

COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

April 2004 CIRCULATION: 955

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 May, 2004 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, April 25, 2004, 7:00 pm.

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WAMBOIN FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

Wamboin Community Assn	Lofty Mason	President	6238-3258
Bywong Community Assn	Warwick Cathro	President	6236-9187
Fire Brigade	Cliff Spong	Captain	040-999-1340 bh 6236 9220 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
Damien Montesin, petsitting, odd jobs	6238-3208
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WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

President's Paragraphs

The **EASTERN CAPITAL CITY LGA election** is now scheduled for the 26th of June. I have spoken with Bywong representatives and we plan to ask the nominating Councillors to address a joint meeting of residents of Bywong and Wamboin at the Bingley Way Hall. The date of this meeting is yet to be decided.

Water is a precious, and exhaustible, commodity in rural living. Don Evans (known to his wife Penny as 'The Water Nazi') has been looking at rainfall, catchment, storage and use of the wet stuff. Don will give a presentation on water management at our next WCA meeting which starts at 7.30 on the 20th of April. All welcome. The notice board will have a reminder.

A development application has been lodged to build the extra room at the rear of the Hall. Although we don't have sufficient funds to complete the multi purpose store/committee/rest room for visiting fire-fighters, we will make a start as soon as possible and wing it from there.

The **Excess Local Produce Market** keeps growing. Unfortunately, due to the short growing season in Wamboin, we have to consider closing down **after** our April 17th Market until the warmer days of October. Must admit I don't grow much produce, let alone excess, during those winter months. Will keep you posted.

Lofty Mason. ljmason@austarmetro.com.au

Clean Up Australia

The Clean Up Wamboin Day was quite successful with 36 volunteers picking up over 500 Kilos of rubbish along several roads. A good turnout by the Cubs was excellent value. The Fire Brigade supplied 2 light vehicles which proved very useful cruising around, handing out drinks and maintaining control by reporting back by radio. These vehicles also improved safety by slowing down traffic.

Interesting? find of the day went to Ken Gordon. **Insult of the day** awarded to the person who deliberately threw rubbish in front of one of our volunteers. **Thought of the week** goes to Pete Harrison who was quite surprised to realise he was upset when he saw fresh rubbish the following day on **his** cleaned up section of Norton Rd.

The following is a list of those who registered: Judith Evans, Larry & Libby King, Sandy Sedgewick, Cliff Spong, Lofty & Joan Mason, Don & Penny Evans, Hank Berlee, Phil Sadler, Andrew & Connor Sadlow, Hayden Lloyd, Ken & Deb Gordon, Jack Ehnhuus, Jack Muston, Peter Greenwood, Tony, Geoffrey & Cassandra Fisher, Pete & Steve Harrison, John & Pearl Van Der Straaten, Lance & Rohan Schultz, Neville Chris and Rachel Schroder, John, Lisa, Matilda & Jack Whitney.

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Bywong Community News

Boot Sale Booming Despite hot and dusty weather and the setback of having to pay an excessive insurance premium, the ninth annual Car Boot Sale again took place under clear skies and good omens. The number of stall holders again increased - to 112 - and most other indicators were up. The event continues to provide the ideal social get-together for Bywong and Wamboin folk.

Talking termites Jean-Pierre Favre will talk to the next meeting of the community (19 April) about termites. He will draw on his considerable personal experience of the problem in our region, and will share the research he used in reaching his own solution. If you're local, you may have a potential problem which JP might help you to solve.

Bushwalk Julian Thompson will lead a Bywong/Wamboin bushwalk along the Greenways from Newington Road to Clare Lane Sunday 6 May. Julian's number is 6236 9129.

Trivia Night The community is already gearing up for the annual Bywong Trivia challenge, scheduled for 31 July. Details from Warwick and Diana on 6236 9187.

Local speed limits Encouraged by the success of Wamboin in having a speed limit placed on Norton Road, some Bywong residents have expressed interest in similar limits on their own roads. The Community has information on procedures for consideration of limits on local roads, and will be inviting comment. Members have also raised the question of dangers arising on the Federal Highway from cars illegally crossing the planted median strip.

