

# WAMBOIN

COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATION

## The Whisper

April, 1997

CIRCULATION: 600

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, which started the Whisper in July, 1981.

This Newsletter is distributed to all RMBs in Wamboin, Clare, and Yalana at the beginning of each month, except for January. Editor is Ned Noel, 28 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 238-3484. Printer Canweb Printing in Mitchell, ACT. Contributions which readers may wish to make for the May, 1997 edition of the Wamboin Whisper will be welcome, and should be submitted to the editor's mailbox (or sent by fax to 238-3562 or by email to nednoel@acslink.net.au) by **Sunday 27 April, 1997, 7:00pm.**

### EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

POLICE	298-0599	BRIGADE INFO CENTRE	238-3396
AMBULANCE	297-1433	FIRES/EMERGENCY	299-1502 (24 HRS)

### WAMBOIN FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

<b>Community Association</b>	Libby King	President	238-3222
<b>Fire Brigade</b>	Lyle Montesin	Captain	014-997-459 bh 238-1481 ah
<b>Emergency Services</b>	Kevin Anderson	Controller	236-9333
<b>Brownies</b>	Gillian Parry	Contact Person	238-1075
<b>Pony Club</b>	Maureen Purdie	Contact Person	238-3343
<b>Play Group</b>	Jennie Hayward	Co-ordinator	238-3517
<b>Hall Bookings</b>	Joan Mason	Bookings	238-3258
<b>Church, Anglican</b>	Robyn Robertson	Warden	238-3202
<b>Yarrowlumla Shire</b>	Peter Greenwood	Councilor	238-3358
<b>Golf</b>	Peter Greenwood	Golfer	238-3358
<b>Wamboin Store</b>	Derek&Trish Mavity	Operators	238-3585
<b>Injured Wildlife</b>	Wildcare	Roster	299-1966

### THE YOUNG WAMBOIN ENTREPRENEURS

(If you wish your name to appear in this section, please advise the editor on 238-3484)

Rebecca Purdie (babysitting, odd jobs, and domestic services)	238-3343
Tammie Bachta (babysitting, odd jobs)	238-3496
Nicole Skews (babysitting)	238-3403
Theresa Montesin (babysitting)	238-1481
Fiona Skea (babysitting)	238-3290
Mia Donald (babysitting)	238-3276
Ula zammit (babysitting) and Levi Zammit (lawn mowing)	238-3230
Julia Noel (babysitting, petsitting)	238-3484

## WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Give yourselves a pat on the back the 39 people of the Wamboin community who braved the poor weather conditions on Sunday 2 March to participate in Clean Up Day.

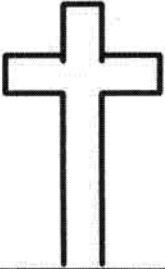
A special thanks to Helen Montesin who co-ordinated the activities of the day during my absence. Also thanks to cubs and scouts for providing the sausage sizzle and to So Good Sausages for donating the snags. From all reports it was a most successful day.

The popular Wamboin Bonfire night is on Sunday 8 June. Please put the date in your diaries and watch the Whisper for further information.

The next meeting of the Wamboin Community Association will be Tuesday 18 April at 8:00 pm.

For those who like me missed Bob Holland's information night in December, we have another opportunity to find out all about worm farming as Bob will be our guest speaker on Tuesday night after the meeting.

Regards, Libby King, President.



Family service and Sunday School is held in the Wamboin Community Hall at 9am on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month. Please feel welcome to attend the Sunday Services, which are conducted by the clergy and lay readers of St. John's, Reid. Come and share our time of worship and enjoy a cup of tea afterwards.

