

THE KOO WEE RUP BLACKFISH



JUNE 2022

Goodbye to a small piece of Swamp history

In the early morning mist, the demolition of the little house where indigenous soldier settler, Percy Pepper once lived with his wife and 6 children, began. An important step in duplicating the Koo Wee Rup-Healesville Road, but a sad moment for local history. The house is significant not only as Percy Pepper's home, but as one of the few remaining original soldier settler houses on the swamp.

Percy was one of about 880 Aboriginal people who volunteered for service in World War 1. On his return to Australia, Percy was one of the very few indigenous people granted a soldier settler block. Percy's block of 56 acres was part of the Koo Wee Rup soldier settlement. At that time, swamp drainage was not as good as it is today leading to regular flooding and Percy, along with most of the other settlers, could not make a living from his block. He left the area in 1924.

Percy's story is featured in Episode 4 of the Landline Series 'First Nation Farmers', which is available on ABC iView and youtube and in which Percy's house is featured.



Koo Wee Rup Township Committee Meeting

The Township held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, 4 May at the Community Centre. Township Meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 1 June at 7:30 pm at the Community Centre. All welcome.

Major Road Projects Victoria attended the meeting to provide an update to the committee on the progress of works on the Koo Wee Rup-Healesville Road upgrade.

Scope is complete and includes traffic lights at Greenhills Road and roundabouts at Deep Creek (abattoir entrance), Hall Road and Ballarto Road.

Timeline:

- Utilities to be relocated by end of September
- Construction commencing end of May

Works completed to date:

- Utility mapping
- survey and geotechnical works
- site set up and boundary fencing including 3 works compounds
- Vegetation removal including trees

continued page 5

Items printed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the thoughts or beliefs of the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any items, where necessary. All work associated with the production of The Koo Wee Rup Blackfish is done on a voluntary basis. Edited by C Roff email: blackfish@live.com.au
PO Box 64, Koo Wee Rup 3981, Tel 5997 2333
Printed by KWR Township Committee

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What's on in Koo Wee Rup and District

June

Wed 1st	Coffee Club (<i>back page</i>)	Royal Hotel	10am
Wed 1st	Lions Club Meeting (<i>page 15</i>)	RSL Clubrooms	7pm
Wed 1st	Township Committee Meeting (<i>front page</i>)	Community Centre	7.30pm
Fri 3rd	KWR Regional Health Service Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	Education Room, Hospital	9.30am
Fri 3rd	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 4th	Mat Pilates (<i>page 32</i>)	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sun 5th	Claudia Barker: Through the Years (<i>back page</i>)	Hooper Hall, KWRSC	2pm
Mon 6th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Mon 6th	Chair Pilates (<i>page 32</i>)	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 6th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Mon 6th	CWA Meeting (<i>page 7</i>)	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Wed 8th	KWR Swamp Historical Society Meeting (<i>page 33</i>)	KWR Museum	6pm
Fri 10th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 11th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sun 12th	Bayles Fauna Park Working Bee (<i>page 11</i>)	Bayles Fauna Park	9am
Mon 13th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Mon 13th	Chair Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 13th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Tue 14th	Have a Chat Chuesdays (<i>back page</i>)	UA Church Hall	2pm
Tue 14th	RSL Sub-Branch Monthly Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7.30pm
Tue 14th	Hall Committee Meeting	Community Centre	7.30pm
Wed 15th	Coffee Club	Chandelier Café	10am
Wed 15th	Lions Club Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7pm
Fri 17th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 18th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sun 19th	Bayles Centenary (<i>back page</i>)	Bayles	10am
Mon 20th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Mon 20th	Chair Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 20th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Mon 20th	CWA Craft Meeting (<i>page 7</i>)	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Fri 24th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Mon 27th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Wed 29th	Coffee Club	Degani Café	10am

July

Fri 1st	KWR Regional Health Service Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	Education Room, Hospital	9.30am
Fri 1st	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Mon 4th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Mon 4th	CWA Meeting	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Wed 6th	Coffee Club	Royal Hotel	10am
Wed 6th	Lions Club Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7pm
Wed 6th	Township Committee Meeting	Community Centre	7.30pm
Fri 8th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sun 10th	Bayles Fauna Park Working Bee	Bayles Fauna Park	9am
Wed 13th	KWR Swamp Historical Society Meeting	KWR Museum	6pm
Sat 23rd	CWA Trivia Night: Christmas in July (<i>page 7</i>)	Masonic Lodge	7pm

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

For document signing and associated services contact:

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JP duties are a free community service

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

KooWeeRup Cricket Club

KooWeeRup Cricket Club are extremely excited to announce the signing of Yarragon star Gamini Kumara as Assistant Coach for season 2022/23. Gamma has been a champion of The Warragul & District Cricket Association scoring nearly 9000 runs and taking 330 wickets in 11 seasons. We can't wait to see Gamma in action. Also a big welcome to his wife Judy and daughters Olivia and Rockshana.

The Club are thrilled to announce the return of premiership coach Michael 'Doofy' Giles as Senior Coach for season 2022/23. Doofy is keen to get stuck into pre season training and the season ahead.

Stay tuned for more exciting announcements including player signings, coaching announcements and sponsorship news.

If you're interested in joining KooWeeRup Cricket Club please contact Matt Davey on 0439 611 005 or president.kwrcc@gmail.com.



Have your say on Council's proposed Road Management Plan

Cardinia Shire Council is seeking community feedback on its draft Road Management Plan.

The proposed plan outlines the standards and level of service provided in maintaining the roads, footpaths and shared paths that are managed by Council, as well as how often the roads will be inspected and how quickly council will respond to road issues.

Your feedback will be used to inform the final Road Management Plan and its implementation.

The Road Management Plan is reviewed every four years following a Council election.

Community consultation closes 7 June 2022.

To have your say on Council's proposed Road Management Plan, visit Council's Creating Cardinia website at www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay

Waterline Ex-Service

Are you wanting to meet new people, Make new friends, and participate in a variety of social activities and excursions?

Waterline Ex-Service, Family and Friends is a socially interactive group of ex Service, Partners, Widowed, and Friends. We are a small group of people that have been around for about ten years. We meet at 11am on the last Wednesday of every month at Tooradin Sports Club for a short meeting followed by lunch, if you choose.

Throughout the years members have enjoyed both day and overnight trips to Mildura and Mansfield, Musicals, Concerts, Melbourne Zoo, Coal Creek, Museums, Robert Gordon Pottery, Christmas in July and BBQ's, and more recently the Elvis Presley Exhibition, to name a few. Most members still vote our Barefoot Bowls days as the funniest of days.

A ten dollar annual fee will have us welcoming new members to our small fun group.

Any inquiries please contact Gus Moore 0404 185 210

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Koo Wee Rup Township Committee Meeting *(from front page)*

- Fauna monitoring has begun for Southern Brown Bandicoot, Growling Grass Frog, Swamp Skink and Glossy Grass Skink

Resurfacing of existing road in first two weeks of May.

Upcoming works

- completion of long term traffic management
- ground stabilisation
- Additional safety works
 - temporary roundabout at Ellett Road
 - temporary traffic lights at Hall Road
- Piling works at Deep Creek for new bridges

Upcoming disruptions

- no immediate significant disruptions once resurfacing works completed
- towards the end of 2022 temporary closures at Hall Road and Ballarto Road

Environmental works to protect the four listed and protected species: Southern Brown Bandicoot, Growling Grass Frog, Swamp Skink, Glossy Grass Skink

- Predator control program (foxes and feral cats) to protect above listed native species due to reduction in habitat
- 35 fauna underpasses – for safe passage across the road
- habitat ponds for Growling grass Frog
- Men’s Shed is constructing Bandicoot Shelters
- Avoiding some works/sites during significant times of the year (eg breeding or young dispersing)
- Re-using removed vegetation where possible for habitat.
- Timber from some of the trees that were removed will be used
- Fox baiting will take place away from publicly accessible land, and will happen twice a year for the next ten years

Community updates currently being distributed twice monthly but may become more frequent as work increases.

Chain mesh fence will be lined with material like shade cloth to discourage gawkers, works can be distracting to drivers.

Recognise that there are no safe areas to pull over with the construction of the fence but there are regular driveways which can provide safe areas if needed.

The current expected finish date for all works is the beginning of 2025, but some sections will open progressively as they are completed and works commence on upgrading the old existing road.

The President thanked our guests for the informative update on the road works.

Council have advised that the pedestrian laneway beside Woolworths is privately owned and they had concerns that if it was named and there was an emergency incident there it would not be visible to emergency services in google maps. There was discussion of how this is any different to what would happen if someone had an emergency there without it

being named and what about similar walking paths eg along Southern B oundary Drain or the Koo Wee Rup Rail Trail, which presumably are not part of google maps either. We will contact the owner to discuss the possibility of a name.

