

Merry Christmas

THE KOO WEE RUP BLACKFISH

HAPPY NEW YEAR

DECEMBER 2011/JANUARY 2012

THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES *(Edited Extracts)*

The Township held its AGM and monthly meeting on Wednesday, 2 November. Township Meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 7 December 2011 at 7:30 pm at the Community Centre.

Cr Stuart Halligan reported on a meeting he had held with concerned residents of Boundary Drain Road. Also in attendance were the president and the secretary of the Township Committee, and Mark Howard, Operations Team Leader, Cardinia Shire Council. All had viewed the muck-clogged and smelly roadside drains; much of the offending matter possibly emanating from the effluent discharged by the local worm farm. Cr Halligan said that he would pass his deep concern about the situation to the Shire Council Planning Department and they will report back to him with their findings.

Cr Halligan said that he had recently driven around the town to look at specific maintenance projects and work that has to be done:

- Shelton Park ground maintenance now in order.
- Cochrane Park beautification and additions are now moving along with the arrival of better weather conditions.
- The new Woolworths store is receiving a lot of custom. The Shire Council will lobby for a pedestrian crossing near the Station Street/Moody Street junction to help elderly citizens get to the Woolworths store safely. The crossing should be traffic light controlled. Following discussion, the secretary was asked to write to VicRoads and put the question to them, voicing the concerns of the meeting for the safety of pedestrians especially children and the elderly.
- Required electrical work has been completed at the Senior Citizens building.
- Work on the footpath between the walking track and William Street is at the planning stage and the design is now completed. Soon the project will be put out to tender for a start early in the New Year.

Peter Stevens asked if there could be an anti-vandalism system installed at the clock towers to guard against any wilful destroyers. Ray Brown told the meeting that a hasp and lock had now been affixed to the clock enclosure but they need to be modified to make the clocks a lot safer.

Trevor Hodge complained about trucks using the road near to the Scout hall. They are still causing huge potholes in the roadway by using the bus depot as an entry. Cr Halligan said he would get the Planning and By-laws Department from the Shire Council to investigate.

Lyn van der Hoef asked if there was any news about the situation of the proposed 'rail trail' project. The answer was no, not yet.

The president invited **Edward O'Donahue MLC**, our guest this evening, to address the meeting on the subject of, 'Gas for Koo-Wee-Rup'. Edward thanked the Township Committee for the opportunity to talk to them on this important subject. Before doing this he advised the Township Committee to continually lobby Charlie Broadhurst, Project Director, VicRoads SE Projects & PHE Duplication, about the needed pedestrian crossing outside Woolworths and for road By-Pass updates. He referred to the unfortunate road fatality in Nar Nar Goon and other road traumas over the last few days. He asked everyone to think more and more about safety on our roads.

Many people are disappointed that natural gas is not yet installed into Koo-Wee-Rup. When in opposition only a feasibility study was promised by the Liberal party coalition, whereas for the Road By-pass there was a definite 'yes' for the project. That is still so with \$150k budget allocated for a feasibility study on gas reticulation.

Continued Page 4

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Following last month's AGM, the elected representatives of the Koo Wee Rup

Township Committee are:

President: Frank Cramer

Vice-President: Ray Brown

Secretary: Geoff Stokes

Treasurer: Richard Roach

Committee Members:

Gavin Brock

Ellen Brown

Lou Bucello

Joyce Light

Gus Moore

Jack Nunn

Caroline Roff

Peter Stevens

Carol Vandyk

Frank Worcester

Outdoor artwork

Paintings

Live music

Stalls

- Children's activities (Santa visit, totem pole painting)
- BBQ, tea & coffee
- Prizes



Kooweerup Twilight Art Show and Market

Join us for a
fun evening!

Friday 9th December

4.30pm—8.30pm

Entry by gold coin donation
and receive a raffle ticket

At the Kooweerup Community Garden

215 Rossiter Rd, Kooweerup

For more information please contact

Toby on 5997 9687





KOO WEE RUP FIRE BRIGADE



As this is the last blackfish before the Eastern Districts competition and the town is invaded by a large amount of fire brigade vehicles and personnel. The brigade would like to take this opportunity to thank the local community for their support and to provide you with a brief rundown of the events which will occur during the competition. We would like to see all the community come along and witness this spectacle of fire brigade competition which highlights athleticism, speed, co-ordination and team work.

Saturday 28th January

KooWeeRup Football Oval:

10am: Discipline Contest & Official Opening

Competition Track (between the swimming pool & the bowling club):

12.30pm - Approx 5pm:

The events on day one are:

- Ladder Race for One Competitor
- Marshall for One Competitor
- Marshall for Two Competitors
- Y Coupling for Four Competitors
- Pumper & Ladder for Five Competitors
- Hose, Hydrant & Pumper for Four Competitors

Streets of Koo Wee Rup:

8.45pm:

Torchlight Procession

*Please note the following roads will be closed for approximately 2hrs.

- Station Street between Salmon Street & Rossiter Road
- Moody Street between Station Street & Henry Street
- Henry Street between Moody & Salmon Streets
- Salmon Street
- Gardiner Street between Moody & Salmon Streets

All venues and events are free of charge so please come along and support your local Fire Brigade as they compete against twenty teams from around the Gippsland Region. Having your support there will spur on the home team and give them a boost along the way.

