Greetings.

Where has this year gone it only seems like yesterday I was wishing you a happy Easter and now it’s time to wish you a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Although it doesn’t look like there has been much activity happening with the new extension to the building believe me there has been a lot happening behind the scene, drawing up new plans, consulting with Engineers, material suppliers etc. as well as attending meetings with TRC representatives Building Inspectors, Parks & Gardens Town Planning etc. then lodging the DA with TRC. Although we had hoped to make a start on construction this year it will have to wait till next year for it to happen our aim is to complete the project by June all going well, we believe this to be an achievable date.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Moonbi Museum committee for their support and all the work that they have done throughout the year, without their efforts we would not have been able to maintain the high standard we have been able to achieve, it certainly has been a very good result.

Bill Humphrys. President

---

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Editorial

Hello everyone

As 2017 draws to a close it is time to recap on the year that was and think about the Christmas season just ahead.

Over the past twelve months we have had fluctuating fortunes with our weather patterns, with both good rains and drought- the weather always gives us something to talk about doesn’t it?

There have been upheavals on both the national and world political fronts, good news stories and bad ones in our newspapers, and possibility of ups and downs in our own lives. But now is the time to look ahead with optimism and faith...a time to not stress too much about Christmas, but enjoy all the end of year school functions and parties, catch up with family and friends and relax and recharge our batteries. Just hope we can follow our own advice!

And now we would like to thank everyone who has helped bring this newsletter to you over the past year- The Tamworth Regional Council (especially Jodie), our local schools and churches and district organisations, our fellow members of the museum committee and you, our readers, for your feedback, suggestions and encouragement.

Remember we are a community newsletter and we need your inputs. The closing date for March 2018 edition will be mid-February.

Meanwhile we wish you the joys of the season

...and happy reading

- Joy Ballard 67603170
- Lee Rodger 67603993

please send emails to lroder5@bigpond.net.au
MOONBI MUSEUM COMMITTEE

Our Flagstaff Garden Party was held on Saturday October 14, 2017 in the magnificent gardens at the home of Norm and Pam Vincent. What a beautiful setting – and what a great day everyone had. The weather was kind and although it was a very busy weekend throughout the region it was well attended. I must make mention of the splendid morning tea on offer. Not a calorie in sight – I’m joking aren’t I? Thank you to all who supported our day and a big thank you to Norm and Pam for opening their garden to us.

As you know we are still fund raising to complete the museum building project – hopefully some time in 2018. This will be followed by a special “opening” day later in the year.

President Bill will have told you the status of the building project and other matters of interest.

On Sunday 22nd October 2017 there was a Gathering at the Museum of 13 persons interested in the early history of Moonbi, Kootingal and environs. This was not a meeting as such but a get-together to discuss, obtain and elaborate on past history of the area. The mandatory afternoon tea was enjoyed by all.

NOTICE. A GATHERING IS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY 11TH MARCH 2018 AT THE MUSEUM AT 1.30 P.M. Purpose to further discuss the history. If you would like to join in please contact Secretary, Dorothea on 6760 3948 or 0457 903 948 on or before 1st March 2018.

EMPHASIS. This is not a meeting!!

The next meeting will be held at the Museum at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 7th February 2018.

Our Annual Christmas Dinner is scheduled for Wednesday 13th December 2017 – 6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m. Venue – Kootingal Hotel.

On behalf of the Moonbi Museum Team thank you for your support (WE COULD DO WITH MORE VOLUNTEERS) and we wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Safe travel on your holidays.

Dorothea Vaux, Secretary-Treasurer 23/11/2017

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Claudette's Corner.

I am very happy with the number of visitors we have had through the museum over the past 12 months, last weekend was no exception. Our 1st visitor was a former local who lives just outside Albany W.A. John Belfield attended Moonbi School in the 1950’s along with his brothers and sisters. There were also locals who moved here in recent years to make this village their home. We like to make all our visitors welcome and invite them all to call in at weekends to see our history and to hear their stories. Highlight of the day a visitor from Innisfail Q.L.D. who was returning from Adelaide after visiting his parents, drove through Victoria up the south coast of N.S.W. and across from Dubbo to Tamworth and Moonbi. After looking around the museum, asked me (of all people) would I recommend Moonbi for a place to live as he was wanting to shift down this way and liked the area. WHAT COULD I SAY!

Dorothea mentioned our successful afternoon, I would like to mention 2 ladies who are in their 90’s both having attended Moonbi School, Dot Flemming nee Verning & Bernice Sanderson nee Follington, Coleman, we received interesting information from both these woman and look forward to seeing next year.

I went to Moonbi School to attend their Remembrance Day Service, the teachers & pupils are to be congratulated on the way the service was conducted. I felt very proud watching the little ones walking up to lay a poppy for each man from W.W.1 especially as H.L. Flanagan was my grandfather.

FROM THE PAST.

Cricket season a good time to mention our cricket Shield. Presented by William Sawyer’s Esq. M.L.A. To the Tamworth District Cricket Union 1899. To be won twice in succession or three times in all. MOONBI WON. Isn’t it amazing what, where &how these special items turn up from.

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR.

Claudette
Tamworth Regional Council News

Council Meetings

Tuesday 12 December marks the last Ordinary Council Meeting for 2018. The first Council Meeting in 2018 will be held on the second Tuesday in February. A reminder that residents are always welcome to attend meetings, they are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 6.30pm at Ray Walsh House in Peel Street.

Should you like to see a recap of some items covered, the Mayor presents a short video that is loaded to the Tamworth Regional Council Facebook page after each meeting.

More parking for CBD

We all know parking can be a hot topic for the Tamworth CBD, so residents will be pleased to know that an additional 111 off-street parking spaces are now available for use behind the Tamworth Community Centre. The project included a new pathway from the area into Bourke Street and landscaping works will take place in March next year after the hot summer weather has passed.

Manilla Road Upgrade

Work will soon start on the next stage of the Manilla Road Upgrade which will include the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Peel Street and Marius Street near Northgate Shopping Centre.

Tamworth Regional Council will again build the upgrade on behalf of Roads and Maritime Services. The NSW Government is providing $3.5 million to fund the work which will start on Monday 8 January, 2018.

It will involve significant changes to traffic conditions to allow the roundabout to be built safely and efficiently. The major traffic change will be closing access in and out of Marius Street from Manilla Road (Peel Street) for the whole seven months of construction.

