

NAR NAR GOON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

THE GOON * NEWS

Volume 27 Issue 01

February 2025

STAN HENWOOD AWARD

The annual Stan Henwood Award honours the late Stan Henwood OAM for his lifetime contribution to the Tynong community and Cardinia Shire. The award recognises individuals who have made outstanding, long-term contributions to the local community.

The award's namesake, the late Stan Henwood, was deeply involved in his hometown of Tynong. He served as a volunteer and member of multiple organisations, including the Tynong Hall Committee, the Tynong Recreation Reserve Committee, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Tynong Tennis Club, the West Gippsland Tennis Association, Tynong Fire Brigade, and Tynong Progress Association.

Beyond the borders of Cardinia Shire, he received recognition from the Prime Minister for his service to sport and was awarded an Order of Australia for his contributions to the community.

Nominations for the 2025 Stan Henwood Award are open from 28 January until 10 March. The award winner will be announced and celebrated at Council's National Volunteer Week reception in May 2025.

For more information about the Stan Henwood Award, including eligibility criteria and how to nominate, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/StanHenwoodAward



Nar Nar Goon local legend Ray Coombs was awarded the Stan Henwood Award in 2017. A born and bred 'Goonie', he selflessly volunteered his time to the NNG Football Club, The CFA and NNG Bingo.

It would be great to see another Nar Nar Goon local receive this award. If you know of anyone, then please nominate.

Nar Nar Goon History Group

Our first meeting will be Friday 21st Feb in the Anglican Church at 2pm.

Guest Speaker: Bert Kooloos.

Bert is from a large Dutch family who grew up on McCraw Road. He has lots of stories to share.

History group then moves to a Monday and will be held in the meeting room behind the Op-Shop.

Lock these dates into your diaries:

- Monday 24th March, 2pm

Guest speaker: Maree Houlihan

- Monday 28th April, 2pm

Guest speaker: Maree Wright and Pauline (Bones) McKinnon. You might remember they are the Cunningham girls

NNG Progress Association MEETING Tuesday 25th February

7pm, in the room behind the Posh Op-Shop.

Guest speakers:

We will have Cardinia Shire Council officers from the planning department attending to discuss the hot topic of a town strategy for NNG as well as Cr Alanna Pomeroy. Not to be missed!

All welcome!

GOON NEWS DEADLINES:

*Next Deadline for submissions will be the
30th February*

Email: goonnews3812@gmail.com

parklea.

*proudly supporting
The Goon News*

SUPPORT LOCAL



Nar Nar Goon Smokehouse

Luke & Kylie
5 Carney Street
Nar Nar Goon



TheButcherwithTheChef

Ph: 5942 5370



The Nar Nar Goon Hotel
ph: 5942 5221

Bottle Shop: Mon 2pm-11pm
Tue-Sun 12pm-11pm

Meals: Wednesday to Sunday
Lunch 12pm - 2:30pm
Dinner 5:30pm - 8:30pm
Take away available:

Pool Hall: Thursday - Saturday
6pm - Late

Check Facebook page
during covid restrictions



The Nar Nar Goon Hotel
The Doc Doherty Bar

Bunyip Police
5629 5205

Please ring 000 for immediate emergency assistance and attendance - 131444 for any other police assistance or reporting. Or contact the station via below details.

Danny Hower,
Victoria Police Sergeant 26184
Bunyip Police Station
4 Pearson St, Bunyip, 3815, Vic
Phone 5629 5205 Fax 56295 5999
BUNYIP-UNI-OIC@police.vic.gov.au
daniel.hower@police.vic.gov.au
Police Aboriginal Liaison Officer



COMMUNITY CENTRE - SPENCER STREET, NAR NAR GOON
Every Thursday Night • Eyes Down 7.30pm • www.narnargoombingo.org.au

EVERY THURSDAY!

Community Hall, Nar Nar Goon (opposite primary school)

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL
COMMUNITY, COME AND HAVE
A PLAY AND WIN !!**

EYES DOWN at 7.30pm

EVERY THURSDAY!!!

Books on sale from 6:30pm for the 1st session
and 8.00pm for the 2nd / 3rd session / flyers

- **1st SESSION** (\$2 books)
- **2nd / 3rd SESSION** (\$4 books)
- **2 BINGO FLYERS** (\$1/\$2 Ducks, Big Bucks)
- **RAYS RAFFLES** (\$2 tickets)
- **1st Number-Last Number** (\$1 tickets)

(Win \$50 or a meat tray from The Butcher With The Chef)
(Win up to \$1000 JACKPOT in the last game)
(Win up to \$20,000 in linked Big Bucks bingo)
(Win \$100 bingo voucher last Thursday of the month)

Canteen available with complimentary tea/coffee/milo
before last session. Cooled/heated venue. EFT available.
Must be 18yrs or older. A Non Profit Organisation here all
profits go to local clubs/organisations.

Any Questions call Sharon ph: 0417 446 840

BINGO Gift Vouchers

FUNKYNET

Children's Face Painting and
Temporary Air Brush Tattooing

Lynette Lia

0411 241 849

lynette.lia08@icloud.com





We're Back! - 06th February 2025

Bingo is back this Thursday! Grab ya mates and come along and enjoy a great evening where you could be the winner of an impressive jackpot of \$1700. Maybe you will be going home with a fabulous meat tray supplied by our local award winning butcher 'The Butcher with The Chef'. Maybe you'll go home with that warm and fuzzy feeling that you have helped NINE community groups who receive the profits from Bingo. The more people who play, the more profits! See you at bingo. Ticket sales from 6:45pm and 8pm if you come to the second session.