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## YARROWLUMLA COUNCIL NEWS

**Australia Consults** During March I attended a public meeting in Bungendore as part of the Australia Consults program. Purpose of the meeting, which was chaired by our Mayor, Geoff Collinson, was to consider important Australian issues such as;

- Celebration of the Centenary of Federation
- Constitutional Reform and Possible Changes to the Head of State - ie the Republic Debate
- Reconciliation Between Indigenous and Other Australians

To say the least the attendance was very disappointing. There were five Shire residents plus two Shire Councillors, the Mayor of Queanbeyan, our local Federal Member, Gary Nairn, plus the General managers from Yarrowlumla Shire and Queanbeyan City. Other similar meetings in Queanbeyan were also poorly attended. It seems that public interest in these issues is very poor and ultimately the Parliament (as distinct from the Government) will lead the discussion leading up to a referendum.

One interesting point arose and is worthy of further thought. Australians are saying (if the Republic goes ahead) that they wish to elect the Head of State rather than having Parliament select one. But! - surely if we do that, the person most likely to win will be seen to be associated with the Political party in favour at the time. Whereas, if Parliament selects the Head of State, it must be with an 80% majority of both Houses, - almost impossible to get a "Political" appointee. Please consider!

**Dogs on the Loose** The old issue of dogs on the loose has raised its head again. Over the years we have had numerous problems with dogs being allowed to roam, particularly at night, and creating havoc with sheep, kangaroos and other animals. Land owners have a right to shoot dogs which attack their animals or pets and dog owners should be well aware of this fact. Lately I have received some justified complaints about people walking with their unleashed dogs on the Greenways. The concept of Greenways is good, provided people who use them recognise the privilege and do not create a nuisance to landowners adjacent to the Greenway system. I have taken this issue up in Council with the aim to have signs erected. The management plan for the trial Greenway already requires dogs to be on leashes.

**Small Rate Increase to be expected** The NSW Local Government Minister, Ernie Page has announced that councils will be able to increase their rate income in 1997/98 by up to 3.1%. Our Council is currently reviewing the budget for next year and will be increasing the rate by that allowable, pegged increase of 3.1%. This is less than the CPI and we will continue to go backwards in the provision of services and the funding of projects.

**Yarrowlumla Shire on the Internet** The Council has joined the Internet revolution. Thanks to some wonderful volunteer help, the Yarrowlumla Shire Web Page can be found at

[www.ozemail.com.au/~cberry/yarrow/control.htm](http://www.ozemail.com.au/~cberry/yarrow/control.htm)

Over a period of time the site will expand to include many of Council's documents, management plans, local environment/zoning plans etc. Worth a look!

Peter Greenwood, Your Local Councillor, 2383358

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## WAMBOIN HALL NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Wamboin hall and fire station were built by volunteer labour. The hall in about 1984 and the fire station in 1987/88. Funds came from the Council through development contributions, special grants and local fund raising. The toilet block followed in 1988 and was primarily funded by the Community Association and once again built by local volunteers. The sports ground was built with funds from a Government Sport and Recreation grant. The kitchen was expanded and improved a few years later.

After 13 years and despite much volunteer maintenance, the hall is starting to show signs of wear. It should be noted that the hall is used at least 3 nights per week, often more and at week ends. It is used regularly by the Wamboin Community Association, the Fire Brigade, Scouts, play group, Cubs, the Church, by the Golf Club and for many private hirings. Rent goes to the Hall Management Committee for the upkeep. Council recently voted about \$12,000 to the Wamboin Community for needed community facilities and consideration has been given to ways and means to get best value for money. It seems a shame that the same faces turn up time after time to help out with extensions, modifications, painting and weekly cleaning etc. How about some new faces. We need a new ceiling, the new water tank needs to be connected, we need some additional storage rooms but most of all we need some new volunteers to help. Tradesmen are required for some work (electrical plumbing and carpentry), handy people for many jobs or anyone. We just need help to look after **your hall and grounds**.

If you are willing to help either on a job by job basis, or through a working bee please give me a call, we are desperate for your help. Without volunteers we will have to engage contractors, resulting in far less value for our limited dollars. Some of the jobs include; the new ceiling, a small extension for storage, repairs to the kitchen, painting of window frames and the floor, outside work around the hall and sports ground. **PLEASE HELP**

Many thanks Peter Greenwood, Convenor, Wamboin Hall Management Committee, 2383358

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## Wamboin Fire Brigade News

The fire season is now officially over, but because of the very dry weather and still fairly warm days, there is still a very high fire danger present. So please be careful with what you do around the place, especially using mowers or slashers. A spark could still spell disaster.

