

THE KOO WEE RUP BLACKFISH



MAY 2023

Anzac Day 2023 (report page 7)



Koo Wee Rup Township Committee Meeting

The Township held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, 5 April at the KWR Community Centre. Township Meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 3 May at 7:30 pm at the KWR Community Centre. All welcome.

The Koo Wee Rup Bowling Club Rooms project has been re-tendered, it was grouped with three other projects to make it more attractive for contractors. Council has looked at non-traditional construction such as modular buildings which are quicker to construct.

The council budget has not signed off yet, there is one more budget meeting and then it will probably be adopted at the May council meeting.

Community Care housing proposal in Henry Street was discussed. There is still some uncertainty as to what it is, and also whether the proposal was publicly advertised. Kaye will check into the proposal and the planning requirements.

The one way signs in the laneway from Gardiner St to the car park at the rear of the Station St shops have been removed, can they be replaced the laneway is not appropriate for two way traffic.

The Ray Brown Walk sign at the old railway platform end has been removed again.

Kaye has received some complaints regarding the crossing in front of Woolworths. The road edge on both sides of Station St has subsided slightly making a tripping hazard as people enter and leave the crossing point due to the different heights in the ground surface. There was also some discussion of whether traffic lights at Moody St would be more useful than the current crossing.

The recent online seminar regarding Identifying and Recruiting Volunteers was discussed including the difficulty in getting people to attend meetings let alone commit to joining a committee or becoming involved in the administration and running of local community organisations. Many committees are comprised of older members of the community and there are issues with succession for many committees.

Continued page 5

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What's on in Koo Wee Rup and District

May

Mon 1st	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Mon 1st	Chair Pilates (page 24)	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 1st	Mat Pilates (page 24)	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Mon 1st	CWA Meeting (page 21)	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Wed 3rd	Coffee Club (back page)	Royal Hotel	10am
Wed 3rd	Lions Club Meeting (page 11)	Tooradin Sports Club	7pm
Wed 3rd	Township Committee Meeting (front page)	Community Centre	7.30pm
Fri 5th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 6th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Mon 8th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Mon 8th	Chair Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 8th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Tue 9th	Hall Committee Meeting	Community Centre	7.30pm
Wed 10th	KWR Swamp Historical Society Meeting (page 29)	KWR Historical Society	6pm
Fri 12th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 13th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sat 13th	Olivia Newton John & Elton John tribute show (page 22)	Caldermeade Farm	7.30pm
Mon 15th	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Mon 15th	Chair Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 15th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Mon 15th	CWA Craft Meeting (page 21)	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Wed 17th	Coffee Club	Chandelier Café	10am
Wed 17th	Lions Club Meeting	RSL Clubrooms	7pm
Thu 18th	Getting to know your family history (page 28)	KWR Historical Society	11am
Fri 19th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Fri 19th	Stand up comedy night with Richard Stubbs (page 22)	Caldermeade Farm	7.30pm
Sat 20th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sat 20th	Monthly Craft and Produce Market (page 22)	Caldermeade Farm	9am
Sun 21st	Bayles Fauna Park Working Bee (page 25)	Bayles Fauna Park	9am
Sun 21st	KRHS 100 th Birthday Celebration (page 27 & back page)	Hospital Grounds	10.30am
Mon 22nd	KWR Senior Citizens Indoor Bowls (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11am
Mon 22nd	Chair Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	5pm
Mon 22nd	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	6pm
Thu 25th	Shirley Bassey/Tom Jones tribute show (page 20)	Bayles Public Hall	10.30am
Thu 25th	Doris Day Morning Melodies Tribute (page 22)	Caldermeade Farm	10.30am
Fri 26th	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 27th	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Sun 28th	KWR Swamp Historical Society Lunch (back page)	Tooradin Sports Club	12noon
Tue 30th	Forget-Me-Not Café (page 25)	Eco House, KRHS	10am
Wed 31st	Coffee Club	Degani	10am

June

Fri 2nd	KWR Senior Citizens Lunch & Bingo (members only)	Senior Citizens Club	11.30am
Sat 3rd	Mat Pilates	Eco House - Hospital	9am
Mon 5th	CWA Meeting	Senior Citizens Club	7.30pm
Tue 6th	Morning Melodies (page 22)	Caldermeade Farm	10.30am
Sat 24th	Lions Craft and Patchwork Fair (page 24)	Community Centre	9.30am

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

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

Vale Ron Payne

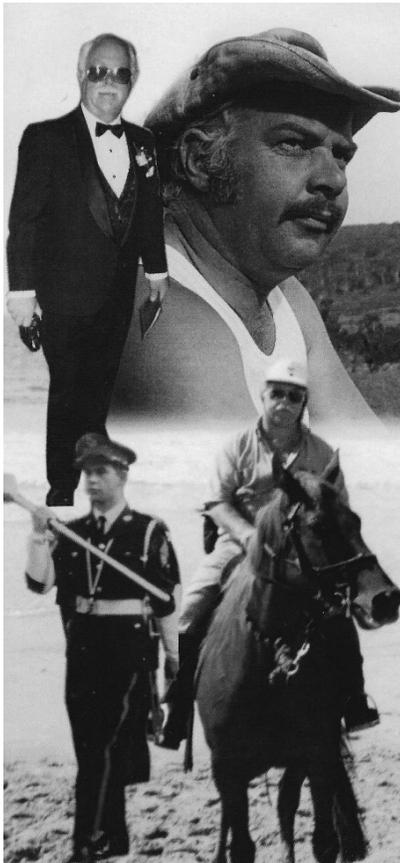
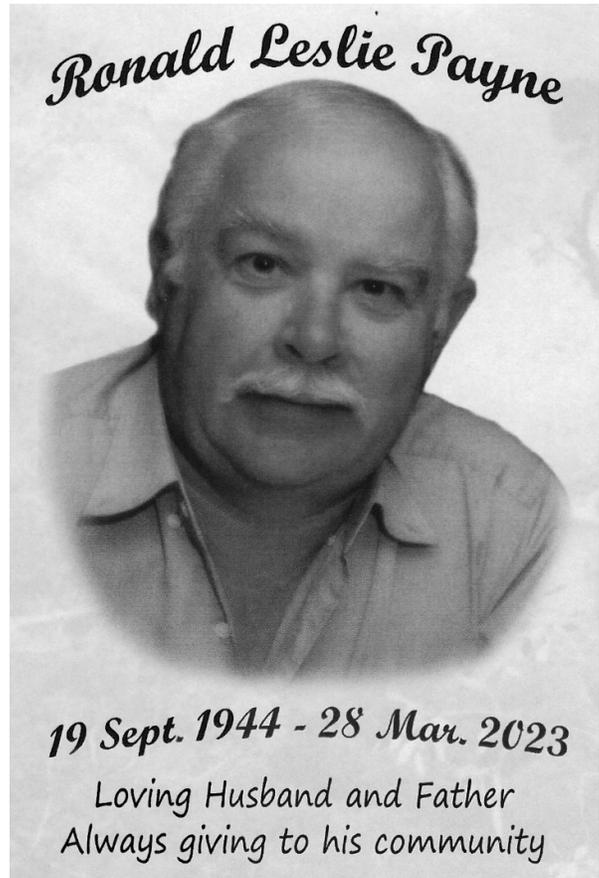
Ron Payne moved to Koo Wee Rup in 2013 and created more positive change for the community in his 10 years of residence than most people make in a lifetime.

A long time Lion, Ron joined the local club on arrival and drove some of the club's most popular local projects.

When the idea of setting up a Junior Public Speaking program was raised at a Lions meeting, Ron jumped at the opportunity to set up the program within our local primary schools. He has run the project since 2013.