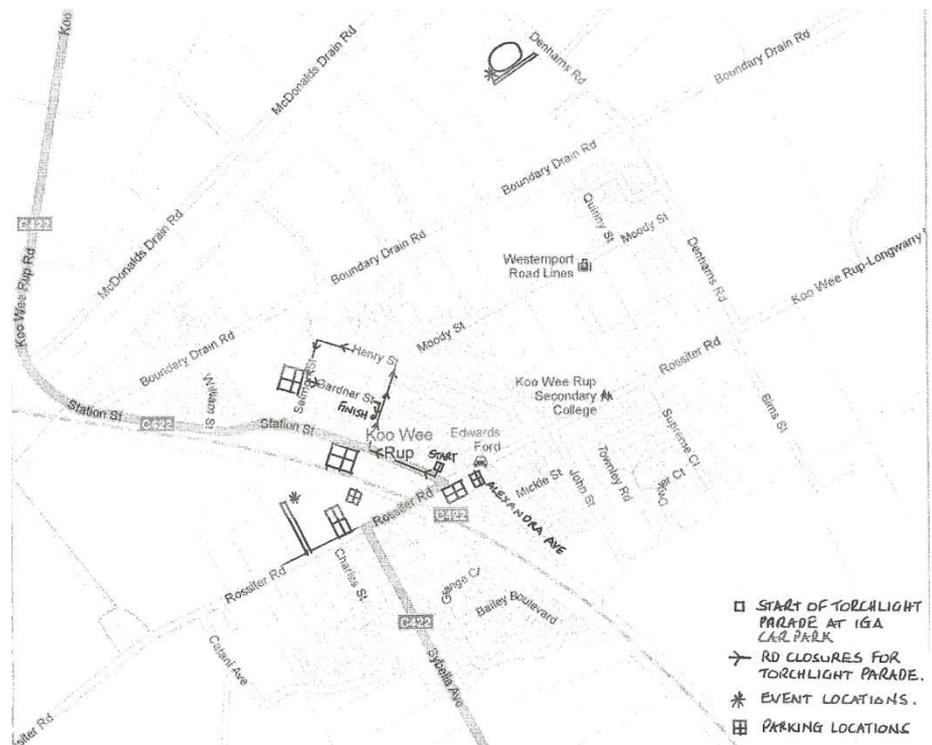
Sunday 29th January

Competition Track:

8.30am - Approx. 4pm:

The events on day two are:

- Hydrant Race for One Competitor
- Hose & Reel for Four Competitors
- Hose & Ladder for Five Competitors
- Hose & Ladder for Eight Competitors
- Hose & Reel for Eight Competitors
- Y Coupling & Ladder for Eight Competitors
- Hose & Reel for Six Competitors
- Champion Fours
- Closing Ceremony



Koo Wee Rup Fire Brigade would like to take this opportunity to thank the following sponsors:

- Bendigo Community Bank of KWR
- Mobile Hose Fixers Dandenong
- Warehouse Sales Dandenong
- KooWeeRup Newsagency
- Victorian Crane Trucks
- SDR Fire Protection
- South East Water
- Hardy's Mitre 10
- John Duff & Co
- Tip Top Bread
- Coates Hire
- V Smith

- KooWeeRup Township Committee
- J & G Light Mechanical Repairs
- KooWeeRup IGA & Liquor
- Total Tools Pakenham
- KooWeeRup Butcher
- Huxtable Transport
- Gendore Tractors
- Comfab Products
- Fantech Pty Ltd
- B & J Jefferies
- Billy Caffa

- Beaconsfield Mower & Tractor Centre
- B & C Magnetic Marketing
- Travel Managers Berwick
- Pepa Corporate Image
- Cardinia Shire Council
- Rupper's Painting
- Wendore Milkbar
- Anne O'Mahony
- Get Stitched Up
- Craft Quarters
- Raffa Fields
- Bees Knees

THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES *(Edited Extracts) (from Page 1)*

The Minister for Regional and Rural Development's office has advised him that the Victorian Government will invest \$100 million over the next four years to extend natural gas across regional Victoria and encourage greater investment in the regions. Funding for the Energy for the Regions Program has been confirmed in the State Budget and implementation is to be one of the major tasks for the Regional Development Victoria (RDV). The program is being implemented through a two stage delivery process. The first stage, involving discussions with Victorian gas distribution businesses, closed on 31 August 2011. The second stage will be a centralised tender process concluding in the latter part of 2011.

The first stage identified a number of project proposals that RDV and its panel of technical advisers are currently evaluating. The Minister is unable to disclose any details at this stage due to the commercial nature of the proposals. The second stage involves a centralised tender that will maximise the competitive tension between gas and energy distributors in a transparent tender process. This process will provide the opportunity for all towns, including Koo Wee Rup, to be considered for program funding subject to a supporting bid by a gas distribution business.

The Minister has been advised that until the tender processes have been worked through there is little to be gained from conducting a separate feasibility study for Koo-Wee-Rup, or any other community. In the case that an acceptable proposal for natural gas reticulation to Koo-Wee-Rup does not occur the Minister will review the need for a separate targeted feasibility study for the Town. As Koo-Wee-Rup grows so will the need for gas; it is an important issue.

In response to questions from the floor, Edward advised:

- There is no precise timeline but the tender process is expected to be completed by the end of 2011.
- The \$100m covers the whole of Victoria.
- In 2006 gas was promised for Koo-Wee-Rup but since then priorities for funding have changed; for instance the need for a Road By-pass. In 2010 only a feasibility study was promised for gas but a definite yes for the By-pass.
- When gas is delivered to Koo-Wee-Rup, reticulation is unlikely to go directly to the houses.

Frank Crameri told the attendees tonight about the Stakeholders' meeting of the area Green Wedge Group. Thirty people were there from all over the area of Cardinia Shire and the Shire of Casey. There was input from various stakeholders who discussed Green Wedge Strategy for the area, and the need for vigil as urban boundaries expanded into the green wedge of agricultural land.

St Sophia's festival, held last Sunday, was very successful with many people attending from Melbourne and other more far off places.

Frank Worcester, a member of the Men's Shed, commented that there would be more continuing mentoring of local and enthusiastic students who come along to learn practical skills from the Men's Shed members.

Jack Nunn reported on the following maintenance issues:

- Broken lid on a drainage pit at the community Centre is now fixed.
- Potholes in the driveway of the Community Centre now fixed.
- Icke Road now graded.
- The footpath between Woolworths' store, the Hospital, and Station Street has been fixed and branches cut back by the Shire Council.
- The footpath on Station Street, on the service station side, is to be repaired and a new footpath will go across the service station property.
- The new footpath across Cochrane Park behind the swimming pool will be linked to the hospital.
- An untidy tree in John Street has been trimmed.
- The long grass along the railway line has been cut.
- The pot holes at the Scout Hall are still there and need permanently fixing.
- Wendy Abbott from Cardinia Shire and Jack toured the town and the new housing estates, making decisions on where to plant new trees and what trees to repair etc.

Dead Snails in the Sunset

I've been on snail safari
At night when moon is pale,
I've baited 'em with heady stout
An' bowls of finest ale!

Snails are known to rush the beer
An' drink their way right thru it,
(But sometimes on the warmer nights
I can usually beat 'em to it!)