Electronic message signs will be installed well in advance of closing the Marius Street intersection including details about the changes access for Northgate Shopping Centre.

Motorists traveling towards Tamworth on Manilla Road should use Tribe and Piper streets to access the shopping centre, while those travelling towards Manilla should use Jewry and Marius streets.

If you’d like to find out more about the project and road closures, please visit Council’s website.

T: 02 6767 5555  E: trc@tamworth.nsw.gov.au  W: www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au  facebook/tamworthregionalcouncil  instagram/tamworthregionalcouncil
**Australia Day Events**

The Region will host various events for Australia Day. In Kootingal, there is a breakfast at Memory Park, Denman Avenue from 8am to 10.30 that includes games such as the thong fling, pumpkin bowling, gum boot toss and the best decorated gumboot. There is also a breakfast in Bendemeer from 8.30am running to 12.30pm with celebrations including a Billy boiling competition, entertainment and thong throwing. For a full list of events happening around the region, head to Council’s website (www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au) or call us on 6767 5555.

**Progress on the Northern Inland Centre of Sporting Excellence**

Work is progressing well on the Northern Inland Centre of Sporting Excellence. The Centre is located on the south side of Tamworth and will incorporate an outdoor velodrome and criterium track, outdoor horse sports arena, athletics centre, car parking and an extension to the Tamworth Sports Dome.

Construction started in September and is due to be complete by the end of 2018 – an exciting prospect for many sports enthusiasts around our Region.

**Council Christmas Closure**

Please be advised that all Council Offices will close between Christmas and New Year. Our last day of operation is Friday 22 December and offices will re-open on Tuesday 2 January. Should you have any urgent matters during this time, please contact us on 02 6767 5555 and our out of hours support can assist you. Council wishes you a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.
MOONBI WAR MEMORIAL HALL AND RECREATION RESERVE COMMITTEE

The Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday 23rd August 2017 – results of the election, chaired by Councillor Phil Betts, are as follows:-

President Warwick Gadsden
Vice President 1 Graham Thompson
Vice President 2 David Emanuel
Effluent Manager Graham Thompson
Secretary-Treasurer Dorothea Vaux
Booking Officer Karin Thompson
Maintenance Supervisor David Emanuel
Committee Suzanne Gadsden  Robyn Maher  Jill Emanuel

We are charged with the control and operation of a valuable community asset which is available for hire at competitive rates. Why not consider it for your next function? Further information may be obtained by phoning Booking Officer Karin on 6760 3580. She will be pleased to assist you.

It's that time of year again – SO – on behalf of President Warwick and the Committee, it is my pleasure to extend the Seasons Greetings to one and all with the hope that 2018 will be a year of peace and prosperity for every one.

Dorothea Vaux, Secretary, MOONBI WAR MEMORIAL HALL AND REC. RESERVE COMMITTEE. Ph. 6760 3948 or 0457 93 948. 23/11/2017

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ENGINEERING, advanced MACHINING and oleostatics Applied to in house manufacture of production machines and tools and mechanical research
KOOTINGAL/MOONBI RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

The bushfire danger period has been in force since 1st October so you need a permit to light a fire and the Permit Officers are Kendall Thompson (0408 203864), Ken Hawes (0421 727535), Allen Madden (0400 316153) and Stuart Knight (0429 648227). Even with a permit, you are still required to advise the Fire Control Centre in Tamworth (6762 7641) and your neighbours 24 hours before you light a fire. And always consider the weather conditions before you light up - on days of total fire ban and on days when the fire danger rating is Very High or above, permits will be suspended. Unfortunately, if you live within a proclaimed village area (maps in the Post Office), as designated by Tamworth Regional Council, the NSW Clean Air Act prohibits you from lighting any fire (other than a cooking fire) in the open at any time – we cannot issue a permit in that situation; you must apply for an approval from the EPA or the Council.

If you need some advice on the best ways to fire-proof your home, our Community Education Officer can help, so give him a call - Ken Hawes (0421 727535) - or check out the RFS website for some helpful ideas at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au. If you live in a fire prone area, don’t forget to make your Bushfire Survival Plan and, as they say, planning to make a plan is not a plan – do it now.

It has been a very strange year for weather, with unseasonal hot weather followed by cooler days and nights but the fuel load is still there, ready to burn. If you see a fire that appears to be unattended call 000 or, if you see anything suspicious, please report it to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Please remember, if you are working with welders, grinders, slashers or anything else that can cause a spark, consider the fuel load on the ground, make sure you keep a constant watch for sparks and keep a water supply on hand to douse any fire that may start.

In the middle of November our Brigade competition team, consisting of Kendall Thompson, Allen Madden, Tristan Laurie and Sean Barton, will compete at the Australasian Firefighter Championships in New Zealand. Events at these Championships are a mix of events from all competing states/countries, so the outcome is an unknown quantity but the team will be doing their best to represent the RFS and the local community.

Our Brigade is made up entirely of volunteers so if you are community-minded and interested in joining the Brigade give our Secretary, Graham Thompson, a call on 6760 3580 or come to our monthly meetings, held at the Fire Station on top of the hill at 7pm on the first Wednesday of each month.

And don’t forget, if you need to report a fire, don’t ring individual members of the Brigade – ring 000. That way all of the Brigade’s pagers are set off and we can respond in force – and, hopefully, in time!
Less than 25 DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS!!!

It is hard to believe that the end of the school year has arrived! The year’s end always brings with it a tremendous sense of accomplishment. So many things have been accomplished this year! From Healthy Harold near the beginning of the year to the Year 6 Assembly (which will be our last official event of the year, on Friday 15th of December) – our students have been involved in an extraordinary number of activities. Of course, we should not forget the tremendous amount of learning which has taken place during the year. Throughout all of these activities our students have demonstrated great character!

I am looking forward to our student election speeches being made by our senior leader nominees for 2018. They are amongst some of the finest young people that I have ever met. I am very excited about the promise of all of these students taking on leadership roles in our school.

With Term 4 quickly coming to an end, we see many things changing and moving forward in the life of MPS, it’s a good time to take a moment and focus on what is important, family, friends, education and making great new memories.

