

THE KOO WEE RUP BLACKFISH



FEBRUARY 2022

Australia Day in Koo Wee Rup



The Township Committee hosted its annual celebration of people who make our community a better place to be, with awards presented to students from 5 local schools and our Citizen of the Year, Dianne Divola.

Once again the Township Committee were supported by the Lions BBQing the eggs and bacon, the CWA running the kitchen, the RSL raising the flags, our wonderful MC Peter Bottomley.

This year around a dozen young riders of the Hot Shots team from MFC Performance rode the 6km from their base on the KWR-Longwarry Road to join us for the celebrations.

Details of this year's award winners starts on Page 3.



Koo Wee Rup Township AGM and Committee Meeting

The Township held its AGM and monthly meeting on Wednesday, 1 December at the Community Centre. Township Meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 2 February at 7:30 pm at the Community Centre. All welcome.

The Koo Wee Rup Township Committee held its first AGM since the committee moved from a Section 86 committee under the auspices of the Cardinia Shire council to an Incorporated committee. The Committee reviewed to minutes of the meeting of 1 July 2020 where the motion was moved and approved that this change of status take place and the existing committee carry on until an AGM could be held.

At the AGM the executive and committee for the next year were elected. President – Caroline Roff, Vice President – Garry Oates, Secretary – Gavin Brock, Treasurer – Cathy McNulty, Committee Members – Lou Bucello, Frank Cramer, Joyce Light, Lachie McKay, Gus Moore, Geoff Stokes, Trevor Westmore.

Cr Cameron toured the ward with the new General Manager for Infrastructure for Cardinia shire. They met with many people in the area, spoke to farmers regarding drainage issues, showed him the issue for parking at the CFA. There has been no response from the Dept of Transport regarding reserved parking for the CFA in Moody St. *Continued page 11*

Items printed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the thoughts or beliefs of the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any items, where necessary. All work associated with the production of The Koo Wee Rup Blackfish is done on a voluntary basis. Edited by C Roff email: blackfish@live.com.au

PO Box 64, Koo Wee Rup 3981, Tel 5997 2333

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What's on in Koo Wee Rup and District

February

Tue 1st	Pennant	Bowls Club	10.15am
Wed 2nd	Coffee Club (<i>page 38</i>)	Royal Hotel	10am
Wed 2nd	Lions Club Meeting (<i>page 15</i>)	RSL Clubrooms	7pm
Wed 2nd	Township Committee Meeting AGM	Community Centre	7.30pm
Thu 3rd	Heart Foundation Walking (<i>page 31</i>)	Clock Towers	7pm
Fri 4th	KWR Regional Health Service Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	9.30am
Fri 4th	Triples	Bowls Club	10am
Fri 4th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 5th	Pennant	Bowls Club	10.15am
Sun 6th	Social Bowls	Bowls Club	12.30pm
Mon 7th	Heart Foundation Walking	Clock Towers	9am
Mon 7th	CWA Meeting (<i>page 29</i>)	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Mon 7th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	12.30pm
Tue 8th	Pennant	Bowls Club	10.15am
Tue 8th	Have a Chat Chuesdays (<i>page 38</i>)	UA Church Hall	2pm
Wed 9th	KWR Swamp Historical Society Meeting (<i>page 37</i>)	KWR Museum	6pm
Thu 10th	Heart Foundation Walking	Clock Towers	7pm
Fri 11th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 12th	Pennant	Bowls Club	10.15am
Sun 13	Lang Lang Show 'n' Shine (<i>page 32</i>)	Lang Lang Showgrounds	7am
Sun 13th	Bayles Fauna Park Working Bee (<i>page 33</i>)	Bayles Fauna Park	9am
Mon 14th	Heart Foundation Walking	Clock Towers	9am
Wed 16th	Coffee Club	Chandelier Café	10am
Wed 16th	Lions Club Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7pm
Thu 17th	Heart Foundation Walking	Clock Towers	7pm
Fri 18th	Triples	Bowls Club	10am
Fri 18th	KWR Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sun 20th	Social Bowls	Bowls Club	12.30pm
Mon 21st	Heart Foundation Walking	Clock Towers	9am
Mon 21st	Chair Pilates (<i>page 36</i>)	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 21st	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Mon 21st	CWA Craft Meeting	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Tue 22nd	Pennant	Bowls Club	10.15am
Thu 24th	Heart Foundation Walking	Clock Towers	7pm
Sat 26th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sat 26th	Pennant	Bowls Club	10.15am
Mon 28th	Heart Foundation Walking	Clock Towers	9am
Mon 28th	Chair Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 28th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm

March

Wed 2nd	Coffee Club	Royal Hotel	10am
Wed 2nd	Lions Club Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7pm
Wed 2nd	Township Committee Meeting AGM	Community Centre	7.30pm

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

For document signing and associated services contact:

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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

Australia Day Award Winners



*Back Row L-R: Jack Silcock, Nate Cuthbertson, Luke Pugsley, Lily Howes, Dianne Divola, Charlie Turnbull
Front Row L-R: Taylah Bourne, Indy Brady, Jasmin Taylor, Benjamin Moore, Chloe Harris, Mikaela Pascoe, Madison Johnson*

Dianne Divola

Dianne has played a key role in many community groups within Koo Wee Rup for the last decade. As President of the Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens Club for the last 10 years and through her involvement with the CWA, the Kooweerup Regional Health Service Ladies' Auxiliary, the Community Advisory Committee to the Health Service, the Forget-me-not Café and Heart Foundation Walking Group.

Dianne is someone who doesn't just lend a hand, but who is prepared to step up and take responsibility. She is prepared to get involved at any level, from CWA state meetings to op shop duties for the seniors and ladies' auxiliary, washing up in the CWA tea rooms at the Royal Show or sitting in a bath in a field of cows for a calendar photo shoot. Nothing seems to be too much trouble for her.

Dianne has been a very hands-on president at the Seniors. She organises social activities: bus trips, movie days, lunches and in-house activities for the club and makes sure everything runs smoothly. On bus trips, she makes sure that the less mobile members are looked after and that everyone is included. She keeps things running smoothly, always remembering the little things that would otherwise fall through the cracks.

Dianne has been an integral part of the Koo Wee Rup CWA since 2016. Warm and welcoming, Dianne provides a wonderful atmosphere for new members of the group and a balance within the branch with advice and guidance to younger members from her years of experience.

Many people think of the Country Woman's Association as being all baking scones and cakes. Dianne does neither. Despite this, through the years, Dianne has taken part in every single volunteer run event. From local events like Scots on the Swamp, catering for the Holden proving ground, Koo Wee Rup Primary School Mother's Day events, St Johns' fete, music on the grass right through to statewide events like Victorian CWA craft fairs, Annual state meetings and Gippsland group planning events.

Dianne is an important member of the 'Win Pankhurst Memorial Scholarship' committee which provides a scholarship to a local Grade 6 student moving into high school. Dianne provides objective reviews of each application and spearheads the decision of the successful applicant through weighted criteria. Dianne also presents the scholarship to the recipient each year.

In 2018 the CWA was struggling to find a 'home' for gatherings and Dianne suggested for the branch to hold their events at the Senior Citizens Hall. The CWA have now been based at Icke Road for 3 years and the local branch is thankful for this opportunity.

Dianne is an important member to our local branch and a strong delegate to many of the state meetings. Not mincing words, Dianne is always ready to back up her opinion with community driven examples, providing transparency of what is happening in our rural community. Dianne proves time and again that her priority is the region and the Koo Wee Rup community.

Dianne is a hardworking, dedicated, community driven person who deserves thanks for all the contributions she has made over the years.

Australia Day Award Winners

Cardinia Primary School

Benjamin Moore

Benjamin is proud of his community. He is always willing to offer assistance to support his peers in and outside the classroom. His academic support for his peers, especially in Mathematics and Inquiry, is done in a way not to boast about how great his own skills and knowledge are but rather to help teach his peers the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in those subjects. Benjamin also has a great vision for a welcoming school environment. His ideas, which he plans to implement early 2022 as part of his role as school captain of Cardinia Primary School, are to encourage peers who are crafty to come together and make their Primary School an active community in the Arts. Benjamin has the passion and drive to put his vision in place, and he will do his community proud.



Chloe Harris

Chloe is a respected member of the community. She consistently offers support to her peers in the classroom and out in the schoolyard. She helps her peers academically and socially, showcasing her mindset of always helping others. Chloe has ideas to help keep improving her school. She developed these when she was a member of the Junior School Council, and on the basis of these has recently been elected as captain of Cardinia Primary School. Chloe is devoted to and has the support of her school and family to make the community proud.

Koo Wee Rup Primary School

Jasmin Taylor

Jasmin is an empathetic, generous and caring person who always puts her friends and community first. She is supportive and encouraging of her peers, and always treats others with kindness and respect. Jasmin is the first to volunteer and offer a helping hand whenever required. Jasmin demonstrates strong leadership qualities and is committed to the wellbeing of the school community. She enthusiastically participated in the Men's Shed project, working as an efficient and co-operative team member to create facilities in the school grounds, in the form of garden seating and garden surrounds, for her peers to use. She expresses her gratitude and appreciation for members of the school community and is always inclusive of others. Jasmin demonstrates a clear consciousness for the importance of hard work, organisation and resilience. Throughout 2021, Jasmin has shown her ability to overcome challenges and has continued to be dedicated to her school and schooling. She consistently tries her personal best. Jasmin seeks and takes on feedback in a positive and productive manner to achieve her goals. She always has a go and never gives up, which positively influences those around her. Jasmin is someone who makes her school, family and community proud. She possesses a positive attitude towards all activities she participates in. She is an excellent role model for good sportsmanship, honesty and fairness.