In 2017, Ron moved the Christmas Carols out of the Community Centre and into Cochrane Park complete with fireworks. In 2021, when around a dozen local Carols events were cancelled due to the difficulties of hosting a public event under Covid restrictions, Ron persisted, filling in dozens of pages of paperwork and implementing all the required Covid-safe practices required. The rest of the committee thought he was crazy, and it would never happen. The rest of the committee was wrong, but without Ron's drive and determination it would have been shelved. Sadly, even Ron's drive couldn't prevent the 2022 Carols being cancelled due to the swamp like conditions of the Carols site in Cochrane Park. To make sure that won't happen again, Ron met with council staff multiple times after the Carols date and secured a commitment from them to build up the swampy area before next year's Carols.

Ron was born in Edithvale, attended Edithvale Primary and Chelsea and Sandringham Technical Schools. He qualified as a toolmaker and was working at BX Plastics in Brighton in 1966 when Linda, freshly arrived from England, joined the company. He knew quickly that Linda was the girl for him, and, with his characteristic determination, he courted Linda and they married in 1967. Ron and



Linda's 55 years of marriage produced 3 children, Chris, Janine and Brian, and 4 grandsons. He was an active and engaged father, continuing to act as a support and sounding board for his children throughout his life.

After a stint as an insurance salesman, Ron became a sales rep for Mono Pumps and eventually the company's overseas representative. Ron thought this was a great way to see the world at someone else's expense. Wanting to be more settled, Ron and Linda took over a General Store in Frankston. In 1983, Ron joined his first Lions Club at Frankston and enjoyed many years partnering Santa on his rounds of the children's wards as a jolly little elf, cheering up the children who could not be home for Christmas.

In 1999, Ron and Linda moved to 10 acres at Nyora where they enjoyed life with their horses. Ron then joined the Strzelecki Lions and was active in setting up such projects as the Loch Market and Strzelecki Lions Dairy Expo.

Ron served not only his local Lions Clubs but was also CEO of the Licola Wilderness Village Board. The township of Licola is owned entirely by the Lions Clubs of Victoria and southern New South Wales. The greater part of the town is occupied by the Licola Wilderness Village, where Lions Clubs have for 50 years run camps for the underprivileged, deserving, special needs and disengaged young people, mostly held during school holidays. Ron spent many weeks at meetings, working bees and children's camps, earning himself a Life Governor Award to the Licola Wilderness Village.

Ron received a Melvin Jones Fellowship, the highest award the Lions can bestow and was awarded the Melvin Jones Progressive Award on two further occasions.

Ron was an extraordinary man who threw himself wholeheartedly into everything he did. He was an amazing asset to any community he was part of. He will be sorely missed by his family, friends, and broader community.

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70 years on

In late March, the Governor of Victoria invited a number of couples who had been married for over 70 years to a high tea at Government House. Local couple, and regular columnists for the Blackfish, Geoff and Olive Stokes attended.

They were interviewed for Channel 7 News (story link <https://twitter.com/i/status/1640620246594895872>).

Geoff said: *It was a wonderful afternoon, so many people fussing over us all and*

the Governor and her husband chatted personally to all the couples. An excellent and unforgettable day. The Governor's husband even opened the billiard room just for me to have a look at - I asked him!



Olive & Geoff on the telly

Geoff and Olive at Government House
Below: High Tea at Government House



Koo Wee Rup Township Committee Meeting

Continued from front page

The recent Cardinia Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee meeting discussed some planned upgrades to the Koo Wee Rup pool to improve all abilities access. There is \$90,000 budgeted to improve access to the pool and amenities.

Ron Payne's memorial service was held in April. Ron was the ideas man for the Lions Club and drove many projects, he was the main person in organising the Christmas Carols in Koo Wee Rup. He leaves large shoes to fill for the Lions in our community.

The Presbyterian Church building has been bought by the Turning Point Church. They will run their Food Bank from this location. Turning Point also own a property towards Bayles where they intend to develop a school and are planning to move the old church building to the school site once it is established. They are hoping the school will open in 2026.

The Committee will attend the ANZAC Day ceremony later in the month and lay a wreath.

Christmas Carols meeting to be held soon.

This month was the first for Blackfish where it was not delivered to letter boxes with no junk mail signs, it has not affected delivery numbers significantly.

The Township Committee has submitted a grant application for Australia Day 2024. We need to start thinking about a speaker and suitable Award recipients.

The gate in the fence around the dragline display in Cochrane Park was open. There has been a noticeable rise in kids climbing on it, we may need signs to dissuade people from climbing on it. The dragline sign has also been subject to graffiti.

We have received a quote from an artist for the proposed mural at the Old Railway Platform. It is a very reasonable \$35,000 for a large mural. The quote was discussed, and some ideas put forward about possibly involving the school or other groups. More to come.

The Forget-Me-Not Cafe was held at the Hewitt Eco-House last week. Over 30 people attended which is the capacity for this venue. The cafe is trying to organise a joint meeting with the Pakenham group.





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Koo Wee Rup RSL

What can I say about ANZAC Day?

We have had an amazing lead up to ANZAC day. A small group of dedicated members of the RSL have done an amazing job at Woolworths Koo Wee Rup and Bunnings Clyde North selling ANZAC badges and merchandise and I personally would like to say a huge thank you to them.

We would like to extend a big thank you to both Woolworths and Bunnings for allowing us to sell from their businesses. However, most of all we would like to thank the residents of Koo Wee Rup and surrounding areas who so generously supported us by buying an ANZAC badge and wearing it with pride. We haven't finished tallying our sales and donations yet, but I think we can safely say this year would have to be probably our best year for a very long time if not ever.

Now for ANZAC Day itself – firstly we woke up to a beautiful morning, we couldn't have asked for better conditions for a Dawn Service. We were at the community centre bright and early with the Koo Wee Rup Lions Club and the Koo Wee Rup CWA cooking and preparing the egg and bacon rolls – a big thank you to both organisations. We grossly underestimated the number of people who would come along to our service - 500 egg and bacon rolls were prepared, and these went very quickly. There were several estimates of numbers in attendance floating around ranging from “about a good 750 to 1,000” and “oh, easily 2,000” – you decide!!!



The march itself was led by piper Sophie Stringer from the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band and bugler Darcy Manks followed by flag bearers from the five primary schools from the district. The march ended at the cenotaph where the serving members from HMAS Cerberus joined our service which was

held to honour the men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the defence of our great nation. To close off the service our Maori brothers and sisters treated us to a stirring and emotional performance of the Haka to honour those who fought in wars and never returned and those who are serving today. Several people watching the Haka commented to us afterwards that it brought a chill to their spine and tear to their eye – thank you to the Maoris for bringing a part of their culture to Koo Wee Rup on this day where they are just as much part of the ANZAC spirit as us Aussies.



From all at the Koo Wee Rup RSL, whether you are a local or whether your friends and family travelled a distance to attend our Dawn Service – THANK YOU!!!

Rodney Edwards - President

Speeding? Significant fines apply.

If you speed, you can expect a minimum fine of \$231 and 1 demerit point. Police and speed cameras can be anywhere, so why take the risk? Chances are you will be caught.

Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.



What was that siren?

April 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:

26/3/23 – Burn off during fire danger period – Daleys Rd Koo Wee Rup

27/3/23 – Car Fire – Ballarto Rd Koo Wee Rup

29/3/23 – Smoke issuing from house – Soldiers Rd Caldermeade

29/3/23 – Car fire/collision- Railway Rd Koo Wee Rup

31/3/23 – Motor Vehicle Collision- Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup

7/4/23- Burn off during fire danger period – Manks Rd Dalmore

7/4/23 – Oil spill- South Gippsland Hwy Caldermeade

13/4/23 – Power lines sparking – Rossiter Rd Koo Wee Rup

19/4/23 – Car issuing smoke – South Gippsland Hwy Tooradin

21/4/23 – Motor Vehicle Collision/trapped – Dalmore Rd Dalmore



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.

