

NAR NAR GOON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

THE GOON * NEWS

Volume 27 Issue 05

June 2025

NNG Bingo Just Got Sparkly



Come to NNG Bingo and enjoy a sparkly night. Bring your bling to bingo as well as your sparkly friends and have an absolutely fabulous night darling!

The Jackpot has hit a whopping \$2,000 dollars if you bingo on or under 52 calls. Imagine all that sparkly cash in your pocket. BINGO is on EVERY Thursday. See you there! Eyes down 7:30pm.

Nar Nar Goon Township Strategy Survey Reminder!

There is still time to complete the township strategy survey and have some input at this very crucial stage of community consultation. We have some hardcopy surveys at the Posh Op Shop if you prefer to fill one in and make further comment. It comes with a pre-paid envelope. The Progress Association also have some copies. Please get in touch if you need one!

Contact the Goon News or
E: nngprogress3812@gmail.com

NNG RSL EVENTS:

- **Wednesday 25 June 2025 at 11:00am**

To mark the 75th anniversary of Australian service in the Korean War, the Nar Nar Goon RSL will hold a commemorative service at the Nar Nar Goon RSL Memorial Park.

- **Monday 18 August 2025 at 11:00am**

We will be observing Vietnam Veterans Day with a service. Further details closer to the date.

NNG HISTORY GROUP

Next History Group Meeting:

Monday 23rd June, 2pm,
St John's Church and afterwards in the Op Shop Community Centre for a cuppa.

Guest speakers:

Robert and Guido Cerchiaro from Red Gem Growers & Packers in Nar Nar Goon.

NNG Progress Association Meeting:

7pm, Tuesday 24th June

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

All Welcome!

GOON NEWS DEADLINES:

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

Email: goonnews3812@gmail.com

Supported by Cardinia Shire Council



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.



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

GOON'S GOODS

Free sharing station for fruits and vegetables.
You don't need to give to take, help yourself to whatever you like and drop off whatever surplus you have when you have it!

Located at Kindergarten entry.

FUNKYNET

Children's Face Painting and
Temporary Air Brush Tattooing

Lynette Lia

0411 241 849

lynette.lia08@icloud.com



NAR NAR GOON HOTEL

**** 📞 The Nar Nar Goon Hotel ****

**** 📞 Phone: ** 5942 5221**

**** 🌐 Website: ** [www.narnargoonthotel.com.au]**
(http://www.narnargoonthotel.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!

\$3,300 Raised for BMT

Thel's Cancer Council Biggest Morning tea fundraiser held at the St. John's Community Centre on 2nd June was a huge success with large numbers of people supporting the event. Money was raised through a door entry fee, raffles and pre selling of items such as bottled asparagus and jars of golden syrup all adding to the final total of \$3,300 being raised. \$1,000 more than last year.

Thanks to local people and organisations for the donations towards the day. The local sewing group donated beautiful patchwork quilts they had made for the event as raffle prizes.

Thel deserves special thanks for the many weeks of preparation for the event. Sallyann Hart is the Priest of St John's church. She recently took up her appointment at Nar Nar Goon and was warmly welcomed by everyone. Her generosity in allowing the fund raising event to be held in the Community Centre was greatly appreciated.

Thel would particularly like to thank Nar Nar Goon Post Office, the Football club, Nar Nar Goon Take Away and The Butcher and the Chef for their generous donations and support.

Photos: Left, Thel & St. John's Priest Sallyann Hart and right, Thel and her sister who is a cancer survivor.



Nar Nar Goon History Group

Monday 26th May, 2pm, Op Shop Community Centre

Guest speaker: Nick Van Dieman

Topic: Talking about his Dutch family arriving in Australia and settling in this area. It's a good story.



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

EVERY THURSDAY!

Community Hall, Nar Nar Goon (opposite primary school)

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

EYES DOWN at 7.30pm

EVERY THURSDAY!!!

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

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

(Win \$50 or a meat tray from The Butcher With The Chef)

(Win up to \$1000 JACKPOT in the last game)

(Win up to \$20,000 in linked Big Bucks bingo)

(Win \$100 bingo voucher last Thursday of the month)

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

Any Questions call Sharon ph: 0417 446 840

BINGO Gift Vouchers

NNG Progress Association MEETING

Tuesday 24th June

7pm, NNG Community Centre

(behind the Posh Op-Shop)

All welcome!

Contact the NNG Progress Association via email:
nngprogress3812@gmail.com



Nar Nar Goon RSL Sub Branch

To mark the 75th anniversary of Australian service in the Korean War, the Nar Nar Goon RSL will hold a commemorative service at the Nar Nar Goon RSL Memorial Park in town on Wednesday 25 June 2025 at 11:00am.

