

THE KOO WEE RUP BLACKFISH



DECEMBER 2023

50 Years of Santa Sofia Festa

The 50th Anniversary of the St Sofia Festival was celebrated on the 29th of October. Report page 3.



Koo Wee Rup Township Committee Meeting

The Township held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, 1 November at the KWR Community Centre. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 6 December at 7:30 pm at the KWR Community Centre. Everyone is welcome to attend Township Meetings and join in the discussion. Continued page 5

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

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What's on in Koo Wee Rup and District

December

Date	Event	Location	Time
Fri 1st	KRHS Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	Education Room, Hospital	9:30am
Fri 1st	Tripples	Bowls Club	10:30am
Fri 1st	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Hoy (members only) (page 13)	Senior Citizens Club	11:30am
Fri 1st	Social Bowls	Bowls Club	6pm
Sat 2nd	Scouts Christmas Tree Sales	Station Street, opp PO	9am
Sat 2nd	Pennant	Bowls Club	1pm
Mon 4th	Morring Melodies (free) Alex Nyl (page 5)	Caldermeade Farm	10:30am
Mon 4th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only) (page 13)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Tue 5th	Morring Melodies (free) Carol Tawee (page 6)	Caldermeade Farm	10:30am
Wed 5th	Coffee Club (page 14)	Royal Hotel	10am
Wed 5th	Morring Melodies (free) Alicia O'Brien (page 6)	Caldermeade Farm	10:30am
Wed 5th	Santa Run (back page)	All over Koo Wee Rup	4pm
Wed 5th	Lions Club Meeting (page 5)	Tooradin Sports Club	7pm
Wed 5th	Township Committee Meeting (front page)	Community Centre	7:30pm
Thu 7th	Morring Melodies (free) Retro Jo (page 6)	Caldermeade Farm	10:30am
Thu 7th	South West Gippsland midweek bowls	Bowls Club	10:30am
Thu 7th	Heart Foundation Walking (page 19)	KWR Clocktowers	7pm
Fri 8th	Morring Melodies (free) Bobby James (page 6)	Caldermeade Farm	10:30am
Fri 8th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Hoy (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11:30am
Fri 8th	Social Bowls	Bowls Club	6pm

December

Date	Event	Location	Time
Sat 9th	Scouts Christmas Tree Sales	Station Street, opp PO	9am
Sat 9th	Koo Wee Rup Writing Church Christmas Fair (back page)	UA Church, Acssiter Road	10am
Sat 9th	Koo Wee Rup Carols by Candlelight	Cochrane Park	7pm
Mon 11th	KWF Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Tue 12th	Pennant	Bowls Club	10:15am
Tue 12th	Have a Chat Chuzdays (page 24)	UA Church Hall	2pm
Tue 12th	Community Centre Committee Meeting	Community Centre	7:30pm
Wed 13th	KWF Swamp Historical Society Meeting (page 27)	KWR Historical Society	6pm
Thu 14th	Heart Foundation Walking	KWR Clocktowers	7pm
Fri 15th	KWF Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11:30am
Fri 15th	Social Bowls	Bowls Club	6pm
Sat 16th	Market Day with live entertainment (page 6)	Caldermeade Farm	9am
Sat 16th	Pennant	Bowls Club	1pm
Sun 17th	Bayles Fauna Park Working Bee (page 17)	Bayles Fauna Park	9am
Wed 20th	Coffee Club	Chandelier Cafe	10am
Wed 20th	Lions Club Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7pm
Thu 21st	Heart Foundation Walking	KWR Clocktowers	7pm
Sun 24th	Family Christmas Eve Mass and Carols (page 4)	St. John's Church	7pm
Mon 25th	Christmas Mass	St. Marys Lang Lang	8am
Thu 28th	Back to the 70s and 80s Disco Classics (page 20)	Bayles Public Hall	10:30am
Thu 28th	Heart Foundation Walking	KWR Clocktowers	7pm

January

Date	Event	Location	Time
Wed 3rd	Coffee Club	Royal Hotel	10am
Thu 4th	Heart Foundation Walking	KWR Clocktowers	7pm
Thu 11th	Heart Foundation Walking	KWR Clocktowers	7pm
Fri 12th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Hoy (members only) (page 13)	Senior Citizens Club	11:30am
Sun 14th	Paris Tournament	Bowls Club	10:30am
Mon 15th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only) (page 13)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Tue 16th	Pennant	Bowls Club	10:15am
Wed 17th	Coffee Club	Chandelier Cafe	10am
Thu 18th	South West Gippsland Midweek	Bowls Club	10:45am
Thu 18th	Heart Foundation Walking	KWR Clocktowers	7pm
Fri 19th	Social Bowls	Bowls Club	6pm
Fri 19th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Hoy (members only) (page 13)	Senior Citizens Club	11:30am

January

Date	Event	Location	Time
Sun 21st	Bayles Fauna Park Working Bee (page 17)	Bayles Fauna Park	9am
Mon 22nd	KWF Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only) (page 13)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Wed 24th	Activities Morning	Senior Citizens Club	10am
Thu 25th	Heart Foundation Walking	KWR Clocktowers	7pm
Fri 26th	Social Bowls	Bowls Club	6pm
Fri 26th	KWF Senior Citizens Lunch & Hoy (members only) (page 13)	Senior Citizens Club	11:30am
Sat 27th	Pennant	Bowls Club	1pm
Mon 29th	KWF Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only) (page 13)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Tue 30th	Pennant	Bowls Club	10:15am
Tue 30th	Forget-Me-Not Cafe (page 23)	Eco House - Hospital	10am
Wed 31st	Coffee Club	Degani	10am

HAVE YOU GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

For document signing and associated services contact:

Gary King JP - 0438 663 655 **Beverley Edwards JP – 0400 584 235**
JP duties are a free community service

St Sofia Festival 2023

The 50th Anniversary of the St Sofia Festival was held at St John the Baptist Church Koo Wee Rup on Sunday the 29th of October. Although considerably scaled down, the faithful still attended the beautiful Mass which was celebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet and assisted by Fr. Peter Slater and Fr. Avinash George. St John’s Choir namely Peter Feltham, Rose Ahrens and Bernie Hance played and sang beautifully throughout the whole Mass.

A small procession within the church grounds then ensued followed by cutting of the Anniversary cake which was distributed and enjoyed by the people in attendance.

Barbecue of Italian and Aussie sausages was on the menu for lunch. Arancini, Pizza, Gelati and Pop Corn Vans were also at the disposal of the crowd.

After lunch, Sicilia Bella performed their folk dancing, followed by “Memory Lane” band which entertained the crowd all afternoon.

An Auction of donated goods was also held which proved very popular as well as the Spinning Wheel and other raffles. As usual the very enthusiastic Vince Bucello did a great job in Auctioneering.

The major raffle prize winners are :

1st Prize: Calf (or \$1,000.00) donated by Enzo & Gina Buccheri : Cathy Simonetta

2nd Prize: Night at the Sofitel donated by Eaglemont Automotive : Tina Sotille

3rd Prize: \$300.00 donated by Sortino Social Club : Michelle Van Dord

4th Prize: Hamper donated by Piedimonte’s Supermarket: Sophie Giuliano

This Festival began in 1973 with the original founding Committee being Frank & Rosa Caserta, Enzo & Gina Buccheri, Sam & Nella Bertuna and Vince Bucello.

The Committee would like to thank Charlie & Lina Motta for donating the Italian Sausages, Woolworths for the Bread and Aussie sausages, David Bull Funeral Directors for contributing \$500 towards the beautiful flowers in the Church, (as well as an anonymous donation of \$200) Mark Sewell for donating the Advertising Board.

We also would like to thank St. John’s School principal Chris Dortmans for his assistance and kindness in helping out wherever needed.

Also a big thank you to the children of the Committee who stepped up and assisted us.

The Committee hope that everyone enjoyed this beautiful day. And as always, didn’t St. Sofia put on a beautiful day, perfect weather for the faithful and visitors. Who knows what will happen next year?

Nella Bertuna



FREE Christmas cardboard drop-off event

Cardinia Shire residents are invited to drop off their excess cardboard and wrapping paper at the FREE Christmas cardboard drop-off event. All cardboard and wrapping paper dropped off will be recycled, providing a sustainable solution for excess cardboard during the festive season. Held at Future Recycling Transfer Station in Pakenham, the event accepts unlimited residential loads of cardboard (clean and dry) and paper only.

Dates and times:

Thursday 28 December, 8am–4pm

Friday 29 December, 8am–4pm

Saturday 30 December, 8am–2:30pm

Thursday 4 January 8am–4pm

Friday 5 January 8am–4pm

Saturday 6 January 8am–2:30pm

As this event is for Cardinia Shire residents only, photo ID with a Cardinia Shire address will be required.