Nate Cuthbertson

Nate is an extremely responsible and respectful student who always offers assistance to others. He consistently volunteers his time to support other people in the school community and does so with a smile on his face. Nate demonstrates strong leadership qualities by constantly being a positive role model for other students and proudly representing the school. He shows that he is a dedicated and conscientious student by displaying learning behaviours that will help him be a valued citizen in the community. Nate completes all learning tasks in a diligent manner which proves that he understands the importance of working hard to achieve a goal. He has shown incredible resilience, particularly in the last 2 years, by remaining devoted to his studies and maintaining strong social ties within the school community. Nate should be so proud of his personal achievements in and out of school and we could not think of anyone more worthy of this award.



Australia Day Award Winners

Bayles Regional Primary School

Mikaela Pascoe

Mikaela is an outstanding student who puts in 100%+ into everything she does. She is constantly helping others and is a great role model to our younger students. We know we can depend on Mikaela to get things done. She has previously been a Student Voice Representative and volunteers at our School Breakfast Club every day including setup and preparation, cooking, serving and clean up. Mikaela represents our school with pride when participating at community events, including Carols by Candlelight and Music on the Grass. She participates in all school events and shows grit, determination and persistence whilst also being a role model for good sportsmanship and a never give up Aussie spirit.



Madison Johnson

Madison always has the best interests of others and continually makes our school and her family proud. She has been selected as one of our House Captains this year as she has consistently displayed leadership qualities throughout her time at Bayles Regional Primary School. Madison is responsible, reliable and a valued volunteer in our School Breakfast Club program. She always follows our school values and expectations and is inclusive of her peers. Madison's kind and caring nature makes her the perfect mentor for her prep buddy in 2022. She participates in all school events and always puts in 100% effort whilst also modelling good sportsmanship as she supports her classmates and peers.

St John the Baptist Primary School

Indy Brady

Indy is a kind, thoughtful and hard-working student who always tries to put the needs of others first. She is committed to making our school and her community a safe place for all. Indy is willing to step outside of her comfort zone and challenge herself in order to achieve at school and the St John's community is extremely proud to honour Indy with this award today.



Luke Pugsley

Luke has shown a tremendous amount of growth in his maturity and learning over his time at St Johns. His resilience and willingness to 'have a go', even when times are tough, is commendable. He is a kind and respectful role model to his peers both at school and in the community setting. We congratulate Luke in being cheerful and encouraging of others at our school.



Koo Wee Rup CWA on Australia Day

The ladies of Koo Wee Rup CWA helped with the preparation and serving of egg and bacon rolls, lamingtons, fresh fruit platters, juice, tea and coffee for the Australia Day celebrations at the Community Centre on Wednesday 26th January. The Lions cooked the bacon and eggs and the CWA ladies put them into rolls for breakfast for those that attended the celebrations.

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Est. 1886

Australia Day Award Winners

Koo Wee Rup Secondary College

Charlie Turnbull

Charlie was in Year 9 last year. Charlie has been nominated for being a proactive member of the year 9 student voice team, assertively representing the cohort in this forum, showing compassion to her peers, demonstrating inclusiveness, approaching issues raised in a positive and reflective manner, seeking the best outcome. Respectfully and responsibly articulating her ideas and showing strength of leadership in the extraordinary times that were presented in 2021.



Jack Silcock

Jack was in Year 9 last year. Jack has been nominated for demonstrating determination, commitment, enthusiasm to his studies. Jack has a strong sense of resilience and perseverance that he consistently applies to all areas of his life. He has strong communication skills and a willingness to help and support others. He always tries his best and is incredibly respectful to all members of the College Community. He consistently demonstrates how responsible he is and above all operates with honesty and integrity in all aspects of College Life. Jack won the praise and accolades of his teacher with how he conducted himself over remote and flexible learning utilising many attributes mentioned above.



Taylah Bourne

Taylah was in Year 12 last year. She was relatively new to the College but fitted in seamlessly, ably representing the College's values and vision. She was never a bother and showed great resilience in coping with a knee reconstruction during a demanding academic year. Her teachers greatly appreciated having her in their classes and her contribution to the running of the classes. We wish her all the best as she looks forward to studying psychological science at university.



Lily Howes

Lily was in Year 12 last year. In a very challenging year, especially for senior students, she showed great resilience and understanding. She was always looking out for others, checking in on them; she even sent messages to staff asking how they were. Although activities were limited she was a school leader as a House Captain and did what she could to work with the students in her House. We wish her all the best as she looks forward to training to be a nurse at university.



Join Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee

Applications to join Cardinia Shire Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee are now open.

Local people with a lived experience of disability or as a carer/support person of a person with a disability as well as representatives of community groups and disability organisations are encouraged to apply to join Cardinia Shire Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee. The committee provides a forum for Cardinia Shire residents, businesses and community groups representing the interests of people with disability in our area.

The committee is responsible for monitoring, reviewing, and supporting Council's Access and Inclusion Disability Strategy and Action plan.

This includes providing information and timely advice to Council on issues impacting people with a disability which prevent full involvement and inclusion in community life.

Committee members act as ambassadors for the disability community through advocacy, promoting information, training, activities, and issues relating to disability in Cardinia Shire as well as provide advice on Council's building and facilities access upgrade program of works and budget.

Meetings are held bi-monthly, on each third Wednesday of alternate months at 10am to midday.

Meetings can be in person or online, and are held at Outlook Community Centre which is located at 24 Toomuc Valley Road, Pakenham.

For more detail on the application process including selection criteria visit cardinia.vic.gov.au/accessandinclusion or call our Access and Inclusion Team on 1300 787 624 or email to accessandinclusion@cardinia.vic.gov.au

Online application: <https://forms.office.com/r/q55z5BjkMH>

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Cecil 'David' O'Donnell 17.02.1946 – 12.01.2022

It was with much sadness that we heard of the passing of Cecil 'David' O'Donnell. Dave was one of those warm and lovable characters of Koo-Wee-Rup who was laid to rest on Wednesday the 19th of January 2022.

David came to Melbourne and joined the Army on the 9th of April 1964 at the age of 18 due to the lack of employment opportunities in his birth state of Tasmania. David - as he called himself - was surprised when he lined up for roll call and was told that while he was in the Army he had to go by the name Cecil as per his birth certificate; so he had to learn to answer to both Cecil and David depending if he was with friends or at work.

David was sent to Vietnam in 1968 arriving in January just after the Tet Offensive, for a tour of 366 days at the 2nd Advanced Ordnance Depot in Vung Tau. David returned to Australia from Vietnam in 1969 and went back to regular Army life. He was subsequently sent to Singapore for 2 years from 1970 to 1972 before returning to Melbourne and, on the 8th April 1975, David retired from the Army with an Honourable Discharge. David was awarded 5 Medals for his service: Australian Active Service Medal 1945 – 1975, Vietnam Medal, SE Asia Australia Service Medal 1945 – 1975, Australian Defence Medal and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

When the then newly formed Koo-Wee-Rup RSL Sub-branch decided to build a memorial and cenotaph in 2006 to remember all those servicemen and women who had served their country in world wars and other military conflicts, Dave, voluntary, gave many hours of manual work to this project and strived hard to get this job under way and to get it finished in time for the opening ceremony in March 2007. His name is now recorded forever on the memorial wall at the cenotaph as also is his military service to his country in the Vietnam war.

In his latter years Dave gave many hours of willing effort to ensure the historical records of war time events, and the details of our local sons, daughters, and other military personalities, were displayed properly at the present Koo-Wee-Rup RSL Sub-Branch headquarters in Station Street. He also used his many talents to attend to the physical maintenance of the place and that must indicate to you the dedication that Dave always had for his fellow soldier mates and, indeed, to all of his friends. This is a built-in devotion, a commitment, and mateship every soldier, sailor and airman has when, in



the past, they all had to rely on each other for the preservation of their lives and for our freedom. Dave brought this same determination with him in all his work for the Sub-Branch including a stint for him as the RSL Sub-Branch secretary for a short while.

Anyone who knew Dave would describe him as kind. All you had to do was take one look at his face and you could see the kindness radiating out of him. He always, always said to never judge a book by its cover. That we should always stop and think about why someone might look, act or talk or is different in a certain way. He would stop and speak to most people in the street and just ask them if they were okay. Others would probably just walk on by, but not Dave, he was one of the kindest people I, the writer of this eulogy, ever had the privilege of knowing. And so now, as we say farewell to Dave, we will remember him for his outgoing lovable personality, his ability to see the best in people, and the best tall story teller we will ever know.

Vale Cecil 'David' O'Donnell

Geoff Stokes

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

Cr Cameron was asked if the surface of Boundary Road was complete. There are already potholes forming. She advised that Council is aware of the potholes in the new road surface.

McDonalds Drain Road was damaged by a tractor could this be fixed? Issues with build up of loose stone on unsealed road verges due to continual grading, makes it difficult to pullover or give trucks room to pass.

Boundary Drain Road drainage still not working since road upgrade.

Library Tender – no decision on the way forward yet.

The president attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 11, smaller gathering than past years but the RSL put together a very moving ceremony.

We must recognise the passing of Valmai Walker a long term and valuable member of this committee and our community and a stalwart advocate for the township of Bayles.

Forget–Me–Not Cafe is back, met on Tuesday 30TH November with about 20 people attending.

President's Report to the 2021 Township Committee AGM

This is the first AGM of the Township Committee in its new form as an incorporated association. With impeccable timing, we managed a socially distanced face to face meeting in that narrow window last year between lockdowns 1 and 2 when public meetings were briefly allowed. We voted to set up the new committee and things have largely continued as before (albeit under Covid restrictions).

This year has seen the passing of two stalwarts of the Koo Wee Rup Township Committee. The Committee's foundation president, Councillor Ray Brown, who only left the committee to represent our ward at council and, more recently, Valmai Walker, a long time and valued committee member.

Once again, the key challenge facing Koo Wee Rup is maintaining amenity while it expands rapidly. Waterways Estate is booming and the few empty lots on older estates have largely been built on. With only the mooted 200 house development behind Cochrane Park still to be built, this phase of rapid expansion may soon be over.

