

# The GRETA BUNYIP

"YOUR GRETA & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER"

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EDITION NO: 71

February 2023



Paddock Trees – Orders now being taken for winter 2023.

We have received our order of 100 paddock tree guards for this winter. Collection of guards will be from Oxley and we hope to have plants available by April/May for planting.

The summer rain has been great for assisting natural regeneration and these guards are also terrific to slip around trees popping up naturally in paddocks. Natural regeneration will generally establish faster than anything you can plant.



Protecting or planting new paddock trees increases shade in your paddock and also helps to reduce stock pressure on our old remnant trees that provide valuable habitat.

We can supply a native tree and large wire guard (1.8m tall, 0.7m diameter) to members at the subsidised rate of \$25 per guard (RRP of \$68 for the guard). Maximum of 10 per member.

We also have two short videos to help you get the most out of your paddock tree planting experience. 'How to plant new paddock trees' and 'Planning your paddock tree planting' were filmed by our Group in winter 2021.

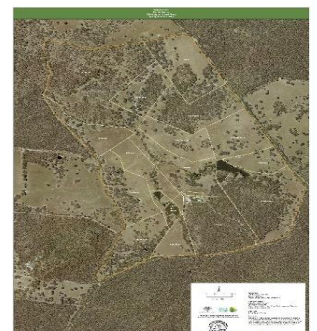
Please use this link [www.tinyurl.com/GVLGYouTube](http://www.tinyurl.com/GVLGYouTube) to watch these short videos and recordings of our recent webinars.

Please call Sally to put in your order on 0437 136 162 or email [sally.day@gretalandcare.org.au](mailto:sally.day@gretalandcare.org.au)

FREE A1 laminated property maps

The Ovens Landcare Network is pleased to offer Landcare members the opportunity to work with a professional to develop a property plan under their Smart Farms Grant. This includes a meeting to develop an A1 map of your property. You will receive a laminated print-out of the map and a digital copy. This opportunity is open to the first 10 members of each Landcare Group.

Please get in touch with Sally Day on 0437 136 162 to register your interest.





## GRETA VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome back to school and 2023. It's great to see our students back after their break. We have two new Foundation students this year, both being siblings of current students. Welcome to school Abi and Sybil.

We have full time teachers in each classroom as well as visiting specialist teachers of Italian, Music, Wellbeing, Library and Art. A broad curriculum for the Greta Valley P.S. students.

Our annual swimming program has begun with all students participating in weekly lessons at the Benalla Aquatic Centre. This program offers students the opportunity to develop their water safety, confidence and familiarity along with stroke techniques.

This year we are looking forward to commencing a planned upgrade to our toilet facilities. There will also be some maintenance work done on our Shelter In Place site.

Our school will have a Welcome BBQ on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> Feb. Families and friends of the school are invited to attend.

We look forward to welcoming any new families who are interested in sending their children to Greta Valley P.S. and encourage them to make an appointment to have a tour of the school.



**Grade 6 students, Max, Josh, Murphy and Tyler**



**Foundation students Abi and Sybil**




Did you know that the most common cause of harvester fires is material collecting on hot engine components?


Tips on preventing harvester fires:

- Postponing paddock work during the highest fire-risk periods.
- Run regular maintenance checks on farm machinery.
- Monitor weather conditions throughout the day and stop operations if it changes.

You are required by law to have a nine-litre water-pressured extinguisher on hand.

**Haystack Temperature Guide**





Less than 50°C	✓ Check temperature daily
50°C to 60°C	✓ Check temperature twice daily
60°C to 70°C	✓ Check temperature every 2 to 4 hours
Over 70°C	✓ Potential for fire. Call 000 immediately Avoid walking on top of haystack

Check [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au) for more information



Sign up to [MyCFA](#) to get local information on how to plan and prepare for fires and other emergencies in your area.

Please note: For emergency warnings always go straight to [VicEmergency](#).

Visit [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/vehicles](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/vehicles) for more information.

If you see dry grass, don't park in it or drive through it.

Driving in dry grass could leave fire in your tracks.

Hot exhausts and vehicle components pose significant risks in dry vegetation, especially on high-fire risk days.

JANE SIMSON  
Dip Remedial Massage (1998)

RELAXATION  
DEEP TISSUE  
PREGNANCY  
REIKI  
LYMPHATIC DRAINAGE

Blissful Being  
MASSAGE

PH: 0406 133 281 GRETA



## Greta Football & Netball Club

Happy 2023 Greta Community,

It does not feel as though four months have passed since the end of the 2022 season, but it has, and we are busily preparing for our season ahead.

