



# The Faraday Farrago

NEWSLETTER OF THE FARADAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

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## Karl Zornick Member Profile

What compelled a fifteen year old boy to leave his home in the lush Soca Valley of Slovenia in 1948, was possibly a

(the name had been forcibly corrupted during the Italian occupation) made his way over the rugged Julian alps and into Italy, not to return for over sixty years.

With nothing but the clothes

Post-war Italy was struggling to re-build, and ill-equipped to handle the huge influx of refugees. Karl was transferred to Rome where the seeds of a new life in far off America or Australia were sown.

Ultimately he was offered a passage on board a refugee ship to Australia, and on arrival in Melbourne was promptly transferred to the Bonegilla migrant camp.

In the 1950's Bonegilla was no five star hotel, with none of the facilities and benefits offered to asylum seekers today. Yet during the years of its operation over 300,000 migrants to Australia passed through its doors.

Karl was placed as a young farm worker in Western Victoria where he developed a love of animals and an

aversion to their ill-treatment, both of which persist today.

In 1959 he became a proud Australian citizen and has been a valued contributor throughout adult life, in many and varied roles.

Karl never married yet remains in regular contact with his brother and extended family in Slovenia. He hopes to revisit his childhood home again soon, having returned once for a holiday, some fifteen years ago.

After more than sixty years in Australia including twenty-odd in Faraday, Karl is a valuable member of our community, and



combination of adventure and despair.

The tiny, virtually land-locked state had been partitioned by Italy, Germany and Hungary during the war. Now, following the defeat of the aggressors, Slovenia had become one of the six states of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, under Tito.

War ravaged, and with virtually no job prospects, little food and no money, a future of subsistence in Slovenia seemed pretty austere.

In company with a slightly older lad, the young 'Karlo'

on his back, Karl Zornick and his companion slipped past the guards at the Italian border high in the mountains, and vanished into the countryside.

Many of the less cautious were shot.

Cold and starving, they were given a chunk of cheese by a kindly farmer, their only sustenance for days. But it didn't take long for the authorities to apprehend the young refugees and place them in a camp for minors.

At least there was now some form of enforced protection, reasonable food and a place to shelter at night.

a friend to everyone he meets.

His kindness is as renowned as his vegetable patch, as is his love of and care for domestic animals; 'all creatures great and small'.

Within ten years of the death of Tito, Slovenia became an independent Republic in

for three months of the year. But in the summer months it becomes a Mecca for rafting, skiing and mountaineering.

And on a warm summers day with mist lingering in the valley it is a strikingly beautiful place.

But as Karl knew well

to Faraday with a friend and tethered it to a fence while they went mushrooming. After a while they had picked a clothes basket full of mushrooms and carried it back to where the horse was tied. They found the horse lying on the ground and obviously in great pain, so they got it to its feet and led it slowly two miles to the nearest house, leaving the trap and the mushrooms behind.

With the horse being cared for they went back for the mushrooms, but found that a cow had eaten the lot, leaving just a knife and an empty basket. Back with the horse, it obviously needed proper treatment so they walked it slowly back to Castlemaine, but it died shortly after they got there. Whatever caused the horse's death isn't recorded; maybe it was snakebite.

It isn't unusual for cows to eat mushrooms. They can tell the difference between safe ones and dangerous ones, which is more than many humans can do. Some years ago I picked some Yellow Staining mushrooms at Faraday by mistake and cooked them for breakfast. I went out for the day, felt a bit ill and couldn't eat lunch. My wife Anthea was very ill and had to call the poisons information centre.

In the late 1850s a new generation of "mushroom upstarts" grew rich from gold mining. There was reference to mushroom politicians, mushroom aristocracy and mushroom companies, all of which meant that they had sprung up from no-where. Some years are good for mushrooms; others not. In 1860 a mushroom was measured at



A View of Cezsoca.

1991, and has since joined the European Union.

With a population today of two million Slovenia is regarded as the success story of the former Yugoslav states. Bordered by Italy, Austria, Hungary and Croatia, with a mere 25Km of coastline to the Adriatic, it is the gem of Eastern Europe.

And the tiny village of Cezsoca in the municipality of Bovec, Karls home town, is stunningly beautiful.

Located in the Soca river valley at the foot of the snow-capped Alps, it is the thing of postcards.

