

Curios & Curiosities 45 Years as a Collector — Part 8 My Kookaburra Collections by Jenny Scott

I have loved kookaburras since I was a child, when my grandparents in the leafy northern suburbs of Sydney, used to feed them with pieces of steak.

The birds would swoop down from their perch on the swinging clothesline, which was suspended from two poles and fought for the meat, taking it back to the line and “killing” it by thrashing it with their beaks.

In later years, the local kookaburra family’s laugh of a morning in the trees surrounding our house, would be taken as an indication of forthcoming rain.

When I started collecting, kookaburras were an obvious choice and it didn’t take long before I acquired a diverse range of old and newer figures. The opportunity for expansion gained momentum after I opened my first shop, with many chances to purchase more.

As I kept adding to the collection, the need for more shelf space was evident, so both the house and shop became display areas.

By pure coincidence, or maybe not, the old group of buildings in which my shop was housed had previously been named The Kookaburra Emporium. As the name hadn’t been in use for many years, I then pounced on the chance to register it myself, thus giving me more of an excuse to expand on my obsession.

Friends fed my habit, by giving me kookaburra earrings and brooches, most of which I still have to this day.

After expanding the business into the adjacent Australian-themed café and of course adding an Early Kooka stove to the décor, the opportunity arose to purchase the Ice-creamery next door.

This had the most wonderful hand-carved wooden kookaburras surrounding the blackboards and already had the word ‘Kooka’ in its business name. My collection was really at home there and together with the old-fashioned general store theme, it became a tourist attraction in its own right.

I sold the businesses 19 years ago, minus the kookaburras, which came with me in the next stages of my life. Gradually and now regretfully, many were dispersed, due to the temptation of the high prices being attained on internet sales in those early days.

So, needless to say, the compulsion to acquire kookaburras, although remaining dormant for a while, eventually came to the fore once more. I am now more selective in my choices due to the underlying thought that I should be decluttering, however I can justify my vintage kookaburra postcards as they don’t take up too much space. A few others though, such as this reproduction sign and the lovely old cast metal kookaburra on a painted oak plaque, were just too good to pass up. Of course, a true collector will always find an excuse!

photos Jenny Scott



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A0013872F ABN 19299170473
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MEMBER 2020

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Tuesday 9.30am - 3.30pm

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Contributions are accepted up to **4pm on Tuesdays**. Exceptions are made only by prior arrangement, or for important community notices for the *Classified* pages. If in doubt, please ring us before 3pm on Tuesday to avoid disappointment.

All letters, articles and classifieds must contain the author's full name, home address and daytime telephone number.

All un-acknowledged photo/pictures are from stock.

The Welcome Record aims to present the diversity of viewpoints which reflect the concerns and interests of our community. It will not print contributions which are defamatory or being used as an alternative to a personal approach in dealing with a personal issue. The opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of *The Welcome Record*.



I will try not to use the CV word this week.

The Innovations magazine arrived last week trying to convince readers that there are things they cannot live without. The headline on the cover says Unique, Unusual, Different. I think they might be labouring the point a bit. The free gift is stainless steel soap (gets rid of strong smells from your hands). They also have such useful things as a loo light that lights up the bowl when you enter the toilet. Who needs ghosts when they have a gadget like that?

Heard a report on the radio the chimps in Taronga Park Zoo are missing the visitors and are watching out for them. Some wag suggested that the chimps are really missing the entertainment they get from the antics of the humans.

I have found a great way to cook my frozen chips. My microwave oven is also a conventional oven and I use it all the time to cook meals. However this means I can't cook chips at the same time, so I had an inspiration — I cook them in the "George" my electric griller. They come out a bit squashed, but quite crisp

Saw a very sad and dead looking azalea on my way into Woolworths last week. It was still there when I came out so I asked if I could take it home and try to revive it. Rather amused manager said I could. Gave it the old soak in a bucket of water until the bubbles stop treatment. At the moment it is looking rather happier and its future looks a bit brighter. Its name is Charlie — will keep you informed on its progress.

Name that fits the job this week is the Minister for Health in NSW — Mr Hazzard.

Rosie



CATS

There can't be a better life than a cat's — doing what they like, when they like, as much as they like.

Ricardo Philips



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Defibrillators available at —

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 **LETTERS TO EDITOR**

Dear Editor,
 We are all seeing the dire financial effects the current COVID-19 outbreak is having. This is affecting all of us, but for many small businesses which are unable to trade as usual as a result of restrictions and subdued economic activity, things are especially dire.
 Also, for many in the community who have lost work, they may not be able to cover the rent for their homes. This is why I have called for the Andrews Labor Government to provide land tax relief to those property owners who have provided rent relief to their tenants, be they commercial tenants who are struggling with the current economic conditions, or residential tenants who may now be unable to work.
 We have seen moves to provide tax relief to different areas of the economy to keep it going, such as payroll tax relief. While it is of the utmost importance to keep people in work, this is not possible for some people. If those people happen to rent, tax relief should also be provided to them, in the form of an incentive to provide rent relief by reducing a property owner's land tax burden.
 The economic response to this crisis from the Andrews Labor Government has not been as rapid as other responses. Land tax relief for those who are doing the right thing and reducing tenants rent will help landlords and tenants get through this economic and health catastrophe.

Louise Staley MP

Dear Editor

Love conquers all

This is a feel-good story, that simply had to be shared. A beautiful situation unfolded on Saturday 14th March, just prior to the COVID-19 shut down. A very delightful and pleasant 80plus-year-old lady residing in Dunolly, entered the Nik Nak Gallery with her girl friend from out of town. She was under instruction to buy an "engagement ring!" That she did. The directive came from her fiancé in South Australia. After browsing through the selection, to her surprise there was the perfect ring. She placed the ring on her finger, "Oh it fits perfectly!". She now wears it so proudly for everyone to see and she has the biggest smile on her face.

