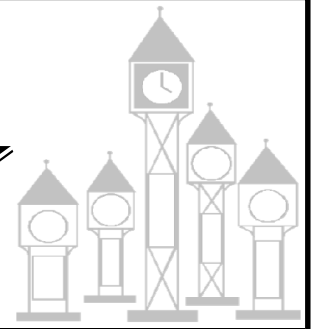


THE KOO WEE RUP BLACKFISH



AUGUST 2023

Our Meritorious Historian

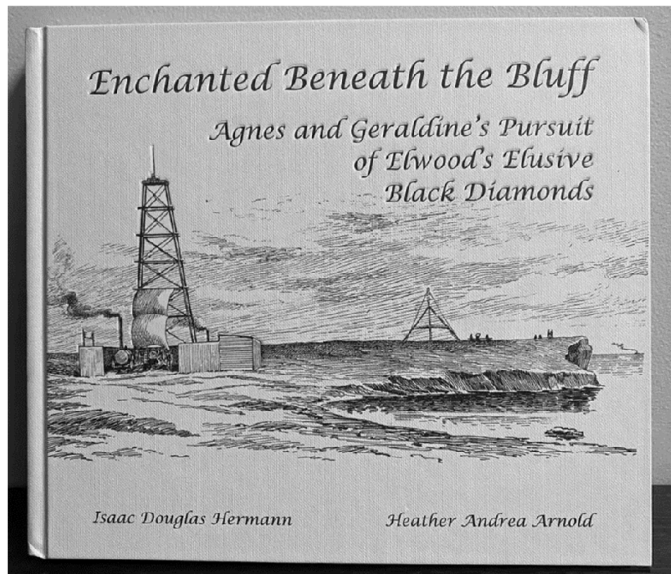
Congratulations to Heather Arnold who has been given an Award of Merit by the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. To qualify for an Award of Merit 'a person should have given meritorious service to an affiliated Member Society of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria ... The service should be exceptional and go beyond the routine holding of office. The nominee should have been involved in the work ... for a minimum of ten years'.

Heather is President of the Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society and a regular columnist for the Blackfish. In 2004, when Ken Huxtable stepped down from the role, she began researching and writing historical articles for the Historical Society's newsletter. Soon after this, she began contributing articles to the Blackfish. In 2007 she began her historical blog, Casey Cardinia – Links to our past. These days Heather contributes historical articles to many community newspapers and has recently published her first book, 'Enchanted Beneath the Bluff'.

Heather's extraordinary contribution to recording the history of the swamp and beyond is more than worthy of this honour.



Heather, on the right, is pictured receiving her Award of Merit from Rosalie Triolo, Vice President of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. Picture courtesy of Royal Historical Society of Victoria.



Koo Wee Rup Township Committee Meeting

The Township held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, 5 July at the KWR Community Centre. Everyone is welcome to attend Township Meetings and join in the discussion. The next meeting will be the Township Committee's AGM and will be held on Wednesday, 2 August at 7:30 pm at the KWR Community Centre.

Cr Cameron reported:

- Council budget was adopted at the meeting on 26 June. State government rate capping restricted rate rises to 3.5%.
- The Cardinia Biolink (which we heard about at the June meeting) is developing a project with Koo Wee Rup Primary School, which it is hoped will be expanded to other primary schools.

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

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What's on in Koo Wee Rup and District

August

Tue 1st	Morning Melodies – Paul Hogan (page 6)	Caldermeade Farm	10.30am
Wed 2nd	Coffee Club (back page)	Royal Hotel	10am
Wed 2nd	Lions Club Meeting (page 3)	Tooradin Sports Club	7pm
Wed 2nd	Township Committee AGM (front page)	Community Centre	7.30pm
Thu 3rd	Kids Corner with Amy (page 6)	Caldermeade Farm	10am
Fri 4th	KRHS Ladies Auxiliary Meeting (page 23)	Education Room, Hospital	9.30am
Fri 4th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 5th	Mat Pilates (page 7)	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Mon 7th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Mon 7th	Chair Pilates (page 7)	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 7th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Mon 7th	CWA Meeting (page 9)	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Tue 8th	Hall Committee Meeting	Community Centre	7.30pm
Wed 9th	KWR Swamp Historical Society Meeting (page 29)	KWR Historical Society	6pm
Thu 10th	Kids Corner with Amy	Caldermeade Farm	10am
Thu 10th	Senior Citizens AGM	Senior Citizens Club	10.30am
Fri 11th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 12th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Mon 14th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Mon 14th	Chair Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 14th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Tue 15th	Morning Melodies – Issi Dye (page 6)	Caldermeade Farm	10.30am
Wed 16th	Coffee Club	Chandelier Café	10am
Wed 16th	Lions Club Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7pm
Thu 17th	Kids Corner with Amy	Caldermeade Farm	10am
Thu 17th	Getting to know your family history (back page)	KWR Historical Society	11am
Thu 17th	True Crime Night	Caldermeade Farm	7.30pm
Fri 18th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 19th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sat 19th	Elvis Rock 'n' Roll night	Caldermeade Farm	7.30pm
Sun 20th	Bayles Fauna Park Working Bee (page 21)	Bayles Fauna Park	9am
Mon 21st	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Mon 21st	Chair Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 21st	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Mon 21st	CWA Craft Meeting	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Thu 24th	Kids Corner with Amy	Caldermeade Farm	10am
Thu 24th	John Rowles/Engelbert Humperdinck tribute show (page 24)	Bayles Public Hall	10.30am
Fri 25th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Fri 25	Stand Up Comedy Night	Caldermeade Farm	7.30pm
Mon 28th	Chair Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 28th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Mon 28th	CWA Craft Meeting	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Sat 29th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Wed 30th	Coffee Club	Degani	10am
Thu 31st	Kids Corner with Amy	Caldermeade Farm	10am

September

Thu 7th	Ladies Auxiliary present Kay's Fashion Parade (page 23)	Senior Citizens Club	10am
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JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

For document signing and associated services contact:

GARY KING JP - 0438 663 655

BEVERLEY EDWARDS JP – 0400 584 235

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HAVE YOU GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

Have you got some news, a photo, or an opinion you want to share with your community? Why not say it in the Blackfish? Just drop me a line at blackfish@live.com.au post to PO Box 64, KWR or phone 5997 2333. *Caroline Roff, Editor*



Koo Wee Rup and Districts Lions

Written by Linda Sanders

Lions Meetings

Koo Wee Rup Lions have dinner meetings at 7pm on the first Wednesday of the month at Tooradin Sports Club and Supper meetings at 7pm on the third Wednesday of the month at the RSL rooms, Station Street, Koo Wee Rup.

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

If you would like to

join our merry team, please come along to a meeting to see how things are run or call Paul Whelan on 0400 240 724.

Koo Wee Rup Lion's Op Shop

It is not a secret that the Lion's Op Shop is doing a booming trade. As you know, it is run by volunteers only. These volunteers work from a roster and often it is difficult to fill the allocated times, so you often see the same people working for different groups. That is what good community is all about!!



All the money raised goes to 11 community groups in the local area. These groups are:

- Bayles Regional Primary School,
- KWR Football Club,
- KWR Historical Society,
- KWR Hospital Ladies Auxiliary,
- KWR Lions Club,
- KWR Men's Shed,
- KWR Netball Club,
- KWR RSL,
- KWR Scouts,
- KWR Senior Citizens,
- Uniting Church Fellowship

In the last financial year (2022-2023) the shop raised almost \$70,000. This gave each of the groups \$6,287.49 which goes a long way to helping these groups survive and flourish. There would have to be a lot of sausage sizzles and raffles to raise that much each year.

A very special thank you to the workers "out the back" of the Op Shop. Mary Wilson has now taken over from Sheryl Blay as Manager with helpers Sheryl Blay, Carole Milner, Marie Meyer and Olywn Portbury. Without these ladies, the Op Shop would not exist. Their hard work and dedication are to be applauded.

Thanks to everyone who donates their clothing and goods to the Op Shop. We request that the clothing be of good quality without stains and marks. If you wouldn't give it to a friend – please don't give it to the Op Shop! We ask if donations can be delivered during opening hours as this prevents them from being saturated when it rains and stops people rummaging through the goods donated and making it difficult to take them inside.

A large sum of the money raised by the shop goes to hiring a skip bin to get rid of items that cannot be used. We would prefer if this money was to go to the local community groups.

WINTER

June 2023

I blow the dust off a volume I will not read.
The Tulip Tree has finally shed its last leaf
they fell large and yellow, as if spilt paint
now wet and brown like rotting bodies
dead soldiers on muddy fields of grass.