More than 18,000 Australians served during the Korean War and post-armistice ceasefire monitoring. 340 Australians lost their lives, more than 1,200 were wounded, and 30 were taken prisoner. Of those who lost their lives, 42 have no known grave.

Another 16 Australians died serving in South Korea with the ceasefire monitoring force in 1953-57, and

11 died serving in Japan with base units of British Commonwealth Forces Korea.

Marking this anniversary provides the opportunity to honour and remember the service of all Australian men and women who served in the Korean War, and the sacrifice of their families. We will pay tribute to former member and RAN serviceman Keith Standl (dec), who served on HMAS Tobruk during the Korean War.

We welcome family members of the surrounding areas who wish to attend or lay a wreath to do so on the day.

A reminder also that we will be observing Vietnam Veterans Day with a service on Monday 18 August at 11:00am. Further details closer to the date.

Lest We Forget

NAR NAR GOON RSL

75th anniversary of Australian service in the **Korean War**



Australian Government

Department of Veterans' Affairs

AWM JK0891, AWM P02044.004, AWM P01813.866, AWM 044240.

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Contact me for your free market report



Matt Clark
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REAL ESTATE

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OLD TIME DANCE

Nar Nar Goon North

2nd Saturday of the month

8.00 til 11.30

\$8.50 admission
(includes supper)

5th Saturday if applicable

(ladies please bring a
plate of supper to share)



Live Music
3 piece band

All welcome



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

Enquiries Phone Kaye 0407 343 754



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A big thank you goes out to our
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the Goon News going.

Thinking of advertising??

Contact us on:

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Ladies Of The Swamp Charity Quilting Group

The group commenced in 2019 in response to the Bunyip/Tonimbuk bushfires. Over 100 quilts were donated to that fire relief for those in need of some comfort.

Since then, we have distributed over 1100 Comfort Quilts; recipients being disaster relief both in Victoria and interstate, most recently to the Pomonal Bushfire Relief; ongoing donations to Millhaven Lodge Pakenham, Koo Wee Rup Aged Care, Cardinia Community Care Officer, Shanagolden Aged Care Pakenham and Backpacks4VicKids. Recently we have collaborated with Wombat's Wish (a charity supporting children and their families grieving a death of a parent or carer).

In Cardinia Shire, we give to individuals and families facing life challenging situations and to those in palliative care.

We also provide high quality quilts as raffle prizes to local community groups to assist their fundraising e.g. KooWeeRup Netball Club, Emerald Primary School, Lakeside Residents Group, Cardinia Cricket Club, Pink Ribbon events, Nar Nar Goon Bingo (in support of the McGrath Foundation).

We receive small change grants from the Cardinia Shire and the Bendigo Bank, however we rely on donations of quilting fabric, quilt tops and sewing supplies and our own fundraising to help continue our community outreach.

If you would like to join us, everyone (including hand sewers) is welcome. We meet at the Masonic Lodge Hall, Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup on "Comfort Quilt Fridays" every 2nd and 4th Friday each month from 10am to 3pm.

For more information, please contact Lynne 0417 318 290 or lynne.smythe@gmail.com

Join us on Facebook:

Ladies of the Swamp Charity Quilting Group



Koo Wee Rup Lions Club Biennial Quilt Show Saturday 28 June 2025

at the Koo Wee Rup Community Centre
Cochranes Park, Rossiter Road
10am - 3pm

The Ladies of the Swamp Charity Quilting Group will be there with a fundraising and information table.



Ladies of the Swamp Charity Quilting Group

The Ladies of the Swamp Charity Quilting Group started in 2019 in response to the Bunyip/Tonimbuk bushfires with over 100 quilts being donated for those in need of some comfort.



The group now support many charity groups including Wombat's Wish, Backpacks4VicKids, local nursing homes and aged care organisations as well as community group fundraisers and relief efforts just to name a few.

Donations of sewing supplies, fabric and quilts (both tops and fully completed) are more than welcome.

The group meet up on "Comfort Quilt Fridays" every 2nd and 4th Friday each month. Everyone is welcome (including hand sewers).

For more information, contact:
Lynne 0417 318 290 or lynne.smythe@gmail.com
or join us on Facebook:



Ladies of the Swamp Charity Quilting Group

NNG History Group

Nic Van Diemen was the guest speaker on Monday 26th May, sharing his family story of coming to Australia from Holland arriving at Station pier in Melbourne on 18th November 1954.

Parents, Naantje (now Nancy) and Willem (now Bill) arrived with 7 children - Peter 12, Martin 10, Lia 9, Henry 7, John 6, Nic 4, Bill 1.

After 2 weeks in Bonegilla Migrant camp at Wodonga the family moved to Launching Place and a year later they moved to Lilydale where Dad had a job in a quarry - now Boral. In 1958 they moved to Tynong to share farm. There were many more moves over the years around the NNG/Cora Lynn area and eventually their parents moved to Pakenham.

