I had been shown pictures of the two bridges spanning the Menai Strait during my engineering structures lectures at school and here they were and we were about to cross the famous Tubular Bridge built in the previous century by Robert Stevenson for railway trains. It was hard to believe I was actually there and at the same time looking at Thomas Telford's roadway suspension bridge alongside. This bridge is called the Menai Suspension Bridge and was built between 1819 and 1826 - 195 years ago at today's date.

The town of Valley was, and still is, an important air base because of its proximity to the Irish Sea and also the Atlantic Ocean. At the time of our visit it was slowly being de-commissioned from active service but still had a large compliment of regular airmen. We were barracked just as if we were part of the air force and we were treated as such all the time we were there. Most of the time we were studying aircraft in the hangers: a Liberator, a Spitfire, a Mosquito and a Catalina flying boat that was still being used by Coastal Command. We were allowed to crawl all over them and we all pretended that we were flying them and saving England from disaster. I couldn't believe that the Mosquito aircraft with its illustrious career and twin Rolls-Royce Merlin engines had a body and wings made entirely of plywood! Yes, that's true.

We also did have lots of fun whilst we were at Valley, which is about five miles from Holyhead, the provincial capital city. We had a couple of visits into the town and we chased some girls home after visiting the local fair. All in innocent fun in those days, it really was. We were allowed into the Friday night dance held on the air base, but we had no hope of securing a partner because there were not that many available. All the girls were brought in by bus from the surrounding district. So we just watched. The only member of the ATC who did score that night was a big guy from the Liverpool Flight. He was about eighteen and a rugby prop and no one wanted to mess around with him!

One of our Flight members and a minor friend of mine was also in my Boys' Brigade Company; I can't remember his name now, but I think his surname was Bailey. He was an habitual bragger and a show off, always toadying up to the officers. Well, he volunteered to blow 'reveille' and 'lights out' on a bugle over the camp loudspeakers. Now I knew, and Peter my friend knew, that we had never heard him play whilst he was in the BB or to even own up to having a brass instrument of any kind yet here he was about to become an important part of the camp organization. At 6:15 am in the morning the guard woke him up to go off and play. We were all laughing and waiting for this debacle with baited breath. The loudspeaker hissed and 'our mate' started to play. After a few shaky notes he finished off quite well and gave us all a lesson - never assume anything!

Continued next page

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 ✉ thelanglanggeneral@outlook.com

My adventures as a lad in the UK Air Training Corps, 1947 *(from previous page)*

Again the highlight of the fortnight was the flights we had; this time in an Avro Anson No. Mg 586. This was a twin-engine aircraft used for reconnaissance in time of war and a training aircraft for pilots and navigators in peacetime. It flew continuously for us Cadets and it took about four or five of us up at a time. I just loved standing up, looking out through the astrodome, a hemispherical transparent dome in the cabin roof, and pretending that I was some huge bird, flying free. I was lucky that week. I drew one of four short straws to be aboard during a cross-country flight to Hawarden, an air base in Flintshire, about an hour's flight away. This was a delivery of something or other and we went along for the ride.



Peter and I did a lot of swimming whilst we were at Valley and we marveled that the sea was so clean and clear. It was certainly different to Rhyl, a holiday town also in North Wales, about an hour's drive from Valley. One evening, near to where the Catalina was moored, we found a deep narrow creek that flooded beautifully at high tide. In we dived and frolicked in this sapphire blue sea, diving to the bottom and retrieving stones and coins all for a bit of fun. Suddenly a Warrant Officer was screaming his head off at us, demanding that we get out of the water immediately. Reluctantly we did and expected to be told of some Stone Age rule forbidding us to swim at this evening hour. Not so: he told us that only the other week three people had drowned here and over the last few years lots of others had been in severe difficulties with the surprise currents that arose without warning; it was now out of bounds. Reluctantly, with our tails between our legs, we slunk back to our hut.

One final word about my ATC days: during one Sunday session back in Wolverhampton, some very high-ranking officers of the R.A.F. doing some sort of survey, visited us. Two others and myself were asked to go separately for an interview with these officers. I was asked if I would consider going full time to Cranwell, the Royal Air Force training and education academy, to complete my education and progress to a commissioned officer; then on to the Royal Flying School, which had University status. I was so young and naïve, I had no one to advise me about this, what was (I know now), an absolutely marvelous offer. I had no idea of the opportunities or the consequences that studying at Cranwell could bring to my future. All that I knew then was that my planned engineering path to that of a draughtsman was the zenith of my ambition at this youthful age. A draughtsman was a steady job and trade, my parents said and very prestigious. So I turned this offer down almost without giving it any thought at all, not really understanding this one off invitation. My sisters never knew about this until I told them of it years later. Eileen understood because it was a similar experience that she had had herself in not being able to go to Oxford University in 1937, although she had at least comprehended the importance of the offer to her.

It wasn't long after this when I realized that being in the ATC, the Boys' Brigade, the Men's Institute and its attached sporting teams, together with a commitment to the school sporting fixtures, not forgetting my academic studies, was becoming too much for me. Because of the amount of travel involved and the pressure the BB was putting on me to decide between the ATC and the BB, I chose to stay with the Boy's Brigade to the joy and blessing of my Mom and Dad. Hrrrrrr! I'm not too happy with that decision today!

