



WAMBOIN
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

November 2003 CIRCULATION: 950

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, which started the Whisper in 1981. This Newsletter is distributed to all RMBs in Wamboin, Bywong, Clare, and Yalana at the beginning of each month, except January. Editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Printer is Canberra Times Fine Print. Contributions which readers may wish to make for the December, 2003 edition of the Wamboin Whisper will be welcome, and should be submitted to the editor's mailbox (or sent by fax to 6238-3562 or by email to nednoel@optusnet.com.au) by the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for next month the deadline is Sunday, November 30, 2003, 7:00 pm.

LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES Fire/Police/Ambulance - Dial 000 All Hours

Queanbeyan Police 6298-0599 Wamboin Fire Brigade Info Centre 6238-3396 Ambulance Bookings 131233

WAMBOIN FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

Wamboin Community Assn	Lofty Mason	President	6238-3258
Bywong Community Assn	Warwick Cathro	President	6236-9187
Fire Brigade	Bernie Broers	Captain	040-999-1340 bh 62383316 ah
Landcare	Jacqui O'Leary	President	6236-9157
Community Nurse	Heather Morrison	Bungendore	6238-1333
Breastfeeding Assoc.	Lisa Whitney	Community Educator	6238 3059
Emergency Services	NSW Call Centre	Staff	132-500
Emergency Services Admin	Colin Brown	Controller	6238-1067
Justice of the Peace	Peter Greenwood	JP	6238-3358
Justice of the Peace	Keith France	JP	6238-3596
Wamboin Cubs	Peter Harrison	Leader	6238-3525
Wamboin Guides	Rosemary Riley	Contact Person	6297-7632
Wamboin Pony Club	Maureen Purdie	Secretary	6238-3343
Gearys Gap Pony Club	Penny Gibson	Contact Person	6236-9363
Play Group	Rebecca Jefferys	Convenor	6238 3278
Hall Bookings	Joan Mason	Bookings	6238-3258
Church, Anglican	Robyn Robertson	Warden	6238-3202
Christian Prayer Group	Steve & Imelda Taylor	Contacts	6238-3220
Yarrowlumla Shire	Peter Greenwood	Councillor	6238-3358
Golf	Peter Greenwood	Golfer	6238-3358
Injured Wildlife	Wildcare	Helpline	6299-1966

THE YOUNG WAMBOIN ENTREPRENEURS

Fiona Skea, babysitting	6238-3290
Rebecca Purdie, babysitting and petsitting	6238-3343
Matt Montesin, petsitting, odd jobs	6238-3208
Damien Montesin, petsitting, odd jobs	6238-3208
Frank Deveson, bicycle maintenance	6238-3294
Danielle Adams, babysitting, petsitting	6238 3558

Mac's Reef Tip Hours 7:30 am to 5:00 pm Fri-Sat-Sun-Mon (to 7 pm Sat - Sun in daylight saving time) closed Tue-Wed-Thurs

The Sign Board

The maintenance of the signboard at the Norton Road/Gallagher Crescent intersection is the responsibility of the Wamboin Community Association. The purpose of this board is to promote Community functions and for residents to advertise short term notices. It is not intended for long term or commercial notices. (The Wamboin Whisper is available for this type of advertising.) To assist we request you:

- Do not tape notices to the chalkboard as this ruins the surface of the board.
- Think of others and do not take up more space than you require.
- Clean off your notice with the same zeal as writing it up.

In an endeavour to keep the area tidy, the chalkboard will be cleaned early in each week. Old and unsightly signs will be removed. I will hold them for a week before they are taken to the tip.

Constructive suggestions for the maintenance of this area are welcome. – Lofty Mason, WCA

WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

President's Paragraphs

At the October WCA meeting we received a presentation by Constable Claud Toscan who is a Crimes Prevention Officer with the Queanbeyan Police. The major thrust of his talk was to make people more aware of what they could do to make their homes a more difficult target for villains. This presentation was of such interest to the 55 members attending that the formal part of the WCA meeting was put on hold. I still have a few copies of the pamphlets which were handed out. If anyone is interested please give me a call.

The first of our '**Excess Local Produce Market**' organised by Tony Power was away to an understandably small start. Local growing conditions will cause this type of market to peak early in the year. Plants of various type were the big movers. Jams, eggs and cakes were also popular. There were only 7 stalls however it was a great social occasion and we met many new members of the community. Tony has an add elsewhere and a sign will go up advertising the November market.

The **Shire Boundaries** saga continues. It must have all become too difficult for the Boundaries Commission. They have appointed a facilitator, Professor Maurice Daly, who set up various meetings throughout the area. He advertised public meetings and also held meetings with the various Councils. As representatives, WCA secretary, John Van Der Straaten, and I attended meetings at Queanbeyan and Bungendore. We again voiced our preference for a Rural based Shire and followed this up with written submissions. We haven't heard anything further to date.

- Lofty Mason. ljmason@austarmetro.com.au

WAMBOIN PRODUCE MARKET

SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER

Community Hall, Bingley Way

Local produce and plants

Home made goodies

Art and Craft

Refreshments

This is our second market and there is no charge for stallholders or entry. If you are in Wamboin or the surrounding district and are interested in a stall please contact Tony Power on 6238 3028 or email poweraj@acslink.net.au by 12 November.

ADVANCE NOTICE AND CALL FOR SUPPORT

CAROLS AT WAMBOIN

19 DECEMBER 2003 at 7pm in the Community Hall

As in previous years the Community Association is organising this special event for the whole community to celebrate Christmas. We are looking for individuals or groups willing to present items on a Christmas theme particularly children and young people. There is also the opportunity for appropriate musical items.