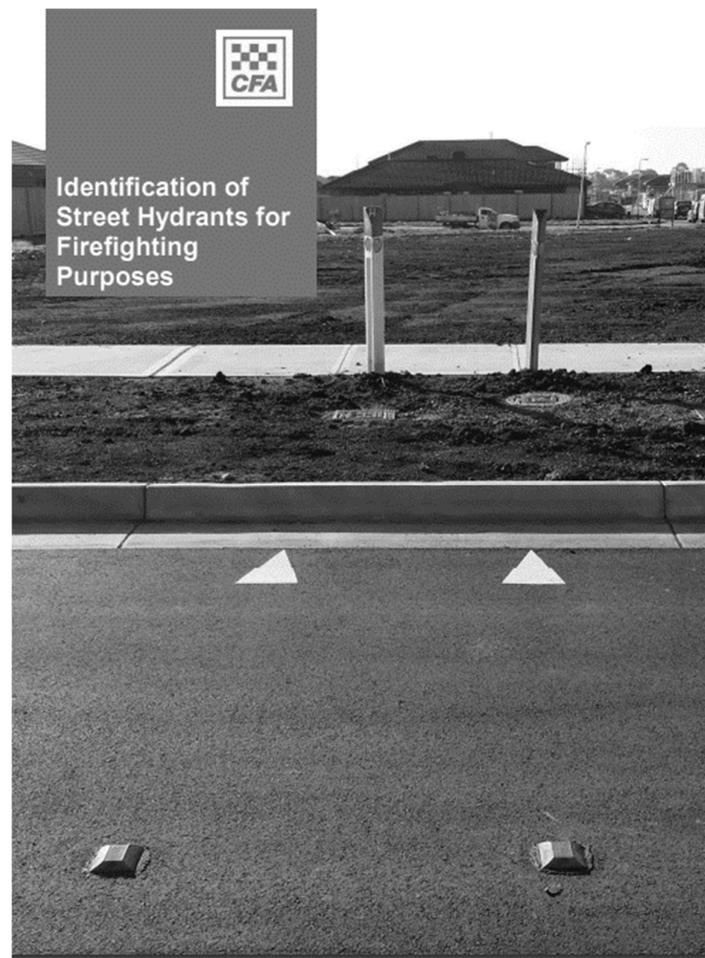
As all alarms have a 10-year service life, all alarms should be replaced if they are more than 10-years old, batteries should be replaced regularly and they should be tested monthly.

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 and Districts Lions

Written by Linda Sanders

Lions Meetings

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

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

If you would like to join our merry team, please come along to a meeting to see how things are run.

Craft and Patchwork Expo

On the 24th June 2023, the Lions Club of Koo Wee Rup are running the 5th Craft and Patchwork Expo at the community centre at Cochrane Park, Rossiter Rd, Koo Wee Rup. It will be open from 9.30am till 4pm. This is a 1 day event.

There will be a raffle which will be drawn at 3.30pm on the day of the Expo. The prizes are

1st prize: Queen Size quilt

2nd prize: Lap quilt

3rd prize: Patchwork voucher

4th prize: Chandelier Café voucher

Come see what the talented people we have in our district have created. There will be many quilts and other crafts on display for you to admire.

If you have quilts or other crafts you wish to display, please do not hesitate to contact Sheryl Blay Mobile 0409 353 600 or email sherylblay@gmail.com

There will be stall holders selling their goods, a cafe where people can have a sandwich, a Devonshire Tea or Coffee and renew your energy levels and continue a fabulous day. All profits made from this function will go back into the community where we can support those in need.

Harewood Heritage Day

The weather was perfect so there was an increase in attendance at Harewood House.

We trialled bain-maries from the RSL and they worked well, so we will look at buying our own along with a generator for non powered sites.

Thanks to all who helped and a special thanks to Shirelle Lean for all the organising and labelling of the bbq trailer. Also for everything else you organise so that we don't have to worry about anything.

Right: The workers having a break after a steady stream of customers for most of the day.

Anzac Day

Members of the Koo Wee Rup Lions spent the morning cooking eggs and bacon for the people who attended the Dawn Service on Tuesday 25th April 2023.

After a very early 4am start and cooking up a storm, the eggs and bacon were handed over to the Koo Wee Rup CWA ladies who assembled them into bread rolls.





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St John the Baptist Primary School

During Term 1, the students at St John the Baptist Primary School were involved in numerous activities and events that showcased our school community.

Camp Quality

On the 24th of February Camp Quality visited our school. Camp Quality is an organisation that supports children who have been diagnosed with cancer. Our students were presented with an engaging lesson from the Camp Quality puppets about what it is like for children, and their families, who are living with cancer. We had a crazy hair day to raise money for such an important and worthwhile charity.



Harmony Day

Harmony Day was celebrated on the 24th of March. Students and teachers were invited to come to school in either orange (the official colour of Harmony Day) or cultural dress. The day was full of activities and experiences that celebrated the diverse cultures within our school.



Easter Passion Play

The year 5 and 6 students, under the guidance of Mrs Rhiannon McFarlane, performed the Easter Passion Play. It was a very moving account of Jesus' journey to his crucifixion. The hard work and dedication of the students and teachers was evident, and the school community enjoyed their performance.

Upcoming events in May

Inform and Empower Incursion on cyber safety for our Year 1 -6 students.

5th May - House Cross Country

12th May – Mother's Day Breakfast

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



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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



1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group

Group Leader – Shane Worthington

Contact – 0427 770 781 or 1stkwrscouts@gmail.com

Wow what a start to term 2. Our Rovers have learnt how to lay carpet in the final step of fixing their den.

Anzac eve saw our Joeys have a campfire at the scout hall.

Cub Scouts had their annual sleepover in the hall learning how to iron and roll their scarves, bake Anzac Biscuits and making pocket poppies before watching a movie.

Our Scouts camped outside our hall enjoying a campfire, snacks, and a milo.

All sections attended the Koo Wee Rup Dawn Service. We had Blake and Brianna lay a wreath at the cenotaph, all members laid a poppy and Holly and Ryan raised the flags.

With the beginning of the Term, it is a perfect time to come along and give scouting a try. We currently have room in all sections for new members. We offer a trial period of 3 weeks for free. Contact Shane to organise to come along.



Joey Scouts hiking to Hilda Falls

1st Koo Wee Rup Scout Group
Firewood Raffle

Tickets are \$2- each.
 OR
 3 tickets for \$5-

A 6 X 4 trailer load of firewood to keep you warm during winter.
 (Trailer not included)

Thank you for your support.

Raffle will be drawn on Friday June 30th.



Cub Scouts with their leaders at the Cenotaph after the Dawn Service



Rovers helping at Bunning East Pakenham Community Easter night.



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

Another story about my working days *by Geoff Stokes*

I am sure you will recall that over the last few months my storytelling has been about my work and business experiences all around the world in the 1960s, 70s, and 80s. Experiences that would not occur today in a computerised and instant information Wikipedia world, all linked to an international mobile phone. Compared with now, important decisions made then took a laboriously long time getting to you, but then we knew no different, and the industrial world continued to turn oh so slowly for me.

It was about September/October 1982 when I received a letter from overseas; a letter that would change my life and my dear wife Olive's life forever and not for the better I'm afraid. In fact, totally for the worse as events and decisions initiated by me alone unfolded over the next two years of workplace horror. I cannot change what has gone before, however, I did forge well ahead again in later years, but I will tell you now about the consequences of this surprise letter here.