EYES DOWN at 7:30pm !!



Paint & Sip Venue

Private functions
Guided Art classes
available 7 days
day or night
Dore Rd, Pakenham



0439-932-446

info@artshedondore.com.au

www.artshedondore.com.au

Scan here



*Have a story or want
to advertise?*

Email: goonnews3812@gmail.com



Nar Nar Goon Maryknoll Cricket Club



**Past
Players
Day**



SAT, 15TH FEB 2025



Nar Nar Goon Reserve



3:00pm - late

Bar/canteen open

Meat Tray raffle



Prefer to have your copy of the
Goon News emailed to you?
Send us your email address to
goonnews3812@gmail.com

Ladies of the Swamp Charity Quilting Group



The Ladies of the Swamp Charity Quilting Group started in 2019 in response to the Bunyip/Tonimbuk bushfires. Over 100 quilts were donated to the fire relief for those in need of some comfort. The group have also donated many quilts to the East Gippsland bushfire relief, Batemans Bay bushfire relief, a women's accommodation project in Morwell and also to the Koo Wee Rup nursing home.

The self-funded group rely on donations of fabric and quilts (both tops and fully completed) to help continue our work. If you would like to join us, everyone is welcome.

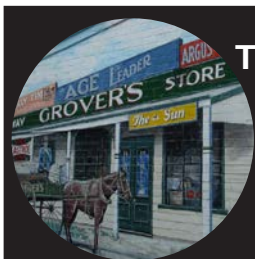
For more information, please contact:
Lynne 0417 318 290 or Diane 0417 332 767



Garfield Pharmacy

Garfield Pharmacy is situated in the heart of Garfield on Main Street, next to Garfield Post Office. It has been proudly serving the community for more than 50 years. The Pharmacy is well known for its professional presentation, friendly service and unwavering commitment to our community needs. The Pharmacy has plenty of on street parking at the front of the Pharmacy and just opposite to Garfield Train Station. We also have a part time GP(doctor) within the same premises.

Recently, Pharmacist Jak has taken over the ownership of the pharmacy and offering plenty more services and products. Jak is friendly, approachable and has over 10 years of experience in community pharmacy. We welcome you to pop in and meet our friendly team.



The Nar Nar Goon Progress Association proudly acknowledges and appreciates the support of Nar Nar Goon Bingo

NAR NAR GOON



COMMUNITY CENTRE - SPENCER STREET, NAR NAR GOON
Every Thursday Night • Eyes Down 7.30pm • www.narnargoombingo.org.au

**ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT
THE LOCAL COMMUNITY**

NAR NAR GOON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

THE GOON * NEWS

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Contact me for your free market report



Matt Clark
0417 411 883



**first
national**
REAL ESTATE

Neilson Partners

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OLD TIME DANCE

Nar Nar Goon North

2nd Saturday of the month

8.00 til 11.30

\$8.50 admission
(includes supper)

5th Saturday if applicable

(ladies please bring a
plate of supper to share)



Live Music
3 piece band

All welcome



Nar Nar Goon North Hall
(cnr Dore & Bessie Creek Road)

Enquiries Phone Kaye 0407 343 754



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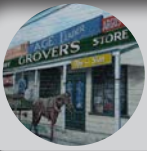
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Nar Nar Goon Progress Association

The Nar Nar Goon Progress Association recently posted the following on Facebook in an effort to get the communities thoughts on our town.

THE FACEBOOK POST (followed by some responses)

What are the thoughts of the community?

Is the feeling mutual or are you happy with the towns progression?

The Decline of Nar Nar Goon: A Call for Action

Nar Nar Goon, a small town located 63 kilometers southeast of Melbourne, is at a crossroads.

Positioned just beyond the metropolitan Melbourne boundary, with easy access to the Monash Freeway, Princes Highway, and a train station linking to Melbourne's CBD, the town should be thriving. Yet, the community of approximately 1,200 people is grappling with stagnation, and there is a growing sentiment that both local and state governments are leaving us behind.

One concern arose recently when Council decided to withdraw our school crossing supervisor on Main Street.

Parents were shocked on the first day of school this year when they arrived to walk their children across the main road, only to find the crossing completely unmanned. After several calls to Council, the response was simply, "It's too quiet."

For anyone unfamiliar with Nar Nar Goon, this statement ignores the reality of our town's daily traffic. At 3:30 pm on a weekday, it can take anywhere from 5 to 20 minutes to get from Home Road across the train line distance of no more than 400 metres, with traffic flowing heavily from the Pakenham industrial estate. To say that our town is "too quiet" to justify removing a school crossing supervisor is not just out of touch—it's a serious safety concern.

These incidents serve as stark reminders of the challenges our town faces. But more than that, they may be a sign that Council has lost touch with the day-to-day realities of local communities like ours.

Nar Nar Goon is not asking for the world. We are simply asking for fair recognition and a plan for sustainable growth. Instead, it seems we are being left behind, forgotten in decision-making that prioritises larger townships while ignoring the very real needs of our community.

While Nar Nar Goon has two primary schools and a prep-to-Year-12 Christian college, the town lacks the vibrancy to attract and retain families. Our shops

include a fish and chip shop, a pub, an antique store, a butcher, a tattoo parlour, and the café. Many residents and visitors alike feel that the town is dying, with little development or opportunities to breathe new life into it.

Adding to these challenges is the impact of Green Wedge Zones (GWZ), a policy framework designed to protect non-urban areas around Melbourne. While these zones are crucial for preserving agricultural land, environmental assets, and recreational spaces, they impose significant restrictions on land use and development in towns like Nar Nar Goon.