If you or your group are prepared to support this event in any way please contact Tony Power on 6238 3028 or any member of the committee.

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Dr. Garry McComb advise the continuance of their Wamboin/Clare Valley/Sutton area “Home Visit Days” on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month. This is in addition to our normal attendance, but with only nominal mileage charges.

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YARROWLUMLA COUNCIL NEWS

Local Government Amalgamations: No decision yet!

Fire Shed: Council has made a substantial contribution of \$10,000 towards the much needed extension to the Wamboin Fire Station. In addition the Wamboin Community Association has contributed about \$1,400 and the Wamboin Golf Club has donated \$200. The annual funds drive has also been successful, no final figures yet but in excess of \$10,000 and an extra \$2,000 has also been raised from the volunteer firefighters donating their time, yet again, to control car parking at the recent Leisure Show at EPIC in Canberra. If you missed the opportunity to contribute we would be very grateful for any donation which can be sent to the Brigade through the Captain or any Deputy Captain and through the letter box at 112 Bingley Way.

Playground Equipment The new playground equipment for the Wamboin Hall is running a little late but I understand that it will definitely be completed early November.

Council Office Christmas Closure Council offices will be closed for the Christmas break from close of business on Christmas Eve re-opening on Monday January 5.

-- Peter Greenwood JP Your Local Councillor 6238 3358

petergreenwood@actweb.net

Thanks to the persons below, Wamboin and Bywong residents have a		free community owned newsletter.	
150 CO-ORDINATED BY HELEN MONTESIN:			
Dean Evans	Nrtn Area frm Campbl West	18	Ph 6238 3208
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	29	Bill Owen Cooper Rd. 27
Dave Hubbard	Poppet Rd.	34	Max Klemke Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley 25
240 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE:			
Joan Mason	Bingley Way	50	Cathy Abell Canning Close 17
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	28	Ph 6238 3463
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20	Margaret Heleimin Merino Vale Drive 17
Ned Noel	13 Cncl 30Adv 10 NSTks7Msc	60	Anne Gardner Weeroona, Norton to Majors 30
249 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER:			
Colleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20	David Anderson Weeroona, Majors to Denley 35
Antonette Stockdale	Yalana East	34	Ph 6238 3489
Bernie Reardon	Clare Lane	8	Ruth Lambert Yalana West 32
Lyle Monetesin	Forrest Road area	50	Rob Gorham South End - Clare Valley 43
Bungendore Shop	Bungendore	10	Pauline Segeri North End - Clare Valley 32
297 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN:			
Rachael Gascoine	Brooks Creek Estate	22	Amanada Bryan Donnelly Road 20
Sue Gorham	Schofield Road	25	Ph 6238 3590
Ann Platts	Denley/Birchman's Area	25	Lachlan & Callum Whitford Hogan/Kestral area 11
Laura Snowdon	Hogan Drive	25	Len Parrish Summer Hill Rd /Bungendore Rd 32
Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	20	Rhett Cox Macs Reef /Nwngtn to FedHwy 12
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Birriwa	35	Morag Cotsell Newington/Harriot 50
			Thelma Martin Shinglehous/ilhouse/Schfield Rds 20
			Christa Rehwinkel Macs Reef - Nwngtn to FedHwy 20
926 TOTAL			

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ESTATE
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1/10 PAGE ADS TO COST \$15 BEGINNING FEB, 2004

Whisper advertising revenue, at around \$750 per issue, is dropping down to the level of its printing costs. This is partly because when I am putting the Whisper together late at night, and unsure of the size of ads, I have downsized them to be avoid taking more out of advertisers' pockets than they might have to give, which has somewhat diminished total revenue.

Because the Whisper has to pay for itself, and hopefully to bring in a little profit to the community association, advertising prices need to go up a little bit. An ongoing problem has been to fairly size 1/10 and 1/8 page ads, priced at \$10 and \$15. One way to raise revenue a bit and to solve this sizing problem is to combine the two categories and charge the higher rate, with the size to be at least 1/10 page, and sometimes a bit more depending on space on the page. I regret asking advertisers running 1/10 page ads, many of whom have kept the Whisper going for years, to pay more.

If it helps, you can know that Whisper circulation has grown to around 900, and, thanks to many volunteer contributors, the content has made it more readable. My hope is that this change can take effect with the February, 2004 issue. Between now and then there is only the single end of year Dec 2003 / Jan 2004 issue. If any advertiser with a \$10 ad decides the price hike to \$15 is too rich, I do wish to thank you for running your ad until now. Alternatively, if anyone wishes to discuss this proposed price hike please phone me on 6238 3484 or Lofty Mason, Community Association President, on 6238 3258. Also, to every advertiser, thanks for running your ad. Readers, please think of Whisper advertisers when you are looking for services and products. – Ned Noel, editor, phone 6238 3484



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HORSES AND BUSHFIRES - Conclusion

(taken from Agriculture Notes by Patricia Ellis & Hilary Pope, Attwood for the State of Victoria Department of Natural Resources & Environment, 1999 -- suggested for reprinting in the Whisper by Chris Powell)

Veterinarians will most probably be working under emergency circumstances and communications may be disrupted, so expect some delay before help arrives. You must therefore be prepared to monitor the progress of your horses and to administer appropriate first aid while you are waiting for professional assistance.

Skin burns produce severe inflammation, indicated by heat, pain and swelling. Thus first aid must be anti-inflammatory, ie cold water delivered by a hose or gently sponging if you still have access to a water supply. It is also important that horses have ready access to feed and water (if available), shade and to soft, even ground if their feet are burnt.