I've tried collectin' egg-shells
To sprinkle all about,
But demandin' eggs for every meal,
I wore our chook right out!

So I've given up on egg-shells
An' me snails don't have a thirst,
But thought I'd be successful
If I smashed the snails an' cursed!

I've smacked 'em with a shovel
I've donged 'em with a spade,
I've stomped 'em with me slippers
Which really spoils the suede!

But if I could get the Girlie snails
Separated from the Sires ...
I could find their breeding cycle,
An' let down all the tyres!

Mal Function ... the Poet Larrikin

Continued next page

THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

*(Edited Extracts) (from
previous page)*

Carol Vandyk brought up the subject of the children's playground on the Townley Estate. She asked if it would be possible to have pathway constructed from the existing footpath to the play area, because the area floods when there is rain. She reported that a children's ride has been vandalised. Jack Nunn said that the maintenance for the whole area was about to be taken over from the developer by the Shire Council. He said he would take this problem to the Shire to be rectified.

A question from the floor asked about the state of the footpath outside Ponderosa Timber and Hardware Pty Ltd. The grass is so high no one can walk safely over it and it is somewhat of an eyesore. A project for the beautification of this area should be done soon.

Ellen Brown asked about the section of pathway between the end of the new path in Cochrane Park and the hospital gate. The surface of the path, at this point, is quite unsuitable to negotiate by wheelchair bound hospital residents and patients, because it still remains gravel and soil. The secretary was asked to write to the Shire Council to present this problem for action.

A discussion took place about the forthcoming Australia Day 2012 celebrations in the Town. As in previous years, an Australia day sub-committee was proposed seconded and formed. The members are: - *Ellen Brown, Ray Brown, Frank Crameri, Joyce Light, Caroline Roff, Geoff Stokes, Frank Worcester.*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO KOO WEE RUP TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AGM

This is my first annual report as chairman of the KWR Township Committee. It has been challenging for me and, in many respects, a great learning curve on how to deal with people in the community who have issues with which they hope our group can assist them.

As you all know, our Committee have been advocating strongly for the By-Pass Road around our Township and the connection of natural gas to residents' homes. We have been very fortunate that the State Government has made a commitment towards the funding of the By-pass. According to Charlie Broadhurst, Project Director, VicRoads SE Projects & PHE Duplication, earthworks and the construction of the proposed large bridge over the five waterways should commence early 2013. Thanks must be conveyed to our local Parliament Representatives Ken Smith and Edward O'Donohue and also Councillor Stuart Halligan and the Shire for their efforts in getting this project off the ground.

There is still one real sticking point in that we have not been successful in gaining Government funding towards the cost of infrastructure to get a connection of natural gas for the residents of our town. The Government have set aside funding for regional projects throughout Victoria for the likes of natural gas connections to country towns with some of these towns having much a smaller population than KWR which I find most disappointing in view of the fact that with new housing developments about to increase to 400 homes in the near future and the savings that could be passed onto our existing home owners; three Schools, and of course businesses. Our Sub-Committee has had ongoing discussions with Councillor Halligan and the Shire and also with Ken Smith and will continue to do so in the hope of eventually having a positive outcome.

Our Committee hosted the local Australia Day event last January which again was a great success. This event seems to be increasing in attendees more and more each year. A big thank you to all who assisted in the planning and the workers for their assistance on the day. Also without the financial support from Council and Safeway we would not be able to host such important national event in our town.

The development of Cochrane Park has commenced with the construction of the concrete walking path. The next phase of the development will be the planting of trees and shrubs which will take place next autumn. The Shire has been of great assistance in getting this project up and running.

The construction of a footpath along Station Street between Boundary Road Drain and William Street will hopefully be carried out in early to mid 2012. Pedestrians who currently walk along this road are putting their life in their own hands with trucks passing them within half a metre or so. So the sooner a safer pathway is constructed the better it will be as this is very very dangerous for pedestrians to traverse.

Thank you to Councillor Stuart Halligan for the support and fine effort he has put in with attendances to our monthly meetings. Also to Geoff Stokes as Secretary; Ray as Vice President and Richard as Treasurer; your support has been most valuable to me in my first year as President. Also the likes of Jack Nunn and Caroline Roff who also offer a lot of their time. Last but not least I would like to thank the members of the community who turn up at every meeting; without your presence and support there would be not be a Township Committee to chase up on many matters that arise around our township. It would also be a remiss of me not to thank my wife Lina for supplying supper/sandwiches for each meeting as I can assure you all if it was left to me no one would not be enjoying any supper maybe only a cuppa .

Frank Crameri



Have you made room
for all the goodies
Santa might Bring?
Clean up before the
Jolly old bloke arrives.

Merry Xmas

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Fertile Eggs



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Or call Pam or Terry on 5997 1731

Open 7 days a week

BALLOON RELEASE AT ST. SOFIA FESTIVAL

Sunday the 30th of October, 2011 saw the 39th St. Festival take place at St. John's Koo wee rup.

The day began with 9.30 am Mass concelebrated by Fr. John Allen and Fr. Benedict Volpe. The Fruilano choir sang beautifully throughout the entire Mass to a full congregation. The statue was then brought outside to the accompaniment of the Bellini Brass Band and 500 balloons were released as St. Sofia was carried outside.

After the procession, it was back to St. John's for lunch. Due to the inclement weather, the rest of the afternoon was spent in the hall where the crowd was entertained by a concert performed by the Bellini Brass Band and also the "Viva Italia Show" put on 2 great shows to the enjoyment of the crowd.

Thus followed an Auction of donated goods and the raffle was drawn.

Next year, it will be the 40th Anniversary of the St. Sofia Festival and plans are already in place to make it a day of celebrations and entertainment.



Mending Service

Wishing all my customers a
very Merry Christmas
and a
Happy & Healthy 2012

For repairs over the holiday
season please contact me
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Kooweerup
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Regards, Gwenda
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Patches	Reasonable Rates.

Gwenda 03) 5997-1879

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*Member for Bass
Ken Smith MP
and his staff
would like to wish
you all a very
happy Christmas
and
a safe, healthy
and prosperous
New Year*



Ph: 5672 4755
PO Box 448, Wonthaggi 3995
ken.smith@parliament.vic.gov.au

Severe Headaches?

Many Australian's suffer from neck tension, headaches and migraines.