Both Council and the State Government have recognised the need to improve facilities serving the community. Upgrades have been completed or are under way to the main and netball pavilions at the Recreation Reserve, the school ovals, Scout Hall, and sealing of some local unsealed roads. The refurbishment of the old station platform has been completed, banishing a long deplored eyesore from the town and restoring a piece of local history. The tennis club rooms have been completely refurbished ready for a post Covid tennis season with our refurbished tennis courts available for use again.

Major projects under way include the long awaited upgrade of the road to Pakenham, due to break ground early next year and the upgrade to the Cochrane Park skatepark with community consultation under way and a start date of autumn 2022.

Adequate public transport is arguably the highest priority item for the Township. Ideally we would like a more regular commuter service to Pakenham and to have the local service included as part of Metro Zone 2 and accessible by Myki. I know our local MLA, Jordan Crugnale, has listed an upgrade to services as part of her recent budget submission.

Thank you to our new Ward Councillor, Kaye Cameron, who has hit the ground running displaying enthusiasm for and an understanding of the needs of our local community.

Thank you to the Australia Day subcommittee and all who helped out on Australia Day who contributed to an important celebration of our local volunteers. A smaller Covid safe event this year with more hurdles to jump than usual, but a successful event.

Thank you to Gavin Brock and Cathy McNulty for taking on the workload of Secretary and Treasurer. Gavin unfailingly has the minutes ready for me to publish in each month's Blackfish and deals with the correspondence with calm efficiency. Cathy manages the finances of a volunteer group which is more complex than many with BAS reporting and larger numbers of transactions than are normal, mainly due to the Township's support of the Blackfish.

Thank you to Gus Moore and Garry Oates for taking on the somewhat thankless task of attempting to upgrade the town's Christmas decorations. Although Covid got in the way this year, the signs are good for future years.

Thank you to the members of the Christmas Light judging committee Trevor Westmore, Gavin Brock and Jenny Topperwein.

And to the members of the Township Committee and to others who come along to our meetings, thank you for your support, your interest in the welfare of our community and your regular attendance throughout the year.

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Carols by Candlelight



On December 11th 2021 at Cochranes Park in Koo Wee Rup, over 2300 people attended the Carols by Candlelight. Entry was difficult because of COVID restrictions but once everyone was settled, it was a great evening.

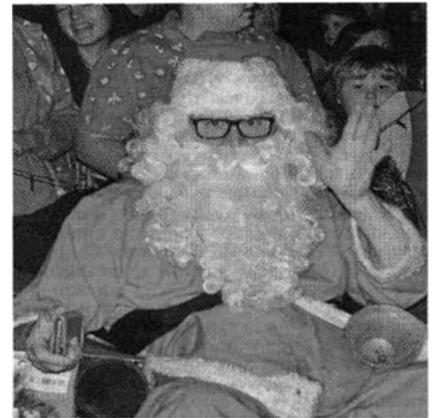


Peter Bottomley was the MC for the evening, with help from Jessica Redmayne. They kept the night flowing well and were very entertaining.

Claudia Barker, was presented with a wall clock to commemorate her years of service as musical director of KWR Secondary College.

The new stage and new location seemed to work well. Purchase of food was rather slow but we will do better next year.

Santa was a hit with the kids with his bags of lollies for all the youngsters.



The fireworks were spectacular and a great hit with everyone.

A special thank you to all that were involved in the setting up and dismantling for this event. Without all your help, these events could not take place.



Monster Raffle

You may have seen President Rex sitting outside Woolworths during December, selling tickets for the Monster raffle.

COVID restrictions did not allow us to sell paper tickets, therefore we had to sell them online. This caused a few problems but we managed to sell enough tickets to make a profit for the groups involved.

and the Winner is ...

Margaret Leithhead from Welshpool.

Margaret's sister Maureen Aherne picked the trailer up

from Rex and Linda's before Christmas. Maureen was very happy for her sister and said "the family had already chosen what tools etc they wanted from the trailer". She also said that her sister was very excited and that she didn't have a trailer. Congratulations Margaret, we hope you enjoyed unpacking your Christmas present!!





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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.

BBQ at Total Tools Pakenham

On the 1st of December the KooWeeRup Lions attended Total Tools Pakenham and put on a BarBQue for the staff and customers at the trade sales night. We cooked and handed out 300 sausages and an equal amount of cold drinks. Four members manned the BarBQue trailer and had a great time.



Lang Lang Show and Shine

On Sunday 13th February 2022, Lions will have their bbq trailer at the Rotary Clubs Show and Shine at Lang Lang Showgrounds. At the last event, more than 3000 people attended and this year Lions have been asked to help out with the food. It sounds like its going to be a busy day. Watch out for a report in next month's Blackfish!

Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens Club

Icke Road, Koo Wee Rup

Welcome to 2022. We had a very successful Christmas lunch last year. We have resumed activities at the club. Bowls on Monday, Lunch on Friday. We hope to continue activities without disruptions.

We send our condolences to the family of Norma Dixon, a former member who has passed. To the family of our Life Member Muriel Winter who passed recently, we send our most sincere sympathy. Both will be fondly remembered at the club.

We welcome new members at an annual fee of \$10.

Stay safe

All enquiries to:

Dianne D 0419 405 404

Diane K 0408 663 655

Leonie 0477 249 000

Australia Day

Lions were busy cooking bacon, eggs and sausages for the Australia Day celebrations at the Community Centre on January 26th 2022.

Members started cooking at 7am and cooked up a storm for all the people attending the celebrations. Once cooked, the bacon and eggs were handed over to the ladies of the CWA to make into rolls for breakfast.

Ageing Well in Retirement

Learn how to get the most from your retirement at these free, fun and informative workshops at Outlook Community Centre in Pakenham.

The retirement 'tune-up' Tuesday 8 March 10am-12pm

Get 'retirement ready' Tuesday 22 March 6-8pm

Enquiries/bookings: 5941 1535

Caring for our Carers

Carers aged 55 years and over are invited to come together, share a cuppa and stories, and learn about resources available to help build resilience and enhance wellbeing. The group meet at Outlook Community Centre in Pakenham, Tuesdays 15, 22, 29 March and 5 April 10.30am-12pm.

The carers group is an initiative of Cardinia Shire Council in partnership with Alfred Carers.

Enquiries/bookings: 5940 4728

'Forget me not' Dementia Café

The Café aims to bring together people living with dementia and their loved ones. Join us for a cuppa and cake, rediscover memories and create new ones. 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.

Koo wee Rup Enquires/ bookings: Joanne 5997 9655

Pakenham Enquires/ bookings: Alison 5940 4728



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Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club

We continue to have meetings with Shire of Cardinia representatives discussing the new Club house with the project still in the planning stages but on time for an actual start on the building on August 2022.



The Friday Triples competition commenced on 19th Nov. with 16 teams participating with many new players in the various teams. Winning rink for the day with 2 wins & 36 pts. was Jim & Joy Jenkins & Joy Herbert (KWR). On 2 wins & 35 pts. was John Williams, Ian Alkemade & Kevin Kitchin (Lang Lang) to be Runner Up. Best 1st game winners were Gerry Fuller, Bryan Walker & Helen Ralph (KWR) with 18 pts and best 2nd game was won by Pauline Gray, Mary Masters & Julie Walker (KWR) with 20 pts. The next round has been played with the winning rink being Geoff Barber (Korumburra), Jim Garnham (Loch) & Ralph Balmont (Korumburra) with 36 pts. Runner Up rink also with 36 pts. was Mick Knight (Cardinia Waters), Ian Alkemade (Lang Lang) & Dennis Patmore (Cardinia Waters). Best 1st game was won by Damien Brick, Gwen Fabris (Garfield) & Margaret Royle (KWR) on 20 pts. The winners of the best 2nd game also with 20 pts. were Peter Bott (Pakenham), Charles Harris (KWR) & Ian Kitt (Pakenham). The next round of games was played in sticky conditions and the covid-19 curse struck with 2 of the Cardinia Waters having to withdraw for the day. Results saw Ken Clifton, Vince Bevilacqua, Ray Ayles (Pakenham) (with 35 pts) Runner Up rink was John Williams, Nev Kitchin & Kevin Kitchin (Lang Lang) also on 35 pts. Best 1st game was won by Trevor Kitchin (KWR), Bob Mason (Dandenong Club) & Noel Speight (KWR) & best 2nd game was won by Damien Brick, Gwen Fabris (Garfield) & Margaret Royle (KWR) with 18 pts.

1st game after the break saw the Winning rink with 37 pts was Mick Knight, Dennis Patmore & Tony Nye (Cardinia Waters) Runner up team with 37 pts was Ken Clifton, Vince Bevilacqua & Luis Aguiler (Pakenham). Best 1st game went to Damian Brick, Gwen Fabris (Garfield) & Margaret Royle (KWR) on 21 pts, best 2nd game was won by John Van Vugt, Simon Koning & Peter Mitchell (Cardinia Waters) with 17 pts.

We have had 3 of our Senior statesmen celebrate a birthday recently with Cliff Kent & Ken Walton reaching 95 years young. Close of their heels is the indomitable Peter Stevens on 94 not out. Pat Carlin although not reaching the elder statesperson group turned 80 years old. Both Peter & Pat still play bowls on a regular basis.

Unfortunately, 2 of our former members Noela Maxwell & Richard Bricknall passed away in late November. Both had serious illnesses over the past 3-4 years which prevented them from playing bowls. Sympathy to both families. Noela had been a member from 1997-2021 & Richard from 2012-21 and both were very popular members of our Club. Sincere condolences to Garry Fuller and family on the very sudden passing of Maddie Fuller. An expert embroidery person, Maddie was happy to do any jobs members would ask for. Not a member but a behind the scenes person Maddie will be missed.

Rd. 4 Sat. Pennant results and Div. 3 had an impressive win against top team Mornington Civic 74-31. A strong performance from all 3 rinks was very pleasing. Brett Condon, Tim Katz, Rex Alexander & Daniel Price lead the way with a 31-14 victory. After a close game for most, Trevor Kitchin, Charles Harris, Pauline Gray & Jim Jenkins drew away to win 20-13. Another steady all-round effort from Bryan Walker, Gerry Fuller, Peter Butera & Julie Walker resulted in a 23-14 win. Unfortunately, Div. 6 were comfortably defeated by top team Mornington Civic 35-53. A good effort from Betty King, George Crynes, Jill Roissetter & Peter Stevens losing 20-25.