The veterinarian will assess the degree and depth of the burns and treat accordingly. Treatment may include injections to relieve pain, reduce inflammation and prevent infection, and intravenous fluids may be given to counteract shock. Anti-inflammatory creams may also be supplied. Check all burnt areas regularly for fly strike. The horse should be kept warm and comfortable and coaxed to eat and drink. Careful nursing is of utmost importance to recovery.

Horses with quite severe burns will often respond well to intensive treatment, but this can be time consuming and very costly.

A common cause of death in fires and in the days afterward is complications from smoke inhalation. Severe smoke inhalation can cause delayed lung damage, which may not be immediately obvious. Horses may appear normal after the fire, but 3-4 hours can become anxious with rapid, sometimes laboured breathing, and an elevated heart rate. These horses need urgent veterinary treatment particularly if they have burns around the eyes, singeing of the mane and forelock, muzzle burns and a soot-stained discharge from the nose.


Care must be taken introducing horses to burnt areas. There may be hot spots that could flare up without warning. Partially burned structures and trees may be unstable and suddenly fall over. Make sure the fencing is secure. Check for ash pits - areas where root systems have burned underground - downed power lines and dangerous debris before turning horses out in a burned paddock.

The distress of having a horse burnt in a bushfire can be magnified by the lack of readily available first aid measures. This can be compounded in the fire destroys facilities and prevents any form of communication to seek help.

Good forward planning will protect the safety and well being of your horses if you live in a high fire risk area. Carefully consider the needs of your animals when developing your household survival plan.. Develop your fire safety plan now and practice it regularly!

THE END

WAMBOIN / BYWONG CLASSIFIEDS

MOVING SALE. 59 Majors Close – ph 6238 3091 Sunday 9 th November -- 9:00 am until 3:00 pm Good quality furniture, garden clothing, books and bric-a-brac. Includes cast iron 5 piece Colerbrookdale garden setting with 2 armchairs, large cane easy chair, 170 cm high pine bookcase, mobile chopping block. Lots more.
Old Fridge/Freezer (Ignis 390litre) in working order \$40. Telephone: 6238 3717
IRONING - Don't have time. I will pick up and deliver. If this sounds like it will help you call me on 6238 3193
House-minder. Mature professional lady, available from 26 October—short or long-term. Non-smoker, references, loves pets. Willing to do hand-watering. Please phone 6277 2975 or 0439 464 734 or email housesitter@safe-mail.net
FOR HIRE: WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL. Bookings arranged by Joan Mason 62383258. Local Hire \$65 per use - Bond \$200. Outside Hire \$125 per use - Bond \$250. Teenage/18 year old birthdays/parties (must be supervised by parents) \$160 - Bond \$300.
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 - \$100 Half Page - \$50 1/4 Page - \$25 1/6 Page - \$20 1/8 Page - \$15 1/10 page- \$10
For Hire from the Wamboin Community Association: Gas Barbecue - Party Size, Portable \$25.00 per hire (includes gas) and \$25.00 cleaning bond, both payable on collection of barbecue. Cleaning bond is refunded if barbecue is returned clean - Bookings arranged by Helen Montesin- 6238-3208
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 or entertaining or have led any major expeditions of exploration, think about writing it up for the next issue. For more information contact the editor on 6238-3484. And thanks to so many of you who already have done so.
Wormcastings - top quality and brilliant organic growth stimulant (for plants). Bagged and come with instructions. Excellent for gardens, individual plants and vegie patches. 25litre bag \$8.50. Ph Ian 6238 3425
 Come and see for yourself at the NSW Dexter Breed Show to be held at Bungendore Showgrounds on 16 th November. For further information contact Paula or Danny Edwards on 6238-2600. This breed of cattle originated in Ireland centuries ago when small farm holders needed an animal that could pull a plough and provide milk and meat for the family. They had to be tough to survive the climate and poor pastures. The result is a truly dual purpose animal, small in size but hardy and easily managed.
Rural accommodation wanted. Single professional woman with pets requires house-sitting or cottage accommodation from Feb / March 2004. Please phone 6125.4461 business hours only. Vanessa
Horse for sale Gelding 14hh 14 years old Experienced in pony club, eventing, jumping Confident rider only \$2,800 neg (including gear) For more information contact Julie on 62369673 (h) or 62012903 (w)
Wanted, Wamboin area, gardening or handyman work. Contact Ray on 6238 3047.

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Remember When

That's the name of the latest production of BATS. What's BATS you ask? It's our very own Bungendore Amateur Theatrical Society. BATS is about ten years young and has staged amateur musicals, comedies and dramas to the delight of our local communities ever since. "Remember When" is a locally written variety show which provides both a nostalgic and forward looking insight into our relationship to past present and future. Our window to the past is a selection of song, news items, plays and sketches that evoke memories of those days past or of events our parents have told us about.

No doubt those of you who enjoyed last year's BATS show will be eager to get tickets and the "first timers" who love a bit of theatrical fun will be just as eager. It's BYO picnic hamper and drinks. There will be tables set up for the evening shows. At our one Saturday matinee seats are theatre style and a Devonshire Tea is included in the ticket price. The matinee will appeal to children and adults alike and would suit those of you with littlies.

