

NAR NAR GOON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

THE GOON * NEWS

Volume 26 Issue 04

May 2024

MAY MADNESS AT NNG BINGO!**NAR NAR GOON**

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

In the month of May 3 players will get cash back to the value of their books each Thursday.

Winners drawn by raffle.

Bring your friends along! You gotta love it!

NNG HISTORY GROUP

Next History Group Meeting:

Friday 31st May 2024

Time of 2pm

*St John's Church, Main St, NNG
(In the main Church)*

Guest Speaker: The Kennelly Family including:

Carmel, Bette, Danny and Leo

Not to be missed

All welcome - just turn up.

GOON NEWS DEADLINES:

- Please email your articles / submissions by the end of the month or earlier.

Email: goonnews3812@gmail.com

Next Deadline will be the 30th May

Red Gem

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Dutch Cream

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**HELP!****Progress Association Bingo Duty:**

27th June, 29th August, 31st October

If you can spare a few hours to lend a hand on one of the above dates, then let us know! We'd appreciate the help.

Money raised from bingo duty go towards projects that improve our town.

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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

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

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Bunyip Police Station
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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
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Nar Nar Goon RSL Sub Branch

NAR NAR GOON TOWNSHIP COMMEMORATE THE FALLEN FOR ANZAC DAY

The cold and early morning drizzle held out last Thursday just in time for the Nar Nar Goon RSL to host their annual ANZAC Day Dawn Service. Another large local attendance gathered at the Nar Nar Goon Memorial Park, with some commenting that this may have been the largest crowd seen. The service was led by President Terence Reeves, Royal Australian Navy veteran, and Secretary Flying Officer (AAFC) Samantha O'Sullivan, with the service being supported by a catafalque party from 403 Squadron Australian Air Force Cadets from Beaconsfield, and a large contingency of young cadets.

Terence read a 1915 diary excerpt from soldier Private Richard Thomas Pendlebury - grandfather of Denise Davidson, Nar Nar Goon RSL Treasurer - which detailed what life was like for him on the front lines, and in transit during the ANZAC campaign. Wreaths were then laid by Nar Nar Goon RSL, Cardinia Shire Council, Chairo Christian College, Bramich family and other local schools and residents also laid floral tributes.

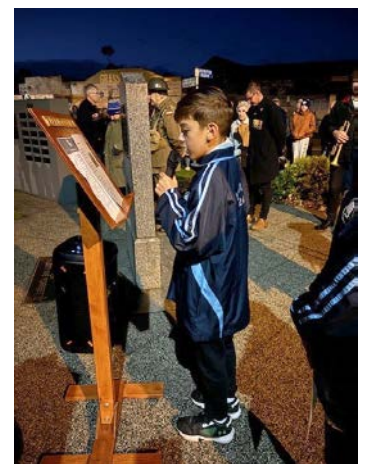
Poems were delivered by school captains from Nar Nar Goon Primary School, and Cadet Corporal Eloise Babet read the iconic "In Flanders Fields", whilst Cadet Sergeant Layla Himmerman delivered The Ode. Local bugler Casey Thomson from Cardinia Concert Band played the last post as both the Australian and New Zealand flags were lowered, and a clear dawn began to break.

As the service ended and the crowd dispersed, the Nar Nar Goon CFA then offered a gunfire breakfast to a large crowd, with hot coffee and great sausages in bread thanks to local The Butcher with The Chef, and donation from Mrs Courtney Reeves, and the Nar Nar Goon RSL.

The pride and honour of seeing so many locals from Nar Nar Goon and surrounding towns continue to turn up each year in their hundreds touches the hearts of so many, and the Nar Nar Goon RSL would like to thank everyone who continues to patron our commemorations to connect our community to its war time history.

If anyone has photos of the service they are willing to share, please send to secretary.narnargoonrsl@gmail.com

LEST WE FORGET



ANZAC DAY GUNFIRE BREAKFAST

Photos by Simone



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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

Cardinia Shire's 2024

Ageing Well Expo!

Featuring...
"Lunch with Lehmo"



Residents aged 55 and up are invited to
Cardinia Shire's FREE Ageing Well Expo -
emceed by comedian Anthony "Lehmo"
Lehmann!

Come along for a free light lunch and...

- listen to guest speakers including falls expert Annette Biviano and mental health worker Kirsty Monahan
- hear from our multi-disciplined panel featuring a Q&A session
- raise awareness and understanding of key aspects that improve health and wellbeing
- discover local programs and services that support your physical and emotional health
- connect with other local seniors in our community and more!

Event details:

Wednesday 8 May,
10am – 2.30pm

Cardinia Cultural Centre,
Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham

Bookings essential

Bookings open until
Tuesday 23 April through the
Cardinia Cultural Centre Box Office:



1300 887 624
ccc@cardinia.vic.gov.au
www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/ccc

Cardinia
Ageing Well

Cardinia

In regard to the name for the newest suburb in Pakenham East.

We recently read the Pakenham Gazette and were very interested to see the five potential names that had been put forth for the new suburb. We have nothing against the suggested five names, or the people they represent, but to us, there was an obvious omission that should also be considered. The family proposed "Honora" and the reasoning for this is listed below.