Annual Wine Tour The Wine Tour will be even bigger and better this year with the participation of five wineries and a local coffee spot. The executive believes this tour, scheduled for 12 September, is the best value wine tour available anywhere. Details from Sue Gorham on 6236 9476.

Web site The Community has invited local businesses to renew their entries on its web site, and is also accepting new entries for the coming year. Ring Morag (6230 3523) for details of terms and costs.

Bush Dance Encouraged by the success of the February Bus Dance and the increased participation of younger people, the Community has decided to run a second dance for the year in spring, possibly to celebrate Hallowe'en. The tentative date is 30 October - watch the Bulletin for confirmation.

Help needed The Community is still looking for people to assist with letterboxing and other social and civic activities. If you can spare a little time, contact the Secretary Judith Miller (6236 9212) or the President Warwick Cathro (6236 9187).

Next meeting The next General Meeting of the Community will be at 7.30 pm on Monday 19 April in the Community Hall. Any resident of the area is very welcome to attend. Jean-Pierre Favre will speak on "Termites".

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EASTERN CAPITAL CITY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA NEWS

Elections The Government in its wisdom! has set back democracy and the elections to the end of June. Polling day will be Saturday 26th June. The Bingley way hall will be a Polling Booth.

Shire Name One of the early decisions of the new Council will be to select a new name for the Shire. (that is unless you like living in the "Eastern Capital City Local Government Area?") There have been some odd suggestions based on a combination of Yarrawlumlala and Tallaganda such as "Yarrowganda" or "Tallalumla" but it would seem to me that the easiest, simplest and most logical name would be based on the largest and most identifiable feature in the Shire being Lake George. Is this too simple and boring? What are your suggestions?

Bush Fire Season Extended Our local NSW Rural Fire Service Fire Control Centre staff have decided to extend the bush fire season until the end of April. This is due to the continuing dry conditions and will keep this region in line with the ACT and other surrounding regions who have also elected to extend the season. Remember no fires without a permit.

- Peter Greenwood JP Your **former** Local Councillor 6238 3358 petergreenwood@actweb.net

<p>QUEANBEYAN VETERINARY HOSPITAL & BOARDING KENNELS</p> <p>94 Yass Road Queanbeyan, 2620</p> <p>After hours Emergency Service available at Q.V.H. Phone 6299-2509</p>	<p>Dr. Garry McComb advises 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.</p>		 <p>Painters & Decorators <i>Aurora</i> For Added Value and Quality</p>  <p>Free quotes References available on request No mess, no fuss Qualified City & Guilds Tradesman</p> <p>Ph: 62411 727 Mob: 0418 975 232</p>
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Wamboin Rural Fire Service 19th Annual Ball

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WHEN: Saturday 29th May 2004

WHERE: Wamboin Community Hall

TIME: 7:00pm – 1:00 am

TICKETS: \$30

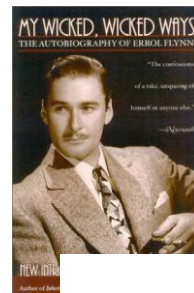
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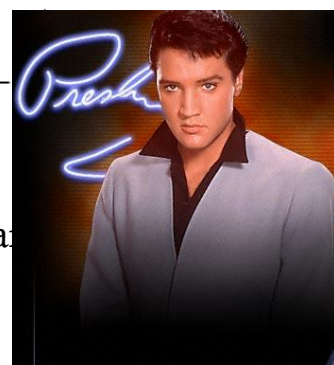
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IF ONLY THEY COULD TALK

A series by local vet, Dr Garry McComb BVSc QDAH

PSITTACINE BEAK & FEATHER DISEASE

One of the many frustrating diseases that we see in birds is feather loss. The easy ones to cure are caused by lice and mites however this article is about one for which there is no treatment. Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease (Pbfd) is caused by the smallest known virus (circovirus). It is predominately a disease of parrots but different strains of the virus have been found to affect pigeons, doves, finches and seagulls. The different viral strains do not appear to affect other bird groups, other animal species or humans.