Here's how to book and get tickets. Simply complete the order form overleaf in this month's "The Whisper" and mail it (or fax it on 6238 0645) to "A Suitable Book" (that great bookshop in Bungendore Square) and your tickets will be snail mailed to you. Or call into "A Suitable Book" and book in person. You can pay by credit card, cash or cheque and collect your tickets on the spot. Ticket order forms will also be available in "A Suitable Book" and in most of the stores in Bungendore and in the Dickson and Queanbeyan Libraries. **Tickets will not be available at the door on the performance nights so it's important to get in early.**

So for your fun bit of A trip back to the future come along to the Bungendore Memorial Hall and "Remember When". Evening performances are scheduled for 7.30pm, Saturday 1 November, Friday 7 November and Saturday 8 November and the Saturday matinee is set down for 8 November at 1.30pm. Prices? Adult \$15, Concession \$13 and Child under 15 years of age \$8 plus a booking fee of \$1 per booking regardless of the number of tickets purchased. And remember the Saturday matinee price includes a Devonshire Tea. Now that's a bargain! The concept of "Remember When" was created by Linda Fitzgerald, Sylvia McNickle, Alan Pyne, James Webb and Suzanne White. Oh and we're always looking for new members so if you'd like to be part of BATS you can join for a tiny \$10 (\$15 for a family).

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HUGE GARAGE SALE!!

To raise money for **WILDCARE**
(our local organisation who rescue and rehabilitate sick, injured or orphaned native wildlife and then release them back to their original habitat).

Date: Sunday, 16 November Time: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm 52 Molonglo Road (opposite the War Memorial)

If you have items you wish to donate for the sale, please call Jane or Allan on 6238 0721 (bus) or 6238 1055 (home) to arrange delivery or just drop them off to Odana Editions, 44 Butmaroo Street (opposite Caltex). Items must be received by Thursday 13 November or if too large we can organise a trailer to collect. Please do not deliver to 52 Molonglo Road. ---Thank you for your kind support.

Bingley Contractors Prompt Water Delivery

Local Carrier All Areas 7 Days
1761 Sutton Road, Sutton

Phone 0419 483 103 or 0418 201 784 AH: 6230 3385



The Wamboin Firefighter

A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR VOLUNTEER RURAL FIRE BRIGADE COMPILED
BY CLIFF SPONG WITH HELP FROM MANY MEMBERS OF THE BRIGADE

To Bernie:

**Farewell, good luck and thanks for your friendship, loyalty,
inspiration and leadership**



As some of you may be aware this will be my last report in the *Wamboin Whisper* as Captain of your volunteer brigade. We are moving out of the area and if I remained as Captain my response time to any incident in the Wamboin area would be unacceptably long. It may have been possible to get here quickly if the brigade's treasurer had found the funds for the helicopter I had requested many years ago. I remember the discussions over the years and some of the printable words such as unnecessary expense and high maintenance costs come to mind. The end result was the same – no helicopter for the Wamboin brigade.

There is a time in our lives when we long for change and that time has arrived. We will continue to remain in touch with the brigade and should the need arise during the next fire season, you can bet your bottom dollar that I will show up out of nowhere, but without my helicopter.

My family and I have thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie and friendships developed over the thirty odd years that we have lived on Sutton Road. I would like to think that these bonds would not fade. We will only be a few hours and a telephone call away. I am not sure what the range of my mobile phone will be when I am in my boat doing a spot of fishing, but we can test it anyway.

I am leaving with full confidence that the brigade is strong and in good hands. There are many competent members who can manage the brigade's operations and carry on the brigade's work in a most professional manner. The Wamboin community will continue to be well served by our brigade. The member's dedication and commitment set a high standard in our Shire.

As I have said many times before – now is the time to prepare your properties for the fire season. It is too late to worry about it when the fire is approaching!

Good luck and cheers for now...

FUND RAISING

Over the past few weeks your Brigade has been spending a lot of time raising funds to get the next phases underway for the extension to the fire shed. Thanks to many generous donations we are now in a position to order the structural steelwork and have it erected. The next step is to then fix the external cladding and fit the windows. During the collections at the roadside and from the responses from people sending in donations in response to the flyers delivered to local properties recently, it was clear that many people, donating more than \$25, would appreciate their names appearing on the "giving wall" in the new extension. An unexpected problem has now cropped up though. We may have to make the walls bigger to fit all the names!

The brigade would not be embarrassed in the slightest if anyone still wanted to mail in a donation. They can be addressed to The Treasurer, Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin, 2620.

If anyone in the area would like to be part of our fund raising committee please contact **Fiona David on 6236 9331**. It is a tremendous way to get involved to help the brigade without having to fight any fires.

It would be appreciated if the people who wanted their names on the "giving wall" could check their details in the list below. If any corrections need to be made please contact Fiona. Also, if anyone requested a receipt and has not received it could they also contact her.

The names we have for the "giving wall" are: D and B Adams, Agnew family, Allan family, Armer family, Arrowsmith family, H and C Bachor, Barlow family, Battaglone family, John and Sylvia Beddow, Nino Bellantonio and Shelley Schreiner, P Berg, Berry-Smith family, John and Edwina Biro, Blades family, Robin Blau and Pam Berg, Bluey,