- Honora Ryan was born in County Tipperary, Ireland in December 1836.
- Her and her family emigrated to Australia.
- On the ship to Australia, Honora Ryan met a young Irish man named Michael Carney.
- Honora Ryan married Michael Carney in 1861.
- Honora & Michael Carney purchased three parcels of land in Beaconsfield (near the Cardinia Park Hotel).
- The Beaconsfield land proved not suitable for dairying, so they sold the three parcels and moved to one larger parcel of leased land between Pakenham and Nar Nar Goon. Honora & Michael Carney leased this land on the south side of the Princes Highway from 1869.
- Honora Ryan's family eventually settled on a property where Ryan Road in Pakenham is today. Ryan Road is named after her family.
- Honora and Michael Carney had seven children (Ellen [1862], Alice [1864], John [1866], Johanna [1868], William [1871], Mary [1873] & Thomas [1879]).
- Michael died in 1880 when Honora was 44, so it was left to Honora to run the farm and bring up the 7 children on her own. The oldest of the seven children (Ellen) was eighteen years old and the youngest (Thomas) was one year old.
- Despite losing her husband, she did well with the farming business. Honora was a very strong, determined and resilient woman, who was our family matriarch.
- In 1887 she purchased the land on the south side of the Princes Highway.
- In 1902 she purchased the land on the north side of the Princes Highway.
- Honora had a hand in most decisions up until her death on 21st October 1912.
- Her youngest son, Thomas Carney took over the family farming business.
- Thomas Carney married Hannah Smith (from Nar Nar Goon) and they had four children (Honora [Nora], Mary, James [Jim] & Michael [Mick]).
- Nora Carney married Harold Norris and they moved to Pakenham. They had two children (Joan & Mary).
- Mary Carney didn't marry and lived on the north side of the highway until her death.
- Jim Carney married Mary Sinnott (from Yambuk) and they had three children (Helen, John & Tim).

•Mick Carney married Joan Drake (from Pakenham) and they had eight children (Claire, Bryan, Anne, Mark, Shane, Paul, Damian & Geoffrey).

•The current owners of the Carney land in the PSP are all direct descendants from either Jim & Mary Carney, or Mick & Joan Carney.

How does Honora Carney have a link to place ?

•The Carney family have occupied (either leased or owned) land within the new suburb since 1869 (as outlined in the Pakenham East Precinct Final Report dated October 2017). This is 155 years within the one family, over 5 generations. The current owners of the Carney land in the PSP are all direct descendants from either Jim & Mary Carney, or Mick & Joan Carney.

•The Carney family were very active in the establishment of the township of Maryknoll and were instrumental in establishing the original road into the town.

•Before the Pakenham Bypass existed, the main road between Pakenham and Nar Nar Goon was the Princes Highway. The most significant landmarks between the two towns (as known to locals at the time) were "Carney's Hill" and Mount Ararat. So to older locals the name exists unofficially already.

We believe that if the Nar Nar Goon and wider community understands the history behind the name "Honora" and its link to the place, then it may assist them when voting. It is a rare and welcomed opportunity to have a vote on the name of a new suburb.

With thanks

Penny Carney on behalf of the Carney Families.

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St Johns Nar Nar Goon Celebrate 130 Years

St Johns is celebrating turning 130 on May 19th. It will mark 130 years of spiritual service to Nar Nar Goon and the wider community.

Everyone is invited to join us for a 10am service to be followed at 11:30am with a ceremony, when The Right Reverend Dr Richard Treloar, Anglican Bishop of Gippsland will declare the new front fence open, to be followed by a light lunch.

If you have ever been involved with St Johns in the past or just want to look inside the lovely church building, you are all welcome to join us.

In researching past members of the church, they include names such as: Foulsham; Mortimer; Warfe; Brooke; Kenny; Moore; Kroschel; McCutcheon; Benson; Collins; Deering; Cooper; Chatfield; Downes; Gray; Wheatley and Taylor. Many of these names are familiar and some families still live locally.

The members of the church look forward to welcoming the community to the church on the day. If you can't make the service at 10am and official opening of the fence, you are welcome to join us for a light lunch and chat at around noon.

Please RSVP by email: nngpeanglican@gmail.com or 0400 687 771 if you are attending the lunch.

St John's Anglican Church Nar Nar Goon

**Celebrating 130 years
of faithful service to God
and to the community
in worship and loving service.**

FAMILY SERVICE
from 10am every Sunday
and join us for a cuppa

Sunday 19th May 2024 (Day of Pentecost)

10am - Service of celebration and remembrance
(with the Right Rev'd Richard Treloar, Bishop of Gippsland)

11.30am - official unveiling of new fence

12noon – celebratory luncheon
in St John's Community Room

All welcome to come to service and/or luncheon and help us celebrate this significant milestone in the history of St John's as part of the Nar Nar Goon community for 130 years!

RSVP by email: nngpeanglican@gmail.com or 0400 687 771



Thelma from the Posh Op Shop is once again running a Biggest Morning Tea for cancer research.

Monday 3rd June at 10:30am

Save the date and support this great cause!

St John's Community Centre
(behind the Posh Op Shop),
8 Main Street, Nar Nar Goon

For details contact Thel on 0400 546 676 or visit the St John's POSH Op Shop Facebook page.

Help Thelma raise funds for the Biggest Morning Tea. Last year Thelma and the community raised around \$3000. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. You can donate at The Butcher with The Chef. Let's see if Thelma can beat last year!