A Bandicoot sneaks into the backyard
an alert bird steals the old cat's leftovers.
Wind picks up, with no leaves left to rustle.
Dead twigs feel it, breaking off and falling
like the frail skeletons of clouds
that have already long passed.

Where are the friends of lost youth?
vanished already under weed and clover
others too released, drifting far out of reach.
What of teachers, whose waves of words
washed over like unremembered sunlight.
Yet the crickets still chirp on and on
the drains and waterways keep flowing
into Western Port, which remains unfilled.
The flow of clouds never ever ends
arriving from who knows where.

I get up and lock the back door
pulling the curtains closed
like shovelling up past regrets repined
yet still glimmering like gems.
Winter rain hails the weeds to return again
their wet heavy heads droop
on their bending stems.

Warren Breninger



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	Rice	Papadum

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Every Tuesday

- Order above \$50
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 - 1 Gulab Jamun
 - 1 Coke
- Order above \$100
Free item worth \$10
Choose one of:
 - Potato Pakora
 - 2 Gulab Jamun
 - 2 coke
 - 1 Kulfi
- Order above \$150
Free item worth \$15
Choose one of:
 - Potato Pakora
 - 3 Gulab Jamun
 - 3 coke
 - 1 Kulfi & 2 Gulab Jamun

Every Thursday

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Order above \$50	250ml Container
Order above \$100	500ml Container
Order above \$150	700ml Container

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Koo Wee Rup Township Committee Meeting *continued from front page*

- Traffic Counters are being used on the unmade section of Boundary Drain Road to determine if it requires sealing.
- The Town Planning meeting was held on 3RD July. Cr Cameron will follow up the application for Community Care Living again to try and gain further clarification on what this entails, and to see why this development has not been advertised for comment.
- The suggestion for traffic lights at the intersection of Moody St and Station St will be referred to the Department of Transport as they control that intersection. The council traffic engineer did not think it would be adopted but will take the proposal to DoT.

Frank commented that part of the issue for Boundary Drain Road is that the grading technique is poor and is resulting in the road surface getting narrower.

The person who was slashing tyres in the Koo Wee Rup Woolworths car park has been apprehended and charged.

The large pothole at the intersection of Rossiter Road and Station St has been filled again but is already wearing through. Needs a proper patch not temporary filling.

The Access and Inclusion Committee has been looking at improvements to Main St Pakenham to make it more accessible as people are going to Pakenham Marketplace as opposed to Main Street.

Is there any news regarding redevelopment of the PMP site? Options for town square as people already use the old seating to consume their fish and chips. Could improve the area by planting along the temporary fence and talk to the RSL about planting along their fence. Confirm with Nat Noonan if council grants have to be used on council land. The demolition sign on the fence is advertising only and not indicative of imminent work on the site.

Gus put the call out for more people to volunteer for the Community Centre Committee. The current committee is at minimum numbers, the current members want to keep the committee going but is getting harder with numbers so low. If the committee loses any more members, then running of the Community Centre will be handed back to council which

could mean not as much local advocacy to maintain and upgrade the community centre. The Committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm at the Community Centre.

The next meeting of the Township committee is the AGM. Refreshing the committee was discussed, the Secretary will contact other groups in Town and invite them to send a representative to Township Committee meetings.

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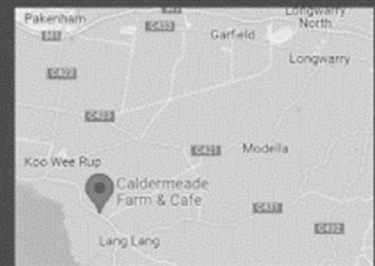
ELVIS PRESLEY	TOM JONES
NEIL DIAMOND	GREASE
BILL HALEY	BUDDY HOLLY
DEAN MARTIN	ROY ORBISON
BEATLES	RITCHIE VALENS
DION DIMUCCI	BIG BOPPER

PERFORMED BY ANDREW PORTELLI

UPCOMING AUGUST EVENTS:

- 1st - Morning Melodies - Paul Hogan (FREE!)
- 3rd - Kids Corner with Amy (FREE!)
- 10th - Kids Corner with Amy (FREE!)
- 15th - Morning Melodies - Issi Dye (FREE!)
- 17th - Kids Corner with Amy (FREE!)
- 17th - True Crime Night (\$45+ - Eventbrite)
- 19th - Elvis Rock'n'roll night (\$25+ - Eventbrite)
- 24th - Kids Corner with Amy (FREE!)
- 25th - Comedy Night (\$15+ - Eventbrite)
- 31st - Kids Corner with Amy (FREE!)

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What was that siren?

July 2023

It was the Koo Wee Rup Fire Brigade back up siren to alert all the volunteers to attend the station for a turn out call. It's also used to let the local community know we are about to be out and about on a call.

Our calls since the last report were:

- 22/6/23- Fence fire - Tresize Crt Lang Lang
- 23/6/23 – Car fire – Westernport Rd Lang Lang
- 3/7/23 – Car fire/collision – South Gippsland Hwy Tooradin
- 4/7/23 – Smoke showing – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 7/7/23 – Car fire – Range Rd Lang Lang
- 11/7/23 – Truck brake fire – Westernport Rd Lang Lang
- 11/7/23 – Vehicle collision/entrapment – Koo Wee Rup Rd Bayles
- 16/7/23 – Assist Police – Icke Rd Koo Wee Rup
- 17/7/23 – Vehicle into building – Quinny St Koo Wee Rup



Fire Plugs – You have one nearby, you just may not know it

If you have a fire hydrant out the front, on or near your nature strip, please help us by always keeping it clear, easily visible and accessible. If a fire occurs in your home, or that of a neighbour, it is essential that firefighters can gain access to the closest hydrant quickly and easily as our trucks only carry a certain amount of water.

A blue reflective marker on the road, and a white post with a red top and blue reflective marker usually identifies the position of a hydrant.

Thank you to the local residents that already keep their hydrant nice and clear for us.

Smoke Alarm Installation Program

CFA now has a free Smoke Alarm Installation Program happening where suitably trained volunteers will come to your house, do a survey on what smoke alarms you currently have installed, give you a few tips and information on the care of your alarms and then, if needed install new alarms.

As all alarms have a 10-year service life, all alarms should be replaced

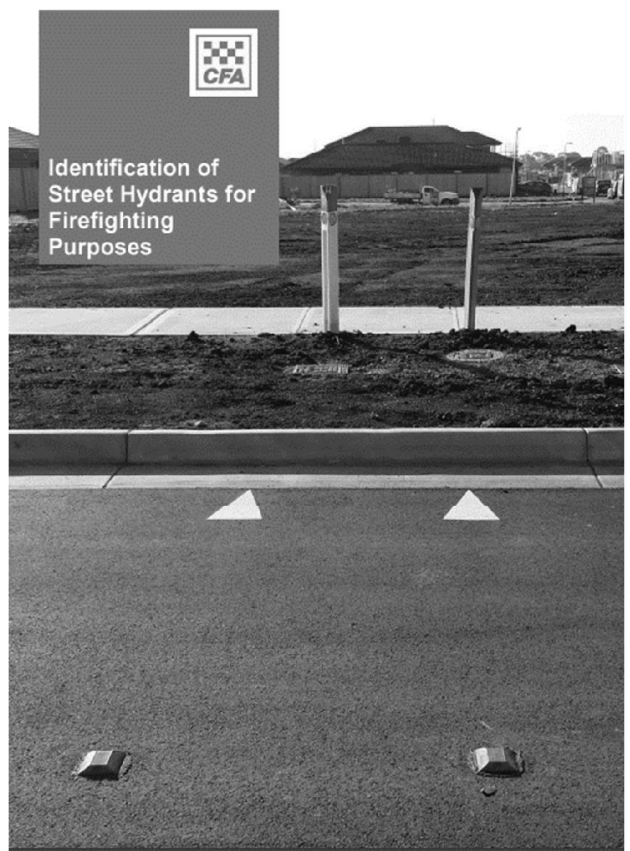
if they are more than 10-years old, batteries should be replaced regularly and they should be tested monthly.

The new smoke alarms installed by CFA have a lithium 10-year battery in them so they don't need changing but the whole alarm should be replaced after 10 years.

If you are interested in Koo Wee Rup CFA volunteers coming to your residence to look at your smoke alarms and, perhaps install new one, please contact roger.smith7@members.cfa.vic.gov.au

Contact Us

You can contact us for non-emergency enquiries via email. Call Triple zero in an emergency kooweerup.sec@members.cfa.vic.gov.au or facebook @KooWeeRupFireBrigade





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Koo Wee Rup Country Women's Association

Written by Linda Sanders

MEETING DATES

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

Our next craft meeting will be on Monday 21st August 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 Kate Balcombe on 0408 203 743 for more details, or just



turn up on the night.