George Bobets, Val and Mac Boot, B Borrell, Bragg family, C Brown and H Righton, Brucic family, Brugman family, Burton family, L Carpenter, Carrington family, Peter Cassells, Lew and June Chadderton, Chiswell family, Roy and Betty Churcher, Clarkson family, David Cochrane, Ian Coillet and Loretta Johnson, Coltman family, Helen and Lynn Cooper, Cooper family, Cordina family, Greg and Marita Corra, Cox family, Cummins family, Daniel family, Fiona David and Jake Blight, Peter Daw, Dawes family, Carol and Robert Dawson, Susan Day and Phil Lingard, R and S Dean, Dean family, G and A DeJong, Downs family, Dunk family, S and N Duynhoven, Irene and Sylvia Easton, Efrossynis family, Erik and Lemmi, Dorothy and Dene Evans, V Evans, T and J Evans, Evans family, Fisher family, Robert and Naida Fletcher, Fragnito family, K and K France, Freelands family, R Gerrard, Rodney and Robyn Gibb, R and P Gibson, T and D Gifford, Ken and Deb Gordon, S Gorham, Rob Gorham, John and Elizabeth Gray, Brian and Joy Green, Gregory family, Griffin family, Lew and Lou Griffiths, Michael Guilfoyle, Guilfoyle family, Gwyther family, Hales family, Hansen family, Liam Harris, D and J Hayward, Liam and Rita Healy, Hermes, Teresa and Richard Hobbs, Avril Holdstock, Holt family, B.R Hughes, B.G and E Hughes, Hughes family, Mark and Debra Hurwitz, A and B Hutchinson, Ray Jewell, Jo and Jon Justin, K and F Kelly, A and T Kent, L and E King, K and W Kinna, Klemke family, Kukinya, Langdown family, C Legg and M Parmenter-Legg, Lewin family, Gary Lewis, Mrs Lind, Linmore family, Lock family, Martin family, L and J Mason, Massa (Manuela) family, Mavity family, Brian and Maria Mayers, D McGuinness, Stephen and Jodie McGuinness, Christine Millar, Max Mills, Morphett family, Chris Murdock, Muston family, Nel family, Nguyen family, Ned Noel, Page family, Parsons family, R and J Paule, Peady family, K Pickering and D Paull, Pumphrey family, Ken and Thelma Rampart, Irene and Michelle Rawlings, Julie Rebbeck, Reeve family, Brian and Suzanne Ridley, Robb family, C and W Roberts, Robertson family, David Robinson, Werner Roth, Roycroft family, G and J Rudd, Ruting family, Phil and Mary Sadler, Sandeman family, Sant family, Sally Saunders, S Schreiner, Schroder family, L Schultz, Stefan and Pauline Segeri, Mrs Senior, Sam Sergi, Sally and Marion Sheldrick, Stuart Shimeld, Silberberg family, R and B Sipes, Skinner family, Chris Slater, Laurie and Jill Smith, Rodney and Susan Smith, Jan Suchovsky, Sutcliffe family, Mrs and Mr Swann, Peter and Kaaren Tatly, Vagg family, Veal family, D Voss, Josephine Walker, Felicity Wallace, Wally, Walsh family, Ward family, Warner family, Tim Warren, Mrs and Mr Wassell, Whitney family, David Whyte and Joy Terry, Michael Williams, Winterbottom / Adler, JF and M Wise, Wise family, M and Y Wood, Worden family, Keith and Elizabeth Wrench, Young family

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The principal consultants are Vivien Arnold and Lindsay Roe. We both have post graduate qualifications and extensive experience in education and counselling, and have spent many years as professionals within the ACT work force. One of Vivien's specialities is assisting people whose first language is not English. Lindsay is an expert in business efficiency. Where necessary we have associates to whom we could refer you if necessary. All are highly qualified, experienced specialists in their field. Fees vary according to the extent of the service and are negotiated on request. Further information from Vivien Arnold on: tel/fax 02 62 383 456 comwork@tpg.com.au

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Kindergarten Orientation Day

Date: Thursday 5th November **Time:** 9.30am to 11.00am

Kindergarten students will work in the classroom while parents are invited to an information morning to be held in the school hall. All enquiries to Ray Claydon, Principal on 02 62303215

Sutton School Snippets

Submitted by Janice Dempsey, Year 4 Teacher

We are very pleased to announce Sutton's new principal, Mr. Ray Claydon. We were fortunate to have him start at the beginning of term four as Mr. Claydon came to us from Wyalong Public School in central western NSW.

He is pleased to meet the students and see their positive attitude toward the school and their learning.

Mr. Claydon welcomes all questions or concerns and states that his door is always open for working with parents to ensure that their children's needs are being met.

Basic Skills Test Results: The results of the year 3 and 5 Basic Skills Tests have arrived at the school. The school staff will be analysing each student's results during the term. These tests will provide considerable information about students' strengths and areas for development and will provide classroom direction for class programs.

University of New South Wales , Australian Schools Mathematics Competition: 50 Students attempted the UNSW Mathematics Competition. The top performers being: Christopher Baldwin (School Achievement), Charles Bingley (School Achievement), Jessica Bingley (Credit), Ross Chandler (Credit), Sam Lees (Credit), Riley Metcalfe (Credit), Karina Vennonen (Distinction), Eleanor Dean (Distinction), Claire Demaine (Distinction), Jarrad Fragnito (Credit), Georgia Lyons (Credit), Jessie Robinson (Credit), Leonie Tasker (Credit), Nicole Wonder (Credit), Kaitlin Bell (Credit), Sam Bingley (Credit), Ben Bradshaw (Credit), Kate Chandler (Credit), Kaliana Curtis (Credit), Well done all students who participated in this challenging competition.

Discovering Democracy Competition- Sutton School won the New South Wales competition for Discovering Democracy. They will be awarded the New South Wales primary schools certificate and check of \$500 for their submission of their Fair Dinkum Day held in July of 2003. Our school has been invited to take a team of children to the Discovering Democracy showcase at Parliament House Sydney in November to talk about our Fair Dinkum Day.

Many thanks go to Miss Robinson for her vision in this school project and to Mrs. McNeil for her final product of a well-documented video of the events and to all the teachers and students who participated so readily.