NNG History Group

On Friday 3rd May we had 18 people in attendance. Gerard Cunningham shared the story of the Cunningham family. His ability to tell a story with a light hearted thread to it entertained us all. The Cunninghams have been in Australia since the 19th century and in early 20th century settled in the NNG/ Cora Lynn area. Their Catholic faith helped to shape their Catholic education which for Gerry reflected a boarding school experience through Secondary education. His recital of a few poems was another highlight of his presentation.

Patsy Riley - Gerry's sister, also joined us today. She was able to add more insights into the family stories and encouraged Gerry to perhaps share more stories than he planned.

Gerry is going to put pen to paper to write a summary of today's talk for the "Goon News" in June.

Today we used the main church instead of the meeting room at the back. People appreciated the larger space - thanks Cathy for allowing us to use it.

There is no need to advise of your attendance for each meeting. Just turn up.

The Shire of Cardinia has had a clean up at the NNG hall. We are now in possession of the red sign in book for the opening of the hall by Sir Henry Winnike in 1980. It is housed in the NNG history filling cabinet in the meeting room behind the church if you would like to browse through it. Many of you will find your names/signatures in it.

Next meeting is Friday 31st May at 2pm in the church. Guest speakers: The Kennelly family - Carmel, Bette, Danny and Leo.

They will all be travelling from out of town to relive their family stories with us all. Not to be missed.

Sue
NNG History Group

NNG HISTORY GROUP

Next History Group Meeting:
Friday 31st May 2024
Time of 2pm

St John's Church, Main St, NNG
(In the main Church)

Guest Speaker: The Kennelly Family including:
Carmel, Bette, Danny and Leo
Not to be missed
All welcome - just turn up.

Bernie Byrne

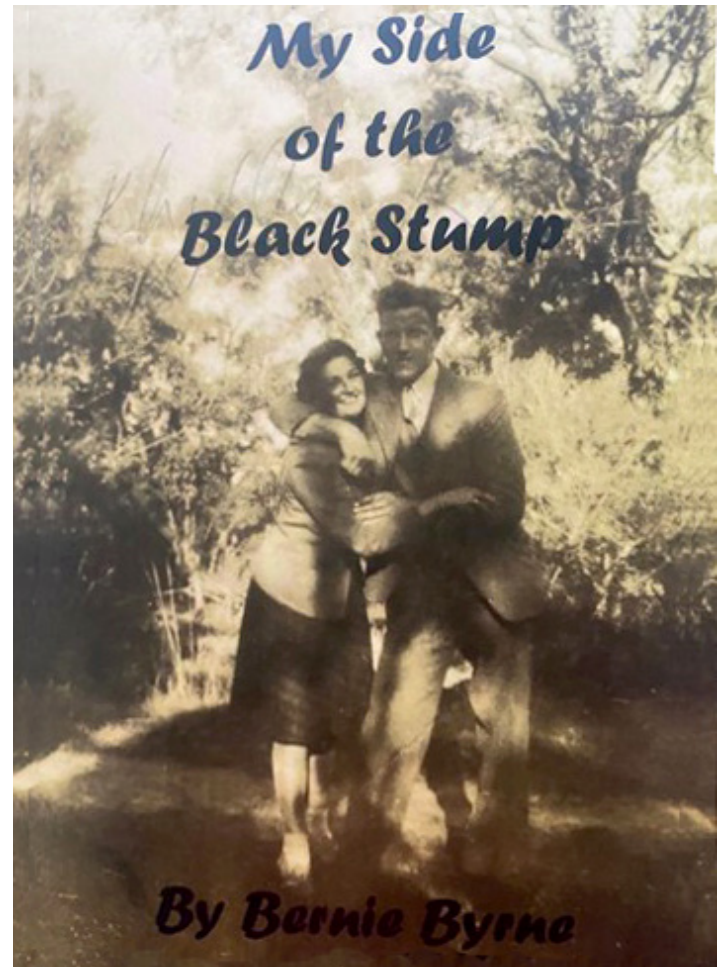
My Side of the Black Stump

He was born at Colac in Victoria 2.12.1924 to Francis Byrne and Agnes Byrne (Rolfe).

This is a retelling of Bernie's pen picture of his life at "Creekside", 5/230 McCraw Road, Nar Nar Goon (Published 2009)

He was second of 5 children.

He went to Pirron Yallock Catholic school for a year followed by Irrewillipe State School where he stayed until Grade 8 level. Irrewillipe is a small spot on the edge of the Otway Forest with most of the students from sawmilling families. These were the Depression years.



Before school each of the children in the family had to milk 7 or 8 cows then walk 2 kms to school. On the way home from school they would pick up the cows and milk them again.

After Grade 8 he needed to leave school to run the family 60 acre dairy farm due to the illness of his father. It was at this young age of 13 year that his love of building things blossomed

His love of mechanical things resulted in the building of his first wood turning lathe made from wood and scrounged bike parts. He acquired (he does not recall if this was by legal means or not) a treadle from the neighbours sewing machine to power it.

Bernie's Mum was a primary school teacher, an artist and piano player who loved to run concerts in the local hall. He is sure that this became part of his involvement in stage and singing work with his younger sister Dossie (Doss Dore) which continued to become a part of the Westernport

My side of the Black Stump cont...