The Brigade had shifts of teams at the Hoskingstown fire last month. The Brigade supplied crews to help control the fire for the Wednesday lunch time through to the Friday evening. Thank you to everyone who gave their time so readily. The Hoskingstown fire was a large fire and at times there were over a hundred fire-fighters in attendance. The Bungendore SES did a magnificent job handling the back-up services. They provided heaps of food and drink for everyone who was working on the fire ground.

The Wamboin Fire Brigade Annual Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> June. Keep this night clear and come along and have a top night. Tickets will be available soon. Watch the Whisper for more information.

The next training night will be Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May at the fire shed, Bingley Way, at 7:30 pm. All members and prospective members are welcome. Please be fire aware and report all fires to 299-1502. - Regards, Graham Heathcote, President

### Thanks to the one of the persons listed below, a copy of the Whisper gets into your mailbox each month

Dean Evans	Norton Area from Cmpbl west	18
Max Klenke	Norton -Bngly to Cmpbl	35
Dave Hubbard	Poppet Road	36
Cathy Abell	Canning Close	17
Joan Mason	Bingley Way	40
Carol Olgilby	Norton -Bing to Yalana	42
Bill Owen	Cooper Rd	27
Mary Loft	South End - Clare Valley	38
Janine McPherson	North End - Clare Valley	32
Roberta Rentz	Weeroona Norton-Majors	28
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20
Ruth Lambert	Norton in Yalana + 10 Gry Gap	50
David Anderson	Weeroona Majors-Denley	35
Anthony Whitford	Hogan/Denley Area	20
Lyle Montessin	Forrest Road & Joe Rocks Road	50
Bernie Riordan	Clare Valley Lane	8

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## Greenways News

Our workplan is gradually being implemented. Progress includes:

Signs are being erected to direct users to the greenways and advising of the most important conditions of use, no motor vehicles being the major one.

With the exception of three sections, all Greenways opened have been fenced. Two of these will remain unfenced at the owner's request. One, as yet un-opened section in Wamboin is expected to be fenced and opened by the time this edition of the Whisper is published.

There have been few problems to date. We have had one instance in Gearys Gap with trail bike riders who have not re-appeared since being acquainted with the conditions of use.

We have also had a few problems with dogs. Greenways are public places and the Dog Act does apply. The Act requires that dogs be kept under control. Although not the direct responsibility of the management committee, there does also appear to be a larger problem with stray (unaccompanied) dogs in the Majors Close area.

Copies of the management plan which includes conditions of use have been widely distributed and previously published in the Whisper. Residents requiring a copy should contact the Secretary of the management committee on 236-9129. - Julian Thompson, Secretary

## Wamboin Playgroup

We have all enjoyed our first term back at playgroup which included a Don Spencer concert at the Albert Hall in Canberra and an Easter party and egg hunt on the last day. It has been great to see many new faces as well as all of the regulars. We meet at the hall every Tuesday morning, 10:30am - 12:30 pm. Bring a piece of fruit to share for morning tea, a cup (tea/coffee/milo provided) and \$1.00 each week. We would love to see you there!

If anyone has any unused toys or puzzles lying around, the playgroup would always appreciate them. Any questions, ring me on 238-3517. - Jennie Hayward.

## WAMBOIN - 15 YEARS AGO

by David Robertson

**Road Safety:** The Wamboin Community Association has been in contact with the Shire through Councillor David Robertson and it is pleasing to report that funds have been appropriated in the 1982/83 Budget for the proper construction of the Sutton/Norton Road junction.

## Thank you Wamboin

David and Robyn Robertson thank all readers of the Whisper who attended our garden opening on 15 and 16 March. Approximately 500 people visited the garden. Very special thanks to our neighbours in Cooper road, not one of whom complained about the cars parked all along the road. Both St. John's Church in Reid and Queanbeyan Legacy benefitted from your support.

