

NAR NAR GOON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

THE GOON * NEWS

Volume 28 Issue 04

May 2026



Dawn Service

Our local community gathered in the early hours for our ANZAC Day Dawn Service at the Nar Nar Goon RSL Memorial Park on the corner of Carney Street and Main Street, Nar Nar Goon.

This year the RSL sub-branch approaches its 80th year of service to our veterans and the community.

This service was once again supported by the Air Force Cadets and was followed by the annual Gun Fire breakfast at the Nar Nar Goon CFA.



NNG History Group

Next Meeting:

Monday 25th May 2026

2:00pm at St John's Community Room
(Behind Posh Op Shop)

Main St Nar Nar Goon.

All Welcome!

No guest speaker. Bring along a photo related to NNG or your area that has significance to you, that could be shared with the group.

Informal afternoon over a cuppa.

NNG Progress Association

Next Meeting:

Monday 15th June 2026

7:00pm,

St John's Community Room,
(Behind Posh Op Shop)

Main St Nar Nar Goon.

All Welcome!

GOON NEWS DEADLINES:

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

Email: goonnews3812@gmail.com

parklea.

*proudly supporting
The Goon News*

NAR NAR GOON SUPPORT LOCAL

Bunyip Police
5629 5205



Nar Nar Goon Smokehouse

Luke & Kylie
5 Carney Street
Nar Nar Goon



TheButcherwithTheChef

Ph: 5942 5370

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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NAR NAR GOON

HOTEL

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**** 📞 Phone: ** 5942 5221**

**** 🌐 Website: ** [www.narnargoonhotel.com.au]**
(http://www.narnargoonhotel.com.au)

**** 🍷 Bottle Shop Hours: ****

- ** Monday to Tuesday: ** 2 PM - 9 PM

- ** Wednesday to Sunday: ** 12 PM - 10 PM

**** 🍴 Meals Available (Wednesday to Sunday): ****

- ** Lunch: ** 12 PM - 2:30 PM

- ** Dinner: ** 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

**** Takeaway Available ****

**** 🎉 Function Room: ****

- ** Available for hire **

- Perfect for events, celebrations and gatherings.

**** 📶 Stay Connected: ****

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for the latest updates and promotions!

Top of the Wazza

Our award winning butcher does it again! Taking out awards left right and centre for their smallgoods and ham. Below are the awards for:

- Christmas Kabana
- Triple smoked leg ham
- Pork & beef beer stick
- Cheese kranski

Congratulations Luke and team on your awards.

If you don't know what all the fuss is about, go in and see for yourself. The quality is unbelievable and the display cabinet always looks immaculate.



The Butcher with The Chef



NNG Progress Association

Minutes from the April meeting are available on request. Please email nngprogress3812@gmail.com for a copy.

NAR NAR GOON



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

EVERY THURSDAY!

Community Hall, Nar Nar Goon (opposite primary school)

A Non Profit Organisation where all profits go to local groups/organisations.

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY,
COME TO BINGO !!**

EYES DOWN at 7.30pm

Books on sale from 6:45pm for the 1st session and 8.00pm for the 2nd / 3rd session / flyers

- **1st SESSION - \$2 per game**
\$20 prize wins - \$100 prize win in last game
- **DUCK Flyer - \$1 / \$2 per sheet**
\$80 prize wins or more on a quacking duck
- **2nd SESSION - \$4 per game**
\$40 prize wins - \$100 prize win in last game or more if BINGO is on a lucky number
- **BIG BUCKS Flyer - \$2 per game**
\$300-\$500 in house prize wins or win \$250-\$30,000 in linked BIG BUCKS game
- **3rd SESSION - \$4 per game**
\$40 prize wins - \$1000 prize win in last game if sufficient books are sold and more if BINGO is under 52 calls
- **RAYS RAFFLES (\$2 tickets)**
\$50 or a Meat Tray from The Butcher with The Chef
- **1st / Last Number (\$1 tickets)**
\$50 prize win

2nd CHANCE DRAWS

- \$10 cash - Rays Raffle ticket - weekly
- \$100 Bingo Bucks - monthly
- \$50 cash - '1st / Last Number' - monthly

NEW TO BINGO?

Ask for our 'Starter Pack'.
Play all games and raffles for \$30

Complimentary tea/coffee/milo between 2nd & 3rd sessions. Canteen available. Cooled/heated venue. EFT available on book sales. Must be 18yrs or older.

(Buy your bestie a BINGO Gift Voucher or mug)

Like and follow us on Facebook



New Nar Nar Goon Bingo



Nar Nar Goon Bingo



HOT SPOT - from your friendly fire brigade

On the second of May, the Nar Nar Goon Fire Brigade held its annual presentation dinner, a night dedicated to celebrating the brigade's achievements over the past twelve months as well as honoring the outstanding service of its members.