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Koo Wee Rup Country Womens Association

Written by Linda Sanders

2021 Meetings (cancelled because of Covid)

Our next meeting would have been on Monday 2nd August at 7.30pm at the Senior Citizens Hall in Icke Road. Our next craft meeting would have been on Monday 16th August at 7.30pm at the Seniors Hall. We will be doing our own projects.

If you would like to join our great team of friendly ladies, please call President Cathy Stephens on 0403 593 513 for more details, or just turn up on the night.

Covid strikes again

We are in lockdown again and this means no meetings and no get togethers. Some of our members are starting to feel the strain of all these lockdowns. It is really important to keep in touch with friends, family and people in the community to make sure they are coping OK and helping them out if they need it.

There are some general strategies that you can use to help:

- Listen without making judgements and concentrate on their needs in that moment.
- Ask them what would help them.
- Reassure and signpost to practical information or resources.
- Avoid confrontation.
- Ask if there is someone they would like you to contact.

Once we are out of lockdown we can all sit and have a cuppa, some sponge cake or some chocolate and have a good chat.

New prospective members

At our last meeting at the Senior Citizens rooms, we had two new members join us.

They had been reading our article in the Blackfish newsletter and that enticed them to come along. Welcome ladies, we hope you will join our group of happy, giving ladies.

CWA Victoria's Never-Fail Sponge

The Country Women's Association knows a thing or two about food. The Victorian state branch has been running since 1928 in order to improve the conditions for women and children, especially those living in rural and regional areas.

Over the years, those women shared some delicious recipes with one another. Now a selection of the best are published in special new book *From Our Kitchen To Yours*.

The 185 tested and true recipes in this book have been shared countless times between friends and published as community cookbooks to raise funds for cash-strapped good causes.

Never-Fail Sponge Cake. Makes two 20 cm cakes

Ingredients

- 4 eggs, separated
- small pinch of salt
- 3/4 cup (165 g) caster sugar
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla essence
- 3/4 cup (90 g) cornflour
- 1 large tablespoon custard powder
- 1 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1/2 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

Method

Preheat oven to 175°C.

Beat egg whites and salt until soft peaks form, then gradually beat in caster sugar. Beat well until very thick, stiff peaks form. Gently fold in egg yolks and vanilla.

Add twice-sifted dry ingredients, then gently fold them through the egg mixture until combined.

Turn evenly into two well-greased sandwich tins, 21 cm x 6 cm deep.

Bake in the middle of the oven for 20-25 minutes, or until the sides of the cake have shrunk a little from the side of the tins.

Turn out to cool, then slice through and fill with cream and jam, to make two individual layered cakes, or one big cake with four layers.

Ice or decorate the top as required; in the photo the cake is topped with strawberry halves and dusted with icing sugar. **Variation:** For a Chocolate Sponge, add 2 tablespoons cocoa powder to dry ingredients.





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michellelunney@alexscott.com.au

or for any enquires please contact Michelle Lunney on 5997 2133.

All applications will be kept in the strictest confidence.

Michelle Lunney
Branch Manager
Senior Property Manager



KOO WEE RUP Primary School

'Footsteps into Foundation 2022'

Koo Wee Rup Primary School strives to ensure we provide a positive gateway into lifelong education for your child. We prioritise the wellbeing of our students with the understanding that this underpins children's ability to engage fully in the learning process.

In the classroom we challenge our students academically through a differentiated approach to teaching, ensuring that the individual needs of all students is catered to. Our curriculum and way of teaching is constantly evolving so that our teaching and learning programs are developed in line with current research into educational 'best practice'.

Our school motto of 'Together We Learn' is embedded through a strong professional learning program for all teachers to constantly reflect and build on their teaching practice.

Our 'Footsteps Into Foundation' program has been established for new Foundation enrolments as bridge between kindergarten and primary school. The program involves seven planned transition sessions as well as parent information sessions. As Principal of Koo Wee Rup Primary School, 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.

To arrange your personal tour, please contact the school on 5997 1272.



Term 3 Transition (2:15-3:15pm) – 60 minute sessions

Wednesday 11th August – Week 5

Wednesday 25th August – Week 7

Wednesday 8th September – Week 9

Term 4 Transition (1:45-3:15pm) – 90 minutes sessions

Wednesday 13th October – Week 2 (Art & Sport/PMP)

Wednesday 27th October – Week 4 (Italian & Digi-tech)

Wednesday 10th November – Week 6 (Buddies)

Wednesday 24th November – Week 8 (Buddies)

State-wide Transition (9am - 1pm) - Date to be confirmed



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

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

There's still some news from a locked down men's Shed.

Just last month, with much relief, we reopened the Men's Shed doors again after the latest Covid-19 lock down rules came to an end and some important maintenance work was completed. Four days on and we now have to close down yet again due to further Covid regulations being imposed on everyone. Rest assured, as soon as we can, we shall get down to Men's Shed business again and also reopen our friendly Friday lunch time café for a super get-together for everyone.

So ... as before, if you live in Koo-Wee-Rup and District, take note that when we can open up again 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 for you to come along, meet us and enjoy the company of real good mates and maybe get a boost to your own health and well-being at the same time. Come on, call in, try us. John Farmer will be waiting to welcome you.