Dunolly resident, name and address supplied



Please Note:

The Dunolly RTC will be closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 7th of April. We are sorry for the inconvenience. Opening hours 10am to 4.30pm.
 The Bendigo Bank agency, in Dunolly, has changed its times to Monday, Thursday and Friday. This change started on Monday 6th April, and will continue until further notice. Opening hours 10am to 2pm.

**RHEOLA CHARITY CARNIVAL INC.
 RAFFLE TICKETS**

It's sad to think that the 150th Rheola Charity Carnival cannot be held on Easter Monday this year. Not only is the carnival a wonderful day out for thousands of people, but the money raised on the day significantly contributes to enhancing the facilities for residents in the Inglewood and Dunolly aged care facilities.

However, the annual raffle will still be drawn on Easter Monday and community members are encouraged to buy tickets. The committee has set up arrangements so tickets can be bought via EFT.

Here are the bank details:

Rheola Charity Carnival Inc.

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Please direct debit into this account with your name and phone number as reference.

Tickets are \$2 each, so you may like to purchase a few.

The prizes are excellent.

First prize: Coles Myer voucher - Value \$450

Second prize: Bunnings voucher - Value \$250

Third Prize: IGA voucher - Value \$100

As you will understand, the Rheola Charity Carnival Committee has costs to cover of about \$1500 that won't be met this year without good raffle ticket sales.

If the raffle is extremely successful, there may be an opportunity for small donations to the aged care facilities.

Happy Easter!

Fiona Lindsay

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Oh, The Mud

Walking the dog is still allowed. My dog is grateful for that. She really loves our daily walks. Sometimes it is only a short stroll, but it can also be a nice long walk over the Humpies, or, if I am particularly fit we can go right out past the Basin and on a few more kilometres. But to be honest it has been a year or two since I have been that far. My knees are such complainers now if I try that.

Anyhow, a couple of days ago we wandered up to the Basin. It was a beautiful autumn day, and even the March flies were too lazy to bite. The dog loves a swim but since the Basin has got so low she does not go near it. So it was surprising to look up and see her standing right on the edge inspecting the stinking mud. Before I could call out she was up to her belly in all that black ooze and was rather offended when I called her back. The smell was horrendous. Usually she likes to keep her distance, sniffing out hidden delights and treats as we go. But that day she kept bumping her muddy body into my legs and jumping up with black oozing feet begging to play with a stick.

I have never understood how a normally well mannered dog loses all their control when things alter a bit. We once had a lovely little terrier who slept contentedly on the floor all year. As soon as the really hot weather hit he had to crawl all over you and curl up on your knee as you were desperately searching the house for any sign of a breeze. This was of course in the days before air conditioning. Another sheep dog we had loved to roll in anything dead in the middle of winter. She hated the cold hose washes but she was definitely not coming into the bathroom smelling like that.

It was a long walk back from the Basin dodging all the potential muddy cuddles the dog was eager to give. She is a very sharing dog and worked out the prevailing wind and made sure I was constantly walking in a cloud of eau de malodorous mud.

There is good pressure in my garden hose and it was really needed to wash the black sticky mud out of her curly coat. It took two very generous applications of dog shampoo accompanied by energetic scrubbing to get most of the mud off. The smell lingered for days. In the end I was not sure if it was still there or if the memory of that awfulness had lodged permanently in my nose.

Right now she is curled up in a chair next to the fire, looking extremely clean, and cute; the smell has gone. Finally, we are friends again.

Vicky Frizzell



This may not be Vicky's dog, but a great representation of a thoroughly muddy dog. Photo credit: <https://www.tes.com/>



Scammers are now trying to exploit Australians financially impacted by the COVID-19 crisis with new superannuation scams being reported to Scamwatch in recent weeks.

Scammers are already trying to take advantage of the Government's recent announcement that people suffering financial hardship can have partial access to their superannuation from mid-April.

"Scammers are cold-calling people claiming to be from organisations that can help you get early access to your super," ACCC Deputy Chair Delia Rickard said.

For most people, outside of their home, superannuation is their greatest asset and you can't be too careful about protecting it.

The Australian Taxation Office is coordinating the early release of super through myGov and there is no need to involve a third party or pay a fee to get access under this scheme.

"Never follow a hyperlink to reach the myGov website. Instead, you should always type the full name of the website into your browser yourself," Ms Rickard said.

Since the Government's announcement in March, there have been 87 reports of these scams, but no reported losses.

In most cases the scammers are seeking to obtain personal information, including information that will help them fraudulently access the victim's superannuation funds.

"While older people are more commonly affected by superannuation scams, the new early-access scheme means a range of age groups are now experiencing these scams," Ms Rickard said.

"We also have reports of scammers offering to check if a person's super account is eligible for various benefits or claiming the new scheme will lock people out of their accounts."

In 2019, Australians lost over \$6 million to superannuation scams with people aged 45–54 losing the most amount of money.

"Never give any information about your superannuation to someone who has contacted you. Don't let them try to pressure you to make a decision immediately, take your time and consider who you might be dealing with. "Be wary of callers who claim to be from a government authority asking about your super. Hang up and call the organisation directly by doing an independent search for their contact details," Ms Rickard said.

If you have already provided information about your superannuation to a scammer, immediately contact your superannuation institution. If you have provided personal or banking details, you should also contact your financial institution.

You can also contact IDCare, a free Government-supported service which will work with you to develop a specific response plan to your situation and support you through the process.

Contact details for IDCare:

Tel: 1300 432 273 or website -

<https://www.idcare.org/contact/contact-us>

More information on coronavirus scams and how to make a report and where to get help is available on the Scamwatch website at:

<https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/>

Stay Safe Online media release



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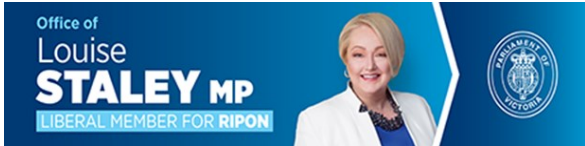
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Staley calls for rates relief for Ripon residents

The Victorian Government should urgently provide council rates relief for residents struggling with the economic effects of the COVID-19 outbreak, said Member for Ripon Louise Staley.