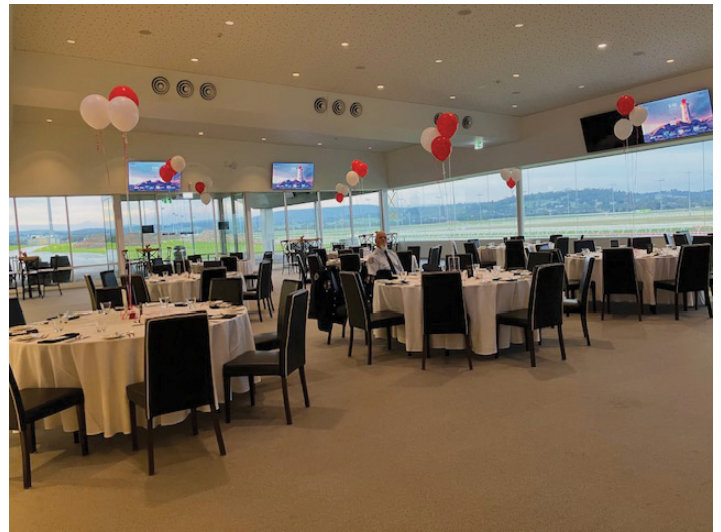
Several members received significant service awards recognizing their dedication and commitment:

- Kevin Chisholm was honored with a 45-year service award.
- Geoff Bramley received his 40-year service award.
- Wes Richie was awarded for 35 years of service.
- Tony Ward was awarded for 25 years of service.
- Dwayne Crerara received a 10-year service award.

These awards highlight the remarkable contributions these individuals have made not only to the Country Fire Authority (CFA) but specifically to the Nar Nar Goon Fire Brigade.

In addition, Nathan Sartori was named Firefighter of the Year, an esteemed award voted on by his peers, recognizing his exceptional dedication and performance.

The evening was filled with camaraderie and reflection as members and guests celebrated the successes of the past year and looked forward to the year ahead.



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The Importance of having a Will

In Victoria, making a will is one of the most important steps a person can take to ensure their affairs are managed properly after death. Despite this, many people delay or avoid preparing one, often leaving their loved ones to face unnecessary stress and uncertainty.

A will is a legal document that sets out how a person's assets—such as property, savings, and personal belongings—are to be distributed after they pass away. It also allows the will-maker to appoint an executor, the person responsible for carrying out their wishes and managing the deceased estate. Without clear instructions, even relatively simple estates can become complicated and time-consuming to administer.

Under Victorian law, the rules governing wills are primarily set out in the Wills Act (1997). For a will to be valid, it must be in writing, signed by the person making the will, and witnessed by two independent adults. The person must also have testamentary capacity, meaning they understand the nature of the document and the effect it will have.

The importance of having a valid will becomes especially clear when someone dies without one. This is known as dying "intestate," and in these circumstances, the estate is distributed according to a fixed legal formula under the Administration and Probate Act (1958). While this system aims to be fair, it may not reflect the deceased's personal wishes or family dynamics. For example, assets may be divided in ways that exclude close friends, stepchildren, or

charities that the person may have wanted to benefit. A well-prepared will can also help reduce the likelihood of disputes. Family disagreements over estates are not uncommon, particularly where expectations are unclear or relationships are complex. By clearly outlining intentions and seeking proper legal advice, individuals can minimise the risk of costly and emotionally draining legal challenges.

Another key benefit of making a will is the ability to plan for dependents. Parents can nominate guardians for minor children, ensuring they are cared for by trusted individuals. Similarly, provisions can be made for vulnerable beneficiaries, including those with disabilities, through carefully structured gifts or trusts. Importantly, a will is not a "set and forget" document. Life events such as marriage, divorce, the birth of children, or significant changes in financial circumstances should prompt a review. In Victoria, marriage can revoke an existing will unless it was made in contemplation of that marriage, making regular updates essential.

Ultimately, having a valid and up-to-date will provides certainty and peace of mind. It ensures that a person's final wishes are respected, eases the administrative burden on loved ones, and helps preserve family relationships during what is often a difficult time.

Stephen Van-Linge is a Principal Lawyer at King Legal Group, 29 Main Street, Bunyip 3815.

Tel (03) 5617 8251

website: www.kinglegallgroup.com.au

Photos of the Anzac Day Dawn Service at Nar Nar Goon



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Goon News emailed to you?
Send your email address to
goonnews3812@gmail.com



NNG History Group

Kerry van Diemen and Patrick Noonan presented the Noonan family story to us this week. It's a wonderful story about their family and the beginnings of Maryknoll. Thanks to the Noonan Family for their efforts to research and compile the family story. The Noonan story will feature in the next issue of the Goon News.

