

THE KOO WEE RUP BLACKFISH



MAY 2021

Big Funding Win for Bowls Club

Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club have been fortunate to receive a grant of \$1.6 million to rebuild their club rooms. The current rooms, while serving the club well over many years, have wobbly foundations and, like so many buildings of that vintage, are full of asbestos.

The grant was courtesy of the state government's Growing Suburbs Fund. Cardinia Shire Council will be providing additional funding, if needed, to make sure the project can be completed.

Members of the club gathered to hear the good news from local MP Jordan Crugnale and Cardinia Shire Councillor Graeme Moore. Cr Moore said he was proud to be representing local councillor Ray Brown at the presentation and said that the clubrooms would be one of Cr Brown's great legacies to the community.

Club President Pauline Gray acknowledged the hard work Ray had put in over the years (including inadvertently attempting to burn the club rooms down with an overenthusiastic barbecue) to get the club rooms upgraded saying: 'We are so grateful for all the work that Ray Brown and the greater community of Koo Wee Rup have put into getting these new and much welcomed facilities.' Pauline hopes that the community will be able to make good use of the redeveloped club rooms. She announced that the club is keen to restart their primary school bowling program next year after it was put on hold by Covid.

Jordan Crugnale MP said how happy she was to make the announcement of funding for sporting facilities for older members of the community. 'These projects come to light because of a vision, the drive, the relentlessness to keep at it, the ability to rally people together and bring their local council along the journey. Thank you, Cr Ray Brown, the Bowling Club and everyone involved – it is an absolute honour to join you in this partnership. Together we will make this happen and it will be an amazing asset and focal point for the area.'



Koo Wee Rup Bowling Club members celebrating the announcement. Club President Pauline Gray shaking hands with Jordan Crugnale MP and Cr Graeme Moore, in front of the old club rooms.

Koo Wee Rup Township Committee Meeting

The Township held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, 7 April 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, 5 May at 7:30 pm at the Koo Wee Rup Community Centre.

The shelter over the BBQs at Bayles was damaged in a storm about three years ago and had to be removed. Council had agreed to replace it at the time, despite repeated assurances the shelter has yet to be replaced. Can council give a commitment to replace it and a date by when the work will be completed? The Secretary will forward this question to Cardinia Shire CEO.

Continued Page 5

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

May

Sat	1st	Pilates (See page 15)	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sun	2nd	Bayles Fauna Park Working Bee & Committee Meeting	Bayles Fauna Park	9am
Sun	2nd	KWR Bowling Club AGM	Bowls Club	2pm
Mon	3rd	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Mon	3rd	Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Mon	3rd	CWA Meeting	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Wed	5th	Koo Wee Coffee Club	Royal Hotel	10am
Wed	5th	Township Committee Meeting	Community Centre	7pm
Wed	5th	Lions Club Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7.30pm
Thu	6th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Fri	7th	KWR Regional Health Service Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	9.30am
Fri	7th	Triples	Bowls Club	10.30am
Fri	7th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Fri	7th	KWR Senior Citizens Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	1pm
Fri	7th	Koo Wee 4 Kids & Brave Youth	turningpoint Church	6pm
Sat	8th	Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Mon	10th	KWR Senior Citizens Committee Meeting	Senior Citizens Club	10.30am
Mon	10th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Mon	10th	Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Tue	11th	Community Centre Committee Meeting	Community Centre	7.30pm
Wed	12th	KWR Swamp Historical Society Meeting	KWR Museum	7.30pm
Thu	13th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Fri	14th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Fri	14th	Koo Wee 4 Kids & Brave Youth	turningpoint Church	6pm
Sat	15th	Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sun	16th	Make a Wish in May (back page)	Community Garden	12.30pm
Mon	17th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Mon	17th	Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Mon	17th	CWA Craft Night	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Wed	19th	Koo Wee Coffee Club	Chandelier Cafe	10am
Thu	20th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Fri	21st	Triples	Bowls Club	10.30am
Fri	21st	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Fri	21st	Koo Wee 4 Kids & Brave Youth	turningpoint Church	6pm
Sat	22nd	Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Mon	24th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Mon	24th	Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Thu	27th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Fri	28th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Fri	28th	Koo Wee 4 Kids & Brave Youth	turningpoint Church	6pm
Sat	29th	Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sun	30th	KWR Swamp Historical Society Annual Luncheon (back page)	Tooradin Sports Club	12noon
Sun	30th	Social Bowls	Bowls Club	12.30pm
Mon	31st	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm

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

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JP duties are a free community service

Raymond Henry Brown

5 August 1942 – 16 April 2021

Last month Koo Wee Rup lost one of its most passionate and effective advocates. Ray Brown first came to Koo Wee Rup in 1970 as station master, a position he held until the closure of the line. He quickly became an integral part of the community.

Ray was dedicated to improving the community and was tenacious in finding solutions to difficulties that arose. Once he decided something was going to happen, nothing was going to stop it from happening.

Over time Ray was a committee member of numerous community groups including the football club, recreation reserve committee, RSL Sub-Branch and Bowls Club and was a great supporter of many other groups with which he was not directly involved.

In 1998, Ray set up the Koo Wee Rup Township Committee to provide a stronger voice to local and state governments. He became the inaugural president, a role he held for over a decade, and the committee began working to improve the facilities in town.

Since 2016 Ray has represented the district as a Shire Councillor, first as one of two councillors for Port Ward and, since the end of 2020, then as the sole councillor for Westernport Ward.

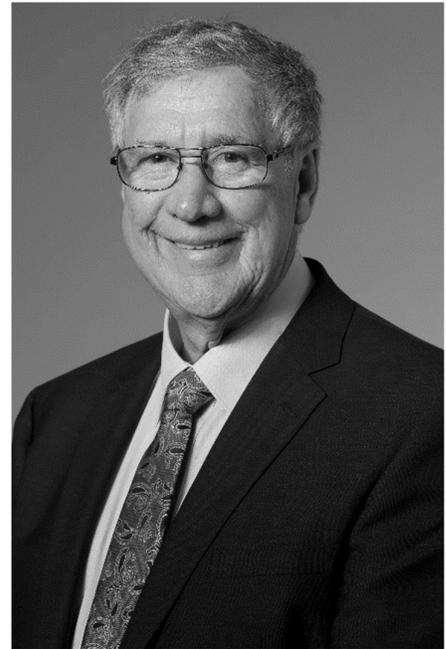
Over the years, through his involvement with his various community groups and on council Ray has been integral in the achievement of many improvements to Koo Wee Rup, including:

- obtaining the land, organising and coordinating the subsequent building of the community centre;
- development of the skateboard park, children's playground and barbecue area in Cochrane Park; organising the creation of the bi-centenary tourist feature in Koo Wee Rup – the clock towers and the detailed information boards on the history of KWR;
- planning the route through KWR for the Olympic Games baton in 2000 and organising the KWR section of the baton relay for the 2006 Commonwealth Games and the two days of local celebration that followed;
- the establishment and organisation of the local celebration for Australia Day in Koo Wee Rup;
- development of the boundary drain walking track and the rail trail;
- upgrades to the recreation reserve including the installation of floodlighting at the Netball Courts and Football Oval, resurfacing the oval, installation of underground drainage and an automatic irrigation system;
- the planning and construction of the new "Welcome to Koo Wee Rup" sign boards now positioned at each entrance to the town;
- lobbying for and organising the building of Public Toilets for the town;
- refurbishment of the car park near the swimming pool. Ray pressured the local council to get the area asphalted, install lights and plant shrubs in the surrounds;
- fought to get public transport back to Koo Wee Rup, a battle that is ongoing - the redevelopment of the bus interchange and the bus from Koo Wee Rup to Pakenham were as a result of his lobbying;
- getting natural gas connected to Koo Wee Rup;
- building of the Koo Wee Rup bypass;
- building the laneway that runs beside Woolworths from Station Street to the rail trail. This was a project that looked like it would never happen, but Ray's dogged persistence finally made it a reality;
- the redevelopment of the tennis courts and building of the tennis club rooms;
- the sealing of sections of Boundary Drain and Main Drain Roads.

Sadly, Ray didn't live to see the completion of the redevelopment of the primary school and high school ovals and the new Netball and Football changerooms at the Rec Reserve or the rehabilitation of his beloved railway station. Shortly before his passing he received the good news that the bowls club had been awarded \$1.6million to redevelop their club rooms; another long fought for project.

Ray's passing leaves a big hole in the Koo Wee Rup community.

Ray is survived by his wife Ellen, his children Michael, Karen and Donna, stepchildren Daniel, Johanna and Bernie, 7 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.



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Koo Wee Rup RSL Sub Branch Report

We at the KWR RSL were overjoyed by the numbers of our community who were able to attend our Anzac Day dawn service and, as most of our members have commented, how pleasing it was to see so many young people and children at the Service; so thank you and well done to all the parents who encouraged and managed to bring their children along. We know it is not easy task getting them up, fed and dressed to go outside the home at that hour of the day. I would also like to thank those who were with us in spirit or showed their respect in their own way at home due to health issues, work or family commitments.

