

This is Kempton



A newsletter about our town produced by The Green Ponds Progress Association Inc. May 2021



Brighton Green Ponds RSL Sub Branch



In March, members of the sub branch were saddened by the death of Ken Clark, our respected and much admired President.

Ken was a veteran who had two overseas deployments. He was very proud of his service and gained pleasure and satisfaction from being a service member of the RSL for 22 years.

He had a number of terms as President and worked extremely hard to make sure this sub branch was respected not only for its support of veterans, but also for the local community.

Ken was honoured with RSL state life membership in 2018 in appreciation for service above and beyond the normal expectations.

Lawrence Clark from Bagdad, known as Laurie and no relation to Ken, is our new

President. He has been vice president to Ken for some years and is just as committed.

Brighton Green Ponds RSL Sub Branch are open every Thursday evening from 6pm to 10pm.

We have a team in the 8-ball league and also on some Sundays run a Darts Calcutta. Contact Robbie on 0417 317 532 for more information.

ANZAC Day 2021 was commemorated by a dawn service at Bagdad and an 11am service at Kempton.

The SES paraded around Kempton at 6am for 'Light up the Dawn,' something started last year because of covid, with a special tribute at Ken Clark's house.

The service here in Kempton was dignified and well attended. School children from Kempton Primary School read prayers, laid a wreath and helped raise the flag.

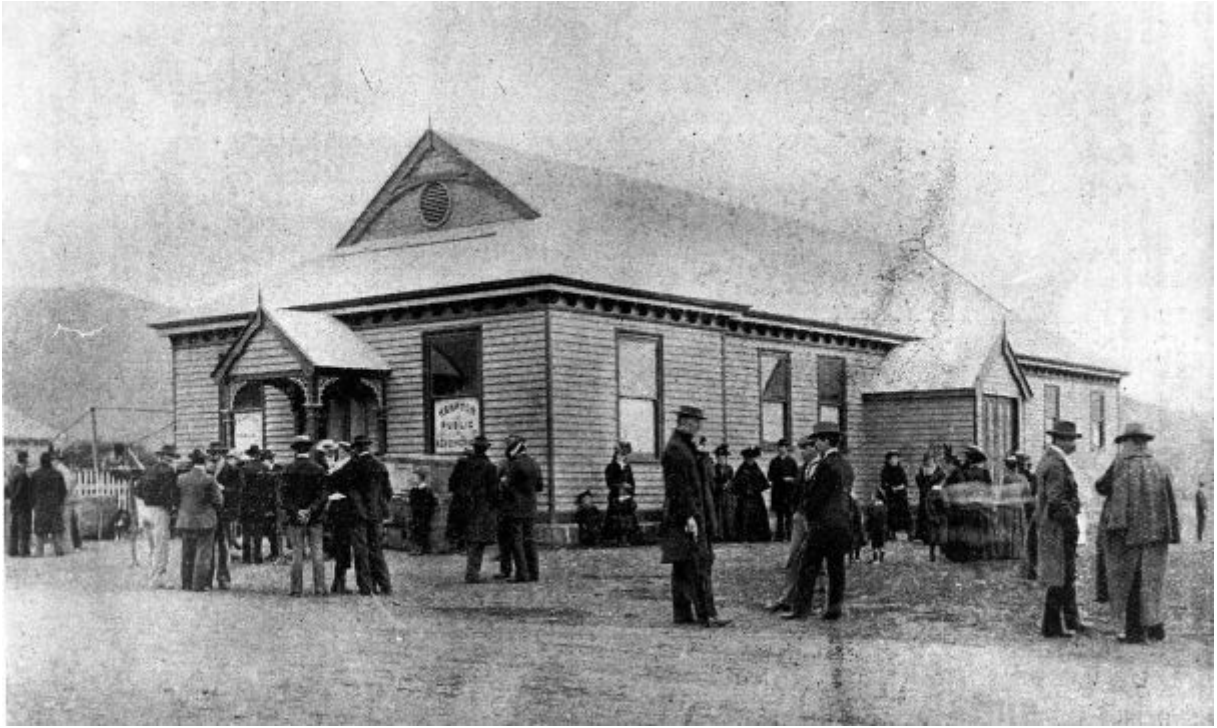
The Rev. Kaye Paice led the prayers. Andrew MacLean played the last post and rouse.

A number of community groups laid wreaths, including one on behalf of the 'Dogs in the military'

Lunch was served in the hall afterwards.



VICTORIA MEMORIAL HALL, KEMPTON



Kempton Hall circa 1920

Kempton started a library in the 1860's that didn't fare too well. It was restarted in the 1870's and housed in the Lecture Hall, originally Bells Store. The lecture Hall had many uses and when it burnt down in 1888 new premises were urgently required.

In 1892 a new hall was built with the insurance money received from the fire. The Hall was named Victoria Hall after Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee in 1897. Many townships called their halls 'Victoria Hall' after Queen Victoria.

Photo courtesy Brad Williams SMC



Victoria Hall 1956

An addition was made to the hall in 1956 and the library, which didn't have a permanent home, was housed there. The war memorial was built at this time. Later the rooms were used as a doctors surgery and now it is the home of the Brighton Green Ponds RSL sub branch.