Thank you to all of our community who have contributed to our school this year. Our students who have strived to meet challenges and excel, our parents, caregivers and community members who have worked with us, and the staff who have gone out of their way to ensure that the learning experiences students have at Moonbi Public School are rigorous and engaging. They have all genuinely supported our students to learn and grow and it is such a pleasure to be part of this vibrant community. You will see many of our recent achievements highlighted in our final Newsletter for the year. On behalf of Moonbi Public School staff and students, I wish everyone the very best for a safe and happy holiday season.

Best wishes to all,
Bonita Broughton
MOONBI STORE

Thank you to all our valued customers.

Have a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a very HAPPY NEW YEAR.

If you are going away we wish for you a safe journey on your travels.

See you all in the New Year 2018.

From

MOONBI GENERAL STORE: Sue, Claus, Kirsty, Julie, Elly, Brooklyn, Shelby, Max and Clay.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TRADING HOURS.

Christmas Day Closed
Boxing Day 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
News Years Day 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

NO HOT FOOD AVAILABLE ON THESE DAYS.

Thank you.

Sue, Claus and the “Team”.

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News from Kootingal & Moonbi Anglican Church

With Christmas almost upon us these are busy months for our church with lots of activities.

The combined churches Community Carols will be held on Friday 1st December at Moonby House. This has proved to be an excellent venue in the past and provides a great location for the community to enjoy the evening. Once again we will have our local schools participating and this year we welcome the children and families from Tintinhull together with Kootingal and Moonbi public schools. We also have our combined choir singing for us accompanied by the RSL band. There will be a special children’s segment with an appearance by ‘Kariuki’. The Lions Club will host a sausage sizzle from 6 pm and the Carols program kicks off at 7pm. Bring a chair or rug.

We have now begun 'Families@Church' - our new family friendly church on the last Sunday of each month at St Andrews Kootingal. This fun service is geared to families and children. The service runs from 10am-11am and is followed by a delicious morning tea. Everyone is most welcome.

Our youth church called ‘The Deck’ has also been up and running well. It meets every second Sunday and is for high school age. It is a time for young people to hang out, to learn about God from his word, the Bible and finishes with a BBQ and swim.

Our after school Kid's Club continues to be popular with the primary school children. This term we have been looking at people in the book of Acts who took the message of Jesus into the world. Kids club meets every Thursday from 3.30-5pm during term time. It includes games, stories craft and afternoon is provided free.

As we approach Christmas and turn our attention to buying and receiving gifts, we are once again reminded of God’s great gift to us in Jesus. It’s easy to be so caught up in the expectations and pressures of the season, that we can miss the whole purpose; that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. God’s gift of forgiveness to us is completely free, and all he requires is that we receive it gratefully.

May I encourage you to take the opportunity this year to reflect on God’s gift to you and to celebrate with us at one of our family Christmas services. On behalf of our congregations at Kootingal and Moonbi, I would also like to wish you joyful and blessed Christmas.

Rev Allan Beaven (Minister, Kootingal Moonbi Anglican Church)

Christmas Service Times

Christmas Eve: 6.30 pm St Andrew’s Kootingal
Christmas Day: 9.30 am St Peter’s Moonbi

(Both Family Services)

"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"
(2 Corinthians 9:15)

(For more information email aerob@bigpond.com or phone 0425301640)
Hi Everyone,

Since our last newsletter we have visited Calala Cottage and The Squareman Inn. It was interesting to learn about our local history, share a wonderful meal with great friends from a great service.

On each Wednesday we have a gentle exercise group which commences at 10.15am. We would love some new members to this group.

We have a craft card making group, who meet at the Cottage on the 1st and the 3rd Wednesday of the month. They make lovely handmade cards.

We also have a general craft group who meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, who do their own individual crafts ranging from patchworking, crocheting, pencil work and many others.

If you are interested in joining either of these craft groups you would be very welcome.

Cockburn Cottage Community Centre would love to invite you all to come and join us at the Centre. We offer Social Support each Tuesday and Thursday with a bus service to pick you up and bring you home. We also have morning tea and a home cooked meal for lunch. We offer activities such as quizzes, carpet bowls, bingo, cards, craft and other activities of interest to our clients such as bus trips to places of interest.

We also have a keen Euchre Group that would love some more players.

Cockburn Cottage can service not only Moonbi & Kootingal but any town within the Tamworth area such as Tamworth, Dungowan, Nemingha, Loomberah and Bendemeer for social support and transport services.

Cockburn Cottage offers assistance with transport to Tamworth for shopping, medical and general appointments.

If you are over 65 years of age and need assistance, please call Cockburn Cottage to see what we can offer you.

What we offer

CENTRE BASED SOCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAM: Every Tuesday & Thursday 9am - 2.30pm

ACTIVITY GROUPS: CRAFT groups meet on Wednesdays to enjoy activities of their choice.

MEN’S GROUP: Meet 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at Cockburn Cottage.

GENTLE EXERCISE PROGRAM: Wednesdays from 10.15 to 11.15am.

TRANSPORT TO APPOINTMENTS AND SHOPPING: MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!
The Lions Club of Kootingal and District Inc.
District 201N1 Region 5 Zone 9
President Lion Paul Nagle.
Secretary Lion Wayne Guy.
PO. Box 97 KOOTINGAL NSW 2352
Email: kootingal@lionsdistrict201n1.org.au

The Kootingal Lions have had a busy three months with the inaugural Art Exhibition on in early October, which are happy to say was a successful event. Many members contributed time and skills to preparing display boards and additional lighting and picture rails to enable a professional display of art works. Many paintings were entered, across the several sections and in various mediums and styles resulting in a great display and several sales. President Lion Paul Nagle would like to extend his thanks and gratitude to the Chairperson, Lion Janelle Lewis for her outstanding efforts in managing the project and to members of Moonbi Art group for their assistance with this project and to the CWA who provided delicious morning and afternoon teas to all.

The Lions Youth of the year is an annual event that is open to high school aged students. It is designed to encourage, foster and develop leadership in conjunction with other citizenship qualities in our youth. This year Lions Lee Betts and Lion David Emanuel worked with our two entrants Cara Oliver From Carinya and William Makepeace, School Captain of Peel High. The Judges Jean Medlock, Greg Shepherd and Terri Mower had a hard time picking a winner as both candidates spoke well and with convincing arguments on their chosen topic. Congratulations go to both candidates for their courage and perseverance with this quest. The public speaking award went to William and the overall club winner was also William. This means that he will progress to the next level at region 5 in March. It was a hard choice for judges. We hope that this event has provided an opportunity for personal growth for the contestants and affirmed to us that Australia has some good future leaders amongst its youth.