With many rural and regional residents already dealing with higher rates than their Melbourne counterparts, Ms Staley said the economic effects of the current pandemic would hit those outside Melbourne even harder.

“Many people in rural and regional areas have lost their livelihoods or have been stood down from work due to this outbreak. The State Government should step in and support councils to provide rates relief to residents struggling to pay them,” Ms Staley said.

“We also know that local rural and regional councils, like those in Ripon, want to be helping residents and providing essential services. The State Government needs to provide this support so that rural and regional councils and their residents can survive.”

Councils are currently in the process of preparing their budgets for the next financial year. This move would give councils certainty about their financial position at a time of great uncertainty, and enable them to guarantee that they will continue to provide essential services to residents.

This pandemic and its economic outcomes affect all Victorians, not just those living along the tram tracks in Metropolitan Melbourne. Providing rates relief is a meaningful way to ease the strain on rural and regional families who are really struggling.

Louise Staley MP media release
Friday 3rd April

Our meetings have been put on hold for the moment and you can catch up on what we are doing on our Facebook site — search for — Central Goldfields Ratepayers & Residents Assn Inc; or ring on 0419 101 144.

We are looking into several freedom of information requests, as well as The Carisbrook Levee and the Arts register and several other Issues.

Another week into the lockdown period for the Central Goldfields Shire and across our country. The numbers of infections throughout our country is reducing in percentage, however diagnoses are still increasing slightly.

We feel this is attributed to the lock down and so many people doing what they should — social distancing, staying at home and personal hygiene. Well done to everyone for their efforts with that.

CGR&RAI believes number one goal is to stop the spreading of the virus. The unemployment, business closures and restrictions of social gatherings are all part of the after effects from the isolation lock downs — unfortunately necessary if we are to achieve the goal of reducing the number of infections in attempts to stop this virus.

We understand there are many very concerned and uncertain people in our shire at the moment. This we totally understand and that is perfectly normal. However, if we do not stop this spreading we could very well end up like other cities in the world.

Here in the Central Goldfields Shire we are extremely lucky, minimal cases of Covid-19 reported here. On saying that, we need to continue our isolation, distancing and hygiene for a longer period yet. It is paramount the virus is stopped before any restrictions are eased. In the past three weeks we have noticed a lot of families are taking up gardening, cooking more meals at home, and being far more organized with shopping than before. This is a very positive on-flow from this situation. A demonstration of the resilience and determination of all the members of our shire.

We live in a shire where no-one will go without, and seeing already the unity developing throughout our complete shire indicates to us everyone will be looked after. Yes, we all will have to forego some of our luxuries but our families and friends will be by our sides now and once this is over.

Please, if you feel under the pump, concerned or desperate please pick up the phone and call someone. There will always be an answer.

Thank you all for your efforts, we all will get through this together.

Wayne McKail President
Central Goldfields Ratepayers & Residents Assn Inc

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Beware the ships of the desert — An imaginary tale of our times

"Which story would you like to hear?" Alinta asked. The assembled children sat - a jumble of brown arms and legs and mischievous sparkling eyes.

"Auntie, the one about ships and ghosts," one volunteered.

"Yeah!" the other children chorused.

"Very well," Alinta agreed. The little 'uns really took to this tale — part history; part embellishment and allegory; part ghost story.

Alinta commenced, "Once upon a time silver birds carrying hundreds of people criss-crossed the sky. In fact, you could see their wispy white trails in the air from the ground. Even here in our little town on the edge of the Tanami pupayi/desert. It was the time of the Great Plague and very suddenly, neighbour distrusted neighbour and friends and family all stayed away from one another and kept to themselves for ages."

"Oh, Auntie!" the children gasped, despite having heard this story before. The concept of isolation was unthinkable to them. Their community was founded in culture, cooperation and reliance.

"What happened to the silver birds?" one piped up.

"Well, the people worked out that the killing disease was being spread all over the world in that way and because the silver birds were powered by papulanji/white-fella magic, they simply turned them off and they never flew again."

Of course, Alinta had not been born at the time and could only recount what she had been told, as was the custom in their culture. The events she was now retelling had occurred many, many years ago.

"Now, where was I?" she asked. "Oh, that's right — everyone, and I do mean everybody, stayed cooped up and away, afraid of the very air and not willing to share it with anyone. They were wrapped up and by themselves, folded up tighter than the yinarlingi/echidna — with all their defences pointed out toward the world. A long time passed. People were clawing and climbing at the walls that confined them. They gibbered to themselves. A kind of madness prevailed.

Whether it was an effect of the disease or not I cannot tell you. Perhaps it was because many people had lost the ones they loved and had fallen into despondency."

The children were warming to the story now and displayed rapt concentration; picturing scenes well removed from their everyday experiences.

"Then one day the sickness disappeared and people could emerge from their hidey holes at last. It was similar to when the sun peeks out from behind a cloud and everything is bathed in serene light. The people then went insane with joy and because they had been locked away for so long in the cities, they left in droves for the empty spaces where they could see the horizon and feel the wind on their faces. Enormous processions departed the urban areas in fluttering swarms like pama-pardu/flying ants. There were motorhomes; caravans; camper-trailers; pop-tops; tear-drop trailers — all manner of shapes, sizes and colours. Off they trooped into the vast distances between towns. The mighty cities rapidly emptied and have remained silent since. Away they all went in a mass migration.

"Very much like the thousands upon thousands of orange-bellied jirripirdi/parrots which fly across from Lutruwita/Tasmania every year, now that people have gone.