Bill expected his children to leave school at 14yo to start work. All the family managed to get further education through life after leaving school so young. In 1964 they all gained Australian citizenship, bought new cars and enjoyed the experience of Melbourne winning a premiership flag!

Unfortunately the NNG footy club didn't have room for the Van Diemens so they ventured to Cora Lynn football club where they received recognition by the Herald sun when the 6 boys played in the same team one day!

Today the Van Diemens are a large extended family, enjoying the life that Australia has offered them since arriving from Holland over 70 years ago. The Van Diemen family story will be in the July Goon News. Thanks to Nic and his family for all the research to compile the story.

Meeting update:

Today 30 people enjoyed hearing the Van Diemen story. It was really good to see other members of the Van Diemen family in the audience.

Thanks to those who helped set up all the chairs, particularly Nic who had a range of roles today. Next meeting will be held in the church for the convenience of not settling up chairs. However, afternoon tea will be offered in the community centre behind the Op Shop afterwards. Thanks to Jan and Carmel for organising afternoon tea.

Next meeting is Monday 23rd June in St. John's church.

Guest speakers are Robert and Guido Cerchiaro

from Red Gem Potatoes in NNG.

It was lovely to meet the new Minster at St John's church, Sallyann Hart. We really appreciate her generosity in allowing us to use both the church and the community centre for our meetings.

The Swamp trip is well underway with the planning for Friday 24th October 9:30am to 1:30pm followed by a BBQ at Ambrose Byrnes' property at 370 Convent School Road, Cora Lynn. (He thinks his address should be NNG not Cora Lynn!) Heather Arnold and Gerry Cunningham will lead the tour. The bus will leave from Ambrose's place where we will all park. The NNG Progress Association is subsidising the cost of the bus.

Cost \$15 pp to cover refreshments including lunch. Pay on the day.

Bookings for the swamp trip will open on 9th October (I'll remind you that day) as I'll be returning from Norfolk Island on the 8th October.

Welcome to Jo Cornell, a new face to our meeting today. Thanks to Gerry Cunningham for his recitation of The Ballad of the Drover by Henry Lawson. It was a very fitting poem in light of the current NSW floods.



Light Horse & Field Artillery Museum Needs You!

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

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

Lest We Forget.

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

Edward Dingle

Asset Protection/Project Manager

Light Horse & Field Artillery Museum

www.lighthorsemuseum.com.au

Ph: 0419 400 306

NNG History Group

Family Stories

- Dan and Brydie Cunningham, April 28, 2025

~ written by Pauline Mackinnon (nee Cunningham), in collaboration with Maree Wright (nee Cunningham)

Our Dad, Dan Cunningham, was 3 when his family moved to Nar Nar Goon from Werribee, in 1910. He was born in Werribee where his Dad, Matt, had worked for the Chirnsides, and his family lived in a home on their property. The Chirnside's home is better known as the very stately Werribee Park Mansion. Each Christmas, as a treat, Dad's family, got to enjoy a special visit over to that fancy, big home.

Matt and his wife Margaret came to this area looking for the farming opportunities created by the draining of the Swamp. They began dairy farming at 'Ionavale', on the 8 Mile Road. In all, they had 10 children: Joe, Mary, Jack, Matt, Julia, Agnes, Tom, Vince, Dan, and the youngest child, Brigid, was born at Ionavale. The Swamp was quite boggy in those early days, and Dad spoke of having to wear sugar bags around their feet, to stop from sinking.

Dad's Mum, Margaret, was like an unofficial midwife in the local area. Women were usually not able to access medical care for childbirth in those days, and Margaret became a support person for mothers, bringing them comfort and advice through labour.

Our Mum, Brydie Magrath, also came to NNG when she was 3. Her Grandfather, James Daly, a ganger on the railways, had selected land at Bennett's Creek, near Hazelwood, in 1874. Her Mum, Honora Ellen Daly, known as Ellen, was born in Bennett's Creek, in 1890. Mum was born in the Morwell Hospital in 1912. Mum's father, Tom Magrath, came from Springbank, near Ballarat. Ellen and Tom were married in 1909, in Morwell, and lived at Bennett's Creek until they moved to Mulcare Street, in NNG, in 1915. Tom had been a farmer, a logger, and was a woodcutter, and most likely moved because of the growing timber industry in this area.

Tom and Ellen had 6 children. The eldest, James, died as an infant, then came Patrick, Bridget (my Mum, Brydie), Aileen, Dorothy and Frank. Frank's wife, Maureen, nee Brown, now 88, is the last surviving member from Mum and Dad's generation. Also, Mum always insisted on the correct spelling of their

surname, which was 'Magrath' not 'McGrath'.