Theatre Group and the famous Music Hall concerts. Bernie's first memories of a small bush hall in the Western District are sawdust on the floor mixed with kerosene and candle wax onto the shiny hardwood flooring. The floor was lightening fast for your dancing shoes. Suppertime was magic as everyone sat around along the hall walls and enjoyed coffee from fresh unpasteurized cows milk boiled in a copper with coffee grounds suspended in it. Freshly made sandwiches and cakes were brought around by volunteers. When Bernie moved to NNG it was the same set up in the local NNG hall on Spencer Street by the railway line. The sound of the steam loco whistle lived in his memory.



Photo: Bernie and Phyllis Byrne

In the 1940s the hall windows were blacked out because of the danger of air raids. Even car headlights were blacked out with a small slit of light shining through.

On November 1, 1940 when Bernie was 15, his family moved from the Colac area to NNG. At this stage he met Vera Buchanan (Page) who became a lifelong friend. Vera's friend Phyllis Mitchell lived nearby on the 8 Mile Road with her aunt Ada Kenny. Both Phyllis and Vera were very involved in the formation of the West Gippsland Basketball Association (now known as Netball) in 1938-39 and were to go on to become life members of that body and their home club NNG. Phyllis coached many of the teams to a total of 13 premierships.

Phyllis was raised by Aunt Ada (Rossiter) who was married to Bill Kenny (passed away in 1973). They lived on Daly Road. Aunt Ada was the sister of Phyllis' Mum Frances, also known as Dicky and raised Phyllis after her mother died.

Bernie met Phyllis at the Merry Makers Club of NNG. She was an actress, dancer and producer of many hilarious shows from the 40s right through to her death in 2002. Bernie & Phyllis married in 1946 - a total of 56 years married.

Bernie and Phyllis went onto have a family of four girls and four boys. At the time of Bernie's writing (2009) they had 60 grand and great grand children. They built their first home in 1947. Ian and Jeanie Chatfield live there today. Around the time that Phyllis was named "Pie". They ran a dairy farm business on a 213 acre property for 50 years as

well as steel fabrication and construction service since the early 1950s.

After Phyllis passed in 2002, Bernie continued his involvement in community services; President of NNG Community Centre, Vice President of the Progress Association and Life Member of the NNG Football Club. He was very involved in the Victorian Farmer's Federation and helped to run the Annual Dinner Functions. He was responsible for part of the entertainment since the 1980s with his famous ditties (or were they Phyllis' ditties?) He also joined a writing group where he met new friends and wrote this book recording both happy and sad memories.

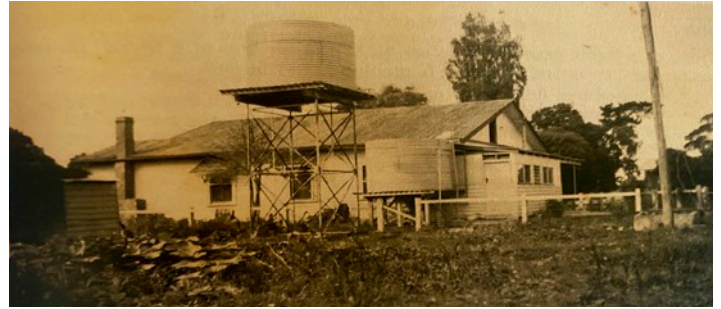


Photo: Original Old Creekside homestead, where Bernie lived before the move to the new home further down McCraw Road

Thanks to the Byrne family for permission to rewrite some of Bernie's memoirs.

Byrnes Family recollections of growing up at "Creekside", McCraw Road, Nar Nar Goon



Photo: Ambrose, Donna and Sally

Donna, Sally and Ambrose Byrnes were the guests at the NNG History group at St John's Church in NNG, on Fri 3rd April 2024, where they shared their story of growing up on the family farm "Creekside" on McCraw Road, Nar Nar Goon with Mum Phyllis and Dad Bernie and the family of 8 (4 girls and 4 boys).

Bernie Byrne's sister was Dos who married Des Dore. They had a family of 9 children and lived on Mt Ararat Road. Tom and Mary Dore with their tribe of children also lived on Mt Ararat Road.

The Byrnes children loved visiting their cousins!

My side of the Black Stump cont...

Dos and Phyllis would get together and make up lots of ditties – originally called Dos's ditties. Dos was hilarious and the others fed off her. She never swore – just very funny with her material and delivery. Bernie was a 2 fingered pianist and a bit of a singer. Bernie would publicly deliver a lot of the ditties but as soon as Phyllis died Donna stepped up to supply her Dad with ditty material. They were usually about local people or dirt they picked up around the community.

There was a musical at Iona and another at KWR. There were mock deb balls and footy club dress ups where Phyllis would make all the costumes. Bernie was a great compere and MC. Phyllis also had those skills.

On a Monday after a sporting weekend Bernie would get together with Bill Doc (Doherty) and Bob Rose for a round table conference about what happened on the weekend. These meetings stretched into lunch and beyond.

To the credit of both Bernie and Phyllis they became life members of a range of the organisations to which they had made a large contribution.

Phyllis was one of the instigators of the West Gippsland Netball Association along with Brydie Cunningham. At the time it was called Basketball. Phyllis is remembered to this day for her huge contribution to netball with the sign at the netball courts "Phyllis Byrnes Memorial Courts."