Approximately 70% of the land in Nar Nar Goon is designated as GWZ. However, very little of this land is actively used for farming or agricultural purposes. Instead, much of it sits unused, often owned by land bankers waiting for future changes to zoning laws. These designations severely limit housing and business development, restricting the community's potential for growth and renewal.

The Green Wedge Dilemma

Green Wedge Zones were established to maintain a clear boundary between urban and rural areas, ensuring Melbourne's urban sprawl doesn't consume valuable agricultural and environmental land. However, this policy has unintended consequences for communities like Nar Nar Goon. The GWZ prohibits most forms of subdivision and residential development, limiting housing supply and driving up property prices. This has deterred many families who wish to move to the area, as they either cannot afford it or cannot find available housing.

The Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) recently rejected a residential development proposal in Nar Nar Goon, citing its location in an agricultural zone. This decision underscores the rigidity of the current planning framework, which prioritises preserving the rural character over accommodating the needs of growing communities. Yet, as noted earlier, little of the land within the township is actively farmed. This highlights a gap between the intent of GWZ policies and the reality on the ground, where the lack of practical agricultural use diminishes the rationale for restricting growth in certain areas.

Additionally, the Nar Nar Goon Progress Association strongly believes that any future development should be carefully planned and not simply default to high-density infill. When discussions around "infill" take place, the risk is that large ½-acre blocks could be subdivided into 6-8 unit developments or, even worse, developers could gain approval for multi-storey unit complexes. This is not the future we want for our town.

The community is not against development, but we want to see a structured approach—one that respects the character of Nar Nar Goon rather than turning it

nng progress cont...

into a replication of Pakenham. The Progress Association believes the town needs new estates with 800-square-metre to 1-acre family blocks, rather than high-density developments. We are pushing for a comprehensive town strategy that includes a vision for sustainable and well-planned growth, rather than a piecemeal approach that forces inappropriate development in the wrong areas.

The Impact on Local Businesses and Economy

The restrictions imposed by the GWZ also impact our local economy. While the policy encourages agricultural and tourism activities, it limits other forms of economic development. Businesses face challenges in expanding or setting up in the area, and with a small population, the town struggles to support even the businesses it already has.

A Way Forward

While the Green Wedge Zones serve an important purpose, it is essential to strike a balance between preservation and growth. By no means does the community of Nar Nar Goon want to transform into a suburb of Melbourne or a continuation of Pakenham. What the people envision is a town that grows while retaining its unique character—a country town with wide boulevards, vibrant community spaces, and opportunities for families to thrive. A town people look forward to coming home to after a day at work. Nar Nar Goon's situation calls for targeted action and collaboration between local councils, state government, and the community. We are in a unique situation, being a town 63 kilometres from Melbourne with just a T intersection as its centre, a Train station and access to the freeway. Local and state Government, Here are some steps that could help:

Town Strategy Development: The Progress Association continues to push for a clear town strategy that ensures development is not limited to infill alone. We need a plan that sets guidelines for growth in a way that enhances the town's character, rather than dismantling it.

Policy Review and Flexibility: Work with planning authorities to reassess GWZ regulations in Nar Nar Goon. Identifying specific areas within the town where limited development could occur, while preserving the broader objectives of the GWZ, would provide room for growth.

Community Engagement: Host forums and workshops to involve residents in shaping the future of Nar Nar Goon. A shared vision can strengthen community bonds and guide sustainable growth.

Encouraging Land Use: Advocate for policies that incentivise active use of farmland within the GWZ,

whether for agriculture, community projects, or sustainable development, rather than allowing land banking to stifle growth.

Conclusion

Nar Nar Goon is a town with great potential, but its growth is stifled by a lack of development, economic stagnation, and the constraints of Green Wedge zoning. While these policies are vital for preserving Melbourne's natural and agricultural heritage, they must evolve to meet the changing needs of small rural communities. By advocating for balanced development and sustainable growth strategies, we can breathe new life into Nar Nar Goon and ensure it becomes a thriving and vibrant community for generations to come.

We urge all stakeholders—local councils, state governments, and community members—to come together and take action to revitalise our beloved town. Let's make Nar Nar Goon a place where families can thrive, businesses can flourish, and the community can grow.

Nar Nar Goon Progress Assoc.

Without the completion of a township strategy, the risk of ad-hoc development could potentially see the proliferation of further 'in-fill' and higher density dwellings that maybe considered inconsistent with the rural nature of Nar Nar Goon.

Is 'in-fill' the expectation of the future development of Nar Nar Goon?

Get involved. Tell us your thoughts. If you do not use Facebook, send us an email.

nngprogress3812@gmail.com

Some discussions following the Facebook Post

me too. I hate seeing all this development. I want peace. There are already hoons getting about on our roads and causing significant damage to road surface and not to mention just being a nuisance.

Look at beautiful NNG Nth. Being chopped up, and the new residents being too lazy to remove their own rubbish, so they dump it.

We live along the swamp, so there are many things to consider in the development of the area.

20h Like Reply

nng progress cont...

My initial thought: "be very careful what you wish for".

I live not far from Nar Nar Goon, where Pakenham borders Nar Nar Goon North on the Northern side of Princes Highway.

We already have a development under construction on the corner of Princes Highway and Dore Road consisting of both high density and individual house blocks of relatively small size.

This development is within the urban growth boundary and adjoins the GWZ.

Within the GWZ where I live, (small to large acreages of varied uses), VCAT have recently approved development of a Sikh temple on Dore Road with no regard for the amenity of adjoining properties and properties located nearby.