To all our readers wherever you are.
 We hope the holiday season and the new year bring you lots of
 good things.
 From the Koo Wee Rup Blackfish and the Koo Wee Rup
 Township Committee.

St John the Baptist Parish Koo Wee Rup

**Family
 Christmas Mass
 and Carols
 Christmas Eve**



***Carols 7pm *Mass 7.30pm**

St John's Church, Koo Wee Rup



All Welcome
 Children invited to dress
 as angels or shepherds



St John's Parish

Christmas Eve Mass Choir

Each Christmas this all-ages band and choir
 gather to share their love of music and spread
 the message of Christmas to all.

If you enjoy singing, come along and join us.

Choir Practices: Dates to be Confirmed

Christmas Eve Mass: St John's KWR

7pm Carols - Mass 7.30pm



Contact: Bernadette Hance — 0423 947172

Catholic Parishes of Koo Wee Rup / Iona-Maryknoll

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - Sunday 24th December

St James, Nar Nar Goon Mass **5 pm**

St John the Baptist, Koo Wee Rup Carols **7 pm** Mass **7.30 pm**

Christmas Day - Monday 25th December

St Mary's, Lang Lang Mass **8 am**

St Joseph's, Iona Mass **10 am**



The Christmas Star

A brilliant star shone on that night
 So very long ago,
 And guided shepherds and three
 kings
 To a stable far below.

The star lit up the evening sky
 As never seen before -
 It dazzled all who felt its power
 And made their spirits soar.

So, if one dark and starry night
 One star shines extra bright,
 Remember that so special star
 On that first Christmas night!

*Eileen Hay
 Supplied by Joyce Mills*

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

The Township Committee will host Australia Day awards again next year. Schools have been contacted for nominations. With the closure of the local branch of the CWA, the Lions have agreed to run the kitchen as well as cooking the breakfast. Cr Kaye Cameron gave a brief report regarding budget discussions and the mayoral election.

Lachie has reported the state of Fechner Rd (again) and is awaiting action. Council have told him that the road is within the boundaries of acceptability. There was some discussion about the state of unsealed roads in general and questions were raised about the unacceptability of 'acceptable' standards set by council.

Another NDIS support shop has opened in KWR.

A tender for the redevelopment of the Bowls Club has been accepted and is due to start before the end of this year with completion scheduled for the end of 2024.

A bottle recycling station has been installed near the traffic lights.

Garry gave a report on the Bandicoot Habitat Planting Day at the regional health service.

The Forget Me Not café was again very successful, with guests from Monash Health talking about Care plans. A Café was run at Bunjil Place and another at Tooradin, with Casey Council support.

Gus spoke about lighting for the clocktower which was promised some time ago. The original designer of the system has left council, but Gus is hopeful they installed before the end of the year.

The Christmas Light Competition was unanimously approved to run again this year with the prize again being a \$300 Woolies gift card.

Letter to the Editor

This is a letter of Thanks!

On Saturday 25th November, as part of the KWR RSL Christmas & Craft Fair, I staged a Special Plant Sale to raise much-needed funds for the Australian Lions Hearing Dogs.

The outcome of this fund-raiser was an amazing \$925 on the day, and added to that, \$779 I raised from home with plant sales in the six weeks prior to the Fair's Plant Sale.

Therefore, I have now sent a total of \$1704 to the ALHD for the ongoing training and welfare of more Hearing Assistance Dogs to benefit Deaf and hard of hearing Australians.



Much hard work and generous help from various people has contributed to this success, and it would be unfair to mention some names only. You all know who you are, and have had my personal thanks.

Most importantly, a big "Thank you" for the generosity of our local and extended communities in supporting this fund-raiser by buying the plants I had for sale.




Finally, a very sincere "Thank You" to Caroline for so willingly publicizing this Event, as you have done for all my fund-raisers over the years.

With grateful thanks to each and everyone involved, Suzanne de Pelsenaire and "MoMo," ALHD #606

**Stop kidding yourself.
If you drink, don't drive.**

Thinking about driving after a couple of drinks? Think again. If you blow .05 or over, you could face serious penalties, including fines, losing your licence, getting an interlock installed in your car and having to blow zero for three years.



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GROUND'S

Animal nursery, goat feeding area, highland cows, playground, large garden which is dog friendly

FREE

9AM - 4PM

EVENTBRITE

FREE

December Events!

- 4th** - Morning Melodies (free) - Alex Kyle
- 5th** - Morning Melodies (free) - Carol Taweel
- 6th** - Morning Melodies (free) - Alicia O'Brien
- 7th** - Morning Melodies (free) - Retro Jo
- 8th** - Morning Melodies (free) - Bobby James
- 16th** - Market Day with live entertainment (free)

**4385 south Gippsland Hwy,
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Tickets to shows & future events can be purchased via www.eventbrite.com - search "Caldermeade"

Lions Junior Public Speaking Competition

On Monday 9th October at the Tooradin Sports Club, Lions held the Semi Final of Junior Public Speaking.

Grades 3/4 had 5 contestants from different Lions clubs in our district. They spoke on "I woke up a Giant". Grades 5/6 had 6 contestants and they spoke on a world record breaking event or person.

The winners were both from St John the Baptist primary school here in Koo Wee Rup.

Congratulations to Lachlan Chapman, Grade 3/4 and Charlotte Hughes, Grade 5/6.

The finals were held at the Lions Convention in Warragul on 28th October 2023, and we are proud to announce that both Lachlan and Charlotte won the finals.

We are so proud - Go Kooweel!!!

Pictured top: Grades 3 / 4 entrants

Middle: Grades 5 / 6 entrants

Bottom: Winners!!! Lachlan and Charlotte



Donate your old phone and help save lives

Cardinia Shire Council has partnered with DV Safe Phone to collect old smartphones that can be repurposed to help people experiencing family and domestic violence.

DV Safe Phone collect, repair and give free mobile phones to people experiencing family and domestic violence through a range of support agencies across Australia.



Council have worked with partners to establish collection points for residents and workplaces to donate their old (working) smartphones that are no longer in use. Smartphones that are collected will be recycled and redistributed to services working with people who need a safe and clean phone.

Residents and workplaces can donate smartphones at the following locations:

- Cardinia Life, 4/6 Olympic Way, Pakenham
- Cardinia Shire Council Civic Centre, 20 Siding Avenue, Officer
- Hills Hub, 400A Belgrave-Gembrook Rd, Emerald
- Koo Wee Rup Regional Health Service (Hewitt Eco House), 215 Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup
- Outlook Community Centre, 24 Toomuc Valley Rd, Pakenham
- Pakenham Library (Myli), Cr John and Henry Streets, Pakenham

Instructions on cleaning smart phones before donating can be found at: www.dvsafephone.org/donate-phones

If you, or someone you know, are experiencing family and domestic violence, please contact 1800 RESPECT for advice and support. In an emergency, call the police on 000.

For more information about Council's work in preventing and responding to family violence in Cardinia Shire, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/familyviolence



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

Grocery Voucher Raffle

As you know, Koo Wee Rup Lions have recently been selling raffle tickets for a \$500 Grocery Voucher.

The raffle draw was held on Saturday 7th October by Sharon from Woolworths.

The winner of the \$500 prize was Damian. Damian called into the Op Shop and picked up his vouchers from Mary Wilson.



Woolworths donated a bag of goodies for a second prize. This was won by Melissa and Aurora.

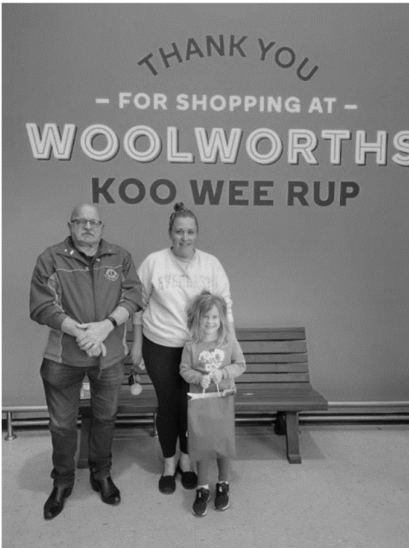
Congratulation to the winners.

The proceeds will go to the Lions Cord Blood Foundation and our Lions club.