To those who have expressed their thoughtfulness, gratefulness, and desire to assist those of our diggers in need by purchasing an Anzac Day badge, my very sincere thanks to each and every one of you; we will pass on your generous gifts to RSL Victoria.

I also wish to thank our loyal CFA family for the great and priceless work they do and for always being there with us to perform their task. Our schools' representatives and flag bearers are worthy of much praise. I was mindful of what you were going through during the service, your aching arms would have been ready to drop off by the time the service was completed so very well done for lasting the distance. Our scouts were there too, ready to be of service when required, always good to have you there and very much appreciated. We would have loved to have completed the ceremony by inviting the community to a gunfire breakfast but we were not permitted. We have got to be grateful for all mercies.

It is my very sad duty to inform our community fo the passing of one of our own, a loyal member and former treasurer of more than twelve years, councillor Ray Brown. I wish to express our loving sympathy to all of Ray's family in your great sadness and loss of your dear husband, father and grandfather.

We Will Remember Them, Lest We Forget

Yours Aye, John Camilleri 5629 4242



Koo Wee Rup Township Committee Meeting *(continued from Page 1)*

A suggestion was made from the community that council work to provide a disabled parking spot on the north side of Station St with easy access to the Post Office. Is it possible that the parking adjacent to the Koo Wee Rup Discount Pharmacy (old ANZ building) could be used for this purpose?

After discussion of this issue it was also thought that a place could be provided at the RSL on the south side of Station St too. *Secretary to put this suggestion to council*

The president commented that with increasing property prices in Koo Wee Rup this could increase council rates next year when they are reviewed and potentially put some of our citizens under financial stress.

On a positive note the people buying in to Koo Wee Rup seem to be interested in the lifestyle a smaller town offers and are improving and preserving the houses that they buy and not looking to subdivide some of the larger blocks thereby helping to preserve the atmosphere of our town.

The Railway platform was the subject of some discussion on Facebook over the last few weeks with some positive comments on the plans to preserve and improve part of the platform. One commenter also suggested that a metal cut-out or silhouette of the old railway buildings could be added to the platform as a recognition of what had gone before. The Township committee will investigate this suggestion once the platform works have been completed.

The Men's Shed will be offering lunch every Friday (11am – 2pm) commencing Friday 9th April. There has been some discussion about reinstating computer classes now that COVID restrictions have eased. Unfortunately these classes cannot resume until the old computers at the Men's Shed are upgraded.

The Men's Shed is participating in the eConnect program and has several iPads available for people to try before they buy. These iPads are available for members of the community to borrow for up to six weeks and familiarise themselves with the technology with support from knowledgeable members of the Shed before they purchase their own.

It is great to see Boundary Drain Road sealed and the reduction in dust has already been noted by residents along this road.



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My boyhood memories of air raids in the UK 1939 – 1945 *by Geoff Stokes*

September the third 1939 was a Sunday. I was 7 years and 2 months old and the subsequent events in my young life were so traumatic and so vivid that I still have absolute detailed memories of the happenings of those war years. There was a hushed silence about our house and towards eleven-o'clock in the morning my father sat me on his knee, and we all had to listen to the wireless (radio). Neville Chamberlain, the prime minister, made his famous speech; farewell to appeasement and a declaration of war with the words, "We are now at war with Germany". Who could forget that? I remember Dad spoke to us in terms and a manner so serious that we all paid the closest attention to him. He warned that this could be a long struggle and war was bad. Some people would go away and maybe they would not come back. I will tell you now how we youngsters lived, living with the war going on around us, growing up in the war years in the village of Bradmore, close to Wolverhampton, a town in the UK; what it was like, how did I cope, how did other people cope? I haven't mentioned my school, cricket, football and my Boys' Brigade memories here, that's for another time.

Nothing happened to change the status quo for the first few months although my father, old as he was (53), and a WW 1 veteran, went straight to the Town Hall to volunteer for anything that would help the war effort. He was put on the reserve list for the soon to be formed LDV (Local Defence Volunteers) the precursor to 'The Home Guard' later satirised in the BBC production 'Dad's Army'. I went back to school and we all talked about air raids and invasions and how we, the lads, would fight the Germans! It all seemed so exciting, we couldn't wait for the first air raid with all the bangs and flashes we guessed would take place. Little did we know how very scary it was really going to be. The first change to our lives came when the Wolverhampton Municipal Council decided that our school buildings would make ideal headquarters for the organisation that would be set up to develop civilian defensive strategies. This organisation would become the local arm of the ARP (Air Raid Precaution), an army of civilians who would patrol the streets and ensure blackout regulations were enforced, report any bomb damage, give first aid and fight minor fires until the Fire Brigade arrived. So we all had to move to other scholastic premises in an adjacent suburb.

Meanwhile things were changing dramatically. All our windows in the house had to be blacked out with heavy curtains, blinds or boarding, not a crack of light to be showing. Strips of sticky paper were glued on to the glass panes in a diamond pattern to prevent shattered glass flying around if any explosions occurred in the vicinity. Bantock Park, where all the champion cattle used to graze, now had wooden railway sleepers placed upright on end across the paddocks to prevent enemy planes or gliders landing. Headlights of vehicles, including bicycles, had to have masks fitted over them and only a thin slit of light was allowed to show. No lights were allowed inside trolley buses and the conductors all wore downward shaded torches at their breast in order to see the bus ticket they were giving to you. Young men were being called up or volunteering for Military Service and there were restrictions on travel to anywhere - there was no petrol available to anyone anyway. All the road signs, directional signs and street signs were painted out and we were warned not to talk about anything we saw concerning troop movements etc, via posters which solemnly declared, "Careless talk costs lives". Ration books were issued, as were 'Identity Cards'. I can still remember the number on my Identity Card, it was OQND 336/5 and the ration allowance per person is shown here. Rationing fluctuated throughout the war as the food supply changed. Below is the basic **weekly** ration for an adult in the UK in 1942, although this was supplemented by a system of monthly points for additional purchases.

	to the value of 1s.2d.	Cooking Fat	4oz, 100g.	Monthly Ration.	
Bacon and Ham	4oz, 100g.	Milk	2 – 3 pints, 1.14 – 1.7 litres.	Preserves	1lb, 450g.
Butter	2oz, 50g.	Sugar	8oz, 225g.	Dried Eggs	1 pkt.
Cheese	2- 8oz, 50 – 225g.	Tea	2oz, 50g.	Sweets (Lollies)	12oz, 350g.
Margarine	4oz, 100g.	Eggs	1.		

Air raid sirens were being tested daily and "Anderson" air raid shelters were being distributed in kits for you to assemble and half bury in the back garden. The ringing of church bells was now the national signal for the arrival of enemy parachutists and concrete roadblocks were being stored alongside all the main roads. Dad was appointed Battalion Sergeant Major of the 22nd Battalion, South Staffordshire Home Guard with their headquarters at 'Ellerslie', a grand old house in Penn Fields a next door suburb. A battery of 3.7 inch (90mm) anti-aircraft guns was installed at Langley, two-and-a-half kilometres away (about a mile and a half) from our house with a jolly lot of untested enlisted soldiers in charge. As for me, well I joined my other little schoolmates again and we all moved into our new school (not quite finished), together with lots of other children from the surrounding districts.

Continued next page

Letter to the Editor

Would the people walking their dogs and let them leave their business on peoples front and back yards please pick up after them. As you should be aware it is against the law not to do so. Also keep your cats locked up at night because the same applies.

Name and address supplied

My boyhood memories of air raids in the UK 1939 – 1945 *from previous page*

One morning I was awoken with shouts and neighs and there was a horse and large cart being backed into our side driveway. In the cart was sand, cement and lime; materials for the building of our surface air raid shelter. I am not sure who said we had to have one or, indeed, why we didn't have the standard Anderson shelter buried in the garden like everyone else. It was built over a few days whilst I was at school and all the concrete and mortar was mixed by hand. The concrete for the floor apron was OK but my Dad complained that the builder's mortar mix for the walls was much too weak. "Too much sand, not enough cement", he said. It was a building about three metres by two metres, no windows and walls of double brick. Strangely the concrete roof, one hundred and twenty millimetres thick, was of a pitched design and not flat. There was one narrow entrance and there were two wooden seats built into the walls for the length of the shelter. The lights were to be just shaded oil lamps. In front of the entrance was erected another two metre high double brick wall about half a metre in front of the entrance to act as an 'anti-blast wall'. I think we used the shelter once and then, some time later, I noticed that if you pushed hard, you could rock the blast wall on its foundations! With a couple of shoves my Dad pushed it right over and from then on we thought that the pantry under the stairs would be a safer place to be during an air raid. After the war the bricks from this shelter were used to pave the side driveway and the concrete roof was broken up and used as a 'rockery' around the lawn borders. The concrete apron stayed where it was.