This development dwarfs nearby and adjoining properties, does not fit the rural character of the area and VCAT's decision has now set a precedent enabling every other community group wanting to build in this GWZ to do so.

A substantial number of acreage properties surrounding me are also owned and land banked by individuals of similar race to the owner of the property where the Sikh temple is to be located.

The Pakenham population is rapidly growing, there will be a need for more and more development over the coming years than even the Pakenham East Precinct can sustain. Nar Nar Goon is most likely next on the developers' agenda.

Please believe me when I tell you that you will have no say whatsoever in how your current GWZ is to be changed in the not too distant future.

21h Like Reply

6

I have read the post by nar nar Goon Group. I agree drainage etc must be improved But do you appreciate having a small town? Do you appreciate going for drive to get groceries? It won't be long before you will be absorbed by Pakenham East. Homes will close to you and you will be just another roadway. You are part of Metro Melbourne, and it's just matter of time another shopping centre goes up between NNG and next town. The council will not want those old buildings and they will be gone. Apartments will be in their place. Go to nng sometimes and like the place however, Govt and Council have other plans for you. They do not care about connection of town people to each other. If they cared, they would not agreed to Melb Metro going 5 km west of Drouin, and the lack of infrastructure.

4h Like Reply

1

I love our little town. I have only lived here since 1998 and a few shops have changed. I remember the little supermarket on the corner opposite the now cafe. I am a generally private person but have got to know a few neighbours and they are great. There is a genuine and friendly vibe in the town. I feel Pakenham is coming over the hill and will swallow up Nar Nar Goon soon enough, which makes me sad. I am happy enough to go shop in Pakenham when needed. Let the hustle and bustle stay there. However, yes I believe we are neglected when it comes to general maintenance of infrastructure. Broken and dangerous foot paths and man hole covers, clogged and overgrown drains are two things that come to mind. I love the charm of the small town. I don't necessarily want to see it expand but a freshen up and more maintenance would be great.

9h Like Reply

4

Without being rude, I'm just wondering what you mean they've removed the main st crossing supervisor.... There was a lady there Wednesday- Friday. She was a fill in but said they had been advertising for the role??

23h Like Reply



Nar Nar Goon Progress Association [Author](#) ★ Rising contributor

there was no supervisor on the school crossing on Wednesday morning. After several calls, council sent a fill in. People were informed council did not think NNG needed a school crossing supervisor as it was too quiet.

22h Like Reply

2

and every property in the main st goes to developers who just build units! Council and the government don't care about providing the infrastructure to accommodate all these people who live now on what was a family home!

20h Like Reply

2

it's a person's right to sell to who ever gives them the best rate, you can't begrudge them that. Money is tight and we all need what we need, for our own survival.

20h Like Reply

true but if the council/government are allowing the development they need to provide the infrastructure to accommodate the extra cars and people x

16h Like Reply



WOMEN'S FOOTBALL Nar Nar Goon 2025!



TRAINING KICKS OFF ON
WEDNESDAY 29TH JAN

630PM - 730PM

ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE EMAIL
SECRETARY@NARNARGOONFC.COM
OR CALL KAREN 0417 902 596



Fire Danger Period for Cardinia Shire Council District 09 Dec 2024 to 01 May 2025

NNG History Group

Mark and John Carney (who are cousins, not brothers) were the guest speakers at our last meeting about the history of the Carney family arriving in this area from Ireland. It was very interesting hearing how and where the Carney families settled - officially they are the Carney's of Pakenham but with an Australia Post address of Road Side Delivery, NNG. Ironically Sally Byrne/Crawford delivered their mail at one stage.

Their family story goes back to the arrival of Honora Ryan on a ship called The Africa around 1858 who married Michael Carney. He arrived in Australia from Ireland around 1859 or 60. The family bought land in the area and grew in size from that day forward. Together they had 7 children but unfortunately Michael died in 1880 aged 55, leaving Honora to be a single parent at age 44 years old.

Honora bought more farm land and managed to single handedly raise the 7 children. The story is much greater than this and will be published in a future issue of the Goon News in detail. As a result of Honora's tenacity and vision the new suburb of Pakenham East has been named in her honour - Honora Fields.

It seems the Carney family are related to a lot of local people. Gerry Cunningham was delighted to share that he too had connections to the Carney family. Thank you Gerry for reciting a poem about the Catholic Irish connection. Apparently the Catholics had 2 religions - the Catholic faith and the other one was horse racing. Which of the 2 religions was more important? John O'Brien wrote about this connection. Thank you Gerry for your enthusiastic delivery of the poem.

Meeting update:

The NNG History group continues to grow which reflects local interest in the stories of families from the area. The last meeting had 33 people - our largest number so far at a meeting. It was the final meeting for 2024. Meetings resume in February 2025. The first meeting will be on:

Friday 21st Feb, 2pm at St John's church.

Guest speaker: Bert Kooloos whose family arrived in Australia to farm from Holland.

After this date the meetings starting in March will be held on a Monday in the meeting room behind the Op Shop. The reason is that the Op Shop is closed on a Monday allowing us to use the meeting space. And more importantly, we can have a cuppa at the conclusion of the meeting in that space. We have

been in contact with many different families who are prepared to share their stories. They include: Nick Van Dieman, Ray de Reus, John Spencer, Bones and Maree Cunningham. Dore family, Jason Downes and Maree Houlihan. Please feel free to add to the list.