CWA MEMBERSHIP

If you have been considering joining the Koo Wee Rup CWA, now is the time. We are in need of additional members to keep the club open. Our AGM is coming up later in year and we are in need of a President and Secretary. In most community groups these positions are often hard to fill with members having busy lives.

SCONE QUEEN

Each year our members have a competition to find who is the best at baking scones. On Monday 7th August we are having this year's competition. Not all scones are equal, especially my rock cakes.

Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens Club

Icke Road, Koo Wee Rup

60 members enjoyed a Christmas in July lunch at the Royal Hotel. All activities are well attended. We welcome new members at an annual fee of \$10.

Monday	Indoor Bowls	11am
Friday	Lunch followed by Hoy	11.45am
Every 4 th Wednesday of the month	Activity/craft morning	10am – 1pm

All enquiries:

Dianne 0419 405 404

Leonie 0477 249 000

Koo Wee Rup
Senior Citizens Club

AGM

Thursday 10th August
10.30 am

at Club Rooms
Icke Road, KWR

Steve: 0408 487 990 Etelka 0412 487 990

Phone/Fax: 5997 7652



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1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group

Group Leader – Brooke

Contact 0457 171 039–or 1stkwrscouts@gmail.com

After the quick break for School holidays, we have returned for Term 3. There have been some changes. We would like to thank Shane for all his hard work and dedication as Group Leader for the last four years. We hope you enjoy stepping back into the Venturer Leader role.



We would like to welcome our new Group Leader Brooke and Assistant Group Leader Cherie.

All sections have returned to the Scout Hall for the term with big programs ahead. Jack from Cub Scouts is working towards his Grey Wolf Award. As part of this badgework he planned and completed a 12km hike. Great work Jack.



Our Scouts and Venturers had a joint night at the local Op Shop getting to see behind the scenes. Venturers brought outfits to have a formal night with a Shakespeare theme.



Do you have a child that would like to come along and see what we do? We have space available in all sections, so if you are aged 5 to 25 get in touch, we would love to meet you.



Joey Scouts
5 to 7 year old
Monday
6:30 - 7:30



Cub Scouts
8 to 11 year old
Tuesday
7:00 - 8:30



Scouts
11 to 14 year old
Wednesday
7:00 - 9:00



Venturers
14 to 17 year old
Friday
7:00 - 9:00



Rovers
18 to 25 year old
Thursday
7:00 - 9:00



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About the Consumer Advisory Committee

The next meeting of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) will be held on the 15th of August. But, in the meantime, any of our members will be available to you if you want to communicate with the Koo-Wee-Rup Regional Health Service (KRHS) Board of Management about problems that could be upsetting you, as a patient, a resident or a carer, and also, maybe, as an individual Koo-Wee-Rup resident or, indeed, from the whole community's point of view. The Community Advisory Committee members will listen closely to you and acknowledge your concerns, so that any problem you may have is understood and seriously considered.

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 KHRS, then get in touch with the KHRS CAC. Simply phone KRHS on 5997 9679 or Geoffrey Stokes on 0435085002 Or you can email: >. Your email will be acknowledged. As stated above, the next meeting of the committee is planned for the 15th of August 2023 at 10:00 am. Before then we shall have informal meetings with each other to check on any problems that may have arisen or are arising.

Geoff Stokes

Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club

Nothing much happening during the Winter months. The Club is continuing to hold Twilight bowls [weather permitting] on Friday nights from 6.00 p.m. If the weather is too ordinary social activities can be arranged. Come along and bring family/friends all welcome.

For those people who do not like to be out of a evening, the club has a monthly lunch during the Winter months, usually on the 3rd Wednesday, at various eateries around the area. Members of the public. are quite welcome to attend. Contact Sec [5996.1862] or Club [5997.1266]

We have 3 of our members from the Social members joining Full membership of the Club so they can play Pennant comps. etc. this season. Cam Davey, Bec Watts & Jimi Watts have moved their membership to full. All will be assets to the Club. We have also welcomed Rob Matthews back to the Club after a break of a couple of seasons. Good to have you back Rob.



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My home life as a child in the 1930s *by Geoff Stokes*

In the July '23 edition of 'Blackfish' I wrote about my memories of my first days at school in 1937 and my experiences of being a very young patient in the infectious diseases infirmary in the town (now a city) of Wolverhampton in the UK. I have had a lot of reactions from our readers to that story, so I have decided to continue writing about that era and how different everything was then to how things are today. It's about my home in those mid-nineteen thirties and its influence on me.

From a historical point of view, in the early years, apart from the nobility, hardly anyone in the UK moved away from their birthplace village or town. It was not until the early 1800s at the start of the industrial revolution that they did so and therefore it is quite easy to find your own family history through your village church parish records and also of course, the national records. Not much travelling by people is also the reason there are so many distinctive speaking dialects in every part of the UK. My own direct and logged family records go back to 1495 and are linked to Adrian Stokes who married Frances Grey, Duchess of Suffolk. She was the mother of Lady Jane Grey, de facto Queen of England and Ireland for nine days (10 July 1553 - 19 July 1553), as well as Lady Katherine Grey and Lady Mary Grey. Have a look at Wikipedia. My link is through his brother William and his father, Rupert. On the other hand, looking at this information in another light; if all of William's descendants each had two children over say 15 generations, and calculating with the average junior death rate of the times and then cater for childless couples, some 2,097,152 people in the world are related to me in 2023! So, it's no big deal really! We certainly didn't live in a palatial villa. My story now is to show you how different life at my home was in the mid-1930s to what it is now. What we did and how we thought.

Our family lived for three hundred years in Shropshire, a very rural county on the Welsh border. It was with the commencement of the UK industrial revolution that my great-grandfather, James Stokes (b.1811), brought his family to Wolverhampton to improve his lot with this new industrial revolution going on. His trade till then was a 'maltster', a maker of malt for use in brewing or distilling. He took up galvanising work and a new career at a sheet metal factory in Wolverhampton.

Forward to 1937 and our family home in Victoria Road Bradmore (then a village near Wolverhampton UK) was the end one of a row of terraced houses. Ours was very upmarket because being on the end of the row of houses, we had the luxury of a wide and gated driveway. All the houses had tiny front gardens with a low wall complete with tall iron railings so that their front doors didn't open out right on to the street. Each house also had a large bay window (this was for the 'nosy parkers' who could look up and down the street from behind their heavy velvet curtains!) and every two houses in the row had a passageway through to the rear of the property that we called 'The entry'. This 'entry' allowed access to the rear for both adjacent houses and the council workmen rolled the metal garbage bins down it noisily every week. One day I was playing out in the back garden when I was confronted by a neighbour's German shepherd dog that had broken through our hedge (This dog breed was re-named 'Alsatian' in the UK during the war, because the word 'German' was not very popular!). To escape from it I ran into the 'entry' and hopefully away from the danger out to the front of the house. To my horror the gate was bolted and locked, and I made a vain attempt to jump up and over it. I suppose the dog thought that I was playing with him really but that didn't stop him jumping up after me and taking a bite of my bum. The dog did not actually pierce my flesh, but he tore a hole in my trousers and bruised my rear end very badly. So much so that Dad had to take me to see Dr. Spackman who pronounced that I would live! However, the trauma of that day in 'the entry' affected me for many years and, from that day, I hated dogs, especially German Shepherds. It would be the mid-1970s until my fear of them was put to rest and this was when a beautiful German Shepherd dog called Angus, came into our lives.

Every house had a large back garden, mostly well tended, especially during World War 2 when the National slogan was, "Dig for Victory" and everyone was encouraged to dig up their flowers and lawns and grow vegetables. This included the soccer field in our local park. Our garden was a delight, both Mom and Dad loved gardening; Mom attended to the flowers, lawn, and the floral borders while Dad concentrated on his vegetables. We had three large apple trees in the garden, a Russet over a disused well, a Codling (cooking apple) and a Cox's Orange Pippin. The Cox's keeled over as I recall about 1942. The path continued to the bottom of the garden, about a hundred metres in all to an ancient oak tree at least thirty metres tall that I used to look at and watch the rooks and crows nesting in the tree.



Continued next page

Icarus Skin Cancer Clinic



Phone: 59 252 000

Address: Suite 4, Ground Floor, Hollander House, 352 Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup VIC 3981

Email : reception@icarusskincancerclinic.com.au

Website : www.icarusskincancerclinic.com.au

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Even if you are unsure if your spots have changed, it's worth having a doctor check your skin to ensure nothing is amiss. If you have a history of sunburn, multiple spots, previous skin cancer, or a family history of melanoma, you are at risk of skin cancer. The same is true if your family has light-coloured skin, even if you yourself have darker skin.