Playing "catch up" all game Mary Masters, Pat Carlin, Ken Hammond & Gary King lost 15-28. Rd. 5 and Div. 3 had a bad loss to Somerville 56-83. Bright spot for the day was the 26-17 win for Brett Condon, Tim Katz, Rex Alexander & Daniel Price. The 9 shot margin, but a loss, was the result for Trevor Kitchin, Charles Harris, Steve Haines & Jim Jenkins after being behind 1-17 after 8 ends. Never in the hunt Bryan Walker, Gerry Fuller, Pauline Gray & Margaret Royle were well beaten 11-38. Div. 6 had the week off with a bye. We were due to play Blue Hills who had to forfeit due to a covid-19 scare in their village. Div. 6 were no match for Balnarring losing 27-54. Betty King, Jim Jenkins, Peter Stevens & Helen Ralph were beaten 18-22. A difficult day for Margaret Role, Pat Carlin, Ken Hammond & Gary King losing 9-32. Div. 6 started Pennant a week earlier and a trip to Mt. Martha resulted in a 28-50 loss. Never really in the game Betty King, Jim Jenkins, Peter Stevens & Helen Ralph were well beaten 11-26. Our other rink of Margaret Royle, Pat Carlin, Steve Haines & Ian Caig fared a little better losing 17-24. Rd. 7 and Div. 3 had a handy 62-51 win over Karingal. Building on a good early leaf, Bryan Walker, Pauline Gray, Noel Speight & Julie Walker won well 26-15. Struggling all game Arthur Giaccotto, Tim Katz, Rex Alexander & Jill Rossitter were beaten 13-22. "Stand in skip" Charles Harris had good support from Steve Haines, Peter Butera & Jim Jenkins to score a 23-14 win. Div. 6 were defeated 32-37 by Karingal in a close game. Betty King, Luke Monckton, Peter Stevens & Gary King lost 16-21 after an even game throughout. Our other rink shared the points with a 16-16 draw for Margaret Royle, Pat Carlin, Ken Hammond & Jacqui Butera playing in her 1st Pennant game.

Continued next page



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Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club *from previous page*

Tues. Pennant was played on 7th Dec. in drizzly conditions resulting in Div. 3 losing to Somerville 57-65 & Div. 6 winning yet another close game against Mt. Eliza 37-35. Would you believe another 1 shot result with Gerry Fuller, Bryan Walker, Joy Jenkins & Julie Walker beaten 22-23. Noel Speight, Jill Roissetter, Betty King & Joy Herbert lost 19-22. Arthur Giaccotto, Mary Masters, Pauline Gray & Helen Ralph defeated 16-20. A good win 19-13 in Div. 6 for Margaret Royle, Pat Carlin, Ken Hammond & Gary King set up the overall result. A good effort by Jim Jenkins, George Crynes, Iain Caig & Glenice Jackson just beaten 18-22. The final round before the Christmas break with Div. 3 defeating Mornington Civic at Civic 69-56. Yet another 1 shot game with Bryan Walker, Gerry Fuller, Joy Jenkins & Julie Walker winning 17-16 after establishing a good lead 11-4 (12 ends). A 16-22 loss for Noel Speight, Jill Roissetter, Betty King & Joy Herbert. A big return to form for Pauline Gray, Jim Jenkins, Mary Masters & Helen Ralph with a convincing 36-18 win after trailing 0-10 (5 ends). Div. 6 were unable to match top team Mt. Martha losing 31-52. A close result after a reasonably even game for Margaret Royle, Pat Carlin, Peter Stevens & Charles Poulson beaten 25-27. Not so good for George Crynes, Luke Monckton, David Talbot & Joe Barlow losing 6-25 scoring only 2 shots over the final 8 ends. Both teams at the Christmas break are in finals contention with Div. 3 in 3rd place & Div. 6 in 4th place. We were already to resume Pennant on 11th Jan. until we received notification from Blue Hills BC that they would have to forfeit their Div. 3 game due to a positive reading of a resident. Div. 6 managed a game against Beleura with a very impressive 56-17 win. This was more encouraging with 3 first year players in the team. Coming from being down 5-7 early Margaret Royle, Pat Carlin, Peter Stevens & Joe Barlow rallied to win 29-11. Equally impressive with a 27-6 win was the rink of Luke Monckton, Margo Dillon, Charles Poulson & Gary King. Div. 3 commenced 2022 with a good 59-54 win at City of Frankston despite numerous changes to the team. Noel Speight, Jill Roissetter, Steve Haines & Joy Herbert won 25-20.

Having an equally good win was Trevor Kitchin, Charles Harris, Joy Jenkins & Julie Walker 21-15. Our 3rd rink of Pauline Gray, Jim Jenkins, Margo Dillon & Helen Ralph were defeated 13-19. A good win 56-30 for Div. 6 against Karingal to improve the shots difference for the season so far. A completely dominant performance from Margaret Royle, Pat Carlin, Peter Stevens & Glenice Jackson resulted in a 37-9 win. Playing against a former teammate in Wendy Pownall, the rink of Luke Monckton, David Talbot, Iain Caig & Charles Poulson lost narrowly 19-21.

Licola - A Village Owned by Lions



The Lions Club of Koo Wee Rup is an important part of Lions Clubs International who have served the communities of Australia for 75 years. One of our greatest assets is Lions Village Licola, a small town in the foothills of the Victorian Alps on 35 acres of land with the Macalister River through its centre.

Six Children Locally Sponsored

Each year we ask our local school principals to recommend children in the age 8 to 11 who would benefit from the adventure camps we run at Licola each school holidays. The camps are held over 5 days and involve about 140 children plus leaders and skill specialists. In January we run three Adventure Camps.

KWR Lions delivered 6 children to the camp bus in Warragul in January and collected them 5 days later. The kids were enthusiastic about the camp and all the activities on offer. Some of the children and their mothers suffer from homesickness as this is the first time they have been separated from each other.

One child, we'll call him Sam (not his real name) was nervous about attending the camp as he had a history of homesickness on single nights away from home. Homesickness is a major issue. "It's rough dealing with that problem", said Camp Director, Nuala. "We have a policy of dealing with homesickness one day at a time". "All we can do is push through, focus on the good things and allow Sam to get involved in the activities of the group". Each group comprises six children under the leadership of a volunteer group leader who supports and encourages their group to achieve a range of activities throughout the week.

With Sam we rang his mum on the first night after coaching her in what to say. Sam was encouraged to show courage and enjoy the unique activities on offer. His favourite was the giant swing, an apparatus about 20 metres high where the person is strapped into a seat and the other members of their group pull a rope causing the swing to go higher and higher. When the person decides to pull a pin, the swing is released and begins to go through its arc. Early in the week this will probably be a relatively small distance, but as the week progresses the kids get more adventurous, and the swing gets higher and higher.

Other activities include canoeing, archery, mini golf, high and low ropes courses, trampolines, swimming pool, rock climbing tower, frisbee golf, flying fox and oversize games like chess, naughts and crosses and draughts plus much more.

Sam was encouraged to contribute to his group and his leader gave him a lot of attention using distraction techniques. These leaders are exceptional role models and are dedicated to ensuring the children develop or improve their group activity skills.

Proud of this Camp and What It Achieves

Koo Wee Rup Lions have members who spent time on the board. One spent almost twenty years on the Licola Board of Management with multiple terms as chairman and vice chairman in the years when the camp was being developed into the asset it is today. We are always looking for people over the age of 18 to be trained as camp leaders. If you have an interest in participating in a role that provides heaps of satisfaction, where you can meet like-minded people and enjoy a unique experience, call Ron on 5997 1916 to discuss what's involved.





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1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group

1 Middle St, Koo Wee Rup VIC 3981

Contact –
Group Leader – Shane Worthington
1stkwrscouts@gmail.com
Or 0427 770 781

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 a busy summer holidays we have had. The Scout Hall renovation has been completed. We have been doing some extra painting over the holidays and have started to bring all our equipment back. We were lucky that we could store it at Garfield Scout Hall.

We had 11 scouts attend Vic Jam at Elmore event centre. Along with those scouts who stayed there for 10 days we had 3 lucky Cub Scouts who got to join Cub Jam. Cub Jam was 1 day at Elmore event centre where they got to see the scouts all set up and what could be available for them to do and achieve at the next Jamboree. Cubs got to build Kub Kars with Lego, be pirates, play air guitar, try 3D twister, and finish the day off on the water slide. Our 3 cub scouts had a fantastic time.



Venturers and Rovers have been back at the hall helping to finish off what we can before all our youth return at the start of Term 1.

At the end of last year Venturers and their Leaders spent a day at Lysterfield Lake kayaking and learning some new skills. They had a fantastic afternoon on the water.

Scouting isn't just for youth members. It is a great spot for adults to learn new things, make new friends, enjoy the great outdoors while helping to shape and inspire the next generation.

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? We would love for you to come and have a chat with us.



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Some more amusing work experiences from the early 1970s

Our readers will recall my story in the October '21 Blackfish about my sometimes amusing work experiences in introducing the industrial ball valve to Australia in 1970. I still can't believe I carried the first one in my brief case to demonstrate to petroleum, petrochemical and mining engineers the valve's mind blowing potential. Within two years it became the normal valve to use for highly dangerous and corrosive products and today this type of valve is fitted to every modern gas and water meter in Australia; in a couple of years thousands had been imported and today the ball valve is accepted world wide as the best of designs for on-off industrial valves.