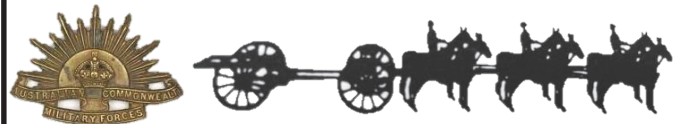
The dates from March for the Monday meetings are:

- Monday 24th March, 2pm
Guest speaker: Maree Houlihan
- Monday 28th April, 2pm
Guest speaker: Maree Wright and Pauline (Bones) McKinnon. You might remember they are the Cunningham girls

Friday Oct 24th - Friday - Swamp Bus trip - to a different part of swamp to 2024 with more stories from Heather Arnold and Gerry Cunningham as our guides once again.

We are in the process of finding a microphone and a PA system to allow the guest speaker/s easier to heard. Hopefully we have a PA organised for the first meeting on Feb 21st.

On that note, thanks again for such great support for the NNG History Group. Enjoy the Christmas break and look forward to seeing you again in the new year.



Light Horse & Field Artillery Museum Needs You!

Remember with gratitude the men and women who served for us.

Purchase a brick inscribed with your own personal message of remembrance and help re-open the museum.

Lest We Forget.

The museum has been an icon for many years and the Dingle family have worked hard to maintain the true character of its time. They are seeking our support with their fund-raiser "Brick Appeal". If you can help in any way with this appeal please contact Edward Dingle.

Edward Dingle

Asset Protection/Project Manager

Light Horse & Field Artillery Museum

www.lighthorsemuseum.com.au

Ph: 0419 400 306



NAR NAR GOON IS NOW RE

Support Your Volunteer

Your community needs your help!

Without volunteers the Nar Nar Goon Fire Brigade would not exist.
Our community needs to contribute to the protection of life and property.
We are now recruiting men and woman for:

- Daytime firefighters
- General firefighters
- Operational drivers

Become a CFA volunteer today

CFA fire brigades are volunteer organisations, which relies on local people helping local people. The Nar Nar Goon Fire Brigade has been a part of the community for over 80 years and we invite you to take an active role in the protection of our community.

Here at Nar Nar Goon Fire Brigade we are committed to
Creating Safer Communities

Being a volunteer can involve some hard work, but the rewards are great.

You can;

- Develop leadership and people management capabilities
- Learn new skills that can help you in your professional and personal life
- Receive accredited training
- Meet new friends
- Be part of Victoria's largest volunteer team
- Achieve personal goals
- Contribute back into your community
- Involve the whole family



Volunteering with CFA is not
We welcome different people

Fire fighting and emergency roles;

- Attending fires—grass and scrub fires, bushfires and structural fires
- Attending road crash rescues
- Attending incidents involving hazardous materials
- Attending rope rescue incidents
- Attending other types of rescue where the public need our assistance.

Supporting roles can include

- Brigade equipment maintenance
- Brigade fundraising
- Community education programs
- Brigade administration
- Brigade training
- Media and public relations
- Multicultural liaison

Training

CFA volunteers receive nationally recognised and accredited training courses that can be beneficial in both personal and employment environments.

You don't need to have experience to join the brigade. We will provide you with all the necessary training and skills needed depending on the role you choose.

It may include;

- Wildfire firefighter
- Structural firefighter
- Road crash rescue operator
- Steep and high angle rope rescue operator
- Breathing apparatus
- Pump operator
- Radio communications
- Fire safety awareness
- Just to name a few

All CFA members are fully trained before attending fires and other incidents

For more information

Call Dwayne Crerar 0490 554 298

Email dwayne.crerar@narnargoonfire.org.au

FIRE BRIGADE RECRUITING

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Making a difference in more ways than

We are currently seeking new members that can help with the following;

- Firefighters— Daytime and weekends
- Community education
- Fire prevention
- Communications
- Brigade administration
- Fundraising

Our volunteers come from all walks of life and have diverse backgrounds, interests and skills.

You may be;

- Self- employed
- Working full time
- Working part time
- Studying
- Unemployed
- Retired
- A home carer.

So what's stopping you

What is the time commitment?

Your level of commitment is up to you. The more members we have the more we can share the load.

Your level of involvement will depend on your personal availability.

Commitment to the brigade simply requires the time and skills that you can afford to give.



about volunteering,

@members.cfa.vic.gov.au

Web

www.cfa.vic.gov.au



care and have no carer or support person who can help or assist. Supported by Carers VIC Australia



Join us at Outlook Community Centre for our upcoming FREE information sessions. We would like to offer these opportunities to as many people as possible, so please assist us by sharing with your friends and family who you think may benefit. Outlook Community Centre is welcoming and supportive environment for all. We offer online, email, phone and in person bookings, so you may choose what best suits you. We hope to see you soon!



To view our complete Term 1 Program Guide visit <https://www.outlookaust.org.au/events/>, drop in for a booklet or scan the QR code below. Please don't hesitate to give us a call if you need some assistance.

HOW TO ENROL IN A PROGRAM

In Person: 24 Toomuc Valley Road, Pakenham
 Online: <https://www.outlookaust.org.au/events/>
 Telephone: 03 5940 4728
 Email: communitycentre@outlookaust.org.au
 Payment: Cash, cheque, EFTPOS, credit card - online, over the phone or in person

Staying Strong and Steady for Life

Topics covered include:

- Falls Prevention...who needs it?
 - How to reduce your risk of falling
 - Exercises to keep you independent and steady on your feet
 - Fall Prevention services and groups in the local area.
- Wednesday 19 March, 10am – 11am Cost: FREE
 Facilitated by Annette Biviano from STEADYphysio.