Hall Heating: Here it is at last. Contractors have installed five radiant gas heaters in the hall just prior to the P & C Trivia night Sept. 20th. These heaters will ensure a more pleasant learning and presentation environment during the cooler months and give more flexibility to our use of this magnificent facility. Thanks to the parent organisation, the entire school community and especially to Mrs Jane Nock for their determination and perseverance with this project. A special presentation will be made at the assembly on Friday 24th October.

BURGLARY - REDUCING THE RISKS

by Claude Toscan, Crime Prevention Officer,
Monaro Local Area Command, NSW Police

During the months of August and September this year, Wamboin suffered an increase of burglaries within its community. Since then, offenders believed to be involved in this criminal activity have been arrested and has led to no homes being broken into during October. A pleasing result since six homes were robbed during September.

As discussed at a recent community meeting, there were a number of reasons as to why Wamboin was targeted. It is believed that a contributing factor was a lack security measures that certain victims had in place. Unfortunately, there will always be thieves on the lookout for properties they can rob. There are, however, simple measures you can take to greatly reduce the likelihood your property will be targeted.

PROFILE OF A THIEF Most thieves enter through a door or window at the side or rear of the house. They are usually after jewellery, cash or other portable items that can be easily sold eg. televisions, video recorders, personal computers, cameras and stereos. Generally, they don't like to enter properties if they think someone may be home.

ALWAYS LOCK UP Good home security involves more than fitting deadlocks or an alarm. You must ensure you use them - every time you leave your home. All too frequently in Wamboin, thieves enter homes through unlocked or open doors and windows.

GOOD NEIGHBOURS - YOUR BEST WATCHDOG Good neighbours are one of the best security devices you can have. Get to know your neighbours, stay in touch and together keep an eye out for any suspicious behaviour. It's a good idea to exchange work and holiday telephone numbers. Recently, a number of burglaries have been prevented through observant neighbours. Report any unusual noises or suspicious behaviour to your local police.

KEEP ACCURATE RECORDS Thieves don't like stealing property that is clearly identified. Marked property is very hard to dispose of and recent legislation regarding the operation of pawnbrokers had made it even more difficult. Accurate records of all your property will not only deter thieves but will give the police a better chance of locating your property. Some hints:

- Engrave your electrical equipment and other property (including your CDs) with your driver's licence number, prefixed by NSW. Engraving machines are available from your local police station.
- Keep photographic records of all your property that can't be engraved, especially jewellery and works of art.
- Obtain valuation certificates with detailed descriptions of all items. Store the certificates in a safe place.

KEYS

- Never leave spare keys outside your home. Thieves know all the usual hiding places, especially under mats or pot plants.
- Don't have personal details such as your name, address and telephone number on your keys.
- Give a duplicate set of keys to a trusted friend, relative or neighbour.
- If you lose your keys or move into a new home, make sure you change all the locks. If someone calls you to say that they have found your keys, tell them to drop them off at the nearest police station.
- Don't leave keys on the kitchen table or any other obvious place.

DOORS

- Install quality deadlock devices on all external doors.
- Check your doors are correctly fitted and working properly. Check door frames are secure and sound.
- Security grilles can be useful barrier to outsiders. They should only be used, however, as a last resort to enhance physical security of entry doors and windows in high risk situations/locations.
- Don't leave notes on the door stating that you are away or when you'll return.
- Keep your front door locked when you are at the back of the house, or in the garden.
- Install a peephole in your front door and always check the identification of strangers before you let them into your home. If in doubt, don't open the door.
- Secure garage doors with deadlocks or strong padlocks. Always lock the garage door.

YARDS

- Thieves like their privacy too, so ensure you keep trees and shrubs trimmed, especially trees close to your house that could be climbed to gain access to your property, or to hide thieves' activities.
- Owning a pet dog may deter would-be thieves from targeting your home.
- Ensure all gates are secured. The rear and sides of homes are often targeted by thieves.
- Always lock away tools, ladders and gardening equipment. These items can be used by thieves to enter your home.
- Infra red (or movement activated) security lights covering front and rear access to your home may help deter would-be thieves.
- Ensure your street number/property name is clearly visible from the street. This will help police and other emergency personnel find your home quickly in an emergency.

WINDOWS

- Install key operated locks on all windows. Have your window locks keyed alike so you only need one key to open or lock all your windows.
- Use laminated glass or shatter resistant window film to help prevent entry.

ALARMS

- Visible alarm equipment can be very effective deterrent to thieves. Your alarm system should cover all external entry doors and windows.

IF YOU ARE ROBBED If you arrive home and suspect that you've been robbed, call the Queanbeyan Police Station immediately. If you are alone ask a neighbour to come in with you or wait until the police arrive. If you suspect the thieves may still be inside, don't enter the premises. While you're waiting for the police to arrive, compile a list of what you think is missing. Include brand names, model numbers, serial numbers, accurate descriptions and any engraving details in your list. Remember not to touch anything. It is important the police see your home exactly as the thief left it. What you think is a mess could be valuable evidence.