It was a letter from a fellow called Ed Wong and he was the manager of the Singapore branch of Jamesbury Corporation Ltd. If you recall reading my earlier writings, you will realise that it was the same Jamesbury Corp. of the USA that pioneered and invented the modern ball valve along with Audco UK and Audco Australia, the company that I worked for at that time. This letter from Ed Wong asked if I would meet him when he came over to Melbourne with a hint that he would be offering me a job. I couldn't believe my luck. Fancy me being offered a job by the largest ball valve manufacturer in the world. How could I turn down such an offer? Well, as it happens, I should have done!

I met Ed Wong over dinner one evening and he presented himself as a Singaporean who, with his family, had spent many years in the USA. He liked to think of himself as an educated Chinese American and I suppose he was to a certain degree. That is until he had had a drink or three and then he changed for the worse, but I didn't know that then. I was flattered that he asked me to become the Australian manager for Jamesbury, especially when he told me he that I had been recommended to him by Bill P, my old mentor who was now the chief engineer at Jamesbury Corp in Worcester, Massachusetts. To succeed I would have to appoint agents in each Australian State and Territory and run the Jamesbury business from my own office in Melbourne. However, before you decide, he said, I will send you an invitation to come over to Singapore and look at our operation there. How good was that? A couple of weeks later a first class (not business class) plane ticket arrived with a reservation at an upmarket 5-star hotel in Singapore. I do recall that it was for a Thursday and a Friday evening, so I added on the two weekend days to make my stay a little more pleasant and to finish my visit with some private time.

I was met at Singapore airport by Ed, in his Volvo saloon and I was driven straight to the Jamesbury (Asia) office and warehouse, somewhere in a thick industrial area of the city and we sat down to chat. He did indeed offer me the job but with a surprise for me. He would be my boss and I would have to report to him in Singapore and not to Jamesbury's head office in Worcester USA. I was a bit put off by that, but he immediately offered me a monthly salary I couldn't refuse; a salary way, way ahead of what I was getting from my Australian employer. Without really delving into 'the small print' I said 'yes', quite soon into what was essentially an interview for the job. I didn't realise at that time that my working conditions in Melbourne would be the same as that of a Singapore employee. It wasn't until I returned to Melbourne that I realised I would get only two weeks holiday a year, just a month's notice if I decided to leave, or indeed what Jamesbury could give me to tell me to leave, and I would have to pay 25% of my salary into a Singapore pension fund! There were

other dodgy rules as well especially with expenses and, I realised later, there was no actual contract. But, as I said, I didn't realise all this until I returned to Melbourne ("stupid lad", my mom would have said!). So here I was going out to dinner with Ed in Singapore, together with his young accountant to a downtown American fine dining restaurant. Soon it was time for bed so back I was driven to the hotel. About fifteen minutes into my ritual for retiring for the night the phone rang; it was the hotel concierge. He asked me, oh so politely, if I would like some female company in my room. Mr Wong had arranged for this, he said. I said no, in no uncertain words and soon sank into oblivion because I was so very tired after the journey, the interview, and the meal that was accompanied not by wines but by spirits (Brandy). I didn't know then that this is the traditional accompaniment to a formal meal, especially a Chinese meal, at that time in Singapore. Spirits not wine!

Continued next page



**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

Another story about my working days *from previous page*

The next day was a run through of the workings of his Branch and what he would require of me; a look at our potential customers, and a fair amount of time was spent discussing their existing "poor performing" agent in Melbourne and how we, I repeat, we, would get rid of this agent and appoint a new one. The evening was to be a dinner with his wife and friends and what an experience that was. Ed told me he had invited his girlfriend to the dinner because she was over from Taiwan where she was the front of house hotel manager at the Taipei Hilton hotel. A complication, for him, was that she had her husband with her and he told me he would have to invite him along too! So we gathered in a hotel bar after work for drinks and for Ed to introduce me to his entourage. There was his wife, a beautiful lady and his infant daughter, looked after by the family Amah, another lady, Ed, his girlfriend, her husband, and of course, me. We are in for a lively night I thought.

It was soon time for us to move on to the restaurant at my hotel and Ed's girlfriend's husband was so large and fat we had to put him in a separate taxi, he could not squeeze into Ed's Volvo car. I recall it was an exquisite Chinese meal and this time the accompanying spirit was a large bottle of Johny Walker Black Label whiskey. Ed picked up the bottle and placed it in front of the husband who was sitting across the table and Ed, staring him in the face as if to say, and he indeed was saying, "Look out, I am going to drink you under the table". And so it went on, with me, the guest, totally incidental to both of these competitors for this woman. As soon as the husband had scoffed his drink he poured himself another and then, staring Ed in the face, plonked the bottle down in front of Ed, and Ed repeated and so on and so on. I helped myself when I could and I was the only one to actually have a normal conversation with the ladies; the men were having this intense face to face drinking completion all through the meal. Soon I was feeling a bit under the weather so I was glad when we all retired to the bar downstairs. Down there it started all over again, this time with a large bottle of Cognac and I had to help myself when I could whilst the competitors resumed their contest. Soon I noticed that the table we were sitting at seemed rather high; indeed, the top of it was way above my head! I realised I had sunk down under it and that I had definitely had too much to drink. I took a deep breath, picked myself up and without saying a word (I couldn't anyway), staggered to the lift and made my way to my room where I collapsed on my bed into a deep sleep.

I was awakened early the next morning by Ed Wong's accountant whose name I have forgotten long ago; let's call him Seng, it was something like that anyhow. He said he was here to look after me for the day and he would be taking me to see around Sentosa Island, just offshore. I didn't feel the best yet especially after last night's caper but eventually, after a light breakfast, we made it to the cable cars that would take us across the narrow strait between the islands. Seng was a very strange character, he had never been outside of Singapore even into Malaysia, so his view of the world was somewhat biased, and he let you know it. You will realise that we didn't have a particularly happy day.

In 1982 Sentosa Island was in its infancy as a park and playground. Today it is a famous resort with a world-wide reputation, good food and plenty to do and see, a complete opposite to the hustle and bustle of the steaming metropolis just over the water. Through the 1980s and 1990s, several pay-to-get-in tourist designations were built on the island, most of which the local people found uninteresting. Consequently, there was a joke that the name Sentosa stood for "So Expensive and Nothing to See Also". In 2009, construction of a new foot bridge began. The S\$70 million Sentosa Boardwalk includes themed gardens, shops and eateries. There are covered walkways and travellators along the boardwalk for rainy days. The boardwalk, officially opened by Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean on 29 January 2011, will provide today's visitors with another alternative mode of travel to reach the island. In 1982 its most famous building was the war museum called Fort Siloso and outside was a building housing a replica tableau of the signing of the surrender of the Japanese occupying army. It was very interesting with life like figures of Lord Mountbatten and General MacArthur and their Japanese counterparts all sitting gravely around a large table.

To get there we rode on the cable car from the mainland to the island. There is a super view from up there because the system is very high up. Once on the Island, you could get on a bus running around the coast road and you just alighted and boarded the bus wherever you wanted, and I do recall that the beautiful beaches on the ocean side of the island were breath-taking. Nowadays there is a monorail system to circumnavigate Sentosa. Olive and I didn't go there on our mini stay in 2004. Perhaps next time we will.



I said farewell to Ed, Seng, and Singapore and flew back to Melbourne on the Sunday with great plans for the future of Jamesbury, and for me, in Australia. As before, I was met at the airport by my dear Olive who took me back home to Templestowe and my lovely children. It was good to be back.