Stroke Information Session

Prevent stroke. Save lives. Enhance recovery. In Australia, a stroke occurs every 19 minutes. In 2020, more than 27,000 Australians, of all ages, experienced stroke for the first time. But the good news is that it doesn't need to be this way. Up to 80 percent of strokes are preventable. Supported by Stroke Foundation



Join us and the Stroke Foundation to hear:

- What stroke is and how to recognise the signs of stroke;
- What to do if someone is having a stroke; • How to prevent stroke in you or the people you love.

Thursday 20 March, 10am – 11am. Cost: FREE

Care Finder Program

This federally funded program provides free intensive support for vulnerable older members of our community in their endeavour to navigate and access the aged care system and support services.

Thursday 6 March, 1pm - 2pm Cost: FREE

A person must be eligible for government funded aged

Bulk Buying 101

Bulk buying, if done properly, can save you money, reduce your waste and increase your emergency preparedness. There are pitfalls though; it can be easy to spend too much or waste food due to poor storage and planning. You will get some tips and tricks for how to keep track of it all, take advantage of good prices, and how to store food.

Wednesday 26 February, 10.30am - 12pm. Cost: FREE

Financial Information Services for Retirees

Looking forward to the best lifestyle you can afford?

Consider your answer to this question with Service Australia's Financial Information team who will explain their services, entitlements, eligibility and more:

- Income and asset tests; • Selling your home; • The Age Pension; • Income support payments; • Deeming; • Income streams; • Concessions

Tuesday 18 March OR Thursday 20 March 6pm - 8pm

Cost: FREE (Includes refreshments)

Presented by Services Australia



This series of sessions provides crucial and valuable information to help carers better support their loved ones by addressing their own needs through a personalised approach. It also offers an opportunity to increase your awareness of the services available to assist you as a carer. Learn how to become a carer on the 4 March so that you are eligible to attend a session on 6 May.

Presented in partnership with Alfred Health Carers, Dementia Services Australia, Dementia Australia, and Cardinia Shire Council.

Understanding Dementia - you're not alone

Has dementia entered your life and you think you are the only person who doesn't quite understand it? Well you're not alone! Come and learn what dementia looks like. Feel better informed to support those you care about. Learn about the Forget-Me-Not-Café, Dementia friendly social groups in the Cardinia Shire. Be introduced to Carer Gateway and the benefits of becoming a registered carer.

Tuesday 4 March, 11am - 12.15pm

Cost: FREE (Includes refreshments)

An Introduction to the Carer Gateway and Registration Process

Are you caring for a loved one with chronic health condition or diagnosed disease such as arthritis, cancer, kidney disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Parkinson's, diabetes, dementia, osteoporosis or stroke?

The Alfred Health Carer team explains the wide range of Carer Gateway services and programs you can access FREE once you become a registered carer.

Tuesday 4 March, 1pm - 2pm

Cost: FREE (Includes refreshments)



Council's FREE green waste drop-off events are back!

Residents are encouraged to drop off their green waste for free at the upcoming Green-waste drop off events in Pakenham. The service helps Cardinia Shire residents to clean up and reduce the fire fuel load on their properties throughout the year. Council's green waste drop-off events are 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.

- Pakenham – Saturday 5 to Saturday 12 April. Future Recycling Transfer Station, 30-32 Exchange Drive, Pakenham. Monday to Friday: 7:30am – 4pm, Saturday: 8am – 2:30pm, Sunday: Closed
 - Pakenham – Saturday 7 to Saturday 14 June. Future Recycling Transfer Station, 30-32 Exchange Drive, Pakenham, Monday to Friday: 7:30am – 4pm, Saturday: 8am – 2:30pm, Sunday: Closed
- For more information about Council's green waste drop-off events, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dropoff

Register now for Clean Up Australia Day!

The community is encouraged to sign up for this year's Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday 2 March. Schools and local businesses can also join in the fun and sign up for Business Clean Up Day on Tuesday 25 February and Schools Clean Up Day on Friday 28 February. Clean Up Australia Day is the nation's largest community-based event for collecting litter to reduce its impact on our environment. This year marks the 35th anniversary of the event! Community members, schools and businesses can participate by simply registering their own local park, reserve or walking track as a 'clean up' site or participating in a pre-registered clean-up site on Clean Up Australia website. Once volunteers register, they will receive a free clean-up kit through Clean Up Australia including bags, gloves and more!

Cardinia Shire Council will help collect and dispose of the rubbish collected on the day. With the Container Deposit Scheme, volunteers can also be rewarded with a 10-cent refund for every eligible can, carton or bottle when they collect and return to any refund collection point. Refund options include cash, vouchers, donations, or electronic payment for items. If volunteers cannot organise a site on Clean Up Australia Day, they can organise a Clean Up for any day of the year. It is as simple as registering a 'clean up' site and notifying Council to have the litter collected and disposed of after their event. To register for Clean Up Australia Day and for more information, go to www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au. To find the nearest drop off locations for the Container Deposit Scheme refund point, go to www.cdsvic.org.au/locations

Cardinia Shire Council 2025 grant applications now open

Cardinia Shire Council's 2025 grant applications are now open. This year, council are offering a range of grant opportunities designed to enhance community wellbeing, stimulate economic

growth, improve community infrastructure and support local initiatives.