Great times are being had at the Men’s Shed Friday lunches, with the menu changing every week. The Community Gardens are being improved, mainly due to the efforts of Ernie a recent new member who is a retired market gardener.



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Updates from the KWR CWA

Isn't it wonderful to be back amongst it all?!

We are now full steam ahead with lots of little projects coming up in the next few weeks.

At our last craft night, we were delighted to assist with the Bayles heritage group creating bunting for their 100th anniversary that is in June (pictured). We will be also holding a stall of baked goods at the event on June 19th, please come down and enjoy the festivities on the day!

We must not forget that rural women are the backbone of families, communities, and nations, but they suffer worst impacts of climate change and conflict, go unheard in legislation and remain unprotected and unsupported. Each year we participate in a Global event with local branches of West Gippsland called "women walk the world". This year we walked around Lakeside in Pakenham to raise the profile of those women who do not have the ability to speak their truths. The event was then followed on with a catch-up coffee at a local café.

The Koo Wee Rup CWA is delighted to be running our yearly (minus covid) trivia night. This year the theme is Winter in July, an 18+ event, there will be raucous



Koo Wee Rup CWA presents

TRIVIA NIGHT

SATURDAY JULY 23

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

KOO WEE RUP MASONIC LODGE

7PM FOR A 7:30PM START \$15 PER HEAD TABLES OF 8
 BYO DRINKS AND NIBBLES 18+ ONLY EVENT

RAFFLE
GAMES

UGLY SWEATER
COMPETITION

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK
 CONTACT CATHY ON 0403 593 513

laughter, good times and a chance to have your team be the overall champion of the evening. Plus spot prizes for Christmas themed teams, ugly Christmas sweater etc.

Teams are 8-10 people and \$15 per head. Please reach out to Cathy to book your table: 0403 593 513

Meeting Dates

Our next meeting will be on Monday 6th June at 7.30pm.

Our next craft meeting will be on Monday 20th June 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.

For more information on how you can become a member of the KWR branch: contact the branch secretary at kwrcwa@outlook.com, or through our Facebook page.



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Army life on the Chinese border and Coronation Day 1953

By Geoff Stokes

North of Kowloon is Sek Kong (now known as Shek Kong) to where I was posted. In 1953 it was a military base alongside an operational air base, in the New Territories, very close to the border with mainland China. After the communist victory over the Chinese Nationalist forces in 1949, and the USA embargo in 1950 on trade with communist China, together with the on-going war in Korea, the border was a very sensitive issue and regularly, whilst I was posted there, small arms shooting would take place from both sides of the border – the Sham Chun River. One had to learn to duck very quickly – very quickly! The political thought of the day was that the communist Chinese forces would not stop at the Hong Kong Territory border but would sweep on through and claim the protectorate as part of mainland China and therefore their own. The job of the armed British forces was to prevent this from happening. A David and Goliath situation if ever there was one.

At our Sek Kong base we continued to parade, do guard duty, go on military exercises and play football (soccer) whilst waiting our fortnightly turn at the border emplacement. We also had a display gymnastic team of which I was a member. We didn't swing from bars or jump horses etc, but we worked with logs and rifles as part of our minor exhibition. I also joined the boxing team for a while and took part in the necessary training and preparation that included double rations. I think that may have been the real reason why I joined because I had second thoughts as fight day came closer. I pulled out of the team with as much dignity as I could and I am glad I did because the way those fellows hit each other, wow, I would have been laid out first round!

Guard duty was a regular occurrence for me and, as always, this activity produced some weird happenings. I was on duty at the main gate when Sek Kong had the heaviest rain ever. From the heavens came one hundred and fifty millimetres in one hour. Another night the hospital tent housing the VD (venereal disease) patients was burnt down: one would have to consider arson there! Then another day, whilst I was on patrol guard passing by it, the ammunition tent went up in flames, started no doubt by a surreptitious cigarette lit by an unthinking idiot who probably forgot to stub out the 'nub end' safely. *It was not me!*

The food at Sek Kong was not too bad considering that we did not have fresh green vegetables. Occasionally we would get cabbage, but mostly we were restricted to root vegetables only. We had plenty of meat and offal in our diet, also eggs and chicken, we also drank pints of hot tea. There was no fresh milk; all that we used came in a tin or in powder form. At that time there were no milking cows in the Territory and therefore no cheese, butter or cream. Again, these items arrived from somewhere else in tins. However, we had plenty of ice cream served in the NAAFI canteen and there were really super ones served downtown. Each and every week a troop had to find a fatigue to go to the Brigade bakery and bring back the bread for the Regiment. I recall the one and only time I was dutied to that particular fatigue because, on arrival at the bakery about twenty kilometers away, we gorged ourselves on fresh bread and cakes! We hadn't had any fresh bakery items for weeks; it was just wonderful.

Around us, doing the laundry, pressing and cleaning for us, was a campsite of Chinese people whom we called Dhobi boys and girls. They were very friendly and were paid by the army to do the menial jobs, however us soldiers still had to work fatigues in the kitchens, the Dhobis were not allowed in there. One of these Chinese Dhobi youths used to sit outside of our mess room after each meal and scrape the leftovers off your plate into a large bin at his feet for food for his pigs at home. From there you would rinse your plate in a trough full of hot suds and finally in a trough of rinse water as did everyone else. Not very hygienic in today's terms but then it was deemed quite a satisfactory arrangement.

I struck up a bit of a friendship with this Chinese boy, he would have been about eighteen or so I suppose, and his English and general intelligence level were very good indeed. I remember well one conversation with him which, on reflection, sums up how different cultures have different levels of understanding of each other: how we have to be so careful that we do not condemn others for actions that we do not agree with just because we cannot see a reason for it. I started off this particular conversation one day by asking him why almost all Chinese (at that time) seemed to be continually spitting on the ground wherever they were. They did it in the street, in shopping areas, in sporting arenas, in fact, everywhere. Not only that, the spitting was accompanied by gut wrenching throat noises and a great performance on the part of the spitter, male or female. I pointed out that we (westerners) found this habit of the Chinese to be absolutely unacceptable to us and, in fact, quite sickening. I waited with some pomp for his answer; if he could think of some excuse. His reply flattened and silenced me completely. He said that the Chinese had the same sickening thoughts about us, the westerners. "Look what you do", he said. "You clear your nose and throat just like we do but...what do you do then? You put it all into a piece of linen and you put it into your pocket and carry it around with you all day! Yuck. Not only that, you use the same piece of linen over and over again". I have never forgotten that conversation because it symbolises differences between people that have to be thoroughly understood before any condemnation from either party.

Continued next page

Army life on the Chinese border and Coronation Day 1953

from previous page

At this time I met Frank Boville who still is a life long friend. He had what we all thought was a cushy job. He was a certified TARA - Battery surveyor, still a Gunner in rank like me, but he was also the officers' mess clerk. He was responsible for ordering food and drink and organising their bar. The officers' laundry, cleaning and well being were also in his care. He slept in the mess in air-conditioned comfort. Lucky devil. He was my partner for two days and one night on an exercise. By that I mean we were a team of two TARAs and we would be responsible for the survey set-up of the troop guns and for the usual calculations to make sure the guns fired in the right direction. The weather was unbelievably hot and humid and at one stage an officer asked me why our maps on the drawing board were soaked in water. I explained that it was not water but sweat from our brows and arms! Part of the exercise was to see how quickly we could move into a position, fire the guns and then, how quickly we could pack up and move off again. We did a good job I thought, as we tore down the track towards our next location.

When we arrived at the new site Frank realised with horror that he had left his personal weapon, a rifle, propped up against a tree at the previous shoot site. This of course is a mortal sin in the army, to lose one's personal firearm is a court martial offence. Was he in trouble, was he ever? So was I. For some obscure reason our officer of the day gave equal blame to me and somehow we had to get back and pick up the lounging .303 weapon. A Bombardier James came to our rescue because he rode an army motorbike and without delay he went back to try and find the rifle and miraculously it was still there. We couldn't thank him enough but he was a good bloke and could see our awful dilemma. Unfortunately I believe this incident stopped me from getting a promotion, because that particular Lieutenant, our troop commander, jointly blamed me and would never let me forget it. He was still talking about it a year later when we had all returned home to Colchester barracks in England.

There was another exercise of a week's duration that I remember well. The idea of this one was to see if we could work and function with very little sleep with barely basic conditions; I suppose similar to the real thing which could happen anytime soon. Like the above account of that 'lost rifle' exercise, we were continually in and out of locations with, "Move, move, move"; an order continually being given. It rained and rained this particular week and we were absolutely soaked to the skin with no let up. I recall I slept for a couple of hours on the tailboard of a truck one night. Anyway, another late evening we were making our way across country and the order was – no lights, vehicles had to follow the individually dimly lit differential casing of the vehicle in front; a difficult and dangerous job. There were no other lights anywhere. We parked for the night and Frank and I put up a lean-to tarpaulin against our wagon and, tired to the teeth, we crawled inside to get a few hours sleep.