My name is Dr. Robbie Hunt (Chiropractor), principal at Pakenham Chiropractic, I've seen many patients with these problems over the years.

Every month I hear how patients suffer from severe headaches, statements like..

"I feel like my head is in a vice."
"My eyes hurt and I feel so drowsy."
"I have to lay down."
"I've had migraines since childhood."
"Muscle tension in the neck and pain into the shoulders."

I hear these statements so often, I decided to do something about it.

For \$37 you will get all the services listed here:

- An in-depth consultation about your headaches where I will listen.. to the details of your unique situation.
- A neuromuscular and skeletal examination of the head and neck so we can try to find the problem.
- Spinal x-rays (if clinically indicated) to determine if posture or joint problem is contributing to your pain.
- A thorough analysis of your exam and x-ray findings so we can see if we can help you and if so map out a treatment plan and discuss the costs of any ongoing treatment.

Call today. 5940-4760

KOO WEE RUP SECONDARY COLLEGE

Term Four is rapidly coming to a close and already Year 12 students have left classes and many have completed exams. Soon Year 11 and 10 exams will be held and Induction into 2012 will begin.

There have been a number of newspaper articles about schools in the press in recent weeks. We have been named in some of these articles. Jill Bennet, our School Council president, has been active in trying to make our Building Project a certainty as soon as possible. On behalf of the school, I thank her for her work.

The Team working on our submission for the Building design is well into its work. A vision statement should be finished this week which can then be used to brief Architects. The department is coming out to talk to us about the process of Architect selection.

Mr Bottomley is working to make sure that the Bus Bay and Portables area are completed for the new year. This will improve facilities in the college to a significant extent and has been long awaited. I know many people are keen to see these projects finished.

The Gala Art Show was a great success and many of our college members need to be thanked, in particular Claudia Barker, Heather McMillian, Kat Docik and Maree Evans. I visited the Art Show on the Friday and was very impressed by the quality of the work and the fact that it came from such a wide group of the college community. Our school is very proud of its excellent Community links.

The RSL Remembrance Day Assembly was held recently in the Greenhouse. As our Hall is now used for exams, we could not hold a full school Assembly. It was an intimate occasion and one which we can continue to grow in future years. The band played very well! The large group of members from the RSL presented funds to the Band to assist in the forthcoming trip to London and Paris. This was fantastic and shows the strong links between the school and community. Many thanks to the RSL.

Netbook Computers will be going out in November to January. There have been some delays for a number of reasons; but the processing of each one does take time and they have to be set up for our network. I know the students are keen, but please be patient. They will certainly be in classes as soon as possible.

We continue to do well in Sport under the leadership of Tania Hamilton. Boys Cricket is the latest team to go to Finals for their sport. Thank you to the boys in Year 8 who competed and Mr Kirkby for his coaching. I know all are very keen.

Kym Bridgford, Principal

Elvis In Concert
performed by Mark Andrew

Mark Andrew performing as Elvis Presley, Dean Martin, Tom Jones, Buddy Holly
and his spectacular Austin Powers floor show
performed around the world and Crown Casino.

Helping raise funds to bring Joy and Laughter to thousands of disadvantaged Children

\$65 per person, tables of 10 available

March 9th 2012, 7:00 PM

Koo Wee Rup Community Centre

Supporting Humanitarian Clowns Abroad

For tickets contact Tim on: 0430562887

Door prizes and silent Auctions

www.humanitarianclowns.com

3 course meal included, BYO drinks

dead-set LEGENDS

ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

The month of November has seen many exciting events involving the St John's community.

On November 4th we held our annual Grandparents Day. We were blessed to have some wonderful weather on the day and as a result we had a great attendance from the children's grandparents. The day started with a liturgy in the Church and was followed by a morning tea put on by our parents. The children then participated in some sports activities and shared a lunch with their grandparents once the sports were completed. Many grandparents enjoyed the opportunity to visit their grandchildren's rooms to view the learning that has been taking place. We would like to thank the grandparents for coming to the school and making the day the enjoyable one that it has become.

Tuesday 8th November was a momentous day for St John's. After a couple of unforeseen setbacks, we finally opened our Building the Education Revolution buildings. Our ceremony was held in our new Hall and the choir led the way with some wonderful singing. The buildings and playground equipment were officially blessed and opened by Fr John Allen, our Parish Priest. We look forward to many happy years ahead in our new Hall, seven state of the art classrooms, art room, canteen, exercise workstations, storage shed, new playground and car park.

We began our swimming program on Monday 14th November. The program ran daily for two weeks with each class participating in a half hour session at the pool. These sessions are designed to improve the children's confidence, responsibility, mobility and safety skills within the water.

We welcomed the 2011 Prep children to St John's when they started their Orientation in early November. The children are becoming familiar with their school, the staff and some of the other students. They have particularly enjoyed the opportunity to make some new friends and complete some of their first 'big school' activities.

Our Grade 6 students have continued their transition activities with their future high schools. This has included visits to their school of choice and communication with Year 7s from those schools. Many of the children will complete their Orientation Days during the early part of December.

Carols in Catani.

Put our Carols night on your family Christmas calendar.

Hosted by Peter and Sue MacGregor and talented Church members, you will enjoy a blend of traditional Carols, contemporary sing-a-longs and the ever favourite Christmas supper.

Monday, 19th December at 7.30 pm.

Catani Community Church,
41 Taplins Rd Catani.

Further details:- please call
Diane on 56 294 250, or
Neil on 56 294 283.

Come Celebrate With Us Christmas Eve Family Mass

7pm Saturday 24th December

St. John's Church

Koo Wee Rup

Carols - 6:15pm

Mass - 7:00pm



*Children are encouraged to dress
as angels or shepherds.*



*Join us after Mass
for Sherry, Christmas
Cake & treats for the
little ones.*

ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

On Sunday the 20th November, we celebrated our 75th Anniversary as a school. We began our day with Mass at 9:30am in the Church. After morning tea, the children completed a sporting exhibition of some team games and marching from Grandparents Day. We then opened the time capsule from 25 years ago and there were some excellent pieces of writing from the past students as well as some relics and photos from 1986. Throughout the afternoon people had the opportunity to look at a display of the history of our school. We would like to thank all past students, staff and parents who attended on the day. It was fantastic to see everyone catching up, in particular eight of the original students from 1936. A big thank you goes to the organising committee of Simon Dell'Oro, Marl Scanlon, Eileen Crowley, Di O'Hehir, Amanda Power and Terry Ahern (1986 Principal) who did a tremendous amount of organising and setting up for the day.