It's now winter and the community veggie garden is in slumber mode; however the winter crop has been planted and we await the miracle growth of spring - not long now. This coming year all of our excess produce from the garden will be donated to the Turning Point Church and their Koo-Wee-Rup Connect Food Bank for distribution to the needy; surprisingly, there are quite a lot of our fellow townspeople who really do need our aid right now. The Church works closely with the Men's Shed, also they have a monthly outreach to the local nursing home and provide 'Food-Aid Services' to the community. The Church is also heavily involved in providing Ministry and Pastoral Care to the seasonal workers that come to the Koo-Wee-Rup area from Vanuatu. Some of them are still here with us.

For those of you who are new to the town, 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. Finally:-

A friend said to me, "I was in the Men's Shed café the other day, and had a ploughman's lunch. He wasn't very happy".

Geoff Stokes

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1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group

1 Mickle St, Koo Wee Rup VIC 3981

- Joeys – 6:30 to 7:30pm Monday
- Cubs – 7:00 to 8:30pm Tuesday
- Scouts – 7:00 to 9:00pm Wednesday
- Venturers - 7:00 to 9:00pm Friday
- Rovers - 8:00 till late Friday



What an exciting month we have had in the Scout Group. We have registered a new scout Leader and would like to welcome aboard Shayla. After what has been a long time and lots of patience the renovations at the Scout Hall have begun. We look forward to watching this be completed and seeing the hall at the end of the renovations.

Over the school holidays Cub Scouts went on their annual Jamboree on the Trail walk. They ventured to Warneet Conservation Park and walked the trail in there to the Warneet Boat Ramp where had some lunch and a play. The Cubs that came along earned their level 1 bushwalking badge. Now back on Zoom we have made rain gauges and done a rain experiment.

Scouts have hopped online to do some badge recordings and held a first aid night. Whilst the Venturers found some new websites to chat with each other and start the design for the new Venturer Den.



Monster Raffle

This is happening again this year. However, it has gone digital this year. All you need to do is scan the QR code and enter the details. You are still able to purchase tickets in person, just let us know if you would like some.

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1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group

Do you have a child that would like to try scouting? Or have you thought about joining as a leader to assist the local youth? Do you have some time once a month to join our committee to help our group grow?

Contact our Group Leader Shane Worthington
0427 770 781 or email 1stkwrscouts@gmail.com



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If you have any questions about State Government or community matters, my team and I are here to help you.

For the latest Covid-19 updates:
www.dhhs.vic.gov.au
 1800 675 398

T 03 5672 4755

E jordan.crugnale@parliament.vic.gov.au

[jordancrugnaleMP](https://www.facebook.com/jordancrugnaleMP)

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Pilates at Koo wee Rup Regional Health Service

At the time of going to print it is still unknown how long the KRHS community room will be affected by COVID recovery, as that space complies by the requirements for residential aged care and hospitals. So it was a slow transition back to normal after the May/June lockdown. But we did start back for the first sessions after the school holidays with good interest. I'd just like to introduce you to the chair based class being piloted this term. It offers an alternative for those not able to get on the floor, but effectively uses the chair or wall to undertake modified Pilates moves that are equally effective. Why not give it a try? The first session is a FREE taster class.

We'll be back as soon as possible with Facebook being the main communication format or for those I can contact I will continue to keep you updated via SMS. Just keep moving everyone as you know the saying "use it or lose it".

Marlene 0429 814410



Mat Pilates

Term 3 2021

Try New Chair Pilates class

Pilates is suitable for all ages & abilities.
A new chair class is being offered allowing good core work without being on the floor.

When: Mat Classes: 6.00pm Monday or 9.00am Sat.
Chair: 5.00 pm Mondays for 30+ mins. Cost \$5 flat rate.

Where: Hewitt Eco House, Kooweerup Regional Health Service, 215 Rossiter Road Koo Wee Rup.

Cost: Mat classes: \$10 casual & concession of \$5 available.



Enquiries to:
Marlene on
0429 814 410

Commences:
Monday 12th July 2021

Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club



Our next day of Friday Winter Triples was played in cool conditions on July 2nd with the following results. Winners for the day were John Moore, Ashley Green [Pakenham], Charles Harris [KWR] 36 pts. Runners Up rink

were Len Taylor, Graham Burton, Mal Newman [Garfield] 35 pts. Best 1st Game was won by Fay Halligan, Helen Ralph, Ken Hammond [KWR] 17 pts.

Best 2nd Game went to Tony Abbott, Max Adams, Keith Hinkley [Lang Lang] 17 pts. Thanks to Covid-19 shutdown & inclement weather we had no option but to cancel Triples games that were to be played on 16th July.

The Sunday social bowls is going along well in good weather conditions. We have had many newer members & people trying the game for the 1st time come along for a bit of fun and some not too serious games. Watch the KWR face book page for future dates. Everyone is welcome. Games due on the 25th July had to be cancelled due to the extended Covid lockdown



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Koo Wee Rup RSL Sub Branch Report

There have been many tragic events throughout history, some are known only to our God, others are known to a few survivors and/or their families.

In my early days in the RAN, I was eager to learn exactly what events took place on the various islands in the South West Pacific during WW2. Beached rusting hulks of landing crafts, remnants of military vehicles and artillery pieces slowly being claimed by the sea or jungle, littered the coastline on several islands. Our first port of call after leaving home was Manus Island, where we had a naval base and, so one would think that those serving on the base would be the ones to go to for information relating to our troop's involvement during the last war, but none were forthcoming. In time and during the Indonesian Confrontation, I picked up snippets from crew members serving on our patrol boats as they were working out of Rabaul, Lae, Madang, Wewak, Port Moresby and Milne Bay.

