Korumburra and District Historical Society Inc.

NEWSLETTER No. 43

July 2021

The next meeting of the Korumburra and District Historical Society will take place on Thursday 1st. July at the meeting room adjacent the library in Korumburra, at 7.00 p.m. Our June meeting did not go ahead because of Covid restrictions.

David Anderson will speak to us, at this coming meeting about the history of prefabricated houses in Korumburra.

Please remember to sign in with the QR code when you arrive at the meeting.

Next month we hope to do a town tour, but with a twist, as it will be a time warp effect, the year will be 1892.

In this issue of the newsletter we get a wonderful picture of the town in 1930. What a place it was in those times. Ninety years ago, transport wasn't what it is today; we were not so mobile. We had a range of shopping experiences right here, because we were likely not to go further afield. There was a range of banking services, and a number of garages. We have just learned that the Bendigo Bank will stay in Korumburra ... just one bank in the town now. There is not now the predominant focus on dairying, and many of us have panels on our rooves to generate our own electricity. We are a very changed community, almost unrecognisable perhaps, but then again amazingly unchanged too. Did you notice the note about parking c1930, and have you noticed the parking plan Little Commercial Street 2021?

We've had a question put to us about Ranceby-Outtrim Cricket. The man enquiring has a blazer with 'Ranceby-Outtrim Cricket' on the pocket. Maybe there was team made up of the two clubs for a Country Week competition. The 'Portland Guardian' of 14th. February 1952 reports on the opening match where the Portland Association defeated Ranceby-Outtrim. Have we any former cricketers who might know more of this matter?

KORUMBURRA Great Southern Advocate, Thursday 10th. July 1930.

In last week's issue of the "Leader" appears the following:-

"The town of Korumburra is ideally situated, and its broad streets, planted with trees, with clean footpaths, create a very favourable impression. The main street runs parallel with the railway line, and the residential parts are on the railway line, and on the south east. Commercial Street, Korumburra, has been described by Melbourne warehousemen, who have travelled throughout the State, as the most solid business street in South Gippsland. Land fronting the main street commands a high price, and is yearly increasing in value. More than £140 a foot has been paid for land on this street. There are good shopping facilities and up-to-date shops are now replacing the old buildings. That the town is progressing apace is shown by the large amount of building that is going on. North-west of

the town is the reservoir, which ensures Korumburra an ample supply of water. Electric light and power are obtained from Yallourn, and the residents of Korumburra have practically all the conveniences of city dwellers. Business at Korumburra is very sound and solid, and there is keen competition for the country peoples' custom. The dairying industry always provides plenty of ready money, and this induces keen competition among business men. There is a good market, and on market day the town is crowded. Every farmer for miles around comes into town, and it is practically impossible to find parking space for a car in any of the main streets. Market day in Korumburra, as in most country towns, is the day of the week. There is also a very live Agricultural and Pastoral Society, which holds a one-day show annually. The show grounds, which compare favourably with grounds in larger country centres, are beautifully situated, and are available for all sporting fixtures. Competition at the annual show is very keen, and entries are drawn from districts many miles away. Competition in the dairy cattle section is particularly keen, and some of the finest cattle in the State are exhibited at this show. The townspeople show a commendable spirit and take a great interest in the welfare of the country people, assisting all movements for the betterment of their conditions. Visitors to Korumburra are struck with the beautiful flowers which grow in profusion in the gardens of practically every home of the town. The residents have done much to improve the appearance of the town with these displays of blooms. The horticultural show, held every year, is well worth seeing. All roads leading to Korumburra are now well made and well graded. The provision of excellent main roads by the Country Roads Board and a frequent railway service have done much to advance Korumburra and to popularise it as a residential town. The first thought in the minds of travellers to any country town concerns the quality of the hotel accommodation. Visitors to Korumburra need have no fears on that account. The hotel accommodation in the town is excellent, the licenses houses being among the best conducted in the State. Unlike some country towns, Korumburra is also well provided with up-to-date garages, where petrol supplies, spare parts and mechanical assistance are readily available. This is very important, especially to motorists. Among the public buildings at Korumburra the Mechanics' Hall and the Korumburra Theatre take pride of place. Sport is catered for by cricket, football, tennis, bowling, golf, croquet and rifle clubs, all of which are well supported. The swimming basin is conducted in connection with the Higher Elementary School. There are in the town a Mechanics' Institute and free library, branches of several banks, five churches, two newspapers, a fire brigade, a motor ambulance corps and a well equipped private hospital. Korumburra is justly proud of its pipe and brass bands."

We're continually changing aren't we; and some of those changes just slip by, while others are of a nature that take us by surprise, disappointment or sometimes delight. We are still in a beautiful part of the world, where we have most of the services we need close by, and there are people coming to Korumburra for the treasures it holds.

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