"And which you will see for yourselves when you are older, if you go south from here."

Alinta continued, "The stupendous caravan of vehicles shunned the built-up places, preferring to patrol the edge of the desert where we are. Aimlessly they wandered, never content to stay in one spot and doomed to travel forever. Nose to tail they rolled sedately past and reminded the Warlpiri of the cruise liners of the time. Like the kamurlu/camel, we nicknamed them 'ships of the desert. But our Elders were fearful. We had already barricaded our little town against one disease and we did not want another.

"The wanderers suffered from wapakarra-wapami/wanderlust, the Elders said, and they did not want the young ones to become infected with it. Our Elders did not want that to happen to our people and kept the travellers out."

The children, at this stage, were picturing cruise liners slicing through desert sands, ploughing aside the spiky clumps of spinifex. Others were imagining sad-eyed zombies leering at them from behind portholes.

"Eventually," Alinta went on, "the petrol, water and food all ran out and the caravanners parked up in giant toppled heaps in the middle of nowhere and wasted away. You can still see the rusted and weather-pitted hulks in the far reaches of the desert today. And it is whispered that during karapurda/hot season, if you are very quiet at night, you may hear or glimpse these extinct people as their shades attempt to travel forever onwards. We ask our knowledgeable Juju-ngaliya/Ancestral Spirit Beings to guide them in this respect. So, are you ready for the moral of the story?"

"Yes Auntie!" they exclaimed.

"We, the Warlpiri, in our little town here have seen off all sorts of threats by working together and looking after country. If we care for our kin and country those two things will look after us. So, I ask you — will you look after country and each other?"

"Yes, Auntie. We will!" they thundered.

Story by Martyn Barnet

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**Have Your Say
Draft Community Plans**

As you know we've been working with residents to develop 10 year community plan, which reflect the uniqueness and priorities of the eight communities and districts across the Shire, which include Maryborough, Bealiba, Carisbrook, Dunolly, Talbot, Majorca, Bet Bet and Timor. The Project is funded by the Australian Government's Building Better Regions Fund.

Over the last six months, 1035 community members have contributed to the project via listening posts, a survey, drop-in sessions, roving interviews, focus groups, children's drawing activities and community workshops. Thank you to everyone who have so far contributed to these plans. The eight Draft Community Plans are now available for residents to view and provide feedback. Feedback is required via an online survey by Wednesday 8th April, 2020.

To view the Draft Plans and complete the online survey visit: www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay

Many of the community plans highlight the importance of community transport and so we'd also like to invite you to provide feedback on our Integrated Transport Strategy.

Council has partnered with the Victorian Government Department of Transport to develop the Strategy which will identify access and transport needs across the municipality and determine issues and opportunities with various modes of transport.

The Strategy will also identify the current ways our community accesses the various key destinations and how transport options could be improved.

Feedback is required by Friday 29th May, 2020 and is invited via our online survey. Written feedback can also be provided by emailing:

strategicplanning@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

There is also a colouring in competition for children available here where children can tell us how they get to school. The entries will be displayed on the Central Goldfields Shire Council Facebook page.

You can post your entry to — Attention Strategic Planning, PO Box 194 Maryborough VIC 3465 or email us at: strategicplanning@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

For more information on the Integrated Transport Strategy please contact our Strategic Planner Amy Bell on:

Tel: 5461 0685 or by email at:

strategicplanning@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

Council announces financial support measures

Central Goldfields Shire Council developed a financial response package to assist local businesses and the community with the impact of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic.

Central Goldfields Shire Chief Administrator Noel Harvey said Council was committed to doing what it can to support the local community during this unprecedented time.

"We know our local businesses and community are doing it really tough right now and it's essential for us to do what we can to alleviate that financial pressure.

"As a Council we will continue to support our community and local businesses as much as we can – we're hopeful that these measures will provide some immediate support to recognise this."

The following measures will be in place until 30th September 2020 and will be reviewed again at that time:

Ratepayers experiencing financial hardship

- Suspension of all current debt recovery action
- New COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy
- Extension of rate payments to 30 September 2020 with no interest

- Waived interest on overdue rates and waste charges from 16th March 2020
- Waived pet registration fees (pets must still be registered by 10th April 2020)

Business support

- New COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy will also apply to businesses
- Payment of local suppliers weekly to improve business cash flow
- Waived rent for businesses occupying Council buildings and facilities
- Dedicated business contact officer within Council
- Dedicated COVID-19 business support page on Council's website with link to local employment opportunities:
- www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/covid-19
- Access to Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry support in partnership with Committee for Maryborough Permits
- Extension of expiry dates for septic, building and planning permits for 12 months at no cost.
- Refund of permit fees for events and business activities that have been cancelled or closed as directed by Government Community support
- Waived rent for all occupiers of Council buildings and facilities
- Waived building or planning permits fees under Council's Community Support Policy
- Additional parking enforcement around MDHS to support health workers/patients
- Dedicated COVID-19 information page on Council's website – www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/covid-19

Capital works

- Council will continue works as scheduled to maximise local business and employment opportunities. Council is working to get these measures ready for implementation as soon as possible.

If residents have any enquiries, or require any further information our team will be ready to assist from this Monday 6th April 2020.

The COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy will also be available to view on Council's website on Monday, 6th April 2020.

COVID-19 Coronavirus Community Information

Our priority continues to be the safety and wellbeing of our community, volunteers and staff.

We have adapted the delivery of our services to minimise the risk of infection and transmission of the virus.

For more information on these altered services please refer to our dedicated full page ad in Tuesday's edition of The Maryborough District Advertiser, and on page 10 of this paper. You can also find up-to-date information on Council service changes on our website:

www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/covid-19 and Facebook and Twitter accounts.

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Health Advice

For the latest and most up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 visit: www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

If you cannot find the information you are looking for on this website, please email:

Infectious.Diseases@dhhs.vic.gov.au

As a last resort, please call the dedicated hotline on:

Tel: 1800 675 398.

