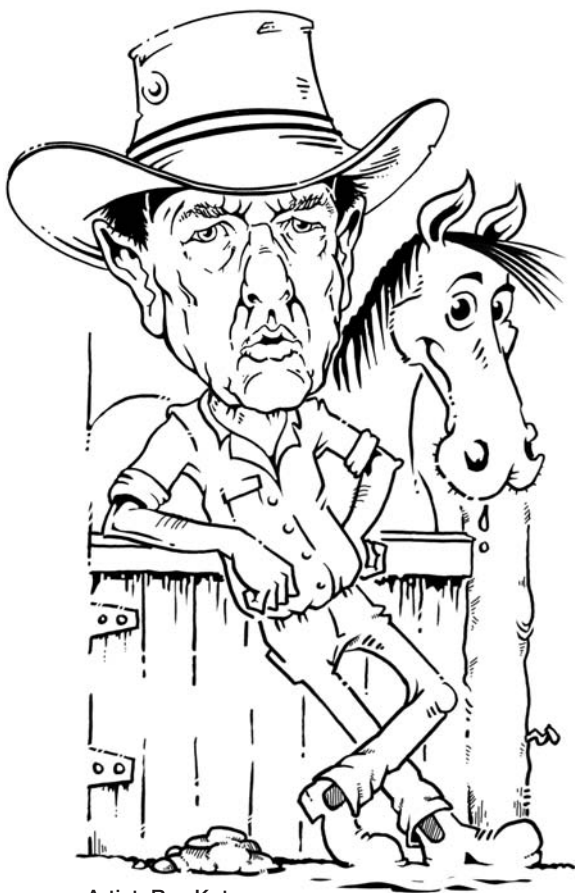


NICKNAME HALL OF FAME



Artist: Ray Kotzur

Coonamble NSW



www.coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

Meet the Locals!

Coonamble Nickname Hall of Fame

“Coonamble is the capital of the national nickname phenomenon.

You have entered a realm where the ‘real’ names of many men, women, and children have been forgotten, even by their mothers.

Coonamble has its share of abbreviated surnames but in these parts, the tradition of bestowing nicknames has surpassed a conversational convenience and become an artform. Even local landmarks, buildings and businesses are known by names other than those their owners gave them.

Coonamble’s talent for nicknames is partly due to our bicultural history. The first Europeans in the region discovered the keen sense of observation and dry humour of the inland’s Indigenous inhabitants. *“All white men who were much with the blacks were given a native name referring to their habits or appearance.”* Soon, they had nicknames that translated to ‘hungry crow’ or ‘lizard dung’.

Anything said, done, worn, eaten, or even inherited, is fair game for a nickname. These nicknames may last a day ... or many generations.

Coonamble is the Nickname Hall of Fame. Take a stroll around the streets of Coonamble’s CBD to see the ‘larger than life’ caricatures on billboards mounted on shop walls and get to know some of our stories. Or stay for a while and get to know us. Join us in celebrating our unique local and national heritage.”