The virus targets the skin and the immune system. The typically infected bird will develop multiple feather abnormalities. These can be quite variable and include feather loss, broken feathers, abnormally coloured feathers, retained feather sheaths, and pinched or narrowed feathers. The beak may also be affected resulting in overgrowth, deformities and fractures. Not all birds will show beak abnormalities. The most commonly affected wild birds are sulphur-crested cockatoos, gang gangs, and lorikeets.

Feather loss leads to an inability to fly and a decrease in insulation. Beak abnormalities result in starvation. Also, because the virus attacks the immune system, many birds die from secondary infections.

The virus is transmitted in feather dust, faeces and crop secretions. Infected birds will pass the virus to the developing egg. Younger birds more likely to become infected and develop disease than older ones. Very young chicks can suffer sudden death with no feather abnormalities.

In birds with obvious clinical signs a tentative diagnosis can be made on physical appearance alone. However this is inaccurate, as there many causes of feather abnormalities, feather picking being one of the major differential diagnoses. Birds that feather pick do not have abnormal head feathers whereas birds with Pbfd can have abnormal head feathers. The only reliable method of Pbfd diagnosis involves collecting a blood sample and testing for the virus. After infection with the virus the bird may develop the disease - this may take up to 18 months. Some infected birds may mount an effective immune response that removes the virus from its system. These birds will most likely become immune. Some birds may remain clinically normal but will still shed the virus - this is particularly common among lorikeets. These birds remain a continual source of infection for other birds. A few birds with clinical signs (usually lorikeets) may recover.

The disease is present in wild Australian parrot populations. Estimates vary but may be as high as 30-40%. Despite this wild birds are not believed to pose a great threat to aviary birds. Direct exposure to infected individuals or to the virus on clothes and utensils is much more significant. The virus is quite resistant but can be killed by chlorine disinfectants. There is no treatment.

Bungendore Evening VIEW Club (Voice, Interests, and Education of Women)

The next meeting will be at the Bungendore Woodworks on Monday, 5 April at 7.00pm. The cost will be \$23 and the guest speakers will be Di Dibley and Mark Thornton from A Suitable Book. New members and guests are welcome. Please call Debbie Hudson for bookings on 62381571. The May meeting will be at Lamberts Winery located on Norton Road in Wamboin. It will be held on Monday, 3 May at 7.00pm. The cost for dinner will be \$24 and the guest speaker will be popular local gardening identity, Mark Carmody. Members and guests are always welcome. Please call Debbie Hudson for bookings on 62381571.

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<p>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 6238-3484 for information. Advertising rates: Full Page - \$100 Half Page - \$50 1/4 Page - \$25 1/6 Page - \$20 1/8 Page - \$15</p>
<p>Trestles and chairs are available from the Wamboin Hall in Bingley Way for private hire by local residents. The trestles are 2.4 meters long and seat 10. The hire rate is \$10 per trestle and \$1 for chairs. This price does not include delivery or pick up charges. Chairs and tables are to be returned in a clean and serviceable condition. To arrange pick-up and return, contact Joan Mason on 62383258.</p>
<p>Tree/wind guards: Miss out on a bargain at the fantasmagorical Bywong Car Boot Sale? Don't despair. I still have around 70 preloved large sheeted plastic tree guards. At almost a metre high they give great protection for young plantings from the winds which whip Wamboin and the blusters that bu--er bushes in Bywong, not to mention the roos etc. They are also excellent for creating a little humidity for your plants - something that traditionally is pretty scarce out this way. Eventhough they are preloved, like anything/one else the're good for a few seasons yet. Actually the guards are in great condition and at just 50 cents a pop, most likely represent the best bargain of the post Bywong car boot sale sales. So be quick. Phone Ian on 6238 3425.</p>
<p>Lambert Vineyards Café has vacancies for casual waiting staff. Experience preferred but not essential. Contact Sarah: by mail, wine@lambertvineyards.com.au or phone 62383866</p>
<p>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</p>
<p>House sitters wanted for 3 bedroom house in Bywong from mid-May to mid-July. Great views and easy to live-in house. Two very friendly Australian kelpies, some hens and a few fantail pigeons to look after. Six sheep who look after themselves on our 35 acre property. Phone: 6230 3523</p>
<p>Hoof trimming, professional and prompt service, ponies a specialty, ph 6230 3833 to make an appointment</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>Wormcastings Buying, giving or receiving plants? Improve their survival and growth potential with wormcastings, a top quality and brilliant organic growth stimulant (for plants). Wormcastings are a by-product of worm activity. The wormcastings are bagged and come with instructions. They are excellent for gardens, individual plants and vegetable plots. Many ecstatic customers. 25litre bag \$8.50. Ph Ian 6238 3425</p>