Public shelters were built all around: they were buried about two metres below the surface with a sloping entrance door, steps down into the body of the structure and there was an escape hatch and ladder at the other end. I suppose they would have seated about a hundred people. There was one in Bantock Park and one at the corner of the village main crossroads. There were also two built in our school grounds. Several large, concrete, open topped water tanks for fire fighting were scattered about, one was outside our school and one on the recreational grounds. Into this particular water tank fell my friend Philip Parkes one day and at that time he couldn't swim. An older youth, George Foster and I pulled him out and Philip looked like a drowned rat. We took him home and then we panicked as Mr. Parkes started to shout at us all for larking about so we ran off! The Parkes' had a different kind of air raid shelter to everyone else. They had an indoor shelter called a 'Morrison' shelter. I found this note on the Internet:

"The Morrison shelter was approximately 6 feet 6 inches (2m) long, 4 feet (1.2m) wide and 2 feet 6 inches (0.75m) high and made of steel. When not in use as a shelter it could be used as a table by temporarily removing the welded wire mesh sides.

Whilst the Anderson shelter was constructed of 14 corrugated sheets, and required some digging to let it into the ground, the Morrison consisted of some 219 parts (not including 48 nuts and bolts) and came with 3 tools with which to assemble it.

These shelters were distributed free to most people and over 500,000 had been distributed by November 1941. The Morrison was extremely effective, if assembled correctly, and undoubtedly saved many lives".

Gas masks were issued to everyone and we carried ours around in an oblong cardboard box with white cord, the box dangling from our shoulders. Now and again we would have a 'gas attack drill' at school that was good fun. My close friend Colin Wilson and I carried this drill a little further. You see Colin had a set of encyclopaedias, a luxury unheard of by the rest of us. Nevertheless he used them to their full extent to impress us with his knowledge. He found out that if we burnt some sulphur the resultant gas would be sulphur dioxide, a poisonous, heavy, yellow, choking gas. We decided that this would be a good test for our gas masks. So, with our gas masks on, sitting in the Wilson's subterranean air raid shelter, we set alight some sulphur powder that we had bought from the chemist with our pocket money. Soon we were enveloped in a dense yellow fog but we felt OK in our gas masks. About five minutes into our experiment Mr. Wilson discovered us and simply went berserk, dragging us out of the shelter by our ears or anything else he could lay hands on. We had a stern lecture from him and also my Dad later on but we just couldn't understand why everyone was so upset: it was only an experiment after all!

August and September 1940 was the Battle of Britain when a few young men in fighter planes defended Britain from the might of the German Luftwaffe blitzkrieg. In the south of England the skies were alive with 'dogfights' and the German bombers droned in at night to bomb London and the English Channel ports. We were fortunate in Bradmore; we did not see any fighter action but our skies were always full of planes going off to battle and returning: some in dire straits. These aircraft were operating mainly from the Bobbington base, which was a reserve airfield 20km (twelve miles) away. Others came from close by Perton, now an up-market residential area. To my eight-year-old friends and me this was exciting stuff and, in our games, we pretended to fly and shoot down everything. Soon it was the turn of industrial Birmingham and Coventry to feel the might of the German bombing. Their flight path took them right over Wolverhampton and in particular our village of Bradmore where we lived: they came in the night when the moon was full and the memory of their engine's drone, drone sound, sends shivers up my spine even now.

Continued next page

My boyhood memories of air raids in the UK 1939 – 1945 *from previous page*

We didn't get many high explosive bombs dropped on us but there is one incident that I will tell you about later. However; we did get lots and lots (indeed hundreds) of incendiary bomb devices dropped over two years into our area and we had to extinguish these with a water 'Stirrup Pump' an essential for every household then. We regularly received something from the sky just as dangerous as the bombs. As the enemy bombers flew over us the army searchlights from Langley would light up; five or six of them probing the sky trying to find an enemy aircraft. In addition the accompanying Royal Artillery battery would open fire with their anti-aircraft guns, either trying to hit an illuminated aircraft or to present an exploding barrage that the aircraft, flying in tight formation, would enter. "What goes up must come down," says the old adage and during these regular barrages, which shook houses and severely rattled the windows, showers of red-hot shrapnel (large lumps of jagged steel splinters) would rain down on us. Roof damage was everywhere and repairs to them went on for years. Dad had slate replacement and repair off to a fine art with a ladder, rope and roofing plank always at the ready for use on our two story home.

Dad was out nearly every night with the Home Guard and my older sisters, Eileen and Mary were also out a lot of the time 'fire watching'. This activity helped the regular ARP volunteers reduce their nightly tasks. Our local 'watching points' were the church tower of St. Philip and from the roof of the newly built cinema in Warstones road. I would often sneak out during air raids and meet up with Philip Parkes and watch the flashes and listen to the ear splitting "ROUGH, ROUGH", sound of the guns; the moving fingers of white from the searchlights; the star bursts from the anti-aircraft shells, and sometimes the spectacular parachute flares that lit up the sky to the horizon. How I managed to get away from Mom I do not know but I did, and she never chastised me for going out. I think now that it could have been her possible belief that this was something that was happening to someone else far away and, as such, we were not in any immediate danger. No one seemed to be scared around us at any time that I could remember. Dad would do his own private fire watching on his nights off from the Home Guard and outside he always smoked his pipe upside down. He explained that his brother Fred, in France in World War I, had observed that the enemy gave their positions away by smoking cigarettes whilst on duty, the glow of which could be seen for miles! So Dad smoked his pipe in reverse. Did he reason that an astute and observant German aviator with shells exploding all around him and probing lights trying to capture his silhouette, would spot Dad's glowing pipe down below and pinpoint his position? Now, in hindsight, I am being mischievously facetious I know, because Dad really was a true patriot and this action was serious and important to him and his personal effort to ensure victory. We all had a chuckle at the time.

It was a weekday because I was at school and at the time we were playing in the playground at our new school. This low flying plane flew slowly over the school and we watched with interest because it was quite small and not one of us could identify it. Suddenly the air raid sirens sounded and within a minute we were all hurried down into the air raid shelter. We had just sat down when there was a tremendous bang and an almighty upheaval of everyone and we all seemed to move upwards some distance in the air and drop down again: at the same time there was an enormous repeat 'brrrrrrrwhoomph' and whoosh of air through the shelter. This was our one and only large high explosive bomb and it had landed right in the middle of the Home Guard parade ground lifting a large multi-room timber house completely off its foundations and repositioning it exactly ninety degrees to its original spot. In the shelter Miss Elwell started us singing happy songs until the all-clear siren sounded. After school us lads went to see the damage and, long before we got there, we saw that thousands of clods of mud and turf had been scattered all over people's roofs and substantial damage had been caused to the tiles and slates. The timber house was a sight to wonder about and we found quite a lot of shrapnel that we could swap for other treasures with our mates later. There was a huge crater in the middle of the paddock that the Home Guard used as a parade ground and even our young crowd saw the irony in that! Miraculously there were no serious casualties, just lacerations and bruises to one or two unfortunate people. Why drop a bomb on the Home Guard parade ground? Well, Dad told us later that Army Intelligence had worked out the solution. They discovered that the angles from the parade ground to the church tower and to the aircraft were the same angles as those from The Royal Orphanage Tower (now The Royal Wolverhampton School) and those to the Fischer Bearings factory. Pre-war this was a German owned Company. It was believed that the blacking-out of the clock faces on the individual towers confused the low flying pilot's navigation and 'tower' identification. He chose the wrong tower!

Continued next month

Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens Club

Icke Road, Koo Wee Rup

Welcome to all.

Friday lunches followed by bingo have resumed. Bowls on Mondays at 12.30pm has also started. New members are most welcome at an annual fee of \$10. Come along and give us a go. A wreath was laid at the KWR Dawn Service on your behalf.

All enquiries:

Dianne D	0419 405 404
Diane K	0408 663 655
Leonie	0477 249 000

How much do you know about the RTA changes?



From Monday 29th March 2021, an amendment to the Residential Tenancies Act came into affect. It is a lot of information to take in, but here we would like to share with you a few points of interest:

Changes of Terminology

- Landlords will now be referred to as Residential Rental Providers
- Tenants will now be referred to as Renters
- A Lease Agreement will now be referred to as a Rental Agreement

Safety Checks

Safety checks are required on the following:

- Smoke alarms - every 12 months
- Gas & electrical - every 2 years
- Pool barriers/fences - every 4 years



There are 14 new minimum standards applied to rental properties such as:

- Each renter on the agreement must be provided a full set of keys per tenant for the property.
- Urgent repairs threshold has been increased from \$1800 to \$2500.
- Rent can only be increased every 12 months and agents must provide renters with documentation on how the increase was determined.
- Bond on the property must be finalised within 10 business days
- A new 5 Strike system is in place for rent arrears. Late payments made more than 15 days after the due date will receive a strike; 5 strikes made within a 12 month period allows a Rental Property Provider to apply to VCAT for possession of the property.