Applications are now open for the following grant categories:

- Wellbeing Support Grants - The Community Wellbeing and Support Grants Program funds initiatives to improve residents' health and wellbeing, support volunteering opportunities, and enhance the sustainability of community groups, projects, and programs. Applications are open from 20 January to 6 April 2025.
- Community Capital Works Grants - The Community Capital Works Grants Program assists community groups in upgrading council-owned and Crown Land facilities. This program is focused on strengthening local community networks and activities, ultimately supporting the wellbeing of our residents. Applications for the 2025-26 Community Capital Works Grants program (including supported Category 2 Partnership Grants applications) are open from 20 January to 20 March 2025.
- Business Group Support Grants - The Cardinia Shire Council Business Group Support Grant Program empowers trader associations and business groups to undertake projects that enhance the local economy and business environment. Applications are open from 20 January to 28 February 2025.

To learn more about available grant opportunities, including eligibility requirements and application forms, visit cardinia.vic.gov.au/grants

Nominations for Cardinia Shire's 2025 Stan Henwood Award are now open

Community members are encouraged to submit nominations to recognise local volunteers who have dedicated their time and efforts to improving and enriching the Cardinia Shire community. The annual Stan Henwood Award honours the late Stan Henwood OAM for his lifetime contribution to the Tynong community and Cardinia Shire. The award recognises individuals who have made outstanding, long-term contributions to the local community. Nominations for the 2025 Stan Henwood Award are open from 28 January until 10 March. The award winner will be announced and celebrated at Council's National Volunteer Week reception in May 2025.

For more information about the Stan Henwood Award, including eligibility criteria and how to nominate, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/StanhewoodAward

PRINCES HIGHWAY PETITION

The Tynong Progress Association would like your with a petition that we have instigated with the State Member for Narracan, Wayne Farnham to ask the State Government to create a masterplan to upgrade the Princes Highway between Nar Nar Goon and Longwarry. Petition link:

<https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/get-involved/petitions/princes-freeway-intersections-between-nar-nar-goan-and-bunyip/>

A community meeting will be held at the Tynong Public Hall, 18 Railway Avenue, Tynong on Sunday 9th February 2.30pm for a 3.00pm start. Help us to meet our initial target of 2000 signatures, for the petition to be tabled at Parliament. Our deadline is March 10th 2025.

We believe that the current state of the highway with its problematic intersections and traffic controls is something that affects every user from Melbourne to Sale.

Tynong Progress Association.

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St Joseph's
Bunyip River Road, Iona
Mass - Every Sunday 11am

St Mary's Lang Lang & Holy Family Maryknoll
Please refer to the Parish Bulletin which is available at the
parish office 60 Nar Nar Goon Road, Nar Nar Goon
Office hours: Tuesday 10:30am to 3:30pm and Friday
9.00am - 1pm
Phone 0456 000 990 Email ionaparish@dcsi.net.au

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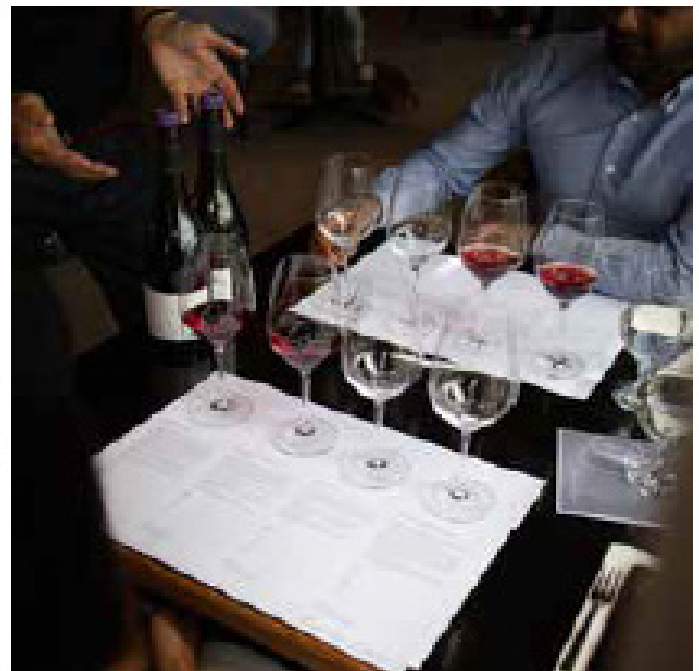
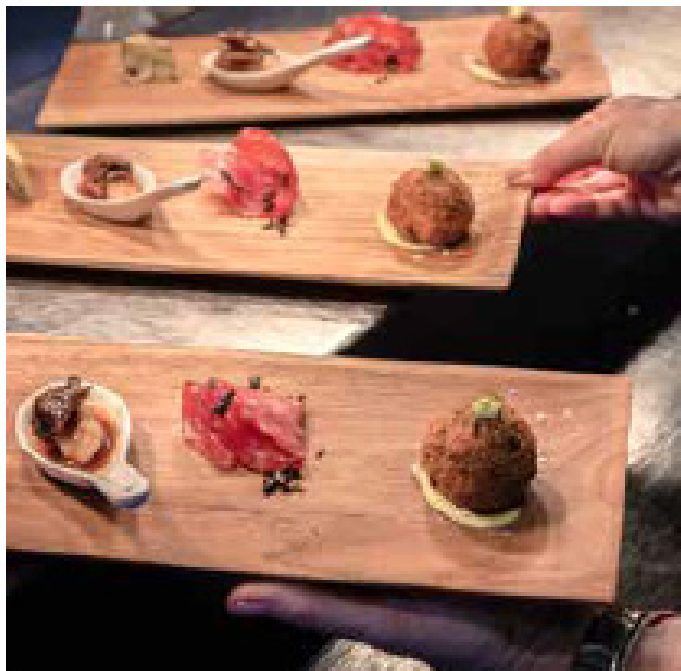
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Community Diary