Remember that the damage may have been done when you were young, so just because you don't get sunburnt any more doesn't mean you're safe from skin cancer.

Early detection and treatment is essential

Melanoma is the third most common cancer in Australia, and more people are being diagnosed with skin cancer every year.

The good news is that, if detected early, there is approximately a 99% chance of survival as the melanoma can be confined to the skin. Delayed diagnosis, however, may result in the melanoma spreading to other parts of the body. Once this occurs, it becomes a highly aggressive cancer which makes it difficult to treat.

Unfortunately, melanomas don't present symptoms so the only way to find them is to examine your skin.

A full-body skin check by an accredited skin cancer doctor is the best aid in early diagnosis.

To make an appointment call 59 252 000 or book online

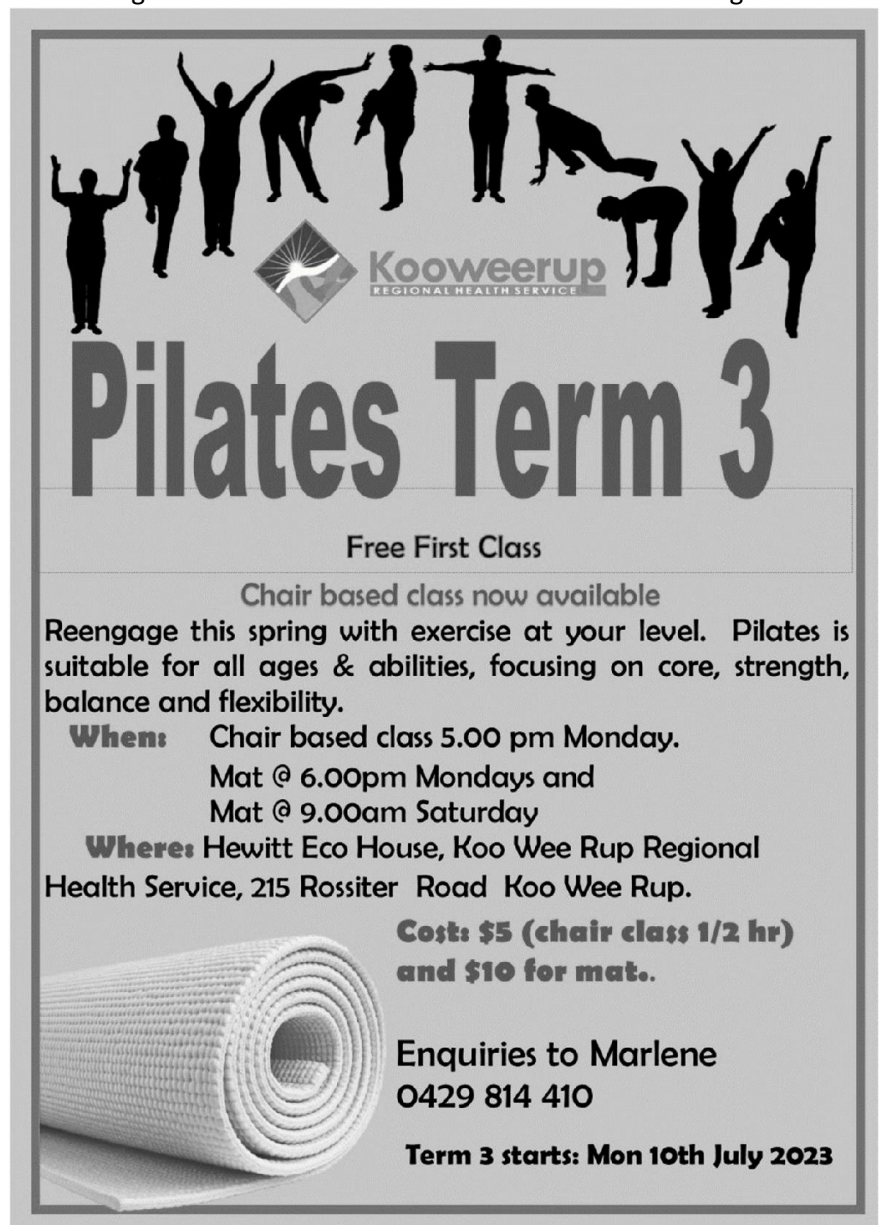
My home life as a child in the 1930s *from previous page*

As our house was at the lowest point, the accumulated water after a rainstorm in the road used to overflow in a torrent down the side of our house finding its way into the original, now dried up, Smestow brook that passed by the oak tree. It was all so exciting to me, and I floated paper boats down my own personal river with delight. Not so delighted was Mom and Dad. It was two or three years before a gang of men came along one day and ripped out the ancient drainage system and replaced it with larger pipes.

Our neighbours on the other side of the house had a son, Jacky Blun, who was much older than me, and I used to climb over the fence and play with him and Charlie Charlesworth and others, under their huge pear tree where Jacky had built a shanty tin-shed hideaway. Our favourite pastime was 'fire-cans'. We boded big holes in large fruit cans and fixed long looped wire handles to them with fence wire. A fire was started in the can and bits of coal added to the flames. To get the coals truly lighted you had to swing a can around your head, either round and round or, if you were good at it, in a figure of eight. Billowing smoke came out through the holes, and this was fun: what great smoke patterns you could make as you moved forward or backward or sideways. Inevitably there were accidents: either the can would hit the ground whilst it was on the move, or it hit the overhead branches of a tree and showered you and everyone else with red-hot coals! Great memories there.

There were shops nearby and it was here I bought my first cigarettes at the age of five: a packet of two 'Woodbine' cigarettes that had five matches in it, sold to me, a very young lad, without any questions. It was also the only shop around that sold some sort of milkless ice cream during the war years. There was yet another shop just down the road, but the owners made no attempt to make it look like a shop and you simply entered via the front door and walked into the front lounge which was set up to sell vegetables and groceries. No one seemed to think this was strange. In those childhood days I perceived our home to be a safe, happy, and loving place to live. And, of course, it certainly was. The most striking feature of the house was its large three-sided bay window, and, as my father was a gold-leaf expert and a master painter and decorator, the house was always looking smart and fresh. In 1937 paint came in only a few colours, white, black, brown, or green, always flat and the final coat was a clear varnish. Dad always painted our house in a different colour to what was the normal drab colour of the day because he mixed his own paint. It was fascinating to watch him adding and mixing turpentine and powdered ochre with other strange ingredients by hand, in what would now be a fifteen or twenty litre drum. The exciting part was the cleaning of the drum; Dad simply set it on fire in the back yard and the thick smoke whirled all around us amid our laughing and screaming! During the war years paint was difficult to get, if at all, but Dad managed to find some from somewhere. For a few years we were a pale royal blue refreshed every so often with a new coat of varnish that always drew favourable comments from the passing neighbours. Remember, everyone knew everyone else in the street and generally their everyday business; it was a very warm close-knit community, a situation that would be hard to understand today where everyone tends to keep to themselves.

Continued next page



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Reengage this spring with exercise at your level. Pilates is suitable for all ages & abilities, focusing on core, strength, balance and flexibility.

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

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

Cost: \$5 (chair class 1/2 hr) and \$10 for mat.

Enquiries to Marlene
0429 814 410

Term 3 starts: Mon 10th July 2023

My home life as a child in the 1930s *from previous page*

My bedroom was above 'the entry', and Mom and Dad's bedroom was across a stair landing They used the word 'tallboy' for one of their wardrobes and it fascinated me for ages because it was much smaller than the other two wardrobes! Underneath Mom and Dad's bedroom was our beautifully wallpapered family living room, which had a hard floor of red-clay tiles, covered with rugs and a square extendable oak table and six chairs in the middle of the room. I recall my dad being so excited one day because he realized that I had grown as tall as the table! I could now look over it (28 to 30 inches 71-76cm), all our meals were eaten at this table, and, unlike most other children of the day, we were encouraged to talk with each other at our meals. By doing this we bonded closely with each other and with Mom and Dad. No nonsense or bad table manners were tolerated of course, and my memories are of very happy times around this table. At one end of this room, was the fireplace, a white marble beauty with a mantelpiece held up by decorated marble swirls. Above this, fixed to the wall, was a huge dark-oak paneled framed mirror with smaller wing mirrors and shelves alongside. It was here, when I was just three, that my sisters found me standing on a chair looking at myself in the mirror whilst trying to smoke a cigarette that I had found! Fixed to the other wall, was a magnificent old chiming clock that had belonged to Dad's father (purchased c1865). It was dark oak, about a metre tall, like a small grandfather clock complete with a brass pendulum and brass weights and it had a 'lead light' glass door. Surmounting the top was a truly beautiful carved eagle whose talons were trapping some unidentifiable prey. On the bottom were swirls and carved leaves. The problem for my Mom was that the clock had been made in Germany! As the war with Germany progressed, the first thing she had to change was the eagle on the top of the clock. It disappeared one day and there was a smell of burning wood in the garden that evening! Later, a traveling 'rag and bone' man, as they were then called (In the UK in those days, rag-and-bone men scavenged unwanted rags, bones, metal, and other waste from the towns in which they lived), knocked on the front door one day and imagine his surprise when Mom told him to come in and take the clock away. He did and most probably received a small fortune for it. My Dad was not amused when he came home!