Rabaul was a very sore point and I soon learned why. Rabaul lies on the eastern end of New Britain, at the time of the battle with our 'uninvited visitors' Rabaul was the capital of the Australian Administered Territory of New Guinea having been captured from the Germans in 1914.

In March of 1941, our then government despatched a small garrison to the region as tensions with Japan heightened. The garrison numbered 1400 men and included personnel from the local militia and New Guinea Volunteer Rifles. A commando unit of 130 strong Independent Company was detached to garrison the nearby island of New Ireland. Throughout 1941, the Allies had planned to build Rabaul as a secure 'fleet anchorage' with radar station and a strong defensive minefield, but men and equipment were required elsewhere, leaving Wing Commander John Lerew with very little offensive capability.

For the Japanese, Rabaul was important because of the proximity of the Caroline Islands which was the site of a major Japanese naval base on Truk. The capture of New Britain offered them a deep-water harbour and airfields to provide protection to Truk and interdict allied lines of communication. Most civilians who were not required for the defence of the base were evacuated in December of 41. Starting in January of 42 Rabaul came under attack by a large number of Japanese carrier based aircraft. After the odds facing our ground troops mounted significantly, Commander John Lerew signalled RAAF HQ in Melbourne with the Latin motto 'Nos morituri te salutamus' ('we who are about to die salute you').

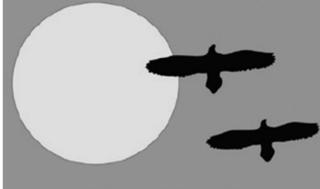
In New Britain, our troops took up positions along the western shores of Blanche Bay where they prepared to meet the invasion force. Bombing continued around Rabaul on 22 January and early that morning our commando unit of 130 men were engaged in battle against a Japanese force of 3000 to 4000 on the shores of New Ireland. That night, the invasion fleet approached Rabaul and before dawn (23 January) a force of 4000 to 5000 troops began landing on New Britain. Hopelessly outnumbered, our troops made a fighting withdrawal to the jungle and remained at large in the interior of New Britain for several weeks, but without food, medical supplies and all that is necessary to continue the fight, their military effectiveness declined. From mainland New Guinea, unofficial rescue missions were carried out and, during the months of March, April and May, about 450 soldiers and civilians were evacuated by sea. Over 1000 of our troops were taken prisoner and around 160 were massacred, others were shot. The Japanese commander responsible starved himself to death before he could stand trial.

At least 800 of our soldiers and 200 civilians taken prisoner were to be transported from Rabaul to Japan on board the ship *Montevideo Naru* when, on July 1st 1942, the ship was torpedoed by US Submarine *Sturgeon* with the loss of 1,186 lives off the coast of the Philippines, more precisely the north coast of Luzon.

Nearly 2000 Australian soldiers and civilians who were left to defend the islands of New Britain and New Ireland as well as thousands of New Guineans, Chinese and other nationalities would also perish as a result of the invasion.

So very sadly, the fall of Rabaul, this national tragedy has never been part of our nation's story and is only marked by quiet ceremonies attended mostly by families. We will keep their spirit alive – we will remember them.

Yours Aye, John Camilleri, KWR RSL Sub Branch 5629 4242



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Koo Wee Rup Community Centre

247 Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup

The Community Centre is used by a wide range of groups to bring people together and foster a positive community spirit in our local area.

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

The centre is fully equipped with 250 padded seats, 25 tables that each seats 10 guests, a portable stage, kitchen facilities and crockery – so you have everything you need to ensure your function runs smoothly.

MAIN FUNCTION ROOM

Cocktails, conferences and seminars – 250 seat capacity

Banquets, weddings, and birthday parties (must be 21 or over) – 200 seat capacity

SWAMP ROOM 25 seat capacity

TOWER ROOM 10 seat capacity

Enquiries to kwrhall@gmail.com or 5997 2001

*Bookings subject to Committee approval

The Community Advisory Committee joins a virtual KRHS meeting.

Members of the Community Advisory Committee were all invited to a meeting on the 23rd of July 2021 to discuss the Koo-Wee-Rup Regional Health Services' (KRHS) Strategic Planning process that is taking place over the next couple of months. A workshop meeting would be a more precise description of this invitational get together. With a new Covid-19 shutdown decreed, this meeting had to be cancelled but was transitioned to Zoom (virtual) to align with Victorian Government COVID-19 5.0 lock down restrictions. The Zoom workshop meeting eventually took place on the afternoon of Friday the 28th of July.

This meeting looked at the purpose of the forthcoming KRHS Strategic Plan which is to identify the key areas and priorities that KRHS will focus on over the coming years. About fifteen people took part in the (virtual) discussion and they represented a broad representation of the Koo-Wee-Rup community. The meeting split into two groups under the leadership of Shaun Mascarenhas, and Mark, both of Spark Strategy, a company that works with leaders to generate ideas, capability and capital. Over the next one and a half hours the individual groups discussed in detail the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, improvements and any gaps in the services provided by KRHS. Finally they discussed how KRHS could better engage and connect with the Koo-Wee-Rup community in the foreseeable future. It was envisaged that once the Strategic Plan for a future KRHS is complete then another meeting would be called to discuss these finalised items.