The 2023 committee sees some existing, some returning and some new committee members. We welcome Blake Goodwin into the role as President supported by a fantastic team made up of Tom Fursdon, Chris Delaney, Emily Naish, Gigi Costenaro, Gary Hogan, John McCarthy, Courteney Kemp, Tayla Hogan, David Wilson, Paul Ellis, Col McClounan, Kristy Harding, Tom Baker, Andrew Wheelens and Mel Goodwin. We look forward to a productive and successful season, on and off the field.



We see more changes for the new season with a new Greta Football Netball Club logo and a new netball dress.

### Playground Update

We have had many generous donations of money, materials, equipment and labour towards the community-driven Playground Project, and we are well on our way to our fundraising goal of \$40,000. This playground will support the community groups that use the Greta Recreation Reserve and the wider Greta community. We continue to aim for a completion date of March 1st, 2023, however, to make this possible we need your help if you can. For donation details contact: Blake Goodwin (Greta FNC): 0413 726 364

2023 COACHES	
Football - Seniors	Greg Newbold
Football - Reserves	Chris Dube & Alex Fitzpatrick
Netball - A Grade	Milly Mathewson
Netball - B Grade	Loren Gathercole
Netball - B Reserve	Alannah Newbold
Netball - Under 17s	Leanne Turnbull
Netball - Under 15s	Netty Atteridge
Netball - Development Squad 1	Janelle Hartwig
Netball - Development Squad 2	Bridgette & Maddie Lewis



## DECORATED AUSTRALIAN WOMAN ONCE LIVED AT MYRRHEE

**Joice NanKivell Loch (1887-1982) author, journalist, undercover agent, humanitarian, weaver**

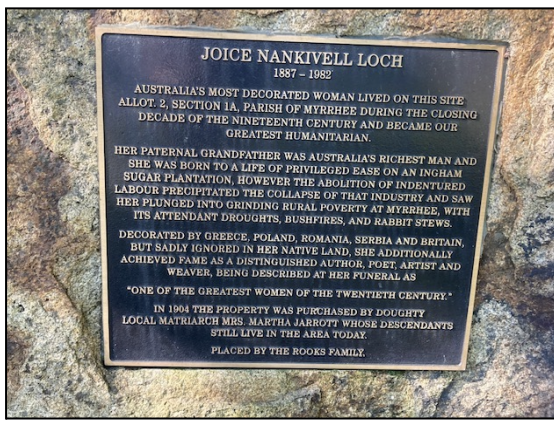
Joice NanKivell was born during a cyclone at Farnham, near Ingham, Queensland on January 24, 1887, her mother being assisted by Daisy, an indentured Pacific Islander. Joice was the daughter of George NanKivell, planter and his young bride, Edith Lawson, originally from Jersey, England. One of Australia's richest men, Thomas NanKivell, was Joice's grandfather and her father and his brothers owned or managed sugar cane plantations in the Ingham area. Initially, Joice was born into a life of privilege but with the increasing criticism and eventual abolition of Kanaka labour (forced labour from the Pacific Islands), the family fell into bankruptcy and their lives changed dramatically.

Joice's parents and her brother, Geoff, moved to a sheep station in an isolated area in Gippsland where they lived in grinding poverty – dirt floor, no running water or sanitation. Joice had to cook, clean, raise lambs and calves and look after seasonal workers. Although her mother encouraged learning there was neither time nor opportunity for her dream of a good education and to become a doctor. Joice's education was intermittent – mainly by governesses and for a time at a Brighton Beach school. The collapse of the banks in the 1890s meant the family had to move again.

After this the family came to live at Myrrhee. As well as working with stock, Joice began to write, planning to make her way as a journalist and author. A fortunate visit from Joice's Uncle Harry, a doctor, saw Joice assist with an operation and he gave her some medical books to study. She was to use this knowledge in stitching up wounded animals and much later as a surgical assistant during World War 2. When her brother enlisted and then died in the Great War, the family decided to sell the farm. She was finally able to move to Melbourne, reviewing books for the Sun-Herald and working as Secretary to the Professor of Classics at Melbourne University who kindled Joice's desire to go to Greece.

Joice's life journey changed when she reviewed a book by Gallipoli hero, Sidney Loch. Friendship turned to romance and the two were married on February 22, 1919. They went to London and Fleet St sent them to Ireland to report on 'The Troubles.' However, after Sinn Fein declared Sidney was a British spy and Michael Collins was murdered, they decided it was time to leave. The Quaker Famine Relief Fund was looking for volunteers for Eastern Poland where Lenin's troops had destroyed Polish and Ukrainian villages. Sidney and Joice lived in abandoned railway carriages and for a time existed on a daily ration of bitter bread and half a tin of sardines. Thus began a lifetime of caring for refugees - from Greece, Serbia and Romania as well as Poland. In a daring operation, Joice saved at least 1,000 Polish women and children from the Nazis.