With steep mountains each side of the valley, the village can be shaded from sunshine

as a youngster, picturesque surroundings alone do nothing to conquer hunger and poverty.

### The Perils of Mushrooming Peter McCarthy

**I**n late autumn or early winter in Faraday, if rain comes while the ground is still warm, it's a great time to go mushrooming. One Sunday in June 1912, a couple from Castlemaine wished they had stayed at home. Thomas Carter, who was a partner in an ironmongery business, took a valuable horse and a trap (a light, sporty vehicle) for a Sunday drive

35 inches around, or almost one metre and another weighed 1.3 kg. The good mushroom season of 1860 led to tragedy when six year old William Dickson went mushrooming in the Bullarook Forest near Ballarat and didn't return. His remains, just a few bones and clothing, were found six weeks later.

When mushrooms appeared each year the papers were full of mushroom recipes. Here is a recipe from 1912 for mushroom patties:

Thoroughly wash half a pound of mushrooms, and peel and chop them, add half a pound of breadcrumbs, pepper and salt. Beat two ounces of butter and a little milk together, and mix with other ingredients to moisten. Line patty-pans with pastry, put a good spoonful of the mixture in each, and cover with pastry. Brush over with milk, and bake for twenty minutes.

### Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor, **Harmony or Discord**

On 22nd May last year Council adopted the name Harmony Way for that section of the Calder Highway between Elphinstone and Fogarty's Gap Road, North Harcourt.

Many of our members' addresses are along this section of road and as such would have received correspondence from Council inviting submissions and comments on suggested names.

From Council Minutes:--

"Five names were proposed for this section of road. Consultation with interested groups elicited the following names: Harmony Way –

recommended by the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans in memory of Henry Harmony Nelson, who is the apical ancestor through whom the Clans connect with their ancestral lands. Mount Alexander Road – In their initial correspondence, VicRoads suggested this name, which links to the history of the region.

Victoria Road – suggested by the Harcourt Heritage and Advisory Association. Historically this was the name of the road that ran through the township of Harcourt.

One hundred and sixty residents received the survey and seventy five residents responded.

Survey results provided the following outcomes: Harmony Way 16 Mount Alexander Road 49 Victoria Road 10

It was clear that the majority favoured the section of road be renamed Mount Alexander Road." (minutes of Council meeting, 22nd May 2012)

When it came to a decision however, Cr Redden, who lives at Newstead and Cr Machin, who lives in Castlemaine moved and seconded respectively, that the name of this section of road be Harmony Way. The motion was carried!!!!

Hence the clear preference of the majority of the community and affected residents was ignored.

Now I have no problem with honoring indigenous persons with some historical connection to an area of the Shire, or have made a contribution to the community.

However it is widely held that Henry Nelson was not of this area, and possibly never

even visited the land through which this road passes.

Additionally, 'Harmony' is not a real name but a 'nickname' given by non-indigenous people; whilst the Geographic Place Names Act 1998 requires that a surname and not a first name (or 'nickname'?) be used when renaming a place/road.

As one who (almost) always reads all agendas and minutes of Council, I, along with the rest of us who are now affected, let this one slip through!!—no excuse that I was away in the outback!!

Perhaps the Council in their wisdom could name the new Civic Centre next to the Town Hall, the Dja Dja Wurrung Civic Centre.

Regards, Alan J. Elliot

### Recent Faraday Property Sales/Listed Property

John McFarlane, Kennedys Lane on about 25 acres (Sold)

Don Gillies (Dec) granite cottage on 5 acres Calder Hwy (Sold)

Allan Douglas two story home on aprox 5 acres (listed for sale)

D and J Maguire, Faradale drive on about 5 acres (Sold)

Moons Lane, 46 acres (Listed \$330,000)

Musselwhite Drive, 10 acres (Sold)

Faraday Methodist Church, Sold

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Rev. Mark Dunn (Uniting Church)	Marriage Celebrant, the setting is your choice	0409 009 443
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for the printing of the  
FARADAY FARRAGO**

Faraday Rainfall  
May 2013 45mm  
June 2013 62mm  
July 2013 85mm

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Dunstans Flat at 11:30am  
Sunday 6th October  
Picnic/Barbeque to follow.  
Please bring your choice of lunch!**

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**For new membership please contact Robert English at [renglish@melbpc.org.au](mailto:renglish@melbpc.org.au)  
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Individuals \$10.00**