Carols by Candlelight- and even by a drop of rain, was our latest event. Thankyou everyone for coming and supporting the event – so good to see so many there, it is always a pleasure to be involved in this community event and see so many excited and well-behaved children. Many a sausage was consumed and the proceeds will go back into our local community in the forms of grants to people in need and to worthy causes in our community. If you know of a worthy case please let us know so we can look at appropriate ways to assist.

We are starting a new Lions Club, the members of this one will be for people who are travellers and who still wish to have a regular commitment to their Lions work. The meetings will be online, and service will be given as independent people or when they meet up with other groups on their travels. Quite a modern approach to service clubs.

During this period, we have welcomed some new members and have some prospective members. We are always happy to welcome new people and now have a great mix of both male and female members.

If you would like to enquire about becoming a member of about any of our activities please contact Lions Wayne Guy/ M On 0428658785

******************************************************************************************************************************************

SUMMERS IGA Phone 0267603204
5 Denman Ave Kootingal NSW 2352
Open 7 days Monday to Saturday 6.30am to 7.30pm; Sunday 7am to 7.30pm
I usually start with a weather report or my prediction of what to expect, but after looking out of a hospital window for a few weeks, I'll have to get my thoughts on back on track. Firstly, a big thank you to all those wonderful Moonbi-Kootingal and Tamworth folk who dropped in for a yarn, even though at times I was a little vague and communication was not great. Parkinson's has been following me for nigh on 20 years and along with the medication the wheels fell off. Obviously I needed to recharge and change some of my treatment and I am now looking forward to some better outcomes. To the nursing staff at Tamara Hospital, a huge thank you for your care and understanding of this insidious disease.

To add to the dilemma, my wife Patricia had scheduled a major operation on her back (under the care of Dr Gordon Dandie at Westmead Private Hospital) which has put the two of us out of action for quite a few weeks. We are truly blessed to have such great friends and "relies" to help out in our time of need (we haven't got the bills yet!!!)

NEV & BRENDA MICHELL'S ANNIVERSARY

No, not a wedding anniversary or anything romantic. In the first week of November, Nev & Brenda celebrated 50 years of ownership and operation of the Moonbi Service Station. That is quite an achievement as not many businesses can boast carrying out a business in a small workshop for that long and to be so well-known throughout Australia!!! Many years ago I can remember going into the shop and who should walk in to purchase an icy pole for his much famished wife but Johnnie Lockwood ("for the older brigade" a well-known Australian actor from No. 96!!!). During a quick chat, Johnnie was amused at the number of sheds housing laying chooks and that every young kid around the village knew how to pack eggs, point down.

CONRAD THE CRICKETER

Again, some more news on former Moonbi School pupil, Conrad George and prodigy of the Anne Coleman coaching days. Conrad seems to be going from strength to strength in his cricketing prowess, playing first grade cricket for South Tamworth and then this week named in the Combined NSW High School side and also to play in the Bradman Cup side. Conrad is a “cunning” lefthand and improving batsman and we wish him well as he continues to represent not only Tamworth, but our little village.

OUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

It appears that “pruning sporting articles” in our local newspaper (Northern Daily Leader or NDL) has now become the norm, where it appears that newsworthy articles are now "missing" from the daily report! On the sporting side of the paper, we could always guarantee that Geoff Newling never missed a beat (we now really appreciate his efforts!!!) whether it was reporting on local racing or darts at the club. With modern technology, surely results can be instant and reported in the next morning's paper. All sports are important and should be given the same “space”; come on Fairfax Media, let's see what you can do to improve the sporting section of our local paper.

AWAITING THE ARRIVAL.............AND NOW WE HAVE SOME NEWS

It was noted in the last Newsletter that we were eagerly awaiting the arrival of grandchild No 6 with Baby Betts to be the firstborn for Rob and Dimity. Miss Juno Rose Betts arrived on 17 October 2017; she is the cutest little girl (yes, we are biased) and came into the world weighing 8lb 5oz!!!! Thank goodness we are able to nurse this little one as a very young bub as the parents don't live too far from 74 Braefarm Road. And it is so much better than looking at this little one in person instead of on a computer screen (a majority of our other grandchildren were born overseas). Now to spoil her!!!!!!

RECOVERING

On the road to recovery are Braefarm Road residents, Ian Richards (hip replacement) and Patricia Betts (double spinal fusion) along with Bernie Baxter (Cheryl Johnson’s dad) also with a hip replacement.

AND A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
In Memory

Maxwell Arney Newcombe OAM

Passed Away 18 August 2017

Max was born in Tamworth on the 19th of March 1933 to George Osbert (Ozzie) and May Newcombe who were poultry farmers in Moonbi. He was the eldest of four children, followed by Terry and Lorraine who are both deceased and Margare: who lives in Longreach.

In March of 1958, Max married Shirley Southwell and they went on to build their new family home in Phillip Street, West Tamworth. They had 3 children, Garry, Grahame and David, all of whom sadly passed away far too early. The first, Garry, was born in 1959 and died the following day. Grahame was born with Down Syndrome in 1961 and passed away at the young age of 9. David was adopted and was a very talented young man. Tragically, he passed away from illness in 1995, at age 30. These were very difficult and challenging years for Max and Shirley.

Max worked for the Atlantic Union Oil Company, which we later knew as ESSO. During those years he travelled all over the region delivering fuel to farms and businesses. He had many tales of driving some of the old trucks and making regular trips to the dams during their construction and maintenance periods. On recent trips that Kerry and myself did with Max to Chaffey Dam, he would still rattle off the names of each family that owned various properties along the way.

Max and Shirl later purchased their farm “Bellvue” in Edward Street Moonbi, where they ran a poultry farm for many years. During this period, Max also worked for the Dekalb Shand Seed Company in Moonbi and Shirl continued on at the farm.

Around this time, Max and Shirl became very involved in volunteering, especially once they retired.

Max was involved in the Moonbi Community Land Care and Development Group. In 2000 received recognition of 25 years as President and given life membership. For more than 34 years he was involved in the Moonbi Kootingal Bush Fire Brigade, holding the position of Captain for 12 years I am told, receiving recognition in 2001.