Dos Dore and Phyllis set up the married women's netball in NNG which many of you possibly remember from your Mums playing in this competition. It was called the "Escape on Wednesday!"



In the early days there was only one court for all matches and on training night the girls would play into the darkness of the night with car headlights. This was followed by lots of fundraising to save for lights for the courts. The new lights – 8 of them with big green shields – were worse than the car lights! At the time there were no change rooms for the girls but eventually there was one. But, the girls had to get out for the umpires of the footy on a Saturday. The improvement of the courts and the clubrooms over the years has been beyond reality of the good old days. Donna recalls the days of the dual town challenge of beating our rivals, Pakenham. We loved to beat Pakenham! They were good and so were we.

Donna commented that looking at the netball facility now, the NNG Netball club has done an outstanding job with the facility and each year continue to be successful

competitors. "Go Gooners"

There is a memorial for Bernie at the NNG Recreation oval called Bernie's walk and noted with Bernie's rock.

Bernie has also written a book "My Side of the Black Stump". An article collated from information in the book will appear in the Goon News at a later date.

Article below from: Pakenham Gazette 5/8/1992

Agricultural Achievement Award for Bernie Byrne



President of the Pakenham branch of the Victorian Farmers Federation, Mr Gordon Fife (left) presents the Agricultural Achievement Award to Bernie Byrne. On the right is secretary of the Pastoral Group of the District Council, John Carney.

Friday night's annual dinner of the Pakenham branch of the Victorian Farmers Federation in the Nar Nar Goon Community Centre again attracted a large crowd of farmers from all over West Gippsland.

Three hundred and ten people sat down to enjoy a night of entertainment mixed with serious comments on the state of the Australian economy as seen by the Financial Editor of the Herald-Sun, Mr Terry McCrann.

A highlight of the night was the presentation of the annual Agricultural Achievement Award to Nar Nar Goon farmer and dedicated community worker, Mr Bernie Byrne.

Special guests welcomed by Master of Ceremonies, Mr John Carney, included president of the VFF, Mr Bill Bodman, past president Alex Arbutnot, VFF field officer Harry Harris, United Dairyfarmers of Victoria vice president Ian Jones, the Member for McMillan John Riggall, Member for Berwick Rob Maclellan, Member for Dromana Ron Wells, the Mayor of Berwick Cr Kirsty Lottkowitz and Pakenham Shire president Cr Charlie Rundle.

When presenting the Achievement award to Mr Byrne, Pakenham VFF branch president, Mr Gordon Fife, commented not only on Bernie's farming

involvement but also on his wider work for the community and his involvement in organisations all over the district.

He said Bernie had come to Nar Nar Goon as a teenager in 1949 and started dairy farming with his parents in McCraws Road.

He married Phyllis in the 1940s and they have eight children.

Working days for Bernie started at 5am and finished in the dark. In 1965 he built his own herringbone milking shed and he also built many other sheds for dairy farmers in the district.

Bernie refenced the farm and sowed down all the area to pasture. He constructed all the buildings on the farm.

A self-taught engineer and builder, he first demonstrated his talents when he built his own car in the early 40s from aluminium, held together with thousands of rivets.

He took in repair work from local farmers, made many inventions and innovations to machinery to improve its efficiency.

Farmers in the area have been fortunate that a man of Bernie's talents has been available for urgent repairs to their machinery," said Mr Fife.

"Bernie's philosophy is 'if it's man-made it can be man-fixed'."

Mr Fife also spoke of Bernie Byrne's work for the community. His work for the Nar Nar Goon recreation reserve was unequalled, he said.

"He has been involved in every building and outside improvement since the 1960s. He is the president of the reserve committee and a great negotiator with the Shire. He fought hard for the new community centre and supervised its construction."

Bernie was also involved in the construction of the football club social rooms, the netball courts and the scout hall.

Bernie's involvement with the football club goes back over 40 years. He has held many positions on the committee including president and is a Life Member of the club.

Bernie's musical talent has given many people pleasure and he demonstrated his prowess in that area with one of his delightful presentations at Friday night's dinner.

Bernie was a member of the Rotary Club of Pakenham. He was made a "Citizen of the year" in 1988 for his work in the community in the Shire of Pakenham.

Bernie was a member and president of the Nar Nar Goon branch of the Australian Primary Producers Union (now the VFF).

"To you Bernie, with the support of your wife, Phyllis, we congratulate you on the good work you have achieved, and the help you have given to others," said Mr Fife.

Mr Bill Bodman drew a round of enthusiastic applause from the audience

when he commented on the award presented to Bernie Byrne.

He said it filled him with a sense of great pride to see a farmer doing the sorts of things Bernie had done for his local community.

"If half the people in this country did the things Bernie has done we'd be in a much better position than we are today."

"I congratulate Bernie on his wonderful achievement," Mr Bodman said.

Berwick Stamp Club

The next meeting of the Berwick Stamp Club for 1992 will be held at the Old Cheese Factory on Sunday 9 August at 2pm.

Anyone who has an interest in stamps, or in any other philatelic subject is welcome to attend and there are always experienced stamp collectors in attendance from the Dandenong Philatelic Society to help and advise.

The club meets in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere and gives adults as well as children, the chance to share their philatelic knowledge.