Continued next month

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contact Anne on
0417 511 625

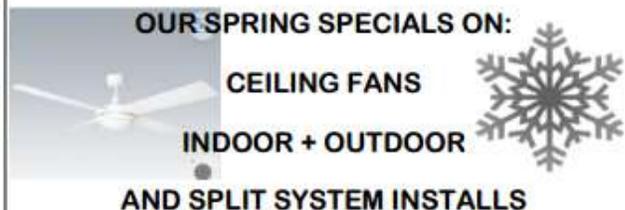
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Rotary Club

Early last month, members of the Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup and Lang Lang went to Westernport Regional Hospital and loaded a truck with used hospital beds to be delivered to Donations in Kind (DIK). DIK is a major recycling operation, run by volunteers, that gives suitable goods to people in need, for free. Thanks to Rudy, Bob, Sam, Graham, Jan, Hayden, Michael and Jan's grandson Kyle for all your help. Also thanks to Judy for taking the photos.



Cardinia Arts Grants

The Cardinia Arts Grants are open until Sunday 7 May 2023.

Cardinia Shire Council offers these grants to encourage local artists to connect their artistic practice with local communities in new ways. The grants provide financial assistance to local artists for initiatives that utilise, expand, and promote the arts within Cardinia Shire.

Artists and arts groups can apply for a grant of up to \$5,000 from a pool of \$25,000. Applicants must contact one of Council's Arts Project Officers to discuss their project idea before submitting.

Emerging artists are strongly encouraged to apply as at least one emerging artist will be selected to receive a grant.

Applications will be judged against the following criteria:

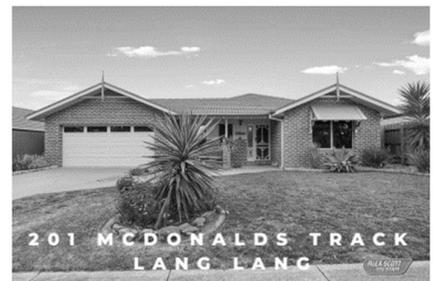
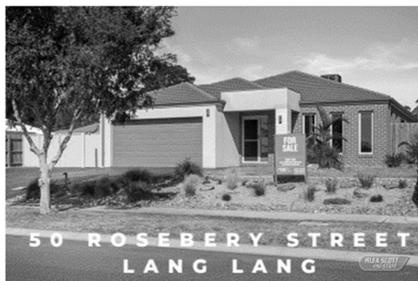
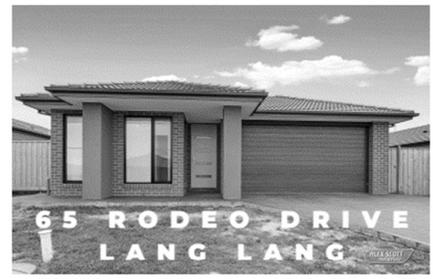
- Artistic merit (innovation, individuality, track record and/or proven ability)
- Proposed project (outcome, approach, plan)
- Community relevance (ability to connect with locals and/or promote interest in the arts)
- Feasibility (budget, timeline, risk, scale).

For more information about the grants program, call Arts Project Officer Gabby Fisher on 5943 4706 or Libby Steel on 5943 4527, or visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/artsgrants

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0457 120 277



Rimp
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MORNING MELODIES

Appearing at ...

BAYLES PUBLIC HALL

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

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
BOOKINGS: 9704 7304 or 0428 712 783
 JAMES LEIGH ENTERTAINMENT PROMOTIONS
 email: jamesleighpromo1@bigpond.com

NAR NAR GOON

BINGO

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

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
 meat tray from The Butcher With the Chef, NNG)
 \$1,000 in the final Jackpot (if sufficient books sold)

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Koo Wee Rup Country Womens Association

Written by Linda Sanders

Meeting Dates

Our next meeting will be on Monday 1st May at 7.30pm.

Our next craft meeting will be on Monday 15th May 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.

Harewood Heritage Day

It was a very successful day at the Harewood Heritage Day. Our lovely ladies were busy selling scones, jam and cream and other baking that members had made. Also for sale were preserves, knitting, baby items and other crafts.



The Morning shift



The afternoon shift

Anzac Day

Our ladies were busy helping put together the egg and bacon rolls for people attending the ANZAC Day service. The Lions club did a great job of cooking the eggs and bacon, which were handed to the CWA ladies to make them into tempting rolls.

It was decided that this year the CWA would also supply 400 anzac biscuits. Thanks to Michelle and her students for making them, we appreciate your hard work.

It was a busy and very early morning but well worth the effort!! It's always a pleasure to work with such lovely well organised ladies xx



The latest news from the Ladies Auxiliary

The monthly meeting of the Koo Wee Rup Regional Health Services (KRHS) Ladies Auxiliary was brought forward one week to March 31st because our usual date of the first Friday in the month was Good Friday. Our fashion parade on March 20th was a remarkable success. Thank you to all the ladies who came along and enjoyed the morning and purchased some lovely clothes. Cliché Clothing did an excellent job, and the fashions and styles were extremely popular. Our next fashion parade on September 7th 2023, will be with Kay's Fashions.

One of our members, Tina Kendall and her granddaughter Georgia Sharp have been taking their cat, in a pram, around the hospital wards. The residents and patients are enjoying this immensely and have talked for days about 'the charming cat'. This is such a wonderful idea to entertain the residents and they love it!

The hospital celebration of its 100th birthday will be on Sunday May 21st. There will be so many things to do on that day so please come along and join with everyone in this great celebration. The Ladies Auxiliary will have cakes, scones etc., in the Men's Shed for your enjoyment.

Our next meeting is on May 5th at 9:30 am. If you feel you can help us to raise funds for purchasing hospital equipment, please come along and meet us. You will have lots of fun too!

Please contact Olive on 0435034101 or Marlene on 59971339 if you need more information.

Olive Stokes

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

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Upcoming Events:

- 13th May** - Olivia Newton-John & Elton John tribute show
- 19th May** - Stand up comedy night with RICHARD STUBBS
- 20th May** - monthly craft/produce market (**free entry**)
- 25th May** - Doris Day Morning Melodies Tribute (**free**)
- 6th June** - Morning Melodies (**free**)
- 17th June** - monthly craft/produce market (**free entry**)

4385 south Gippsland Hwy, Caldermeade Vic 3984



www.caldermeadefarm.com.au

*Tickets to shows & future events can be purchased via www.eventbrite.com - search "Caldermeade" contact our cafe for reservations via - cafe@caldermeadefarm.com.au or (03) 5997 5000

Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens Club

Icke Road, Koo Wee Rup

Members recently enjoyed lunch at the Garfield Hotel. A wreath was laid at our local Anzac Service on our behalf. Friday lunches are going well, followed by Hoy. We are having a craft morning on the 4th week of the month at 10am-1pm. You are most welcome to come along and give us a try. New members are welcome at an annual fee of \$10.

All enquiries Dianne 0419 405 404
 Leonie 0477 249 000

Winter waste drop-off events are back!

Residents can dispose of excess green waste at Council's free green waste drop-off events this May and July.

Council's green waste drop-off events are a free service accepting residential amounts of green waste including garden prunings, tree branches and trunks (up to 30 centimetres wide and 1 metre long), weeds, grass clippings, leaves, and flowers.

Residents must present photo ID as proof of residence within Cardinia Shire to access the free service.

Waste will only be accepted from residential vehicles and trailers; commercial business operators cannot use this service.

Lysterfield – Friday 19 to Monday 22 May 2023

Cleanaway Resource Recovery Centre, 840 Wellington Rd, Lysterfield

Friday: 8am to 4pm

Saturday and Sunday: 8am to 12pm (noon)

Monday: 8am to 4pm

Pakenham – Friday 21 to Monday 24 July 2023

Future Recycling Transfer Station, 30-32 Exchange Drive, Pakenham

All days: 9am to 4pm

Residents are also reminded to dispose of chemicals and other hazardous liquids at this weekend's Detox Your Home event, as well as drop off any eligible empty agvet chemical containers at the drumMUSTER event.