In their retirement years, Max joined TOCAN (Tamworth and Oxley Community Active Network) which entailed working with the aged and infirm as a carer. He drove the Community Service bus for many years and also, his own vehicle, taking people shopping and to and from appointments and outings.

Max, along with Shirl, would go on to entertain the residents of the Moonby Retirement Home two and a half days a week for some 25 years, also fulfilling the role of Santa Claus on the occasions. They were both recognised for their efforts in 2014.

Max received many other awards along the way. Some of which include several Local Council Awards, several Community Service Awards from the Premier of NSW, Certificate of Recognition for International Year of the Volunteer 1999.

A Commonwealth Recognition Award for Senior Australians from the Prime Minister.

The highlight was receiving his Medal of the Order of Australia in 2012.

Max was quite the performer and loved to sing. He participated in most, if not all of the Gilbert and Sullivan productions during the sixty’s of which he proudly displayed his engraved silver spoons as
proof. He was involved with the both the Drama and Music Societies of Tamworth. We all know that Max loved a bit of attention.

Some of our late-night excursions to the Hospital with Max, would end with a few songs, entertaining the patients and staff.

I knew Max for many years, but became more involved once I became a part of the family. But nothing like the bond that was formed and enjoyed by us through these last couple of challenging years with his illness.

Max collected rainfall data for the Bureau of Meteorology from 1958 to 2015, and until his dementia set in, missed only 7 reading submissions in that time.

Max was a proud and active member of the Masons and Nashos. In more recent times he would tell me that he wanted to get back to meetings, but unfortunately, due to his decline, was an unachievable wish.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of Moonby House and the Tamworth Hospital T-BASIS unit for their excellent care and compassion for Max during his final year with us.

Max was a well-respected gentleman, held in high esteem in the community. A caring and giving person to all.

May he rest in peace.

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Our community has lost several other well known and respected members recently. Our loving sympathy goes out to their respective families.

**Patricia Betts** passed away suddenly on 3rd September 2017. She was a hard-working and valued member of KESDC and the Kootingal Pumpkin Festival Committee, and was also a long-time member of the Kootingal CWA, where she held many executive positions over the years. She will be sadly missed especially by her only sister Shirley.

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**Carlie Magnusson** (20th September 2017) of Mulla Creek, and later Moonby House was well-known for her artistic expertise and fun loving personality. Many of you may remember her from craft shows and market stalls where she exhibited and sold her unique hand painted ceramic kitchen ware. She and daughter Francie also had a popular Peel Street eatery at one stage.

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**Philip Brown** (7th October 2017) was the eldest son of Jim and Margaret Brown and lived in Braefarm Road in Moonbi before he and his own family settled in Kootingal. Philip worked in the glass industry for many years and was also a member of the Hunter River Lancers where he held the position of Sergeant and was in the RAME Corp. After he suffered a massive stroke he spent almost 8 years in Bupa Nursing Home, passing away just short of his and Annette’s 50th wedding anniversary.

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AN OPEN DOOR.

I have now served the people of Scots Presbyterian Church, Moonbi, for the past 18 years. Sometimes with tears, but always with joy and gladness. Now has come the time that I am to retire. During this time it has been my privilege to be asked to contribute a Christian message to our local community through this newsletter. I have tried to present the glorious gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in all its truth to you.

And so, as Jesus said in Revelation 3:8, "Behold, I have set before you an open door", and that door is Jesus Christ. He says if you thirst, i.e. long for, what is right, what is good, come to me, the fountain of living waters. Drink of me, and I will give you far more than that which you desire. "Why do you spend money for that which is not bread?" why do you look in all the wrong places, when I am able to supply all you need, free? " Why do you labour for that which does not satisfy?" Come to me and I will fill you with all that is good and lasting. " Let your soul delight in fatness ( all that is superb ). "Listen, and come to me, and your soul shall live." ( Isaiah 55 : 1 - 3 )

In John 14:6 Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life: no one comes unto the Father ( God ) but by me." That is, you believe in God, believe in Jesus Christ, for if you deny him, you deny the Father. There is no other way to come to God. If you lack the faith to believe, all you have to do is ask, in sincerity, and it will be given you. He will open your eyes to His Truth, His Way, His Life.

I can do nothing but point you to the way of salvation. It is God alone who will work in you to give you the vision, the understanding, the humility and the strength to walk with Him.

God is sovereign over all the earth, and so he directs the paths of men. All that we have is given to us by God. If we desire to have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His salvation, God will give us that faith. If we long for a better way to live in obedience to Him, then God will show us the way., the way of truth, love and joy. If we turn our backs on God, he will let us go our own wilful way, messing everything up as we go.

There is a heaven, and there is a hell. The one so far above our imagination in gladness and joy and love. The other is beyond belief in agony, misery, and separation from all that is good. Here is the open door. Will you enter it?

At Christmas time we are reminded of God's great love for mankind, in that he sent one born in our likeness, Jesus Christ, to live in total obedience, as we should do, but we fail. He showed us the way to live in obedience to God, but because we all fail to do so, He died, as a sacrifice to make good for our sins. If we accept this gift from God in Christ, God wipes away all the penalty for our sins, and He remembers our sins no more. We are accepted into His Kingdom, having been made righteous by the shed blood of Jesus Christ, and we are assured of His love for us, and our entrance into Heaven.

May God bless you all.

Gordon Dandie.
Moonbi Art Group

The members of Moonbi Art Group have continued with their meetings over the last three months, sharing friendship and camaraderie. We support individual’s artistic endeavors and, when requested, offer constructive critiques of each other’s work.

Our main activity this last three months has been to work with the Kootingal Lions Club to hold their inaugural Lions Club Art Exhibition held at the Kootingal Community Hall in Chaffey Street Kootingal, in early October. We were delighted with the number of entries and especially with the quality of the work exhibited over the various sections. Many visitors came to enjoy the display and several sales were made. Our Guest artist Ted Lewis was a star attraction, watch out for paintings of his in future inspired by his photographic expedition around this area. We were made very welcome and very much part of the team and we commend them for their sprit of cooperation and friendship in all aspects of this event.

Other art shows as well as pictures displayed for sale in Galleries have allowed some of our artists to sell their works to appreciative new owners- which gladdens the heart of the artists.