Further details can be obtained from Terry Pendergast on (03) 702 1024 or from Geoff Legge on (059) 412 609.

Bernie was heavily involved in the design of the NNG Community Centre/Hall. People came from far and wide to use it. The girls used to help their Dad at home bending pipes for school desk frames, painting trusses ready for delivery for Maryknoll portable schools, built in Nar Nar Goon. Sally and Donna recall it was all unpaid work, which was a different arrangement to the payment their brothers may have received.

Bernie built his first car. He was self taught with all his engineering skills and built cow sheds which included herringbone and rotary cow sheds. He left school at 12 years old and taught himself all these skills.

Bernie was involved in the community effort to irrigate and regrass the NNG Recreation reserve. All the farmers brought their tractors and trailers and trucks for a mammoth community effort to complete the project. Ambrose recalls that the gravel for the project came from Barry Cunningham's property on the 8 Mile Road - future

My side of the Black Stump cont...

players remembered this gravel by the bloodied knees! Youtube video 1967 resurfacing of the Nar Nar Goon oval. Bernie was involved in the 7 km long private water line from the mains water (called Browning Road waterline) which was built by the local community of farmers in a drought year in 1965 for their private use. Michael Moore started the idea and Bernie organised all the work with delegation to Geoff Bramley who has more recently replaced that same water line – this time with a contractor completing the project.

Before town water, the Byrne family used creek water. The same water was a swimming hole for the Byrne kids. In hindsight, they can't believe they swam in what they later drank. Apparently it had a tinge to it and a special flavour! Ian Chatfield recalls that in the very early days when petrol rationing was on, Bernie made a 4 wheel trailer with rubber tyres pulled by a horse. He used to take his own milk and also pick up Macintosh and Macreadie milk on the way to take it up to the corner for the milk truck to pick up, saving the milk truck coming up McCraw road. The Byrne's cans were red on the top – there was trouble if one went missing. Bernie was with Associated Dairies in the 1940s.

Geoff Bramley recalls inviting Bernie around after Phyllis had passed on – because Bernie was very keen on the cream sponges made by Deb Bramley. He enjoyed 2 or 3 pieces over coffee and took home the rest. Geoff asked Bernie how many grand kids he had. His response was along the lines of I'm not too sure but there are many and I love them all.

Ambrose has always been a hands-on person right from Primary school years when the Nuns realized his handyman strengths. He became a mechanic – his sisters believe those skills developed from a young age when he dissected their brand new dolls which in turn needed to go to the doll hospital!

After becoming a mechanic, Ambrose got a job at the Holden proving ground in Lang Lang and was second in line for a job in America.

One day he was approached by John Carney to see if he'd be interested in building cow sheds – which he was. He did this from 1993 until about 1998 but is actually still involved with the building of dairies. He has moved rotary dairies from interstate and reassembled them in other areas. Mention a name like the Van Roy cow shed 20 a side double up herringbone, (recently decommissioned) and Ambrose can recall his Dad building it but Ambrose has modified it twice.

He started his own mechanical repair shop, repairing cars and machinery. He ended up buying his old school St Joseph's, Cora Lynn and turned it into his home on Convent School Road. He lives in the big room with extensions and the little room is still there with a heritage listing.

Donna recalls coming into NNG on a Sunday night to Browning Road to Uncle Aud Kennelly who had just bought a TV for the 1956 games. They were allowed to look through the front window of his house at the TV where there were another 20 people watching it already. The Kennelly children were not allowed (by their mother) to watch Uncle Aud's TV!

Donna said that even though she no longer lives in NNG it's like coming home as she drives back down the road. She

is now teaching at the Columba Catholic Primary School in Bunyip – she really enjoys teaching in the Iona parish. Her teaching career spans longer than 50 years. She is no longer involved in netball but does have a granddaughter who she helps and inspires. When she gets best on the court she wins the family "Phyllis Byrne" memorial award for her efforts.

Sally is involved in teaching art and teaches groups of children. She has a studio at her home in Drouin where she takes classes.



Photo: Back to NNG November 1965

Thanks to the Byrnes family for their generosity in sharing their family story. Enjoyed by all.

Ladies of the Swamp Charity Quilting Group

The Ladies of the Swamp Charity Quilting Group started in 2019 in response to the Bunyip/Tonimbuc 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 accomodation 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. Estelle generously donates space in her backyard studio, supplies, endless tea and coffee and her love and support. If you would like to join us, everyone is welcome. We meet at Craft Quarters in Koo Wee Rup on "Comfort Quilt Fridays" from 10am - 3pm.

For more information, please contact:
Lynne 0417 31 290 or Diane 0417 32 767



Join us to explore what Outlook Community Centre has to offer. We have a wide range of courses, events and information sessions for you and others you know to learn from and enjoy. Come along by yourself or bring along a friend or two. Our community welcomes those who are new to the Centre. If you require assistance our friendly team are here to help, call us or drop in and say hi. To view our complete Term 2 Program Guide visit www.outlookaust.org.au/book-online, drop in for a booklet or scan the QR code below. If you need some assistance, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

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Introduction to Digital Art

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For Adults

Tuesday 28 May, 12.30pm - 2.30pm

OR

For Home Schooled Children

Tuesday 28 May, 10.00am – 11.30am

Cost FREE

Cancer Council Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

We have all been touched by Cancer in some way. Join us for morning tea and help raise money for cancer research, prevention and support services. Join us for Morning Tea and Entertainment.