Dates for 2026 NNG History Group Meetings

- **Monday May 25th** 2pm at NNG Posh Op Shop
No guest speaker. Bring along a photo related to NNG or your area that has significance to you, that could be shared with the group. Informal afternoon over a cuppa
 - **June - to be confirmed**
 - **Monday July 27th** 2pm in St Johns Church
Guest Speaker: Alan Bailey
Alan is nearly 100 years old and lived on Seymour Road, Nar Nar Goon North. He has many wonderful memories and stories to share. We will interview Alan so bring along your questions.
 - **Monday August 24th** 2pm in St Johns Church
Guest Speakers: Val & Ron Carroll
Ron played footy for NNG in the early days and Val was the NNG kinder teacher for 26 years. Some of you and your children may have been taught by Val. We will interview Val and Ron so bring along your questions.
 - **Monday September 28th** 2pm St Johns Church
Guest Speaker: Gwyn Coombs
The Coombs family date back to pre-1940s. Gwyn will be accompanied by family. If you remember Ray, you will know he dedicated an enormous amount of time to the community. A story not to be missed!
 - **Friday October 23rd** Swamp Bus Tour with a War theme. Depts: 9:30am from Ambrose Byrnes property 4 hour bus tour with morning tea and then BBQ back at Ambrose's place. Bookings and more details early October.
 - **Monday 16th November**, 2pm at St Johns Church
Guest Speaker: Andrew Walsh with support from his Mum, Martha
The Walsh family has run a Hardware business from their farming property on 5 Mile Road for many years.
 - **Monday 14th December** 2pm, St Johns Church
Guest Speakers: The Abrehart Family
Geoffrey (Curly) and Stephen (Abes). June & Charlie Abrehart owned and ran the NNG Milkbar for 3 years from 1965. Geoffrey is flying down from Bundaberg to present.
- There are not enough months in the year! We have more great stories and guest speakers to be revealed in next years calendar. Stay Tuned.

My Life from Ireland to Australia

Presented by Michael O'Brien - 23rd March 2026



Photo: Michael O'Brien

Michael has been in Australia for at least 50 years. He said he's been trying to lose the accent but he couldn't find one better!

He first came to Melbourne from Ireland on the 4th June, 1970 after a month on the ship called the "Fairstar".

He was the 10 pound Irishman. There was so much cutlery on the ship for all the meals – he'd never seen items such as a fish knife cutlery in his life!

He grew up in Ireland in the middle of a family of 10 made up of five girls and five boys. His father was a ploughing and harvesting contractor cutting hay. At the age of around eight Michael was driving tractors. His Dad would put a big padded jacket on him ready for the drive through town to make him look older and so the local Sergeant of Police wouldn't know which of the O'Brien brothers was driving.

They milked cows and their Mum used to churn and make butter. There was bartering of food in the community such as a bag of spuds in exchange for a bail of hay. Life was sweet without too much pressure on anyone. His parents had a car, which was the only one in a 20 mile radius. His Dad loved to go to the local football on a Sunday after Church. His Dad's friends would get a ride and Michael can recall seeing seven grown men in and on the car. On the way home a lot of these men would enjoy a pint of Guinness. His father was against alcohol. To manage this situation he would shout the first round and enjoy a lemonade himself then go and sit in the car until they were all finished.



Photo: Michael aged 16 with his motor bike and his brothers.

o'brien story cont...

When Michael was 10, his Uncle who lived with his Mother's elderly parents, needed to go up country to work for the Railways. There was an issue then about how the grandparents would be cared for as there were cows to milk and sheep and pigs to feed. Michael's name was suggested as that person needing to travel six miles away to live with the grandparents and do all the farming jobs. He shifted for two years to his grandparents where he milked seven or eight cows by hand each morning and night, along with feeding pigs before walking three miles to school. Finally his Uncle decided to come home as well as get married.

Around the same age, he got a job at the Irish Derby race meeting. A friend picked him up to take him to the races. Michael would come home with a pocket full of money because everybody gave him two shillings or two and six pence, known as half a crown to open and close gates all day for the horses going in and out.



Photo: Michael's Grandfather and Father

In hindsight the two years with his grandparents was a good experience where his grandfather taught him plenty about farming. Michael then went to Tech school. His father was not very well at this stage so he spent a lot of time working at home. At aged 14 years he decided to leave school and get a job in a hotel/restaurant type of business in the town for a couple of years. In his time off he would be doing tractor work on the family farm. At the age of 18 he thought there was more to life than what he was doing. He decided to go to England where he stayed for six months. During this time his grandfather died. He was like a second father to Michael, so Michael went back for the funeral and stayed for six months.