For those of you who are not quite sure, or maybe you are a newcomer to the town, the aim of the Community

Advisory Committee is to provide the KRHS with feedback and advice to improve and strengthen their services, their information, their forward planning, and the future policy development of the KRHS. The Committee will give advice to the KRHS Board of Management about problems that could be upsetting a Patient, a Resident or a Carer, and also, maybe, from an individual Koo-Wee-Rup resident or, indeed, from the whole 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 that they offer are consistently understood and seriously 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.

If you have a suggestion or some nagging thoughts about your difficulties, or your dependant's comforts or problems with any aspect of the KRHS, then get in touch with the CAC Committee. Simply phone KRHS on 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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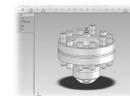
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Conveyancing Resolutions is excited to announce their new office at
150 Station Street, Koo Wee Rup.

We are able to assist you with all of your conveyancing needs including:

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- Contract & Section 32 reviews
- Related Party Transfers
- Subdivisions
- Residential & Commercial transactions

If we can be of any assistance to you with any general queries, please do not hesitate to call **Rose Brady** on:

1300 764 773 or info@conveyancingresolutions.com.au

No Waste Cook Club - Zero Waste Cooking workshops

Learn about the impacts of food waste on the environment and valuable tips and tricks for effective meal planning at Council's free zero-waste cooking workshops!

Led by an experienced *Open Table* facilitator, participants will learn how to save money on grocery bills and waste less food.

There will also be a 'no waste cooking demonstration', using foods that are often thrown away.

Attendees will be able to ask questions and share their zero-waste cooking experiences, and will also receive recipes and resources to continue their journey to zero waste!

Workshops will cover:

- Food Waste: a brief overview of the impact of food waste on the environment and exactly how much edible food we waste in the average Australian household.
- Planning: how to effectively meal plan to save on grocery bills and waste less food
- Food storage: easy ways to store food in the pantry, fridge and freezer to achieve maximum freshness and longevity (includes a demonstration of refreshing droopy vegetables)

Event 1

Date: Monday 2 August 2021, 7pm – 8pm

Location: Online webinar

Cost: Free, registration required

Cooking Demo: Leftovers – Frittata - cook along at home

Notes: Please note: This session is a virtual event. You will receive information on how to join via email as well as a list of ingredients and equipment needed to cook along at home.

Booking link:

<https://events.ccl.vic.gov.au/event?id=3665>

Event 2

Date: Friday 6 August 2021, 7pm – 8pm

Location: Pakenham Library

Cost: Free, registration required

Cooking Demo: Sauces - Broccoli Stem pesto

Booking link:

<https://events.ccl.vic.gov.au/event?id=3666>

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Call or Go Online for food orders: **03 5997 2217**
turningpointkooweerup.org.au/kwrconnect
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- LOCAL SERVICES IN OUR DISTRICT OFFERING HEALTH & WELFARE ASSISTANCE
- PARENTING, FINANCE AND DRUG & ALCOHOL ABUSE COURSES.



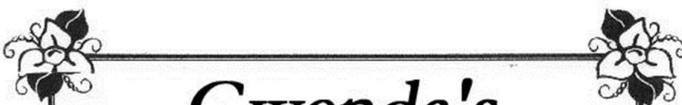
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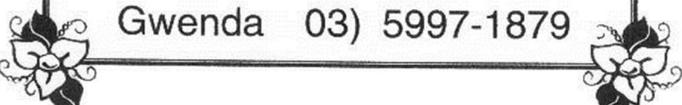
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KOO WEE 4 KIDS will be on a short break over the school holidays BUT we will be back July 23rd! Term 3 dates below!

Every Friday, 6pm, venue to be confirmed

TERM 3 DATES:

July 23rd	August 20th
July 30th	August 27th
August 6th	September 3rd
August 13th	September 10th
	September 17th

Contact Jon & Patrina Eli - 03 5997 2297
facebook.com/turningpointkwr
www.turningpointchurch.org.au



BRAVE YOUTH will be on a short break over the school holidays BUT we will be back July 23rd! Term 3 dates below!

Every Friday, 6pm, venue to be confirmed

TERM 3 DATES:

July 23rd	August 27th
July 30th	September 3rd
August 6th	September 10th
August 13th	September 17th
August 20th	

Contact Sean & Fiona Kallady - 03 5997 2297
facebook.com/turningpointkwr
www.turningpointchurch.org.au



KOOWEERUP REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

235 Rossiter Rd. Koo Wee Rup. Vic. 3981 Phone: 5997 9679

Email: info@krhs.net.au Website: www.kooweeruphospital.net.au

August 21

Find us on



Cowboy Cook-up

We couldn't have picked a better day. On a sunny winters day we had a cowboy themed BBQ with our residents who all enjoyed the country music, great atmosphere and fabulous food. A big thank-you to Danielle Leenen for donating the meat through the Koo Wee Rup Butcher and for volunteering on the day. Pictured left cooking up a storm! is Charlie, Danielle and Carin.



Covid-19 Update

Unfortunately, July saw Victoria back in lockdown with a COVID-19 outbreak across the state. This is not a space any of us wanted to be in but yet again has seen Victorian's dig deep and do the right thing.

At the time of writing we have seen an easing of restrictions, so well done to everyone in the community who has stayed home, worn a mask, got tested and isolated if required to.

The most important things we can do to continue to protect our loved ones and our community are:

Get tested with even the mildest symptoms - check the website for testing locations [click here](#)

Get vaccinated as soon as you are eligible - check the website for vaccination sites [click here](#)

It is normal to have mixed reactions to these ongoing issues so if anyone feels they need someone to talk with Lifeline 13 11 14 or Beyond Blue 1300 224 636 are there to help.