Wednesday 22 May, 10.00am - 12.00pm,

Donation \$20

RSVP for catering purposes

Book and make your donation online www.outlookaust.org.au/book-online

Supporting Cancer Council

Employment Support Session for Women 50-70 years of age

Are you aged 50+? Are you looking for support in finding employment, a volunteer position or training opportunities? Support available includes: getting the right services and support, resume review and refresh and/or building interview skills, assistance navigating the education and

training space which includes finding out what free or low-cost programs are available, linkage to a mentor and strengths-based re-engagement with employment training. Tuesday 7 May, 1.00pm - 2.15pm

OR

Thursday 20 June, 11.00am - 12.15pm

Cost FREE

Creative Writing Part – 1

Begin writing from life and fiction. Includes creative writing techniques for beginning writing and sources of inspiration. Also the building blocks of fiction: conflict and change, characterization and plotting. There will be a strong focus on creativity and its role in not only creating new work, but finding endless sources of inspiration. (Please note: this course provides the tools to shape and continue current projects and submit work for publication)

Thursdays commencing 23 May for 6 sessions

6.00pm - 9.00pm

Cost \$90

All Together Choir

Singing can improve health, happiness and confidence. Come and join our fun inclusive choir. If you enjoy singing and want to meet new people then this is the group for you.

Thursdays during school term

10.30am - 12.00pm

Cost \$7 per session

Garden Club

Learn about plants and how to make them grow. All you need is a love of gardening to join this group. Enjoy sharing your knowledge, learning new tips, swapping cuttings or listen to one of our guest speakers. Enjoy a cuppa and a chat.

1st Friday of the month, 3 May, 7 June, 10.30am - 12.00pm

Cost \$5 per session

(Excursions arranged throughout the term)

Create and Learn (For 3 - 5 year olds)

Benefits of this program include:

- Develops active listening skills
- Fine motor skills are enhanced
- Pre-Literacy skills are developed
- Promotes concentration and problem solving skills
- Promotes school readiness

Wednesdays commencing 15 May for 5 sessions

11.00am - 12.00pm

Cost \$70 (includes materials)

Forget-Me-Not Café

This Café style program aims to bring together people living with dementia and their loved ones in Pakenham 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. Come along to enjoy activities, entertainment and refreshments.

Tuesdays once per month

21 May, 18 June, 10.00am - 12.00pm

Cost FREE



Information sessions for residents interested in becoming a councillor

Residents who want to make a difference in and represent their local community are invited to consider running as a candidate in the Cardinia Shire Council election, to be held in October 2024. A number of upcoming free information sessions are taking place during May and June for residents wanting to find out more about the election process and what being a councillor involves. Event details for the two VLGA sessions are as follows:

- **Standing for Local Government** – hosted by the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA)
Friday 17 May 2024, 12 noon to 1.30pm
Online session via Zoom

This session covers the role of local government and what people can expect if they are elected. It covers how local councils work, the responsibilities of councillors and key issues to consider when standing for council.

- **Local Women Leading Change** – hosted by the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA)
Friday 24 May 2024, 12 noon to 1pm
Online session via Zoom

This session is tailored for women candidates to hear more about what it is to be a councillor, through a gendered lens. This includes key issues such as the gender-based barriers to standing for election, as well as the importance of self-care and balancing care and work responsibilities. It also aims to encourage more women to stand for election to their local council, recognising the unique experiences and qualities that women bring to leadership roles.

For more information and to register for both VLGA events visit the VLGA website at www.vlga.org.au/events

The Cardinia Shire Council election is being held in October 2024, along with all local government elections across Victoria. Voting in council elections is by post. Ballot packs are sent by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to all enrolled voters to complete and send back. To stand as a candidate in the Cardinia Shire Council election, residents must be enrolled as a voter in Cardinia Shire. Candidates can stand for election for any ward in the municipality – they do not need to live in that ward to stand. For more information on the 2024 Cardinia Shire Council election visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/councilelection

Council's FREE green waste drop-off events!

Residents are encouraged to drop off their green waste for free at the upcoming Green-waste drop off events in Pakenham and Lysterfield. 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.

- **Pakenham** – Monday 3 to Saturday 8 June

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

Monday to Friday: 7:30am - 4pm

Saturday: 8am – 2:30pm

- **Pakenham** – Monday 5 to Saturday 10 August

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

Monday to Friday: 7:30am - 4pm

Saturday: 8am – 2:30pm

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.

For more information about Council's green waste drop-off events, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dropoff

Cardinia Jobs and Skills Showcase

Cardinia Shire Council will host the Cardinia Jobs and Skills Showcase in partnership with Local Jobs - South Eastern Melbourne and Peninsula, Star News Group and Chisholm Skills and Jobs Centre. The second Cardinia Skills and Jobs Showcase will be held on Thursday 20 June 2024 at the Cardinia Cultural Centre Lakeview Room from 10am-1pm. The event aims to bring together jobseekers and local employers, providing an opportunity for job seekers to connect with local employers about current vacancies and career pathways. Workshops will be held to help jobseekers develop their skills in areas such as CV and cover letter writing and interview techniques.