Detox Your Home

Date: Saturday 22 April 2023

Time: 9am to 2pm

Location: Council Depot, 18 Purton Road, Pakenham

More info and to register:

Eventbrite website

drumMUSTER

Date: Saturday 22 April 2023

Time: 9am to 12 noon

Location: Council Depot, 18 Purton Road, Pakenham

More info: **DrumMuster website**

For more information about Council's waste drop-off events, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dropoff or call Council's Customer Service team on 1300 787 624.



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Pilates @

Koo Wee Rup Regional Health Service

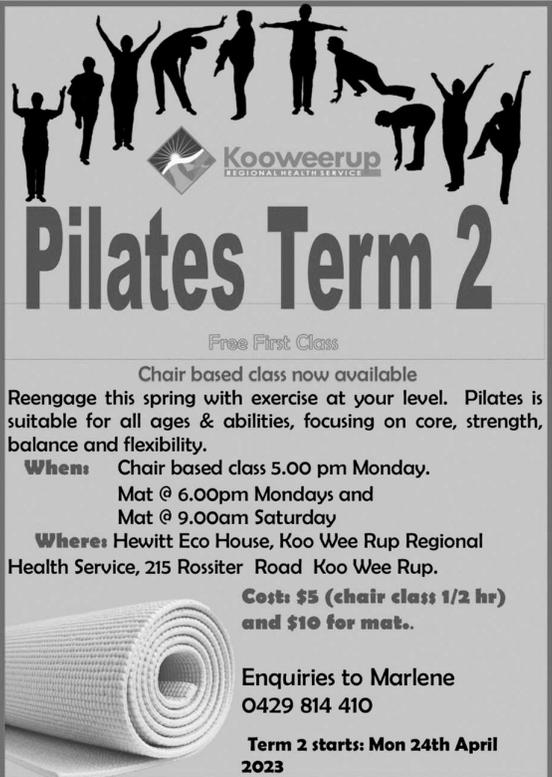
The classes have restarted for Term 2 with a FREE TASTER CLASS for first timers.

Why not give it a go? In Pilates you work at your own ability level and can progress as injuries and fitness allow. We all have a good and not so good day so learn to listen to your body.

Challenges include core strength, flexibility, and balance work. We have a Chair group at 5 pm Mondays for 30 minutes, and a Mat class at 6 pm the same day in the community room at the Health Service. The access is next to the community garden on Rossiter Rd.

We also offer another Mat class on Saturdays @ 9 am. Cost is \$5 for the 30 minute Chair group and \$10 for the hour long mat class.

Enquiries to Marlene on 0429 814410



Pilates Term 2

Free First Class

Chair based class now available
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 2 starts: Mon 24th April 2023



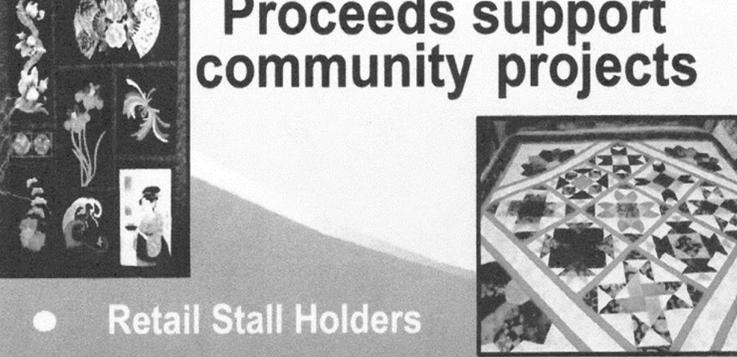
Craft & Patchwork EXPO

KOO WEE RUP COMMUNITY CENTRE Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup



24th June 2023

9.30 till 4pm \$5.00 entry.
Raffle Drawn 3.30 PM



Proceeds support community projects

- Retail Stall Holders
- Plenty of Free Parking
- Morning/Afternoon Tea & Lunch

Supporting your community
Community Bank - Koo Wee Rup
Bendigo Bank

A Project of the Lions Club of Koo Wee Rup & District Inc.

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WEEKLY TENNIS CLASSES

ONLY \$99 PER TERM

Classes run every Tuesday and Friday during school term. Times are: **3:40pm-4:20pm & 4:20pm-5:00pm.**
(Parent/Guardian involvement is appreciated and encouraged for these sessions, no experience necessary!)

Small group and private lessons available at **5:00pm onwards** from \$149 per term. Classes run for 45 or 60 mins.

Please ask us about Individual/family memberships too!

**ENROL NOW: CALL/SMS CHARLIE ON 0427 027 527
EMAIL: KWR TENNIS@GMAIL.COM**

Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club

With the Victorian Open being held recently in the Latrobe Valley, Brett Condron, Tim & Maverick Katz & Daniel Price decided to enter the event. The 1st competition was the Men’s Triples with Brett, Tim & Daniel winning 2 of 3 games to narrowly miss out on winning their Section on shot difference. This was a great performance and they should be proud of the result as the Club is. Tim & Mav played in the Men’s Pairs with Brett & Daniel making up the other pairing. Tim & Mav. lost their 3 games comfortably. Our other team of Brett & Daniel won their 3rd game but lost 1 game by 1 shot and the other by 5 shots. In what would have been a major experience Daniel entered the Men’s Singles competition but unfortunately was beaten in both games. Nevertheless, he would have learned from the games. They should be very pleased with the results. There is already discussion about having more of our Club members play next season as it will again be held in the Latrobe Valley.

The second last game of Fridays Triples was played in drizzly conditions but we got through the day. The winning team for the day was Les Pumphrey, Lexie Taylor & Graeme Burton on 39 pts. The Runner up team was Keith Marsh, Jim Garnham & Roger Balment [Korumburra] 37 pts. Best 1st game was won by John Williams, Neville & Kevin Kitchin [Lang Lang] 18pts. & best last game went to Peter Bott [Pakenham], George Mol & Lynne Thomas [Phillip Island] on 20 pts. Final day of Triples competition has been held with the Winning rink being Ken White, Russell White [Longwarry] & Noel Speight [KWR] on 38 pts. Runner up team with 34 pts. was Luke Monckton [Garfield], Charles Poulsen & Joe Barlow [KWR]. Best 1st game went to Col Finger [Longwarry], Charles Harris & Graham Woolstenhome [Pakenham] on 20 pts. & best 2nd game to Geoff Barber, Roger Balment & Jim Garnham [Korumburra] on 21 pts.

The Aggregate for the season went down to the final game with the Winning team being Trevor Kitchin, Ken White [Longwarry] & Noel Speight [KWR] with 16 wins 1 draw to “sneak” ahead of Ken Clifton, Ned Courtin & Luis Aguilar [Pakenham] with 16 wins. Third place went to Graeme Burton, Lexie Taylor & Les Pumphrey [Garfield] 13 wins 1 draw. We must sincerely thank our long-time sponsors of this competition in Nutrien Harcourts Real Estate [KWR] & David Bull Funeral Director [Pakenham, Cranbourne & Drouin] without their continued support the Club would not be able to hold the competition.

The Club intends to continue with Friday nights bowls, when weather permits, during the Winter months. If the weather is unfavorable we will still have indoor activities so don’t forget to come along.

Didn’t vote in the State election?

Close to 300,000 Victorians who appear to have failed to vote in the November 2022 State election will have an opportunity to explain why they didn’t vote when they receive an ‘Apparent failure to vote notice’ in the coming days.