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Clocktowers

In early April the South clockface, which hasn't worked for some time, was repaired and replaced and now all clocks are working and on correct time, the first time this has happened in a long while.

New Times at the Men's Shed.

What a relief that the tight Covid-19 restrictions have been relaxed to enable us all to get together again - properly- at the Men's Shed. That being so, all of us now look forward to our Wednesday lunch date and this is the ideal time for our members and anyone who would like to become a member, to join us and taste the delights of a superb professionally prepared luncheon. Yes, Keith our cook, is a former professional Chef and the meals he personally prepares are an absolute culinary delight.

We still have vegetables for sale even though you may have heard the opposite. Yes ... we have pumpkins, potatoes and rhubarb for you. Just come along to the 'Shed and talk to John Farmer. He will look after you for all your vegie needs. With the easier rules in place we can now have students from the KWR Secondary College who are working towards their Duke of Edinburgh award, join us in planting seedlings, flowers, and plants in the Community garden. All the plants and seedlings have been donated to the Men's Shed by Oasis Horticulture of Devon Meadows. Oasis has our heartfelt thanks.

After being used as a storehouse for KRHS Covid-19 personal protective equipment (PPE), the metalwork workshop is being refurbished back to its original purpose. In about two months it will be reopened for members. Alongside it there will be a 12.2m container to replace the old rickety tool shed as a storage facility.

You will recall that in last month's 'Blackfish' report we announced the opening of our Friday luncheon café. It is open to the public from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm and after two weeks it has been a great success. We sold out on both those days; we were so popular. Plans have been laid so that we can now cope with lots more visitors so, come along and have a luncheon with us. The café is open to everyone, members and non-members, ladies and gentlemen. Take your pick from a menu of home cooked food that offers steak and onion or curried meat pies, sausage rolls, pasties, egg and bacon quiche, two types of soup, pumpkin scones and, of course, coffee, tea or a cold can of soft drink. All at really affordable prices.

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 and our esteemed retired committee 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 mates and maybe get a boost to your own health and well-being at the same time. Come on, call in, try us.

Finally in memory of his Royal Highness, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, I quote one of his many funny stories.

"If a man walks around and opens his car passenger door for a lady, he either has a new car or a new lady!"

Geoff Stokes.



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Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club

The final Rd. of both Pennant competitions had both Saturday teams playing in the finals for the first time for a few seasons. Div. 3 had a big victory 84-36 over Mt. Eliza to finish in top spot for the season. Bryan Walker, Pauline Gray, Gerry Fuller & Julie Walker won 32-10. A steady last few ends got a win for Arthur Giaccotto, Brett Condron, Charles Harris & Jim Jenkins 23-18. Also having a big win was Trevor Kitchin, Peter Butera, Rob Matthews & Tim Katz 29-8. Div. 6 had a daunting trip to Somerville and were soundly beaten 26-50 to drop to 4th place and a return trip to Somerville for the semi-final. Never really in the game Margaret Royle, Mary Masters, Wendy Pownall & George Crynes were well beaten 13-32. Our rink of Betty King, Steve Haines, Peter Stevens & Iain Caig had a closer game than the final score of 13-18 indicates. Semi-finals with both teams playing with mixed results. Div. 3 hosted Mornington Civic and won 80-54. Scores were close at the break then a 10-minute shower of rain delayed the start of play and after that KWR drew away on all 3 rinks to record a comfortable win. A good result for Bryan Walker, Pauline Gray, Gerry Fuller & Julie Walker winning 23-18. Despite dropping 6 shots on the 4th end Arthur Giaccotto, Brett Condron, Charles Harris & Jim Jenkins recovered to score a 29-15 victory. Dropping 6 was a little contagious with Trevor Kitchin, Peter Butera, Rob Matthews & Tim Katz repeating the problem on the 7th end and then steadily regaining the lead to win 28-21.

A very tough assignment for Div. 6 going back to Somerville in the 1st semi-final and were narrowly beaten 40-34 to end their season. Betty King, Steve Haines, Peter Stevens & Iain Caig with scores level with 2 ends to play won those ends to win 18-15. Dropping a 5 & a 4 was the difference for Margaret Royle, Mary Masters, Wendy Pownall & Helen Ralph beaten 16-25. A particularly good effort for the season with rotation changes every week not allowing rinks to become settled. All players are to be congratulated in accepting this process to give everyone as many games as possible.

A daunting assignment for both Tuesday Pennant teams in their final round. Both teams were playing the top teams in their division. Div. 3 were defeated 46-68 against Mornington Civic to finish the season in 5th place. Div. 7 lost to Mount Eliza 29-46 and finished in 6th position. A poor 2nd half cost Fay Halligan, George Crynes, Iain Caig & S.Kamat (Mt. Eliza) any chance of winning beaten 12-26. A close game throughout for Margaret Royle, Pat Carlin, Peter Stevens & Ken Hammond resulted in a 17-20 loss.

Continued next page



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Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club *from previous page*

We made the trip to Balnarring for the Div. 3 Grand Final in a game worthy of a final. Unfortunately, we stumbled at the last hurdle losing 55-59. A very solid team effort from Arthur Giaccotto, Brett Condron, Charles Harris & Jim Jenkins prevailed with a 26-17 win. Never really in the game and losing 7 shots on the 2nd last end did not help the cause for Bryan Walker, Pauline Gray, Gerry Fuller & Julie Walker losing 11-24. In a close game all afternoon an 18-18 draw was probably an expected result for Trevor Kitchin, Peter Butera, Rob Matthews & Tim Katz. A very good season for Div. 3.

Brett Condron probably created a little piece of Club history this season by winning all 4 Men's Club competitions. This feat will take some equalling. Well done Brett everyone will be "gunning" for you next season.

We intend to start some Social bowls during the Winter months. It will be on the last Sunday of each month commencing in May. Probably from 1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. and similar to Twilight bowls format. A perfect opportunity for prospective & our new members to meet some of our Club members and have a game of bowls. Bowls is still perceived as an old person's sport but see the ages of members of both Australian teams and it shows that this is not so. Come along and have some fun while learning about the game. Watch the KooWeeRup Facebook page for further details closer to the end of May.

The Club has welcomed the following members from our Twilight bowls season – Lizzie Craig, Kerrin Lovell, Anna-Lize Pretorius, Jennie & Neil Toyne. We hope that you enjoy your time with our Club.

The final day of Friday Triples has been played with the Winning rink being Peter Bott [Pakenham], Charles Harris [KWR] & Ashley Green [Pakenham] with 39 pts. Runner up team with 35 pts. was Trevor Kitchin [KWR], Ken White [Longwarry] & Noel Speight [KWR]. Best 1st game went to Ken Harding, Tony Abbott & Max Adams [Lang Lang] on 19 pts. & best 2nd game was won by Mary Masters, Joe Barlow & Charles Poulson [KWR] on 18 pts. Although we had a shortened season due to lockdown, we did manage to run an aggregate with the results being the winning team Trevor Kitchin, Ken White & Noel Speight with 10 wins & 87 ends. Runner up team was John Williams, Neville & Kevin Kitchin with 10 wins & 80 ends. Third place was Ken Clifton, Ned Courtin & Luis Aquilar on 9 wins & 2 draws. The Club would like to sincerely thank our sponsors David Bull Funerals & Nutrien Harcourts Real Estate for their continued support over many years.

The Club members were extremely sad to hear of the passing of Life Member Ray Brown on 16/4/21. Ray was a tireless worker for the Club from when he joined in 1998. A Club Champion in 2003-4 & Club President 2010-17 Ray was involved in many projects within the Club. Although not being actively involved in bowls since his election to the Shire of Cardinia, Ray continued to work behind the scenes until his health rapidly declined. He was involved in many organizations within the town and district and will be sadly missed by everyone. Deepest sympathy to Ellen & family.



Judith Thorpe and Alan Winnett from Mornington Peninsula Bowls Division make the Division 3 runners up presentation to Rex Alexander.



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What was that siren?