L to R—1936 students—Moira Huxtable, John Leyton, Bill Griffiths, Pat Crowley, Mary Burton, Kevin Lia

The month of December sees our school finish the year with a bang:

- Our End of Year Mass is on Thursday 1st December at 11:30am. We invite all family and friends to join us in celebrating the great year that 2011 has been.
- The Grade 5/6s will be participating in the Clean Up Koo Wee Rup afternoon on the 8th December. Also on that day, the Grade 3/4s will be attending an excursion to Coal Creek in Korumburra as part of their unit; "How We Have Affected Australia's Landscape".
- We will be singing carols at the Killara Hostel and Nursing Home on the 9th December.
- The children will be participating in an Italian incursion entitled 'Raperonzolo' on Tuesday 13th December. This is based on the famous children's fairy tale of Rapunzel.
- Our Graduation Mass is on Thursday 15th December at 7:00pm. Speeches and an award ceremony will be held in the Hall after Mass has finished. We welcome all school family and friends to join us for this momentous occasion.
- Meet your 2012 Teacher Day will be on Monday 19th December.

At the end of this year we farewell some staff members. We wish Sarah Manelski (maternity leave) and Theresia Baird the best of luck in their future endeavours and thank them for everything that they have done for the St John's community.

I am also leaving at the end of the year to take up an Assistant Principal position at St Augustine's Primary School in Narromine, NSW. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the St John's and Koo Wee Rup communities for their support and encouragement throughout my six years here. St John's is an outstanding school and I have thoroughly appreciated my time at this great school. I look forward to hearing of the many great things that will no doubt continue to happen at St John's and in Koo Wee Rup in the future.

At present, our enrolment process is still open for 2012. If you are interested in enrolling your child, please ring Nancy or Di in our office on 5997 1653 to organise an interview and tour of the school with our Principal, Mr Simon Dell'Oro.

On behalf of everyone at St John's, we would like to take this opportunity to wish the Koo Wee Rup community a Happy and Holy Christmas and safe travels for those who are visiting family and friends. We also would like to wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



Kaitlyn O'Hehir & Matthew Huxtable (both current Prep students and grandchildren of 1936 students) replacing the Time Capsules

Kind regards, Paul Kelly, Deputy Principal

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KOO WEE RUP PRIMARY SCHOOL



Joh can't stop smiling with Nan & Pop by his side.

Grandparents Day

Every year, we welcome our valued grandparents into our school on Grandparents Day. For many of our grandparents, it was their first chance to see our amazing new classrooms and the overwhelming feedback was along the lines of 'How lucky the children are to be able to learn in such a beautiful and large learning environment'. The day is a special one in our calendar of events as the students love to share and show off their school, classroom and all aspects of their daily routine at school. We know all grandparents love their grandchildren and we are delighted to welcome them into their grandchild's school on this special day.

Mini Fete

Throughout the day the weather threatened but we managed to get through dry and enjoyed a fun evening. The children, families and visitors were kept busy and entertained by the many stalls, rides and other activities thanks to the PFA, staff and parents. Thank you to the members of the community outside of the school who attended and helped us raise funds for the school. We are fortunate to have great facilities at the school but we constantly need to purchase new resources to maintain and implement new programs.

Out of School Hours Care

The closing date for enrolling in our 2012 OSHC is rapidly approaching. This service will be new to the school next year and we are delighted to be part of Cardinia Shire Council's OSHC family. Please contact Maria in the office (5997 1272) if you would like an enrolment form.

2012 enrolments

The grades have been created for next year and we look forward to 13th December when our new prep students (and new students from other schools) visit us to meet their new teacher. If you are yet to enrol, an interview and tour with me can be arranged by contacting the school.

End-of-year

The end of the year is always a busy time. End-of-year concert, year 6 graduation, class parties, excursions, infant swimming program, major raffle, year 6 endurance bike ride, year 3/4 camp, year 5 leadership day and Life Ed are all happening in December. Once this is past us, the children will take a well-earned break before returning on 1st February. By then, we hope works on the administration building will be completed and we have a definite answer on when are old building will be demolished. We will then have a truly remarkable learning environment for the present and future students.

I wish everyone in the community a safe and prosperous Christmas and New Year and I look forward to an exciting 2012.

David Payne – Principal



Isabelle enjoys plaster mould painting at the mini

CAN YOU HELP, PLEASE?

The Koo Wee Rup Support Fund will be holding a white elephant stall at the Kooweerup Twilight Art Show and Market on 9 December

Would anyone who has any used books or crockery or anything small, but still useful, that you can give us, please drop it off to Bees Knees or the Wendore Milkbar before 9 December.

Thank you

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Brendan Wilby, Neil Watson

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Dennis, Ryan Anderson-Scott, Matt Bradey

U18's



Jodi Nankervis, Dillon Allen, Jamey Blackwood (B & F),
Braden Browne

U15's



Jake Lucas (B & F), Sean Dollan, Troy Dolan, Adam
McMaster, Scott Emms, Andrew Proctor Taylor
Stafford (B & F), Luke Krastek (B & F), Josh Browne

U13's



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KOO WEE RUP BOWLS CLUB NEWS



Our Tuesday Pennant team played their first match on our new Synthetic Green against Frankston RSL. The fact that we were able to play vindicated the decision to replace our grass green with a synthetic as a number of Round 4 games on grass were cancelled. Another big loss in Round 4 but we must continue to persevere and a win will come. Round 5 of Tuesday Pennant was washed out with teams sharing the points. We visited Mornington Civic for Round 6 of Pennant but were outclassed by Civic to lose 88-46.

Saturday Pennant Round 3 of Pennant saw Div. B2 record a good win against Long Island at Long Island which has never been a happy hunting ground for us. The outstanding rink was Wayne Stevens [s], Ray Brown, George Crynes & John Gray [Super sub.] who were in control all day and won 38-12. Div. B3 had another tough day at City of Frankston losing all 3 rinks for an overall 64-94 loss.