Top right: The winner, Damian with Mary Wilson at the Op Shop

Left: Second prize winners Melissa and Aurora

Bottom right: Members at the raffle draw



*Lions Koo Wee Rup & District Inc
Now have their Christmas Cakes & Puddings on sale at the following outlets.*



Lions Koo Wee Rup Opportunity Shop
296 Rossiter Rd, Koo Wee Rup Vic

Bendigo Bank Koo Wee Rup
28 Station St, Koo Wee Rup

Bendigo Bank Lang Lang
29 Westemport Hwy, Lang Lang Vic

Chandelier Café
Shop 3, 23/25 Station St, Koo Wee Rup

K9 Services Training Hub, Fac 7 -1 Sharnet Cct, Pakenham
K9 Services Boot Camp Moody St, Boot Camp Koo Wee Rup

*Also, at Community Events in & around
Koo Wee Rup leading up to Christmas.*



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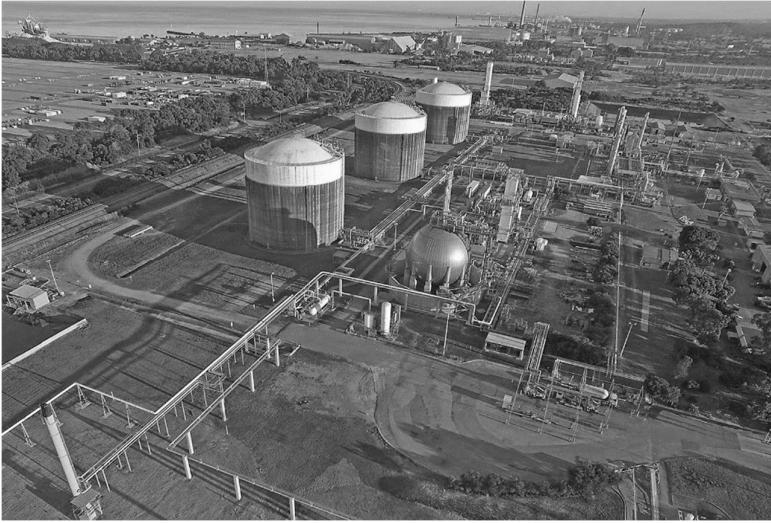
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Some odd tales from the 1990s (Part 2)

by Geoff Stokes – continued from November edition



There is an amusing story to tell you about a visit to the WA LPG and LNG Gas Extraction Plant in Kwinana, that I must relate to you. This plant is huge and takes Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from the main pipeline and converts it into Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG). It is a very large plant and, at that time, converted about 150,000 tonnes of LNG to LPG a year (I also know that in 2016, it was 300,000 tonnes a year). The centrepiece of the plant is three, huge, very tall circular storage tanks with a semi spiral ladder coiling partly around the circumference of the tank to allow you to climb onto the roof. I had to climb up one of them with the site engineer, to look at an old pressure relief valve soon to be replaced with a new one from our Company. Again, no safety

rules like there are now and I ascended this helical stairway in my pressed navy-blue suit wearing a white shirt with a company tie; at least I did wear a hard hat! The job was done, and we descended the stairway to find several security men and the police, complete with divvy van and a sedan with flashing blue lights, staring at my black briefcase that was sitting at the bottom of the stairway. I had left it there as I didn't want to carry this quite heavy case to the top and back again. Someone had seen it and thought it might have been a planted terrorist bomb or something, so they called the police. The cops were on the brink of calling for a motorised robot to take it away and blow it up – yes, my briefcase. Fortunately for me, after a frantic explanation, they eventually saw the funny side to this story that I tell you.

We were now seriously planning for our move back to Melbourne and with our time limits and my starting date of April 1994, things seemed to be rushing along at quite a pace. We had to pack up sell the house and get rid some of our worn furniture all in a couple of months it seemed. As it happened, we first chose the wrong real estate agent to sell for us which delayed things a lot. We realised that I would be back in Melbourne working, before any deal could be finalised and so it was left to my dear Olive to oversee the sale of the Perth house and look after all the financial deals and offers. Thinking of those early days of 1994, it is incredible to think that amongst all these moving arrangements I went away for a long weekend of Scuba diving around the Abrolhos Islands. I was now a master-diver and I think that then I just wanted to dive these famous pristine waters; I would never get another chance. The Houtman Abrolhos (often informally called the Abrolhos Islands) is a chain of 122 islands and associated coral reefs, in the Indian Ocean off the west coast of Australia. It lies about eighty kilometres west of Geraldton and is the southernmost true coral reef in the Indian Ocean, and one of

the highest latitude reef systems in the world. It is also one of the world's most important seabird breeding sites, and is the centre of Western Australia's largest single-species fishery, the western rock lobster fishery. It has a small seasonal population of fishermen, and a limited number of tourists are permitted for day trips, but most of the land area is off limits as a conservation habitat. It is well known as the site of numerous shipwrecks, the most famous being the Dutch ships *Batavia*, which was wrecked in 1629, and *Zeewijk*, wrecked in 1727. *The Batavia* was a ship of the Dutch East India Company. It was built in Amsterdam in 1628, and armed with 24 cast-iron cannons and a number of bronze guns. *Batavia* was shipwrecked on her maiden voyage, and was made famous by the subsequent mutiny and massacre that took place among the survivors. A twentieth-century replica of the ship is also called the *Batavia* and can be visited in Lelystad, Netherlands.



Continued page 13



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Some odd tales from the 1990s (Part 2) *continued from page 11*

Our dive club's plan was to go to the Abrolhos Islands via a live-aboard dive boat from Geraldton and explore the reefs. We left Geraldton on a Friday evening in late March 1994 with about eight to ten divers from the club aboard; I can't remember how many exactly. There were three or four crew and they looked after us as if we were millionaire tourists, it was just super. My dive-buddy was Jenny, a pharmacist about 40 odd years old who, I think, didn't like me very much especially when she found out how old I was! Whilst we were diving, Jenny was very proficient and a good buddy. We did four dives over the weekend, but I had to miss out on a night (evening) dive because Jenny declined – I can't recall now if she had a night-dive licence or not.



One of the dives was off Stokes Island. The island is named after John Lort Stokes, commander of the ship *Beagle* and friend and companion of Charles Darwin – no relation to me, his grandfather, John Rees, took on the Stokes surname and became John Rees Stokes because he liked it; Stokes was the surname of his wife's brother – yes, really. John entered the navy in the *Prince Regent* in 1824 and was soon transferred to the brig *Beagle*, in which he served for eighteen years, becoming midshipman in 1825, mate and assistant surveyor in 1831, lieutenant in 1837 and commander in 1841. From 1860 to 1863 Stokes commanded the ship *HMS Rose* surveying the coasts of the *English Channel*. He retired in 1863, was promoted to the rank of rear admiral in 1863, vice-admiral in 1871 and admiral in 1877. He died at his home in Scotchwell, Haverfordwest, South Wales on the 11th June 1885. It was written that "Stokes was an enterprising and efficient officer; he was a man of genial personality, with considerable ability as a vivacious writer".

Here is an extract of what I wrote in my log of the dive off Stokes Island.

13:03: 94. Stokes Island, Abrolhos Isles.

Depth of dive 16.7m. Visibility 10m. Time in 09:53. Time out 10:30. Dive time 37min.

A beautiful dive over staghorn coral that had blue tips. Some plate coral too. Lots of coral fish, too many to list. Just magnificent but we did see a few Steep Head Parrot fish, Coral Trout and two beautiful Clarkes' anemonefish. Buoyancy still OK at 10 kg. Will try for more reduction. Temp. 28 deg C. Water temp 21 deg C, great.

The meals aboard with drinks and the accommodation aboard were first class and this super diving weekend made a wonderful finale to my diving days in WA. You may note the date of this final WA dive, March 1994, but, before I close this phase of my life 1988–1994, below is a look at my scuba diving qualifications that I gained at what some people may say was rather late in life! My last dive ever was at Malua Bay NSW, on the 1st of February 1999; I was 67 years old! My deepest dive of 39.5m on just compressed air, was on the 15th of May 1993, south of Parkes Point, W.A.

It was time to take up my new job in Melbourne and my dear Olive saw me off at the airport and I took with me my empty divers air cylinder, BCD (buoyancy vest), and all the other diving gear, so that I could perhaps get a dive over the coming weeks of, hopefully, a good weather period in Melbourne before settling into a new house. The plan was for me to stay with our son and his wife at their house in Kensington whilst I looked for a new home for Olive and me, somewhere reasonably close to them and our daughter Catherine. The thought of being closer to both instead of 3,000km away was the main reason for Olive and me deciding to return to Melbourne; together of course with the new job offer. As soon as we had a buyer for the house it was planned that I would return to Perth to help and then, when the sale was finalised, we would then drive back to Melbourne across the Nullarbor in the Nissan Turbo.

And so once more it was up, up and away - Perth to Melbourne - and it was very sad indeed temporary leaving my dearest Olly, but we both knew it was once again the start of another exciting phase of our life together.

Here are my diving qualifications. Those were very exciting days into a magical unknown underwater world, full of nature's treasures, magical shipwrecks and myriads of beautiful and different shaped and sized fish.