BURGLARY IS EVERYONE'S PROBLEM Are you a risk of a break-in? Is your home safe from intruders? Have you done all you can to ensure your own safety and the protection of your property? Are your valuables protected? Or ... is it easy for a burglar to get in? Easy for a burglar to sell your things without suspicion? Are you secluded but unsafe – sheltered from prying eyes but sheltering to thieves? If you answer 'yes' to any of these queries, you may need to introduce some changes around your home – to make it harder for burglars to break in, and easier for you and your neighbours to sleep at night. If you were not at the meeting and would like further information, please contact me on 6298 0570



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By Ian Coillet



THE STABLE DOOR

Mobile Phone Survey – closing instalment (from me) – for the moment

Below are the responses I've received from eight residents since last month's Whisper hit your letterbox. The ratio of mobile phone users who have good vs bad quality reception is about in line with earlier responses. Since July, when the survey kicked-off, 28 residents emailed responses. Your contribution has helped form the basis of a Report on the Quality of Mobile Phone Coverage in Wamboin and Bywong localities. In addition, over 70 people signed the Mobile Phone Petition - an impressive outcome given its limited exposure (time and venue). At the time of writing (25/10), the Report has just been forwarded to El Presidente of the Wamboin Community Association, Lofty Mason. At its last meeting (20/10), members of the Bywong Community Association made some useful suggestions and these have been incorporated in the Report. BCA indicated a keenness to formally support community initiatives for improved mobile phone reception. All things being equal, it will annex a formal letter of endorsement to the Report. If things go to plan, the then WCA & BCA backed Report will be despatched to the key mobile phone telecommunication carriers, relevant politicians and other people the Association/s believe it is appropriate to target. And, the excitement builds.....and federal government election draw ever closer ... the mobile phone customer/voter call is simple, that mobile phone reception across our localities must be improved.....HELLO!

Nearest road intersection to your property	Telco Provider	Quality of mobile reception at home	Want quality of mobile reception improved	Comments/Suggestions
Norton/ Amungula	1x Optus 1x Telstra	My phone with Optus has no reception at all. My phone with Telstra has enough reception to make and receive calls.	Yes!	What use is a mobile phone if you can't even make calls on it!
Norton/ Bingley (3 mobile)	Telstra Vodaphone Optus	Hopeless. No coverage. 4 bar coverage. 2 bar coverage.	We definitely need improved coverage.	I have found that Vodaphone always seems to be better coverage in country areas, not to say that it can't be improved!! You would think with the obscene amount we pay for telecommunications that we could at least use our mobiles in the Bush. Good luck with your survey.
Norton/ Merino Vale Dr	Telstra	No reception whatsoever.	YES	I will be promptly switching to the first telco co. that provides coverage to the Wamboin area. That is a promise.
Norton/ Weeroona	Telstra	Can get two bars in one room of the house sitting in the middle of the bed. This is my daughter's room so not very convenient to run into her room and jump on her bed to receive a call. As the house is on a hill, we can also get reception outside at the top of the driveway. As my wife is on emergency call after hours, it means remaining in the house or very close to the land-line as we cannot rely on the mobile service. I have tried Optus also but no reception available.	Yes it would be a great assistance to emergency patients requiring treatment and allow my wife more flexibility.	Petition. Letters to our local federal member. I am far from happy with the mobile service I get from my place.
Norton/Bungen dore Weeroona/ Reedy Ck Pl	Telstra CDMA Optus	Mobile phone used for business purposes. Drops out if you move; even if phone stays on you get only intermittent words. We are new residents in the area. I was in touch with Optus last week (early Oct) to change address details and took the opportunity to lodge a formal complaint about the poor service. I did end up speaking to most helpful technical support representative who indicated that they would be very interested to see your customer survey. He advised (in an attempt to keep me calm) that their marketing people use customer feedback as a primary input to their network roll out plans, and have additional mobile cells going in along the Kings Highway and out near Sutton. Presumably because of pressure from property developers in those areas. I advised that the terrain would ensure that these towers would be unlikely to provide any difference to our problems. They are keen to hear from you. The number for the technical support area is 1300 307 937.	Yes Yes	Very frustrating. I also find the fact that Telstra ADSL is not available through the 6238 XXXX telephone exchange is unacceptable. I did not gain any sympathy from Telstra who declare that their roll out plans are only planned and implemented at short notice. Having been an ADSL user in Canberra before moving, I think that there is a ready market for high speed internet connection with most families in this area. Particularly with ADSL able to connect in parallel to telephone extensions without extra cabling. Best regards and keep up the good work.
Weeroona/ Denley (2 mobiles)	Telstra	We live at the northern end of Weeroona Drive. We have two mobiles, both of which are pretty well useless. One of them is very new and with this I can get indifferent reception if I stand near one of my sheds but it is a fluctuating signal and totally unreliable. We cannot get a reliable signal until well down Macs Reef Road near the highway or until you cross the ACT/NSW border on the	Yes	I tackled Telstra - our supplier - and there seems to be two options for us. 1. have a diversion to the house phone (at my expense). 2. put up an aerial on a tall mast with the 'hope' (their term) of getting a signal. The transmission aerials at Gearys Gap apparently have their alignment set for the roads and not for the surrounding area. Discussion with Telstra looks at the postcode and the nearest town, Bungendore, and assume that the terrain is flat! Discussion with Telstra technical in Melbourne proved fruitless even with my

		Sutton Road heading towards Queanbeyan.		<p>suggestion of a mast, external aerial and a booster such as used on my TV system. They won't even talk about it. I am not prepared to experiment with home made equipment as I gave up electronics at the two valve set many years ago.</p> <p>We are fed up with the system and my business has suffered because of the failure of Telstra to tackle the problem. We have tried and cannot get any useful suggestion as to what to do to improve the system and have frankly given up. I have now persuaded my clients to fax or phone to home and my wife now calls me on my mobile if away. It's all been a big joke at my expense, particularly when reviewing the advertising material used by Telstra. I cannot even take them on using the Trade Practices Act because of the very neat wording; what a barrister calls weasel words.</p> <p>Until we get more people in the area or a politician takes it on we will have an ongoing problem. I have become so discouraged that I will help as far as possible but really think we have no chance. Sorry, but I tried so hard.</p>
Macs Reef/ Bohmers Lane	Vodaphone Optus	Very borderline to unreceivable. Have also experienced an Optus with similar results. Can get 3 bars at the front gate but n il inside.	Yes	

Key: Road on which residence is sited is emboldened and highlighted eg Weeroona


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IF ONLY THEY COULD TALK

A series by local vet, Dr Garry McComb BVSc QDAH

FLEA FACTS

Jumping ability. Fleas can jump 150 times their own length and with an acceleration equivalent to 140g's. They can jump 30 cm horizontally and 13 cm vertically. Hosts are located by heat and interrupted light. The mechanics of jumping are dependent on resilin - a super-elastic protein located in the thorax above the hind legs.