At the office, my boss and I came to the conclusion that my work introducing the industrial ball valve to Australia was now almost complete. Our company state branches, under the fine leadership of their respective managers were all getting good orders from the gas industry, the petrochemical industry, and all the petroleum refineries. At that time each state had its own refinery, they were producing petroleum, and all the offshoots of crude oil including LPG, bitumen, lubricating oils, ethane, methane, etc., these were all ideal services for our own super industrial ball valve. We had certainly been very successful in our launch in Australia of this new and technically sound product. That being said, what was to happen to yours truly now that the initial project of product introduction was complete? Would Olive and I go back to the UK? As you know, we decided to stay. However, one day my boss declared that I would now be the State manager for Victoria and Tasmania for all of the Company's many products. As a State manager I no longer travelled interstate to Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia but I did get to Tasmania about six times a year and that kept me very busy indeed for the next three years.

OK, a story about our agent in Tasmania who was also the agent for Volvo marine engines, and they supplied these to boat and ship builders around the State. One such company had a small shipyard in Dunally, a seaside town in the southeast of the State at the neck of the Tasman Peninsula. I can't remember their trading name now, but they were well known for building sturdy, chunky, steel-hulled fishing trawlers. They also used our valves for many sea going applications, salt water, pipe cleaning acids etc, all supplied of course through our agent at the time. The agent, now my friend Arthur, had said to me that he had arranged for us to go and visit a brand new vessel about to go out on its maiden test run and he wanted to be there to see how his engines performed. I jumped at the idea and said something lame like maybe I could also see if my valves were operating properly!

So we arrived on board to be told that the boat, about 25 metres long, was about to go out on a sea trial; would we like to go out with them? You bet we said yes and we looked forward to a lazy day at sea checking on our products from time to time. It was now getting dusk and we had had a super day when I asked when we would be returning to the dock; it had seemed to me that we were continually going in one direction – out to sea! The skipper told us that we were not returning tonight, in fact, this was a three day trip to the fishing banks; didn't we know? You can imagine our thoughts and horror, we had no overnight gear and we were dressed in suits albeit we had discarded our jackets and ties during the long day of keeping an eye on Arthur's motors and my valves. We had to bed down in a bunk and for the next two long days we had to work for our living helping the crew to catch fish and lasso lobster pots that had been set some days before this. In a way it was quite exciting but on the other hand worrying, because we were out of touch with our families and also the land world we knew. It was late February 1973 and there were no mobile phones then to let my dear Olive know where we were. The skipper did say he had sent a message on his radio to base but that never got through although we didn't know that at the time.

When we did get back to shore there were virtually just minutes for me to get the flight back to Melbourne and say goodbye to Arthur until my next visit. I am sure I can remember getting peculiar looks from people sitting close by to me on the aircraft, but I didn't know why. I soon found out why when I eventually did get back to Templestowe and home. Olive was amazed with my story and asked me if I realised that I absolutely stank of fish. I hadn't noticed but she said it was so overpowering and she felt sorry for the person who had had to sit next to me on the flight home. I have never forgotten that unplanned three day seafaring experience!

Tasmania was a good place to do business and I fell in love with the place from very early on. Like my visits to the other States I didn't see much of the tourist sites but I did travel right around the Island and I visited some good restaurants and eating houses! Returning in the year 2000 after a long absence, there was certainly a change in the places that I thought I knew. Queenstown for instance had been a thriving mining town on the back of the Mount Lyell copper mine in the 1970s and before, but now is a shadow of its former self. It's quite a strange place. The whole area was denuded of trees from the days late in the nineteenth century (1883) with the start-up of copper ore smelting. The large annual rainfall mixed well with the belching sulphur dioxide of the smelters and caused rain showers of sulphuric acid that ate away at all the vegetation across this mountainous region. The result was a bare landscape; even the footy field had no grass at all! The smelters closed in 1969.

Continued next page

Some more amusing work experiences from the early 1970s *from previous page*

One more thing, today, can you imagine the Government allowing a paper company to discharge all of its waste from its Burnie paper mill into the sea? Travelling along the northern Tasmanian coast road at that time, the sea for kilometres and kilometres was a thick turgid sandy-brown mess. No-one thought it was a problem even though it was mixed with titanium dioxide waste from its other factory. It's a pristine area today with a wonderfully clear blue sea.

Back to 1973. It was the 25th of March and first thing in the morning my boss, Andrew, called me into his office to tell me that I was off to Los Angeles as soon as possible. It really was as sudden as that; I had no idea that this could or might happen. Apparently, Andrew had heard, on the industrial grape vine, that a small company in Sale, Victoria, had quoted for a large number of plug valves and ball valves for a new aluminium smelter in Queensland. Andrew had also heard that this tiny Sale company was about to receive the order from the big USA plant builders and designers, Ralph M Parsons, an order we knew the Sale company couldn't possibly fulfil. He suggested that RMP would not know how small the Sale Company was or how large and capable we were with a superior designed valve to boot. Andrew said that he wanted me to go over to Los Angeles to talk to RMP, if possible, tonight! So, the die was cast, and I was immediately sent to the office of a travel agent in Heidelberg, the manager of which was one of Andrew's golfing friends. He drove me into the city to the American Embassy to get a visa and then back to his office to arrange a flight to L.A. that very evening, and a suitable hotel for me to stay. He chose The Biltmore, a prestigious, historical hotel in downtown L.A. It was then back home to pack and explain things to an incredulous Olly that I would be away in the USA for a week, and I was flying off *tonight!*

At that time there were no direct flights to the USA from Melbourne. I had to go via Sydney and then on to Los Angeles via Fiji and Hawaii. There was a five hour wait in Hawaii, specifically Oahu, the island and Honolulu the town, so I decided

to take a sightseeing bus trip around Honolulu, together with others from my flight, I felt a bit stupid because with my hand luggage (which we all had to carry) was my overcoat that I thought I might possibly need in L.A. It was hot, hot, hot in Honolulu and there I was at Hawaii's most famous beach with an overcoat over my arm. I was the only one, I can assure you! Finally in Los Angeles, the airport bus pulled up in front of The Biltmore, an art deco style hotel, and I approached the entrance. A porter met me, and told me that the usual tip was a dollar for each bag. I had been warned about the American tipping system before I left Melbourne but I was always at a loss to know how much to give and when too much was too much. It was late evening US time so I was off to sleep quickly to catch up on almost 24 hours of travelling. The next morning I was awake quite early and decided I would go downstairs and get myself a famously big American breakfast before ringing RMP to announce and introduce myself. They had no idea I was in town so I also had no idea of how my phone call would be received. I shouldn't have worried because they were so overwhelmed that this 'Aussie guy' had come over to the 'US of A' to see them all, that I was told to, "Come on down". I was met at the door by the chief purchasing officer who made quite a fuss of me and listened all morning to my talk on why they should not buy the valves for the project from the Sale company, and why they should buy them from us.

Continued next page



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Some more amusing work experiences from the early 1970s *from previous page*

I invited him out for lunch but I had no idea where we were going so I had to leave that decision to him. We ended up in what I know now as a typical American business-luncheon restaurant. It was fairly small, dimly lit so that I could hardly see my customer over the table, but the food was excellent and the size of the meal enormous. I still remember the entrée; it was called "Lox". Lox is salmon fillet that has been cured i.e. similar in taste to smoked salmon but not smoked. It is thinly sliced - less than 5 mm in thickness –and served on a bagel with cream cheese and capers. The food and its name were introduced to the United States through Eastern European Jewish immigrants. It was an open bagel and the cream cheese was at least 25mm (1 inch) thick. I have never forgotten that. We must have got on well because in the afternoon he asked if I would like to go out to dinner with him and his wife. (I didn't realise then that I would be paying!). Unfortunately, I have forgotten his name but certainly I have not forgotten that evening. He said that they would pick me up from the Biltmore Hotel lobby at around 6:00PM and they were already there when I fronted up. They were very well dressed, and his wife wore a very expensive looking fur coat.

After introductions they led me out to the front of the hotel where a valet was just bringing their car from the car park, a huge stretch Cadillac limousine; I thought, wow - this can't be true - I'm only here to sell valves! His wife drove and I sat in the settee type seat at the back; off we went and stopped off at their home for cocktails. Well for margaritas, that is. The margarita is a cocktail consisting of tequila mixed with triple sec (a variety of Curaçao, an orange-flavoured liqueur) with lime or lemon juice, shaken or served with ice and served with salt on the drinking glass rim - delicious. The thing I remember is that he made a jug-full and we finished it all off before we drove off to downtown LA! Our first stop was at 'Dino's' on Sunset Strip, a bar and coffee house owned by Dean Martin, a famous (some would say infamous) film star and singer; a founder member of the Frank Sinatra/Sammy Davis Jr brat pack. I might add he wasn't there that evening. This couple was certainly keen for me to see the sights as we drove further down 'The Strip' to our restaurant for dinner. They had chosen a restaurant opened just the year before by Caesar Romero, the famous film star of the day and a heart throb of the ladies; an eating place called 'Cappuccino's' (I always thought it was called 'Caesar's Palace'). We enjoyed a sumptuous Italian meal and before we started, they introduced me to the great man himself, quite a mind blowing experience for me at the time. I found him to be a real gentleman, but I never did find out how this couple knew him so well. Later it was back to the hotel via another coffee house – what a night.

The next day I was introduced to the engineering design staff, including the chief project engineer with the name of R. Robert Plumb. We chatted for a long time, and he asked me to give a talk on our valves the next day to his assembled engineering staff. That was a challenge; in the meantime, would I like to go out for dinner tonight? There was a repeat of last night but this time he and his delightful wife took me to a Japanese teppanyaki restaurant where the Japanese chef performed with the juggling of flashing knives, preparing and cooking this delicious food for us. Again, it was quite a night, something very new for me.

