



Kilkivan & District Community Care Assn Inc.

P.O. Box 224, Kilkivan, Q. 4600

Email: kilivancare@gmail.com

ABN: 76 639 140 711

MEDIA RELEASE

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Determined, committed community blitzes target!

The **goal** was “\$10,000 in 10 weeks”; the **result**: \$24,321.45!!!

Kilkivan, Goomeri, Tansey & Woolooga residents, volunteer organizations and businesses have united to produce a stunning response to the challenge issued on August 1, 2023 by Kilkivan & District Community Care Association (KDCCAI): to raise \$10,000 in **support of the local Rise & Shine Ageing-in-place Project’s accommodation element.**

KDCCAI President Rosie Fitzgerald said today that she was “absolutely thrilled and really relieved” at the response. “Initially we were feeling confident of reaching our target, buoyed by a very early, large donation from nonagenarian Gordon McGill of Kilkivan. But after the great progress of the first few weeks, things started to slow...luckily we had significant boosts along the way that not only helped us leap towards the target but also lifted our morale to keep us powering on! It’s been a wonderful whole-of-community response.”

The final fortnight provided three significant moments of what sometimes seemed to Ms Fitzgerald and KDCCAI Treasurer Lynda Sempf “the longest 10 weeks of our lives”: firstly, Phyllis Hopf donated \$1000, the first significant donation by a Goomeri resident; then local recycling business Blue Dog Recycling’s Adrian and Anne Steen donated \$500; and finally the Cost-of-Living Buster Raffle proceeds were tallied – a total of \$4,275.

However, both Rosie and Lynda are at pains to point out that it was the combination of both large and small contributions across the region that made for a truly magical result. “While we are really grateful for all of the large and medium donors, those who perhaps bought only one \$5 raffle ticket or donated less than \$100 are also very important contributors,” said Treasurer Sempf. “What we were trying to demonstrate with this campaign is that this entire community of Kilkivan, Goomeri, Tansey and Woolooga enthusiastically supports the objective of building affordable, accessible, rental accommodation on a lovely, spacious Council-owned block in Kilkivan. Having so, so many locals support this campaign in differing ways means we can accurately claim that this project is keenly desired by our whole community.”

KDCCAI praised members of the Seniors Social Hub and four Mable workers who sold hundreds of raffle tickets, and pointed out that many donors, including overnight visitors to Kilkivan, will never realize any tangible benefit but have nonetheless demonstrated their support for the Rise & Shine Concept.

The culmination of the campaign occurred on Sunday with the drawing of the **Cost-of-Living Buster raffle** comprising 7 prizes – cash and vouchers totalling over \$2000 from businesses throughout the district and also from two Gympie donors. Presiding over the draw were Kilkivan's *most mature* residents, **Gordon McGill (95 years) and Mavis O'Neill (94 years)**. They were described by Rosie Fitzgerald as the "Dream Duo" for the role – they have known each other since their early school days and both lived for the majority of their lives in the Cinnabar locality, then moved at separate times into Kilkivan township. (They also feature in the "Rising & Shining around Kilkivan" calendar produced in 2022 to celebrate many over 80s residents.) "We couldn't imagine any better candidates for the job! They have both been hugely influential in the local area and are great role models for ageing with grace, resilience and good humour," she said.

The winner of the first prize bundle, valued at \$1000, was **Cameron Heeb** of Boonara, who won a \$500 Kilkivan Meats voucher, \$300 cash, \$100 Gympie Gold Army Disposals voucher, \$50 Goomeri Emporium voucher, \$50 Goomeri Hair Salon voucher (spa pedicure). Mr Heeb told Rosie Fitzgerald when she phoned to deliver his good news that he had "used my beer money to buy those tickets last Friday afternoon – it's such a worthy cause!"

Second prize winner, Woolooga resident **Susanne Wright**, exclaimed, "Amazing! I can't believe it! I never win anything!" Her \$500 prize bundle comprised a \$150 Dusty Hill voucher, \$100 cash, \$50 Goomeri Emporium voucher, \$50 Nedloh Rural, Goomeri voucher, and a \$50 Kilkivan General Store voucher.