We now have a new face book page- There are still two older one but these will go soon. The new one has a regular updating of members of the group’s work with some information about them. The new Facebook page is for selling our art so there will be size and price listed with art items descriptions. There will be a web page in the new year. This has been quite a learning curve for our members to step up, and to learn use the latest marketing tools. We would invite you all to view our page and to share it with your groups too.

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What does it mean to be Local?

Village life has often been emphasized as one of belonging- families born here and of long term commitment, knowledge of the main family groupings and perhaps exclusion for new people.

A citizen of our village expressed to me the problem with the description “local” and that some people found it hard to fit in as this label was variously applied. Unfortunately, the person was made to feel that they could never be part of the fabric of our village life, which is sad and isolated the person. Investigating this further I have been asking people what it means to be local? Replies were “if you Feel ‘local’ you are ‘local’” – “knowing some people and being known, helps make you feel like a ‘local’” “able to find or give support near-by if needed”

Another “felt ‘local’ when became involved in things in the village”

Another “being able to talk to people, when and where you found them”

What does being ‘local’ mean to you -why not drop us a line or call and let us know what you think. We must acknowledge that most citizens of Moonbi will be working in Tamworth, many have moved here for a variety reasons but one may be that Tamworth is close by and housing here is a little cheaper and less dense- as well as a desire for the village life.

We would love to have more people in our Moonbi Museum group to join in our activities and to learn the history of Moonbi as they take part in it’s present. However we have been told that some people do not feel like they are ‘local’ and could have a role in our village museum. So we invite you call in, meet some people, get known, share your history with us, be part of documenting the developing community history...and be assured you don’t have to have any special credential for us to consider you a ‘local’.

Lee
Bills Garden Notes

Now that the first spring burst of rose blooms has just about finished, dead heading is most important as it gives the bushes a spell. It is good practice to do it every day as the blooms fade and drop. If it is neglected and the hard fruit like bulbs form where the roses were, it then takes a lot out of the bushes and causes stress, and this will affect the next flush of blooms. A medium amount of rose food applied now will greatly help the growth of the bush.

Dead heading applies to a lot of flowering plants. Snap dragons are a classic example also digitalis often know as fox gloves, or the new variety digiplexis and several of the tall growing plants. This will promote new growth and if the weather is kind a good flush of flowers will result, if there is no rain a good watering will help a lot but avoid wetting the top of the plant too much, rather give a good soaking around the bottom of the plant. This will do more good and prevent fungus and stem rot. An application of blood and bone or suitable plant food is a good idea at this time.

Summer flowers can now be planted- Dahlias, dwarf and tall; petunias- there are many colours and size of plant for the petunia group. They like the heat so if looked after properly and watered when required, they will bloom for long periods. Portulaca are a wonderful little summer plant that needs little water once it gets to a mature size- and they love the heat. Flowers of portulaca are of several colours and last a long time.

Weeds are an ongoing problem now and have to be attended too and removed, as their effect on any flowering plant can be very growth retarding, with some plants withering and dying as weeds are very thirsty and draw lots of nutrients from the soil. Hand removal is the best method, if sprays are used in almost all cases some will reach the plant you are trying to protect and it only takes a minute amount to kill a plant- unlike a some weeds that have resistance to weed sprays- garden plants resistance to weed killer is very low and I would not recommend any near any domestic bush or plant. In roses some sprays cause deformity and I have had roses die because of it, so great care should be used with any weed killer spray.

Melons, cucumbers, squash and tomatoes can all be planted now. A good rich soil is required and lots of moisture for good quick growth. Tomatoes should be staked and kept of the ground. Water well but not on the plant just around the root system. Regular watering is very important as this prevents end rot in the fruit. If this occurs remove the fruit at once, give the plant a good soaking and some tomato food. As the plant grows keep staking it as this also prevents other problems with the fruit.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all from Bill

Moonbi Museum Committee Wood raffle results.

Our second wood raffle was drawn at Moonbi on Saturday 16th September 2017

Winners were:

1st Prize trailer load of fire wood- Ester Bryant of Kootingal

2nd Prize trailer load of mill wood Stuart Pearce of Moonbi

Thankyou to everyone who purchased tickets- the proceeds are in our Building Fund, ready for next years extensions.

Just a reminder that a Christmas raffle is now underway, so once again we are seeking your support. Seven great prizes are on offer and the tickets available from the museum or from committee
KOOTINGAL CWA

Our October meeting was honoured to have the well known gardening personality, Doreen Godard, join us, Doreen lives the other side of Tamworth but decided to join us and chat to another group of ladies.

Congratulations were given to Noeline McNeish for the effort and success of the fashion parade which had seen many locals attend. She was also involved in the Kootingal Lions club Art Show, providing all the morning teas and lunches which were consumed by many visitors...hope to be involved again next year.

November rolled around very quickly and it was confirmed that the Christmas raffle will be conducted outside IGA on November 25 and December 2.

The Country of interest for the next twelve months is Poland, quite a difference from Nepal. It is a large country, just on 313 square kilometres with a population of 37.9m.

The fauna topic for the ensuing year will be the Owl, Flora is the orchid with the listed foes being the deer and alligator weed.

Some members will be attending the Presentation Nights of Kootingal, Tintinhull and Moonbi Schools with confirmation of dates to be advised.

The branch will also be contributing $1096 to the State Rescue Organisation. Traditional Christmas gifts for members will be dispensed with this year after it was decided that gifts (unisex and age) will be provided for residents of Ronald McDonald house, gifts to be wrapped in cellophane so that the correct recipient can be determined.

The 20th Birthday of our Branch will be held on May 24 at the Chillingworth room at the Tamworth League club...not only will the Branch be 20, but nine original members will also be honoured for their 20 years of service.