The outcome of my visit to RMP was a request by Robert for me to quote for valves and ancillaries for the Queensland aluminium job. I had to get in touch with my Melbourne office and get them to make an offer. I am telling you this in detail because this was the first ever international direct dial call I had ever made. At that time calling overseas from anywhere in Australia meant dialling the operator first and then having to wait a long while for your turn to be connected. Usually, the operator would ring you back – sometime! Now I was dialling direct from the USA to Melbourne and I realised how far behind in technology we were in Australia. It was two more years before International dialling became commonplace throughout Australia. It was about three days before the office telexed (note the word 'telexed' – find out for yourself what the word meant!) back the quote to me. In the meantime, I heard that a business friend of mine was now working for Bechtel, a world renowned petrochemical plant builder, in San Francisco so I telephoned him to say hello. He was very happy to talk to me and asked me to get the next plane (just an hour's flight) and he would meet me and take me to his office for discussions with his fellow engineers. Would you believe it; my boss in Melbourne vetoed the offer on the grounds that the cost of a hotel, transport, cancellation at the Biltmore, expenses, etc., would be excessive. I should have just done it and not asked anyone. The sales potential of such a visit would have been enormous. Anyway the final outcome of this visit to L.A. was that we got the order for all the on/off valves and it was big, very big. It established our Melbourne office as a large player in the supply of valves for the aluminium smelter industry in Australia. The smelter in Portland, Victoria was a few years away yet, but our efforts in Los Angeles, at this time, was a significant factor in us eventually getting the order for the majority of valves for this future local aluminium smelter.

There is a postscript to this story. On the last day I was in L.A., the purchasing officer of RMP, whose name unfortunately I have forgotten, confessed to me about certain things when he and his wife had met me on that first evening with the stretch limousine. He had gone home and told his wife that there was a visitor from Australia who had invited them out for dinner. She had said, 'What on earth can I wear and there is no way we can ferry him around in our old car'. So ... she had hired a dress and the fur coat and had borrowed her boss's Cadillac for the occasion; I felt quite chuffed. I was even more so now that they were friendly enough with me to tell me.

Geoff Stokes

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Koo Wee Rup RSL Sub-branch report

We start the new year with deep sadness at the passing of a much loved and valued member of our sub-branch, David O'Donnell. We offer our deepest and most sincere condolences to David's family. David was everyone's mate, ever so humble and one could be sure of a warm and cheerful greeting, no matter how unwell David may have been feeling and if one found oneself in the trenches, he was the man you would want by your side.

In my early days as President of the RSL, David was the sub-branch secretary, at my request, with the two of us hard of hearing and learning our duties and responsibilities as we go, despite our best efforts we were far, far from perfect, but we happily got the job done, sadly David's health failed him, and he had to give up the role.

David endured much suffering silently; not once have I known him to complain; somehow, I felt that David was at peace with his tremendous cross – no 'Why me?' at any stage of his illness. David went to be with our God on 12/1/22. May his soul, now free from pain and struggle, rejoice in God's full vision and possession and journey on from glory to glory – reunited with his loved ones who have gone before. I have no doubt that David's final homecoming could be described with an adaption of Matthew's Gospel words; 'Well done gentle and loving Son, welcome into the love, peace and joy of your eternal Father.' Rest peacefully mate, in the loving embrace of our Lord and Saviour. We will remember you, David. Lest we Forget.

Koo Wee Rup RSL sub-branch AGM March 8th. Being a small sub-branch, it is important that you attend. Thank you

The collision between HMAS Melbourne and HMAS Voyager.

On the night of February 10th 1964 our navy suffered its worst peacetime disaster when one of our front line destroyers, HMAS Voyager, was lost after being cut/broken in two by the aircraft carrier HMAS Melbourne. The Voyager, a sister ship to the Vampire Vendetta and Duchess, was my home and family until a few days before the tragedy which profoundly shocked our nation, none more so than those who wore the Queen's uniform and all those who came before us. This tragedy occurred only four months after five midshipmen lost their lives while on a 12 hour exercise around Hayman and Hook Island (northern Queensland). Somehow we all share in the responsibility and all the consequences.

The RAN was undertaking routine exercises off Jervis Bay on the NSW south coast and was ending the day with high flying exercises for the aircraft of the carrier HMAS Melbourne. Voyager was the reserve destroyer and was to pick up any airmen if the exercise went wrong. It was also the responsibility of the reserve destroyer to stay clear of the aircraft carrier. All was well until 8.40pm manoeuvre. Melbourne commanding officer Captain John Robertson ordered Voyager to take up its position – astern and off to the port (left) side. At this point in time Voyager was steaming ahead of the carrier on the starboard (right) side. The Voyager promptly turned to starboard as if intending to loop around behind the carrier into position, but then turned to port. Those on the bridge of Melbourne were expecting the Voyager to turn to starboard again, undertaking a zig-zag course to slow its momentum. But by the time they realised Voyager was still turning to port and therefore would cross the bows of Melbourne, it was too late for Melbourne to avoid a collision. Melbourne's turbines were stopped and then full astern; while on the Voyager Captain Stevenson ordered full ahead and hard to starboard in a futile attempt to avoid each other. But the momentum and size of the Melbourne meant it was physically unable to slow or change course enough to avoid hitting Voyager. And hit the Voyager it did – just after of the bridge and cut the Voyager in two, killing the senior officers on the bridge of Voyager on impact. The Melbourne lowered her boats to rescue those in the water while on Voyager bow section men did their best to escape now on the starboard side. These are the only class of ships (Daring) that I know of that had escape hatches on the ship's sides. Those in the water would have been caked in furnace fuel oil and one must thank our Creator that the oil did not ignite; as not far from the point of impact were the torpedo mounts and they would have been loaded as well as the Voyager main armament magazine. If any of the above have detonated either on the point of impact or as the Voyagers battered after section scraped along Melbourne's starboard side, there would have been a greater loss of life with even more serious damages, or worse done to the Melbourne. As it was, out of the ship's company of 314 men, 225 were in the bow section, 144 were saved with 81 losing their lives – this section sank in less than 10 minutes. So it was that out of 89 men in the after section of Voyager, there was no loss of life with the exception of those killed on impact and possible midshipman Marien. Of the 82 that were lost there were 14 officers and 68 sailors.

The Melbourne was to encounter another major disaster in similar circumstances when, in the early hours of June 3rd 1969, on patrol in the South China Sea, she collided with her American escorting destroyer USS Frank E Evans. 72 men lost their lives with the Evans.

We will remember them, Lest we Forget.

Yours Aye, John Camilleri 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

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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 Womens Association

Written by Linda Sanders

Meeting Dates

Our next meeting will be on Monday 7th February at 7.30pm.

Our next craft meeting will be on Monday 21st February at 7.30pm.

We meet at the Seniors Rooms, Icke Road, Koo Wee Rup.

If you would like to join our great team of friendly ladies, please call President Courtney Manks on 0432 067 448 for more details, or just turn up on the night.

Win Pankhurst Memorial Scholarship

The Koo Wee Rup CWA give an annual donation to a Grade 6 student who is leaving primary school and entering high school. This money is to help assist with the additional educational expenses incurred when changing to high school. Local schools involved include: Koo Wee Rup Primary, St John the Baptist Primary and Bayles Primary.

Mary-Jane Edwards from Bayles Primary School was presented with her Win Pankhurst Scholarship Award by Diane Di Vola.

Mary-Jane is the youngest and last one of 6 Edwards children to go to Bayles Primary School. Congratulations Mary-Jane.

Christmas Breakup Dinner

Members attended our Christmas dinner at The Drake Hotel in Pakenham on 7th December 2021. We had a lovely night with great company and delicious food. Well done ladies for another great year.



Carols By Candlelight

Koo Wee Rup Lions were asked to help with serving food at the Carols by Candlelight in December. Cathy and Joss were able to help. Great job girls.

Harewood Heritage Day

Harewood Heritage Day (was Scots of the Swamp) is to be held on Sunday 3rd April 2022 at Harewood House, South Gippsland Highway, Tooradin (next to the airport).

Koo Wee Rup CWA have been ask to make scones

and sandwiches to sell at the event.

There is a meeting about this soon, so I will give you more details next month.



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)
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The Men's Shed and Pandemic Code Brown restrictions.

The Men's Shed is a building within the grounds of the Koo-Wee-Rup Regional Health Services, therefore the committee has to comply with all restrictions and rules imposed upon KRHS by the state government. To help our hospitals manage demand during this time, a 'Pandemic Code Brown' has been called across all public metropolitan and major regional hospitals. This coordinated approach will support health services to work together and prioritise resources so that those who need it most can continue to receive care.

This means that all normal daily activities of the Men's Shed have been suspended until the eventual lifting of 'Code Brown' restrictions. However, all is not lost! The Men's Shed café is still open for lunch on a Friday between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm to anyone, young and old, ladies and gentlemen. Do come along and enjoy a low price lunch with a high nutritional value. We know you will really enjoy yourselves and you will meet some very interesting people. I mean that!

The community garden is slowly coming back to life with silverbeet, rhubarb and a variety of lettuces available for purchase at the 'Shed. Talk to John Farmer, he will help you choose your veggies and give you some great advice. 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 townfolk who really do need our aid right now. It's early in the season but we have already supplied the church with fresh spring vegetables such as cabbages, silverbeet, parsley and fresh salad mix. The Church works closely with the Men's Shed, also the Church has 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.

For those of you who are new to the town, the Koo-Wee-Rup Men's Shed continues to grow in stature and it is now recognized as one of the very best in the State if not in Australia. This amazing achievement has been won by the untiring work of the president, the committee, and of course the steadfast work of all the members. 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 some real good mates and maybe get a boost to your own health and well-being at the same time. Don't forget then, when all these Pandemic Code Brown restrictions are over, come and have a look for yourself! If you want to know more, watch this space!

Finally, a little story for you: - *I was standing behind a customer at the ATM in Station Street when he turned around and said, "Could you check my balance?"—so I pushed him. His balance wasn't that great.*

Geoff Stokes



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What: Thursday Evening Walkers.

When: 7.00 pm every Thursday during daylight saving.

Starting 28th October 2021 until end of March 2022.

COVID recovery rules apply, complying with social distancing and registering.