RECORD OF QUALIFICATIONS		RECORD OF SPECIALIST QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR MASTER DIVER	
SNORKEL DIVER Date: 11-4-92 Instructor's Signature: [Signature] Instructor's Number: 833 Instructor's Name: KEN JONES Validation Fee \$0	(FAU) Stamp Validation Fee \$0	RECOVERY DIVER Date: 25-07-93 Instructor's Signature: [Signature] Instructor's Number: 736 Instructor's Name: DAMIAN COOPER Validation Fee \$0	NASDS Stamp Validation Fee \$0
SCUBA DIVER Date: 11-4-92 Instructor's Signature: [Signature] Instructor's Number: 833 Instructor's Name: KEN JONES Validation Fee \$0	(FAU) Stamp Validation Fee \$0	EQUIPMENT SPECIALIST Date: 12-08-93 Instructor's Signature: [Signature] Instructor's Number: 736 Instructor's Name: DAMIAN COOPER Validation Fee \$0	NASDS Stamp Validation Fee \$0
ADVANCED DIVER Date: 16-1-93 Instructor's Signature: [Signature] Instructor's Number: 792 Instructor's Name: KEN JONES Validation Fee \$0	NASDS Stamp Validation Fee \$0	NIGHT DIVER Date: 17-12-93 Instructor's Signature: [Signature] Instructor's Number: 736 Instructor's Name: D. COOPER Validation Fee \$0	NASDS Stamp Validation Fee \$0
MASTER DIVER Date: 2-09-93 Instructor's Signature: [Signature] Instructor's Number: 736 Instructor's Name: DAMIAN COOPER Validation Fee \$0	NASDS Stamp Validation Fee \$0	DIVER LIFESAVER Date: 2-09-93 Instructor's Signature: [Signature] Instructor's Number: 736 Instructor's Name: DAMIAN COOPER Validation Fee \$0	NASDS Stamp Validation Fee \$0
F.A.U.I. DIVEMASTER Date: Instructor's Signature: Instructor's Number: Instructor's Name:	FAUI Stamp Validation Fee \$6	DEEP DIVER Date: 29-05-93 Instructor's Signature: [Signature] Instructor's Number: 736 Instructor's Name: DAMIAN COOPER Validation Fee \$0	NASDS Stamp Validation Fee \$0

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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Our highly skilled skin cancer doctor, Dr Bruce Lim, has a comprehensive understanding of skin cancer and treatment, acquired from years of additional study beyond a medical degree. His experience gives you confidence that he will accurately diagnose and treat skin concerns in a safe medical environment. His breadth of knowledge and treatment of patients, and expertise ensure the highest standards of professionalism and safety.

Bruce has undertaken significant further training in the field of skin cancer medicine and is accredited by the [Skin Cancer College of Australasia](#). He has developed skills in skin cancer surgery including facial surgery, skin flaps (including nose, ears and lower leg repairs) and skin grafting. He is also passionate about promoting sun awareness and [skin cancer prevention](#) with his patients

Technology

Using dermatology software powered by artificial intelligence (AI), we can capture high quality digital images of your skin and record exact detail for future comparison monitoring suspicious lesions for any changes, resulting in earlier diagnoses so you can avoid unnecessary procedures.

Need a skin check?

Anyone with changing spots, or spots that look very different to others on their body, should have them assessed by an accredited skin cancer doctor as soon as possible.

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

News from the Community Advisory Committee

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) met on the 21st of November for their third meeting of the current year. Their guest speaker was Marlene Dalziel who is a local active member of the Southeastern Melbourne Primary Health Network Aged Care Reference Group. The purpose of this reference group is to provide feedback and advice to the Clinical and Community Council (CCC) Board and management on matters relating to planning, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of Primary and Aged Care. Marlene talked about her involvement and the role of the Primary Aged Care Reference Group (PACRG) that includes:

1. Advising, supporting, and providing guidance on matters referring to planning, implementation, and the ongoing evaluation of planned or current primary and Aged Care programs.
2. Consider the overlap of mental health and aging issues across programs and population groups as appropriate.
3. Consider how the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care can be incorporated into solutions for current and future programs.
4. Consider the role of technical innovations in the provision of care in the community.
5. Share consumer, carer, and service provider and community views from across the region.
6. Communicate any emerging risks or opportunities identified.

The CCC has oversight responsibility of outcomes from the PACRG, with notes, action items and a report provided to the CCC after each PACRG meeting. Feedback from the CCC will be provided to the PACRG as appropriate. Marlene received many thanks for her enlightening and important contributions to the above councils and for her talk today.

Other items that were discussed at the meeting were 'Partnering in Healthcare, the Koo-Wee-Rup Regional Health Services (KRHS) Strategic Plan – engaging deeply with our community, and Aileen Thoms talked about the 'Gathering of Kindness' program where kindness to others across the whole range of hospital treatments was so important for the ongoing health of all patients. In fact, the guest speaker at the 2023 Annual general meeting of the KRHS which is an open access Board meeting- open to the public- is Professor Catherine Crock AM, Physician and Founder of the Hush Foundation and Gathering of Kindness. The final item was a discussion on the KRHS Quality, Safety and Clinical Governance report led by The CEO Noni Burke.

Now, to our friends and neighbours in Koo-Wee-Rup and District remember any of our members will be available to help you if you want to communicate with the Koo-Wee-Rup Regional Health Service 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. Any Community Advisory Committee member will listen to you closely and acknowledge your concerns, so that any problem you may have is understood and seriously considered. We are your advocates always.

If you as a consumer/customer, have a suggestion or some nagging thoughts about your difficulties, or your dependant's comforts or problems with any aspect of the KRHS, then get in touch with the KRHS CAC. Simply phone KRHS on 5997 9679 or Geoffrey Stokes on 0435085002 Or you can email: geoffreystokes@geoffstokes.com Your email will be acknowledged. The next meeting of the committee is planned for the 19th of March 2024 at 10:00 am. Before then we shall have many informal meetings with each other to check on any problems that may have arisen or are arising.

Geoff Stokes

PROSPECTS PERCEIVED

Nov 2023

Blowing dust off the Scriptures, you have barely read twice maybe never to read again; living on may pose it once more but taken up, who knows, despite chances seeming endless. Very first reading, now gone, felt as a pearl without price perused for minutes, apprehended as if they were eternal.

Lingering at a café in some main street and not another seeming a moment marked and stamped by the timeless yet the chairs are soon rearranged, meal plates left empty other customers come and go, the light has or will change an infinite moment enjoyed, all but passed away too soon.

Stopping to consider the flowers of the field and alleyway in what remains to you, for sight and occasion will repeat surfacing thought or knowing will quickly sink back asleep occurring to you maybe once or twice in what time remains though living and breathing seem as if they will never end.

Slowing to speak, quickening to listen when the urge to spout floods in as an unclean spirit, you fail once again to cotton on. All those around you seem real and present, beyond all doubt your close friend or acquaintance locked in laughter and jest by next week on the grapevine, they've passed away and gone.

Gazing out windows at falling rain, empty now of any watcher happening to be before a sunset like some heavenly rehearsal and observing a child's or loved one's face asleep or in repose may in fact offer itself to you only two or three more times yet those prospects are perceived as unlimited and boundless.

Warren Breninger

Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club

Round 2 and another 1st time ever with a trip to Main Ridge. Unfortunately, the long trip did not bode well losing 47-78. However, we did have 1 winning rink with a 22-19 score was Trevor Kitchin, Margaret Royle, Jill Roissetter & Helen Ralph. Tough day for the Jenkins family with Joy Jenkins, Betty King, Cam Davey & Steve Payne losing 10-31. Faring a little better was Jim Jenkins, Charles Poulsen, Pauline Gray & Joe Barlow beaten 15-28. Hosting Mornington Civic in Round 3 and a game where we were unable to hold off a late rally by Civic we lost 53-60 despite winning 1 rink & drawing 1 rink. The Jenkins family had a much better day with Joy Jenkins, Betty King, Jacqui Butera & Steve Payne managing 1 shot on the final end to have a 20-20 draw. In a strange game Jim Jenkins, Charles Poulsen, Rex Alexander & Joe Barlow "sat" on 7 shots for 7 ends. Not to be outdone their opponents then repeated the same trick stuck on 10 shots for 7 ends. To finish off we got on 19 shots and stayed there for 3 ends before scoring a 20-10 win.

Our 3rd rink of Trevor Kitchin, Margaret Royle, Jill Roissetter & Julie Walker were playing "catch up" bowls for the game before losing 13-22. Rd. 4 and a visit to Blue Hills BC did not go according to plan losing 46-76 with 2 rinks having big losses. Not being able to compete with their opponents Joy Jenkins, Betty King, Gary King & Steve Payne were beaten 13-28. Not reaching double figures for the game Jim Jenkins, Charles Poulsen, Jill Roissetter & Joe Barlow were defeated 8-29. Shining light for the day with a 25-19 win was Trevor Kitchin, Margaret Royle, Pauline Gray & Julie Walker. The side has now dropped to 7th position after 4 rounds. Better result in Rd. 5 with Tuesday Div. 4 winning 53-47 at home to Baxter. A narrow 17-14 win for Trevor Kitchin, Margaret Royle, Jill Roissetter & Bryan Walker in his 1st game for one & half seasons. Whatever Jim Jenkins, Charles Poulsen, Pauline Gray & Joe Barlow had during the week it worked well with their rink leading the whole game and winning 24-12.