As time moved on, Michael decided he needed to travel again, so headed back to England. After 12 months in England he still had itchy feet. In the middle of winter on a frosty morning at -10 degrees, he would see adverts about the opportunity to emigrate to sunny Australia. At the time he was living with his

sister Marie and her husband Tommy and decided to apply to go to Australia. He had the medicals, which were quite confronting. After six months he got a telegram to say he was accepted but got cold feet and decided he needed longer to decide. Six months later he received another telegram to say there was a plane leaving soon for Australia. Michael explained that he wanted the trip to last a long time and would prefer to go by ship. A month later in June, he was on the "Fairstar" ship to Australia. It was a passenger ship where Michael enjoyed the luxury of the cruise ship, dressing for dinner every night and morning and enjoying the amazing array of food and cutlery to match the food.



Photo: Michael en route to Australia at Cape Town with Table Mountain in the back ground.

At Las Palmas, Teneriffe, when the ship berthed for a few days, Michael was on shore and had his wallet and passport pick pocketed. The Purser on the ship organised new papers for him. Michael could not leave there quick enough! They travelled onto Cape Town where they stayed for four days. He enjoyed day trips out to the country with others from the ship. He could not handle the apartheid. The big wide open main street of Cape Town reminded him today of Swanston Street in Melbourne without the trams. He had written some cards to send back to his family and when he lined up at the counter to buy some stamps, the lady said to him that he should have been lining up at the counter for white people. On the double decker buses in Cape Town it was white people on the bottom and coloured people on the top. Along the street there were separate cafes for blacks and whites. He couldn't believe that people would treat each other in this way. Four days later they set sail for Australia with the first stop being Fremantle. He thought Fremantle looked

o'brien story cont...

like a country town with dilapidated sheds. Eventually he arrived in Port Melbourne and was greeted by his cousin who Michael had only ever met once. This cousin visited Ireland from Australia at one stage and suggested to Michael he would meet him if ever he decided to come to Australia. His cousin arrived with one of his sons and another cousin, greeting Michael with the information that it was the wettest and coldest day he'd ever witnessed in his 20 years in Australia. This was not the sunny Australia Michel was expecting.

The next day was Sunday so his cousin took him to Mass at St Dominics Church in Camberwell. Afterwards they continued out for a drive to Bonnie Doon/Eildon area – the last thing he felt like doing because of his watery legs from being on a ship for weeks. His cousin was an earth moving contractor and encouraged him to take a job driving machinery on a new housing estate around Ferntree Gully. At 5:30am he was being woken to go to work. His cousin had just returned from Vietnam and was able to supply Michael with working clothes, which was an old army uniform. What Michael really wanted was a gentleman's job!

He was working in mud and mess and was "nine stone wringing wet!" After a week he was driving machines as if he'd been there all his life. He loved it! Ever since he has driven big machinery. He thanks his cousin in hindsight for this great opportunity. He worked for his cousin for a while until there was something similar to a recession. Fortunately a work opportunity arose in Carrum Downs with an English company doing the Purification plant with sewerage. The plant was very successful and is still there today. Michael worked for this company for a couple of years. They were an excellent company to work for as he learnt to drive a wide variety of machinery.

He worked on the underground rail in Melbourne in 1971/2. He had the opportunity to drive one of the big underground boring machines developed by a German engineer. He did it for four days for 12 hours a day. East Malvern station was one of the entrances to the tunnel and they were 100 foot below the surface. He could not handle being underground as he knew that one day, that's where he'd be on a more permanent basis! He was honest enough to share that with his manager and instead got a job on a crane for two years. He was much more comfortable being out in the clear light of day.

He decided that he could make money by buying his own machine. He was living in Camberwell and was passing by the Gas and Fuel Depot in Tooronga near the freeway. He called in to let them know he had a machine for hire. The next day he got a phone call from Gas and Fuel offering him work which lasted for nearly 25 years.

Initially, Michael lived with his cousin for two months.

He met an Irishman and they decided to rent a house together. They did not have any furniture or utensils to fill a house. They went to an agent in Camberwell called Duncan and Weller, who suggested they might have a house that would suit the two Irishmen. It was fully furnished. There was one issue and that was that "no single men need apply". The lady at the agency rang the owner and mentioned they were young Irishmen. They could not believe how lucky they were to be offered this Californian bungalow in Camberwell, near Alamein station. It turned out that the owner's wife's mother was from County Limerick in Ireland. The Irish connection worked well for them. It turned out very well. They went to the local shops to order all the food. The shop owner realised they were just setting up a house and suggested they would save money by going to the new shop which had recently opened in Camberwell Junction called Woodwards, which became Safeway. This lovely lady said she couldn't match the prices of Safeway and that they would be better off to go down there to purchase food supplies. His new housemate was doing the same kind of work but for a different company. The young men both worked well together. His housemate was a hopeless cook but handy with a vacuum cleaner! His mate met a young Australian lady at the Hawthorn Town Hall dance and married. This meant Michael was looking for someone to take his place and found a Sri Lankan fellow who was a Diesel Fitter with the Board of Works. They got on very well and his sister cooked delicious curries for them. Eventually his housemate left and went off to Papua New Guinea to work in the mines.