Woolooga resident **Joe Petersen auctioned** two items ahead of the raffle draw, and there was spirited bidding for a Muster Dogs calendar donated by ABC TV's Lisa Millar, and a "Lest We Forget" quilt donated by Gympie Gold Army Disposals. Thanks to Megan Faithfull and Robyn Boorer for their purchases which added a further \$300 to the tally.

Kilkivan & District Community Care Association is in a consortium arrangement with The Affordable Housing Charity; the consortium is applying for significant State and Federal Government grants to assist with the funding of the accommodation project. The outcome of those applications should be known by February 2024.

Major donors (\$500 or more) who agreed to be identified included:

Gordon McGill, Ian Fitzgerald, Andrew & Cathy (nee Schollick) Douglas, Sullivan Livestock, Nev Goodrich, Lyle & Alison (nee Leyer) Johnson, Meredith (nee Leyer) Mackay, Douglas & Catherine (nee Leyer) Johnson, Bonnie Farrow, Kilkivan Post Office, Railway Markets & Community Gardens organization, Phyllis Hopf, Blue Dog Recycling.

Anonymous donations of \$500 or more amounted to an additional \$3,500.

Nolan Meats donated 4 cryovac rump pieces which are being raffled to further leverage their \$400 retail value.

Thanks also to octogenarian **Jan Kirby** for her **quilt** donation (offered on Facebook for a donation), all attendees of **bingo** & donors of bingo raffle prizes during August & September (funds raised went directly to the \$10,000 target), **cash donors**, all buyers of **Buster raffle tickets**, donors of coins & notes into the **glass bottle** positioned at various locations throughout the 10 weeks, **Jan Ferguson's Goomeri change collection**, and all those who wished the community well. Every dollar and positive thought mattered.

Rise & Shine Cost-of-living Buster Raffle Results

- **1st prize: Valued at \$1000!! Ticket # Orange S60 won by Cam Heeb, Boonara**
(\$500 Kilkivan Meats voucher + \$300 cash + \$100 Gympie Gold Army Disposals voucher + Goomeri Emporium \$50 voucher + Goomeri Country Hair Salon voucher (for a spa pedicure, valued at \$50))
- **2nd prize: Valued at \$500! Ticket # Yellow C77 won by Susanne Wright, Woolooga**
(\$150 Dusty Hill voucher + \$100 Goomeri Foodworks voucher + \$100 cash + + \$50 Goomeri Emporium voucher + \$50 Nedloh Rural, Goomeri, voucher + Kilkivan General Store \$50 voucher)
- **3rd prize: Valued at \$300! Ticket # Orange S52 won by Lyn Argent, Goomeri**
(\$100 Kilkivan Antiques & Collectibles voucher + \$100 cash + \$50 Goomeri Emporium voucher + \$50 Kilkivan Hotel voucher)
- **4th prize: Valued at \$100! Ticket # Purple Y56 won by A. Steen, Blue Dog Recycling, Kilkivan**
(\$50 Goomeri Emporium voucher + \$50 Kilkivan Post Office voucher)
- **5th prize: Valued at \$80! Ticket # Purple W44 won by Evonne Bambling, Kilkivan**
(\$50 Goomeri Emporium voucher + \$30 CC's Kitchen, Woolooga)
- **6th prize: Valued at \$75 Ticket # Orange S19 won by Wendy Waller, Brisbane**
(\$50 Goomeri Emporium voucher + 2 tickets to Gympie Cinema)
- **7th prize: Valued at \$30 Ticket # Apricot N94 won by Steve Horseman, Kilkivan**
(\$30 voucher from Wimberley & Co Bookshop, Goomeri)

Thank you to all the very generous donors & to everyone who bought tickets!
(ENDS)

Rosie Fitzgerald

President

Kilkivan & District Community Care Assn Inc.

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