There's a tale about Uncle Paddy having a pet kangaroo that used to follow Granma around when she was shopping. One day, a man crashed into an electric light pole when he saw the kangaroo standing on the corner of the street in NNG, waiting for Granma.

Mum and Dad's lives actually follow much of what is the story of the opening up of Gippsland, with new industries developing because of the draining of the Swamp, and the construction of the railway and roads into the whole area. Cemeteries often tell some of the tales of our families, and there's certainly quite an array of Cunninghams, as well as Magraths, and their descendants up at Bunyip.

My Mum and Dad knew each other as children in the same small town. And, from the age of 3, they both lived within a 15km radius of NNG for the rest of their lives: another 71 years for Mum, and 83 for Dad. My brother Peter also lived his entire 77 years in NNG.

They both began school at the NNG Primary School which was south of the township, near Bald Hill Road, at that time. After it burned down, Pop Magrath was very active in the fight to have a new school built in the town. Mum continued in the new school in Carney Street, while Dad attended St Joseph's, Cora Lynn for a few years. It had opened in 1918, and the Cunninghams and the Scanlans had been very active in its establishment.

Dad left school after Year 8, and Mum went through to Year 10 at Dandenong High School, travelling by train each day. Not everyone pursued their education to this point in those days, particularly a woman, and she could have continued much further. Mum was a beautiful and skilful writer, and loved poetry. As time went on, Mum and Dad became firmly committed to the importance of a good education, and did whatever they could to ensure their kids had the chance to complete their schooling, and/or do further studies. After school, Mum worked at Ward's General Store and Drapery on the corner of Main Street and the Longwarry Road. Dad worked on the family farm before becoming a carrier, like his father, and his grandfather before him. His son Peter, grandson Tim, and great granddaughter Jess have continued along the same path. Dad carried milk and potatoes.

Mum and Dad were always very active around the town. They were involved in many community activities, and active in the clubs for tennis, football, basketball (netball), and the famous NNG Race Club. Both of them loved their sport and were very good at it.

family stories cont...

Dad was a highly respected footy player for NNG, and Iona/Garfield. He played with his 4 brothers, and a few cousins in premierships in 1929 and 1930, winning Best & Fairest in 1930. He was invited to play with the Melbourne Football Club in 1931, and played the first game of the 1932 season. Dick Raftis lured him back to NNG, he was made captain, and lead the 'Goon to premierships in 1933 and 1934, taking out Best & Fairest again in '34. Since 2001, The Cunningham Cup is awarded to the winning team of the Cora Lynn / Nar Nar Goon match, and honours the many Cunninghams who have played for each club.

It was Mum's idea to start the first basketball club in NNG, and she captained the first team in 1939. She

worked to establish the West Gippsland Basketball Association, with a bunch of like-minded women from nearby towns who went on to form teams at the same time. In later years it was renamed the West Gippsland Netball Association and continues still today. NNG's A Grade Netball Best & Fairest Trophy is named in her honour.

Mum and Dad became engaged in 1939. They were married at St James Church, NNG, on Armistice Day (Remembrance Day), November 11, later that year, their warmth and generosity becoming a hallmark of their lives.

They had 9 children:

Phonse, Bryan, Peter, Maree, Dan, John, Carmel, Pauline, and Bernard who sadly died as an infant.



Mum and Dad continued to be very dedicated and active around their town, and their actions spoke volumes. They were extremely generous and welcoming people, and made a great team supporting each other. It's what was needed in a growing community, and they were central to its development. They welcomed and introduced newcomers, and were known for helping people in difficulty. They built a broad network of connections in the local area, and assisted people in setting up a farm, a home, or a business.

Their first home was in Main Street NNG, where the first 3 children were born. From there they moved out to a farm on the 8 Mile Road and had the next 4 kids while there.

Then they moved to 'Melrose', in 1954 where the last 2 of us were born, and they stayed there 21 years. It had been Benham's poultry farm on the 7 Mile Road, though Dad chose to milk cows and grow potatoes there.



The kids all attended St Joseph's, Cora Lynn up till the end of Grade 8, taught by the Sisters of St Joseph. Phonse, Bryan and Peter used to ride the one horse bareback to school, in the early days. As the number of children grew, though, they would ride to school in a jinker, and more than a few tales spun around those wheels.

Dad wore quite a few hats in his time. He was a good operator and a good business man. He was a carrier, a dairy farmer; a potato grower; a share farmer; and he recognised a need and became a spud merchant, helping to sell fellow farmers' produce on their behalf. Dad had quite a fleet of trucks by then. His trucks, and the work they did, actually featured in a few of the murals painted around Nar Nar Goon.

family stories cont...