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Wamboin 15 years ago – from the Whisper of April 1989. Circulation 205.

Editors – Joan and Lofty Mason.

From the President's Paras: "Thanks to those dozen or so ladies who provided a beautiful buffet dinner on April 11 when the Yarrawlumla Shire Council held a meeting at the Wamboin Community Hall. It was voted a great success by all and the Councillors expressed their admiration of the Wamboin people's warmth and hospitality. Thank you to all who assisted in any way and to those who attended. Without you, Wamboin would not be the great place that it is. Norton Road has become a busy thoroughfare, particularly since the rain has caused flooding problems on Macks Reef Road"



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The Wamboin Firefighter

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

The Fire Season has been extended until 30 April 2004 Remember: No Fires without a Permit

From the Captain's Desk



It seems that all those rain dances haven't worked. There is still a lot of dry fuel out there and the weather forecasts do not look good from a firefighter's viewpoint. Although we have been exceptionally fortunate so far this fire season the fire risks remain too high to declare an end to this season. We received the word last week that the fire danger season will be extended until the end of April. This means that fires are not permitted unless a permit has been granted.

It is pleasing to report that when the extension to the fire shed has reached the lock-up stage the internal fit-out can go ahead thanks to a great effort by **Peter Greenwood** in securing funding from the Australian Government under its Regional Partnerships program, administered by the Department of Transport and Regional Services. The grant will enable us to put in the flooring, plumbing, stairs, and internal wall linings for example. The plan is to officially open the extension at the end of September 2004.

As can be seen from the photographs below, taken by **Peter Greenwood**, work is underway again. The picture on the left shows the progress just before lunch on Monday 29 March and on the right the structure at the end of the day.



The ground floor of the extension will provide more parking space for brigade vehicles and the upstairs area will provide an improved training and administrative area. Although some people had put in requests for a pole from the top floor to the ground we had to settle for a conventional staircase. Perhaps not as much fun but maybe more realistic!



The first part of the brigade's website is now available. The website has been developed in two parts. The first provides information for the local community. The information covers almost every issue connected with bush fires and being prepared for them. The website also has many links to many other fire-related sites to make accessing the information as easy as possible. The second part will enable brigade members to access specific information on brigade activities and their own personal brigade records. The Internet address is www.wamboin-fireshed.com. If you have any comments or suggestions please let us know.

Each year somewhere in Australia the national Australian & New Zealand Police and Emergency Services Games are held. This year the event was held in Perth. The competition is a mix of numerous sports from athletics, swimming, fishing, golf, ten pin bowling, beach volleyball, indoor soccer and many more. The competitors are from Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, PNG, Indonesia and South Africa. Ages start from 18 and the stop when you do. The oldest competitor in the athletics this year was a retired policeman from Western Australia who was in the 80 - 89 age group. He competed in all 16 or 17 events and won them all.

The only competitor representing the NSW Rural Fire Service, and from the Wamboin Brigade, was Alison Spong. Her fire fighting training came in handy with the temperature in the low forties each day and the temperature of the track between 52 and 55 degrees. She brought back a swag of medals in the 18-29 years age group – 1st in the 100 metres, long and triple jumps, 2nd in the 200 metres and discus, 3rd in the 100 metres hurdles and a creditable 4th in the shot putt. The result in the shot putt is completely understandable as the ladies who came 1st, 2nd and 3rd were all police officers and only came in two sizes – large and extra large!