We had chosen a place to lie on of what seemed to us like stones and wood, because in the dark we had to move these objects away from us to get comfortable. We had only a ground sheet to lie on; we had no idea where the truck with our portable bedding had gone, nowhere near us that was for sure. Dawn came early and I awoke to see a human skull staring at me, close to my own head. Frank was shouting about the bones that he had been lying on, some ribs and a thighbone. Horrors, human bones all around us.

All over the countryside in the New Territories there were hundreds of burial pots, large urns containing the remains of dead Chinese Citizens. Some had been there for hundreds of years so, yes, there were really a lot of them about. Apparently these stone urns were usually placed in the fields where the deceased person had worked: the more affluent your family the higher you were placed up the hill in your own specially designed urn overlooking where you had toiled for all of your life. What we had unwittingly done in the dead of night was to run over a couple of pots and the contents had spilt across the muddy ground. Not having any light at all meant that we didn't see the chaos we had caused and we innocently spent the night lying amongst some very old skeletons. However, I can tell you, it's no fun waking up with a glistening skull grinning at you from a distance of a few centimeters!

A Royal Artillery Regiment is part of a Brigade and, as such, the R.A. supported Infantry Battalions in the general logistics of an engagement with the enemy. The particular Infantry Battalion that our Battery supported, was a Battalion of The Kings Own Scottish Borderers, which, of course, was, my Dad's old Regiment in WWI. Considering that my battery, Abu Klea, 176, was my Uncle (the war hero) Fred's Battery also in the First World War, this was a bit weird to say the least. 176 Battery had, in fact, actively supported the KOSBs recently in Korea and as such there was a very close bond between us all. Similarly, 70 Battery, also part of the 45th Field Regiment and living alongside us in our huts, had supported the heroic Gloucesters in their epic battle on the Imjim River in Korea. So, wherever we went and whatever we did there was always a bond between us all. I was very proud to be part of this brotherhood.

Continued next page

Army life on the Chinese border and Coronation Day 1953 *from previous page*

And so, in June '53, as the celebration of the Queen's Coronation drew closer, it was planned that the complete Brigade would stage a massive parade and finish with a party to commemorate this historic occasion. It was decided that the parade would take place along the airstrip and the officer commanding the Brigade, a Brigadier whose name escapes me right now, would take the salute! For us it meant work! We were to have a Regimental inspection on that day and by that I mean that all our kit had to be laid out on the bed, smart and military fashion. This is what we had to do. Place cardboard sheets under a blanket on top of our mattress so that the mattress would look and be shaped like a neat flat box. Spare shoelaces and lanyards curled neatly like Catherine Wheels: webbing back-packs packed with paper to be presented square and in line with everything else on your bed and, again, box like: mess tins and mugs cleaned with caustic soda and then polished so that you could see your face in them: blankets rolled into an envelope around folded sheets; the complete assembly placed at the top of the bed. The uniforms you were not wearing, to be cleaned and folded exactly the same size as each other. Shirts had to be rolled into a cylinder and placed again on the bed in a pyramid of shirts. I wonder what the collective name for them would be? A swaddle of shirts! At the time of the inspection you had to stand by your bed at attention whilst this partly inebriated officer waltzed past making inane comments about the room and your presentation. At the same time this officer's own room in the officers' mess would be in a shambles, according to Frank who occasionally had to go in and tidy it up if it was laundry day and Frank also had the job to get the dirty laundry to the Dhobies.

Coronation Day itself, despite what I said above, was quite a memorable day. Inspection over we all paraded along the airstrip although our two troops were way back in the procession. I was in the leading Jeep with Major Findlayson and two others, heading E and F Troop with their guns, limbers and quads, guns four abreast. We were the last of the Artillery Batteries and the Infantry Battalions followed us with the RAF contingent bringing up the rear. It was eyes-right for the salute to the Brigadier as we passed the podium; he was perched on a superb white charger looking very imperialistic in his ceremonial uniform. There was no party for us 'ordinary' soldiers afterwards although two or three cases of free beer were brought into our hut that evening after a special commemorative meal for the officers in the mess hall was finished.

One of the F troop lads was quite a character, not always good though because he was often locked up in the Regimental prison compound for various non-criminal misdeeds. On this Coronation evening we were left completely to ourselves whilst the officers and NCOs lived it up with their special commemorative dinner and a 'knees up'. Someone challenged this lad with a bet for him to go out to where the Brigadier's horse was stabled and jump up and ride it back to our billet. Believe it or not, this lad not only did just that, but also actually led this beautiful white horse right into the hut, gave it a bottle of beer, a cake and a bun and then rode it back again. All this was done without the deed being discovered. There was no one around to notice, but to us 'other ranks' this was simply hilarious and you can imagine the cheering and hooting going on whilst all this was taking place. As I said, I can't remember this fellow's name but I do recall that he was in trouble the very next day. Not for the horse 'borrowing' business but for the fact that his bed, made up for the inspection, had the mattress top squared off with timber underneath the top sheet. It looked perfectly rectangular! The problem was that the timber that he had used was the table tennis table from our mess and he had sawn it up neatly to size! Back to the compound for him quick march! The lad was shipped back home very soon after that episode.

So, I do remember Coronation Day the 2nd of June 1953, very well indeed. I also remember this day because of the news we received, that on May 29th Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay had conquered Mount Everest. Added to that, the news that in the same week, the champion jockey of Great Britain, Gordon Richards, had been knighted and, after

Bayles Fauna Park

Working Bee

Sunday, 12 June

9am start followed by a BBQ lunch

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

Next Meeting

Sunday, 12th June,
after the working bee

All welcome

many years of trying, had at last won 'The Derby' horse race at Epsom Downs. After all this excitement it was back to the old routine of guard duties, exhausting and testing maneuvers, border duties watching and ducking the Chinese bullets but also some rest and recuperation with off-duty trips to Kowloon and Hong Kong.

Doing all these maneuvers with no time or facilities to wash properly or shower, it will be no surprise to know that we suffered from quite a number of irritating skin diseases. On one exercise we were deliberately kept short of water and I recall washing and shaving in just a mug full of the precious liquid, quite a feat I would say. Often the temperature would be high with humidity near 98% and wearing the same clothes for two or three days or more at a time and not being able to wash oneself caused lots of skin problems to us all. The most common complaint was 'prickly heat' and I even had bouts of this long after I had left the army.

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Army life on the Chinese border and Coronation Day 1953

from page 11

The worst affliction of all was 'Tinea Pedis', a fungus type of disease usually forming between the toes and called 'athlete's foot'. However it could hardly be called that when the fungal rash was in your armpit or worse still around your crutch area! Wow! Here it was called 'Tinea Cruris' or colloquially 'Dhobi Itch'. This type of infection was very common and happened to me. The treatment at that time was painting the area with disinfectant and cooling liquids such as Iodine, Aqua-flavine, Gentian Violet and Calamine lotion. After a visit to the Medical Officer we always paraded in front of our mates to see who had the most colourful genitals! White Calamine was used on the more tender parts followed by Gentian Violet followed by the deep yellow of Aqua-flavine and Iodine used on the more tougher regions. A rainbow had nothing on us!

R&R trips to Kowloon and Hong Kong did not fall easily into the plans of our organisers; nevertheless we managed to get one in about once every three weeks. Now that the road over the mountains was open, the time it took our truck to get there had considerably decreased. It was a chance to go to the cinema, get a decent haircut, visit a bar and get sloshed with your mates, go to a restaurant or simply walk up and down Nathan Road shopping, or take a trip over to Hong Kong island on the ferry. For the single lads it was a chance to fraternise with the oriental ladies and admire them in their traditional straight silk dresses with the split skirt. Remember this was 1953 - and Woolwich, our headquarters in the UK, had nothing like this to offer then! The other option was to go to the nearest village, a small town really, called 'Yuen Long'. Here you could do most of the things that you could do downtown except it was all in miniature: small bars, small cafes, small shopping etc but not small ladies! During our family visit to Hong Kong years later in 1973 we joined a bus tour that passed through Yuen Long. No longer was it a village; there were skyscrapers now, where in 1953 there were just wooden shacks. An amazing transformation: I am told today that the area is a thriving metropolis.