He became a local Shire Councillor for 18 years, was a keen and strong footy player along with his brothers, and was even asked to guard the bank at times. He was a member of the NNG Hall Committee for 25 years, Life Member of Pakenham Race Club Committee, and no doubt sat on various other committees. Mum and Dad were also very involved with their local parish, and remained stalwarts of St James Catholic Church, NNG, all their lives. It was Dad who instigated the program of Planned Giving, needed to support the Parish and its services, and which continues today.

Mum was a key figure in the community efforts that established the NNG Infant Welfare Centre, and Kindergarten. Their story is a rich tale of a community that pulled together and made something important and lasting, and it's a great credit to all those who worked so hard for this little town. Mum kept notes about this project. It includes the list of names of people who made donations: people on whose shoulders we all stand: Chatfield, Deering, Ward, McCutcheon, Dore, Moore, Lowen, Downes, Brown, Cunningham - the list goes on for a number of pages.

The Kinder honoured Mum with a plaque on the flagpole, outside the building.

It says: *'Dedicated to the memory of Mrs Brydie Cunningham whose foresight has been of benefit to all the babies and children of the Nar Nar Goon Community. 1912 - 1987'*

The share farming on Melrose is another special story. When Dutch people began immigrating into the district, Mum and Dad sponsored a fellow named Hank van der Hoef. When the rest of his family joined him, Dad offered for them to become share farmers with us. The Immigration Department subsequently visited the farm to make a film that featured this rather unique development from their program. Growing up, we kind of always felt the van der Hoefs were an extension to our family.

A Danish fellow wandered down our driveway, one day, looking for food or work. His name was Keogh, and Mum and Dad went a tad further and offered him shelter in an old worker's hut from Benham's time. It turned out that he had been a merchant seaman, and jumped ship when it docked in Melbourne. I suppose we'd call him a refugee these days. It didn't matter to Mum and Dad - he was a harmless fella who needed refuge. And he got one. We all have fond memories of old Keogh, delivering Mum's meal of an evening, or just visiting him for a ginger nut, and Melrose remained his home to the end of his days.

During the late 50s, or early 60s a fellow spud merchant and colleague named Bob Barker contacted Dad to speak with him about setting up a factory in NNG, packing potatoes grown at Gembrook and on the Koo Wee Rup Swamp. Dad was a good support when they first established the factory. Uncle Bill Doherty had been driving for Dad at the time, and Dad put Uncle Bill up for a role in this new enterprise, in which he stayed for many years.

The Melrose years were certainly busy years for Mum and Dad. As one, they shared a vision for the good of their family, and the good of their community, and shared the courage of their convictions. Their home was always open to a constant stream of family, friends, and many others.

Everyone was warmly welcomed into their home, and to their table. Over the years, that dear Melrose kitchen hosted quite a crossroads of folk.



Before there were clubrooms at the NNG footy ground, players and supporters would often end up out at Melrose for a get together after a game. Mum would have a big pot of chop suey ready to feed them, and a Chatfield or two, plus Jack McMillan would provide a bit of music for the evening. These nights were great fun.

The new Maryknoll community was getting established just north of NNG in the 1950s, and Mum and Dad soon made themselves known, becoming strong supporters and friends with a number of families. Fr Pooley became a close family friend, and often joined us at the table for Mum's Thursday night stew. Maryknoll families would come to pick fruit from the orchard at Melrose to make preserves for the annual big fete. Mum and Dad always went along to the annual Maryknoll Ball, too. They also assisted the Co-op in acquiring the land for the Hardware and Joinery when their operation moved into NNG.

In 1956, a local colleague, and Berwick Shire Councillor, Dan Kinsella, asked Dad to stand for the

family stories cont...

Iona Riding. He was unopposed, and remained so until he retired 18 years later. Mum and Dad accepted these challenges as they believed that they could help their community, even though it was a particularly difficult time for them having 8 kids, and Mum pregnant with our little brother Bernard.

Throughout this time, Dad officiated over numerous events, attended various Balls and functions, and even a rather formal morning tea at Government House. He was an ongoing voice and strength for the needs of his local community. And Mum remained staunchly at his side, and supported him through it all.

In the early 70s, Dad had a nasty run-in with a bull, and nearly died. Our dear brother John received a medal for bravery for saving Dad from certain death on that day. He grabbed the bull by the horns, and pummelled it in the eye with his fist. This stunned the bull, and gave John enough time to pull Dad back under the fence, and away from the bull.

It took Dad quite a while to recuperate, and get strong, again. His friend, Alan Wason stood up and took his place on Council in the meantime. When new boundaries separated Pakenham from Berwick in 1973, Dad decided it was time for him to retire from Council.