Cynthia Murray, Publicity Officer (' ph 67696695 in need)

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HELLO THERE IN MOONBI/KOOTINGAL: Thank goodness it has rained and we are due for more in the next week, it would be nice to think we will get it right through summer – wishful thinking me thinks!!! I have had a busy time with my rehoming and am now got 5 dogs and 3 ginger kittens to find homes for. The dogs mainly came from broken homes, moving and handed in to be euthanised at the pound for no good reason, finished with that!!! I have some lovely dogs and I have to keep some for a few weeks until they trust again, a little terrier I have she will make someone a lovely pet, but when I got her she lifted her lip and growled and was terrified. She had been badly treated and the only defense she has is to growl and snap, it only took me a day to get round her and now she is so trusting and loves walking with my dogs. She gets on with other dogs, walks well on a lead, good eater, very clean and never makes a mess in her pen, in other words house trained so she is looking for a forever home. I also have a Dachshund red in colour, but he has something else in him, he is lovely and gets on well with everybody, house trained etc and only just over 2 years old, he has little stumpy legs, but his body is much bigger, but he looks the part!!!!!! As well as this I have an American Staffy who was born only in June this year, he is lovely and needs a good home, he is also house trained and loves other dogs. I also have a little Jack Russell, she is only 3 years old and house trained, good with anyone really, likes being inside the house, will be an excellent pet. My next little girl is very shy and it took me a couple of days to get round her, she has a wonderful temperament and would be good with children as long as they are gentle with her. She is a big sook and needs that special someone to take her on.

My three kittens were trapped as they were not handled and not seen humans, but they are settling down and in another week they will all be good. They are ginger and no doubt they will be all males, I really have not had a look as I have been busy trying to get the feisty one to let me hold him, he just loves to hiss and spit, they are only 6 weeks old mind you. They will be ready to go in a couple of weeks, but I can hold them if you would like to adopt one until you are ready.

Folk do not put a lot of thought into getting a dog mainly, it is a 15 year or so commitment, not to be put in the pound when you are sick of them. I get a lot of dogs from the pound in that predicament, sometimes they have been badly treated and neglected which is so sad as it is not the dogs fault. Others are just dumped by the side of the road, especially half-grown pups, luckily some kind person has picked them up and taken to the vets and then the pound next stop. I get quite a few that have been in that situation. Never mind they gave a better life ahead of them if that is the case, I have them wormed, vaccinated and microchipped and when they are old enough they get desexed, that goes for all the animals that go through my care. I must take this opportunity to thank Colleen Stoltenberg for fostering a little 8 year-old dog whose owner had to vacate her home and now looking for another. Colleen, with not too much persuasion, took her into her home to look after her, she has been washed to perfection, fed like a queen and in general spoilt, I thank Colleen very much as I could not take her here as I did not have a spare pen and she would have upset my old dog and my cat inside. She is house trained and she just trots in and out of Colleens place taking over. Hopefully the lady will have a new home so I don't have to prevail on Colleen's sof: nature much longer. Well I will also take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and we all get plenty of rain for the next 12 months!!!!!!

HAPPY WALKING Jean Medlock 67605931 Please phone if you would like to adopt!!!
Mobile 0428 261573
Out and About -with The Social Sleuth

Wonder how many of our young Moonbi locals have now finished their high school years and are planning the next stage of their lives? Whether you are leaving at year 10 and considering an apprenticeship or a course at TAFE or other employment, or have just finished year 12 and looking forward to university or any of the other options (or a well-earned gap year) we wish everyone well for the future. Sometimes things do not pan out just the way we would like, but remember that there are always alternatives. Any new skill we learn along life’s journey never goes astray, and whatever the career, we can always strive to be good citizens. All the young Moonbi-ites that I know have that potential—good luck kids.

One of our contributors, Jim Finucane, recently celebrated his 90th birthday. Jim is one of the mainstays of the O.M.N.I. networks in Tamworth and keeps us informed of their activities. He and wife Margaret are involved in lots of charities and are always interested in whatever we do here at Moonbi. Belated birthday greetings Jim and we wish you many more healthy and happy years ahead.

Speaking of birthdays, our own Lee Rodger celebrated hers with a lovely informal gathering of family and friends at their home recently. How nice to catch up with neighbours and make some new friends over a drink and a simple BBQ. But might I mention the cakes were far from simple Lemon yogurt cake, Beetroot and chocolate cake with meringue frosting, and a stunning gluten free chocolate gateau!

Maybe the recipes in our next issue please Frances and Susie G.

[a note from Lee- the spring weather was beautiful -the garden had a lovely display of self-sown delights, so an impromptu gathering was called for - just because everything was just so lovely- not really for a birthday celebration that were, coincidently, in the same month.]

Get well wishes go out to several locals have had stays in hospital over the last few weeks. Our special thoughts are with Museum stalwart Brian Betts and wife Trish, Bob Williams, Ann Faulkner, Tom Rodger and anyone else on the sick list. We trust by now we have rid ourselves of winters terrible colds!

Living beside the highway one gets to see a lot of passing traffic, including the many big trucks hauling all manner of goods around Australia. But of particular interest recently have been those huge components for the Glen Innes and Inverell wind farms necessitating escort vehicles, traffic delays and the help of our own John Dunn. Have you seen “Dunny”, as we fondly know him, hooking up a prime mover to one of those monsters pulled off the highway in front of Moonbi Rural, and driving it over the Moonbi Range? John estimated he has helped hundreds of the loads negotiate the steep grade over the last 5 months, usually 30 to 35 a month, averaging about 120 ton each time, that’s quite a load.

And congratulations to the local CWA branch who are preparing to celebrate 20 years of service in our community in 2018- we all know that CWA is way more than tea and scones, and applaud the wonderful work they do in bringing country issues to public notice and in advocating for change ... Well done to all members.

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TAMWORTH MASONIC WIDOWS AND LADIES ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Masonic Centre on Thursday 14th September 2017. Diana Cookson was returned as President and there were no surprises so it will be “business as usual” for 2018. Congratulations Diana.

There was no meeting in November but a number of our members spent an enjoyable day at Nundle visiting various attractions and finished the day with a splendid afternoon tea at the home of members, Chris and Barb Drury of Woolomin. The Drury’s recently returned from visiting the United Kingdom where they spend six months each year.

The next meeting will be held at the Masonic Centre, Crawford Street, East Tamworth on Thursday 13th December 2017 – 9.30 a.m. for 10 a.m. This will be followed by our annual Christmas Luncheon, self catered, and other Christmas activities.

On behalf of President Diana and the Committee, it is my pleasure to wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

WE meet again on Thursday 8th February 2018 – 9.30 a.m. for 10 a.m. See you there!!

Dorothea Vaux, Secretary 23/11/2017
Around the Garden...........