On Saturday 13 March 2004 an enjoyable ceremony was held at the Gidgee Estate Winery. Following the success of the sales of their Bush Fire Red Kay Brett and Cheryl Lane presented the brigade with a cheque for \$1200. As an expression of the brigade's thanks for the cheque and the great efforts of the Bush Fire Red team, certificates of appreciation were presented to Kay and Cheryl, Alan Nicol, and Richard Taylor from Uriarra Printers. Unfortunately Michael, our local postie, and a representative from LJ Hooker Bungendore could not be present to accept the brigade's thanks. The pictures from Alan Nicol show, on the left, Peter Greenwood, Fiona David, Cliff Spong and the Bush Fire Red team proudly showing the cheque. On the right are members of the brigade with a couple of welcome visitors, Bruce Arthur, the areas' Fire Control Officer and Rachel Schroder, the brigade's youngest member (front row on the right).



On Saturday 17 April a large hazard reduction burn will be conducted involving several brigades in the area, weather permitting, around and near the properties at 957 and 977 Norton Road. Residents are advised to take care on the road as we expect a lot of smoke.

If you need to discuss anything about bushfire protection, anything to do with your fire brigade or to get a fire permit please give me a call on 0409991340 or 6236 9220.

THE CAPTAIN'S LIST		Local businesses supporting the Wamboin Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	
A'Hern Fitness at the Airport AAA Water Carriers Capital Business Services Clare Valley Tree Services Congari Bookkeeping & Business Services	Horizon Real Estate FH Office Services France Harrison & Associates Gidgee Estate Winery Inland Trading Co (Aust)	Overdene Excavations Pty Ltd So Good Sausages Pty Ltd Sutton Real Estate Trevor Barker & Associates	

<p>RURAL SERVICES CERTIFIED SPRAYING CONTRACTOR SPOT AND BOOM Fertiliser Spreading Slashing Post Holes Ploughing Ripping Fencing Post and Rail Phone Dan Grant 0409 467 240 or 6299 1247</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOR SALE</p> <p>Locally grown Native and Exotic shrubs and trees, suitable for this area. 150 mm (6") pots \$5.00 200 mm (8") pots \$9.00 Fresh Cut Flowers</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Kleenheat Gas Dealer, Wamboin, Sutton and Geary's Gap Area. - Slashing & Rural Services WIYAGIBA TRADING - Dave and Jane Hubbard 37 POPPET ROAD, WAMBOIN Ph/Fax 6238-3308</p>
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Old habits are iron shirts**(Yugoslavian proverb)**

By Ian Coillet

A stroll in the park: not on your nellie
It's the lake called George where today we would rally
To trek, to lunch, to drink and guffaw
On the Lake George Walk 2004.

There's maybe 30 in all jibber-jabbering and thus
Especially us down the back of the bus
Recalling our antics on coach trips at school
And how we harried teachers and lost drivers' cool.

Forty minutes on – 2ks east of the lake
The bus drops us off and we head west for the gate
Along the strap of a track is the route we do take
Through parched grass wrenched dry by the drought and the
bake.

Cross tassellated ground we're on the lake proper
Not a lizard nor snake just many a grasshopper.
Off in the distant, 8ks if you look hard
Ghostly shimmer of traffic travelling toward on hot tar.

Half way across now? "Not yet", proclaims Pete
"Three-eighths if you're lucky, so keep moving your feet."

Ken's put his shaft away, "Thank goodness!" you might say
Having decided too much challenge was playing golf this way.

But the ultimate was Don, dear Don, bless his plumber instinct
We believe he has solved why George's water does sink

For out in the middle he made a remarkable discovery
The lake has a plug hole but that's just half the worry.

There is indeed a drain and the message gets worse
It empties, 'cos there is no plug of course.
"No matter!", Don proclaims and with due plumber aplomb
Produces a new plug; risking back flush, we move on.

By now the mirage of the traffic moving
Is fading as we draw closer to the cars and others touring
Tho we walkers are spread perhaps a kilometre or two
Destination is close – Lofty and BBQ.