**Where: Koo Wee Rup Clock Towers Rossiter Rd KWR
FREE daylight saving group. Ring Marlene 0429 814410**

Visit walking.heartfoundation.org.au for more information



Heart Foundation Evening Walking Group

This group has been minimally affected with the Covid safe practices, as we walk outdoors, and our numbers have never been too large to pose a health threat. We have just recorded our 10th anniversary of walking. Our evening group walks every Thursday at 7 pm and meets at the clock towers in Rossiter Rd. We can accommodate all ability levels, as we never leave anyone behind. We pound our Koo Wee Rup streets and have welcomed some new members this season. The evening group only walks during daylight saving from October to early April, so why not give it a go. If you are free either Monday or Thursday mornings at 9 am, there are similar day time groups offered, leaving from the same meeting point at 9 am with Dianne as the walk leader.

In late November the two groups merged for a great walk along the Lang Lang foreshore from the Lang Lang Caravan Park along to Jam Jerup. Such a lovely setting, so why not give it a try. There is plenty of shade to allow a comfortable 6 km return trip. We also celebrated the years end, with a social dinner, and will soon be travelling to Pakenham for an evening stroll around the former quarry at Cardinia Lakes, finishing off with a takeaway tea. It's great that daylight saving offers us the opportunity to do this. Please give me a call if you are interested.

Marlene: Phone - 0429 814410



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The latest news from the Consumer Advisory Committee

As this contribution from the Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) goes off to be printed for the February '22 edition of Blackfish, we find ourselves again restricted by the rules for Covid; this time the 'Pandemic Code Brown' regulations. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for March the 8th; it will still be held but it will be a virtual meeting via Zoom.

At the last meeting of the CAC on November 30th - too late for the December Blackfish publication deadline - our guest speaker was Jenny Bayliss, the Koo-Wee-Rup Regional Health Services (KRHS) Volunteer Coordinator and her subject was 'Volunteering through Covid and on into the future'. We also met the new Quality Manager, Annie Barwise, who gave the attendees a talk about Quality Improvement and Accreditation. The Chief Executive Officer, Noni Bourke, also presented several items for discussion and information such as the upcoming Consumer (that's you!) Participation Plan, Legislation Standards, Updates, and the Strategic Plan for the future of KRHS. Other business included a couple of worrying questions from patients and staff. These were aired and discussed in detail.

The Committee would also like to make the reader aware of the existence of 'Care Opinion Australia', which is a non-profit organisation based in Brisbane. It allows you to share your experiences of Australian health and care services, good or bad on their web page. They pass your stories to the right people to make a difference. You can tell them about an experience of health care or social care (within the last 3 years). Your story might be about you, or someone close to you. You can say what happened, what was good, and what could have been better. What happens to your story? They will read your story and show it on their web site. (Sometimes they can't.) When they publish your story, they will email you. They will also try to email staff in the services who need to see it. Often, staff will reply directly to you. If they do, Care Opinion Australia will email you with all the details. Remember, they don't share your confidential personal details with anyone else. Even if you do not have a story to tell their web site is worth a look at. Their contact web address is www.careopinion.org.au/tellyourstory Have a look. An added note is that our chairperson - Geoff Stokes - has been appointed as a consumer representative on the South Gippsland Coast Governance Committee representing KRHS.

In Victoria we are very close to a 93% vaccination rate for Covid-19 but there are still a lot of people in Cardinia Shire who have not taken that first step to get a vaccination against Covid. These vaccines are new to the world and it's quite normal for people to have questions about them. The sheer amount of information - and misinformation - about Covid-19 vaccines can be overwhelming to anyone especially on social media platforms where 'fake news' reigns. Remember, we will listen to you without judgment to try and identify the root of your concerns. But, for the safety of everyone, you must get vaccinated and have a booster shot. Think about it - you would have no qualms in getting vaccinated for Chickenpox (varicella), Diphtheria, Flu (influenza), Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b), HPV (Human papillomavirus), Measles, Meningococcal disease, Mumps, Pneumococcal disease, Polio (poliomyelitis), Rotavirus, Rubella (German measles), Shingles (herpes zoster), Tetanus and Whooping cough (pertussis). So ... why not Covid-19? The risks are no different and you, when vaccinated, will be protecting yourself and everyone around you.

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 offer 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 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.

BAYLES FAUNA PARK

Working Bee

Sunday, 13 February, 9am start
followed by a BBQ lunch

Next Meeting

Sunday, 13 February, after the
working bee

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

All welcome

Geoff Stokes



After a tough couple of years, it's time to make a fresh start as we learn to live in COVID normal.

Outlook Community Centre has a wide variety of programs to engage you in learning and to enrich your life. Come along to try something new with us. Please be assured that your

health and safety is our utmost priority, and we will be following the Victorian COVID 19 guidelines. Our full Term 1 Program can be viewed online at <https://www.outlookaust.org.au/book-online> or email us communitycentre@outlookaust.org.au for a PDF copy. We look forward to seeing you soon!

HOW TO ENROL IN A PROGRAMME

In Person: 24 Toomuc Valley Road, Pakenham, **Online:** www.outlookaust.org.au/book-online, **Telephone:** 5940 4728, **Email:** communitycentre@outlookaust.org.au, **Payment:** Credit Card - online, over the phone or in person, Cash, cheque or EFTPOS

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Take back control to regain your physical and mental wellbeing. Supported by Cardinia Shire Council 

Learn how to improve areas that have impacted on your health, such as healthy eating, sleep, stress, physical activity, meditation/ mindfulness, self-care and social engagement. Includes a combination of group work, guided discussion, visualisation, wellbeing strategies and practical mindfulness techniques. Understand factors impacting your health, with the knowledge, skills and motivation needed to enjoy life again.

Wednesdays commencing 16 February for 8 sessions, 10.00am - 12.30pm. Cost \$30

Forget-Me-Not Café

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. Supported by Cardinia Shire Council 

Tuesdays 15 February, 15 March, 10.00am - 12.00pm. Cost FREE (bookings required)

Retirement Workshop

The retirement tune up! Supported by Cardinia Shire Council  Are you new to retirement and need a tune up? You get your car serviced and you have dental check-ups, so why not a retirement check-up? This fun, friendly, informative session covers seven core principles of a happy and fulfilling retirement. You will feel invigorated, empowered, and energised! Includes presentation by the Financial Information Service, Services Australia.

Refreshments provided.

Tuesday 8 March, 10.00am - 12.00pm. Cost FREE

Introduction to Ukulele

The Ukulele is a very simple instrument to learn - perfect for the lazy potential musician. No need for the ability to read music, practice endless scales or devour a whole heap of theory. A relaxed, happy group where we can make magical music together. BYO Ukulele, short fingernails and the determination to practice.

Thursdays commencing 10 February for 8 sessions, 1.00pm - 2.00pm. Cost \$35

Heat, Health Information Session

Are you prepared for extreme heat? Extreme heat can affect anybody. Heat can cause illnesses such as heat cramps and heat exhaustion which can lead to heatstroke which is fatal in up to 80% of cases. Those most at risk are older people, young children and people with a medical condition. This free interactive session covers the risks, what you can do to keep yourself and your family safe and keep your home and yourself cool plus heat wave planning. 

Tuesday 8 February, 10.00am - 10.45am. Cost FREE

Digital Essentials

This course is designed to help understand the basics of technology, including different digital devices, their functionality and the ways you can use these devices to connect with others and access services over the internet. Topics include; using your smartphone and SMS, connecting and working safely, navigating the internet, using email and social media, using Apps and software and everyday uses of technology. In no time at all you will be a pro at navigating the digital world.

Tuesdays commencing 15 February for 8 sessions, 1.00pm - 4.00pm. Cost \$45

Cooking with Steaming using your Thermomix

Make the most of the steaming function of your Thermomix. Increase the volume of your food making space when making layered dishes using the Varoma accessory, steaming basket and bowl too! We will make sweet and savoury dishes. This cooking method can be used for desserts, yoghurt, steaming meat, vegetables and layered dishes. It locks in the flavour and keeps the food moist and tasty. Workshop includes a meal to enjoy with classmates, recipes and lots of tips to help you achieve the best results.

Monday 28 February, 12.00pm - 2.00pm. Cost \$40

Art Club

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".

Fridays commencing 25 February for 6 sessions, 1.15pm - 3.15pm. Cost \$70
(Please contact the Centre for project and materials list)

KOOWEE RUP REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

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

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

February 22

Find us on



Health Services prepared for coordinated effort through Code Brown Plan

Health services including Kooweerup Regional Health Service (KRHS) will strengthen existing partnerships with Metropolitan services, across the Gippsland region and particularly within sub regions to build resilience and capacity at the peak of the Omicron variant outbreak.

In a first for the Victorian Department of Health, a coordinated Code Brown (Pandemic Code Brown) has been announced requesting health services activate Code Brown plans simultaneously from midday 19 January 2022, formally recognising the compounding pressures on our health system and workforce.

The Code Brown announcement facilitates coordination, communication and information sharing to support the best use of hospital resources.

"A coordinated approach allows hospitals to work together to prioritise resources, redistribute demand across the system and manage workforce shortages", said KRHS CEO Noni Bourke "We have worked hard to build strong and responsive relationships with other services in our sub-region including with Bass Coast Health, South Gippsland Hospital and Gippsland Southern Health Service. We partner with Latrobe Regional Health, Gippsland Public Health Unit and with our tertiary partners in metropolitan Melbourne. The existing relationships will strengthen our response and I am very confident we are in a strong position to get through these extraordinary times".

KRHS has regularly adapted the way it has operated over the past two years to ensure continuity of service and excellence in care during the Pandemic. The Code Brown enables the health service to change the way services are delivered to support the increasing COVID-19 caseloads over the coming weeks. Importantly, it ensures that the sickest patients will be prioritized for care by creating capacity across the system.

With Omicron spreading at unprecedented levels, our acute hospitals are preparing for more hospitalisations including for COVID patients. It is expected bed pressures will intensify in coming weeks, requiring this emergency management response until the peak of hospitalisations and Omicron has passed. Smaller health services have an important role to play in enabling the flow of less acute patients to be sure they are cared for without compromising their access to excellent care.