## Riding Instruction

**Local riding instructor available for beginners and more experienced riders and can come to your property.  
Improve your dressage, learn to jump or just increase your confidence.  
Available weekends or week days.**

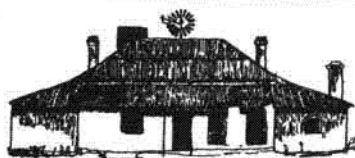
**Phone Leanne on 238-3435.**

## Gearys Gap-Wamboin Landcare Group

**Lake George:** The geology and natural history of Lake George and surrounds will be the topic of discussion at the Landcare meeting to be held on 14 April, 7:30 pm, Geary's Gap Community Hall, Birriwa Road. Light supper provided. - Hilary Kent

### TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL IN WAMBOIN (21 year statistics by David Robertson)

Average April Rainfall	58.2 mm
Wettest April	174.5 mm in 1989
Wettest Day	70 mm on 19/4/84
Driest April	11 mm in 1980
Coldest Nights	1c on 26&27/4/78
Hottest Day	28c on 3/4/86
February 97 Rainfall	30.5 mm
Total for year to 28/2/97	111.5 mm
Average annual rainfall (1976-1996)	760 mm



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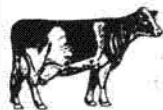
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Dr. Blair Lamont and Dr. Gary McComb advise the continuance of their Wamboin/Clare Valley/Sutton area "Home Visit Days" on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month. This is in addition to our normal attendance, but with only nominal mileage charges.



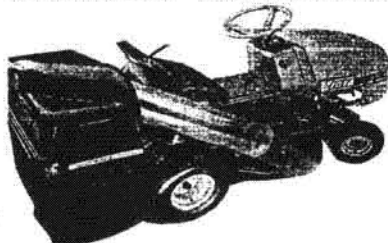
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## SNIPPETS FROM SUTTON SCHOOL

March has been another very busy month at Sutton. The children have been involved in a variety of educational activities. Years 3 and 4 went to Camp Sturt for their camping programme. This occurred from March 19 to 21. They were involved in a range of things such as swimming, star gazing, bushwalking and a camp fire. They had a wonderful time together. Years 5 and 6 went to their camp at Camp Illawara at Lake Illawara. The children had a fabulous time in activities such as canoeing, archery, challenge and initiative courses. We have also had our district swimming carnival at Queanbeyan, where our children competed successfully. Lauren Cooper, Jessie Brent, and Charles Featherston made the District Team to compete at the Regional Carnival at Dapto on March 13. Charles Featherston has subsequently made the Regional Team to compete at the State Swimming Carnival at Homebush early in Term 2. WELL DONE CHARLES.

On February 28 the children participated in Clean Up Australia by cleaning up the playground and the surrounds of the school. On March 17 we had our annual Canberra Day Parent-Teacher day at the school. Parents were given information about their child's class activities and the teachers expectations for the year. Many parents took advantage of this and it was a very successful day. As our term winds down our last week will have a variety of events with Year 6 participating in being trained as Peer Support leaders at Camp Sturt. This will enable them to be fully trained and prepared for the programme in Term 2. The Infants will participate in the Easter Hat Parade on our last day and our whole school will join in our giant Easter Egg Hunt. Sutton School would like to wish everyone a Happy and Safe Easter. - Denise Campbell

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## WAMBOIN COUNTRY GOLF CLUB - MARCH RESULTS

On a very wet Sunday afternoon on March 2nd, eight intrepid golfers teed off and completed a damp game of golf.

Encouragement award won by Ian Barter and the visitor's trophy won by Lou James.

9 hole event won by Georg Sorensen from Rob Gorham.

18 (wet) holes won by Tim (Bushranger) Barter from Charles Guscott.

My thanks to Mark Kerr for donation of trophies and Ian Picker for the "eats".

Peter Greenwood

Golfer 2383358



### NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY

The Wamboin Community Association in conjunction with community groups will again be holding the **BONFIRE and FIRE WORKS DISPLAY** on June 8th. Local groups are invited to hold their fund raising stalls. This is Wamboin's largest community event and is a great early night out for the family.