- **Every Sunday morning:** CFA training
- **Every Monday evening:** CFA training / meetings
- **Third Monday:** Nar Nar Goon RSL Sub Branch meets monthly at the Community Centre at 2pm
- Contact Samantha O'Sullivan on 0419 537 606
- Next meeting: **Contact Samantha for confirmed date**
- **Fourth Tuesday:** NNG Progress Association meet bi-monthly at the St John's Community Centre at 7pm
- Next meeting: **Feb 25, Apr 22, Jun 24, Aug 26**
- **Tuesday fortnightly:** Euchre Club at Community Centre, 8pm
- Contact Jim Chatfield on 5942 5263
- Next meeting: **Feb 11, 25, Mar 11, 25, Apr 8, 22**
- **Fourth Wednesday:** Pakenham Camera Club meets at the Community Centre of Meadowvale Retirement Village, Eagle Drive, Pakenham at 7.30pm
- Next meeting: **Feb 26, Mar 26, Apr 23, May 23**
- **Every Thursday:** Scouts meet at the Scout Hall in Spencer St, 7pm - 9pm & Joeys meet 5.30pm - 6.30pm.
- **Every Thursday night:** Bingo at the Community Centre. Eyes down 7.30pm / 8.00pm.
- **Fourth Friday:** Acoustic Folk Music at St John's, 7.30pm. Contact Michael on 0408 357 669
- Next Meeting: **Feb 28, Mar 28, Apr 25**
- **Second Saturday of month & 5th Saturday (if applicable):** Old Time Dance at Nar Nar Goon North Hall
- Contact Kaye on 5942 5411, Fred, Beryl on 5942 8246
- Next dance: **Feb 8, Mar 8 & 29, Apr 12, May 10 & 31**

CONTACT INDIVIDUAL CLUBS FOR DETAILS

Weekly Church Services:

- **Sunday:** St John's Holy Eucharist - 10am
St John the Baptist - 9:30am
St Joseph's - 11am
- **Saturday:** Mass at St. James - 6pm



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285 issues printed monthly

**Got something to say?
Good news, Bad news,
Tell it to The Goon News.**

What have you personally, or your organisation been doing lately?

A bit of publicity goes a long way.

There's no better way of sharing your achievements than letting the people of Nar Nar Goon (and beyond) know what's happening out there.

We want to get your story told.

Supply us with your info, a photo or two and let us do the rest.

Don't be Shy!

goonnews3812@gmail.com
PO Box 153, Nar Nar Goon 3812
Contributions can also be placed in the box
at the Goon Eatery (former Milk Bar).

NAR NAR GOON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Editor: Joanne Parker

Phone: 0448 533 511

Email: goonnews3812@gmail.com

Facebook: Nar Nar Goon Progress Association

Contributions can be sent via email to
goonnews3812@gmail.com or
by post to PO Box 153, Nar Nar Goon 3812.
Contact: 0448 533 511 for more information.

**It's your responsibility to make sure your
organisation's contact details are correct.**

Community Contact List

Organisations	Contact	Phone No.
Adult Riding Club	Kate Holmes	0412 992 850
Chairo School	Fiona Clacy	5942 5632
Community Hall	Cardinia Shire	1300 787 624
Cricket Club	Nick Mueller	0437 365 376
Fire Brigade - Captain	Justin Seddon	0402 763 663
Football Club	Mick Keane	0418 570 176
Kindergarten	Brooke Johnson	5942 5287
BC/AC Landcare Group	Kate Holmes	0412 992 850
Local Councillor	Graeme Moore	0418 179 990
Nar Nar Goon Bingo	Sharon	0417 446 840
NNG History Group	Sue Rose	0411 241 849
Nar Nar Goon North Hall	Kaye Willis	5942 5411
Netball Club	Hanna Smith	0403 969 779
Pony Club	Kerry Harley	0407 646 092
Primary School	Jacqui Cutler	5942 5311
Recreation Reserve	Cardinia Shire	1300 787 624
R.S.L. - Secretary	Samantha O'Sullivan	0419 537 606
St. James School	Rebecca Roche	5942 5404
Scouts/Cubs	Olive Elston	0408 390 593
Vinnies Welfare Assistance Line	www.vinnies.org.au	1800 305 330

Rainfall 2024 / 2023

Please Note: Rainfall in parentheses are an average of the recorded amounts as recordings for these months were unable to be taken.

Month	Geoff L	Zoe	Geoff B	Geoff L	Zoe	Geoff B
January	154.80	120	144.60	52.60	41	(46.80)
February	25.80	22	26	47.80	44	(45.90)
March	13	7	10	84.60	69	(76.80)
April	144.20	132	126	104.20	88	(96.10)
May	39	(41.50)	44	109.60	90	100.40
June	56.20	79	38	93.40	80	81
July	155.40	136	138	44.80	50	33.20
August	35	26	16.40	62.80	60	50.50
September	114	85	91.2	74.60	56	52.20
October	84.80	(75)	65.20	154.4	98	122
November	57.60	48.80	62.50	96	104	(100)
December	(44.10)	45.60	42.60	163.4	128	138.8
Total	923.90	701.40	804.50	1088.2	908	804.90



Defibrillators:

Defibrillators are located in the following places for use prior to ambulance arriving. In case of an emergency call 000 first.

- The Nar Nar Goon Fire Station. (24 hour accessible)
(- - Available during hours of operating - -)
- Nar Nar Goon Primary School. (school hours only)
- St James Primary School (school hours only)
- NNG Rec Reserve. (when rooms / reserve in use)
- Graham Farr (NNG Nth resident)
(registered with Ambulance Victoria and available with contact by phone: 0468 815 211)

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