People who receive a notice are urged to respond with a detailed explanation, as the VEC is required to issue a fine of \$92 if a person fails to respond within 28 days.

An ‘Apparent failure to vote notice’ is not a fine – it’s a chance to explain why you appear not to have voted. If you respond to the notice, you are much more likely to be excused. Completing and sending the notice back within the 28-day timeframe gives the VEC a chance to consider your explanation and whether you can be excused.

Voting in State elections is compulsory in Victoria.

Bayles Fauna Park

Working Bee

Sunday, 21 May
9am to 12 noon

followed by a sausage
sizzle lunch.

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

All welcome

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 2023
31st January
28th March
30th May
25th July
26th September
28th 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



Promote your local business this Winter!

What's On Cardinia is calling on local businesses to take part in Winterfest 2023!

Winterfest will showcase and celebrate local experiences and businesses, to encourage the wider community to explore and enjoy all things local these winter school holidays.

Designed to stimulate local business and economy, *What's On Cardinia* will offer free promotion and marketing to participating local businesses, as part of the wider Winterfest campaign.

To participate in Winterfest, businesses must host an event, deal, or experience from Saturday 24 June to Sunday 9 July 2023.

While the winter months are a typically quieter trading period within Cardinia Shire, Winterfest should provide a much-needed boost to the local business economy. The two-week festival will bring Cardinia alive with events, specials and family activities taking place all over the shire.

Cardinia Shire Deputy Mayor Councillor Jack Kowarzik is encouraging businesses to put their hand up to be involved in Winterfest.

"Winterfest will

be a wonderful opportunity for local businesses to promote themselves and connect with the wider community."

As part of Winterfest, local businesses will benefit from:

- Free marketing and promotion of Winterfest in local Star News Group newspapers
- Increased exposure
- New customers and increased foot traffic
- Benefit from an increase in visitors and tourism in the region during the festival
- Be a part of an incredible showcase, which highlights the brilliant and diverse businesses that make Cardinia Shire a great destination to visit.

"The last several years have been challenging for not only our businesses but for our local community as well. We hope this year's Winterfest will not only bring us all together, but will showcase our vibrant community and the hidden gems that Cardinia Shire has to offer!" Cr Kowarzik said.

Winterfest 2023 is proudly presented by What's on Cardinia in association with the Cardinia Tourism Advisory Board and supported by Star News Group.

For more information or to get involved and participate in Winterfest 2023, visit whatsoncardinia.com.au/winterfest

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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

May 2023

Find us on



MAY 21

100 YEARS Celebration

All Day

To Do

- Historical Display
- Horse and Cart Rides
- Face Painting
- Balloon Artist
- Stalls
- Interactive Art
- Free Spinning Wheel
- Photo Booth
- Jumble Sale

10.30 am

Welcome

Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony

Entertainment

- Rats of Tobruk Pipes Band.
- Kooweerup Secondary College Band.
- Frank Lee Darling.
- Rosemary Hughson.

All Day

Food

- Food Trucks
- Devonshire Tea
- BBQ
- Coffee and Slushies
- Cakes

2.00 pm

Time Capsule reveal.
Opening of the Centenary Garden.

For more information contact KRHS on 59979679 or email info@KRHS.net.au



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

Koo Wee Rup's first Bush Nurses

By Heather Arnold, President Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

The Bush Nursing Centre at Koo Wee Rup was established in July 1918. The Bush Nursing Hospital Movement began in 1910 with the establishment of the Victorian Bush Nursing Association (V.B.N.A.). It was an initiative of Lady Dudley, the wife of the Governor General, who had seen first-hand the need for skilled nurses in the bush. To obtain a Bush Nursing Centre the local community had to raise the money to fund the cost of the nurse's salary, board, uniform and a 'means of locomotion'. The salary was set by the Bush Nursing Association at the rate of around £80.00 per annum, the rate of pay for a hospital nurse with five or six years experience. The first Victorian nurse was appointed to Beech Forest in March 1911. The first Bush Nurse at Koo Wee Rup was Nurse Homewood, who commenced work on July 1, 1918.

Ellen Amelia 'Nell' Homewood was born October 2, 1891 in Rockhampton, in Queensland, to Alfred and Margaret (nee Burns) Homewood, of *Lavendale*, Kunwarara. She was the seventh of their thirteen children. Ellen undertook midwifery training at the Rockhampton Women's Hospital; four of Ellen's sisters were also nurses, and two of them, Martha and Grace, served in the Australian Army Nursing Service in World War One. In 1917, Ellen was the Bush Nurse at Cowangie Hospital and from there she came to Koo Wee Rup.

The *Lang Lang Guardian* of July 5, 1918 reported on her arrival in the town - *Almost as soon as she arrived Nurse Homewood's services were called into action at Kooweerup. Little Jim Ellis had the distinction of being the first patient. On Tuesday night the nurse was called to Dalmore, but got back in time for the welcome.*

The President of the Koo Wee Rup Bush Nursing Association in Koo Wee Rup was William Eason and the Secretary was George Burhop. At the function to welcome Nurse Homewood, Mr Eason said –

Bush nurses filled a great want in districts where the services of a medical man were unobtainable. They had a great many trials and difficulties to contend with, and it was their duty to alleviate suffering and save life. It was to their interest to join heartily in the movement and make it a great success. He welcomed Nurse Homewood to Kooweerup. The Lang Lang Guardian report continued Nurse Homewood, who is quite a young-looking girl, made an appropriate response, and hoped they would all work well together.

After the speeches a musical programme was rendered. Miss Jessie Johnson played a selection by Beethoven in fine style. Songs were rendered by Mrs C. Donald excellently. "An Old Love Dream" and "Sleep, Little Ruffly, Fluffly Bird," Mr Lupson

was in great form, and rendered several songs, "Take a Pair of Sparkling Eyes." "Glorious Devon," and was warmly encored, giving "The Land of I Dunno Where," and "Shirts," a comic item which elicited much laughter. Mr Wallace sang "My Old Shako" and "On Dooley's Farm," both items being well rendered and loudly applauded. Refreshments were abundant and choice, presided over as usual by Mrs Morrison. A dance was held afterwards, the company separating at 1am.

Nurse Homewood was at Koo Wee Rup until March 1919, when she took up a position at the newly opened bush nursing centre at Toolondo which is between Horsham and Goroke. At the May 1919 Koo Wee Rup Bush Nursing Association Annual meeting it was reported that *in the past nine months the nurse's attention was called on 753 occasions* so she would have been extremely busy.

On May 13, 1920, Ellen Homewood married Archibald McBride Broderick. Arch, as he was known, had served in the AIF, enlisting in April 1916 and returning home in July 1919. He was a Bank Manager with the Commercial Bank and in the first decade of their marriage his career took them all over Australia – the Electoral Rolls show they lived in Mildura, Maryborough in Queensland and Cairns in Queensland. From the 1930s they were back in Melbourne. Ellen died on February 9, 1975 and her death notice lists one daughter, Margaret, and two grandchildren. Arch died in January 1974, aged 84.

Continued next page

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-

May 18 - Using Newspapers for family history - Trove and other sources of newspapers

June 15 - Trove: more than just newspapers

July 20 - Cemeteries: you can learn a lot in a cemetery- dead men do tell tales!