April 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:

- 24/3/21 – Truck brake fire - Ballarto Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 27/3/21 – Shed fire – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 31/3/21 – Flames sighted – Ballarto Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 1/4/21 – Automatic alarm - Station St Koo Wee Rup
- 2/4/21 – Machine fire – Bayles-Tynong Rd Cora Lyn
- 3/4/21 – Fuel leak – Koo Wee Rup bypass Koo Wee Rup
- 3/4/21 – Grass and tree fire – Peers Rd Dalmore
- 4/4/21 – Incident – Koo Wee Rup Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 8/4/21 – Alarm operating – Station St Koo Wee Rup
- 8/4/21 – Hay stack fire – Caldermeade Rd Catani
- 11/4/21 - Alarm operating – Station St Koo Wee Rup
- 16/4/21 - Alarm operating – Station St Koo Wee Rup
- 20/4/21 – Automatic alarm – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 22/4/21 – Rubbish fire – Westernport Rd Lang Lang
- 22/4/21 - Automatic alarm – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 22/4/21 – Incident – Ballarto Rd Bayles



BAYLES FAUNA PARK

Working Bee

Sunday, 2 May, 9am start followed by a BBQ lunch

Committee Meeting

Sunday, 2 May

immediately after working bee

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

All welcome

Location of Smoke Alarms

Did you know you can't smell smoke when you're asleep? All homes should have 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




Kooweerup
REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

Mat Pilates

Term 2 2021

Coming out of Covid-19 restrictions lets reengage with exercise at our own pace. Strict hygiene measures are in place. Pilates is suitable for all ages & abilities.

When: 6.00pm Mondays or 9.00am Saturdays.
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

Commences:
Monday 19th April 2021

Mat Pilates for Term 2

As the cooler weather arrives we need to remind ourselves to keep active. Pilates offers a way to do this at your own pace, and in a non-threatening supported environment. **So with a FREE first session there is nothing to lose.** Make some "me time" and work on your core strength, (great for lower back issues), as well as your balance and general flexibility. **We meet Monday nights at 6 pm or Saturdays at 9 am** in the community room at Koo Wee Rup Regional Health Service using the entrance next to the community garden in Rossiter Rd. With a fully qualified trainer who is passionate about doing exercise in your own way and at your own pace we will make Pilates enjoyable as well as good for our health and wellbeing.

Cost is \$10 per session and enquiries to Marlene on 0429 814 410

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- Equivac 2in1 **\$38.50** or buy 20 @ **\$35.90ea**
- Stockman & Paddock 2x2 Dog Biscuits **\$38.00**
- Chum 12 x 700g **\$21.50**



Together We Learn

KOO WEE RUP Primary School

A big Term 2 welcome back to everyone. Last Monday morning presented quite a sight with the majority of the fencing down around our oval. The students were so excited to have their play space back. Despite the ongoing set backs with this project, it has been a terrific outcome for our school.



It's hard to believe that our Preps have already done their first term of school.

Last term they met some fun new characters through Milo's Birthday Surprise helping them learn the sounds that letters represent. Now they are ready to start blending the sounds together to read words! This term they have started reading in small groups with their teachers, as well as sharing their favourite stories with their Reading Buddies.

We can't wait to see how far they progress throughout the year.

For all prep enrolment enquiries for 2022, please contact the school office on 5997-1272.



Important Dates

Every Monday and Thursday from 8:15am - Breakfast Club
2:15pm every 2nd Friday from 23rd April - Assembly

Friday 30th April

In school Cross Country

Friday May 7th

Mother's Day Stall

Friday May 28th

Curriculum Day

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News from Bayles Regional Primary School

3730 Ballarto Road, Bayles 3981. Phone: 5997 7261
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On Monday the 19th of April, the Grade 5/6 students at Bayles Regional Primary School were very lucky to have John Camilleri from the RSL come and talk to them about ANZAC Day and the events and key figures involved with various wars of the past. He shared a wealth of knowledge about this very important part of Australian history and we are very grateful for his time. The students enjoyed asking many questions and interacting with the maps and photographs John brought along.



We would again like to thank John for
visiting BRPS.

Kooweerup Regional Health Service Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary were thrilled to see everybody at our Blume fashion parade. The function raised around \$400 to help at the hospital.

We meet on the first Friday of every month
at 9.30am in the RSL building.

New members welcome.



Cuboree X – 2021



Over the April School holidays 3, 300 Cub Scouts from across Victoria headed to Gilwell Park to experience a 4-night, 5-day camp that happens once every 3 years.

1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group had 15 Cub Scouts attend with 4 Leaders. They were placed into Unit 207 with Cub Scouts and Leaders from Bunyip Scout Group and Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group.

The weather was chilly, but we only had a little bit of rain for the week.

New friendships were made, old friendships were strengthened. We sang songs, played in the mud, slid down water slides, launched rockets and chased aliens.



The week was nonstop fun, and we can't wait for the next one in 2023.





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



Our Scout Group has had yet another action-packed month even with the two weeks of school holidays. Our Scout section headed to Caringal Scout Camp to participate in Coroboree, a 4-night camp. They got to experience many different things. Archery, rafting, abseiling and a whole lot more, a fantastic Easter weekend was had by everyone that attended.

It was great to get out into the community again this year for Anzac Day. A fantastic turn out from the town. After the Service the members of our group headed back to the scout hall for egg and bacon rolls.



Upcoming Fundraiser

Pie Drive

Watch our Social Media pages for more information.

Or if you would like more information contact Shane on the below details.

"The open-air is the real objective of Scouting and the key to its success."

Robert Baden-Powell

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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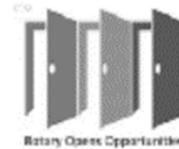
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Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup -Lang Lang



The Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup - Lang Lang extends to family, friends and colleagues and the community of Koo Wee Rup it's deepest condolences on the passing of Councillor Ray Brown. Cr Ray Brown was always available to address and assist with any issues when approached by our club.

Vale Cr Ray Brown

Slowly the club is getting back into raising much needed funds to assist in the community and that of our wider communities. The club assisted on the gate for the current Show at Lang Lang although no funds raised directly from the gate we were able to set up our barbecue trailer and produce some hot food for the competitors as no crowds were allowed.

Our recent donations have been \$2,000 to the recent floods in New South Wales and the Royal Children's Hospital appeal. We also supported our Ride to Conference Bike Riders. Sadly after 20 years and raising over \$1,000,000's for Centenary House, Life Education and Jared Dunscombe Foundation the ride will no longer be. Various issues, the ageing of our riders, logistics, insurance and safety of our riders has seen it come to an end. Rudy and Joy de Jong have been continuous riders and were this year recognised for their participation and received the Jared Dunscombe Award. Our club also were recognised with being the biggest contingent in this years ride. Centenary House in Traralgon is a community owned facility that provides safe, supportive and affordable accommodation to patients and or families of the Gippsland Cancer Care Centre and specialist medical services at Latrobe Regional Hospital. Currently Centenary Hours are raising funds, Coles has generously jumped on board by placing donation buckets from Pakenham to Bairnsdale, please support this very worthy community facility. You can view more information on their Facebook page or go to their website.

We have had a number of guest speakers recently covering the history of Lang Lang, being a magistrate, youth opportunities through Rotary for secondary and primary school students and touching on 100 years of Rotary International in Australia. The Lang Lang Post Office proprietor Robin recently presented the club a framed commemorative stamp collection recognising 100 years of Rotary International in Australia. Thank you so much Robin, your recognition of our club is much appreciated.

Who knew, I didn't but there are some very distinguished people in Rotary International. Prince Phillip was an honorary member at the Rotary Club of Edinburgh, and the Rotary Club of Windsor & Eton. We convey our condolences to HM Queen Elizabeth 11.

A picture tells a thousand tales, so they say. Well, not this month, I am having thousand issues trying to place pictures into this months edition of the Blackfish so apologies that you have to use your imagination or go to our Facebook page for more information which is covered there, with pictures.

New members always welcome, enquiries are most appreciated, either by writing to:

'Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup - Lang Lang, P.O. Box 18, Lang Lang, Vic, 3984 or

email: rckooweeruplanglang@gmail.com or

phone; Secretary Graham Warry on 0499 101 953.

President Michael Boraston on 0422 824 485 is happy to answer nay information you may need.

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup - Lang Lang, we thank you for the continued support, we look forward to serving our commuting in 2021.

On ANZAC Day the club was honoured to cook for the many that turned up for the ANZAC DAY services at the Cenotaph in Westport Road in Lang Lang. A very great thank you boys and girls of the club for cooking and Mulcahy's Meats for providing breakfast at the dawn service. Lest We Forget.

PLEASE NOTE:

**WE ARE STILL PROPOSING TO HAVE THIS
VITAL INFORMATION NIGHT ON
*PROSTRATE CANCER***

once we are able to have mass indoor gatherings.

**It is such an important issue for
men and women.**

Just a reminder
SHOW'n'SHINE
HAS BEEN CANCELLED
FOR 2021.

Planning is under way for Sunday
February 13th 2022.



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.

Lions Club of Lyndhurst and District 201-V5

Another great job by Lions of Lyndhurst & District.

A 40 foot container packed to the rafters with medical equipment, medical aids, computers, shoes, clothes etc is on its way to Sri Lanka to be distributed by Lions District 306B2 Sri Lanka to those who are most in need.

Thanks to all that donated, collected goods and helped with the loading. Not bad for their first attempt!



ARE YOU FEMALE?