Our 3rd rink of Joy Jenkins, Betty King, Jacqui Butera & Cam Davey were never really in the game and were comfortably defeated 12-21. Rd. 6 and a game on the tricky Somerville Green which we lost 47-57. In a tight game Trevor Kitchin, Margaret Royle, Jill Roissetter & Bryan Walker draw away over the last 6 or so ends to win 20-14. The score did not really mirror the game

as on many occasions we were holding shot only to have it taken away. Jim Jenkins, Charles Paulsen, Pauline Gray & Joe Barlow were defeated 14-27. Our 3rd rink of Joy Jenkins, Betty King, Rex Alexander & Cam Davey were down 4-13 after 11 ends but dragged themselves back in the game to lose 13-16.

Saturday Pennant Rd. 3 and both teams played away with Div. 8 going to Mt. Martha & Div. 9 continuing down Peninsula Link to Village Glen [Rosebud]. 2 rinks up & 1 down was the result for Div. 8 winning 60-49. At 6-8 after 7 ends, Brett Condron, Peter Butera, Bec Watts & Daniel Prince then scored 19 shots to nil winning in convincing fashion 26-13.

Continued next page



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Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club *(from previous page)*

Trailing 2-9 after 7 ends things looked grim for Wayne Stevens, Rob Matthews, Rex Alexander & Jacqui Butera to finally hit the lead on the 19th end and held on to a 19-17 win. Never leading but levelling the scores on 2 occasions. Steven Jenkins, Ian Richardson, Jimi Watts & Jim Jenkins were beaten 15-19. Playing at Village Glen where most of our team had not played before Div. 9 were defeated 29-54. Both rinks suffered losses with Margaret Royle, Jill Roissetter, Peter Stevens & Erin Price comfortably beaten 11-25. Doing a little better despite the inexperience of the rink Tim Katz, Cam Davey, Mav Katz & Mel Alexander continued the improvement losing 18-29. Rd. 4 and both teams played at home. Div. 8 were against Rosebud Country Club in a battle for top place and went down 47-60. Close enough for most of the game, but only in front for 2 ends, Wayne Stevens, Rob Matthews, Rex Alexander & Jacqui Butera were defeated 17-19.

Gaining a point for us in a game where the margin was no bigger than a couple of shots Steven Jenkins, Ian Richardson, Jimi Watts & Jim Jenkins had a 19-19 draw. After giving away a 2-15 start, Brett Condron, Peter Butera, Bec Watts & Daniel Price played catch up bowls losing 11-22. Div. 9 were against Frankston and scored their 1st win for the season 35-33. Continuing to improve Tim Katz, Cam Davey, Mav Katz & Mel Alexander were in the game throughout before losing 14-18. Our other rink of Margaret Royle, Arthur Giaccotto, Peter Stevens & Erin Price, fair bit of experience in that team, led all game winning 21-15. Round 5 of Sat. Pennant and Div. 8 hosted Mt. Eliza and scored a good win eventually 71-46 after last week's little setback. Yet another close game for Wayne Stevens, Rob Matthews, Rex Alexander & Jacqui Butera. In a close game with the biggest margin being 4 shots, the rink led brilliantly by Wayne managed an 18-15 win. After 12 ends and leading 13-9 a close game looked likely until the Jenkins family cheer squad arrived and then there was no stopping Steven & Jim from "showing all their tricks" they were very ably assisted by Ian Richardson & Jimi Watts to go onto a 32-14 win. Involved in a tight game but down 7-13, after 11 ends, 2 successive scores of 4 shots put Brett Condron, Peter Butera, Bec Watts & Daniel Price in the lead which they converted to a 21-17 win. Div. 9 went across to Somerville to play in their tricky surface and in the wind which is nothing unusual but doesn't help new bowlers learning the game. Unfortunately, the day was not a great one, losing 23-55. Margaret Royle, Arthur Giaccotto, Peter Stevens & Erin Price were defeated 13-26. Our other rink of Tim Katz, Cam Davey, Mav Katz & Mel Alexander lost their game 10-29. Back home next week should see a different score. Round 6 and Div. 8 travelled to Blue Hills and recorded an 81-33 resounding victory with the 3 rinks having good wins. Once Brett Condron, Peter Butera, Bec Watts [birthday girl] & Daniel Price hit the lead there was no stopping them winning 23-9.

A "flying start" followed by a game of steady bowls & the Jenkins cheer squad arrival saw Steven Jenkins having a day out, Ian Richardson, Jimi Watts & Jim Jenkins dominate the opposition winning 36-12. Taking half a game to get their act together Wayne Stevens, Rob Matthews, Rex Alexander & Jacqui Butera scored a comfortable 22-12 win. The learning process is still just that for Div. 9 losing 28-58 at home to Yamala Park. The rink of Margaret Royle, Gary King, Peter Stevens & Erin Price [another birthday girl] went down 12-25. Our other rink of Tim Katz, Cam Davey, Mav Katz & Mel Alexander were beaten 16-33. Keep persevering it will happen shortly where the game goes according to plan.

Our Friday Triples competition played on the 3/11 under overcast conditions with 14 teams in combat. Most touches for the day was shared by Jim Jenkins [KWR] & Ned Courtin [Pakenham] with 10. Best 1st game was won by Neville Kitchin, John Williams & Kevin Kitchin on 19 pts. & best 2nd game was won by Ned Courtin, Ken Clifton [Pakenham] & Tina Courtin [Carrum] with 20pts. The Runner Up rink on 32 pts. was Jim Garnham, Geoff Barber & Roger Balment [Korumburra] with the Winners for the day going to Dale Smith [Drouin], Col Finger & Rob Proctor on 33 pts. Another round of Friday Triples with the results being Trevor Kitchin, Ken White [Longwarry] & Noel Speight [KWR] winning the day on 37 pts. The Runner Up team, to keep it in the family, was Neville & Kevin Kitchin, John Williams [Lang Lang] on 35 pts. Best 1st game was won by Vince Bevilacqua, Luis Aguilar & Michael Jones [Pakenham] on 19 pts. & 15 shots up and Best 2nd game to Ned Courtin, Ken Clifton [Pakenham] & Tina Courtin [Carrum] with 17 pts & 8 shots up. Another win for Roger Balment [Korumburra] for the most touches with 10.

We recently hosted the KooWeeRup Football Club for a "get to meet the coach" session of barefoot bowls. Approximately 70 people from the Club enjoyed the night with our Club signing up 4 new social members. Welcome Daniel, Robert, Lee & Mick to the Club. Hopefully we may get a few more when the hammy's, knees & back say that is enough.

Bayles Fauna Park

Working Bees

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Sunday, 21 January

9am to 12 noon

followed by a BBQ lunch.

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

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Koo Wee Rup Regional Health Service Ladies Auxiliary

We would like to thank everyone in Koo Wee Rup and district for your help. Without it our nursing staff and residents would not be as comfortable.

And thank you all for your support at the RSL Christmas Fair on 25th November. You helped us to raise \$1,000.

Thank you to the five new ladies who joined us this year.

There will be a Christmas raffle with tickets on sale outside Woolworths, it would be nice to see you there.

Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

Secretary, Jan Fox

Heart Foundation Walking (Evening Group)

Our weekly 7 pm Thursday evening group continues during all of the festive season and for the 6 months of daylight saving. Our festive season dinner will be on Thursday 14th December. In the mean time why not get active and join us at the Koo Wee Rup Clock Towers. We cater for all ability levels and walking paces. We never leave anyone behind and love sharing what's happening in the town as we are walking. There are also two morning walks each week. 9am Monday and Thursday from the same meeting place near the clock towers in Rossiter Rd. With Diane as the walk leader.

Enquiries to Marlene on 0429 814 410

Christmas Down Under

Raucous Corellas circle overhead
shatter summer dawn's silence.
Ravens caw mournfully -
family conference in ancient gum -
punctuate Corellas' chorus
on eucalyptus-laden air.
Mercury climbs fast.

North wind rises;
dust eddies - mini tornados -
sting child's eyes,
thousand needle-pricks
as he wobbles precariously on new scooter,
succumbs to gravity.
A cry of pain!
Bloodied stones - kiss it better -
his mother sings softly.

Fire siren pierces Christmas morning.
Red tanker leaves in shroud of dust as
smoke mushrooms burst above horizon
wipe peace from Christmas Day.

Festive boards abandoned as men and women scramble,
all hands to pumps with practised precision.
Children run,
their high-pitched anxious voices
call dogs to safety.
Life changes in an eye-blink ...