Mum and Dad sold Melrose in 1975 and retired from farming, moving out to the rolling hills of NNG Nth. In their final years, they turned their focus homeward. Their children and grandchildren always took great pride of place in their home and hearts. Both of them were proud of each of us, and loved us all equally.

From their own 9 children, Mum and Dad's family has grown considerably, and now includes 32 grandchildren, 72 great grandchildren, and 2 great great grandchildren.



The Brydie and Dan Clan's Christmas gathering, in 2010

We all feel immensely fortunate to have been blessed with the parents, and family we had, and

the upbringing we all received. The fortune wasn't really in any material sense though. We grew up with a strong sense of loyalty within the family, a deep awareness of helping others, seeing and acknowledging the good work that others do, as well as recognising the unfortunate situations with which some people are faced.

I used to wonder how Mum and Dad managed to nurture such strong values about family and community. In reading over their story, it becomes quite clear. They did it by good example, and hard work, with unwavering love. We all appreciate the love that Mum and Dad lavished on each of us, and they shared that love with all our partners and friends.

In the 80s, a street in Pakenham was named Cunningham Crescent in honour of Dad and his Council service. To us, it's a fitting and proud reminder of Mum and Dad's many years of dedicated service to the people of this community, and the wider district.

With our own parents, and local people such as the Gilmartins, we were able to find incredible role models within the confines of our own little town. We learned and grew crucial values such as family and loyalty, kindness, empathy, and respect for the dignity of others, acknowledging grief, and supporting local businesses. These values certainly make for an incredibly rich and substantial legacy.

NAR NAR GOON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

THE GOON * NEWS



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Goon News
emailed to you?

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goonnews3812@gmail.com

Outlook[®]

COMMUNITY CENTRE

Outlook Community Centre offers a wide variety of programs including:

- Personal Development
- Cuisine
- Computer Training
- Professional Training
- Health and Wellbeing
- Languages
- Supported Classes
- Walking Groups



To see our full program visit our website www.outlookaust.org.au/events/ or drop into the Centre to pick up a brochure. We hope to see you soon!

HOW TO ENROL IN A PROGRAM

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

Midweek Mingle

This group enjoys in-house activities, lunches and visiting local places. The group is open to everyone to attend.

Meetings at Outlook

Wednesdays commencing 23 April for 11 sessions, 10am – 11.30am

Cost: \$6 per session (pay on the day)

In addition - off site outings (cost, dates and times vary)

Scrabble Social Group

Do you enjoy getting the last word in?

Join this friendly group for a bit of healthy competition and get your brain thinking.

Mondays (No session 21 April or 9 June), 1pm - 4pm

Cost: \$6 per session (pay on the day)

Canva - Online Design Made Easy

Free online graphic design platform

Learn to create professional social media posts, business cards, invitations, flyers. Make the most of this attractive platform to utilise for business and personal needs.

Wednesdays commencing 18 June for 2 sessions, 9am - 12.30pm

Cost: \$25

Supported by Learn Local



NATIONALLY RECOGNISED FIRST AID COURSES

Training and assessment provided by Livcor/APL Health - RTO provider No. 3586

Some homework prior to classes. USI number required.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (HLTAID009)

This course provides the skills and knowledge to be able to handle cardiac emergency situations.

Saturday 21 June, 9.30am - 11.30am

Cost: \$70

Provide First Aid (HLTAID011)

This course provides the skills and knowledge required to provide a first aid response, life support and management of the casualties until the arrival of medical or other assistance. Includes CPR.

Saturday 21 June, 9.30am - 2.30pm

Cost: \$175

Provide an Emergency First Aid Response in an Education and Care Setting (HLTAID012)

For educators, support staff and carers working within an education and care setting who are required to respond to a first aid emergency, including asthma and anaphylaxis. Includes CPR.

Saturday 21 June,

9.30am - 3pm

Cost: \$175 per session



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Aged Care Information Session

You are invited to attend an informative session hosted by a Care Connect - Care Finder Program, where you will learn about:

- How to register for aged care services
- The assessment process for aged care services
- The various funding options available to help you continue living at home
- The Care Finder Program – who is eligible and the support it offers

A person must be eligible for government funded aged care and have no carer or support person who can help or assist.

Wednesday 25 June, 10am - 11am

Cost: FREE

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- Do you have a legal issue that you would like some advice on?
- Not sure which is the best way to proceed?
- Expert advice available from local Lawyers.

FREE 15 minute phone appointments.

Bookings essential.