Influenza vaccination information

We're receiving lots of calls about when is the best time to get your annual influenza vaccination. To be protected for the peak flu season you should get your vaccination from mid-April onwards. They are now available.

CGSC News

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CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS SHIRE COUNCIL COVID-19 UPDATE

The COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic situation continues to change rapidly and our priority is the safety and wellbeing of our community, volunteers and staff. The delivery of our services have been adapted to minimise the risk of infection and transmission of the virus. Face-to-face interactions have been restricted where possible, with Council staff still available via phone and email.

CHANGES TO COUNCIL SERVICES AND FACILITIES

The following buildings are closed to public access. Services are still available by phone and email as outlined below:

Customer Service Centre

- 5461 0610 (Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 5pm)
- mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au
- Online: Faults can be reported via our free Neat Streets App (downloadable from your phone's App Store. Report a street or road issue, graffiti, hazard, damage, litter, potholes, signage, street light or even parking related issue direct to our works team.

Visitor Information Centre

- Maryborough
- 5460 4511
- visitorinfo@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au

Maryborough Regional Library

- 0427 686 827 (Monday to Friday from 10am to 5pm)
 - maryboroughlibrary@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au
 - Or inbox the Maryborough Regional Library Facebook page.
- All Central Goldfields Library due dates have been automatically extended and no fines will be administered during the closure. This includes both Maryborough and Dunalley libraries.

Central Goldfields Art Gallery

- 5460 4588
- mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au

Community Hub

- 5461 0610
- mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au

Central Goldfields Youth Hub

- 5461 0610
 - mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au
- Please note that the Engage! School Holiday programs will not run.

Maryborough Sports and Leisure Centre

- 0418 515 793
- info@mslc.com.au

Tullaroop Leisure Centre

- 5461 0610
- mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au

Depot

- 5461 0610
- mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au

Immunisation (school program and flu)

- 5461 0610
 - mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au
- We're receiving lots of calls about when is the best time to get your annual influenza vaccination. To be protected for the peak flu season – which is generally from June to September – you should get your vaccination from mid-April onwards. Pregnant women should receive the vaccine at any stage during pregnancy. We'll communicate information about our influenza vaccination program in the coming weeks.

Statutory Planning and Building Services counter service

- 5461 0610
 - mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au
- Planning permit applications can be submitted via email mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au or sent by mail to PO BOX 194, Maryborough, Victoria, 3465. You will receive a letter of receipt of your application. Application payment can be made in cheque with the application or credit card (once your application has been assigned to an officer).

Building permit applications and any additional information that you wish to submit in support of a building application can be submitted via email mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au or sent by mail to PO BOX 194, Maryborough, Victoria, 3465. You will receive a letter of receipt of your application. Application payment can be made in cheque with the application or credit card (once your application has been assigned to an officer).

Building inspections will be made via appointment and staff will follow social distancing guidelines.

Pound

- 5461 0610
 - mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au
- The Pound is open by appointment only. Animal collection and enquiries regarding adoptions can be made by calling or emailing. Payments for animal collection and adoption can be made via credit card.

The following facilities remain open but with some changes:

Goldfields Family Centre

- Phone: 5461 6500
 - Email: goldfieldsfamilycentre@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au
- Long Day Care at the Goldfields Family Centre and Family Day Care continue to operate with additional safety measures in place.

Maternal and Child Health

- Phone: 5461 6550
 - Email: goldfieldsfamilycentre@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au
- All Maternal and Child Health Key Ages and Stages consultations will be conducted via teleconference unless families are otherwise notified. All Immunisations as per the National Immunisation Schedule will be administered as per prior appointment with additional COVID-19 screening measures in place.

Aged Care and Disability Services

- Phone: 5461 0610
 - Email: mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au
- All Council home care, personal care, respite, meals on wheels and home and property maintenance services are being provided at the normal service level at present. Extra precautions have been implemented for the health and safety of our clients and staff. Any changes to service levels will be individually discussed with clients.

Waste Collection and Transfer Stations

- Kerbside waste collection services continue as normal. Council's Transfer Stations remain open. The tip shop at the Carlsbrook Transfer Station has been closed. Phone: Veolia 5456 2500 or email: waste@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au

Public Toilets

- All public toilet facilities are open with the exception of:
 - Dunalley – Gordon Gardens
 - Carlsbrook – Market Reserve
 - Maryborough – Bristol Hill, Princess Park, and Community Hub

The following activities are no longer operating but staff are still available via phone and email:

Supported Playgroup

- Phone: 5461 6500
- Email: goldfieldsfamilycentre@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au

Social Support Groups

- Phone: 5461 0675
- Email: mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au

L2P Learner Drive Mentor Program

- Program suspended but still taking registrations from young people and volunteers via phone 5461 0610 or email mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au

Road Trip Program

- Program suspended but still taking registrations via phone 5461 0610 or email mail@cgoldfields.vic.gov.au

The following facilities are now closed to the public:

Playgrounds and Skate Parks

- All playgrounds and Skate Parks in the municipality are now closed until further notice as part of the Federal Government restrictions.



We thank the community for their understanding during this time.

For the most up-to-date information on Council service changes visit our dedicated COVID-19 page on our website www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/covid-19 or follow us on Facebook @CentralGoldfields and Twitter @CG_Shire



No services at any churches until further notice due to the coronavirus issue.

Catholic Church

Easter Sunday on TV — Prime7 (channel 6) will be broadcasting the following:

Good Friday — Service at 3pm.

Easter Sunday — Mass at 10.30am.

These will be commercial free.

The Catholic Church in Australia will be having daily Mass and prayers at: <https://catholic.org.au/prayathome>

I hope this information will help make Holy Week and Easter more normal.

A happy and holy Easter to everyone (don't eat too much chocolate to make up for Lent).