Breeding ability. Adult fleas feed within seconds of jumping onto a host - they have piercing mouth-parts that suck blood from the host (dogs and cats but will also bite man). They mate within 24 hours and produce eggs by 34 hours. Up to 50 eggs/flea/day are laid. A single flea can produce 350,000 new fleas in a year - imagine what a married flea could produce!! Fleas can live for up to 500 days. The eggs fall off the host and hatch in 1-10 days depending on the conditions. The larva feed on organic matter and on the blood in the faeces passed by adult fleas. The larva then forms a pupa - a sticky cocoon which usually lasts for 7 days but can last for 140 days in cooler moist conditions ie Winter. Flea pupae hatch into adult fleas in response to environmental stimuli (warm humid weather, vibration, sound and carbon dioxide - walk into a house that has been deserted for months and fleas will suddenly hatch and bite you). Total lifecycle 12-180 days. 95 % of the lifecycle is spent off the host.

Clinical significance. Flea allergy dermatitis (FAD) is an allergy to flea saliva and is the most common dermatological disease of dogs that we see. Allergies develop best when a dog is exposed intermittently to large numbers of fleas whereas cats develop FAD more commonly from continuous exposure. In dogs the most common site of scratching and hair loss is on the rump and around the base of the tail. Cats show lesions around the neck, back, thighs and abdomen. Other effects of fleas are irritation from bites resulting in trauma and self trauma from scratching. Very severe flea infestations can cause anaemia and death especially in puppies. The flea is also the intermediate host for a couple of worms - the most important in this area is the Tapeworm.

Prevention. Gone are the days of powders and washes. Single spot-on treatments now provide a month of flea control. The one that we recommend is Frontline Plus which not only kills adult fleas for a month (and ticks for 2 weeks) but also kills eggs, and prevents larvae and pupae from developing.

WAMBOIN COUNTRY GOLF CLUB - OCTOBER COMPETITION RESULTS

October brings the L&L King sponsored challenge. Trophies kindly donated by Libby and Larry and we also thank them for the eats at the 19th. Ball trophy winners on the day were Iain Barter, Bill Redpath x2, Nifty Neville Schroder, Bob Mettam x2 and Peter Greenwood. Grade winner of the Stroke competition was Bill Redpath from Trevor Barker. Grade winner was Peter Greenwood (at long last!) from Tim Barter.

-- Peter Greenwood Golfer 6238 3358.



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Wamboin Muses

Jill Gregory

“Things that go bump in the night .. Should not really give one a fright...”

So begins Spike Milligan’s delightful piece of whimsy. The trouble here is that a great deal goes “bump in the night”, but I hear little, except perhaps for the drone of jet aircraft circling monotonously at high altitude. A day in the spring time garden usually finishes me!

But the other morning, in that golden time I cherish before the sun shakes off the night, the usual sequence of morning greeting, first by the rooster, then the kookaburra, magpie and cockatoo, was disturbed. There was a commotion from the chook house. A little later I saw Mort, that faithful hound, cradling a limp possum and licking it tenderly. The possum, sadly, was beyond responding. It was dead, showing all the hallmarks of a fox attack.

I felt I had known that possum well. On nightly raids it would drop from the overhanging bushes and tear out the primulas, rip up the pansies and chew on beetroots still buried in the ground. One night we heard a rustle in the tree. There, in the torch light, was a possum, but a most unfortunate little fella with a bulbous growth under its chin. The “growth” we discovered as it fell to the ground was a half eaten rockmelon that I had been waiting to pick . Then one morning we saw a possum hanging spreadeagled in a prickly wattle. It stayed there all day, as if dead, and it was only under the cover of darkness did it rouse itself and vanish into the night. So that was what they meant by “playing possum”, but now the little creature of the night had given up its games. Reluctantly, for the ground is hard, I grabbed the shovel and with my faithful hound, set off to dig its final resting place. I buried him and we solemnly tamped down the dirt and went away. But things must have gone “bump” in the night, for next morning I discovered an empty grave. I retrieved the dusty possum and under somewhat critical supervision, respectfully buried him once again, marking the grave with a large tree stump.

About this time a mound of freshly dug earth appeared in the bed where I was struggling to grow some Japanese windsongs. The windsongs were scattered and in their place was a magnificent rabbit’s burrow. I wondered why I hadn’t thought of digging my hole there.

Then, with the new dawn, I went to pay my respects to the possum, and found he’d managed to tunnel his way out. I couldn’t find him so I wandered up to inspect the earthworks in the garden bed. To my surprise, there was no burrow. The earth had been neatly tamped down! Would I be right in thinking that there was a very surprised bunny now sharing its home with a restless possum, and a hound that felt his friend had at last secured his peace?

I wouldn’t live anywhere else....where else could you sleep so peacefully at night, while a whole world “bumped” around outside.

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