Photo from 'A History of Green Ponds 1862-1987' by T.R.Macleod



Victoria Hall before the renovations began. Sometime along the way the front porch was removed...possibly to make way for the access ramp. In 2020 the Kempton Streetscape Committee was awarded a government community grant towards updating the hall providing better disabled access, paving, lighting, and seating .



Above, the renovations began early February 2021 and below, nearing completion.

Disabled parking is at the side of the hall in Old Hunting Ground Rd.



Photos courtesy Helen Geard, Kempton Streetscape committee

Kempton Township— a bit of history

Green Ponds was the original name for Kempton and began to be settled around the 1820's when land was quickly taken up in the Green Ponds and Cross Marsh area.

Cross Marsh was the flat part of the country north of the Green Ponds township and beyond Melton Mowbray. To the south of the township was Shepton Montacute, (renamed Dysart about 1875 after Mr Edward Payne's property, 'Dysart Park')

Nearly all the settlers in the area were farmers and as the road between Hobart and the north was being constructed, so towns sprung up along its route.

Oatlands was the largest town in the municipality, but Green Water Holes (Green Ponds) was the next largest. It was an excellent stopping place after the climb up Constitution Hill as it had the only permanent water for miles around.

In earlier years the town boasted a number of inns including 'Good Woman Inn', 'Victoria Inn', later called 'Kempton Hotel', 'Exchange', 'Turf' and 'Wilmot Arms'. The grandest coaching inn on the highway was owned by William Henry Ellis. Today we know it as 'Dysart House'.

With the reliance those days on horse drawn carriages and horse travel in general, Kempton was able to support coach related businesses such as a wheelwright, blacksmith, and an ostler.

Over the years businesses came and went. The shops sold everything from farm equipment to wallpaper, groceries to ladies fashion. There was a watchmaker, shoemaker, brewery, tannery, a flour mill, and a cabinet maker. The town also had a stock-market and an annual show.

From the 1840's railways began to appear

in Tasmania, two north-south routes were surveyed...roughly along the main road but bypassing Oatlands and Green Ponds. Petitions and depositions were sent to the government and despite impassioned arguments the original route won out.

By 1862, Green Ponds became known as Kempton. It was a peaceful place with schools, Churches, a library and lecture hall. Hunting, fishing and shooting were popular pastimes along with horseracing, ploughing, football and cricket, the Kempton club being one of the oldest cricket clubs on the Island, formed in 1858.

Information extracted from Alison Alexander's Book 'The Southern Midlands, a history' with permission from SM Council

In the next issue we'll explore some of the stories behind the original businesses in the township but now we'll look at a business operating in Kempton today.

The Olde Spikey Bridge Fresh Roasted Peanut Butter

Terri Attrill and Ash Schuller along with son Bentley moved to Tassie in December 2013 with the hope of starting a small business.

Ashley worked as a rousey and Terri took a job at Zeps in Campbell Town, as they spent their first 12 months living in Tunbridge.

In November 2014 they moved into the General Store in the Main Street, Kempton to really get the business started. Things happened quickly. Within 18 months they had quite a following locally and in 2015 purchased their Salamanca Market site. That same year Terri's father and their 2 daughters Emily and Tamika also joined them.

Since then things have taken off. The couple drive all night over Tassie doing their deliveries with no freight charges to their customers. Instead they enjoy the beautiful scenery along the way.

If you are yet to try their locally made peanut butter and would like to you can get it at both the Post office and the Old Kempton Distillery.



The Olde Spikey Bridge Fresh Roasted Peanut Butter

The Olde Spikey Bridge Peanut Butter is homemade in Kempton Tasmania using only the highest quality Australian Peanuts and a pinch of Australian Sea Salt.

The Peanuts are dry roasted in our own special way that ensures a lovely rich flavour that has to be tasted to be believed.

We pride ourselves on achieving maximum flavour with minimal ingredients and therefore do not add oils, sugars or glutes.

The secret is in the roasting



St Mary's Community Cemetery Kempton

A committee, chaired by John Jones, has been formed to negotiate with the Anglican Diocese for the acquisition of the former Church property and to operate a Cemetery in accordance with the relevant Government regulation and guidelines.

"St Mary's Community Cemetery Kempton" has been registered and incorporated. The property can only be sold to an incorporated body and not to an individual.

The Anglican Diocese is in the final stages of an audit of the gravesites (as required by the Act) preparatory to continuing discussions relating to the sale of the property.

The property is on one title and is being offered for sale as a cemetery, which includes the Church buildings.

It is expected that negotiations will resume soon to determine the conditions of sale and the purchase price.

Green Ponds Progress Association Inc



**RAM, the
Kempton
Community
Bus**

The Green Ponds Progress Association is a -not -for -profit organisation run by volunteer members of the local community.

The Vision of the Progress Association is to work together to raise the profile of Kempton and the opportunities within Kempton and the Green Ponds district.

We do this primarily by running the Kempton Festival and raffle. Our aim is to provide a way of raising money for the benefit of this community as a whole.

