



20 November 2022

General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council
PO Box 191
Coonabarabran NSW 2357

Dear General Manager

I write to you to seek consideration to the naming of the new bridge on Warkton Road. I would like to see the bridge named the John Knight Bridge.

The Knight family has farmed properties on Warkton Road since the locality was formed and no doubt had a hand in the building of the original timber bridge which stood firm for decades. The name John Knight is synonymous with the Warkton Valley and farming community. From attending the old school on Warkton Road, assisting in postal deliveries and running the piggery or farming throughout the valley there has always been a John Knight on Warkton Road building farms, raising families and growing a thriving community.

More specifically I refer to my grandfather, John Robert Knight. John Robert Knight was born on the 5 July 1926 and spent his entire life on the family farm at Avondale on Warkton Road. I imagine he crossed the bridge on Warkton Road more times than any other person. From carting a variety of livestock, cattle, sheep or pigs, to hauling bales of hay and wool, or an endless supply of grain crops, he personifies what Warkton Road farming and the local community was about. He was always the first to offer a hand and the last to need one. His father farmed the land long before him and his son continues to farm there to this day. Always keen to assist those in need and sometime too generous

with his time and resources to make sure anyone and everyone was given a fair go.

John Robert Knight passed away at the age of 96 on 30 January 2022, leaving behind a legacy of farming and family, a history of hard work and love for the local area that should not be forgotten. I believe history is all too often passed by without notice and naming the new bridge in his honour would be an appropriate way of showing respect for what he and his forefathers achieved for the Warkton community and the greater Coonabarabran area.

With the removal of this historic bridge, the last wooden bridge in the Shire, I believe this would be too good of an opportunity to miss to recognise the history of Warkton Road and the contribution the area has made to the development and establishment of Coonabarabran.

Kind Regards