We got to play the Round 4 Pennant games on our home Green for this first time this season with Div. B2 hosting 4th placed Hastings and recorded a resounding win of 104-38 shots gaining the maximum 16 points. The "Red Hot" rink of Wayne Stevens [s], Ray Brown, George Crynes & John Gray recorded another emphatic win 45-10. Again, after a tight battle for most of the day, the rink of Kim McMahon [s], Garry Twyford, Shane Green & Lyn Jenkins pulled away from their opponents over the last 4-5 ends to have a comfortable win 28-17. Following a slightly disappointing day the previous week the rink of Rex Alexander [s], Arthur Giaccotto, Rob Matthews & Lindsay Wealands led all day for a strong 31-11 win. Our Div. B3 team played host to the strong Mornington Civic Club and were defeated 77-53.

Round 5 of the Pennant saw our Div. B2 team have probably their best win for the last few seasons with an emphatic win of 93-48 over top team Karingal on our own Green. Our Super rink of Wayne Stevens [s], Ray Brown, George Crynes & John Gray came back to earth with a small thud after a great battle all game to finally lose 20-22. The very consistent rink of Kim McMahon [s], Garry Twyford, Shane Green & Lindsay Wealands led all day and were untroubled to record a big win of 41-14. The third rink of Rex Alexander [s], Arthur Giaccotto, Rob Matthews & Graeme Windley also recorded a strong 32-12 win after leading all game.

The visiting Div. B3 team of Mornington who were 2nd on the ladder had a big "scare" when they scored a narrow 65-63 victory over our improving team. Round 6 was a washout across the Peninsula Division.

We played our Friday Triples competition at KooWeeRup at long last. Again thanks to Lang Lang B.C. for the use of their Green & facilities for the first 3 days of this competition. The results for the day were 5 Two game winners with the Runners Up being John Van Vugt [Cardinia Waters] [s], Jim Smith [Pakenham] & Bill Hite [Cardinia Waters] with a score of 38 pts. Winners were George Crynes [KooWeeRup] [s], Wes Goodman [Garfield] & Tom Hodges [Cranbourne RSL] with 40 pts. The best 2nd game winners were Ken Mynard [s], Ralph Anderson & Geoff Patullo [Lang Lang] with 20 pts. All players were impressed with the new Green. Results of Friday Triples played 18/11 had 5 Two games winners with Best 2nd game winners Wendy Titcombe [Cardinia Waters][s], Fred Bekker [Pakenham] & Paul Koplér [Cranbourne RSL] with 20 pts. Runners Up for the day with 36 pts & 15 shots up were Ken Walton [KooWeeRup] [s], Nick Filius ^ Pete Smith [Pakenham] and the Winners were Adam Greenhill [s], Rex Alexander & Charlie Masters [KooWeeRup] with 36 pts and 19 shots up.

The new Casey/Cardinia Twilight competition has started. If anybody, you do not have to be a Club member, would like a game on a Thursday night please contact Bob Mason, Rob Matthews or Ivan Royle.

The Ladies held a very successful Gala day on the 14th Nov. The Green was full with 8 rinks. Everybody voted it a successful day and many thanks to all who assisted.

HAVE YOU GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

Have you got some news, 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

TWILIGHT BOWLS

Our popular Community Twilight Bowls season has started on Monday nights and if you are interested in forming a team or playing yourself be at the Club on a Monday night about 5.30 p.m.-6.00 p.m. for a B.B.Q. tea and a fun evening. It was very pleasing to have 32 players attend the first night and included 13 new players to the game. We continued to attract new players on the second night and thanks go to our existing players for introducing the new players to the game.

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KOO WEE RUP COMMUNITY CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER**

Presented by the Lions Club of Koo Wee Rup & District Inc. Celebrating the Christmas spirit (non denominational) - at the Community Centre Hall - Rossiter Road Koo Wee Rup.

The Koo Wee Rup Community Carols by Candlelight is a not-for profit event which serves to encourage and engender a sense of community spirit and participation. There are no admission costs applicable and it will be an alcohol free event. It is a targeted family night for the benefit of the community. Commencing at 6:00 pm with a free sausage sizzle the carols will commence at 7:30 sharp and run till about 9:00 pm. Battery operated candlelights (flame free) will be available.

The Lions Club Project Spokesperson for the event, Allan Folvig, said "The event has been run very successfully for many years by the Koo Wee Rup Township Committee and does not deviate far from what has been put in place over those years. The feedback from last year's event, which the Lions Club coordinated, was all positive in that

it was most enjoyable community spirited evening. It is anticipated that the format of proceedings will again consist of a musical presentation from the Koo Wee Rup Secondary College Band and guest artists from other local primary schools (all are invited to participate) under the guidance and coordination of Musical Director, Claudia Barker. The arrival of Santa at the close of proceedings does, of course, bring delight to the many children attending.

Allan went on to say "There is no doubt that this event raises the profile of the Koo Wee Rup Secondary College Band and there is a resulting sense of local pride (from all who attend) not only in the skills and abilities of the youth involved but also the fantastic commitment of the College staff who give freely of their time and labour. This commitment and engagement also extends to other local primary schools who are all invited to perform. All of this would not be possible without the tangible support of the Cardinia Shire Council through the Shire Festivals and Community Arts Event Grant program".

Anyone is most. There is significant attendance by families with young (pre school age) children with no connection to school environment as yet. It is also well attended by senior citizens and other community groups within the Koo Wee Rup District.



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Railing about the Grayling

Here's a topical story, one-off an' quite unique,
Largely based on fact ... tho' written tongue-in-cheek ...
We knew a village bypass, would never be plain-sailing,
But the latest set of obstacles, could see the plan de-railing ...
We must respect the wildlife, but some are over-protected,
Unlike the "Local Human" ... the species most affected!

Perhaps the nobbs should study the experts of the past,
An' just maybe pick up a few hints,
For instance, they built zebra crossings,
An' I ain't seen no zebras since!

Grass Frogs are Growling, or so it's been reported,
Send 'em on a holiday ... bingo ... problem sorted!
The "Southern Brown Bandicoot", perhaps a change they're needing,
Point 'em all up North ... it sure won't stop 'em breeding!

Next on the agenda, announced by the powers that be,
Is called the "Australian Grayling" ... sounds a bit fishy to me ...
This change in pecking order, I'm strugglin' comin' to grips,
What's wrong with Grayling patties ... or good ol' Grayling an' chips?