R Mecredy

Uniting Church

Today and tomorrow

Look to this day. In it lies all the realities and verities of existence, the bliss of growth, the splendour of action, the glory of power. For yesterday is but a dream and tomorrow is only a vision.

But today, well-lived makes every yesterday a dream of happiness and every tomorrow a vision of hope.

~a Sanskrit proverb~

Remember Rev Gordon Wild can be contacted on Tel: 0413 455 856 if you would like some help or guidance.

Jean Richardson

St John's Church

Church services have been suspended for the time being.

At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2.10-11

Esmé Flett



MAYORAL COLUMN

Loddon Shire COVID-19 updates

As we move into Stage three restrictions. I can't emphasise enough how important it is everyone stays at home unless absolutely necessary. This is essential to reduce the risk of infection from COVID-19 and also to slow the spread of the virus.

This means working or studying from home, only going out to purchase essential items or for vital medical appointments. We all need to do our part to help keep Loddon Shire as free from coronavirus as possible, and in so doing, protect our family and friends.

People are still encouraged to exercise; going for a walk is allowed, but social distancing needs to be maintained. No more than two people are permitted to gather in public, unless they are members of your own household. Parks, playgrounds, outdoor gyms and skate parks are also now closed.

Even though we have to maintain our physical distance, we should make sure that we remain connected as a community. There are many ways to do this including phone calls, social media and email. Check in with vulnerable members of our society to ensure they are not suffering from isolation and have access to food and medication.

The Federal Government has announced evictions will be put on hold for six months. Landlords and renters are encouraged to talk about short term agreements for commercial and residential tenants facing financial hardships. Consumer Affairs Victoria has a specific webpage for inquiries: <https://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/resources-and-tools/advice-in-a-disaster/coronavirus-covid19-and-your-rights#renting>

Council is committed to ensuring the delivery of essential services and has a dedicated page with all of the latest updates and links, including links to Government announcements: <https://www.loddon.vic.gov.au/covid-19> Community care services such as meals on wheels, home-based care and Maternal Child Health services are running with modifications to protect clients and staff.

Support from the Victorian Governor

On behalf of the Hon Linda Dessau, Governor of Victoria, I would like to pass on a message of support to the people of Victoria. In the wake of the Victorian bushfires and now COVID-19, the Governor acknowledges the far-reaching effect of our current health challenge. She urges us to support each other as our opportunities for social interaction are diminished.

"I encourage you to check on family, neighbours, the elderly, workmates and anyone who might be alone or doing it tough. Physical distance need not mean social isolation. Let's keep working on creative ways to keep in touch with each other."

You can read the full message on our Facebook page or in the "News" section of our website. If you would prefer to listen, you can hear the message on Wedderburn Visitor Radio station: <http://wedderburnradio.com.au/>

Sustainable Communities - Tidy Town Awards

Sustainable communities are socially strong, constantly taking action and planning ahead. The Sustainable Communities - Tidy Town Awards for 2020 seeks to reward community groups, educational institutions, businesses and councils across rural and regional Victoria which have made a major contribution to building the wellbeing and resilience of their communities.

The categories for this year's Sustainable Communities - Tidy Town Awards include: Education, Energy, Litter, Waste, Environment, Indigenous Culture, Heritage and Culture, Community, Social Wellbeing and Young Legends.

To nominate, visit <https://awardsonline.net.au/2020/tidytowns/> Entries close on 1st May 2020.

Mayoral Column 6th April 2020



More stories from Cynthia's Willy Waistcoat Saga

Last time we caught up with Billy and his friend Bryan, they were heading for Sydney to face the music at the Immigration office for jumping ship, and hopefully getting passports. Then they could return to Daydream Island to meet up with Bernie Eley on his yacht to continue crewing for him. On the way there they heard that the Westgate Bridge under construction had collapsed and they were very concerned for some of their friends who had been working on the bridge. However, after a few phone calls Billy was reassured that none of the casualties had been friends. Billy placed that year as being 1970.

Arriving in Sydney they needed a place to stay so they found the Seamen's Home in George Street., and it was only five pounds a week .They were given a two bed room with Billy using the roller bed. In the morning his back was covered with itchy bites as it seemed the mattress was alive with bed bugs. After arranging for a new mattress they set off for Immigration. They were told that it would take two or three weeks to make a decision, so to keep ringing in until then. Billy told Bryan they would have to find work and luckily they got a job painting a garage at Kings Cross. The boss asked them if they could sandblast and since they could they were given more hours working at night. By the time they finished work it was nearly 11pm and when they arrived back at the Sailors Home it was locked up tight. They rattled the door and old Bill came out and told them they were too late to get in. Billy asked him for suggestions and Bill directed them down the street to a big brick wall which he told them was the Morgue. He said if they followed the wall around they would see a

ladder propped up under a window and that was the way to get in when you were late. Billy said it was lucky they weren't drunk but they managed it easily. Every day they called Immigration with no news .

After a week of waiting, on the Friday night Billy suggested they wander over to the pub across the road and have a beer.

When they went in they heard a piano and the pianist was playing some very lively music. Billy and Bryan were wearing their white seamen's tee shirts and deck pants and then a man a bit older than them came in wearing the same gear. "Wow," said Billy, "he must be a seaman too." He came over to Billy and said, "Do you think they'd let me play something?"

"Yes, go for it," said Billy, thinking he doesn't look much like a pianist. When he started to play he brought the house down. He was brilliant and the whole pub stopped to listen. After he finished Billy, still thinking the man was a sailor, joined him at the bar and asked him where did he learn to play like that because it was amazing.

The reply nearly floored Billy. "Oh I am a professor of music at the university."