By now, Michael had saved up a fair bit of money from his contracting and had \$10,000 in the bank – a lot of money for that time. A new estate was being developed on the Burwood Highway where you could buy a brand new AV Jennings house for \$16,000 to \$17,000 - opposite the Burvale Hotel. He was very enthused about a very Spanish looking display home in the estate. The next night he spoke to the owner of his rental property, Sam Costello, who was a very good landlord, who would call in for a cup of tea and bring a home made cake. Michael informed Sam that he might be leaving because he was going to buy a house. Sam shared that he wanted to sell the rental property but didn't want to sell it while Michael was still renting.

He suggested that Michael should buy this property and if he went to his bank he could most likely get a loan to purchase the \$30,000 Californian bungalow in Camberwell. The bank gave him the \$20,000 loan without any paper work at all. Sam was so kind that he got the furniture valued and that would come off the price of the house and in turn they would only need to pay stamp duty on \$27,000. Sam generously covered all the costs of the Solicitor.

Michael owned the house for four years but always

o'brien story cont...

wanted to buy some land. Something caught his eye at a place called Nar Nar Goon. The name fascinated him. In 1977 he was reading the Weekly Times and saw a 40 acre property for sale on Seymour Road at Nar Nar Goon with a dairy on it for \$55,000. He rang Alex Scott, the agent in Pakenham, who agreed to meet him at the property. It was owned by a Dutch couple who had split the farm in half. Michael couldn't believe he would want a property so far out of Melbourne on these dirt roads. He took one look at the farm and purchased it and lived there for 25 years.

In 1983 there was disastrous bushfires around Cockatoo and Gembrook. Pakenham Apex offered their support to those impacted by the fires. As a member of this group, Michael used his back hoe machine to assist in the burying of livestock.

While living in Seymour Road, he went back to Ireland for a few trips to see his family. During one of those trips he met his wife Mary. Her family lived in Ballyhaunis in County Mayo. She and Michael were supposed to go on a blind date to a New Years Eve ball but Mary had met an old friend at a dinner party and went with him. However, before the ball she had met Michael in her father's pub. From there they had agreed to meet in Dublin the following weekend at his sister Pauline's house.

She came out to Australia for a few trips and they corresponded by letter. By this stage Mary had bought her own house in Dublin, had a nice car and worked for an insurance company. Eventually he realised he and Mary were both getting older. He picked up the phone and spoke to Mary in Ireland and asked her if they could meet up. She agreed and met Michael for dinner a few days later. Mary asked what his intentions were and in turn he asked her to marry him. She said she'd think about it over the weekend.

During that time his brother invited Michael to join him at a big three day race meeting at Listowel in County Kerry. When Michael returned from the races he met Mary for her answer and she said "yes" provided that they were married before he returned to Australia! He said that's impossible – she said nothing is impossible! He needed to get "The Letter of Freedom" from the church in Australia, which was sent to Ireland but never arrived before the wedding. Father Coffey was the Parish Priest at Nar Nar Goon and at Iona church at the time. Father said that there was nothing here to show Michael was married so to go ahead. They were married two weeks later in October 1983 and it was February 1984 before Mary arrived in Australia.

Michael went into the Spring Street Immigration office with Mary's immigration papers. A young fella served the very dirty looking Michael straight from work. This young immigration man questioned Michael as to why he had the right to expect these papers to be signed? Michael explained the paper work was all correctly filled out and had been checked by a



Photo: Michael & Mary married in Ireland in 1983

Solicitor. An officer from the back office wandered out and asked if there was a problem? He sent the young worker out the back and promptly approved Mary's immigration to Australia.

Before they knew it their first child Emma, had arrived. 13 months later they had built a new house on Seymour Road property and then their son Andrew arrived. They remained at Seymour Road until the children were about 10 years old. They decided to return to Ireland, thinking they were going back permanently where they both still had family. They sold Seymour Road.

The prices of property in Ireland were going up overnight. After looking at 52 properties over 12 months and then renting for a while, Michael asked the great man at Church to steer them in the right direction. They decided to return to Australia via Disneyland in America, New Zealand and home.

The furniture never left the shipping container when they went to Ireland. Back in Australia, he got the paper that he used to look up for property and there were two or three properties for sale. There was one in Maryknoll and then Norm Whitta said his place was coming up for sale on the 7 Mile Road at Nar Nar Goon. He went with son Andrew, to look at the 37.5 acre farm. It had all they needed including plenty of water and the house was in very good condition. In fact it had plenty of everything. Mary and Emma looked at the house at 11am and by 4pm they had bought the property.