Finally, a little story about a certain night in Yuen Long for you: the storm water drains around our camp in Sek Kong were open trenches with tiny bridges built over them for access and walking etc. Off each hut the rain spilt into shallow gullies and these gullies connected to larger trenches, which in turn connected to the main drain outside of the camp boundary. The main drain was the size of a UK canal and ran parallel to the road all the way to Yen Long and beyond, before discharging its water into the sea or the reservoir, I know not. One of the characters of our camp coming back from the town got himself somewhat drunk one night in Yuen Long and bet his mates that he could swim up the canal back to camp, enter the camp along the connecting open trench under and bypassing the guardroom, and reach his hut without being caught by the guard. He actually managed to complete this feat and finished the task swimming in just 150ml of water by the time he reached shouting distance of his hut.

A couple of days later I injured my leg whilst I was on border duty at the forward gun positions along the Sham Chun river border. Climbing up on to the back of a truck I slipped, and my left shinbone was badly gouged on the upright tailboard. It didn't look good at all. There was blood all over the place, so I reported to Bombardier Brown who was in charge of the first aid tent. Bdr. Brown was one of the Battery clerks and he was a veteran of the Korean campaign. He was very small in stature, a bit of moaner and very concerned about his own importance in the scheme of things. He rose up to his full height when I entered the tent and started shouting and issuing instructions to his offside to "break out the dressings". I sat down and pulled up my trouser leg to reveal the wound. Bdr. Brown immediately fainted on the spot and our relative positions were suddenly reversed. Here was Geoffrey now giving resuscitation to the first aid provider whilst my own injury was leaking blood all over the place. Eventually we applied a field dressing to my injury and I was driven back to Sek Kong and straight into the medical Centre. The M.O. neatly stitched the broken flesh together and I was deemed fit for 'light duties only'. Within two or three days the knee on my right leg erupted in a multi-headed boil called a carbuncle, and it was said, that this was due to an infection of the stitched wound. Maybe, who knows, but it was painful and debilitating. I was given this new fangled anti-biotic called 'seclophen' (first on the market just three years earlier in 1950) and it soon went to work and I was back to normal within a couple of weeks.

The toilet facilities were pretty crude at Sek Kong when we first arrived there although I have to say they were improved somewhat after this little episode I will tell you about. The urinals were just tin bowls screwed to the wall but for you to do other things the set up was extraordinary. Imagine, if you can, a large diameter earthenware pipe about 360 ml diameter with three tee joints. To each tee joint there was a wooden seat fitted; this made three makeshift outdoor toilets and had to cater for about 150 users. Over the top of each pipeline tee there was a wooden shelter frame with a door that gave some privacy. The flush system was automatic and fitted outside at the start of this large pipe and operated from a tank that slowly filled and then about every hour it would flush out what was in the earthenware pipe. One day, whilst the three toilets were occupied, some joker put a flaming petrol soaked rag at one end and lit it! This flaming rag then floated down the pipe past three bare bums and caused mayhem and very loud shouts indeed from the three lads innocently sitting there!

I was stationed at Sek Kong just over a year.

Geoff Stokes

A black and white photograph showing a large, multi-rotor drone in flight over a vast field of corn. The drone is positioned in the upper center of the frame, with its four propellers blurred from motion. The cornfield below is densely packed with plants, and the horizon is visible in the distance under a clear sky.

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Lions Club of Koo Wee Rup and District Inc.

As we come to the end of another year, the Lions Club of Koo Wee Rup and District looks back on a period of great challenge where the pandemic has made the activities of volunteer organisations such as ours, so difficult and challenging.

The club was hoping to run a newcomers and neighbours dinner to help new residents to assimilate into our community. It had to be postponed due to lockdown restrictions.

We hope to run the event in the coming spring to give new residents the chance to learn about the goods and services available in our remarkable community in a way that allows them to meet our retailers and service providers. We will also take the opportunity to introduce them to the not for profit groups they can rely on for that improvement in quality of life for which we all search.



It wasn't all bad. We were able to work with other groups in KWR to run the Carols by Candlelight at Cochrane Park where our performers were able to entertain 2,500 residents. The night was full of music, fun and fireworks. We plan to run Carols again on the 10th of December this year.

Australia Day, the Lang Lang Rodeo and the KWR RSL Dawn Service also went to plan giving us confidence in planning future events for the benefit of our community. As we record this report, we are preparing a free sausage sizzle to assist the local RSL to celebrate 101 years of service to the local community and returned army, navy and airforce personnel to whom we owe so much. 101 years of service by this dedicated team who epitomise unselfish service over a century of dedication.

This year we have welcomed many new members to our Lions Club. People who bring new ideas and enthusiasm to our activities. If you want to share your ideas to create a better local community, please give us a call.

Contact membership chairman Ron Payne on 5997 1916. You will be invited to a project or meeting of the club where you be able to see what we do and how we contribute to our community. New residents will find it particularly rewarding to meet local families and assimilate into the community of Koo Wee Rup and surrounding area. We would welcome your contact.



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April / May Report

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 \$425,000 39 Shelton Park

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Koo Wee Rup

\$680,000 13 Nunn Street
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Koo Wee Rup

131 Moody Street
 21 Shelton Park Drive

Lang Lang

37 James Street
 34 Station Street

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Koo Wee Rup

34 Bailey Boulevard
 \$650,000 - \$695,000
 53 Prestons Road (5.8 Acres)
 \$1,500,000 - \$1,650,000

Lang Lang

19 Clarks Road
 \$760,000 - \$795,000
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 \$760,000 - \$820,000

Tooradin

18 Walmac Close
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Keep up to date with news from the Men's Shed.

Our members have been really enjoying the monthly social and pool (billiards) competition night; a great time to get together and have some fun. Even if you cannot play the game very well you will be given lots of help and tips to help you to get the basics of this truly fun time competition. In no time at all you will be playing like an old hand at the game. So ... if you haven't joined us yet or have not been along to enjoy this great night out, come along on the first Friday evening of every month and have a go.

Our Friday lunchtime café is still very popular too and going from strength to strength which is good news for us all. Last week the main dish presented was lasagna and the week before it was a spit roast beef cooked in the good old fashioned way. Also on the menu, as they are every week, are pies, sausage rolls, dim sims, fresh fruit and a delightful dessert to accompany your main course. There is also soup and rolls for the colder days. Don't be too late though because we often run out of these goodies quite quickly.

Another interesting piece of news for you is the recently set up partnership between the Men's Shed and the Seymour Whyte Construction Engineering Company who are building the Healesville-Koo-Wee-Rup Road upgrade during the next 18 months. The Men's Shed is working with them to build several Bandicoot habitats along the road for the animal's use and shelter during and after construction of this new road.

Finally a lathe for turning steel and other metals has been installed in the new and separate metal work shed. We look forward to showing off some of the members' work from the lathe in the future. If you are interested in having a go come and have a chat with George Fittock; he is at the shed most days.

Now ... I am sure most of you have read the following paragraph before or something very similar. However the population of Koo-Wee-Rup and District is increasing daily and this next bit is really aimed at the people who are new to our town and maybe have never heard of our Men's Shed and all that we offer. So ... for those of you who are new to the area, the Koo-Wee-Rup Men's Shed continues to grow in stature and it is now recognized as one of the very best in Victoria 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 or even beyond, take note that all of our very friendly members will give you a real warm welcome as you come through the door; especially our very friendly John Farmer who has a permanent seat right next to the door! Just say, "Hello John" and he will look after you and guide you through your first five minutes and then you are here with us, a budding member. 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, come and have a look for yourself! If you want to know more, just watch this space!

I saw the strangest protest sign whilst driving to Pakenham the other day. I know all the construction along the KWR-Healesville Road can be inconvenient but ... seriously ... "End Road Work"?

Geoff Stokes

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Cardinia Shire Council is hosting a community event to recognise World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on Wednesday 15 June at the Cardinia Cultural Centre in Pakenham.

The United Nations (UN) recognises June 15 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) to raise awareness and knowledge of elder abuse and the various ways it can affect the community. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day brings together senior citizens, caregivers, and local government to combat elder abuse.

Cardinia Shire Council continues its commitment to tackle elder abuse through the Together We Can initiative. Everyone can help stop, prevent and end family violence in Cardinia Shire by reporting older citizens subjected to violence, coercion or abuse. Family Violence, including elder abuse, does not discriminate between age, ability, culture or sexual orientation. As a community, Cardinia Shire residents can help to create a safe community that values equality and respect.

Join Council at this free community event at the Cardinia Cultural Centre on Wednesday 15 June from 10.00am to 11.30am.

The event will include a special guest speaker from Seniors Rights Victoria who will talk to 'Protecting Your Rights' and cover elder abuse, risk, prevention and where to get support and assistance.

The event will also include a complimentary morning tea and a FREE pop-up COVID-19 vaccination bus on-site until 1pm. Older residents are encouraged to get vaccinated.