Opposite the fireplace was a glass paneled porcelain china cabinet that held all the family silver and several pieces of delicate porcelain including a fascinating 'moustache' cup that had a lip incorporated into the rim to support a moustache whilst drinking from it! Our kitchen was very basic and was called 'the scullery'. It had brightly painted walls and a cast iron bath was up against the left-hand wall. This very large bath had a hinged, thick, white-pine tabletop lid that doubled as a kitchen table when folded down. Opposite was a gas stove and oven, adjacent to a sink and draining board complete with just a cold-water tap. In the corner of the kitchen, was a brick built-in copper boiler, fired underneath by a coal-fire for heating the bath water which had to be ladled to the bath with a bucket (I told you it was basic!). At the end was a kitchen dresser (cabinet). Dear Mom coped with this situation for many years with little improvement to this room, yet we all ate well, even during rationing in the war years; she was a good basic cook. No piped hot water, only boiled water from the kettle and hot water from the boiler for a bath which was once a week for everyone; usually Friday evening and I was always last in there, into the same water after Mom and my sisters! Twice I was trapped in the bath. It was bath time and Mom was bathing me; she always hurt my ears by getting the flannel (washcloth) on one finger and poking it down my ear with a twisting motion. When she pulled it out of my ear the suction force hurt like hell! Possibly I still had ear problems after the otitis media that I talked about in the July '23 edition of 'Blackfish'. This particular evening, right in the middle of my bathing, there came a knock at the back door. An unexpected visitor had arrived so, in order that the visitor wouldn't see me naked in the bath, Mom told me to keep quiet and she shut down the tabletop lid with me inside! The visitor was invited into the living room via the kitchen back door. I can't remember who it was, but I had to stay where I was in silence until the person left and I was getting colder and colder. This happened twice, but later when I was older, we all used to laugh and laugh at this funny story.

Extending on from the kitchen towards the rear of the house was the built-in coalhouse and the outside lavatory. The loo had its flush tank positioned quite high on the wall and in the winter, Dad had to swathe it in old sacks to prevent it freezing up. There was always an oil hurricane lamp burning for you to see what you were doing and to also maximize the temperature in the lavatory. You didn't stay long in there in the winter; it was always very cold, especially around one's nether regions! The coalhouse was quite large and held about a tonne and a half of coal, and this was delivered by the local coal-merchant, Mr. Harrison or his son, a distant relative to us by marriage I believe. It was always an exciting time for me because it was rare that the coal was delivered in sacks. Mr. Harrison used to back his horse and cart down the side of the house (I told you it was a wide driveway) and tip up a tonne of large coals sometimes measuring over 450mm (a foot and a half) in a cloud of choking swirling black dust outside the coalhouse. I used to help Dad shovel the coal into the coalhouse. We had special wide shovels and a fine tined, very wide fork for the smaller bits but the larger pieces we had to lift into the coalhouse with brute force (mostly Dad of course!). We had a special coal hammer for Mom to use, to break up the large bits to a more manageable size for the fire grate. I remember being quite surprised to see Mr. Harrison one Sunday at church: he was not permanently completely black as I thought he was but white and neat just like us!

Continued next page

My home life as a child in the 1930s *from previous page*

The solid 'front-front' door was left open in the day during the summer then we could always see who was calling through the lead lights of the inner front door. There was a long hallway behind this door, and you would pass by the 'front room' door on the right and then the pantry door before entering the family living room. The pantry was under the stairs, the cool-room I suppose, with steps down and, at the bottom, well below the floor line, was this huge slab of Marble supported by two table-high brick walls. This was used to keep food items cool – no refrigerators then. As I recall it always seemed to have lots of colourful jellies and blancmanges sitting on it, cooling and setting. It was also where the milk jugs stood to keep cool. Our milk was delivered daily via horse and cart by Mrs. Watkins, our local farmer's wife. She carried it to our back door in a 2-gallon (9 litre) milk churn and poured it into a jug held steady by my Mom. During the war we used this pantry as an air raid shelter many, many times. Our 'sitting room', you would now call it the lounge or drawing room I suppose, was the holy of holies. My sisters and I were not allowed in the room at all except to fetch and carry things to and from there. This room was totally reserved for special visitors, i.e., the doctor, the vicar, or any close relatives, in that order, especially Aunty Gwen and Uncle Geoff who were our 'rich' relations; and they owned a car as well! Actually, there was one day in the year when we did all gather in the front room and that was Christmas Day. We hung our stockings up over the fireplace the night before together with some biscuits and a glass of milk for Santa. Next morning, after Santa Claus had been, they usually had a couple of chocolates and some fruit in them. It was normal to have just one present each from Mom and Dad plus any other presents we may have been lucky enough to get from any generous Aunts or Uncles. I can't remember getting a present from my Grandma, but she must have sent something. There were always homemade decorations and a Christmas tree and Mom, and my sisters had a happy time decorating the tree with fine glass balls and tinsel. One year there were small candles in holders on the tree, but I must confess I never saw them lit. Another favourite they put on the tree was 'sugar pigs', an image of a pig about the size of a large egg, made with solid pink or white sugar. The room was well furnished and, in the bay window, was an aspidistra in a large, polished brass flowerpot. It stood on a tall dark oak stand specially made for the job. There was also a beautiful drop leaf table, again in dark oak that had belonged to Dad's Mom; (circa 1840 and it's here now in Koo-Wee-Rup) it stood in the corner. There was a nice fireplace with a timber mantelpiece and, as I recall, a green statuette of a semi-naked woman leaping through the air. During my adolescence I always hoped that I would meet a woman like this, I never did! My dear wife Olive came nearest to her!

It was the opinion of all that I should now start to attend Sunday school. I can't remember my first Sunday at St. Philip's or what we did, but I do remember I enjoyed all the years that I spent at the Sunday school, bible class, and the social outings. My first teacher was Miss E. W. Baker and although she always seemed to me to be very old was, in fact, just twenty-nine years old. She held this position for forty years until her retirement in the 1970s. She was a kind and lovely lady, a devout and gracious Christian who helped me in those early formative years. There is now a plaque on the wall about her and about my sister Mary. It reads, "Miss E. M. Baker gained the 'Litchfield Diocesan Certificate' in bible study and teaching method in 1932. In 1934 Miss Mary Stokes (she would have been ten years old) gained the 'Certificate of Merit' for proficiency in temperance knowledge". Those of us who knew my sister Mary in later life will have a good chuckle at that one! The infants' classes were held in the older church hall and one of my first teachers was Rosalie Ramsden. When I was an adult member of the choir and a Sunday school teacher myself, she returned to visit the church and her friends after having moved away years before to a new home with her new husband. She became quite emotional when we met and shed some tears. Apparently, I was the first of her pupils that she knew of who had 'come up through the ranks' and had become a Sunday school teacher, a 'confirmed' member of the church and an active choir person. The fulfilment of a personal dream for her I would say. The superintendent at that time was Miss M. E. Icke, the daughter of Mr. G. M. Icke who owned the farmland surrounding the church. (I am not sure if there could be any relationship to KWR Icke Road) Her main job was to run the senior pupils' bible class and to organize the other classes and the teachers who ran them. I still have a bible that I received as a prize in 1938; it reads, "St Philip's Infant's Sunday School. Presented to Geoffrey Stokes. D. M. Maclaren, Vicar. M. E. Icke, Supt". It is in good condition, although it *has* been used and looks as though it has!

I was still very happy at school, playing lots of games and perfecting my understanding of the three 'Rs'. Emphasis now was towards the classics; poetry, a basic understanding of literature with books to take home, and an appreciation of classical music; the latter being Miss Simmonds forté. Serious arithmetic would be studied in my next year. 1938 was, I suppose, the last year of my innocence. Not only for me but also for millions of others around the world. I was obviously not interested in the politics of the time, I was too young and anyway I was always out enjoying myself with my mates, but I do recall the stories and the worries of the Neville Chamberlain affair and my Dad's concern about Chamberlain's appeasement policy. "Peace in our time" was talked about so often and repeated by everyone around me that I couldn't help but notice something was 'on'. Even a lad of my tender years!