For registration of interest for stalls or volunteer help please contact the Wamboin Community Association.

Peter Greenwood

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## WAMBOIN CLASSIFIEDS

**ADVERTISING RATES:** Local classified advertisements are free, as are announcements from community organisations and clubs. Business advertisements attract a small fee (see below) which is donated to the Wamboin Community Association. Please make your cheque out to this association, but post it to the editor. Contact editor on 238-3484 for information.

Advertising rates: Full Page - \$50    Half Page - \$25    1/4 Page - \$15    1/6 Page - \$10    1/10 Page - \$5

Person required to teach 2<sup>nd</sup> language to 5 yr. Old. Native speaker preferred. 238-1856

**Are you interested in native animal care? Would you like to learn more about our native wildlife? Wildcare Queanbeyan is holding a Basic Training Course on 12th and 19th April in Queanbeyan. Please ring the Wildcare number (2991966) for further information/registration.**

<b>For Hire: Wamboin Community Hall</b>		<b>- Bookings arranged by Joan Mason - 238-3258</b>	
<b>Local Hire</b>	<b>\$55</b>	<b>Bond</b>	<b>\$120</b>
		<b>Outside Hire</b>	<b>\$85</b>
		<b>Bond</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>Teenage Parties (must be supervised by parents)</b>		<b>\$125</b>	<b>Bond \$250</b>
		<b>Gas Barbecue Extra</b>	

For Hire from the Wamboin Community Association: Brand new Gas Barbecue - Party Size, Portable \$20.00 per hire (includes gas) and \$20.00 cleaning bond, both payable on collection of barbecue. Cleaning bond is refunded if barbecue is returned clean - Bookings arranged by Kerri Fisher- 238-3489

The Whisper is Wamboin's community newspaper. If you live in the area and have something to say about living here that is informative, thoughtful, entertaining, or interesting, think about writing it up for the next issue. For more information contact the editor on 238-3484.

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## **Stories from Wamboin**

by Frank Watson

Back in the 1920's my grandfather Frank Hyles was building up his sheep numbers and land holdings in the Wamboin area. He owned land in central Wamboin that was called Cannings, Merino Vale, Birchmans Gully, Brooks and Leahys.

The best land he owned in the area would have been Old Kowen and Merino Vale. There was a mud hut on Old Kowen about one kilometre south of the intersection of the Yass River and the present location of Norton Road. Even today I have two paddocks I call Mud Hut East and Mud Hut West.

One person who lived in the mud hut was Mr. Flanagan, his wife and child. He worked for my grandfather and wrote him a letter which is reproduced as part of this article. It was written in 1925 and unfortunately I have no more information on the Flanagans apart from the letter.

In 1951 the Korean War created a wool boom and my grandfather decided to purchase two Fiat bulldozers. Jack Welch delivered the bulldozers as a salesman for Tutt Bryant. Jack ended up living in Wamboin for 25 years, 1951-76, and being with our family for 38 years, mainly working for my father Peter Watson at Wamboin or Murryong.

Whilst living at Wamboin Jack Welch built dams, fences, cattle yards and planted crops, pastures, windbreaks and two large forestry plantations for my mother and for Dr. Bruce Shepherd. Each plantation in Wamboin is about 500 acres of radiata pine now being harvested or nearly ready to be harvested.

As you drive from Bungendore to Wamboin shop on Norton Road you can see a yellow farm house in the distance looking south towards Kowen Forest. Jack and Nita Welch raised six children, Peter, Steven, Allen, Gregory, Evelyn, and Karen, in Wamboin between 1951 and 1976 and their access was via Kowen Forest to Molonglo Gorge forestry road.

The land off Bingley Way used to be called Cannings. The land from Bingley Way to Weeroona Drive along Norton Road and all the land off Merino Vale Drive was part of Merino Vale. Leahys now belongs to Bruce Shepherd. Brooks is the Norton Road and Ryans Road land and Old Kowen belongs to myself. (continued over next five pages)

# **BUNGENDORE FOODTOWN SUPERMARKET**

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Mud-Hut  
 16 Dec 1925.