Bookings are essential. Call Cardinia Cultural Centre directly on 1300 887 624 or online at <https://CARDINIA.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/53343>

For more information about this event please contact Cardinia Cultural Centre on 1300 887 624 or visit Council's website at www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/elderabuse or email ageingwell@cardinia.vic.gov.au

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Koo Wee Rup RSL Report

By Rodney Edwards (President)

Now that ANZAC Day is over our next priority is our belated 100th Birthday Celebration. Koo Wee Rup & District RSL actually turned 100 last year however, like everything “due to Covid” we weren’t able to celebrate in a way befitting our club, so we deferred it to the 28th May this year. By the time everybody reads this we will have had the event, so we hope at the time of writing this report that lots of people support us and enjoy the day. We will have a more detailed report and photos next month. As we have been busy organising the day and selling ANZAC badges throughout April and of course organising our Dawn Service and other small services at the local footy matches, we are all looking forward to a rest after this! But not for too long as we are moving forward in earnest with the planning and procurement of our new premises – stay tuned over the next few months for more information!

We were extremely happy with the money raised from the sale of ANZAC badges and would like to sincerely thank everybody who purchased badges or simply gave us a donation, this money will be used to help veterans and their families in the Koo Wee Rup district.

For anybody who is new to town and is interested in joining the RSL we meet at 13-15 Station Street (next to the Shell service station) on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm, we usually have a quick meeting then afterwards share supper. We would love to welcome any new members who are either ex-service men or women and people who would like to join as an Affiliate member – that is anybody who has a relative who served in any of the military services, so if you’re interested or would like more information please contact our Secretary (Bev Edwards) at kooweerup.rsl@gmail.com.

That’s all for now.

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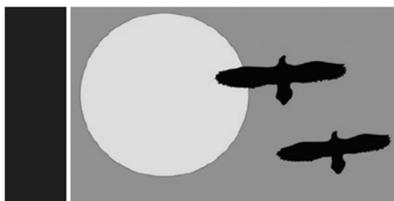


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Please don't hesitate to contact Chris, Emma and their team, they are always happy to help.

In your time of need,

#REMEMBER BREMBER

St John's Primary School

Term Two is in full swing with so many wonderful things happening around the school.

Our Mother's Day breakfast was another wonderful success, we had lots of Mothers, Grandmas, Nannas and Aunties in to share breakfast with their children. We continued on the day with Cross Country and we were very lucky with the weather. All our students should be so proud of the resilience shown throughout the Cross Country. Congratulations to Cremin House who won the day. We had 40 students go on to District Cross Country which was a fantastic effort. We ended our day with a Mother's Day Liturgy. It was so lovely to see our families join us all together in the Church.

On Tuesday 24th March the school participated in a National Reconciliation Week liturgy. It was a time for us to reflect on our Indigenous culture and to understand what



Reconciliation means and how we can live out the Gospel message 'to love one another'.

Our students are currently completing a six day swimming program at King Swim. Students are being taught stroke technique while learning about being safe around water.

Enrolment tours and interviews are currently taking place for 2023. If you would like to visit the school for your child please make an appointment with our Principal Chris Dortmans-59971653.



KOO WEE RUP
Primary School

'Footsteps into Foundation 2023'

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

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

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

Our 'Footsteps into Foundation' transition program has been established for new Foundation enrolments as a bridge between kindergarten and primary school. The program involves 9 planned transition sessions as well as a parent information session. As Principal of Koo Wee Rup Primary School, I invite you to visit our welcoming and friendly school and see for yourself the high quality teaching and learning programs on offer for all students.

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



Term 3 Transition (2:15-3:15pm)

Wednesday 27th July

Wednesday 10th August

Wednesday 24th August

Wednesday 7th September

Term 4 Transition (1:45-3:15pm)

Wednesday 12th October

Wednesday 26th October

Wednesday 9th November

Wednesday 23rd November

State-wide Transition (9am - 1pm)

Tuesday 6th December



Moody Street, Koo Wee Rup 3981
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1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group

1 Mickle St, Koo Wee Rup VIC 3981

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

Joey's – 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 – 7:00 to 9:00pm Thursday



Joey scouts have been learning all about Australian animals for the last couple of weeks and they are all looking forward to their Winter Wonderland sleepover in a few weeks.

Cub scouts have started planning their adventures for Term 3 and can't wait for Camp Cretaceous in June.

Scouts have been keeping warm by a fire and cooking up some tasty snacks.

Venturers are busy getting their den painted and making plans for an upcoming camp.

Rovers have just had a camp and spent their night by a campfire. Our newest Rover was invested by camp fire light.



We had a great day at on Election day cooking up Democracy Sausages.

We are looking for more adult members.

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.

Pie Drive Fundraiser

Contact Bec if you would like to order some pies, slices, or donuts.
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1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group
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 Method of payment to check: Request by 1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group committee: 0950 633 300
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 Or Order Name and Cash and give the Party Name at the table.
 Orders will need to be placed on an **Thursday 23rd June**
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 (Check items in column and are available to place your order)
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NAME:	Phone Number:
Plain Steak	
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Steak & Onion	
Steak & Cheese	
Steak & Curry	
Steak & Pepper	
Steak, Cheese & Bacon	
Steak, Onion & Cheese	
Steak & Potato	
Chicken, Lamb & Chive	
Card/Bacon & Brussel	
Potato & Lamb	
Egg & Bacon Quiche	
Sausage & Roast Quiche	

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Dessert Pies, Donuts and Slices

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Apricot Pie	\$14.00
Minced Berry Pie	\$14.00
Apple Strudel Pie	\$14.00
Custard and Apple Pie	\$14.00
Peppermint Slice - 6 pack	\$8.00
Carrot Slice - 6 pack	\$8.00
Lemon Slice - 6 pack	\$8.00
Cherry Pie Slice - 6 pack	\$8.00
Hedgehog Slice - 6 pack	\$8.00
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Custard & Jam - 6 pack	\$8.00
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The latest news from the Consumer Advisory Committee

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) met on the 17th of May in the Education room at Koo Wee Rup Regional Health Service (KRHS). Most of the committee were there in person but one or two members with Covid contact problems joined in the discussions via Zoom.

Our guest speaker of the day was Anka Koch-Duecker, our resident senior physiotherapist, and her subject was "Live well physiotherapy at KRHS". Anka provided the committee with a comprehensive insight into the workings of her department, explaining the levels of help provided to patients to keep them healthy and pain free. This treatment is not only for the residents of KRHS but also for the general public with the necessary medical referral. Her explanatory talk was enlightening for everyone because Anka covered areas of therapeutic care and treatment which normally one doesn't associate with physiotherapy. Her very interesting talk was delivered well and was so easy to understand.

Noni Bourke, the CEO of KRHS, gave details of the education program for new nurses and new employees of KRHS and told the meeting about the intention to invite the chair of this committee to talk to the participants about consumer partnerships and the CAC at their next orientation meeting. She also discussed the ongoing generation of the upcoming 'Strategic Plan' for the hospital. In other matters discussed there was an update of the KRHS forthcoming accreditation procedure and the magnificent work that Annie Barwise has done with the visual presentation that will be made to the Health Department inspectors when they arrive unannounced later this month. Aileen Thoms, Primary Health & Innovation Director, opened a discussion on the Diversity Committee and Gender Equality within the hospital and in the community. This brought out the experiences of some of the members and the devastating effect it had on its victims. A general discussion then took place on the impacts and the ongoing work to ameliorate and improve the general public's knowledge of this basic human right - that we should all be treated equally no matter how we present ourselves. There were no further Consumer problems to be discussed.

To our regular readers of these CAC reports, the next paragraphs you see you will have read them before I am sure but, remember, the population of KWR is increasing rapidly and our new residents and friends might not know what the CAC does or what it set up to do. For those of you who are not quite sure, or maybe you really 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, information, 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 as a consumer/customer, 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 KRHS CAC. Simply phone KRHS on 5997 9679 or Geoff Stokes on 0435 085 002. Or you can email: geoffreystokes@geoffstokes.com Your email will be acknowledged.

Geoff Stokes.

Low-cost cat desexing now available

Cardinia Shire Council, the National Desexing Network and local veterinary clinics are encouraging cat-owners to take part in a subsidised desexing program for cats.

Cardinia Shire residents on pensions or low incomes will pay just \$50 to desex their cats. The subsidy is funded by a Victorian Government Animal Welfare Fund grant.

The program is managed by the National Desexing Network and residents who need support should phone the network on 1300 368 992 to find out if they are eligible.

If eligible, you will be issued a desexing voucher before booking an appointment at one of the following participating vet clinics:

- Our Vet, Pakenham
- Gembrook Vet Clinic
- Emerald Vet Clinic

The program closes on 30 June 2022.

To find out whether you are eligible, phone the National Desexing Network on 1300 368 992.



Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup-Lang Lang
Community

**Who can we help?
How can you help us?**

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

Email: rckooweeruplanglang@gmail.com
Phone: 0499 101 953

KOO WEE RUP
turningpoint
CHURCH

CHURCH
Services Times

Every Sunday Morning | 10:30AM
Sunday Evening Services TBC
335 Rossiter Rd, Koo Wee Rup VIC 3981
Office Open Mon, Wed & Fri | 9.30AM - 3.00PM
(03) 5997 2217

For more information visit
TURNINGPOINTCHURCH.ORG.AU/KOOWEERUP

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www.turningpointchurch.org.au/kooweerup



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www.turningpointchurch.org.au/kooweerup



MANAGING COVID-19
AT HOME?

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SUPPORT

Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9.30am - 3pm

- Free food delivery for those isolating at home for testing positive to COVID-19*
- Information helpline
- Support services
- Assistance with finding available government financial help

*Must show proof of confirmation messages from Department of Health

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kooweerup@turningpoint.asn.au

KW4K
KOO WEE 4 KIDS



FRIDAYS | 6PM - 8PM | \$3 PER CHILD OR \$5 A FAMILY
PRIMARY SCHOOL AGES
Turningpoint Koo Wee Rup Church
335 Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup

Speak to Jon and Patrina for more information 03 5997 2217
www.turningpointchurch.org.au/kooweerup





The Ziggy tribe

It's been a while since we showed our faces on here, so we thought we'd pop in to say hello

Whether you're a long time client or looking for a new salon, we thought we'd show you the faces behind Ziggy Hair Artistry.

Our talented little team has a diverse background in hairdressing (some even internationally!) but no matter how much experience we have, we all have one thing in common.

And that's our absolute passion for what we do!

On top of that, we are also a little family that have so much fun together but also help and support one another to ensure we do our best every single day.

They say you never work a day in your life if you love what you do. And we couldn't agree more.

Let's hear what some of our amazing clients are saying about us

Patricia Chandler

I love coming to family Ziggys. All the girls from apprentice to manager love what they do, They ensure you walk out looking your best, create a friendly and family environment by asking and knowing how you and your family are going, promote new colour or styles or in my case up blow wave. I come every week for nearly 2 years now because after 30 years I have finally found my forever hair dressers. ZIGGYS IS IT FOR ME. No more going here and there. Don't hesitate ring them. Book in. Wait if you must for your appointment its worth it.

Danielle Symons

Always a great time at Ziggy's, such a fun and vibrant atmosphere! Not only are you great at what you do, you genuinely care about your clients!

Carole Holland

After moving to a new area it's always daunting finding a new salon that you feel comfortable with, and with Ziggy's I found that feeling immediately. Always a friendly and welcoming environment 😊 well done to you all 😊

Did you know that Ziggy Hair is now Wednesday Thursday & Every 2nd Friday till 9pm

Book Online at www.ziggyhair.com

59971 972

30 Station st



Koo Wee Rup Community Centre

247 Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup

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

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

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

MAIN FUNCTION ROOM

Cocktails, conferences and seminars – 250 seat capacity

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

SWAMP ROOM 25 seat capacity

TOWER ROOM 10 seat capacity

Enquiries to kwrhall@gmail.com or 5997 2001

**Bookings subject to Committee approval*



There is still plenty to do at Outlook Community Centre for Term 2. You or someone you know may benefit from the valuable information from our Aged Care sessions. We also have some terrific craft classes to get your creative juices flowing, or why not try Laughter Yoga, (we all need a good laugh!). Outlook also offers First Aid courses each term for your convenience to help you to be certified for work or recreation. Our social groups are ongoing and can be viewed along with other available courses on the Outlook website www.outlookaust.org.au/book-online .

Everyone is welcome. 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

Aged Care Sessions

Supported by COTA Victoria and My Aged Care



Aged Care: Be Informed Be Prepared - Session One

Do you need help to understand and navigate the aged care system – for yourself, a family member or friend? This session will provide an overview of what you need to know during the journey, what types of services are available, how to be prepared for assessment and financial considerations.

Friday 17 June, 10.00am - 12.00pm Cost FREE

Aged Care: Be Informed Be Prepared - Session Two

Join us for a presentation that reflects on how to get support in your home, assessment and services available. This will be followed by an opportunity for individual support to discuss needs and what will work for you. This is a free, confidential service that gives you independent information about home services and how to access them.

Friday 24 June, 9.30am - 12.30pm Cost FREE

Laughter Yoga

Laughter is the best medicine, it boosts your immune system, improves circulation, reduces anxiety and depression, and decreases stress. A fun social class for all round health and wellness. A sense of humour is not required, but you will develop one.

Tuesdays, 6.00pm - 7.00pm Cost Gold Coin Donation

First Aid Courses - Saturday 18 June

Cardinia Shire Volunteer Subsidy may apply if you volunteer in Cardinia Shire and the course will assist you in your position. Please contact the Centre.

Training and assessment provided by Livcor/APL Health RTO provider No. 3586

Some homework prior to classes. USI number required. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (HLTAID009)

9.30am -11.30am Cost \$70 per session

Provide First Aid (HLTAID011)

9.30am - 2.30pm Cost \$175 per session

Provide an Emergency First Aid Response in an Education and Care Setting (HLTAID012)

9.30am – 3.00pm Cost \$175 per session

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.

Tuesday 21 June, 10.00am - 12.00pm Cost FREE

Make Your Own Mini Album

Would you like to make a personalised gift for someone? Or would you like to create a pretty brag book? Or would you like a small album to write down some favourite memories that pair with your photos? Or perhaps a keepsake of a loved one? There are lots of uses for this cute mini album.

All you need to bring is 10-12 4x4” photographs (can be 6x4” that we cut down) and yourself. Album, adhesives, embellishments etc. are provided

Friday 17 June, 9.30am - 12.30pm

Cost \$15 plus \$20 materials

Kokedama Workshop – Beginners

Learn how to make your own beautiful Kokedama. Kokedama is an ancient form of Japanese garden art. Koke (moss) dama (ball) they consist of a plant in soil and peat moss formed into a ball, covered in Spaghnum moss then wrapped in twine. Fun and quite easy to make. All equipment provided

Wednesday 22 June, 10.00am - 12.00pm Cost \$35

Card Making

If you are looking for some creative time and social interaction and a chance to make some cards to use for those special events in your life, then this could be the group for you. You will make four different cards that can be tailored through stamping to suit your upcoming card needs. A kit is provided each class. Please BYO adhesives, (including 3D foam and either a glue stick or double sided tape).

Tuesdays commencing 14 June for 2 sessions, 10.00am - 12.00pm Cost \$40

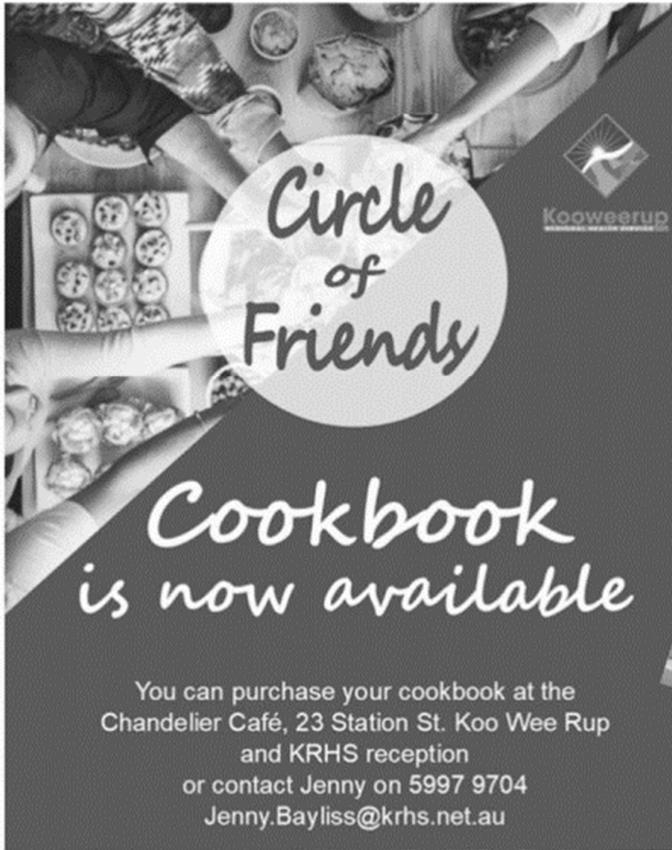


KOOWEE RUP REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

235 Rossiter Rd. Koo Wee Rup. Vic. 3981 Phone: 5997 9679
Email: info@krhs.net.au Website: www.kooweeruphospital.net.au

June 2022

Find us on 



Circle of Friends

Cookbook is now available

You can purchase your cookbook at the Chandelier Café, 23 Station St. Koo Wee Rup and KRHS reception or contact Jenny on 5997 9704 Jenny.Bayliss@krhs.net.au

Cook Connect Community



Circle of Friends

Over the last 2 years KRHS has continued to improve health and wellbeing throughout our community and it is with pleasure we present to you a very joyous and successful project; the Circle of Friends, Cook, Connect, Community, Cookbook.