Wednesday 18 June, 5.30pm - 7pm

Please call 03 5940 4728 to book



Open Air Burning

Now that the CFA have declared that the Fire Danger Period has ended, many residents will be eager to resume bushfire fuel reduction works using open air burning after this date. CFA fire danger period declarations can be found <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-danger-period-restrictions>. On 1 July 2022, changes to local laws that may affect you came into effect to zones and days when burning off is permitted in Cardinia Shire. The open air burning provisions are fully detailed in the Cardinia Shire Local Law 20 Open Air Fires which can be downloaded from Council's website: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au. Cardinia Shire is divided into 3 open air fire zones: Urban and Township Zone, Bushland and Peri Urban Zone, and Rural Zone. To check which zone your property is in go to: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/burningoff. Please note: Open air burning is NOT permitted at any time during the month of July each year.

Conditions	Urban and Township Zone	Bushland and Peri-Urban Zone	Rural Zone
Days when fires are permitted. No burning off in July.	Permit required	Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday	Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
Number of fires permitted at any one time.	Permit required	2	2
Minimum distance required from the edge of the fire to any buildings.	Permit required	12 metres	12 metres
Minimum fire break size (an area clear of combustible materials around the fire).	Permit required	5 metres	5 metres
Maximum size of fire (the size of the amount of material).	Permit required	3 metres in any dimension	3 metres in any dimension

All burns, with or without a permit from Council must be registered to Triple Zero Victoria on 1800 668 511 or www.firepermits.vic.gov.au

When do you need a permit?

If your property is in the Urban and Township Zone or you can't meet any of the relevant conditions in a Bushland and Peri-Urban Zone or Rural Zone you will need a Council-issued permit to burn off. You can apply for a permit at no charge. Go to: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/burningoff or by calling 1300 787 624.

Properties in all zones The following conditions must be met at all times:

- No burning on a CFA-declared Total Fire Ban Day or during the fire danger period.
- You must ensure all fires are attended at all times and be able to extinguish the fire at any time.
- No burning on severe weather warning days as issued by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM).

To see the full list of requirements for Open Air Burning go to www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/burningoff

Fire pits, barbecues, pizza ovens and chimineas Properly constructed fireplaces, designed primarily for food and personal comfort, are permitted to be used where they do not cause an unreasonable nuisance and

basic safety requirements are met. More information: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au

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 – Saturday 2, Monday 4 to Saturday 9 August, Future Recycling Transfer Station, 30-32 Exchange Drive, Pakenham, M-F: 7:30am–3:30pm, Sat: 8am–2pm, Sunday: Closed

•Lysterfield - Friday 3 to Monday 6 October Cleanaway Resource Recovery Centre, 840 Wellington Rd, Lysterfield, M-F: 7am-3:30pm, Sat & Sun: 8am-11:30am

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

Peter Benazic appointed to lead Cardinia Shire as interim CEO

Cardinia Shire Council has announced the appointment of an interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to lead Council over the next six months, following the resignation of current CEO Carol Jeffs in April. Peter Benazic will step into the role from 5 June 2025, bringing 27 years of experience in senior roles across a number of Council service areas, and 39 years in the local government sector. In his role as Cardinia Shire's General Manager Infrastructure and Environment, Peter's focus has included the delivery of new infrastructure and major capital works programs, the shire's heritage, natural environment, energy and climate change and the continued maintenance of the shire's roads, drainage, parks and gardens. Peter's qualifications include Senior Executives In State and Local Government Harvard Kennedy School, XLP Executive Leadership Program LGpro, Graduate Certificate of Business Project Management Swinburne University, and Master of Business Administrative Management Victoria University. Peter said he looked forward to stepping into the interim CEO role, working and partnering with Council, staff and the community on finalising and implementing some of Council's key strategic documents, including the Cardinia Shire Council Plan, Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Plan. Peter will take on the CEO role from 5 June 2025, with a permanent recruitment process to commence later this year.