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 Christmas. what I want it for is  
 first there is a sulky + harness to buy  
 Then there is a child to ~~keep~~<sup>git</sup> some  
 money to buy cloths + food. The wife got  
 to git some cloths + boots for Christmas  
 I got to buy a suit of cloths + other  
 things besides. come out + see the work  
~~will be very much Oblige Please~~  
 \$10.00.0 will cover the lot. want it at  
 week end <sup>quite sufficient</sup> because we have to go twenty  
 mile the other side of braidwood  
 Will be very much Oblige

eci

Mr. M. Flanagan  
 MudHut



My grandfather Frank Hyles sold 5000 acres of the above land in 1950 and this now forms a larger part of central Wamboin. This land was managed in the 1940's from Murriong down on the Kings Highway and sheep for shearing would go down to Murriong.

Cannings was purchased by Ernie Armour and run by his son Ian Armour before he sold it to a land developer in about 1972. Ian Armour had good sheep and wool and was also a wool classer. He now lives in Canberra. The Armour's homestead was on the Sutton Road towards Queanbeyan near Norton Road.

Merino Vale was purchased by the Harriots in 1950 and then they sold it to the Majors in about 1962. The Harriots and the Majors improved the pastures near Merino Vale Drive and Norton Road near the Yass River crossing. After they sold Merino Vale Barney Harriott purchased two small Mercedes livestock trucks. Mrs. Judy Harriott was the sister of Norm Shepherd, famous as a Toyota truck and car dealer in Fyshwick. She was a hard worker on the farm, spreading superphosphate and later driving a big semi trailer carrying livestock throughout southern NSW.

Birchmans Gully was owned by Bob Denley, a shearer, and his family was based on the Sutton Road, apparently. Also the Bingley family owned Leahys for a while and the Ryan family owned Brooks. The Ryan family relocated to Gundaroo where they have a large grazing property and Bill Ryan junior is a Veterinary Surgeon in Calwell.

The woolshed on Merino Vale was built in the early 1970's for the Majors by Cecil Guy. Cecil worked on Old Kowen, Millpost and Murriong in the 1977-81 period and he was a good horseman, being involved in the Show society, polocrosse, race club, rodeo, etc. at Bungendore. He later purchased a farm in Summer Hill Road in the Geary's Gap Area.

In the 1970's the Majors had some Brahman cattle and once a Brahman bull got into our Mud Hut East paddock. According to my diary it was on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 1977 that a Brahman bull chased Cecil Guy on his stock horse and the bull appeared taller and faster than the horse and rider. Cecil was flat strap to avoid the horns of the bull. That happened near the Yass River and south of the present location of the intersection of Norton Road and Weeroona Drive on a big flat paddock.

In the 1930s some graziers were making more out of rabbits than they were out of wool. My grandfather was trading sheep and he had big mobs of sheep on the road going long distances such as to and from Goulburn or Cooma. (continued on next three pages)

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(PART OF "MURRYONG" ESTATE)