We once were top of the food chain, if you get my gist,
Yet it seems the "Local Human", is slippin' down the list,
We can't remain downtrodden ...
What next, the "Flatlands Mozzie"?
Or even the "Barnyard Blowie"?
No ... we must re-claim top possie!

We need to raise our profile, step it up a notch or two,
Support the "Local Humans" ... an' "Grey Nomads" passing through,
Fast-track the promised bypass ... make safe our village roads,
But give a couple days notice, to the fish, the 'coots, an' the toads!

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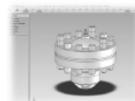
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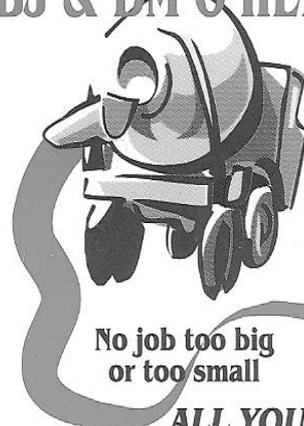
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Please contact Cathy Bain 59979691



INCREASING RURAL

ACCESS TO SPECIALISTS

Kooweerup Regional Health Service have been actively advocating to have increased access for the community to specialist services in their local community.

The following consultants are now consulting in our Consulting Rooms at Kooweerup Regional Health Service :

1. Dr Didiere Groleux – Cardiac Specialist – Every second Tuesday from 1.00pm – 5pm – Doctors referral required
2. Dr Sally Shaw – Skin Cancer Specialist. Commencing Friday 2nd Dec self referral
3. Podiatrist commencing Tuesdays am and Thursday pm from First week in December self referral
4. Audiologist will commence in April
We are hoping to increase the number of specialists in the New Year.
Please contact Sharyn Gregory 59979761 if further information required.



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- Make non-alcoholic cocktails
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When: Saturday 10th December	Where: Men's Community Shed, Kooweerup Regional Health Service Rositter Road Kooweerup	Cost: \$5 Registrations essential
Time: 2.00pm - 4.00pm		



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KOO WEE RUP EVENING WALK AND TALK GROUPS

Two new evening walking groups have started for day light saving months as part of the Heart Foundation Walks.

- **K9 Dog Walking Group** 6.30 pm Mondays. Enquiries to Carol 0412076095
- **General "Walk and Talk"** 7 pm Thursday nights. Enquiries to Marlene on 0429 814410.

Both sessions start at the bus shelter Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup and run for 45 mins plus. All welcome.

"The Dog Walkers Excel" !!!!!

The new evening dog walking group (K9 Group), has reached unbelievable heights with 15 walkers and 17 dogs one evening. The record for the "human" team is a measly 9 people.

Can we reach their level????? The "humans" are more social, having inspected the new Police Station one evening, done an external inspection of a new property on another, and patronised our new Indian Restaurant enjoying a great social meal, another evening. So what will it be???? Walk and socialise OR be a "couch potato".

Ring Carol or Marlene and get moving.



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KWR SENIOR CITIZENS

PRISONER OF WAR CAMP AT KOO-WEE-RUP

By Heather Arnold, on behalf of the Koo-Wee-Rup Swamp Historical Society.

The Historical Society has copies of Commonwealth Government documents relating to the World War Two Italian Prisoner of War Camp at Koo-Wee-Rup or Bayles - the documents use both names to describe the location of the Camp. We have had a few enquiries about this Camp, mostly relating to the names of prisoners, however no names are included in the documents and as you might expect from a War bureaucracy much of the material relates to administration and officialdom. We do not have any photographs of the Camp.

The Prisoner of War Camp was located on 7¼ acres on part of Lots 6 & 7, Section S Parish of Koo-Wee-Rup, which is the south side of the Main Drain Road, between Backhouses Road and Ballarto Road. There is a small sketch map with the documents, which I have reproduced on a copy of a Koo-Wee-Rup Parish Plan. The Commonwealth took possession of the land on August 7, 1944. The entire block of land (consisting of Parts, 6, 7 & 8) was just over 58 acres and was owned by the Estate of Ardolph Edward Mosig and Frederick Leonard Smith who were leasing it to Leslie Einsiedel. The land was being used for grazing and was described as "Flat Swamp land All cleared". There were no buildings on the block but there was a dam, which would be used by the Camp and so a trough was provided for Mr Einsiedel's cattle. Mr Einsiedel was to get just over £10 per annum for the land.

The Camp was scheduled to open October 21, 1944. There would be one officer and ten 'other ranks' and 88 POWs, including one who was a medical orderly. The camp would consist of 'P' type huts from the Rowville Camp, and there was a one ton van and two 30cwt trucks to transport prisoners to and from work. The Prisoners were employed by the Department of Commerce and Agriculture and they were paid 1/3d per day, plus they were provided with all equipment, blankets, clothing, food etc. The prisoners came from the Murchison Camp and had a medical and dental before they were 'allotted' to local farmers to provide labour. Local contractors would provide perishable foodstuffs and *appropriate arrangements were made with the local church authorities for the spiritual welfare of prisoners.* Most other arrangements, e.g. financial, appear to have been carried out at Murchison.

(Continued next page)



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PRISONER OF WAR CAMP AT KOO-WEE-RUP (from previous page)