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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
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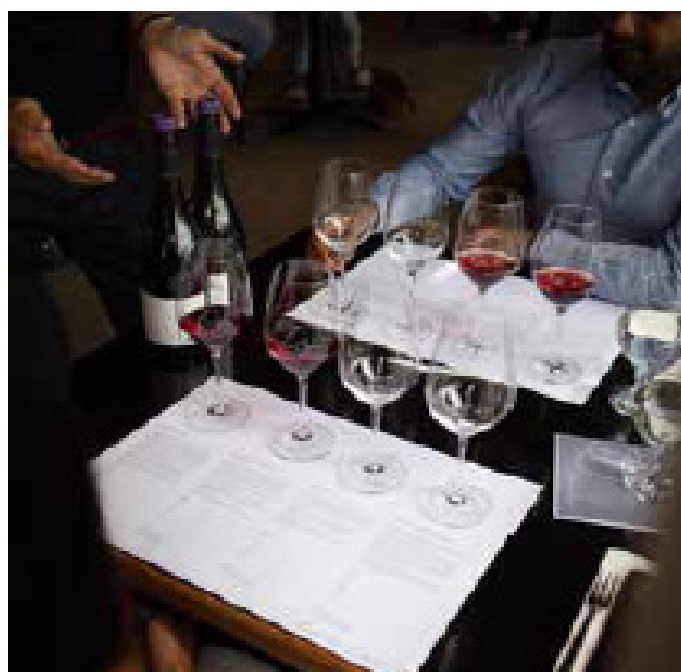
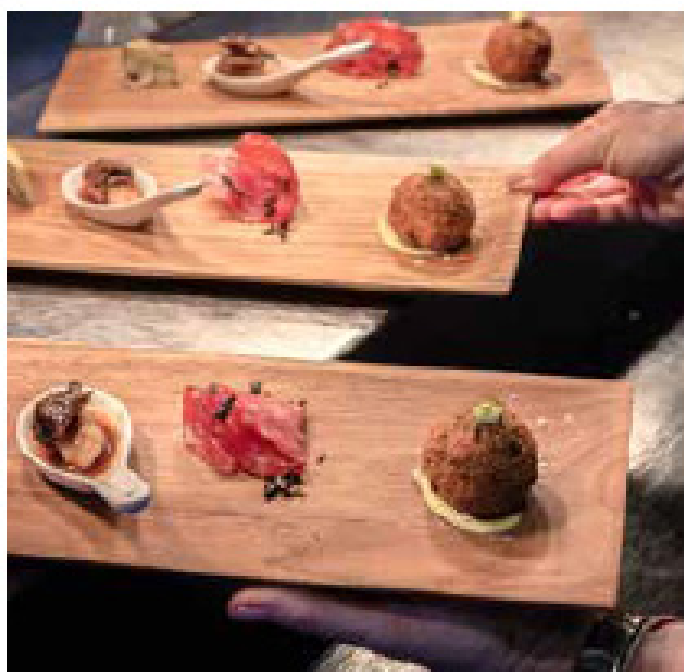
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Community Diary

- **Every Sunday morning:** CFA training
- **Every Monday evening:** CFA training / meetings
- **Third Monday:** Nar Nar Goon RSL Sub Branch meets monthly at the Community Centre at 2pm
- Contact Samantha O'Sullivan on 0419 537 606
- Next meeting: **Contact Samantha for confirmed date**
- **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: **Jun 23, Aug 18, Sep 22**
- **Fourth Tuesday:** NNG Progress Association meet bi-monthly at the St John's Community Centre at 7pm
- Next meeting: **Aug 26, Sep 23, Oct 28**
- **Tuesday fortnightly:** Euchre Club at Community Centre, 8pm
- Contact Jim Chatfield on 5942 5263
- Next meeting: **Jun 3, 17, Jul 1, 15, 29, Aug 12, 26**
- **Fourth Wednesday:** Pakenham Camera Club meets at the Community Centre of Meadowvale Retirement Village, Eagle Drive, Pakenham at 7.30pm
- Next meeting: **Jun 25, Jul 23, Aug 27, Sept 24**
- **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.
- **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: **Jun 14, Jul 12, Aug 9 & 30, Sept 13**
CONTACT INDIVIDUAL CLUBS FOR DETAILS
- Weekly Church Services:**
 - **Sunday:** St John's Holy Eucharist - 10am
St John the Baptist - 9:30am
St Joseph's - 11am
 - **Saturday:** Mass at St. James - 6pm



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285 issues printed monthly

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

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

A bit of publicity goes a long way.

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

We want to get your story told.

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

Don't be Shy!

Every cat owner ever:



goonnews3812@gmail.com
PO Box 153, Nar Nar Goon 3812
Contributions can also be placed in
the box at the Posh Op Shop.

NAR NAR GOON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Editor: Joanne Parker

Phone: 0448 533 511

Email: goonnews3812@gmail.com

Facebook: Nar Nar Goon Progress Association

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

Month	Rainfall 2024			Rainfall 2025		
	Geoff L	Zoe	Geoff B	Geoff L	Zoe	Geoff B
January	154.80	120.00	144.60	60.60	41.00	36.00
February	25.80	22.00	26.00	67.60	54.00	77.40
March	13.00	7.00	10.00	72.20	55.00	54.00
April	144.20	132	126.00	36.00	35.00	44.00
May	39.00	(41.50)	44.00	36.40	31.00	20.00
June	56.20	79.00	38.00			
July	155.40	136.00	138.00			
August	35.00	26.00	16.40			
September	114.00	85.00	91.20			
October	84.80	(75.00)	65.20			
November	57.60	48.80	62.50			
December	44.80	45.60	42.60			
Total	924.60	701.40	804.50	272.80	216.00	231.40

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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	Andrew Rose secretary@narnarfc.com	
Kindergarten	Brooke Johnson	5942 5287
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

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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