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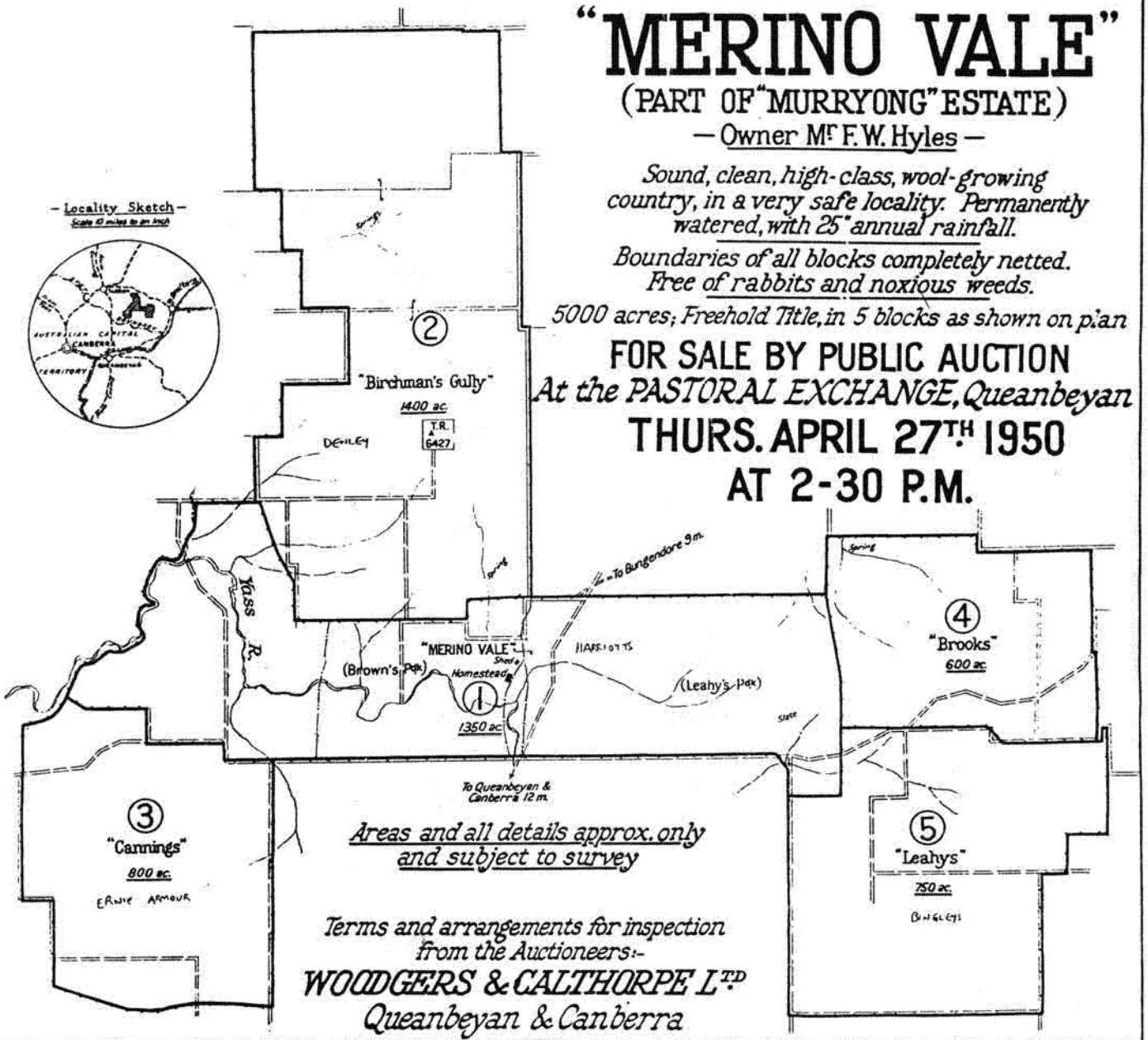
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- Locality Sketch -  
Scale 10 miles to an inch



In the 1930's if you were driving down a very steep hill such as Norton Road near Sutton Road you would need three things – a foot brake, a hand brake, and a tree stump tied to the back.

Back in the 1970's a bushfire took off in Dr. Shepherd's after a bulldozer knocked down a tree which brought down the electricity power line. Jack Welch was driving the dozer and Nita Welch was alone at the house, say two miles away and she noticed a brown out and then a bushfire going up like an atomic bomb. It was about May, 1975, and she could not drive or contact Jack and feared he had either been electrocuted or killed in the fire and she raced over the paddocks towards him. She was at Murriong outstation in Wamboin and he was over near Ryan's Road. Fortunately he was safe.