Planning for our Future

KRHS is really excited to have started on a new Strategic Planning process. Every four years or so health services such as ours develop a new Strategic Plan. The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to guide KRHS' decisions by outlining what we seek to achieve for our community over the next 3-5 years and how we will allocate our resources to achieve this vision. We have engaged Spark Strategy to facilitate the strategic planning process and the KRHS Board look forward to working with our community and our staff to develop this very important plan.



Kooweerup
REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

We provide a range of centre and community based services: Acute Care, Early Parenting Unit, Transitional Care Program, Respite and Residential Aged Care, Community Health, District Nurses, Home Care, Pathology and Allied Health for example: Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Social work. There is also Specialist Medical Services such as Cardiology, Podiatry and a Diabetes Clinic. KRHS is a member of the 'International Health Promoting Hospitals Network' and 'Global Green and Healthy Hospitals'.

Please visit our website for the latest information on KRHS and Covid restrictions

Outlook

community centre

It's time to get crafty and creative with Outlook Community Centre. Join one of our programs to help you develop skills which you can build on and take forward into your future life. Enjoy coming together to learn with like-minded community members in a social setting. If you have never visited the Centre this is a wonderful opportunity to meet our friendly team and enjoy all the all it has to offer. Even if you're a regular, why not try something new and different? To view our complete Term 3 program which includes Computers, Health and Wellbeing, Personal Development, Professional and Language/Culture programs, please visit www.outlookaust.org.au/book-online.

We also offer Services which may assist you. We hope to see you soon!

HOW TO ENROL IN A PROGRAMME: In Person: 24 Toomuc Valley Road, Pakenham, **Telephone:** 5940 4728,

Online: www.outlookvic.org.au/book-online, **Email:** communitycentre@outlookvic.org.au,

Payment: Credit Card - online, over the phone or in person, Cash, cheque or EFTPOS

Canva - Online Design Made Easy

You will learn to quickly and easily create attractive, high impact social media and marketing designs. During the sessions you will create a sample Facebook post, promotional poster and business card.

Fridays commencing 3 September for 2 sessions,

10.00am - 12.30pm

Cost \$25

Art Club

Join this class to explore a variety of art mediums such as drawing and print making in a fun and supportive environment. There will be new projects to try each week. Covers angles, lines, shapes, shading, perspective and proportion. You will also make a "zine", mono printing, and drawing.

Fridays commencing 13 August for 6 sessions,

1.15pm - 3.15pm

Cost \$70

(Please contact the Centre for project and materials list)

Creative Arts for Wellbeing

Connect with a small group of like-minded people in your community to explore creative arts for wellbeing through a range of mediums and modalities. The focus will be all about 'fun art rather than fine art!' We'll create some group murals and explore mandala making to kick off with. Bring along your ideas to share with the group and we'll make things happen!

Wednesdays commencing 25 August for 4 sessions,

6.30pm - 8.30pm

Cost \$35

Mosaic Art for Beginners

Get creative and use your imagination to create beautiful designs. Learn about mosaic art techniques, tools, and processes. During these sessions you will put what you learn into practice by decorating coasters and placemats to use or display in your own home.

Thursdays commencing 26 August for 4 sessions,

6.00pm - 7.00pm

Cost \$60

(Please contact the Centre for materials list)

Toomuc Valley Walkers

Walk your way through local parklands to improve fitness. Group caters for walkers of all levels.

Every Tuesday

(Meet at rotunda on highway opposite Toomuc Valley Road)

9.30am - 10.30am

Cost FREE

Card Making

If you are looking for some creative time and social interaction and a chance to make some cards to use for those special events in your life, then this could be the group for you. Each class you will make four different cards that can be tailored through stamping to suit your upcoming card needs. Kit is provided each class.

Please BYO adhesives, (including 3D foam and either a glue stick or double-sided tape).

Wednesdays commencing 1 September for 2 sessions,

12.30pm - 2.30pm

Cost \$40

It's Time to Get Saucy

Sauces play an important role in food, they form the basis of creating wonderful rich, flavoursome dishes and can make or break your dish. The sauces that you will be making over the three sessions are: Bechamel, Velouté, Espagnole, Hollandaise and Tomato Concasse. Once you have mastered these sauces you will be able to utilise them to make 25 different meals.

Enjoy tasting what you make in class and take some home to use later.

Wednesdays commencing 1 September for 3 sessions,

1.00pm - 3.00pm

Cost \$60

Ageing in Your Own Home

Session 1: The start of the journey –

Friday 27 August 10.00am - 12.00pm

Session 2: Assessment and service provision –

Friday 3 September 10.00am - 12.00pm

Session 3: Navigating financial aspects –

Friday 10 September 10.00am - 12.00pm

It is highly recommended that you attend the first session, and ideally all of them.

Cost FREE,

however, bookings are essential.

The Aged Care Navigator Trial is delivered in partnership with COTA Vic and Outlook Community Centre as part of a consortium led by COTA Australia and funded by the Australian Government. For more information go to www.AgedCareNavigators.org.au



Floods and Fires

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

The 1920s and 1930s were a time of floods for Koo Wee Rup with major floods in October 1923, August 1924, December 1934, April /May 1935 and October 1937. The August 1924 flood saw two feet of water through the town. The December 1934 floods were devastating, with about six feet of water through the town. The 1935 floods largely affected the surrounding area, rather than the Koo Wee Rup township; for instance, there was two feet of water through the Public Hall at Cora Lynn (it was located in the Recreation Reserve). The 1937 flood once again saw water about two feet deep through the town.

