

Article for AAL Newsletter

Celebrating 100 Years of Stan Staines!

All About Living is delighted to celebrate the incredible milestone of Stanley Staines' 100th birthday! Stan, a much-loved client, is an inspiration to us all, and we're honoured to support his independence, helping him remain in the home he built over 70 years ago.

Walking into Stan's home is like stepping into a treasure trove of memories. With walls adorned with photos, it's clear his life is filled with love – from his 4 children and 8 grandchildren to his 9 great-grandchildren. A Navy veteran of WWII, Stan's stories are as sharp as ever, recounting tales of schoolyard marbles, his time aboard the [SS Koopa](#), and his first car, a 1928 Triumph Roadster.

Stan fondly remembers his beloved wife, Pat, whom he met while working at his father's corner store in Shorncliffe. They shared nearly 70 years of marriage before Pat sadly passed away in 2021. Her presence is still deeply felt in the home they built together, where Stan cherishes a lifetime of memories.

Stan shares his secret to a long life: "Keep Jesus in your heart, watch what goes into your mouth, and look after your liver." Wise words from someone who's lived through three monarchies, the Great Depression, and a lifetime of love and service.

Surrounded by a family who adores him, Stan continues to charm us with his wit, wisdom, and warmth. From all of us at All About Living – Happy 100th Birthday, Stan! Thank you for letting us be part of your journey.



Stanley Staines celebrated his 100th birthday at his cherished Brighton home.

Article for Website

Celebrating 100 Remarkable Years of Stanley Staines

All About Living is proud to celebrate the incredible life of Stanley Staines, who recently turned 100 years old. A much-loved client, Stan inspires us with his resilience, charm, and dedication to remaining independent in the home he built over 70 years ago.

Stan was born the eldest of six children and grew up in Pinkenba during the Great Depression. Despite the challenges of the time, he remembers a childhood filled with love and care from his nurturing parents. His father later owned a corner store in Shorncliffe, where a young Stan worked and caught the eye of a local girl, Patricia (Pat), the woman who would later become his wife.

At 18, Stan joined the Navy and served in World War II, sailing aboard the SS Koopa to deliver supplies to Papua New Guinea. During his service, he indulged in a weekly treat of ¼ pound of chocolate and fruitcake. Stan chuckles when recalling how he returned home from the war heavier than when he left—a funny memory from an otherwise challenging time.

After the war, Stan purchased land in Brighton for £150 and built a two-bedroom home for himself and Pat. As their family grew to include four children, Stan expanded the house room by room. He also established a successful plastering business, leaving his mark on many homes in the 4017 area, particularly in Deagon, where his work can still be seen today.

Stan and Pat shared nearly 70 years of marriage, raising their family in a home filled with love and laughter. Pat passed away in 2021, but her presence is still deeply felt in the home they built together.

Stan reflects on his life with gratitude and shares his secret to longevity: “Keep Jesus in your heart, watch what goes into your mouth, and look after your liver.” His wit, wisdom, and warmth continue to charm everyone he meets. He delights in sharing stories of his 1928 Triumph Roadster, schoolyard marbles, and local dances where he and Pat made cherished memories.

Today, Stan remains independent in his Brighton home, surrounded by his loving family, including eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. From all of us at All About Living, Happy 100th Birthday, Stan! Thank you for allowing us to celebrate this remarkable milestone and be part of your journey.



Four generations coming together to celebrate Stan's incredible 100th birthday!



Stan and Pat on their wedding day in 1952, and together in 2021.

The HMS Koopa: A Glimpse Into History

Stanley Staines' incredible life story wouldn't be complete without mentioning the HMS Koopa, a ship that played a key role during World War II and in Stan's service in the Navy. Originally known as the SS Koopa, this iconic vessel had a fascinating history before, during, and after the war.

Built in 1911 in Scotland, the SS Koopa was a luxurious passenger steamship that first arrived in Brisbane in December of that year. With space for over 1,100 passengers, it boasted modern amenities, including electric lighting, a grand dining saloon, and even an orchestra for onboard entertainment. It quickly became a favorite for holidaymakers traveling to destinations like Redcliffe and Bribie Island.

In 1942, during World War II, the Koopa was requisitioned by the Royal Australian Navy and commissioned as HMAS Koopa. It served as a depot ship at Toorbul Point, later transferring to Papua New Guinea to support military operations. For Stan and many other Navy personnel, the Koopa was a vital part of their wartime experience, providing transport and training opportunities during a pivotal time in history.

After the war, the Koopa returned to civilian service but eventually fell out of favour due to the rise of motor vehicles. Its last run was in 1953, and by 1960, its steel hull was scrapped and sunk.

For Stan, the SS Koopa remains a cherished piece of his Navy memories—a reminder of service, camaraderie, and resilience during the war.



SS Koopa 1920 at Bribie Island



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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SS Koopa at Alexishafen New Guinea 1944



Social Media Post (with Link to Web Article)

🇺🇸 **Celebrating 100 Years of Stan Staines!** 🎂

We're excited to share the incredible story of Stanley Staines, a cherished client who just celebrated his 100th birthday! From serving in WWII aboard the SS Koopa to creating a life filled with love and family, Stan's journey is truly inspiring.

Read more about Stan's life and join us in wishing him a very Happy 100th Birthday!

<link>



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