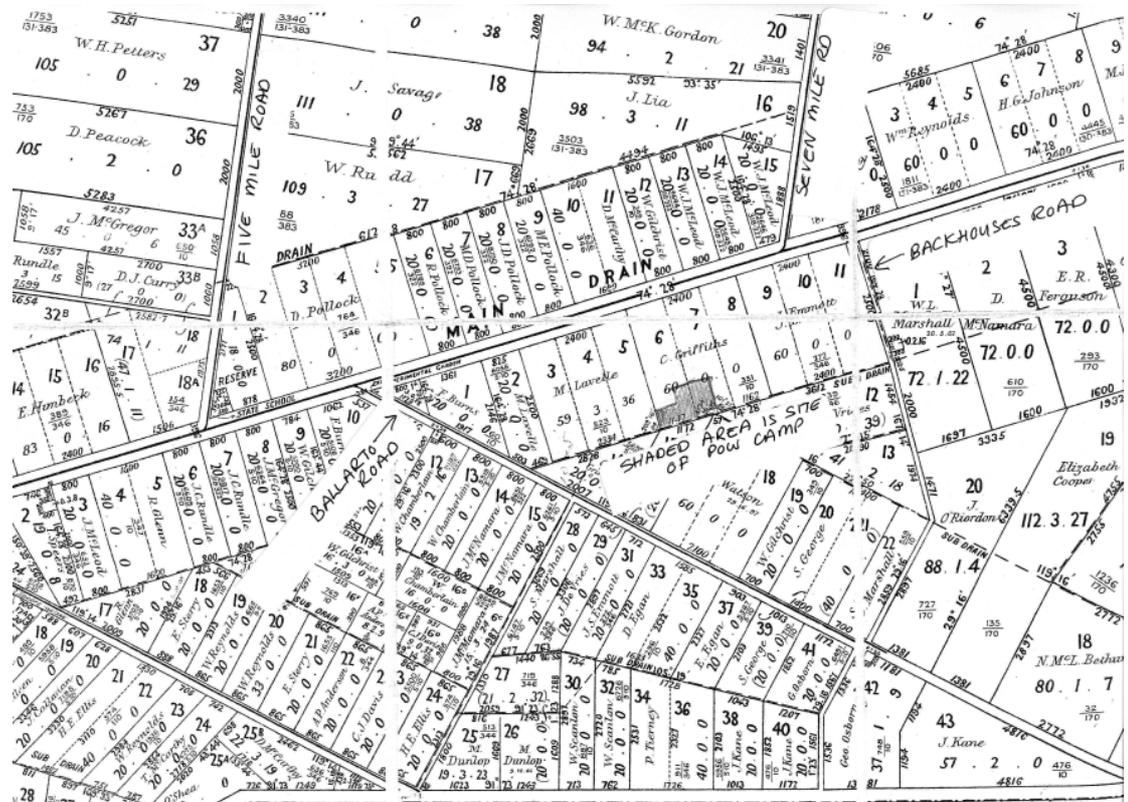
By Heather Arnold, on behalf of the Koo-Wee-Rup Swamp Historical Society.

The next lot of material we have comes from February 1946 when the camp was being dismantled; the hire of land was terminated on February 22, 1946. There is a list of buildings that were sold which gives us some idea as to what the Camp would have looked like. All buildings were made of CGI, which I assume is corrugated galvanised iron, though some were made from, at the time, the popular asbestos cement.

- Buildings No.1, No. 2, and No. 3 all described as Sleeping Huts and all were 60 feet 8 inches by 18 feet 8 inches in size. They were sold to Melbourne University for £370.00.
- Building No.4 - Kitchen and Mess 93 ft 4 inches by 18 feet 8 inches – sold to Toora R.S.L for £250.00.
- Building No.5 - Kitchen, Mess, Recreation and Sleeping – 78 feet 8 inches by 18 feet 8 inches – sold to the Athlone Presbyterian Church for £210.00.
- Buildings 8 & 9 - Latrines, each 12 feet by 12 feet - sold to Frankston Fire Brigade for £51.00.
- Building No.12 - Kitchen Store, 60 feet 8 inches by 18 feet 8 inches, and the Drying Room, 23 feet 4 inches by 18 feet. Sold to Loreto Convent, Toorak for £175.00
- Mess and a Provision Hut - 57 feet by 18 feet, sold for £144.00 through Melgaard & Co.

It appears that all buildings were removed by April 1947 and the army then paid the owners just over £53.00 for damage, removal of concrete foundations etc.

So that's what we know from the official documents. I asked my father, Frank Rouse, a few years ago if he knew anything about the Camp (he would have been eleven at the time) and he also spoke to Bill Giles and Ian Clark. Bill and Ian agree there was no strong security at the Camp and there was no security at weekends, but the prisoners had to wear orange overalls. Bill remembers seeing prisoners walking along the road at night when he was riding his bike home, and they could walk along the drain bank into Koo-Wee-Rup and to the Bay.



The POWs worked at selected farms including the AJC Asparagus farm (also known as Roxburghs) at Vervale. This was on the south side of Fallon Road, from Dessent Road, through to Simpson Road. Dad remembers truckloads of the prisoners driving down Dessent Road to the AJC farm in the morning, one guard on each truck. At lunch time a food van with a portable cooker would go the farm to feed them. Another truck load of prisoners would go to Dalmore.

Bill said they also worked on the Kinsella Brothers farm (Dan, Norman and Arthur) that grew a lot of potatoes and asparagus during the War. The Kinsellas were on the north side of the Main Drain, around Eight Mile Road. Dad said his brother Jim (who would have been thirteen at the time) remembers three Italian POWs digging potatoes with forks on the Rouse farm (Joe & Eva Rouse). Jim also remembered, as did Bill and Ian, that the prisoners had their own especially printed money and coins, but we are unsure how this was used.

So, that's all the information we have, if you know anything else, then I would love to hear from you. Contact me on harnold@dcsi.net.au or 5629 4396

The Koo-Wee-Rup Swamp Historical Society meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 8.00pm at Mallow house in Rossiter Road, corner of Henry Street. New members welcome. The last meeting for the year is Wednesday, December 14 at 8.00pm. Museum opens Sundays from 1.30pm until 4.30pm, however will be closed after December 10 and will re-open in February.



The Lions Club of Koo Wee Rup & District

presents

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT



Friday 16th December 2011

At the Koo Wee Rup Community Centre

Commencing at - 6:00pm with a free sausage sizzle

Carols at 7:30pm

Santa at 9:00pm

FEATURING

Koo Wee Rup

Secondary College Band,

Local Guest Artists,

Safe Flame Candles available



ALCOHOL FREE ZONE

AUSTRALIA DAY IN KOO WEE RUP

The Township Committee will once again host the Australia Day Ceremony on Thursday, 26 January 2012 at the Community Centre.

The celebration will commence with breakfast served from 8am to 9am followed by an address from our Australia Day Ambassador, Ted Hamilton and the presentation of our local Citizen Awards.

Everybody is warmly invited to join us.



Even Santa helps the

KOO WEE RUP URBAN FIRE BRIGADE!!

The annual SANTA RUN for charity is on

THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER

Starting at 5pm

Santa will be towed around town to collect donations of tinned food on behalf of the 4C's Charity.