Another week went by and on the Sunday Billy suggested that he and Bryan go and watch a movie. They wandered off down George Street and saw theatre lights, so queued up for tickets, wondering what film was on. They were a bit puzzled by the formal dress worn by the crowd, men in bow ties and tuxedos, ladies in glamorous gowns. The two men thought Sydney people certainly dressed up for the movies and got a few stares at their casual jeans and tee shirts. .continued on page 13



Former Sailors Home 106-108 George Street. Photo taken on 1st January 1970 by Tim Collis-Bird. Photo credit: Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority



Sailor's Home, The Rocks
Picture source: <http://visitsydneyaustralia.com.au/sailors-home.html>



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During this current crises we will be operating a delivery service for food and alcohol within a 15km radius of the pub.

The service will be —

Lunch 12-2pm

Wednesday to Saturday

Dinner 6-8pm

Monday to Saturday



Please call to place an order

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...continued from page 12

They were shown to their seats and then music started, which was a bit puzzling, then the curtains opened and out pirouetted a bevy of ballerinas in tutus. "My God," cried Billy, "We've come to the Ballet. Let's get out of here." Such a philistine, our Billy.

Another week went by and still their application hadn't been processed and Billy was itching to get back to Daydream Island. Who wouldn't!

On the following Saturday night the two mates went to the pub and went home early. At 4am there was a knock on the door and when Billy opened it there were two Commonwealth police who had come to arrest them.

Billy mentioned he had a car outside and was told to get rid of it. He called Bill out and asked him to help empty the car which was full of camping gear and prospecting implements and lots more. Then Billy said to Bill "Happy birthday, son, it's all yours." He was then asked what he intended to do with the car and Billy said he would have to give it away but the policeman said that instead they would sell it and send the money back to him in England because he was being deported.

That is a sad ending to all Billy's Aussie adventures but never fear, more good things are going to happen.

Cynthia



Our hours have been changed due to the Covid-19 Virus. We will be open Monday, Thursday and

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Drop into your nearest branch at 81 High Street Maldon - ph 5475 1747 or our agencies at Dunolly RTC - ph 5468 1596 or Newstead RTC - ph 5476 2014 to find out more.



Maldon & District
Community Bank® Branch



bendigobank.com.au/maldon

Temporary change of days Until further notice

Our new hours at Dunolly are:

Monday, Thursday and Friday
10am - 2pm

Our Maldon branch at 81 High Street is open:
Monday to Friday 9.30am - 5pm
Saturday 9am - 12pm
Call 5475 1747 to make an appointment

Thank you for your understanding and support

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Louise Staley MP

MEMBER FOR RIPON

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LouiseStaley.com.au

Authorised by Louise Staley MP, 177 High Street, Maryborough. Funded from Parliamentary budget



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CLASSIFIEDS & NOTICES



GLOURY: Nancy Margaret
 Passed away peacefully at the Avoca Nursing Home on Monday 6th April, 2020. Aged 85 Years.
 Loved wife of Peter (dec). Dearly loved mother, mother in law, grandmother and great grandmother of Ann; Doug and Rhonda, Jade, Craig, Millie, Oscar, Annabel and Piper; Colin and Judy, Shelby and Nick, Ashlen and Scott and Lolly; Denise and Terry.
 Loved Daughter of Mary and Arthur Watts (both dec)
 Sister of Eddie, Len, Betty, Norman (all dec) and Ernie Watts.
 "Families are everything. Always in our thoughts and hearts"
 We will miss you.
 A Private Family Funeral has taken place.
 Phelan Funerals

Words in Winter
 Head office decided last week that the festival will not go ahead this year due to the COVID-19 safety guidelines. Seeing it is 10 years for our region, we hope to have a marker of that in each town, depending on the rules in place then. Will keep in touch, kind regards.
 Monika Roleff
 Words in Winter Area Co-ordinator
 Maryborough Region

FOR RENT
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 5460 5605
 5461 2369
 Mobile 0418 995 424**

Tarnagulla & District Golf Club Inc.



POSTPONMENT OF GOLF EVENTS

GREENSKEEPERS' EVENT:

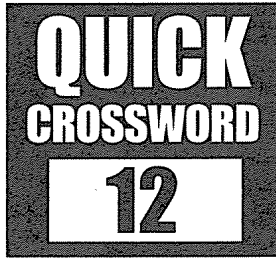
Saturday 28th March 2020

EASTER CUP EVENT:

Saturday 11th April 2020

We are all sorry, but due to the Coronavirus, we are postponing these two events this year. We want our members, friends, supporters and families to be safe from any chance of exposure to the coronavirus. We shall let you know when organised events will resume.
 However, the golf course itself is open and you are able to play golf at the club any day in the fresh air. Just come along and play when you feel like it.
 Our best wishes to you all. Mary McNamee, Secretary

Supplied courtesy : The Puzzle Wizard



- 34. Of the mouth
- 35. Playing card with one spot
- 36. Destroy
- 37. Vessel for warming drinks
- 40. Interjection of welcome
- 41. Five-time world drivers' champion, Juan _____
- 44. Having people aboard (of spacecraft, eg.)
- 46. Lively
- 47. Make certain
- 48. Abounding in H₂O
- 20. Force back
- 21. Warm coat with hood
- 22. Redeem oneself
- 23. Madagascan tree-dwelling primate
- 28. Solid foot cushion
- 29. Resort city of southern France
- 32. Subtle difference
- 33. Popular summer sport, _____ cricket (3-3)
- 38. One row (of series)
- 39. Series of facts
- 42. Wildebeest
- 43. Mineral in ground
- 44. High-pitched cry of cat
- 45. Louse egg

Across

- 1. Distinct element (of discussion topic, eg.)
- 6. From side to side of
- 11. Not aware (of)
- 12. Tasty morsel
- 14. Having small hollows (like golf ball, eg.)
- 16. Pixie
- 18. Fixed routine
- 19. Aspersion
- 21. Variety of legume
- 23. 1990s president of Poland, _____ Walesa
- 24. A narrative
- 25. Creation of works of beauty or significance
- 26. Australia's largest lake
- 27. Do
- 28. Rate of movement
- 30. Aust. rugby champion, _____ Catchpole
- 31. Fail to follow the usual rules, be a law _____ oneself

Down

- 1. Affirm to be true
- 2. Amount which fills cooking vessel
- 3. Period of decline
- 4. To trim by cutting
- 5. Small energetic bird
- 6. To help
- 7. Round money piece
- 8. Flavour used in ice-cream and other sweet dishes, _____ and raisin
- 9. Fish-eating bird
- 10. Manual grass-cutting tool
- 13. District on NSW south coast
- 15. Producing excellent profits
- 17. Faultless

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The Bendigo Bank — Supporting our customers and community

2020 has certainly raised many challenges so far. Our communities are grappling with the impact of these unprecedented times and also rising to the occasion with many acts of generosity and kindness.