They were very happy there and the kids got the same school bus and same bus driver, as they had before, in Seymour Road.

o'brien story cont...



Photo: Andrew, Mary, Patrick & Michael O'Brien 2026

Michael was looking for work but didn't want to go back into driving machinery again. A friend was the Secretary for Grenda's transport. She said to Michael they were looking for bus drivers. He thought as a joke, maybe he could drive a bus. It was the last thing in the world he would have thought of doing. One interview later, he got the job straight away and was there for four years.

In the meantime, the shops, including the milk bar in Nar Nar Goon came up for sale. Mary had just got a job working in the milk bar as a means to fill in time. They bought the shops 26 years ago and to this day they are still enjoying the benefits of their investment. Michael and Mary owned and ran the Nar Nar Goon milk bar for 15 years. In that time they had some great staff working for them. Lorraine who was in the audience today, was with them for a long, long time. Michael said Mary was the number one sandwich maker. Allan Bailey told Michael that he cooked the best fish and chips in Australia, so he was very pleased with that feedback.

The shop serviced the local schools with lunches every day and Red Gem three times a week. This made the shop very busy at lunchtime. Mary at one stage had the responsibility of organising to print the Goon News at the local Primary school. She recalls being locked in the school after hours one night while she was printing it.

Allan Bailey was a neighbour in Seymour Road many years ago and surprised Michael and Mary by turning up for Michael's family talk. It needs to be added that Allan turns 100 on 10th May 2026.

Michael and Mary feel very blessed to have two lovely children Emma and Andrew, a very supportive daughter in law Erin and five beautiful grand children. Andrew works as an Engineering Manager for Fonterra in Darnum which has recently been sold to Lactallis.

Emma is a Specialist Teacher at St Claire's Catholic School in Officer. Nine year old grandson Patrick has said he'd love to take over the farm one day from Michael and Mary. Since retirement they have enjoyed trips back to Ireland and Scotland and multiple trips interstate.

Thank you Michael and Mary O'Brien for your life story of getting to and living in Nar Nar Goon.

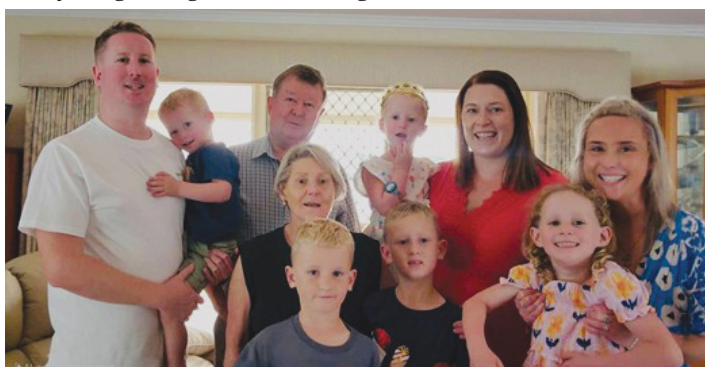


Photo: O'Brien Family at Christmas 2024. (Back:) Andrew, Finn, Michael, Elsie, Erin, Emma. (Front:) Mary, Hugh, Patrick & Isla



Thel's Biggest Morning Tea
Monday June 1st from 10:30 am at the
NNG Posh Op Shop Community Room



Fortnightly raffles from
now until May and then
weekly raffles.
Tickets available from the
Op Shop



Marygoon Cricket Club

The 2025/26 season has been another positive chapter in the continued growth and development of the Nar Nar Goon Maryknoll Cricket Club. As a club built on strong community values, inclusivity and a passion for cricket, we are proud of the progress made both on and off the field across all programs.

On-Field Performance:

Throughout the season, all three senior teams demonstrated strong competitiveness, commitment and resilience. Players consistently upheld the club's standards, representing Nar Nar Goon Maryknoll with pride and professionalism. Across all grades, we saw significant individual and team development, with several standout performances contributing to a successful and competitive season. Which saw all three team make the finals and the 3rd XI making the Grand Final.

Our junior program continues to be a cornerstone of the club. With strong participation in our Woolworths Blast and under 10s, as we continue to rebuild our junior program. Our young players showed excellent improvement in both skill level and sportsmanship. The continued emphasis on development, enjoyment and teamwork has ensured a positive experience for all junior participants.

The club also remained committed to fostering opportunities for young girls' and females, and inclusive cricket programs, reinforcing our vision of being a club for all ages and abilities.

Player Development & Culture:

One of the key highlights of the 2025/26 season has been the continued development of our playing group. Emerging players have stepped up into senior cricket, while experienced players have provided leadership, mentorship and consistency.