Are you interested in socializing and getting fitter?

We are Recruiting Women Players For 2021 Season!

We are a friendly and family-orientated club, so if you are worried about what to do with kids, bring them down to meet and join in with ours!

They are more than welcome!

Come down and have a look to see if its sport for you! (No Obligation Necessary)

WHEN: 7pm Wednesday Nights

**WHERE: 270 Soldiers Rd
Caldermeade**

**LANG LANG COMMUNITY
RECREATION RESERVE**

**For any questions or inquiries please contact
Myrid Bartlett on 0423 148 954**





Koo Wee Rup and Districts Lions

Written by Linda Sanders

New Soccers Goals for Lang Lang United Soccer Club

Koo Wee Rup Lions were asked for a donation for new soccer goals for the Junior members of the Lang Lang United Soccer Club. The Lions Club was more than happy to assist.

Secretary Ken Blay and Member Sheryl Blay handed over the donation to Stewart Emanuelli from the Lang Lang United Soccer Club.

Over the years the Lions Club have donated money towards uniforms, balls and other equipment so we were more than happy to make a donation towards the new goals.



Anzac Day Service

Members of the Koo Wee Rup Lions attended the Dawn Service on Sunday 25th April.

After attending the march, President Rex Sanders was honoured to lay a wreath from the Lions Club to commemorate those lost and injured in wars.

Licola Wish List

The township of Licola is owned entirely by the Lions Clubs of Victoria and southern New South Wales. The greater part of the town is occupied by the Licola Wilderness Village, where Lions Clubs have for 50 years run camps for the underprivileged, deserving, special needs and disengaged young people, mostly held during school holidays.

Sometimes children at Licola have accidents and need an extra change of clothing, which their parents or guardians haven't packed for them. To save embarrassment to the children, we need to have a supply of extras on hand.

The most needed items we require are listed below:

- **Boys and Girls underwear - all sizes**
- **Boys and Girls socks - all sizes**
- **Huggies Dry Nights [pull ups] – up to 15 years (boys and girls)**
- **Rashies (UV protection top) and board shorts - all sizes**



- Wet shoes for the river access
- Ice packs and bandages
- Sun screen and hand sanitizers
- Head lice shampoo and combs

If you would like to donate some of the above items to Lions, please drop them off at the Lions Op Shop in Koo Wee Rup. Clothing Items need to be new or very good quality second hand.





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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*



Koo Wee Rup Country Women's Association

Written by Linda Sanders

2021 Meetings

Our next meeting will be on 3rd May at 7.30pm at the Senior Citizens Hall in Icke Road.

Our next craft meeting will be on 17th May at 7.30pm at the Seniors Hall. We will be creating Round Mosaic mirrors.

If you would like to join our great team of friendly ladies, please call President Cathy Stevens on 0403 593 513 for more details.

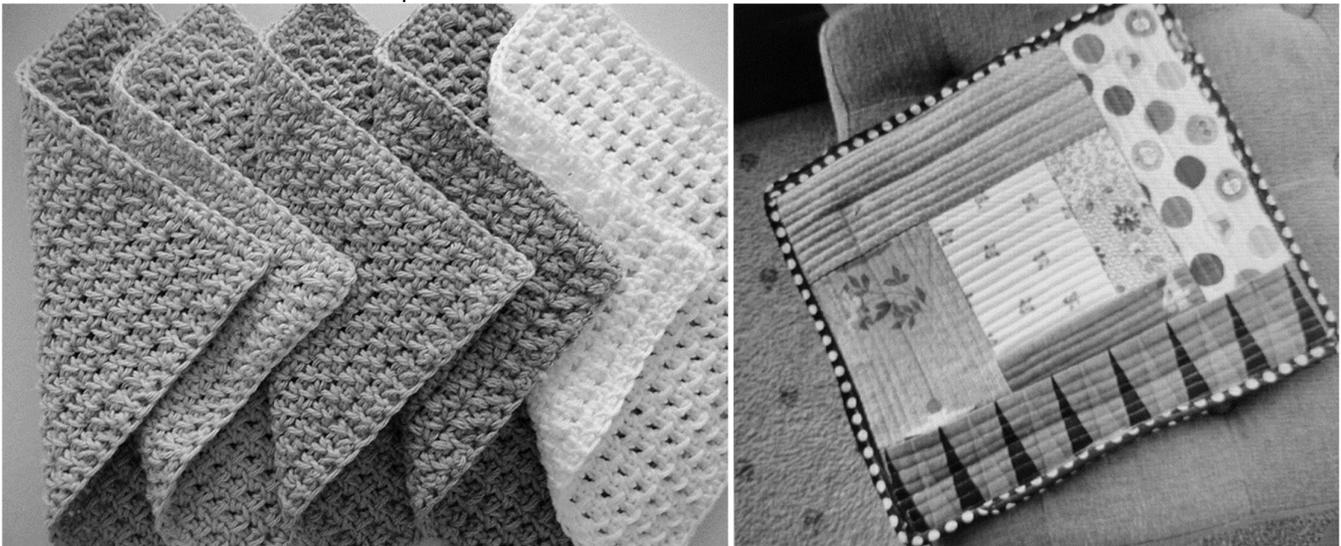
Face Washer Knitting

CWA head office has requested that Branches knit cotton face washers that will be sold at the Royal Melbourne Show in September.

One of our members journeyed to Bendigo Woollen Mills to purchase the cotton yarn which was greatly appreciated.

Each of the knitters have been asked to knit 20 face washers each, so we are busy knitting.

We have also been asked to make pot holders for sale.



Expressions of interest now open: Arts and Culture Reference Group

Expressions of interest are now open for Cardinia Shire's Arts and Culture Reference Group.

The group helps Council to identify community needs and priorities in relation to local arts and culture.

Cardinia Shire Mayor Councillor Brett Owen encouraged residents to apply and help contribute to the development of a strong profile for the arts in Cardinia Shire.

"Arts and Culture Reference Group community representatives play an important role in informing Council of the artistic and cultural needs of the community and contributing to Council's arts and cultural programs and services.

"The group also provides informed local community input into the delivery of Council's Arts and Culture Policy, Action Plan, Public Art Policy and Arts and Cultural Facilities Feasibility Study," Cr Owen said.

There are currently three community representative positions available on the committee, which meets quarterly. Community members are joined by three council officers and Councillors Stephanie Davies, Graeme Moore and Jeff Springfield.

Residents from all levels of involvement in the arts, from recreation to professional, are encouraged to apply. Applications are open to all ages.

To apply to join Cardinia Shire's Arts and Culture Reference Group, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/artsgroup

Applications close 5pm Friday 30 April 2021.

For more information, visit call the Arts and Culture team on 1300 787 624 or email mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au.

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- Auction Contracts
- 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

CWA and Anzac Day

Throughout the 1930's depression years, CWA branches statewide helped those in need with food and clothing. During World War II, members provided meals for the troops, made camouflage nets, sheepskin vests, and knitted balaclavas and socks for the troops. CWA were rated one of the best voluntary war-time services in Australia.

In 1992, the CWAA was awarded the RSL Anzac Peace Prize, in recognition of their outstanding effort in promoting international understanding and contributing to world peace in accordance with the best traditions of the ANZAC spirit. Members continue to support our forces overseas today.

At the same time, CWA members have continued to run homes and properties where they were often mother, nurse, teacher, cook, and general hand. The women of the CWA, while believing deeply that their role in the family is vitally important, have always been initiators, fighters and lobbyists. They have made localities into communities, by providing social activities and educational, recreational and medical facilities.

After nearly a century, the CWA remains the largest, most influential women's organisation in Australia today. CWA aims to improve life for women and their families, especially those who live in rural and remote Australia. Initially, only women whose income was derived from the land could become members. This has been changed, so that today women can join CWA, and enjoy CWA support, regardless of their location, employment, or income. The organisation remains self-funded, non-party-political and non-sectarian, and is run largely by its volunteers – the CWA Members.

Make the Perfect Anzac Biscuit 🍪🍪🍪

Join CWA secretary and cookery judge Pam Wright to find out how to make the perfect Anzac biscuit. Follow along with the full recipe:

Ingredients:

- 1 cup, rolled oats
- 1 cup, desiccated coconut
- 1 cup, plain flour
- 1 cup, white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon, salt (optional)
- 125g, butter
- 1 tablespoon, golden syrup
- 1 teaspoon, bi-carb soda
- 2 tablespoons, boiling water

Method:

1. Preheat oven to 180 degrees, prepare two baking trays.
2. Place the oats, coconut, sifted flour, sugar and salt into a bowl. Mix well.
3. Melt butter; add golden syrup, bi-carb soda and boiling water. Stir well. Add liquid ingredients to dry ingredients. Mix well.
5. Place mixture in spoonfuls onto lined trays and bake for 10 - 12 minutes.
6. Remove from oven, loosen biscuits on tray with knife or spatula. Allow to cool on tray.
7. Wait for Queen to arrive for afternoon tea.