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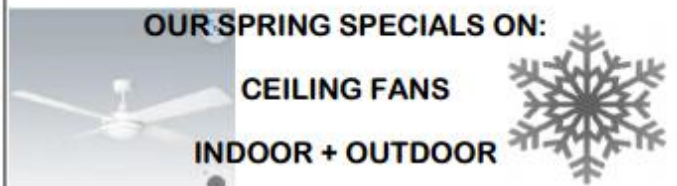
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Network open to all to empower Cardinia Shire’s women and girls

Applications are now open to join Cardinia Shire’s Women and Girls Sport and Participation Network.

Open to all people who live, work, or play in Cardinia Shire, the network aims to:

- improve participation and leadership of women and girls within sports and active recreation
- establish a framework to support opportunities for females in sport and active recreation
- provide a positive, safe, and welcoming environment for participants to build their leadership capacity

In the nearly 12 months the network has been running, it has achieved great success, with 18 members representing 11 different sporting codes across the shire.

With the network choosing what they focus on, they have been involved in leadership development sessions, advocacy, policy making and changing, the International Women’s Day Change Our Game brunch and future planning and activation for women and girls.

Council is looking to expand the network to include more people aged 16-25 years and a wider range of participants representing different sports as well as active recreation (physical activities outside of structured, competitive sport such as walking, cycling or running).

The Women and Girls Sport Participation Network was created through the Victorian Government’s Women in Sport

Change our Game Community Activation Grant.

Applications close Friday 25 August.

To apply to join the Women and Girls Sport Participation Network, or for more information, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/sportnetwork

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Sunday, 20 August
9am to 12 noon
followed by a
sausage sizzle
lunch.

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

All welcome

Cardinia Shire Council adopts 2023-24 Budget

Cardinia Shire Council has adopted its 2023–24 Budget, following a second round of community input into the draft document in May this year.

Council received and considered a total of 286 submissions from the community during the budget development process from December 2022 to May 2023.

Cardinia Shire Mayor Councillor Tammy Radford thanked the community for their involvement in shaping the budget.

“Thank you to everyone who participated in reviewing the draft budget and submitting feedback. Your input and involvement are invaluable and ensure we put our resources and effort toward the right things to best serve our community now and into the future,” Mayor Radford said.

“We’re committed to making informed and strategic financial decisions that effectively meet the needs of our community and deliver in the areas most important to you. The 2023-24 budget reflects our shared priorities.”

The 2023-24 Budget has been designed to reflect Council’s commitment to make Cardinia Shire the best possible place to live, work and raise a family.

Budget highlights

To deliver on the community’s priorities through the Council Plan 2021–25, Council prepares four-year rolling budgets, which undergo community consultation and are adopted annually.

The budget reflects Council’s prudent fiscal management, which has enabled an extensive capital works program to be included, and all vital community services to be maintained or enhanced.

The 2023–24 budget includes allocations for the following key projects:

- Better Local Roads – Princes Highway intersection upgrades – \$17.9m
- Better Local Roads – Sealing the Hills – \$16.3m
- Integrated Children’s Facility (Brunt Road) – \$7.0m
- Koo Wee Rup Bowls and Community Facility – \$5.4m
- Integrated Children’s Facility (Thewlis/Cardinia Road) – \$4.0m
- Garfield Netball Pavilion Upgrades – \$3.6m
- Officer District Masterplan – Civil Works – \$3.5m
- Cardinia Youth Facility – \$2.5m
- Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve – \$1.4m
- Pakenham Tennis Club Relocation (Club Room Renovation) – \$1.0m

The capital works program for the financial year 2023-24 is \$113.8m (including \$29.3m carryover from 2022-23), with \$69.2m dedicated to the renewal and upgrade of our \$2.3 billion worth of community assets.

The program ensures residents across the shire have access to an expanding range of new recreational and leisure facilities and renewed and upgraded infrastructure.

\$59 million is budgeted for all roads and intersection upgrade programs, including the \$17.9m ‘Princes Highway Intersection upgrades’ and \$16.3m ‘Sealing the Hills’ programs.

Other capital works budget allocations for 2023–24 include:

- recreation, leisure, and community facilities – \$13.3m
- drains and bridges – \$2.2m
- footpaths and cycleways – \$1.4m
- parks, open space, and streetscapes – \$3.4m
- property, including construction and upgrades of buildings – \$30.4m
- Plant, equipment, and lighting - \$4.1m

General rates in 2023–24 will increase 3.50 per cent, in line with the Victorian Government’s rate cap this year. This rate increase is well below current and projected inflation, as well as service contract and supply chain cost increases and staff enterprise agreement commitments. The rate cap continues to put additional pressure on Victorian councils to deliver services with significantly reduced revenue.

Reflecting the Victorian Government’s increase to the waste levy and increased waste and garbage contract costs, the residential garbage charge is \$348.60 for a 120L garbage bin and a 240L recycling bin in 2023–24. The green waste charge will increase marginally from \$129.00 to \$133.20 for a 240L bin.

Council also amended the Budget Fees & Charges Schedule to include free Annual Parking passes for Cardinia Shire residents for Emerald Lake Park and included a \$40 annual charge for non-Cardinia Shire residents.

For more information and to view the 2023-24 Budget, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/budget

News from the KRHS Ladies Auxiliary

The last meeting of the KRHS Ladies Auxiliary was held on the 7th of July '23 and our discussions were all about future events and our participation on these happy occasions. The date of September 7th has been confirmed with Kay's fashions for our fashion parade. It will be held in the Senior Citizen's club room in Ike Road starting at 10:00 am.

As mentioned last month, the Koo-Wee-Rup RSL are again holding their Christmas Fair on November 25th. We shall certainly be there with our scones, jam, cream, plus our usual stall raffle and other interesting things. We hope you will all support the town by coming along to this happy event.

Our next meeting is our Annual General Meeting when a new committee will be voted in. This meeting will be held in the education room at the hospital on Friday August 4th at 9:30 am. We really need some new members so please come along and join us, you will be very welcome, and we do have lots of laughs together. Want to know more? Ring Olive on 0435 034 101 or Marlene on 5997 1339.

Olive Stokes

Is Your Insurance Up To Date?

Whether you are a homeowner or renting, insurance is a way you can protect your assets/property from financial risks and losses in the event of a disaster. Insurance can help financially to repair or replace damaged items and assets.

We often think of large-scale natural events such as bushfires, floods and severe storms as reasons to be insured. However, insurance in cases such as housefires, a burst water pipe in the home and crime are just as important. As is ensuring that your insurance is updated each year!

Things to consider

Have you made significant improvements of value to your home or require additional cover for your contents? It is a good idea to review your insurance needs at least once every year. You can do this annually when your policy is due for renewal, or at any point throughout the year if your circumstances change. Keeping your policy up to date will help to ensure that any losses you may incur are covered.

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WEEKLY TENNIS CLASSES

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Read the fine print

Always make sure that you thoroughly read and understand the fine print of your insurance documents. They can be complicated and may seem overwhelming but will also help to ensure that your insurance coverage is adequate. Some people find engaging an insurance broker who can go through the fine print in detail can be helpful.

Being prepared

Whilst there is a good chance that you may not need to make an insurance claim, keeping your insurances up to date and accurate are a great way to be prepared in case of an unfortunate event or emergency. It is also good idea to review your emergency plan information at least once a year as well. Templates to help you can be found: https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/info/20019/fire_flood_and_emergencies/56/preparing_for_an_emergency#section-3-steps-to-follow-to-help-you-prepare

Stewart Matulis, Coordinator – Emergency Management, Cardinia Shire Council



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Showtime 10.30am to 11.30am
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2023 Programme:

- Thu. 26/1 - Judith Durham Seekers Tribute
- Thu. 23/2 - Neil Diamond Tribute
- Thu. 23/3 - Olivia Newton John Tribute
- Thu. 27/4 - Brendan Scott Show
- Thu. 25/5 - SHIRLEY BASSEY/TOM JONES Tribute
- Thu. 22/6 - Roy Orbison Tribute
- Thu. 27/7 - ELVIS Tribute
- Thu. 24/8 - John Rowles/Engelbert Tribute
- Thu. 28/9 - John Denver Country Tribute
- Thu. 26/10 - Johnny Cash Tribute
- Thu. 23/11 - Legends & Love Songs
- Thu. 28/12 - Back to the 70s & 80s Disco Classics

Bayle Public Hall—660 Kooweerup Longwarry Road, Bayles
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NAR NAR GOON

BINGO

EVERY THURSDAY !
 Community Hall, Nar Nar Goon
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Special Bingo Dates:
 Easter Bingo - 6th April 2023
 Birthday Bingo - 24th August 2023
 Christmas Bingo - 21st December 2023

Bigger game prize wins!
2 x additional raffle draws

Heated / Cooled venue. Canteen. EFTPOS available.
 1st Session - books sales from 6:30pm (\$2 games), or
 2nd Session - book sales from 8:00pm (\$4 games)
 2 Bingo flyers plus Rays Raffle (win \$50 cash or \$50
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KOOWEERUP REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE
 235 Rossiter Rd. Koo Wee Rup. Vic. 3981 Phone: 5997 9679
 Email: info@krhs.net.au Website: www.kooweeruphospital.net.au August 2023 Find us on 

Meet our Dietitians

At Kooweerup Regional Health Service, we have a dietetics team of two: Janelle Molnar and Stephanie Orellana. Both dietitians are dedicated to your nutritional needs and are passionate about helping you meet your goals. Our dietitians see people of all ages.