The culture within the club remains a strong pillar of our success. The commitment shown at training, on match days and in supporting one another reflects the values we strive to uphold. This positive environment has played a vital role in both performance and retention.

Off-Field Contributions:

Off the field, the club has made significant strides thanks to the dedication of our volunteers, committee members and supporters. Their tireless efforts in organising events, managing operations and supporting players are the backbone of our success.

Fundraising initiatives and community engagement activities were well supported throughout the season, contributing to the ongoing improvement of club facilities and resources. These efforts ensure we can

continue to provide opportunities while keeping participation accessible and affordable for all members.

Facilities & Future Planning:

The club has continued to work towards improving its facilities and equipment to better serve players and supporters. Ongoing discussions and planning with local stakeholders aim to further enhance the club's infrastructure in the coming seasons.

Looking ahead, the focus remains on sustainable growth, strengthening our junior pathways and maintaining a strong, inclusive club culture.

Acknowledgements:

We extend our sincere thanks to all players, coaches, volunteers, sponsors and supporters who contributed to the 2025/26 season. Your commitment and passion are what make the Nar Nar Goon Maryknoll Cricket Club such a special place.

Conclusion:

The 2025/26 season has been one of progress, development and unity. As we look forward to the upcoming season, we remain committed to building on this momentum and continuing to grow both on and off the field.

If you are looking for a fresh start, moved in the area or want to challenge yourself, our doors are always open for anyone.

Please call club coach Jay Riley 0481 498 801 for more information.

Nar Nar Goon Maryknoll Cricket Club

NAR NAR GOON MARYKNOLL CRICKET CLUB

INTRODUCTION OF OUR TEAM

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 Ryon Tocknell Secretary & Sponsorship Coordinator	 Kyle Williamson PlayHQ Manager	 Brett Jackson Bar Manager

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Outlook Community Centre offers a range of courses and information sessions designed to inform, connect and inspire. From volunteering and travel skills to legal planning, driving confidence and technology, there is something for everyone. Join us to learn skills, meet others and stay engaged in your community today. Our complete Term Program Guide is available online www.outlookaust.org.au/events/ or drop in to pick up a booklet. We hope to see you soon!

HOW TO ENROL IN A PROGRAM

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 Online: www.outlookaust.org.au/events/
 Telephone: 1300 617 649 (select option 2)
 Email: communitycentre@outlookaust.org.au
 Payment: Cash, cheque, EFTPOS, credit card
 - online, over the phone, or in person

Volunteering Information Session

Have you ever thought about volunteering?
 Discover how volunteering can bring purpose, connection, and new opportunities. This informative session explores ways to get involved, meet people, and contribute to your community. Take the first step toward meaningful participation.

Volunteering may also support Centrelink mutual obligation requirements, depending on your circumstances.

Thursday 21 May, 11am - 12pm Cost: FREE

Caravanning for Newbies

Interested in getting into caravanning or just bought a van and have a lot of questions?

This session covers everything you need for confident caravan travel, from choosing the right van and tow vehicle to towing, reversing, and setup. Learn what to look for when buying, essential gear to carry, and how to maintain, store, and plan your trips for a smoother, more enjoyable holiday experience.

Tuesday 12 May, 6.30pm - 9.30pm Cost: FREE

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Wednesdays commencing 10 June for 3 sessions, 10am - 12.30pm Cost: FREE

Victorian Law Week

Learn the purpose and benefits of key legal documents that protect you and your family, including Wills, Powers of Attorney, and Advance Care Directives. The session also explains Statements of Wishes and how they can support your plans when used alongside these important arrangements.

Presented by Duffy & Simon Lawyers

Wednesday 20 May 12.30pm - 2.30pm Cost: FREE

Forget-Me-Not Café

This café style program brings together people living with dementia and their loved ones

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, 19 May & 16 June, 10am - 12pm

Cost: FREE (Gold coin donation welcome)

Artificial Intelligence

Artificial intelligence is reshaping our world and is the way of the future. Learn to navigate AI with a balanced approach through real life examples that show how to use it to your advantage, while becoming aware of its flaws and the risks that come with this emerging technology.

Fridays commencing 5 June for 4 sessions, 9.30am - 12.30pm Cost: \$25

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Essential Online Communications

Build confidence in online communication by learning to choose the right tools, use proper etiquette, and communicate effectively with Microsoft Teams. Develop skills to find and share reliable information, ensuring your messages are clear, appropriate, and trustworthy in everyday digital interactions.

Tuesdays for 3 sessions, 2 & 9 June - 9.30am - 12.30pm, 16 June 9am - 12.30pm

Cost: \$30 (includes course notes)



Canva - Online Design Made Easy

This free online graphic design platform offers users the opportunity to get creative online.