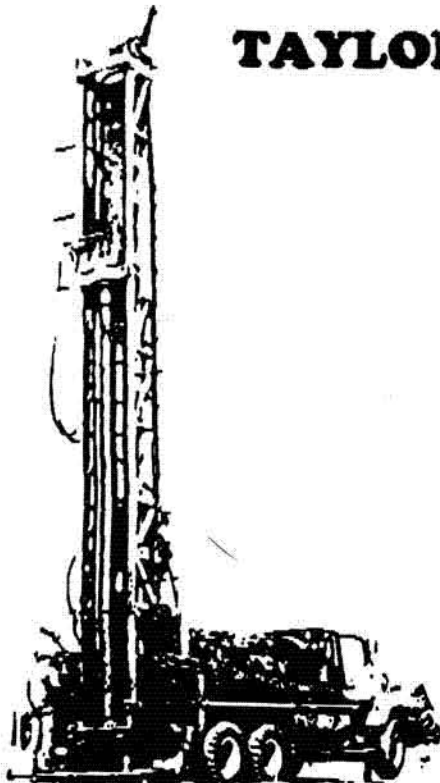
Battling the bushfires, planting pine trees, and raising six children took its toll and his health suffered in the late 1970's. He left Wamboin and the Welches continued to live over at Murriong until the property was sold in 1989.

In the 1970's Tim Booth and Elaine Wagstaff lived in the cottage on Merino Vale. Tim has been a science teacher at Queanbeyan High School for many years. I was visiting them one weekend and saw the Majors mustering their cattle. Bill Major was trotting 100 meters behind the mob on a small grey pony and Mrs. Judy Major was mustering the mob at high speed in the family Ford Fairlane.

The Bingleys purchased land from my grandfather that now belongs to Bruce Shepherd in the area south of Ryan's Road. The Bingleys still own land down on Sutton Road and they are beekeepers, wool growers, and haulage contractors. They are a large family and I have less information on them.

There are mud huts in the Kowen Forest area, a stone house near Molonglo River, a pise house ruin near Merino Vale cottage, and a workman's hut built in the 1930's on land near Kowen Forest. (concluded on next page)

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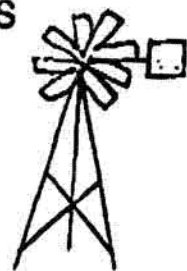
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In the 1960's Jack Welch planted oats and wheat on Old Kowen also known as Murryong outstation. A carrier, Ray Guy, carted a load of wheat out past Majors and over to Mac's Reef Road via Birchman's Gully, owned by Bob Denley at that time.

Before Norton Road was built it took about an hour or more to get to Canberra because you had to travel over dirt tracks and paddocks opening many gates, going through Birchman's Gully and Macs Reef Road.

Jack Bish would ride his horse around Old Kowen and Millpost nearly every working day between 1955 and 1977. He would venture onto Wamboin land if our sheep or cattle had escaped. The Shire includes Old Kowen (Murryong Outstation) as South Wamboin on their planning maps.

In recent years Greg Webb has been working on Old Kowen building a woolshed, electric fences and helping with stock work. He used to work full time on Lanyon in the 1970's. Now he freelances as a rural fencer and occasionally works for John Fraser of Merino Vale Drive.

In my diary of 31 July 1975 I have a note saying that Mrs. Judy Major rang Dad at 8:30 am and said she wanted to subdivide some land. Dad said she could only have access for sub-divisions through the dedicated road on Old Kowen. This was before Norton Road and when subdivision access was proposed via a road that would come Molonglo Gorge through Kowen Forest into central Wamboin. My Dad, Peter Watson, did not want to allow this access route. In the end subdivisions developed from Sutton Road eastwards, and Norton Road grew as they occurred, starting with the land belonging to the Cartwrights, then the Bingleys, then the Armours, the Majors, and the Ryans.

In my diary of 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1977 I said I went over to Old Kowen and got 8 heifers back from Cannings (Bingley Way). Whilst there I saw two men working on a touna pull putting in a road for a subdivision. Also I saw two surveyors planning a road.

People who know about Wamboin back into the 1930s would be Bill Cartwright of Sutton, Jim O'Malley of Queanbeyan and Ray Colverwell of Queanbeyan.

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