What do dietitians do?

If you see a dietitian, you will enter a judgement free zone. There is no requirement to completely change your diet and obsess over what you eat. In fact, we will work with you to design a plan that works for you. We know that everyone is different and an approach that works for one person may not work for you. We will look at your medical history, your needs, goals and lifestyle, as well as your likes and dislikes to provide personalised nutrition advice and tailored plans.


Specific things dietitians may do include: assessing nutrition needs, developing personalised nutrition goals for health conditions, providing nutrition counselling and support, educating on healthy eating and food preparation, and developing nutrition communications, programs and policies (Source: Dietitians Australia).

What dietitians will do	What dietitians won't do
Work <u>with</u> you to find out: your lifestyle, likes and dislikes, your goals, what has and hasn't worked	Force you to not eat the foods you love
Collaborate with you to come up with a plan that works for you and meets your goals	Make you buy expensive supplements or unheard-of foods
	Write unrealistic diet plans
	Judge you for not eating "perfectly"

Our Dietitians are available for appointments on Thursdays and Fridays 8.30am-5pm.

Please call Kooweerup Regional Health Service on: (03) 5997 9679 for any enquires.



 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 Podiatry and a Diabetes Clinic. KRHS is a member of the 'International Health Promoting Hospitals Network' and 'Global Green and Healthy Hospitals'.

Outlook

an inclusive society for all

Outlook Community offers a wide range of courses to meet Community needs, including free information sessions, hobbies and computers. We also offer specialised training such as Recreational Boat Licence to help you get out on the water with your boat and jetski.



To view our complete Term 3 Program Guide visit www.outlookaust.org.au, drop in for a booklet or scan the QR code. If you need some assistance, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

HOW TO ENROL IN A PROGRAM

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

Microsoft Office – Beginners

Would you like to use the free version of Microsoft Office online but not sure where to start? Do you need basic computer skills for work or are your skills a bit rusty? This course will get participants up and running with a range of Microsoft Apps. Discover what they are used for and learn the basics of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Publisher, OneDrive and more.

Fridays commencing 11 August for 6 sessions, 9.30am - 12.30pm. Cost \$45 (includes course notes)

Resilience and Empowerment Training

Being resilient and positive, with a sense of wellbeing, enables a person to approach other people and situations with confidence and optimism. It allows you to face challenges, learn from them, and develop ways to live a happy and healthy life.

In this course you will learn: the skills of coping with the ups and downs of life, wellbeing strategies and the ability to cope with new situations.

Wednesdays commencing 23 August for 4 sessions, 9.30am - 2.30pm Cost \$35

Watercolour Painting

Looking to dip your toes into the world of watercolour painting?

Join our beginner's watercolour painting class. You will learn the fundamentals of watercolour painting techniques, colour mixing, and brushwork. Includes the basics and colour wheel, life study, nature and sea life.

Thursdays commencing 24 August for 4 sessions. 10.00am - 11.00am Cost \$95

(Please contact the Centre for a materials list)

Genealogy

Are you interested in learning about your family history? This research group will provide you with:

- Finding your ancestors (where to start) and setting up your family tree
- How to search records with surname and occupation help
- How to solve family mysteries
- How to print your discoveries

Fridays commencing 18 August for 4 sessions, 10.00am - 12.00pm Cost \$85

Stroke Safe Information Session

In Australia, a stroke occurs every 19 minutes and around 25 percent of stroke survivors are of working age. The good news is up to 80 percent of strokes are preventable. Understand what a stroke is and how to recognise the signs of a stroke, what to do if someone is having a stroke and how to prevent a stroke.

Thursday 31 August, 10.00am - 11.00am Cost FREE

Supported Stroke Foundation.

Prevent stroke. Save lives.

Enhance recovery.

strokefoundation.org.au



Menopause Information Session

This session will include the following information for perimenopause and menopause:

- Definition and causes
- Diagnosis
- Symptoms
- Health and wellbeing impacts
- Management including: lifestyle changes, non-hormonal methods, menopause hormone therapy, formerly known as HRT
- Help seeking and support for management



This session is run by Women's Health in the South East (WHISE)

Wednesday 30 August, 1.30pm - 3.00pm Cost FREE

Senior Safe Driver Expo

Topics Covered:

- How ageing can affect driving
- Tips to enhance your safety when driving
- How to manage driving with a medical condition
- Planning for the future
- Where to get information

Includes refreshments.

Wednesday 20 September, 9.45am - 2.30pm Cost FREE

No test involved.

Supported by RoadSafe South East and vic roads

Community Road Safety Grants



Community Road Safety Grants



Royal Hotel Koo Wee Rup - The McNamara, the O'Brien and the Daniher families

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

The Royal Hotel in Koo Wee Rup was built by Denis McNamara, who had been issued a victualler's licence at a hearing at the Wonthaggi Licensing Court held on December 18, 1914. This gave him the right to build a hotel in the town. Tenders were invited for the construction of the hotel in February, 1915 and Mr A. Oliver, of Oakleigh, won the tender for the contract price of £3,305. The Hotel was officially opened on Thursday, September 9, 1915. The *Lang Lang Guardian* reported on the hotel in glowing terms -

Mr D. McNamara's handsome ornate, and commodious new hotel on the main street, Kooweerup is now completed. It is a two storied brick building, and one of the finest edifices of



The Royal Hotel in flood, 1934

the kind in Gippsland, being greatly admired by all visitors to the town. It is a monument to the enterprise of the proprietor. It also reported that the hotel has been furnished throughout by Mr McKee, of Royal Arcade, Melbourne, the rooms are fitted up in the most up-to-date and luxurious manner. Visitors to the place state that they have seen no hotel outside Melbourne furnished and equipped in such a finished and elaborate style.

In November 1918, Denis McNamara sold the Hotel for £7,000 to John O'Brien of Trafalgar. John O'Brien was an

experienced hotel-keeper, but more importantly as the *Koo Wee Rup Sun* reported -

Mrs O'Brien is a smart and keen business woman, and this combined with a personality that has already won golden opinions, is sure to make a success of the Royal. The smart Mrs O'Brien was born Julia Teresa Moloney and she married John in 1892.

After leaving Koo Wee Rup, Denis and his family moved to Hawksburn and he took up the license of the Bush Inn Hotel in Williams Road, Toorak. John O'Brien operated the Royal Hotel until April 1921 when the licence was transferred back to Denis McNamara, although Mr O'Brien retained ownership of the building.

Denis died July 27, 1925, aged 60 years old. *The Advocate* of August 20, 1925, published this obituary of Denis McNamara -

Born in County Clare, Ireland in 1846, Mr. McNamara was a young man when he came to Victoria. He engaged in business in Melbourne before coming to Koo Wee Rup in 1891, where he opened a store. In 1901 he returned to Melbourne, and was in turn the licensee of the Carlton Club Hotel, the United States, the Albury hotels. In 1902 he married a Miss Mary Ann Manney, from his home country, and had as family May and Frank. He suffered an early bereavement in the loss of his young wife. Returning to Koo Wee Rup in 1904, he bought O'Riordan's store, which he successfully conducted. In 1908 he married Miss Alice Morris, his bereaved wife, and later took out the first licence in Koo Wee Rup, building the substantial Royal Hotel. He was esteemed by all who knew him. His kindly smile, his cheerful word, and his open-handed generosity were enjoyed by many.

Continued next page

ROYAL HOTEL,
Kooweerup.
D. McNamara, Proprietor.
First-class Accommodation. Best Ales, Wines & Spirits.
Billiards.