The Progress Association gained a grant to purchase a 12-seater bus now named 'RAM the Kempton Community Bus' which is available for self-drive hire for anyone in the community.

It can be used for family outings, wine tours, clubs, senior groups, education or shopping, to name but a few. We encourage all members of the community to use RAM.

At only 60cents / kilometre it is cheap!

The Kempton Community bus

Part of the Green Ponds Progress
Association Inc.

A 12-seater bus available for self drive hire
for
all your needs, including:-

Family Outings

Seniors

Groups

Clubs

Education

Work

Mystery Tours

Daily hire rate: \$0.60c/km plus fuel

or

Minimum daily hire charge \$50.00 plus fuel
Maximum daily hire charge \$160.00 plus fuel

contact Philip Morrell on 0418 846 274 or
email philipmorrell62@y7mail.com for all
enquiries

KEMPTON MURAL

In 2017 the Kempton Streetscape Committee suggested a mural be painted at the Kempton Recreation Ground.

Carolyn Bassett volunteered the local arts group to paint it.

Carolyn, together with Catherine Johnson and Sandra Brown designed a mural for the street facing wall of the grandstand. This is a painted mural and incorporates clay birds, clay oak leaves and clay tiles. The oak leaves were made by pupils of the Kempton Primary School and their families, plus a mosaic of clay tiles, designed by Lisa Rudd, a Kempton Ceramist and decorated by Bagdad Primary school children. Carolyn and Catherine went to the schools to help the children with this work.

The project was divided into three stages because of the size of the mural. The design was a representation of past and present Kempton, including a coach and horse, and painted by members of the Lower Midlands Art Group and 3 artist friends. The first and second stages of the mural were completed by 2020.

In January 2021, the third and final stage of the mural was started. The arts group did the painting and Kempton children and their families contributed with decorating the clay additions.

A silhouette by artist Folko Kooper was moved from another location in the town to be in front of and part of the design. This enhanced the mural significantly.

A visiting signwriter stopped to look at the mural and volunteered to paint the name of the recreation ground instead of the sign we were considering. He did this for no charge and the sign complimented the rest of the mural.

The mural was completed towards the end of March 2021. We have created something unique and quite different to other town murals. This was achieved because we incorporated a variety of media, paint and clay and metal.

Lower Midlands Arts

Members of the LMA group are from Kempton and surrounding areas. There is no requirement to be an artist, just an interest in the arts.

LMA leases paintings that are part of a collection they have amassed called The Lower Midlands Collection. For one year you can lease an art work for just \$50. The works are all related to the southern midlands and are purchased, loaned or donated. We add new work each year.

The next leasing day is Sunday 27th June 2021, at Victoria Memorial Hall at 11am.

Following the leasing a two course meal will be available at \$25 per head. Drinks will be available at the RSL bar.

The Artlands exhibition at Dysart House, held in September is organised by this group. It has now become a fixture on southern Tasmanian artist's calendars.

We are on facebook or lease online at www.greenpondsprogress.com



Kempton Services and amenities

Southern Midlands Council—85 Main Street

Visitor Information—By Blue Place,
88 Main Street

Overnight Camping Stop—90 Main Street. Enquiries
and keys at the Council Office

Police Station—87 Main Street

Victoria Memorial Hall and RSL—89 Main Street

Booking number for hall; 0458 501 198

Primary School—4 Old Hunting Ground Road

Public Toilets—Old Hunting Ground Road and Rec-
reation ground

Post Office and Little Shop of Echoes - 99 Main
Street

Huntington Tavern—119 Main Street

Recreation Ground and playground-132 Main Street

Mood Food and Fuel—3001 Midland Highway

*Kempton Festival —Third Sunday in February each
year at the Recreation Ground

*Rodeo in November each year, Melton Mowbray.

*Artlands annual exhibition at Dysart House. -Spring

*Lower Midlands Collection leasing. Online or annu-
ally at Victoria Memorial Hall—June

*Junior Football Club at recreation ground

Web site for GPPA;

www.greenpondsprogress.com

Secretary; bassettcarolyn7@gmail.com

This free quarterly newsletter edited by Carolyn Bas-
sett. If you would like to contribute an article or ad-
vertise, email Carolyn

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Australia's Biggest Morning Tea 2021

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea is
a community event that raises
vital funds for those impacted by
cancer.

The official date is Thursday 27th
May 2021, but you can host anytime
that works for you until the end of
June. Every dollar raised is going to
make an incredible difference to
people impacted by cancer. All funds
raised in Tasmania stay in Tasmania.

Kempton's Biggest Morning Tea

**The Mahjong Ladies are hosting a
morning tea for this event at 10am
on 28th June.**

This is a fund raiser of course so
there will be an entry fee, and activi-
ties to do plus a 'bring and buy' stall
and a raffle.

Everyone is encouraged to attend,
you can bring a plate of food, some-
thing to sell, run a game, or just
come along for a chat...and you can
come and go as you please.

*Mums, dads, kids, brothers, sisters,
aunts, uncles, grannies and grand-
dads,
in-laws ...everyone welcome!*

**And where is this?
At the Victoria
Memorial Hall,
Kempton**