'Cross the final section – in surprisingly little pain,
We can just make out the young Sue Gane
Libby is quick to de-cork Lambert wine and champagne
While Chef Nev at the grill is ably lighting the flame
An activity traditionally Charlie M's domain.

Three and a half hours, "Crossed you by George!"
Maybe, next year, a bigger crowd will forge
And with the change of weather we're all hoping for
We'll be swimming Lake George from shore to shore.

For those who missed out, don't fret, don't pout
If you need to, throw that iron shirt out.
2005 will soon come about
So check the photos now; video will soon be out.

To all responsible for organising, sponsoring, contributing and
participating – a big thank you.

A Good Day!!**mark your diary now!!!****Canberra Day 2005 –****BUNGENDORE ANGLICAN CHURCH****Sunday 4 April 2004, Palm Sunday**

9.00 am, St Philip's, Bungendore, Holy Communion, 11.00 am St Mark's, Hoskingtown Holy Communion

Thursday 8 April 2004, Maundy Thursday - 7.30 pm St Philip's, Bungendore Holy Communion**Friday 9 April 2004, GOOD FRIDAY**

9.00 am St Philip's, Bungendore Holy Communion 11.00 am St John's, Lake Bathurst Holy Communion

Sunday 11 April 2004, EASTER DAY 9.00 am St Philip's, Bungendore Holy Communion

9.00 am St Thomas', Carwoola Holy Communion & Baptism 11.00 am St Andrew's, Tarago Holy Communion

Sunday 18 April 2004, The Second Sunday of Easter 8.00 am St Philip's, Bungendore Holy Communion

9.30 am St Philip's, Bungendore Holy Communion 5.00 pm St Luke's, Captains Flat Prayer & Praise

Sunday 25 April 2004, The Third Sunday of Easter

9.00 am St Philip's, Bungendore Holy Communion 11.00 am St John's, Lake Bathurst Holy Communion

Thanks to the persons below, Wamboin and Bywong residents have a free community owned newsletter.

150 CO-ORDINATED BY HELEN MONTESIN:				Ph 6238 3208
Dean Evans	Nrtn Area frm Campbl West	18	Bill Owen Cooper Rd.	27
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	29	Max Klemke	Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley 25
Dave Hubbard	Poppet Rd.	34	Cathy Abell	Canning Close 17
245 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE:				Ph 6238 3463
Joan Mason	Bingley Way	50	Margaret Heleimin	Merino Vale Drive 17
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	28	Anne Gardner	Weeroona, Norton to Majors 30
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20	David Anderson	Weeroona, Majors to Denley 35
Ned Noel	13 YrCn 35Adv 10 NStks7Msc	65		
249 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER:				Ph 6238 3489
Colleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20	Ruth Lambert	Yalana West 32
Antonette Stockdale	Yalana East	34	Rob Gorham	South End - Clare Valley 43
Bernie Reardon	Clare Lane	8	Pauline Segeri	North End - Clare Valley 32
Lyle Monetesin	Forrest Road area	50	Amanada Bryan	Donnelly Road 20
Bungendore Shop	Bungendore	10		
297 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN:				Ph 6238 3590
Rachael Gascoine	Brooks Creek Estate	22	Lachlan & Callum	Whitford Hogan/Kestral area 11
Sue Gorham	Schofield Road	25	Len Parrish	Summer Hill Rd /Bungendore Rd 32
Ann Platts	Denley/Birchman's Area	25	Rhett Cox	Macs Reef /Nwngtn to FedHwy 12
Laura Snowdon	Hogan Drive	25	Morag Cotsell	Newington/Harriot 50
Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	20	Thelma Martin	Shinglehouse/ilhouse/Schfield Rds 20
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Birriwa	35	Christa Rehwinkel	Macs Reef - Nwngtn to FedHwy 20
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**Bungendore now has its own Country Town Lolly Shop
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If you want to know where all the local kids are don't look any further than our new local Lolly Shop – Tracys Treats.

With its bright yellow walls and pristine white shelves full of treats, not to mention the grubby finger and nose marks on the outside of the glass its pretty easy to find.

Just in front of the new Doctor's Surgery in Ellendon Street (it has been said a spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down!), Tracy, a Wamboin local, opened her shop on 24 January this year.