Merry Christmas

Suzanne de Pelsenaire © 20/12/2022



Walking together towards a healthier heart

There's a fun, free and easy way to feel happy and healthy. It's walking! Come along to our regular walks to meet new friends and boost your health.

Join your free local walking group at the date and time below:

Group	Koo Wee Rup Evening Walkers
When	Daylight saving period Thursdays @ 7 pm
Where	Koo Wee Rup Clock Towers
Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup	
Organiser	Marlene 0429814410

This group walks every Thursday evening during daylight saving. We start on Thursday the 5th October 2023 and will go through until early April 2024.

Visit walking.heartfoundation.org.au to join or for more information



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Showtime 10.30am to 11.30am
ADMISSION: \$10 per head

2023 Programme:

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- 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

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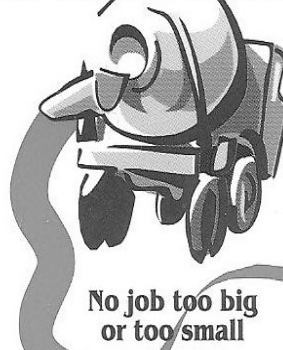


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Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens

By Linda Sanders

We welcome new members at an annual fee of \$10. Come and give us a try at Icke Road, Koo Wee Rup (next to the Police Station).

If you would like more information, please contact Linda on 0419 583 740 or Leonie on 0477 249 000.

Activities Include:

Monday: Indoor Bowls: 11am -3pm

Friday: Lunch followed by Hoy (a card game): 11.30am for 12pm lunch

4th Wednesday of the month: Activities morning: 10am – 1pm.

We also have monthly outings/ entertainment/ activities.

Indoor Bowls

Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens have indoor bowls each Monday. Members meet at 11.30am, have BYO lunch and then play bowls. It is a lot of fun and much laughter is had. You don't have to be experienced, it's just for fun.

If you would like to come along and have a game, turn up on the day or ring Leonie on 0477 249 000.

New walking and cycling trail open in Officer

Walking and cycling between Officer and Pakenham is now easier and safer, thanks to the completion of a 2.6km section of the Princes Highway Trail.

Cardinia Shire Mayor Cr Jack Kowarzik and State Member for Pakenham Emma Vulin MP officially opened the new section of the trail on Tuesday.

The Princes Highway Trail is a significant east-west walking and cycling link between Officer and Pakenham.

The new section in Officer consists of a sealed path from Fairweather Parade to Heatherbrae Recreation Reserve, and includes new bridges over Officer Creek and Gum Scrub Creek.

Cardinia Shire Council and the Victorian Government each contributed \$990,000 towards the project.



Cardinia Shire Mayor Cr Jack Kowarzik and State Member for Pakenham Emma Vulin MP opening the Princes Highway Trail alongside Cr Graeme Moore, Cr Tammy Radford and Cr Collin Ross

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year from Our Family to Yours

ALEX SCOTT AND STAFF Est. 1886

Michelle

Rimpy

Brooke

Martelle

SHOP 5, 275 STATION ST
 KOO WEE RUP 3981
 PH: 03 5997 2133
 kooweerup@alexscott.com.au

ALEX SCOTT AND STAFF Est. 1886

Draft Equestrian Strategy launched for feedback

Cardinia Shire has undertaken a review of the 2014 Equestrian Strategy and today released a new draft Strategy for consultation.



Equestrian is a popular activity in Cardinia Shire with approximately 1,000 equestrian club participants and more than 20 clubs operating, in addition to informal trail users.

The Draft Equestrian Strategy 2023 – 2033 contains recommendations to:

- plan, deliver and maintain equestrian trails and facilities where they are most needed
- increase equestrian participation through improved access to trails and facilities, and better information about equestrian clubs and services
- enhance the promotion of equestrian trials and facilities, and partnerships that support activations, events and infrastructure.

The community can speak to Council staff and have their say on the new strategy at the following drop-in sessions:

- Friday 17 November, 3pm to 4pm, Cardinia Civic Centre, Officer
- Monday 20 November, 5pm to 6pm, Hills Hub, Emerald
- Wednesday 29 November, 12 noon to 1pm, Cardinia Civic Centre, Officer
- Monday 4 December, 5pm to 6pm, Hills Hub, Emerald

- Tuesday 12 December, 4pm to 5pm, Cardinia Civic Centre, Officer

To view the Draft Equestrian Strategy or provide feedback visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay

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December 2023

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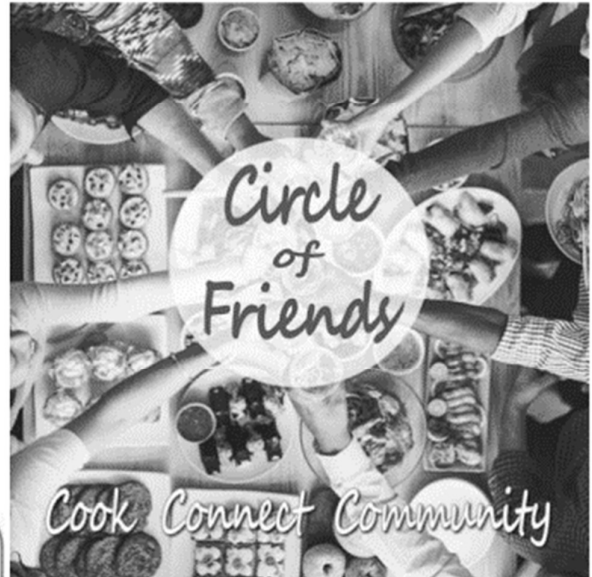


Looking for a unique and wonderful Christmas Gift?

The Circle of Friends Cookbook brings together our local stories from farm-gate to the plate, with beautiful photo's of Koo Wee Rup and surrounds.

As our lives keep getting busier and busier each year, we don't stop to think about where our food comes from. Society has changed and it has become all too easy to have pre-prepared meals in an instant. Although this satisfies our hunger, it does little to fill the soul.

Koo Wee Rup and the surrounding region are filled with an abundance of farms and fresh produce. Let us embrace it!



Forget-Me-Not Café

The Forget-Me-Not Café is an opportunity to make new friends and nurture old ones, share experiences and create new ones in an environment of support and understanding.



Join us at the Forget-Me-Not Café
 Hewitt Eco House Community Room
 215 Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup
 10.00am - 12.00pm



Upcoming Dates:

Tuesday's 2024

- 30th January
- 26th March
- 28th May
- 30th July
- 24th September
- 26th November

The Café aims to bring together people living with dementia and their loved ones in Koo Wee Rup, and surrounding areas.

The Café is a nurturing space that offers enrichment, support and understanding, where you can share experiences with others living with the challenges of dementia.

Contact Joanne for more information 5997 9655
Joanne.Cain@krhs.net.au



Kooweerup REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

Throughout this cook book, you will find where to source local produce and how to support our local growers.

Our partnership with the Cardinia Food Movement helps to put the local farmers and producers on the map.

The Circle of Friends Cookbook welcomes and recognises the diverse culture of the Cardinia Shire. We have enjoyed gathering many stories and memories to share with you. We want you to be inspired by the recipes, love the sense of community and enjoy the conversations about family, heritage and cultural connections to food and cooking.

Rediscover the joy and satisfaction of putting time and energy into preparing and cooking food that will be enjoyed by family and friends.

The Cookbook can be purchased at KRHS reception or the Bendigo Bank for \$35.00



Kooweerup REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE



Kooweerup REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

We provide a range of centre and community based services: Acute Care, Early Parenting Unit, Transitional Care Program, Respite and Residential Aged Care, Community Health, District Nurses, Home Care, Pathology and Allied Health for example: Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Social work. There is also Specialist Medical Services such as Podiatry and Diabetes Clinic. KRHS is a member of the 'International Health Promoting Hospitals Network' and 'Global Green and Healthy Hospitals'.

NAR NAR GOON
BINGO

EVERY THURSDAY !
 Community Hall, Nar Nar Goon
 (opposite the primary school)

Special Bingo Dates:
 Christmas Bingo - 21st December 2023
 (Bingo returns on Thursday 1st February 2024)

Bigger game prize wins!
2 x additional raffle draws
PLUS bonus end of month draws!

Heated / Cooled venue. Canteen. EFTPOS available.
 1st Session - books sales from 6:30pm (\$2 games), or
 2nd/3rd Sessions - book sales from 8:00pm (\$4 games)
 2 Bingo flyers plus Rays Raffle (win \$50 cash or \$50
 meat tray from The Butcher with The Chef, NNG)
NEW 1st Number/Last Number game (win \$50 cash)
 \$1,000 in the final Jackpot (if sufficient books sold)

**Not for profit organisation where all profits
 go to local clubs / organisations!**
EYES DOWN at 7.30pm
 For more information call Sharon ph: 0417 446 840

**KOO WEE
 COFFEE CLUB**



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

December	6	Royal Hotel
	20	Chandelier Café
January	3	Royal Hotel
	17	Chandelier Café
	31	Degani
February	7	Royal Hotel
	21	Chandelier Café

ROYAL HOTEL
 >>>> KOO WEE RUP <<<<



Enquiries ph Jo on 0428 557 411

 Like Koo Wee Coffee Club

Need a friend? *Recently retired?*
New to Koo Wee?