Once again joy has me out in my garden to get inspiration for this edition of the newsletter. Thank-you Joy, you really do make me take time to sit out in my garden listen, watch, look & smell. At the moment it is late on a Saturday afternoon and I can hear the bird song in the gardens, a light breeze is cooling a moderately hot afternoon. Craig is walking across the top lawn spraying the weeds and feeding the lawn. Paul Kelly is serenading me in the back ground. Meg has just returned from a walk down to Moore Creek walk and talking and laughing with a friend about all the ‘wild’ animals. The soft scent of a native jasmine drifts softly through the cooling afternoon air. Life is fine. So good.

Well it’s the last edition of the newsletter for 2017 - where has this year gone? Some of you will know exactly how much rain we have had, days without rain, how many hot days, cool days, windy days and most pleasant ‘perfect’ days. All I know is that we have had them all. A real mix this year. We have had plants that have survived, plants that have truly impressed us and then of course the old favourites that just keep blossoming and performing year after year. Then there are those that the changing year was just too much for. I believe that the seasons, their changes, what they bring, deliver and don’t, is what keeps a garden evolving. Keeps challenging us. Sometimes it is a real challenge. I absolutely struggle with kangaroo paws but ‘tommies’ grow them with ease. I guess I starve their fibrous roots of water. I will continue to try. They are just a most striking plant in any garden landscape. Most especially a native garden. I see some remarkable native gardens, landscaped so beautifully, designed just out of a magazine page, but that isn’t me. For a long time I felt like I just wasn’t cuttin it as a gardener. (Excuse the pun!!). My garden was and is never perfect, there is always weeds and always pruning to be done, plants that are ‘resting’ and mulch to be put on, but when I went to Warren Sheather’s garden I realised I was a gardener. His garden and his philosophy on native plants has inspired me since. He has a very relaxed, no nonsense or pretentiousness approach to his garden. He just does. He enjoys it too. Warren & his wife are moving back to the Blue Mountains and I for one will miss this approach he has to gardening. We will hear from him from time to time on our local ABC radio gardening program and I look forward to that.

With Christmas not very far away, you may be thinking of gifts for loved ones or friends. Maybe you could consider something for the garden? It could be a new gardening book, something from the local landscaping shops or a plant for their garden or vege patch. A lovely herb pot? I will be making our fresh Christmas wreath from foliage and flowers from our garden. A few years ago I made a twig wreath from the long wispy branches of a willow in winter when it had lost all its leaves. They are very pliable and will dry as you plait or weave it. Then you can decorate as you please, time and time again. It is always a lovely “welcome” to your home. You can always buy raw wreaths from craft shops and decorate as you like too, just such a lovely touch. All year I talk about plants and what I do in and around my garden so this issue I would just like to wish you all a very Happy & Joyful Christmas from my family to yours. Enjoy every moment with your loved ones and take time to also enjoy your garden. Remember to keep pruning. Mulching and weeding and of course watering over the Summer months. Then remember to sit back and share your garden with family & friends. Recently a person asked me what my favourite flower was and I replied....”That’s like asking a mother which child is her favourite’... (we then laughed ) and I said...’whatever is in flower at the time in my garden’. Merry Christmas to each and everyone one of you. May the sun’s rays open up your flowers and the rains replenish your gardens. Until the new Year..........
Wilson Family News from the top of the range

Hello Everyone

And it's Christmas time already! Once I have finished this article I will be getting onto the decorating with the 3 girls who are very excited about Santa visiting our house again this year.

We have had lots happening up at Timbarra, I have just hatched my first lot of chickens in Bill Kelly's incubator. I have 5 very cute baby chickens under lights right now and have hand raised another 2 chickens inside recently with the use of a hot water bottle. Thank you to Kerry Rockstroh & Bill Kelly on their advice, assistance and knowledge during this process. I have somehow also managed to bring home 4 ducks and 2 unknown breed baby chickens as well.

Alan has changed his roster recently which is seeing him spend far more time at home and that has called for the purchase of a new family toy............. A Big Shiny Boat. Alan has managed to catch 1 fish since then but the kids enjoy going out on the boat and it's something we can all enjoy together.

I was such a proud parent the last few weeks with Kaitlin attending 'Capers' and then carrying the wreath for Moonbi School Remembrance Service and assisting Tamworth Mayor, Col Murray in collecting dirt from the 'Lone Pine' site.

We have lots coming up towards the end of the school year. The final Bendemeer play group for 2017 will be a Christmas morning celebration which will be held at Bendemeer Pre School at 10am on November 27th. Once again we are all looking forward to participating at the Moonbi Christmas Carols which will be on the 1st December at Moonbi House, 6pm, followed by Kootingal Pre School's Christmas Party on the 8th of December and we have Moonbi School Community Christmas Party on December 11th.

Kootingal Fishing Club will be having its end of year presentation / AGM on December 2nd at 6.30pm, meeting held at Kootingal Hotel. New members are always welcome, please contact Marianne on 0434061967 for further information.

The Bendemeer Christmas Lights Spectacular will be at the church on the corner of Caroline Street, Bendemeer on 16th December 6.30pm. The girls and I had a wonderful evening last year and we are super excited to be attending once again.

I hope you all have a fabulous Christmas and a happy new year.

The Wilson’s, Timbarra. Moonbi

Want 1/2 or whole pork pigs for your freezer?

We could even organise to have some of that delicious pork cured as ham or bacon

Contact James on 0428 668 180 for more information
Kootingal Pharmacy

Greg, Julie, Hayley and Jodi would like to thank of the customers for supporting the pharmacy over the year.

This year’s Christmas gifts are arriving and we have some exciting additions.

With Christmas and New Year holidays fast approaching it is time to plan your medical needs. The store will close throughout the public holidays

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The best advice is to fill your prescriptions early and minimise the chance of items being out of stock.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year !!!!

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Moonbi Kootingal Motor Show- 10-11th March 2018

Plans are already underway to expand next year’s show so there is a more varied array of stall holders and events for the youth and for younger children. Next year there will be a lot of out-of-town visitors coming for the weekend. A new attraction will be a major competitive tractor pull with good prizes. In addition to this there will be night time entertainment and much more.

We would like to thank the residents of Moonbi and surrounding area, thank you so much for your continued support and patronage. We hope to see you all again in 2018- watch for more detail in the next newsletter.

Stop press we have just heard a whisper that an antique train may be coming to Kootingal on the 9th, 10th, and 11th of March and rides will be available - watch the next newsletter for details

Contact : Milton Christian ph 0401528458