“ I try to have lots of goodies for all ages so that you get that overwhelming feeling when you walk in. In fact some local children have been known to spend 45 minutes to spend their weekly treat allowance,” said Tracy. “They just love the fact that there are lots of 5 cent choices to make”

Apart from keeping the young and young at heart happy, Tracys Treats also carries a range of Belgian Chocolates, gourmet preserves and biscuits and loads of party goods including some very colourful piñatas and helium balloons.

Tracy has apparently taken the “Lolly Shop Owners Hippocratic Oath” and has assured us that everyone's secrets are safe with her.

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GEARY'S GAP/WAMBOIN LANDCARE

Growing Native Trees in Phalaris Paddocks

by Hiliary Kent and John Merritt

Phalaris was widely used in the Geary's Gap/Wamboin area to augment native grasses. It is hardy and vigorous and now the dominant grass in most low-lying areas. It poses special problems for those who wish to grow Australian native trees. There is no simple way of overcoming these problems.

Preparation Phalaris is too vigorous and dense to permit direct seeding. We plant tube stock. Wherever possible we rip some months before planting. We then apply Glyphophate along both sides of the rip line to create a metre-wide phalaris-free strip. The dead phalaris is left in the ground to help conserve moisture and inhibit grass growth. If it is removed it is quickly replaced by wild sorrel, which has the capacity to choke young trees almost equally to that of phalaris itself. Moreover, in time, the phalaris will always come back. Thus we also add mulch to the rip lines. Often we use phalaris hay, cut after the seeds have fallen. It is durable and effective. We grow our own tube stock or purchase it from local nurseries.

Planting Our planting practice is to loosen the rootball, firm the tree in well, construct a saucer-shaped depression around it, add a teaspoon of slow release fertilizer, water well, and then mulch. Whenever possible we plant after rain. We do not stake tube stock. Small trees usually become wind firm before they begin significant upward growth. We do stake taller plantings, using either two or three wooden stakes and a support placed 15-30cm above ground. We no longer use plastic growbags. While they provide wind protection, they generate too much heat in the summer months.

We favour spring plantings. Dry and frosty autumns are common in this region and they can be hard on young trees. With spring plantings the frost problem is reduced and there is usually some rain before summer sets in. When the frosts arrive in April or May the trees are able to survive.

We have planted a mixture of eucalyptus species so as to minimize the effects of insect attack. We have also included a fair proportion of acacias. They add nitrogen to the soil and grow quickly, giving the other trees some wind protection. We give new plantings survival water in their first year, watering once every 3 weeks during summer. After the first year, they are on their own. We then spend a lot of time cutting our persistent clumps of phalaris and renewing the mulch on rip lines. We stop weeding and mulching only when the trees are well-established. Some brush cutting might follow, but establish trees soon reduce phalaris growth themselves.

Protecting young trees Phalaris must be eaten down or slashed if it is not to become a fire hazard. We run sheep but they can be hard on trees. For some time we experimented with a variety of individual wire tree guards which we anchored with steel pickets. These worked well while the trees were young, but not so well when they acquired breadth and height. They restrict lateral growth and the sheep learn to climb up the sides. There was no alternative but to fence our windbreaks and to build large circles of ringlock around solitary paddock trees. When the foliage on the paddock trees is above sheep height, we remove the ringlock and use chicken wire sheaths to protect the trunks. (Light plastic mesh works just as well.) The sheath needs to be anchored otherwise the sheep will push it upwards and nibble the areas of exposed trunk. Persistence does pay off. Most of our five year plus trees are now without protection and are strong enough to withstand sheep rubbing against them.

Tree selection We began by trying to grow trees that were indigenous to the local area. We achieved significant success with *Eucalyptus mannifera*, *E. poyanthenos*, *E. macrorhyncha* and *E. bridgesiana*. But we had difficulty with *E. rossii* and with cauarinas, and failed completely with *E. melliodora*. We concluded that our block had been so disturbed by its years as a grazing paddock that any attempt to re-create an indigenous environment was Quixote, so we branched out into species from other areas of Australia. The trees we have grown with most success on the drier parts of our block are: *Eucalytus macarthurii*, *E. pauciflora*, *E. bridgesiana*, *E. mannifera*, *E. apiculata*, *E. moorei*, *E. paliformis*, *E. poyanthenos*, *E. nicholli*, *E. rubida*, *E. macrorhyncha* and *E. cinerea*.