We engaged with residents of KRHS, locals, farms and businesses across the shire, to bring together a visual feast of recipes, stories and beautiful photographs which connect you to the Cardinia Shire.

Thank-you to our sponsors; Cardinia Shire, Sustainable table and KRHS and noting support from the Cardinia food movement.

The cookbook is \$35.00 each and is available from KRHS reception, the Chandelier Café or order through Jenny 5997 9704

Jenny.Bayliss@KRHS.net.au



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

BRENDON'S



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CONVEYANCING RESOLUTIONS

Conveyancing Resolutions is excited to announce their new office at **150 Station Street, Koo Wee Rup.**

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

- Section 32 Vendor's Statements
- Auction Contracts
- Contract & Section 32 reviews
- Related Party Transfers
- Subdivisions
- Residential & Commercial transactions

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

1300 764 773 or info@conveyancingresolutions.com.au

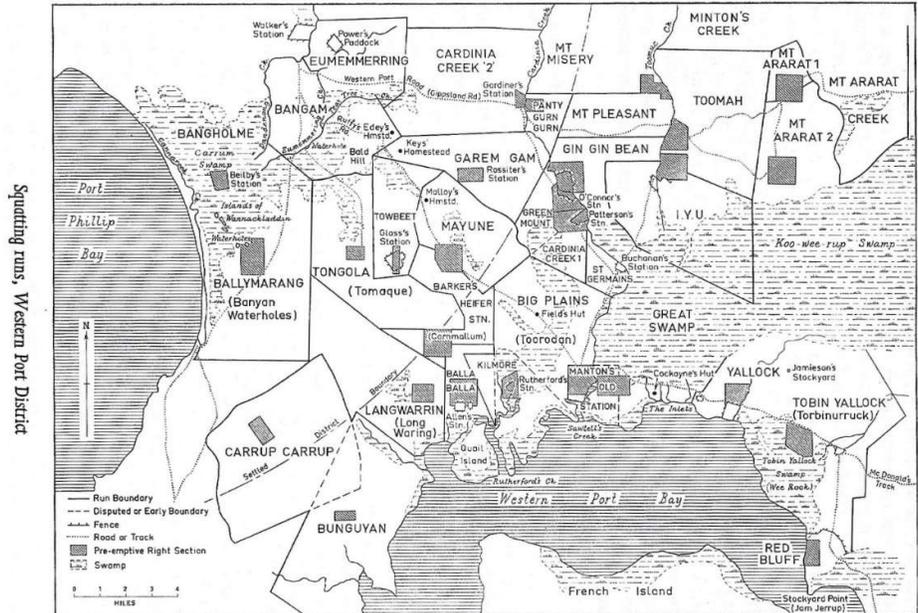
A short history of Tooradin

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

Some of the earliest Europeans who passed through Tooradin were Samuel Rawson and Robert Jamieson. They took up the Yallock Run, at the northern end of Western Port, in November 1839. They over-landed their cattle and goods to Tooradin from Melbourne and were then blocked by the undrained Koo Wee Rup Swamp, so used Sawtell's Inlet to Tooradin as their port and continued on by boat. For the same reason, other land owners from further around Western Port Bay at Red Bluff, Grantville, Queensferry and Corinella also used Tooradin until the Western Port Road (South Gippsland Highway) was built around 1860.

The Tooradin area was part of the Toorodan Run of 16,000 acres (6,475 hectares) taken up by Frederick and Charles Manton in 1840. Edwin Sawtell, a Melbourne merchant, had an interest in this run, before the Manton Brothers took it over. He is the source of the name of Sawtell's Inlet. Sawtell died at the age of 95 in 1892. The town took its name from Manton's Toorodan run and is an Aboriginal word for "swamp monster" or "bunyip."

1851 saw the arrival of Mickle, Bakewell and Lyall in the area. John Mickle (1814-1885) and John Bakewell (1807-1888) were business partners in Melbourne from 1847 and they were soon joined by William Lyall (1821-1888) whose sister Margaret was married to John Mickle. They had numerous runs in the Western district and in 1851, they acquired the leases of the Yallock and Tobin Yallock and Red Bluff Stations; in 1852 Manton's Toorodan run and in 1854 they acquired the Great Swamp run, all in all about 27,000 acres, which they collectively called their Western Port runs. After the partnership split, the land was divided between the three partners with Lyall receiving part of Yallock Station. Lyall and his wife, Annabella, built *Harewood* house, just out of Tooradin, on this property. The construction of *Harewood* started around 1857 and the property remained in the Lyall family until the 1960s. *Harewood* is of State Significance. Mickle, Bakewell and Lyall and their descendants are remembered in Tooradin, Cranbourne and Koo Wee Rup where streets are named in their honour.



The Squatting Runs, Western Port showing Toorodun, Mantons, Yallock runs etc. Image: *The Good Country: Cranbourne Shire* by Niel Gunson (Cheshire, 1968), p.50.

Early land sales in the township of Tooradin took place in 1869, but it wasn't until the 1870s that the township took off

and most of the Tooradin township lots were sold in the 1880s. In January 1870, John Steer applied for a Beer Licence for his Bridge Inn. John Steer died in May 1876 and the Hotel was taken over by Matthew Evans in 1877. Later publicans included Larry Basan who took over the licence in 1888 and rebuilt the hotel in 1895. The hotel was demolished in 2016. The other Tooradin Hotel, the Sherwood Hotel, which was closer towards Cranbourne (near the Tooradin-Tyabb Road), had opened in 1869. The Sherwood Hotel was deprived of its licence on December 31 1917, after a 'Deprivation Sitting' of the Licenses Reduction Board and has been demolished.



The Sherwood Hotel, 1907. The Licensee, whose name is listed over the door, is John Lambell. Image: Cranbourne Shire Historical Society

Continued next page

A short history of Tooradin *from previous page*

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

A tender to construct the Tooradin State School was accepted in October 1874 and the School officially opened on April 12, 1875 with Mrs Adelaide Dredge as the teacher. John Woodfield Thrupp opened a store around 1875. The Post Office and a store operated by Mr F.M Woolley opened in August 1877. He only lasted a year and the Store was taken over by



The original Tooradin Mechanics' Institute Image - Mickle, David (complier) Tooradin: a history of a Sportsman's Paradise, 1875-1975 (Tooradin 'Back to' Committee, 1975)

Mr G. Walker, and in 1898 by Frederick Atyeo. Two years later, his son George, took over and added a coffee palace. To meet the spiritual needs of the residents, Anglican Church services were held from 1875, most likely in the School, and from 1883 in the Hall until the Christ Church was built in 1900. The Catholic Church, St Peters, was built in 1922, services also having been previously held in the Mechanics' Institute. The Church is now part of St Peters College at Cranbourne.

The Tooradin Mechanics' Institute had officially opened on Boxing Day, 1882. The

current Hall was built in 1938, having replaced the original hall, which burnt down the previous year. Another boost to Tooradin was the construction of the Great Southern Railway, which reached Tooradin in October 1888. It was extended from Tooradin to Loch in November 1890. The Station was a few kilometres north of the town and the source of the road name Tooradin Station Road.

As the town developed, community groups were established – in the 1920s the Country Women's Association; the Fire Brigade started in 1945; the Infant Welfare Centre opened in 1949 and ten years later the Kindergarten; the Scout Group was established in 1964. The Tooradin Dalmore Football Club started in 1919 and the Netball Club in 1954. An Avenue of Honour of flowering gums to commemorate the World War One soldiers was planted in 1922.

Matthew Evans (1836-1909) was an early resident of Tooradin. He had purchased land in 1869 and built *Bay View* house in the early 1870s. He also purchased other blocks in Tooradin, some of which he sub-divided and sold around 1887 or 1888. Evans, as we saw before, was the owner of the Bridge Inn for a time and was a Cranbourne Shire Councillor from 1879 to 1881, a trustee of the Mechanics' Institute and donated the land for the Anglican Church. Evans built *Isles View*, c.1898 and it is thought that *Bay View* house was shifted to form part of this new house. The Isle to which the name refers to is French Island. Mr Evans is the source of the name of Evans Road. Matthew married Harriet Swelling in 1860 and she sadly died at the age of 21 in 1862. He then married Fanny Sweetnam in 1865 and they had ten children.