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 Rup's first Bush Nurses *from previous page*

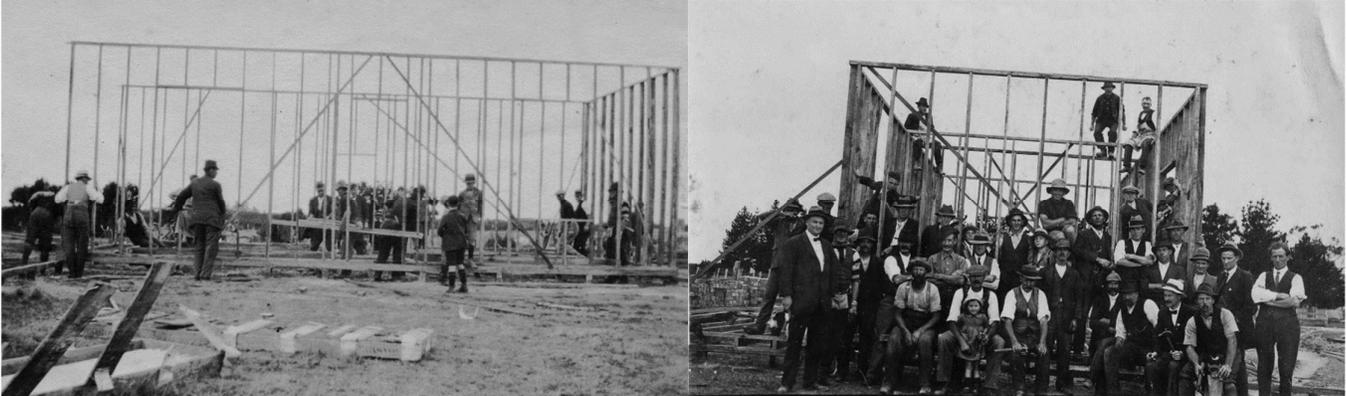
By Heather Arnold, President Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

The next Bush Nurse was Nurse McKay, and I have no other information about her or how long she stayed. Nurse McKay was followed by Mary Ellen Walsh, who was still in Koo Wee Rup when the Fallen Soldiers' Memorial Hospital was opened on May 23, 1923. In February 1920, the *Koo Wee Rup Sun* reported that *the Bush Nurse was forced to live three miles out of the town because while residents are desirous of having the services of a nurse in connection with the Bush Nursing Centre, yet there are no homes willing to take one in. This enforces her to stay at a residence three miles out, but she drives in every day to attend her duties. The position is very unsatisfactory.* In July 1920, the paper reported that the Koo Wee Rup Bush Nursing Committee would like to employ an assistant for the Nurse, but they could not afford to do so. They did however decide to *pay the rent on the consulting room as it was unfair that their nurse should be saddled with this expense.*

In 1920, it was decided to erect a hospital in Koo Wee Rup. The plans from the Architects were for a wooden building, with verandahs, which would accommodate four beds. The estimated cost of the building was £1970, or if it was built in brick £2160. The Koo Wee Rup Bush Nursing Committee considered this to be too expensive, they had only wanted to spend £700, so it was suggested that they should initially proceed with a cottage to be used as the nurse's quarters.

However, in November 1920, the *Koo Wee Rup Sun* reported that *Mr Burhop said he had had a conversation with Mr Colvin [the local builder] re the erection of quarters for the nurse. He had suggested a working bee to have the place put up in 24 hours. Mr Colvin said he was prepared to take the lead and supervise the work. If this could be done they would only have to bear the expense of the timber.*

The first working bee was scheduled for April 14 and 15, 1921 and the whole community was expected to help. And not just the men were to help - *Ladies will be present to encourage the men folk by providing morning and afternoon lunch.* The building wasn't completed in the two days, and another working bee was scheduled the next week. In the end, J. Bould finished the building, the chimneys were bricked by the Whiteside Brothers and a sub-committee of ladies furnished the cottage. At the Annual meeting held June 15, 1921 the Committee could announce that the cottage was completed; and they would consider finding an assistant for their nurse [who] *was nearly run off her feet.* The cottage solved the accommodation issue for the Nurse, but as the Committee allowed two midwifery patients to stay at the cottage at any one time, it may have increased her work load.



Community working bee to erect a cottage for the Bush Nurse

Nurse Walsh was granted six months leave in January 1924, due to ill health, and at her farewell function it was noted that she had been connected with the centre for about four years, which puts her commencement to sometime in 1920. The *Koo Wee Rup Sun* of January 31, 1924 reported on her farewell - *By her fondness for duty; capable attention to those needing her aid, and lovable disposition she is held in the highest esteem by every individual in Kooweerup and district. Nurse Walsh was presented with a travelling rug, leather suit case and an envelope containing, it is hoped, enough lucre to bring her back again to Kooweerup.* As a matter of interest, whilst she was in Koo Wee Rup, Mary Ellen Walsh brought to life no fewer than 66 babes. She was a mother not only to the children, but to mothers she had nursed, as well as men.

Sadly for the town, Nurse Walsh did not return to Koo Wee Rup and the only other information I have about her is that in August 1924, she was still residing in Western Australia and making *good progress.* It is not surprising that Nurse Walsh needed so much recovery time, when you consider just how busy these Bush Nurses were, how much responsibility they had and how little professional support they had as they so often worked alone.

**The Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at Mallow house in Rossiter Road, corner of Henry Street. The next meeting is on May 10, 2023. 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.**

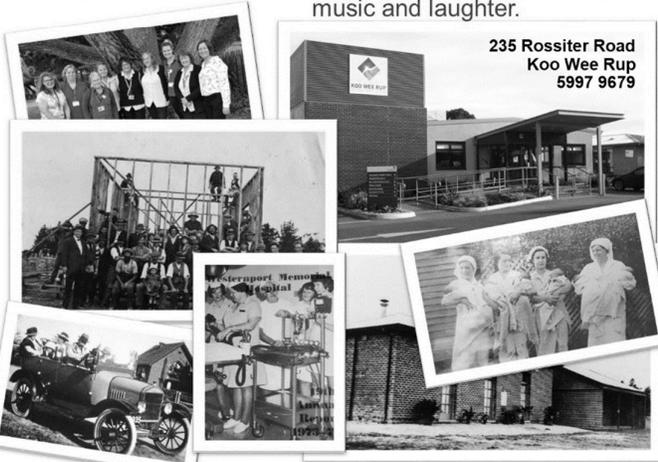


1923 2023

Kooweerup
REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

We welcome everyone to the
KRHS 100th Birthday Party
on
Sunday 21st May, 2023
10.30am - 2.30pm

Bring your family to KRHS and celebrate our history with stalls, food trucks, old time games, free entertainment, music and laughter.



235 Rossiter Road
Koo Wee Rup
5997 9679

Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

Annual Luncheon

Guest Speaker is Gerry Cunningham

~Swamp Historian, Poet and Raconteur~



Koo Wee Rup
When - May 28,
12 noon.
Where - Tooradin & District Sports Club, Recreation Reserve, Tooradin
Cost - \$30.00 per head. Drinks at bar prices.

Swamp 1894
Sunday, 2023 at

RSVP, including any special dietary requirements, by May 21, 2023 to Heather Arnold - 0407 521 637 harnold@dcsi.net.au

KOO WEE COFFEE CLUB



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

May	3	Royal Hotel
	17	Chandelier Café
	31	Degani
June	7	Royal Hotel
	21	Chandelier Café
July	5	Royal Hotel
	26	Chandelier Café




Enquiries ph Jo on 0428 557 411

 Like Koo Wee Coffee Club



Expression

Art by people with disability

Cardinia Cultural Centre is holding two art workshops for people with disability ahead of the *Expression* exhibition in August 2023.

Participants will work with local art therapist Nazia Wasif to create unique artworks that will be included in the exhibition.

Workshop details

Date: Saturday 6 and Saturday 13 May
Time: 10am - 1pm
Location: Cardinia Cultural Centre
Address: 40 Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham VIC
This venue is wheelchair accessible

To register for the workshops, visit:
<https://forms.office.com/r/HALi2VC4MQ>