Join us for,



HAVE A CHAT CHUESDAYS

*WHERE? Uniting Church hall,
 348 Rossiter Rd.*
*WHEN? Tuesday 12th December
 2pm-4pm.*

*This month's theme is
 CHRISTMAS PARTY.*

*Come and join us for our christmas break
 up. Bring a plate of your favourite festive
 goodies to share. Have a cuppa and a chat,
 maybe a game or two.*

New faces always welcome.

*We are a non threatening friendly group.
 If you think we will all be strangers, we
 are not. We are friends you just haven't
 met yet.*

For more info please contact.... **Jenny 0409009529**

LANG LANG UNITED SC
**SOCIAL KICKS
 & PRE SEASON**

We will be running multiple social sessions up until March
 2024 at **Koo Wee Rup Primary School** on Tuesdays from
 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm.

All you need is sneakers or if you have them boots and shin
 pads, so come down and give it a try!

See below for session dates:

November	December	January	February	March
Tuesday 21st	Tuesday 5th	Tuesday 16th	Tuesday 20th	Tuesday 5th
Tuesday 28th	Tuesday 12th	Tuesday 23rd	Tuesday 27th	
	Tuesday 19th			

Seniors pre season will take place Tuesday and
 Thursdays also at **Koo Wee Rup Primary School** 6:30 pm
 until 8:00 pm

All abilities welcome.

For further information or any questions feel free to
 email us at **langlangunitedsc@gmail.com** or
lluscsecretary@gmail.com

 Lang Lang United  langlangunitedsc@gmail.com lluscsecretary@gmail.com  @langlangunitedsc

An Acrostic History of Koo Wee Rup

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

This is an eclectic look at some themes from Koo Wee Rup's history and the first letter of each theme spells a seasonal greeting.

M is for Mickle. A well known, early family in the area. John Mickle (1814-1885) owned land from the 1850s, with his business partners William Lyall (who built *Harewood*) and John Bakewell. John's brother Alexander Mickle managed his property at Yallock. Alexander's son, John, sub-divided John Street, Mickle Street and Alexander Avenue (now incorrectly called Alexandra) in Koo Wee Rup in 1926. David Mickle, the author of local history books *Mickle Memories of Koo Wee Rup* and *More Mickle Memories of Koo Wee Rup*, is the grandson of Alexander.

E is for Education. The first School was established in 1884 between Koo Wee Rup and Bayles (at Bethunes Road). It was known as the Yallock School until 1903 when the name was changed to Koo Wee Rup. In 1910, the school moved to Rossiter Road (to the Secondary College location) and a new building was built in 1915. In 1953, the Higher Elementary School was completed. This School included both primary and secondary classes (Forms 1 to 3 or Years 7 to 9). The School became a High School in 1957 and shared the building with the primary school students until November 1960 when the Primary School opened in Moody Street. St John the Baptist Catholic School opened in 1936.

R is for roads, rates and rubbish - the historical purpose of local councils. Koo Wee Rup was part of the Cranbourne Road Board district when it was established on June 19, 1860. Then it became part of the Cranbourne Shire when it started on February 24, 1868. It was then part of the short lived City of Cranbourne which lasted from April 22, 1994 until December 15, 1994, when the City of Cranbourne and was broken up and Koo Wee Rup became part of the newly created Cardinia Shire.

R is for Recreation and other Community activities. A Cricket Club started in 1893, the Recreation Reserve opened in 1906, and a football team had started by 1907. The Royal Hotel was erected in 1915. The Masonic Lodge commenced in 1923. The Wattle Picture Theatre was opened in 1927, the same year the Koo Wee Rup Electric Light and Power Company supplied electricity to the town. In 1929, the first Koo Wee Rup Scout Troop was formed. To add further to the amenity of the town in 1930 the water tower and the water supply system opened and in 1943 the Fire Brigade was formed.

Y is for Yallock. The first European settlement in the area was established by Samuel Rawson and Robert Jamieson on the Yallock Creek in 1839. The Yallock Village Settlement, established in the 1890s, was based around Fincks, School, Hall and O'Briens Roads, off Koo Wee Rup Longwarry Road. The Bayles Railway Station, which opened in 1922, was the station closest to Yallock and the township which grew around the railway station soon overshadowed the original Yallock settlement.

C is for Carlo Catani. Catani (1852-1918) was a Public Works Department Engineer responsible for the drainage works on the Koo Wee Rup Swamp from 1893. He also established the Village Settlements at Yallock, Five Mile, Cora Lynn, Iona etc. The town of Catani is named after him. His other works in Victoria include the creation of Alexandra Avenue, which runs along the Yarra River, and the design of the Alexandra Gardens; the reclamation of the St Kilda foreshore and the design of the gardens there, which were named in his honour in 1927; engineering the road to the top of Mount Buffalo and the creation of a recreational lake, Lake Catani; the drainage of the Moe Swamp.

H is for Historical Society. The Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society was established in 1974, so we are celebrating 50 years in 2024. We operate a Museum at *Mallow*, 325 Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup. *Mallow* was built by John Colvin for his daughter, Margaret, who married Les O'Riordan in August 1918. Les was born in August 1892 to John and Elizabeth (nee O'Callaghan) O'Riordan and is said to have been the first white child born in the Koo Wee Rup Village settlement. Elizabeth had been born in the town of Mallow, County Cork, Ireland, hence the name of the property.

R is for Religion. In 1896 the Wesleyan Church from Cranbourne was moved to Koo Wee Rup and became the Presbyterian Church. The first Catholic Church was built in 1902 and the current church dates from 1962. The Anglican Church was built in 1917 and closed in 2012 and the congregation moved to the Uniting Church. The Methodist Church (now Uniting) was moved from Yallock to Rossiter Road in 1932. In 1978 this building was moved to a camp in Grantville and a wooden church, the Narre Warren East Uniting Church, was relocated to the site, it was given a brick veneer and a new hall added and opened on February, 3 1980.

Continued next page

Anglican Church 1940s



An Acrostic History of Koo Wee Rup *(from previous page)*

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

I is for Inundation. Early pioneers had to cope with numerous inundations or floods - 1901, 1911, 1916, 1923, 1924, 1934, 1935 and 1937 being some of the worst historically. The 1934 flood resulted in the Koo Wee Rup township being under two meters of water in places.

S is for Swamp. The Koo Wee Rup Swamp originally covered about 40,000 hectares or 96,000 acres and is part of the Western Port sunkland. The Chief Engineer of the Public Works Department, William Thwaites (1853 - 1907) surveyed the Swamp in 1887 and his report recommended the construction of the Bunyip Main Drain from where it entered the Swamp, in the north, to Western Port Bay and a number of smaller side drains. A tender was advertised in 1889. In spite of strikes, floods and bad weather by March 1893, the private contractors had constructed the 16 miles of the drain from the Bay to the south of Bunyip and the Public Works Department considered the Swamp was now dry enough for settlement. At one time over 500 men were employed and all the work was done by hand, using axes, shovels, mattocks and wheel barrows. By 1904, over 2,000 people including 1,400 children lived on the Swamp. Many more drains have been added over the years.

Continued next page



A CLOSE-UP from the air today of the Roman Catholic Church at Koo-wee-rup, which is surrounded by deep flood water. Almost every building in the town looks like this. Many refugees have been taken to Dandenong, but others are sheltering at the local railway station.

KWR RC Church 1934 flood – Melbourne Herald

Steve: 0408 487 990 Eteika 0412 487 990
Phone/Fax: 5997 7652



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Fast glass replacements,
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All suburbs**

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**6 x 4 Tilt Crate Galvanized Trailer
With Everything in It
Total Value \$4,800**



\$2
a Ticket



**Purchase of Tickets Available Outside of:
KWRup Woolworths, at The Lions Opportunity Shop,
Koo Wee Rup Men's Shed & at Schools.
Wherever the Trailer is on view tickets can be
purchased.**

*Lions - Schools - Men's Shed
Community Project*



All Proceeds to Benefit the Koo Wee Rup Community

An Acrostic History of Koo Wee Rup *(from previous page)*

By Heather Arnold, Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

T is for Trains. The Koo Wee Rup Railway station was opened on August 18, 1889. The Station was originally called Yallock and was re-named Koo Wee Rup in 1892. In 1922, Koo Wee Rup became a railway junction with the opening of the Strzelecki railway line. This was a boom time for the Station. In 1926 eleven people were employed at the Koo Wee Rup Station and they dispatched 50,000 tons of goods and around 7,000 head of livestock were sent or received there. There were 48 passenger trains and 72 goods trains per week. The Strzelecki line was closed in stages and the last stretch from Bayles to Koo Wee Rup closed in 1959. Passenger services to Koo Wee Rup ceased in June 1981; were reinstated December 1984 and ceased again in July 1993.