Anzac Day Service

The CWA was honoured to lay a wreath at the ANZAC Day service this year. Member Courtney Manks represented the Koo Wee Rup CWA branch.



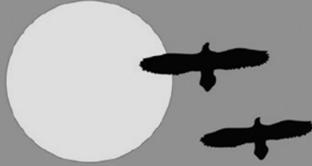
**Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup-
Lang Lang**
Community

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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News from the Community Advisory Committee.

The next meeting of the Community Advisory Committee will be held on the 25th of May 2021. In April we had a visit from Pieta Bucello, Healthy Communities Coordinator, Cardinia Shire Council. Pieta explained the Shire’s Livability Plan 2017-2029 Framework to us. This Plan is based around the vision of improving and promoting Public Health. It has been developed to provide a clear framework for public health planning within the Shire. This framework outlines the common agenda that Council, its partners and the community will work towards, together, over the next twelve years. Its goals are to: -

- Improve mental health and wellbeing.
- Improve social cohesion. If you don’t know what that means then “social cohesion involves building shared values and communities of interpretation, reducing disparities in wealth and income, and generally enabling people to have a sense that they are engaged in a common enterprise, facing shared challenges, and that they are members of the same community”.
- Improve safety, reduce obesity, reduce family violence, reduce financial vulnerability and reduce harm from alcohol, tobacco, drugs and gambling.

The Livability Plan Framework identifies the seven long-term health and social outcomes for the Cardinia Shire community. These outcomes will be achieved by working towards the following livability objectives to increase:

- people walking or cycling for transport where possible
- participation in local education
- participation in local employment
- access to affordable nutritious food
- access to services and social support close to home
- access to appropriate and affordable housing
- participation in open spaces and places.

If you require further information on this subject please get in touch with Aileen Thoms on 5997 9670 or Geoff Stokes on 0435085002.

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 KHRS. 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 KHRS, then get in touch with the CAC Committee. Simply phone 5997 9679 or Geoff Stokes on 0435 085 002. Or you can email: geoffreystokes@geoffstokes.com. Your email will be acknowledged.

Craft & Patchwork SHOW
KOO WEE RUP COMMUNITY CENTRE Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup
26th June 2021
 9.30 till 4pm \$5.00 entry.
 A Covid Safe Event
Proceeds support community projects
 ● Retail Stall Holders
 ● Plenty of Free Parking
 ● Morning/Afternoon Tea & Lunch
 Proud sponsors: Koo Wee Rup branch, Bendigo Bank, Cardinia Shire Council
 A Project of the Lions Club of Koo Wee Rup & District Inc.

Geoff Stokes.



Outlook Community Centre looks to offer you a variety of courses and sessions which will be informative to build your skills and assist you to improve your everyday life. The courses we offer include First Aid and Hospitality certificates, Computers, Health and Wellbeing, Language and Culture, Personal Development and Cuisine. Visit our

website to explore our Complete Term 2 Program www.outlookvic.org.au, or drop by to pick up a brochure. We look forward to seeing 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

Computer Maintenance and Internet Safety

We rely more and more on technology in everyday life, therefore gaining an understanding of computer maintenance and tools is paramount. Learn how to protect yourself, your computer and privacy on the internet and discuss some security concerns when using your computer. BYO USB stick.

Mondays commencing 24 May for 2 sessions, 12.30pm - 4.00pm. Cost \$15

Intermediate/Advanced Computer Skills for Office Workers

Are you hoping to secure that new position or are you in a new role and hoping to impress the boss and get things done more efficiently? This course includes: Outlook, Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Wednesdays commencing 19 May for 6 sessions, 1.00pm - 4.00pm. Cost \$45

Xero Accounting

Learn the essentials of the Xero cloud-based accounting system. This hands-on course covers setup, sales and purchase functions, banking and reconciliation options, reports, plus key payroll and activity statement setting.

Tuesdays commencing 11 May for 7 sessions, 6.00pm - 9.00pm. Cost \$55

Wiser Driver

Would you like to refresh your knowledge of the rules and discuss road safety issues? Develop techniques and skills to become a safer and wiser driver. Join these friendly, informal, thought provoking sessions. No testing involved.

Fridays commencing 28 May for 4 sessions, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Cost FREE

Recently Diagnosed Dementia session

This session is for people living with early-stage dementia as well as for their family, friends and carers. It aims to provide information about dementia and support options available. A combination of a live webinar presentation held at Outlook, followed with a discussion in the classroom providing information on Dementia Australia and an upcoming Dementia program starting at Outlook Community Centre.

Tuesday 18 May, 10.45am - 12.30pm. Cost FREE Refreshments provided.

Understanding Dementia session

This session is an introduction to dementia for family and carers. It will explain the types of dementia including the common signs and symptoms, and the importance of diagnosis and early planning. A combination of a live webinar presentation held at Outlook, followed with a discussion in the classroom providing information on Dementia Australia and an upcoming Dementia program starting at Outlook Community Centre.

Tuesday 25 May, 1.45pm - 3.30pm. Cost FREE Refreshments provided.

Forget-Me-Not Cafe

This Café style program aims to bring together people living with dementia and their loved ones in Pakenham and surrounding areas. The Café is a nurturing space that offers enrichment, support and understanding, where you can share experiences with others living with the challenges of dementia. Come along and enjoy activities, entertainment and refreshments.

Tuesday 1 June, 22 June, 27 July, 10.00am - 12.00pm. Cost FREE

Supported by
Cardinia Shire Council



Ageing in Your Own Home sessions

Learn how to retain your independence by remaining in your own home.

Session 1: The start of the journey. Wednesday 26 May 10.00am - 12.00pm

Session 2: Assessment and service provision. Wednesday 9 June 10.00am - 12.00pm

Session 3: Navigating financial aspects. Wednesday 16 June 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



KOOWEERUP REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

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

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

May 21

Find us on



Forget-Me-Not
Café

The sun shone as we welcomed back the Forget-Me-Not Café with an Art Gallery theme. The café aims to bring together people living with dementia and their loved ones in Koo Wee Rup and surrounding areas. The next two Café's will be on Tuesday 1st June and Tuesday 13th July. If you are interested in attending please call Joanne on 5997 9655

A very touching Anzac Day service was held in the Westernport Unit on Thursday 22nd April. Pictured below enjoying refreshments after the service are Joan Davey, Ron Ingram and Geoff Stokes from the RSL with Noni Bourke CEO. The last post was played by Kyanne Kerr from the KWR Secondary College.



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

McDonald's Track

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rip Swamp Historical Society

McDonalds Track originally went from the Tobin Yallock Bridge (where the South Gippsland Highway crosses the Lang Lang River) to Morwell, it followed the ridges of the Strzelecki Ranges and was about seventy miles (about 110kms) in length. You can see the start of the track as it is the first turn-off into Lang Lang on the Highway coming from Koo Wee Rup, then it went to Nyora and Poowong. Remnants of the track are still named on maps, around Poowong East, Mount Worth (the highest point of the original track) then there is another section around Childers, Thorpdale and Narracan.

The track was surveyed by Assistant-Surveyor George Thomas McDonald. He started in 1860 and it was finished in 1862. It was hoped that the track would provide an alternate route for stock to get from Gippsland to Melbourne. Once they got to Tobin Yallock they could then be shipped from Western Port Bay to Melbourne. *The Argus* of January 1, 1863 published a report by McDonald of his progress and he was very confident that *with the exception of a few places, a most excellent road may when cleared be had to Gipps Land....there are no creeks to cross, consequently no bridges will be required the ground is almost all good and firm, so that travelling may be performed with safety and comfort at all seasons of the year. The cost of clearing will be the chief item of expenditure, but that, together with the expense of making a few side cuttingsshould not exceed £10,000 pounds. Indeed for that sum I consider that thoroughly good road, one chain wide, could be made, which would be practical for travelling day or night. I specify a road one chain [20 metres] wide because the ridge for a large proportion of the distance would not admit of one wider, and in one or two places it cannot, without levelling, be made wider than forty-five or fifty feet [15 metres]. One of the greatest objections by the public to this road will be the scarcity of feed for stock but as the soil is generally good, I have little doubt that in the course of time hotel keepers along the road will clear and sow paddocks with grass for the accommodations of themselves and others.*

In the end the track was never used, apparently due to the fact that there were no permanent water holes along the route. What else do we know about the Track? When McDonald created the track, it was about seven foot (just over 2 metres) wide to Mount Worth and from there it 'narrowed considerably'. All supplies and equipment had to come from Cranbourne. The area was steep, heavily forested, some trees were 300 feet high (about 90 metres) and often the surveying party found that they were following minor ridges and had to back track to the major ridge. McDonald also reported that he had found coal seams along the track.

Continued next page

Heritage grant applications now open

Applications for Cardinia Shire Council's Heritage Grants 2021–22 are now open.