Joice and Sidney eventually settled at the Greek village of Pargos where they were offered the use of a Byzantine tower as gratitude for the medical and food assistance which the Lochs had provided. Their humanitarian work was assisted greatly by Joice's continued writing, especially the articles to the foreign newspapers which generated awareness and her books which gave some financial assistance. At Joice's and Sidney's initiative the village of Ouranoupolis was saved from starvation by the regeneration of the Pargos rug industry. This is detailed by Susanna De Vries, Joice's biographer, in *Blue Ribbons, Bitter Bread*. The book is available from the Wangaratta library on request and also privately available in kindle and talking book editions.



Joice Nankivell Loch is one of the world's most decorated women. When she died in 1982 at the age of 95, she was described as "One of the most significant women of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.' She was awarded numerous international honours.

Poland's Gold Cross of Merit.

Serbian Order of St Salvia.

Greek Order of Phoenix.  
(Twice)

Greek Order of the Redeemer.

Gold Medal of the Greek National Academy of the Arts.

British MBE.

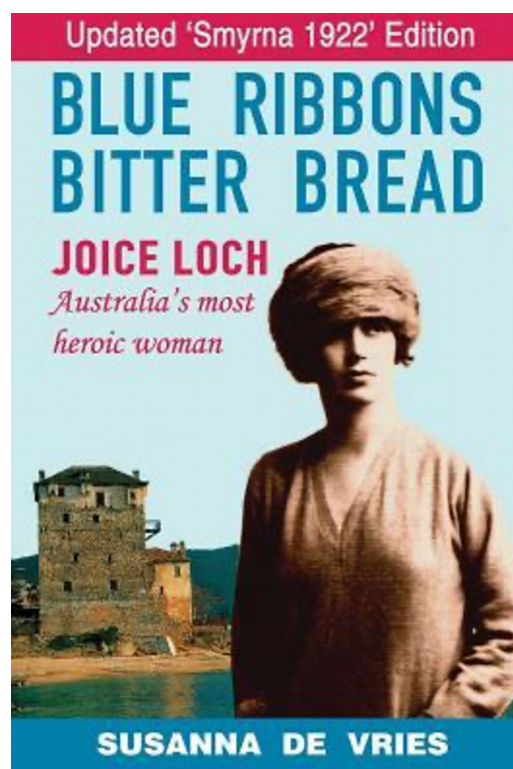
Romanian Order of Elizabeth.

Polish Gold Cross of Virtue.

Greek Order of Beneficence. (Twice)

You can visit Joice's memorial cairn and plaque at Roberts Lane, off the Benalla-Whitfield Rd, about a kilometre up the lane on the left-hand side. Why don't we know more about such a remarkable woman!

Joan Ellis



## **Hansonville Recreation Reserve News**

The Annual General Meeting of the Hansonville Recreation Reserve Committee of Management (now Incorporated) was held on 7 January 2023.

For those new to the area, the Hansonville Recreation Reserve is located on Banksdale Road, just south from the School Road intersection.

Among the agenda items was the nomination of a new committee to take over from 14 January 2023 for a period of three years.

After nominations were received and accepted, the new Reserve Committee was made up of Brian Graham (Chair), Cristina Perra (Secretary and Treasurer), David Dinning, Ken Manton and Steve Newth.

Members also acknowledged: Paddy Delaney, who recently resigned his membership; and David Tanner and Lew Trenkner, who sadly passed away last year and early this year respectively. We thank these members for their commitment and valued contribution to the management of Hansonville Reserve.

The Committee would also like to send our deepest condolences to the Tanner and Trenkner families.

After delays due to COVID and other commitments, the Committee will continue to work towards repairing and replicating the original fence near the entrance to the reserve, as well as erecting an information board which will display photos and the history of the reserve.

If any members of the community have any historical photos of the reserve, including any of the Hansonville Hall, the Committee would appreciate taking a look and possibly making a copy for the board. The Committee is also interested in past photos of the Hansonville Primary School. Please feel free to contact any member of the Committee or contact the Secretary, Cristina Perra, on 0418 327 695.

The Committee hopes to provide you with regular updates on their progress with this project.

## **RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTEERS**

There is a team of volunteers who support the delivery of the Bunyip. These people drive around the district popping the newsletter into your mailbox, many of whom have provided this service for years.

Thanks to Francis O'Brien, Trish Wadley, Allan Porker, Val and Bill McMonigal, Cris Perra, Jane Simpson, Frank Ryan and Anthony Griffiths.

It's also important to recognise and support all our sponsors. Their support enables the Bunyip to be printed. Wangaratta Rural City Council resumed supporting some printing costs through 2022 which is appreciated. Hopefully this will continue into 2023.

Please support these local businesses.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE BUNYIP BY EMAIL ONLY, PLEASE LET US KNOW**

# Honey Stall

1152 Banksdale Rd,  
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Victoria, 3675

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