For more information and to register, visit: Cardinia Jobs and Skills Showcase | Cardinia Business | Creating Cardinia

New support service for local dads

Cardinia Shire Council is now offering free support groups for local dads. In partnership with Anglicare Victoria, dads located in Cardinia Shire can now register to be a part of a free, face-to-face 6-week support group. Navigating the joys and challenges that come with parenthood and early childhood can be difficult, so to support dads with children, aged from birth to school-age, these groups will: build social connections with other new dads from your area; provide a safe and supportive environment for dads to share their experiences; provide information about support services available; explore early childhood development and early years services; establish links within your community. The first group will start from May 2024 and will be held at Anglicare Victoria's Parentzone located on Army Road in Pakenham. Groups sessions will be offered 4 times a year and run on a weekly basis. Dates for upcoming groups include: 1 May – 5 June 2024, 17 July – 21 August 2024, 9 October – 13 November 2024. Registrations close for May intake on 30 April 2024 and will reopen for the July intake in mid-May.

Council also offers a range of other Maternal and Child Health services in addition to these support groups for dads, such as health and development checks, sleep settling programs, Smalltalk supported playgroups, and first-time parent groups. To find out more about the new Cardinia Dads groups or to register today, please visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/mch

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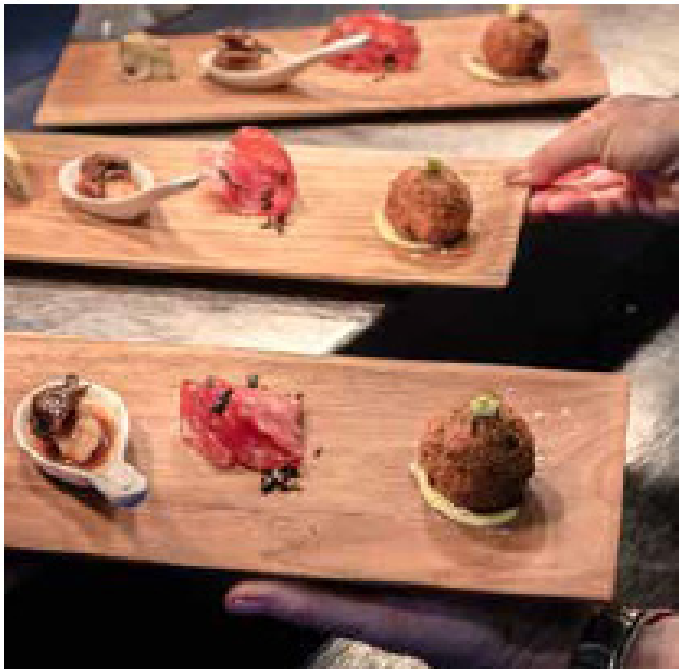


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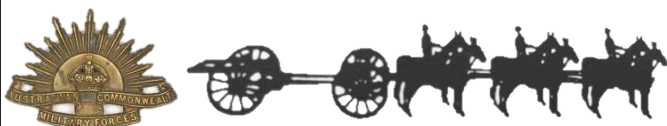
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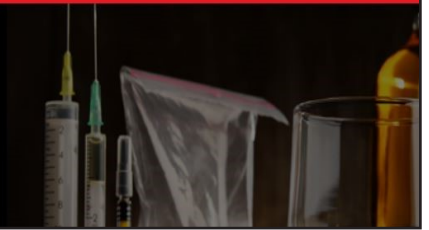
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Community Diary

- **Every Sunday morning:** CFA training
- **Every Monday evening:** CFA training / meetings
- **Third Monday:** Nar Nar Goon RSL Sub Branch meets at the Community Centre at 2pm
- Contact Samantha O'Sullivan on 0419 537 606
- Next meeting: **May 20, Jun 17, Jul 15, Aug 19**
- **Third Tuesday:** Pakenham Camera Club meets at Beaconhills College Senior Lecture Theatre at 7.30pm
- Next meeting: **May 21, Jun 18, Jul 16, Aug 20**
- **Fourth Tuesday:** NNG Progress Association meet bi-monthly at the St John's Community Centre at 7pm
- Next meeting: **May 13, Jun 25, Aug 27**
- **Tuesday fortnightly:** Euchre Club at Community Centre, 8pm
- Contact Jim Chatfield on 5942 5263
- Next meeting: **May 7, 21, Jun 4, 18, Jul 2, 16**
- **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: **May 24, Jun 28, Jul 26, Aug 23**
- **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: **May 11, Jun 8 & 29, Jul 13, Aug 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

just made me some synonym rolls



just like grammar used to make



Casey
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Thursday
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1st Thursday of the month
St James Primary School
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Prefer to have your copy of the
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285 issues printed monthly

Got something to say?

Good news, Bad news,

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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.

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Contributions can also be placed in the box
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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 placed in the box at the
Goon Eatery or sent via email to
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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
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	25.8	22	26	47.80	44	(45.90)
March	13	7	10	84.60	69	(76.80)
April	144.2	132	126	104.20	88	(96.10)
May				109.60	90	100.40
June				93.40	80	81
July				44.80	50	33.20
August				62.80	60	50.50
September				74.60	56	52.20
October				154.4	98	122
November				96	104	(100)
December				163.4	128	138.8
Total	337.80	281	306.60	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)
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