ROYAL HOTEL,
Kooweerup.
J. O'Brien, Proprietor.
First-class Accommodation. Best Ales, Wines & Spirits
stocked and sold at reasonable prices. Billiards.

Royal Hotel Koo Wee Rup

The McNamara, the O'Brien and the Daniher families *(from previous page)*

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

Denis' first wife, Mary Ann, had died on October 15, 1905 aged 29. She left behind two little children - Mary Bridget, born 1902, also called May. Mary became a Nun, Sister Denise of Presentation College in Windsor and she died in 1989; Francis Michael, born 1904, also called Frank. Francis died in March 1983.

After the death of Mr McNamara, the Hotel continued to be operated by the McNamara family until 1927, with Alice McNamara (Denis' widow) as the licensee and Frank McNamara (Denis' son) as the manager. For some time after they left Koo Wee Rup, Alice was the licensee of the London Tavern, in Moray Street, South Melbourne.

Alice McNamara died on June 28, 1937, and as her obituary in the *Koo Wee Rup Sun* relates, her sister died the same day -

It is with the deepest regret that we record the death of an old and highly respected resident of Kooweerup, in the person of Mrs Alice McNamara, wife of the late Mr Denis McNamara, at the age of 57 years. When word reached Kooweerup on Monday morning of her sudden death in the city quite a gloom was cast over the township, for through her ever-ready aid in the past in all cases of distress she was honored throughout the whole district, and owing to her unbounded hospitality when with her late husband they were in charge of the Royal Hotel, Kooweerup, her generosity will long live among many throughout the whole State. She was a daughter of the late Mr and Mrs J. Morris, of Kilmore..... On Friday last the deceased received word of the illness of her sister and only relative, Mrs Jane Scott, wife of the late Mr G. Scott (late A.I.F.), of South Melbourne, and she hurried to the city to render what aid she could on her behalf. Leaving her son Frank's suburban residence for the railway station on Monday morning to visit the hospital where her sister was an inmate, the deceased suddenly collapsed in the railway yards and passed to the Great Beyond. Strange to relate, within three hours her sister had joined her in the Great Adventure

She had four children with Denis - Alice, born 1909, who married Daniel Parks in 1929 and died in August 1951; John Patrick, born 1910. He was ordained as a Priest in 1935, was an RAAF Chaplain during the Second World War and died in 1986. His obituary noted that the year of his birth and the year of his death coincided with the appearance of Halley's Comet; Margaret Frances, born 1914, nicknamed 'Blue'. Married Cecil Ernest Murray, in 1941, and died October 2004; Colleen Josephine, born 1917, did not marry, and died February 2004. Denis and Alice are buried at the Pakenham Cemetery.

It was in August 1927, that John Patrick Daniher took over the licence from Alice McNamara. He was the son-in-law of John O'Brien. However before we look at the Danihers, we will look further at the life and business interests of Mr O'Brien with this August 1925 article from the Korumburra newspaper the *Great Southern Advocate*—

Mr. J. O'Brien is now the proprietor of the Korumburra Hotel, which has been entirely renovated throughout. The much-needed painting of the outside has completely transformed the appearance of the hotel. Mr. O'Brien owns the freehold of the Royal Hotel at Kooweerup, where he spent many years. He was recognised as a good sport, and always worked hard to forward the interests of the district. He took a great interest in the Kooweerup football team, so much so that the members before his departure elected him a life member of their club. The team was premiers two years while Mr. O'Brien was there. He also gave valuable assistance in raising £1000 by a queen carnival and fete for the purpose of building a cottage hospital for the Bush Nursing Association, the Kooweerup branch of which he was vice-president. He was a good supporter of the band, race club or anything that tendered to advance the town and district. He is also the owner of the freehold of the Criterion Hotel, Trafalgar, of which his son-in-law (Mr. J. Daniher) is licensee.

John Patrick Daniher had married Marie O'Brien on August 25, 1920. Their wedding was written-up in *Table Talk*, a newspaper which covered many weddings, the Theatre, the races and other social activities —

Continued next page



Royal Hotel Koo Wee Rup

The McNamara, the O'Brien and the Daniher families *(from previous page)*

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

The marriage of Miss Marie (Doll) O'Brien, second (twin) daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. O'Brien, of the Royal Hotel, Koo-wee-rup, to Mr. John Patrick Daniher, younger son of late Mr. J. Daniher, of Euroa, and Mrs. Daniher, of Wyalong, N.S.W., was celebrated on Wednesday, August 25, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Father Keenan (Koo-wee-rup), assisted by Rev. Father Kett. In the unavoidable absence of the bride's father, she was given away by her brother, Mr. James O'Brien, and looked charming in her bridal gown of ivory charmeuse, with over-dress of georgette, trimmed with beads and filet lace; veil of Limerick lace, surmounted by a wreath of orange blossom. A gold wristlet watch was the gift

of the bridegroom, while her gift to him was a pair of silver military hair brushes. She was attended by her twin sister, Miss Veronica (Fairy) O'Brien, whose dainty frock of white taffeta was made with a three-tiered skirt and trimmed with filet lace, while her hat of black tulle was adorned with a posy of pink flowers and streamers of black ribbon. The bridegroom's gift to her was a pearl brooch. Mr. J. J. Daniher supported his brother as best man.

The Danihers had purchased the freehold of the Royal Hotel in 1927, as well as holding the licence. In September 1934, the licence was transferred to Edith Leahy. This turned out to be a short-term arrangement as in January 1935, the licence was transferred to Marie Daniher. The Danihers operated the Hotel until June 1939, when they left



The best man, J.J. Daniher; the bridesmaid, Veronica (Fairy) O'Brien; the groom John Daniher and the bride, Marie (Doll) O'Brien. From - Table Talk, September 16, 1920.

[Bit of an odd photo as the bride is usually the central figure]

Koo Wee Rup; the licensees in the next three years were H.T. Baker and M.J. Haig. In June 1942, the *Dandenong Journal* would announce that the Danihers have returned after an absence of 3 years and have resumed control.

The Daniher family owned the Royal Hotel building until the 1960s, maybe longer. Marie Daniher died July 27, 1989, aged 89 and John had died June 15, 1972, aged 80. John's death notice list their children as Julie, Margaret, Pat, John and Lorraine. Marie and John are buried at the Cheltenham Memorial Park. Marie's father John O'Brien died in 1946, aged 82 and her mother, Julia, died in 1959, aged 92. They are buried at Boroondara Cemetery.

The Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society meets on the second Wednesday of each month at Mallow house in Rossiter Road, corner of Henry Street. The next meeting is on August 9, 2023 and over winter we are starting at 7.00pm. New members welcome. The Museum is open the second and fourth Sundays from 1.30pm until 4.00pm.

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

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Koo Wee Rup


RSL, Masonic Lodge and Lions Club

Casino Games Night

7.30pm – 11.00pm
Held at Masonic Hall, Rossiter Road Koo Wee Rup
26th August 2023





CASINO – GAMES NIGHT



Come dressed in your best 1920's Gangsters, Molls and Flappers outfits
Bring a plate to share.
\$10.00 per person entry fee gets you a bundle of play money/chips to play with all night on the
Roulette - Black Jack - Texas Hold'em - The Big Wheel - Horse Races
Then bid for special prizes in the auction at the end of the night with your accumulated winnings.

Bring your friends Come along for a Fun night \$10.00 will get you \$2000 Play money to start you off

Enquiries:
Bev Edwards
Secretary
Koo Wee Rup RSL
0400 584 235
Over 18's only

Getting to know your Family History:

a series of talks on the third Thursday of the month, 2023.

Presented by
Jane Rivett-Carnac, President of the Narre Warren & District Family History Group and Heather Arnold, President of the Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society.
Venue: Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society Museum, 325 Rossiter Road, or Henry Street, Koo Wee Rup.
Talks run from 11.00am to 12 noon.

Programme


August 17
National Archives of Australia and Public Records Office of Victoria

September 21
Photographs and Maps: where to find them and why you want to


October 19
Irish records

November 16
Local History Societies, RHSV, Cornish Society and similar groups and how they can help with your family history.

Gold coin donation appreciated. No bookings required.
Parking available at rear of Museum.
More information – Jane 0412 084 671 or Heather 0407 521 637



These talks are brought to you by the Narre Warren and District Family History Group and the Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society



KOO WEE COFFEE CLUB



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

August	2	Royal Hotel
	16	Chandelier Café
	30	Degani
September	6	Royal Hotel
	20	Chandelier Café
October	4	Royal Hotel
	18	Chandelier Café




Enquiries ph Jo on 0428 557 411

 Like
 Koo Wee Coffee Club