Kooweerup
REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

Pilates Term 2 2022

First Class FREE

Chair based class now offered

Re energise exercise at your pace & level. Pilates is suitable for all ages & abilities. Fully vaccinated participants welcome. We work on core strength, balance and resistance.

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

Where: Hewitt Eco House, Kooweerup Regional Health Health Service, 215 Rossiter



Enquiries to Marlene
0429 814 410

Commences:
Saturday 23rd April.

Continued next page

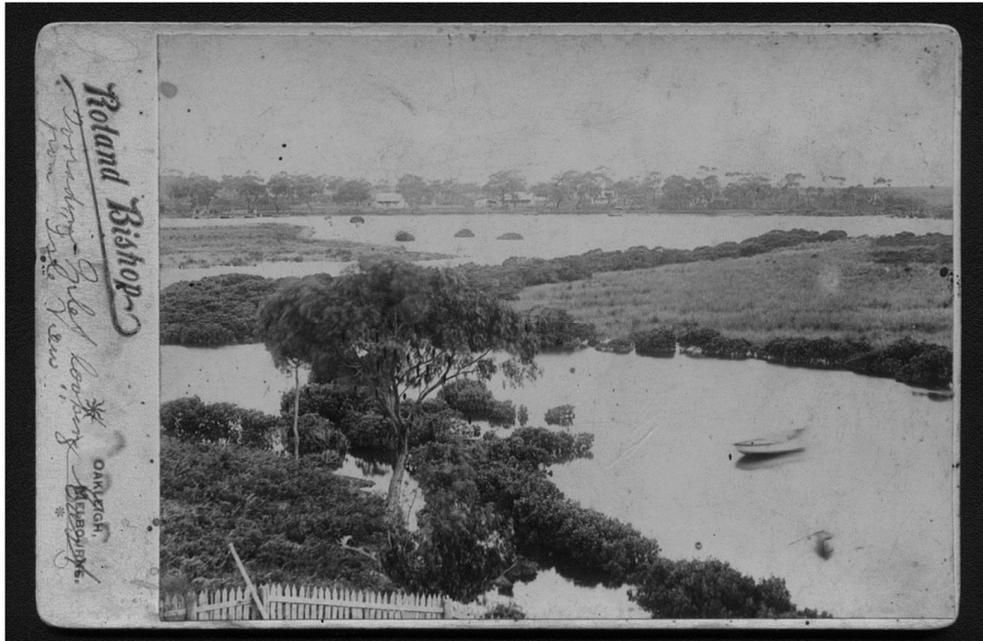
A short history of Tooradin *from previous page*

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

A fleet of fishing boats were also based at Tooradin and some of the earliest settlers were fishermen. David Mickle, in his book *Tooradin: a history of a Sportsman's Paradise, 1875-1975*, wrote that George Casey was the first fisherman and settler, followed by Jimmy Miles and then in 1876 Henry Forman Kernot and his wife, Elizabeth (nee McNaughton) came over from Hastings. Henry and Elizabeth had married in 1861 and they had 12 children.

Their daughter, Isabella Kernot Poole, owned the Fishermans Cottage, on the Foreshore, from 1910 to 1949. It is now the home of the Cranbourne Shire Historical Society. The Cottage is one of the few remaining examples of the fishermen's houses that originally dotted both sides of Sawtell's Inlet in the nineteenth century and early twentieth century. This house is thought to have been built by Matthews Evans and some sources date the construction to c.1873 even though the land was part of the 1887 subdivision. The last of the professional fishermen, Henry Kernot and Arthur Johnstone surrendered their licence in 1999.

Tooradin attracted not only the professional fisherman but the sports fisherman as well. The fishing, plus quail shooting



Tooradin - Looking across Sawtell's Inlet from to the Fishermans Cottage and other houses on the foreshore c. 1900. Image: Cranbourne Shire Historical Society

on Quail Island, deer shooting, cycling club and other typical pursuits of the time gave Tooradin a reputation as a 'Sportsman's Paradise'. This reputation was fostered by the publication of the booklet *Around Tooradin: the Sportsman's Paradise* by Hawkey. It was published, in serial form, in late 1888 and early 1889 to promote the sale of land in the area.

Interesting fact - Tooradin was the birthplace of the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria in 1903. Susan Priestley, in her book *The Crown of the Road: the story of the RACV*, tells us of the formation of the RACV - *On a fine weekend late in September*

1903, a dozen of Melbourne's more prominent wheelmen, who were also proud owners of the new motorized cycles, took their machines on a very pleasant outing to the flat reaches of Tooradin on Westernport Bay... The outing was reported in the *Australian Cyclist*... and the next issue of the journal featured a prominent article on the very singular lack of a motor club in Melbourne. The writer of the article was probably Sydney Day described by Mrs Priestley as a printer by trade but a cyclist and cycling writer at heart. Mrs Priestley says that he was one of the three like-minded friends who claimed to have hatched plans for a motoring club while on that trip to Tooradin. The other members of the trio were James Coleman (manager of a Cycle business) and Henry (Harry) Barton James, advertising manager of Dunlop Pneumatic Tyre Company.

Sources

Much of this information is from *Tooradin: 125 years of coastal history - 1875-2000* State School No.1503 - Blind Bight, Cannon's Creek, Sherwood, Tooradin North, Warneet compiled by John Wells and the "Tooradin Celebrates Together 125 Years of Education Committee" (the Committee, 2001). Sections of this book were originally published in *Tooradin: a history of a sportsman's paradise and the first 100 years of State School No. 1503* compiled by D.J. Mickle and the Tooradin "Back to" Committee (D.J Mickle, 1975)

A version of this article which has footnotes and sources is on my blog

<https://kooweerupswamphistory.blogspot.com/2022/02/tooradin-short-history.html>

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 next meeting is on Wednesday, June 8 at 7.30pm. The Museum generally 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



Horse and carriage rides | Folk music | Kids animal farm | Displays
Historical presentations | Guest speakers | BBQ and sausage sizzle

SUNDAY
19 June 2022
10am onwards

BBQ
Put on by The Lions Clubs,
as well as various food
vendors.

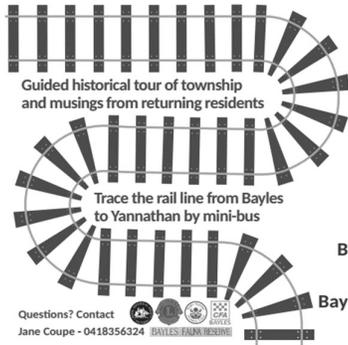
SCHEDULE
ALL DAY Displays, Horse and carriage
rides, Music, Historical guided
walk through the township,
Kids activities (gumboot throw,
animal farm, footy handball).

12PM Ceremony - Bayles Public Hall
Singers from Bayles RPS, Guest
speakers, A special unveiling,
Children's activities, Musings
from past residents.

EVENING
Activities - local film

Open To The Public:

- Bayles Public Hall
- Bayles Regional Primary School
- Bayles Pre-School
- Bayles Service Station
- Bayles Fire Station
- Seventh Day Adventist Church
- Bayles General Store (refreshments)
- Bayles Tennis Club Room
- Bayles Fauna Park (including museum)
- Bandicoot Corner



**KOO WEE
COFFEE CLUB**



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

June	1	Royal Hotel
	15	Chandelier Café
	29	Degani
July	6	Royal Hotel
	20	Chandelier Café
August	3	Royal Hotel
	17	Chandelier Café
	31	Degani



Enquiries ph Jo on 0428 557 411



Koo Wee Coffee Club

Enjoy an afternoon celebrating Claudia's career at
KooWeeRup Secondary College

**CLAUDIA BARKER:
THROUGH THE
DECADES**

June 5th, 2pm
KooWeeRup Secondary Hall

Refreshments, live music, photos,
mingling and reminiscing as well as an
alumni performance to be held at the
F.C. Hooper Hall
before an informal gathering at the
Royal Hotel in KooWeeRup.

TO RSVP PLEASE VISIT:
WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/BZFEK

If you are interested in being part of the alumni band or would like to submit a
video message to Claudia, please email: David.Campbell2@education.vic.gov.au

Need a friend?

*Recently retired?
New to KooWee?*

Join us for,



HAVE A CHAT CHUESDAYS

WHERE? UA Church hall, 348 Rossiter Rd.
WHEN? Tuesday 14th June
And monthly on second Tuesday.
TIME? 2pm-4pm.

**This month's theme is
CHARADES FOR GRANDKIDS..**

*THIS IS AN EASY, FUN GUESSING GAME
requested by those who came last month.
Come and have afternoon tea and a laugh with us
as you learn a game you can play with your kids or
grandkids, you can also make a suggestion of what
you think we could do next month.
We are a non threatening friendly group.
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**