As we feel the impact of COVID-19 in our community, please know that the Maldon & District Community Bank is here for you.

Our Dunolly Branch remains open but we've made some temporary changes. The Dunolly Branch is now open Monday, Thursday and Friday 10am to 2pm. We recommend you to call us on 5468 1596 before visiting to see if we can assist you over the phone.

It's business as usual at the Maldon Branch. The branch at 81 High Street is open Monday-Friday 9:30am to 5pm and Saturday 9am to 12pm.

We encourage you to call the branch on 5475 1747 for assistance. If you do need to see us in person, call to book a time, only come in if you're feeling well and practise safe distancing. We've taken extra steps to sanitise our branch, and we're practising social distancing whilst continuing to deliver you great customer service. Thank you for your understanding and support.

The Bendigo Bank Customer Team is also available to assist over the phone seven days a week, from 7am to 11pm, on 1300 236 344.

If you're affected by financial hardship please call our Maldon Branch on 5475 1747 or Bendigo Bank's Mortgage Help Centre on 1300 652 146. For more information or updates visit: www.bendigobank.com.au/help/coronavirus-assistance-package/
 Karly Smith, Executive Officer

Solution for No. 11

S	O	U	T	H		H	Z	E	P	P	O	
C		S	A	U	S	A	G	E	R		V	
O	C	H	R	E		R	A	L	I	V	E	
F	L	E	E		I	T	A	L	I	C	R	
F	A	R		F	R	O			N	E	S	T
	P		R	E	I	G	N		E		Q	
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T	O	R	T	E		E		P	E	R	I	L

Take these off your calendar for coming months 2020

- April 9-13, Maldon Easter Fair — most events cancelled.
- Tower lighting, Beehive Chimney outdoor Good Friday service and Easter Raffle still going ahead
- April 10, Bendigo Football Netball League 2020 season — postponed until May 1st
- April 10, MCDFFNL 2020 season — postponed
- April 10-13, Easter Rainbow Regen event — postponed
- April 13, Rheola Charity Carnival — cancelled.
- April 14, RSL AGM's cancelled until further notice.
- April 15, Goldfields Police Service Area Community Safety Forum — postponed
- April 18, Pyrenees Unearthed Wine and Food Festival — postponed until April 17, 2021
- April 19, AFL Goldfields Women's league 2020 season — postponed
- April 25, Maryborough Anzac Day service — cancelled
- May 2-3, Clunes Booktown Festival — cancelled
- August, Words In Winter — cancelled and will be rescheduled for 2021

Editor's Note: Please ensure you check with organisations, clubs and events organiser prior to attending. Everything is constantly changing and may have been decided after print date.

Bears popping up all over — and not just in Dunolly

Bear Hunt

One very cute and cuddly community activity is aiming to make social isolation a little bit more bearable for local kids.

If you go out in Maryborough today you could be in for a big surprise as a teddy-bear hunt gains traction in windows all around the district.

Currently, government recommendations state outdoor walks are okay as long as it's either solo or with those who live in the same home and social distancing of 1.5 metres is maintained between people met along the way.

In the theme of the famous children's book *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, teddy bear hunts have popped up around the state as an activity for kids doesn't break social distancing rules.

There are many houses locally which have put a bear out which can be seen from the street and kids and their families are encouraged to count how many they see out and about.

Local Thelma Herbertson has a teddy in her front window as part of the hunt and encourages others to do the same. "Because children can't go to the playground anymore, people have been putting a teddy bear in their window. It's a bit like a game or a hunt to count how many they can see," she said.

"I think it's a nice and happy thing to do during this time. I've put one in my window and I hope others will do the same."

A public Facebook group named "Maryborough & surrounds Vic bear hunt" has come together online to create an itinerary of houses to walk past with more than 40 addresses now on the list including areas such as Raglan, Hoskin, Barr, Napier, Laidman and Gillies streets in Maryborough with a few also peering out from the curtains in Carisbrook and Daisy Hill.

Courtesy of *The Maryborough Advertiser*
Article by Ashlyne McInnes

(Editor's note— And now in Dunolly as well.)



With help from her mum, Maddyn has decorated the front porch of her Maryborough home in the spirit of a local teddy bear hunt.



There's a bear in there, they may be easy to see
Go for a walk along the streets of our town
Look in windows, boxes, or who knows where they'll be
Keep on searching, as there are plenty to be found

Bears are wonderful symbols of hope and joy
Reminding us to be playful, even in times of stress
For adults and children alike, bears are everyone's toy
Good to cuddle when the world feels a mess

If you haven't already done so, put one in a safe place
Bring some pleasure, for those who are out and about
Spying one will bring a smile to your face.
Relieving some tension, I have no doubt

Any bear — colourful, plain, dressed — all will do
Brown, black, cream coloured or even red
Old, ragged, loved-to-bits, recently found or new
A bear aids a healthy recovery, I have heard said.

Em



The Railway Hotel in Dunolly, doing their bit for 'We're going on a bear hunt' activity, which is growing across the globe.