It wasn't just the damage in the towns to houses, but the damage to the surrounding farms with the loss of crops, livestock, fences etc. This is from a report in *The Argus* of December 6, 1934 - *Hundreds of dead cattle and sheep, ruined asparagus and potato crops, grazing lands covered with slime, bridges and plantations swept away, mud inches thick in houses, and business almost at a stand-still in the main street these are some of the impressions received by the Minister in Charge of Sustenance (Dr.Shields) when he visited Koo Wee Rup yesterday.....More than 2,000 carcasses including cows, sheep, pigs, goats and poultry have already been disposed of. The carcasses have been thrown into the main canal and floated down to Westernport. There are still about 1,000 dead animals in the district but some of these will have to be buried.* Once in the Bay the carcasses were devoured by sharks, which were apparently numerous.

The 1920s and 1930s was also a time of fires and there are many reports of houses and other buildings burning down. This fire situation was exacerbated by the lack of Fire Brigades and an inadequate water supply. Reports of fires in the newspapers often ended with comments such as - *As there is no fire fighting apparatus in the town, the blaze could not be checked....Residents who were awakened by the crackling of the flames, which at times shot twenty feet into the air, did what they could, but little could be saved....the fire quickly gutted the building, while townspeople looked on helplessly without any water supply, with which to combat it.*

It wasn't until the 1940s that local Fire Brigades were formed. For instance, Lang Lang in August 1942, Bunyip in October 1942, Koo Wee Rup in November 1943, Bayles in February 1944 and Tooradin in March 1945.

The following are some examples of fires in the local area, including shops, houses, two Halls and two Coffee Palaces (a Coffee Palace originally provided accommodation and meals, like a Hotel, but did not have a liquor licence).

Koo Wee Rup Sun, Thursday, October 15, 1925 - At about 4.15am last Thursday a number of persons were rudely awakened by an alarm of fire, and on investigating received a shock when they found that the block of wooden buildings in Rossiter street, Koo Wee Rup, occupied by Mr D. Thomson (butcher), Mrs M. Porter (fruiterer), and Mrs J. Byron (small goods) were on fire. It was at once seen that the task of fighting the flames was a hopeless one, but efforts were made with three fire extinguishers to subdue the conflagration, but the fire had too great a hold for these instruments to be of any use. They, however, are credited with the saving of an adjoining brick shop, owned by Mr F. Ellis (draper)...How the fire originated is not known...Mr Thomson did not have time to save anything; Mrs Byron, who does not reside on the premises, also lost everything; while Mrs Potter with assistance was able to rescue some of her furniture and a few bicycles.

The Age, May 13, 1927 - A disastrous fire occurred on Scanlon's drain, Bayles, last night, an eight-roomed house and contents being entirely destroyed. The tenant, Mr. E. Carter, was the only occupant, the family being away in Melbourne. Mr. Carter retired early and was awakened by the noise of an explosion. He was caught in the centre of the house by a wall of flame and fighting his way through the blinding smoke succeeded in reaching a window, by which he got outside. He had his right hand and arm severely burnt and was singed about the head and face. The house was owned by Mr. D. Duff. Mr Carter lost furniture, clothing, jewellery and valuables valued at £700.

The Argus April 9, 1929 - A six-roomed house, occupied by Mr. Herbert Smethurst, of Monomeith, was, with the contents, destroyed by fire this morning. Mr. Smethurst had taken milk to the railway station, and his wife was engaged at the front of the house, when she smelt something burning, but, thinking that it was some rubbish, took no notice for a time. When she went to look later the kitchen was in flames, and nothing could be done to save the house.

Koo Wee Rup Sun Thursday, June 4, 1931 - Early on Monday morning last, one of the oldest residences in Koo Wee Rup, known as the Koo Wee Rup Coffee Palace, was totally destroyed by fire. It was a 10-roomed wooden building, and was erected by the late Mr O'Riordan, and for several years past has been leased to Mr B. Healy. The first notification of the fire was received by Mr Healy, who was awakened from sleep. He just had time to arouse other members of the family, who escaped with only the clothes they had on. Quickly other persons arrived at the scene, but they were unable to rescue any of the furniture, and to save the building was a hopeless task. A hose belonging to the Shire Council was secured, but difficulty and loss of time was experienced in connecting same to water main....The whole building was demolished in about 25 minutes.

Continued next page

Floods and Fires *from previous page*

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

Dandenong Journal, Thursday, May 4, 1933 - Lang Lang - At 4.30 a.m. on Tuesday, neighbors were aroused by crackling, when it was discovered that the Palace Hotel was in flames. This structure, erected fully 40 years ago, burned rapidly, and the main building was completely destroyed. Fortunately, no one was injured, and the wind carried the sparks well away from the two adjacent houses. A commercial traveller, Mr. Houghton, of Melbourne, who was staying overnight, had to scramble down a side verandah post for safety. He lost a coat, vest, a gold watch and chain, and some papers and cheques. The building and stock are partly covered by insurance. From the ashes, it is hoped that Phoenix-like, a modern structure will arise. Meanwhile Lang Lang has joined the dry area.