"Our staff are skilled and committed, we are very fortunate to have a team who have worked so hard to ensure our care is delivered with kindness and consideration, despite the demands on the systems and I continue to be very confident that we are as prepared as we can be for these challenging weeks ahead" said Noni, "We have an extraordinary team at KRHS and ably supported by wonderful partners across the Region. I am confident that the strong planning, and the strong collaboration, will get our community through this period".

"I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to our staff, and to thank our community for their unwavering support and kindness."

Get your boost on!

A booster dose will protect you, your loved ones and your community against COVID-19.

Two doses of COVID-19 vaccine provide very good protection, especially against severe disease.

A booster dose will make sure the protection from the first two doses is even stronger and longer lasting, and should help prevent spread of the virus.

A booster dose increases your protection against:

- infection with the virus that causes COVID-19
- severe disease
- dying from COVID-19



Booster doses are free for everyone and readily available, book yours now [COVID-19 vaccines | Coronavirus Victoria](#)



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

What happened in Koo Wee Rup in 1922

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

As is traditional at this time of year, we will have a look at what happened in Koo Wee Rup and surrounds, 100 years ago in 1922.

In February 1922, Mr Gray of the firm Barhop and Gray, commission agents, received a surprise on opening his office, as he found that all his cheques had been destroyed.....It happened that on closing the office on Saturday, Mr Gray placed the cheques in a cigar box, and on Tuesday when he examined the box he found that a hole had been gnawed through the top and the contents, cheques etc torn into hundreds of pieces The mischief makers in this instance were mice. (Koo Wee Rup Sun February 2, 1922)

The state of local roads was the subject of a complaint in April – a correspondent to the Koo Wee Rup Sun complained about the bad state of Denhams and Naughtons Road. *Repairs are urgently needed, and if not attended to before winter sets in they will be in a dangerous and disgraceful condition. The work involves very little expense, as the metal and sand has been heaped alongside the roads since 1914. The metal should not be put there to act as an ornament. If the Council do not intend to use it, then for what purpose was it put there?* (Koo Wee Rup Sun, April 13, 1922) Eight years does seem a long time for a road repair, even allowing for the fact that for half that time the War was on.

This wasn't the only complaint about roads – this one is about the South Gippsland Highway – *We have received several complaints re the bad conditions of the main coast road from Koo Wee Rup to Tooradin. Loose metal, projecting metal, holes and ruts are much in evidence and those using the road are loud in their denunciation of the state of the state of disrepair in which they find it. To travel along this road is a most unpleasant experience, and it is hoped that the authorities will take the matter in hand and give attention immediately.* (Koo Wee Rup Sun June 15, 1922)

The Koo Wee Rup Sun of April 27 had a lovely report on gardens in Koo Wee Rup - *A walk along Rossiter road, Kooweerup, reveals a number of fine gardens which are at present presenting a picturesque appearance. There is a large variety of blooms of various shades, and the care and attention given by the owners redounds to their credit, especially when consideration is given to the fact that many difficulties have to be overcome and they are not blessed with a water supply.*

Also from the Koo Wee Rup Sun of April 27 comes this report - *We are pleased to be able to state that Mr. A.W. Giles is now restored to health and is back at his home, Mank's road, Koo Wee Rup. His homecoming caused a surprise to his family, as they were not acquainted that he was returning. It appears that a bed was required for a patient, and Mr Giles said he was well enough to leave. He took the train to Pakenham, and from there walked home.*

The Koo Wee Rup Sun of May 18 reported that the Bayles Milk Factory opened on May 15. It was operated by Sage & Co. P/L

Opening of New Factory.

Sage and Co., Pty. Ltd., beg to announce that their new Factory at Bayles is now completed, and will be opened to receive supplies of Milk and Cream on MONDAY next, May 15.

Top Market Rates.
Cheques Fortnightly.
A Trial Solicited.



Pilates Term 1 2022
Free First Class
Chair based class now offered
Coming out of Covid-19 yet again, you can reengage with exercise at your level. Pilates is suitable for all ages & abilities. Community access restrictions @ KRHS mean we delay our start for the term.

When: Chair based class 5.00 pm Monday.
Mat @ 6.00pm Mondays starting
Mat @ 9.00am Saturday

Where: Hewitt Eco House,
Kooweerup Regional Health

Enquiries to Marlene
0429 814 410

Commences:
Monday 21st Feb ring to confirm

Pilates at Koo Wee Rup Regional Health Service (KRHS)

Although we had about 6 weeks of sessions after our big lockdown and before Christmas, we are unable to return until community programs can again be offered. This is because KRHS must comply with restrictions placed on aged care settings, so we are also affected as we use the community room at the service. After consultation, we hope to start Term 1 a bit later, on Monday 21st February. But please give me a call if you are interested to double check.

Pilates is great for total wellbeing. It offers varying levels of difficulty called progressive exercises, to address flexibility, core, strength and balance. It's also great for mental wellbeing because we focus on how our body is feeling and we can give ourselves some self-care. The first session is FREE and we are now also offering a half hour chair based class as well, before the one hour Monday evening session. Hope to see you in 2022.

Marlene: Phone – 0429 814410

What happened in Koo Wee Rup in 1922

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

On June 29, 1922 the railway line which used to run from Koo Wee Rup to Strzelecki officially opened. The Stations were at Bayles, Catani, Yannathan, Heath Hill, Athlone, Topiram, Triholm and Strzelecki. I will write about the history of this railway line next month.

The last day of June in 1922 was very cold and *The Argus* reported on the unexpected snow falls throughout the State - *Bitterly cold weather was again experienced throughout the State yesterday, and heavy falls of snow occurred at many places. The minimum temperature recorded at the Weather Bureau was 32.7 deg. early in the morning, and the maximum reading was 46.0 deg. at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon..... Snow fell at - Bunyip, Pakenham (only fall remembered by residents for 40 years), Mount Cannibal (near Garfield), Nar Nar Goon (first for 30 years), Tooradin, Koo-wee-rup (first time on record).* (*The Argus*, July 1, 1922).

32.7 degrees Fahrenheit is about 0 degrees Celsius and 46 degrees is about 8 degrees.

In July 1922 there was a public meeting held at Koo Wee Rup and a motion was passed to relocate the Cranbourne Shire Offices to a more central position, i.e. from Cranbourne to Koo Wee Rup. There were various reports in the *Koo Wee Rup Sun* over the next few months on this issue, but in the end they stayed at Cranbourne.

The Advocate (the Catholic newspaper) of October 5, 1922 had some interesting local news -

Representatives from the parishes of Lang Lang, Kooweerup and Nar-Nar-Goon and Iona recently met and decided to purchase a four-cylinder Buick car for use of the priests and the Sisters. The necessity of the action has been apparent for some time, owing to the distance the priests have to travel. The sisters from Iona, who also teach at the convent school at Cora Lynn, invariably depend on the neighbours to take them to school, but the parish car will suffice for all purposes.

The October 25, 1922 edition on *Everyone's* magazine, which covered the Movie and Picture Theatre industry in Australia, had a short report on Mr Colvin of Koo Wee Rup Kooweerup (Vic.). - *Mr. Colvin, of this town, is a pushful*



*The Convent in Iona with what I believe is the new Buick
The Advocate, November 16, 1922*

exhibitor. He shows only one night per week, and uses Pathe machine and Universal set. Besides the picture game, Mr. Colvin owns a motor garage, and is interested in several other enterprises in the town. Occasionally he exhibits at the little townships of Tooradin and Yallock. Andrew Colvin exhibited at the Mechanics' Institute Hall (which later became the Memorial Hall).

We will finish this report off with this rather topical advertisement which appeared in the *Koo Wee Rup Sun* in November and December. Madame Corona was working remotely even in 1922.

Madame Corona,
WILL Teach, by Correspondence, Verse Construction and the Art of Writing Poetry and Songs.
Particulars on application to Madame Corona, Post Office, Kooweerup.

Colvin's Pictures

Will be Screened in the
KOOWEERUP MECHANICS' HALL
On
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9,
At 8 p.m.
Star Picture—
TOO MUCH SPEED.

TOORADIN MECHANICS' HALL.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, At 8 p.m.
Star Picture—
TOO MUCH SPEED.

Supported by a Lengthy Programme.
Support Local Industry.

Admission: Adults, 1/10; children,
9d, plus tax.
A. C. COLVIN, Proprietor.

From February to November, the Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at Mallow house in Rossiter Road, corner of Henry Street. Our first meeting for the year is on Wednesday, February 9 at 7.30pm. The Museum opens on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month from 1.30pm to 4.00pm or by appointment. Heather Arnold harnold@dcsi.net.au 0407 521 637



NO ONE'S UNSINKABLE

To all those Unsinkable Guys out there –

You might think it's safe to have a few drinks around water, skip the lifejacket when you're out on the boat or go for a swim without checking the conditions.

But statistics prove that 4 out of 5 drownings are men.

Just remember that no one's unsinkable.

Q UNSINKABLE GUY

**RETHINK
TAKING RISKS
AROUND
WATER**



KOO WEE COFFEE CLUB



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

February	2	Royal Hotel
	16	Chandelier Café
March	2	Royal Hotel
	16	Chandelier Café
April	6	Royal Hotel
	20	Chandelier Café
May	4	Royal Hotel
	18	Chandelier Café



Enquiries ph Jo on 0428 557 411



Koo Wee Coffee Club

Need a friend?

*Recently retired?
New to Koo Wee?*

Join us for,



HAVE A CHAT CHUESDAYS

WHERE? *UA Church hall, 348 Rossiter Rd.*

WHEN? *Tuesday 8th February*

Then monthly on second Tuesday.

TIME.? *2pm-4pm.*

This month's theme is

"BABY LOVE".

After a long lockdown this is get to know you month. 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, there will be a prize for the winner.

Afternoon tea will be provided by us today and games to play with your grandkids!!

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**