



WILDLIFE RESCUE Contacts

Koala rescue
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WHO? WHEN? WHERE?

A young boy with his bike and his dog: this photo (at left) was taken about 90 years ago. How things have changed!

The boy is George Weston and his dog is named Foxie.

They are playing on the Hastings to Flinders roadway at Merricks outside his home and the general store which is owned and run by his parents, Alf and Tilly Weston. The family lives at 'Westgate', the Californian-style bungalow house they built next to the store. The year is 1933 or '34.

The building behind George is the Union Church, where both Anglican congregations and Presbyterian congregations once worshipped on alternate Sundays. The building, an old one, was erected in the 1870s and in 1935 it would be demolished as decrepit and unfit for use.

Today that road is known as the Frankston Flinders Road, and the general store has become a popular, high-class restaurant while the house is home to a gallery.

The former site of the Union Church is now part of the grounds of Stoniers Winery. George became a local real estate agent who unfortunately died in a road accident in the 1970s.)

*(photo and information from the archives of the
Balnarring & District Historical Society)*

Ilma Hackett