The Age April 29, 1936 - One of the oldest landmarks in Lang Lang, the Railway Coffee Palace, owned by Mrs. Jane Pickett, was destroyed in a spectacular early morning fire. The cause was unknown. Mr. Robert Parsons, a boarder at the house, was awakened about 4.30 a.m. by smoke, and found that the main part of the building, comprising the dining room and the kitchen, was ablaze. He quickly awakened the other boarders and the lessees of the coffee palace, Mr. and Mrs. J. Parks, and family. Most of the boarders saved their possessions. Fine work against a fierce blaze was done by Mr. Maynard, who managed to save a little furniture and a few bed clothes. Mr. and Mrs. Parks and family lost all their furniture and nearly all their clothes. Mrs. Parks' personal effects were insured for a small sum. Mrs. Pickett had the building insured. Fortunately, there was no breeze, and this saved the adjoining property. An electric light pole caught fire and the town was temporarily deprived of light. The building, which consisted of about twelve rooms, was completely gutted in about forty minutes, only the chimneys being left standing. Mrs. Parks has been lessee of the coffee palace for approximately eighteen months. Residents who were awakened by the crackling of the flames, which at times shot twenty feet into the air, did what they could, but little could be saved.

Continued next page

BAYLES FAUNA PARK

Working Bee

Sunday, 11 July, 9am start
followed by a BBQ lunch

Committee Meeting

Sunday, 11 July
immediately after working bee

Please bring own bottled water,
wear long pants and closed in
shoes

All welcome

Floods and Fires *from previous page*

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

The Age, April 16, 1937 - The Garfield Public hall and contents were totally destroyed by fire at an early hour this Morning. The previous night the hall was used for a social evening, and when the place was locked up for the night everything was apparently safe. The outbreak occurred at about 1.30 a.m., how the fire originated is a mystery. When residents arrived on the scene it was impossible to save anything. The building was insured for £400, and contents for £100.

Weekly Times, June 19, 1937 -Three thousand books, forming one of the most comprehensive country libraries in Victoria, were burnt in a fire which destroyed the 75-year-old Tooradin Mechanics' Institute building. Blazing fiercely when first discovered at 4.30 am., the fire quickly gutted the building, while townspeople looked on helplessly without any water supply, with which to combat it. Insured for £1000, the building contained the library, a hall and supper room. All the furniture, including a piano, was destroyed. At midnight, when members of the local table tennis club left the hall, everything appeared to be safe. Koo Wee Rup police are investigating the fire, the cause of which is unknown. As the institute was 50 yards from the nearest building, other premises were not endangered.



These accounts of fire are all unfortunate events, none of which thankfully resulted in a loss of life, but perhaps the most unfortunate example I could find was that of Mr Gilchrist, who suffered from a flood and a fire.

The Argus December 5, 1934 - After having lost most of his large herd of cows in the flood, Mr. A. J. Gilchrist, dairy farmer, of Koo Wee Rup, lost his house by fire yesterday. Yesterday Mr. Gilchrist began to clean his home, which is near the township. He lit a large fire in the kitchen and placed clothing, blankets, and rugs to dry in front of it. He and other members of his family then left to search for survivors of the herd of cows. When they returned they found the house in flames. Yesterday afternoon Mr. Gilchrist and his family went to Dandenong, where they will stay with friends. The Herald of December 4, 1934 had a similar report but also said hundreds of homeless townspeople camped at the railway station looked on, powerless to fight the 30ft flames which cast a lurid light on the flooded streets.

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. If lockdown restrictions allow the next meeting is on August 11 at 7.30pm. New members welcome. The Museum is open the first and third Sundays of the month from 1.30pm until 4.30pm (subject to lockdown restrictions) or by appointment. Heather Arnold harnold@dcsi.net.au 0407 521 637

Need a friend?

*Bored with Lockdown?
Recently retired?
New to KooWee?*

Join us for,



HAVE A CHAT CHUESDAYS

WHERE? UA Church hall, 348 Rossiter Rd.
WHEN? Tuesday 10th August
Then monthly on second Tuesday.
TIME? 2pm-4pm.

*This month's theme is
"BABY LOVE".*

*This month is get to know you month.
Lets play a game. Please bring a copy of a photo of
you as a youngster which we will put on a display
board (no frames) for everybody to guess who each
person is. Feel free to ask questions and chat to
people about the images but don't give it away as
there will be a prize for the winner.
Afternoon tea will be provided by us today.*

*If you think we will all be strangers, we are not. We
are friends you just haven't met yet.*

For more info please contact.... **Jenny 0409009529**

KRHS Ladies Auxiliary present

**Kays Classic Fashions
Parade**

at 11am
on Monday, 30th August

Koo Wee Rup Masonic Centre
Rossiter Road

Entry \$5
Raffle Tickets \$1

A light luncheon will be provided

TOORADIN SPORTS CLUB

BINGO EVERY THURSDAY
EYES DOWN AT 11AM
ON THE BIG SCREEN
2 SESSIONS
BIG BUCKS
RAFFLE +
ROLLING JACKPOT

**KOO WEE
COFFEE CLUB**



*Catching up with locals to have a coffee and a chat
from 10am onwards on the following days:*

August	4	Royal Hotel
	18	Chandelier Café
September	1	Royal Hotel
	15	Chandelier Café
October	6	Royal Hotel
	20	Chandelier Café
November	3	Royal Hotel
	17	Chandelier Café



Enquiries ph Jo on 0428 557 411



Koo Wee Coffee Club