The grant program helps support our community in identifying, preserving, managing and promoting Cardinia Shire's heritage places. Grants of up to \$5,000 in matched funding are available to help repair or conserve places and sites of heritage significance. If you own a heritage home, shop or building in the shire that needs some love and restoration, Council may be able to assist with our heritage grants. The heritage grants program was developed to provide some financial assistance towards maintenance of these heritage sites, that play a fundamental role in creating a sense of community identity. Examples of past grant receipts includes the Koo Wee Rup Swap Historical Society, which used their grant funding to revamp and reopen the main building and old gaol at Mallow House.

Historical societies, community groups and individuals are encouraged to consider putting forward ideas that can help protect Cardinia Shire's history for our future generations to enjoy.

Eligible applicants and projects can apply for grants of up to \$5,000 in matched funding to help with projects seeking to:

- repair or conserve places and sites of heritage significance, including significant trees
- complete capital works to improve community access
- develop conservation management plans, or
- develop and install interpretive signage.

Applications for staged projects will be considered. Privately-owned heritage places will only be considered for funding if they are used or accessed by the community.

Heritage places eligible for funding include those listed in the Heritage Overlay of the Cardinia Planning Scheme. To check if a site is covered by a Heritage Overlay, visit <https://cardinia.pozi.com>, enter the street address and select 'Zones and Overlays'.

For more information, including full eligibility criteria, and to apply, visit Council's website at www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/heritagegrants

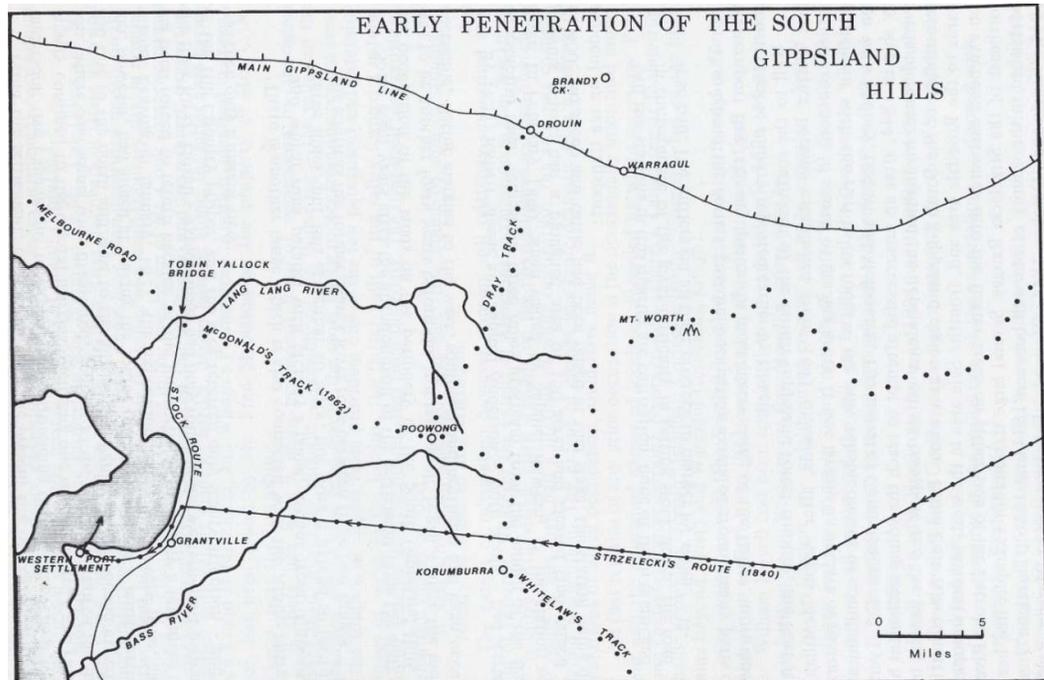
For enquiries, please call the Environment and Heritage team on 1300 787 624 or email mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au

McDonald's Track *from previous page*

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rip Swamp Historical Society

Sadly, for McDonald his hopes of the route becoming a major road never eventuated and no hotel keepers ever came to provide accommodation and hospitality. It was about 1874 that settlers began selecting land along the McDonalds Track around Poowong, and, by then, the reports were that the track was completely overgrown. Later settlers branched out from there to Poowong East and Poowong North. This area was also opened up by the establishment of a coach track from Poowong to Drouin after the Gippsland Railway was opened in 1878. The other local effect the Track had was the establishment of the township of Tobin Yallock.

The first store and hotel were built c.1867 by William Lyall (who owned *Harewood*) and located on part of the Tobin Yallock (or Torbinurruck) squatting run on the junction of McDonald's Track and the South Gippsland Highway. This store and hotel became the nucleus of the town of Lang Lang, as it was officially known, though the locals called it Tobin Yallock. Tobin Yallock would eventually have a church, a Post Office, Mechanics' Institute and other stores. Its decline began with the coming of



the railway when the station, called Carrington (later known as Lang Lang), was built east of Tobin Yallock, in February 1890. By about 1894 most of the businesses and public buildings had transferred to the new Lang Lang based around the railway station.

What do we know of George Thomas McDonald? He came from Dumfries in Scotland and arrived in Victoria in 1853. According to the State Government Gazette he was employed in the Lands and Survey Office in August 1857 and was there until about 1879. On November 24, 1869 he married Amelia Margaret Mitchell. He was listed in the marriage notice in *The Argus* as the District surveyor, Castlemaine District. Amelia was listed as the second daughter of the Hon W.H.F Mitchell. Sir William Mitchell was President of the Legislative Council. They had eight children - Isabel (born 1871), William (1873), Christina (1875 - 1883), James (1877), Allan (1878), Thomas (1880-1881), George (1882) and Sidney (1885). The first five were born in Victoria and then the last three were born in Queensland.

In spite of giving birth to eight children in 14 years, Amelia lived to the ripe old age of 95 and died in Brisbane in 1939. I have the impression that Amelia McDonald was a 'good catch' and perhaps George 'married up' as they used to say. Certainly, in the report of her death in *The Argus* on July 25, 1939 there is no mention her husband, only her illustrious father.

Back to George Thomas McDonald - he died on February 3, 1915 aged 79. His death notice listed his address as 'late of Rocklea and Gladstone districts'. I can't find an obituary of him. I feel that he is a forgotten man in the history of Victoria, but now every time you drive past McDonalds Track on the way down to Phillip Island or South Gippsland, then you will know a bit about the man behind the name.

Much of the information about McDonald's survey of the track comes from the book - *Pack Tracks to Pastures: a history of Poowong District* by Ross Hartnell (Poowong Centenary Committee, 1974)

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. The next meeting is on May 12 at 7.30pm. New members welcome.

The Museum is opening the first and third Sundays of the month from 1.30pm until 4.30pm or by appointment.

Heather Arnold harnold@dcsi.net.au 0407 521 637.

Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

Annual Luncheon

Guest Speaker is

Claudia Barker, O.A.M

Director of Music at the
Koo Wee Rup Secondary College
and leader of the College band



When - Sunday, May 30, 2021 at 12 noon.
Where - Tooradin & District Sports Club,
Recreation Reserve, Tooradin

Cost - \$25.00 per head. Drinks at bar prices

RSVP, including any special dietary requirements, by May 21, 2021
to Heather Arnold - 0407 521 637 harnold@dcsi.net.au

AN OUTREACH OF TURNINGPOINT
FAMILY SUPPORT CENTRE

KWR CONNECT

116 Denham Rd, Koo Wee Rup 3981
Call or Go Online for food orders: **03 5997 2217**
turningpointkooweerup.org.au/kwrconnect
Fridays 10am - 2.30pm

KWR CONNECT OFFERS:
- FOOD RELIEF
- LOCAL SERVICES IN OUR DISTRICT
OFFERING HEALTH & WELFARE ASSISTANCE
- PARENTING, FINANCE AND DRUG &
ALCOHOL ABUSE COURSES.

Make a Wish in May

Bring your silver coins to the
Koo Wee Rup Community Garden Wishing Well,
any day in May, donate the coins and make a wish!

All proceeds will be matched by the KRHS Ladies Auxiliary
and donated to our Aged Care 'I have a wish' project



Free sausage sizzle, fairies, competitions and fun on
Sunday 16th May from 12.30 till 2.00pm, everyone's welcome.
Community Garden, 235 Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup
For more information please call May 5997 1335 or Joyce 5997 1571

KOO WEE COFFEE CLUB



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

May	5	Royal Hotel
	19	Chandelier Café
June	2	Royal Hotel
	16	Chandelier Café
July	7	Royal Hotel
	21	Chandelier Café
August	4	Royal Hotel
	18	Chandelier Café

ROYAL HOTEL
KOO WEE RUP



Enquiries ph Jo on 0428 557 411



Koo Wee Coffee Club