M is for Medical Matters. A Bush Nursing Centre was opened in 1918. In 1923 the Fallen Soldiers' Memorial Hospital opened in Station Street and moved to a new building, the Westernport Memorial Hospital, in Rossiter Road in 1955. In 1946, the Infant Welfare Centre was opened in a room at the Memorial Hall and in 1953 the Pre-School opened.

A is for Agriculture. By the 1920s, the Koo Wee Rup Swamp was producing one quarter of Victorian potatoes and was also a major producer of dairy products. Today, more than 90% of all Australian asparagus is produced on the Koo Wee Rup Swamp and many other food items are grown including broccolini, strawberries, cabbage, leeks, celery and lettuces. If the Government can resist the temptation to rezone all the rich agricultural swamp land to residential then the Swamp should continue to produce food for at least another 120+ years.

S is for Shopping. The first shop was opened by John O'Riordan in 1890 in a tin shed where Light's Garage is now located. Many of the shops in Rossiter Road were built in the 1920s and 1930s, as was the old Theatre and a few garages. This was a boom time for the town with the Hospital, State Rivers & Water Supply Commission, surrounding farms and the railways all providing a steady source of employment.

MERRY CHRISTMAS from all of us at the Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society.

Our last meeting for 2023 is on

Wednesday, December 13 at 6.00pm.

We'll be having a BBQ - all welcome! (BYO meat and a salad or sweet to share, plus BYO plate, cutlery, drinks etc). We close the Museum for December and January - but will open by appointment.

Heather Arnold 0407 521 637

harnold@dcsi.net.au

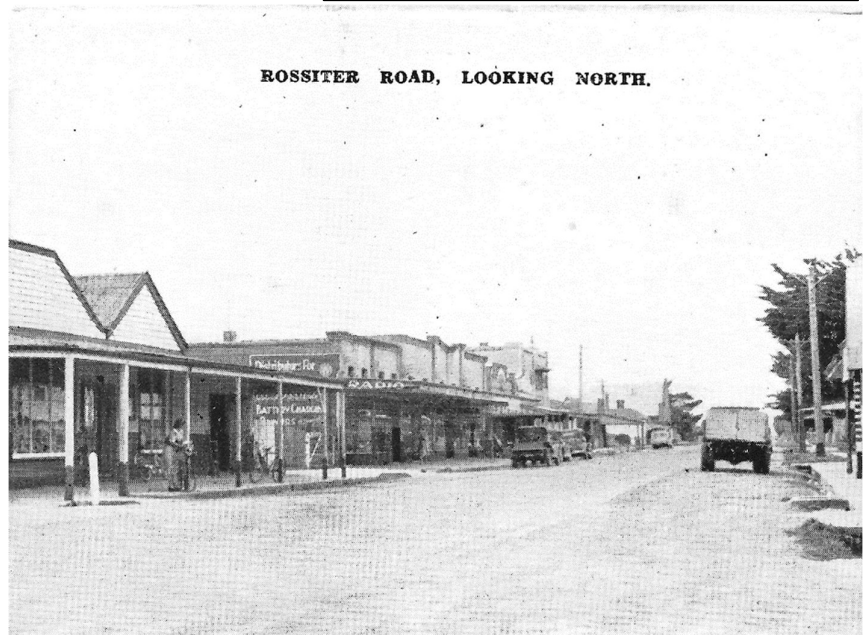


Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup-Lang Lang
Community

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

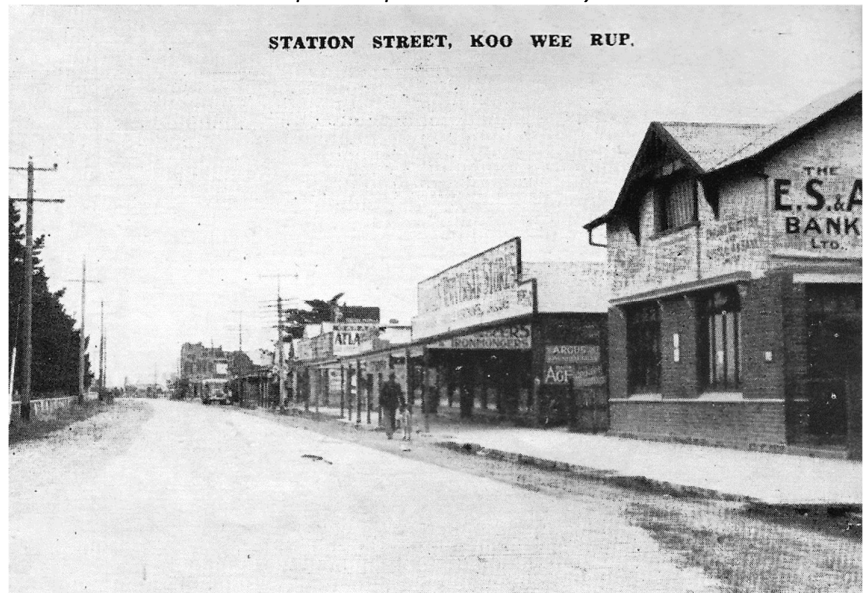
For more information
facebook page (Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup-Lang Lang)
or our website

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



ROSSITER ROAD, LOOKING NORTH.

*Koo Wee Rup in the 1940s - Above: Rossiter Road below: Station Street
Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society collection*



STATION STREET, KOO WEE RUP.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Sat 9th Dec.
Gates open 6.30pm
Carols at 7pm

All Welcome
 Guest Artists
 Full Orchestra
 Monster Fireworks Display

This Event is Alcohol Free

Cochrane Park Koo Wee Rup
 Song books provided
 Gold Coin entry pp

Proud sponsors:
 Bendigo Bank

- Father Christmas
- Food Stalls
- Fun for All

Supported by
Cardinia
 Cardinia Shire Council

Presented by the Lions Club of Koo Wee Rup with Turning Point Church, KWR Secondary College, KWR RSL, KWR Township Committee, KWR Men's Shed and the 1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group

We recommend pets be confined between 8.30pm and 9.30pm on the 9th of December due to fireworks

Koo Wee Rup Santa Run

Koo Wee Rup Fire brigade is having a **Santa lolly run**.

Listen out for the fire truck sirens and Christmas Carols on **Wednesday 6th December 2023 starting at 4pm**

Where: Leaves fire station at 4pm heading towards Fox Rd then Milla Way, see below for APPROXIMATE timing (we may be earlier or later).
 Boundary drain road will not be visited due to time constraints. Santa cannot stop on Rossiter Rd, Station St, Sybella Ave due to traffic hazards.

Santa will be giving out lollies and in return would love **some canned food/non-perishables to give to a local charity.**

Santa has a lot of people to see so he won't be driving down courts. Santa's helpers will drive into your court with sirens sounding.
 Please come and **meet Santa at the top of the court.**
 Due to time constraints, photo opportunities with Santa will be very limited.

Approximate times, we may be running late but we will get there:
 Fox Rd then Milla Way area then Tesoro Estate 4:00pm
 Lauriston Estate (Townley Rd) 5:20pm
 Vicinity John St, Alexander Ave 5:50pm
 Walker Estate (Bailey Boulevard) 6:20pm
 Charles St then Waterways Estate (Catani Ave) 7:00pm
 Koo Wee Rup Town Centre starting at Walker St 7:50pm

We will update our Santa Facebook page as we are leaving one area and heading to the next. Detailed maps are on this Facebook page
 Follow us <https://www.facebook.com/kwrcfasantafooddrive>

1st Kooweerup Scout Group

Christmas Tree sales

Last weekend of November
 1st and 2nd weekend of December
 9am to 3pm

On-site Station St Kooweerup
 opposite Kooweerup Newsagency

Pre-orders are welcomed – see contact details below.

5ft, 6ft, and 7ft trees available
 Tree stands available
 Local delivery available for \$10-
 January tree pick up available for \$10-
 Contactless payment options are available

Enquiries please contact:
1stkwscouts.christmastrees@gmail.com
 OR phone: 03 5997 1879

Koo Wee Rup Uniting Church Christmas Fair

SATURDAY 09 DECEMBER 10:00AM - 02:00PM

- Sausage Sizzle
- Kids Christmas Game Comps
- Christmas raffle
- Christmas Treats & Preserves
- Christmas knick knacks
- Books & Plants
- Devonshire Cream Tea
- Guess the amount lolly jar

CASH ONLY