Learn how Canva can be used to create professional looking flyers, invitations, business cards, newsletters and much more.

Thursdays for 3 sessions, 4 June - 9.30am - 11.30am, 11 & 18 June - 9.30am - 12pm

Cost: \$20



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Mass every Saturday evening at 5pm



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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
Parish Administrator: Fr Avinash George
mobile no. 0451 997 904
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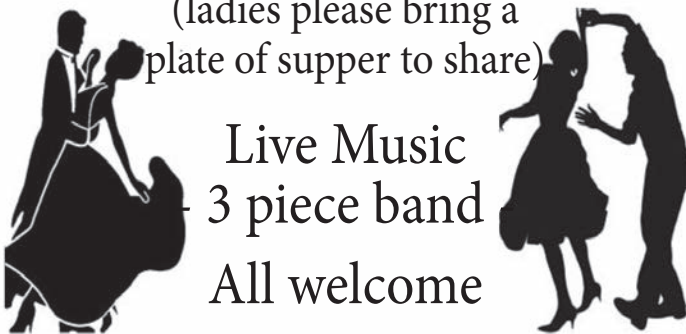
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**Got something to say?
Good news, Bad news,
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What have you personally, or your organisation been doing lately? A bit of publicity goes a long way. There's no better way of sharing your achievements 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!

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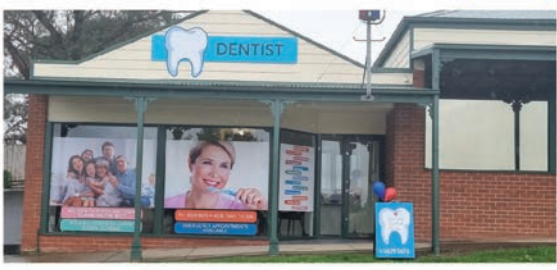
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Community Diary

- **Every Sunday morning:** CFA training
- **Every Monday evening:** CFA training / meetings
- **Monthly Monday:** Nar Nar Goon History Group meet 2pm in St John's Church or Op Shop (behind). Contact Sue Rose on 0421 514 607
- Next Meeting: **July 27, Aug 24, Sep 28, Oct 23**
- **Third Monday:** NNG Progress Association meet bi-monthly at the St John's Community Centre at 7pm
- Next meeting: **Jun 15, Aug 17, Oct 19**
- **First Tuesday:** Nar Nar Goon RSL Sub Branch meets monthly at the Community Centre.
- Contact Secretary Samantha O'Sullivan should you want to attend as a guest or member via email: secretary.narnargoonrsl@gmail.com
- Next meeting: **Contact Samantha for confirmed date**
- **Fourth Wednesday:** Pakenham Camera Club meets at the Community Centre of Meadowvale Retirement Village, Eagle Drive, Pakenham at 7.30pm
- Next meeting: **May 27, Jun 24, Jul 22, Aug 26**
- **Thursday:** For information on local Scout meetings, please contact Olive Elston, Ph: 0408 390 593.
- **Every Thursday night:** BINGO! at the Community Centre. Eyes down 7.30pm/8.00pm. Book sales 6:45pm
- **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 9 & 30, Jun 14, Jul 12, Aug 9 & 30**

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 - 5pm

**'You better not come in
here with that nonsense'
Me coming in with that
nonsense:**



**Thursday
Nar Nar Goon Primary School
11.00am - 12.00pm**

**Hours might differ on
public holidays &
special days.**

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285 issues printed monthly

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NAR NAR GOON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Editor: Joanne Parker

Phone: 0448 533 511

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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	Andrew Rose secretary@narnargoonfc.com	
Kindergarten	Brooke Johnson	5942 1599
BC/AC Landcare Group	Kate Holmes	0412 992 850
Local Councillor	Alanna Pomeroy	0436 353 194
Nar Nar Goon Bingo	Sharon	0417 446 840
NNG History Group	Sue Rose	0421 514 607
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

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

Month	Rainfall 2026			Rainfall 2025		
	Geoff L	Zoe	Geoff B	Geoff L	Zoe	Geoff B
January	8.80	(7.30)	5.80	60.60	41.00	36.00
February	79.60	65.00	76.00	67.60	54.00	77.40
March	101.60	74.00	83.20	72.20	55.00	54.00
April	64.80	40.00	61.80	36.00	35.00	44.00
May				36.40	31.00	20.00
June				74.00	55.00	50.20
July				113.00	91.00	79.20
August				53.60	(53.1)	52.60
September				76.20	55.00	55.80
October				112.80	99.00	100.20
November				227.20	209.00	242.60
December				52.80	26.00	49.40
Total	254.80	186.30	226.80	982.40	804.10	861.40

24 Hour AED + 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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