On damper, colder areas, by far the best performers are *E. ovata*, *E. parvifolia*, *E. camphora* and *E. aggregata*. We have experimented with many different wattles. *Acacia dealbata*, *A. rubida*, *A. boormani* and *A. cardiophylla* have all proven reliable performers. (Hiliary and John were founding members of Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare and their input contributed heavily to the success of the group. They plan on leaving the area soon and as can be ascertained from their article, will be leaving their property in much better condition than they found it. We wish them well.)

Calendar of activities Planting session – 9am Sunday 17 April - Hogan Drive Greenway
Meet at the base of the greenway. Look for the sign! Bring digging implements. All help will be appreciated.

Propagation session – 9am Saturday 1 May – 38 Birchmans Grove Ring Geoff on 62369158 or email g.butler@austarmetro.com.au All welcome!

Picture below: Roger Good addressing a Landcare meeting at his property 'Summervale' last month.



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Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin – 29 year statistics from the Robertsons

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2004 rainfall to 28/3/04	70.5mm	Coldest April day	10C 7 times
(2003 to 31/3/	96mm)	Coldest April night	0C on 27/4/99
Average April rainfall	51.8mm	Wettest April	174.5mm in 1989
Driest April	.5mm in 1997		

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WAMBOIN COUNTRY GOLF CLUB – MARCH RESULTS

March competition trophies and eats sponsored by Robert Gorham and Step to Step Couriers. We thank Robert and Step to Step for the day. Support our supporters and sponsors.

We had a number of visitors for the day including Michael and Jessica Allen, Alan and Maureen Schroder from Adelaide and a return visit from Glenn Crafter.

Maureen took out the visitor's challenge.

Ball winners were; Nev Schroder, Ted Evans x2, Bob Mettam, Joan Mason, Ken Gordon, Maureen Schroder, Glenn Crafter, Michael Allen and Peter Greenwood.

Nine Hole event won by Vincent Gorham and Joan Mason.

B Grade won by Ted Evans (37) from Bob Mettam (34).

A Grade won by Charles Guscott (41) from Peter Greenwood (40) on count back.

Wamboin Golf is played on the first Sunday of every month starting at 12.30 from the Bingley Way hall.

Peter Greenwood Golfer 6238 3358.



SUTTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

ESTABLISHED 1871

18 Victoria Street (P O Box 63) Sutton NSW 2620

Phone: 02 6230 3215 Fax: 02 6230 3327

email: sutton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Principal: Ray Claydon BA Dip Ed

Sutton School Playgroup The school is excited to announce the establishment of The Sutton School Playgroup and extended transition to school program. After careful planning the program will start in term 2, on Wednesday 28th April. The playgroup will be affiliated with the Playgroup Association of NSW and will have a school funded co-ordinator. The co-ordinator will plan activities and assist with the running of the playgroup. The playgroup will run from 9.30am to 11.00am. Infants to pre-schoolers are invited to attend. Children who are looking at starting school in 2005 will also be invited into the Kindy class on a regular basis during terms 3 and 4. This will form part of our Kindy Orientation Program. For further details, please ring the school.



Engineering Games Success

Two Sutton students competed against the politicians at Parliament House last week, and won the event. John and Jessica in Year 5 had to construct a mouse trap. They then competed in a mouse trap race. (See photo)

School Excursions Students from Years 5 and 6 recently travelled to Sydney for a most exciting three day educational excursion. Highlights included the Quarantine Station at North Head, The Aquarium, A Sydney Harbour Cruise, The Sydney Observatory, The Rocks Tour and The Bushrangers and Barristers Trial. Students finished up with a swim at the Sydney Aquatic Centre and a BBQ picnic at Olympic Park. The excursion supported recent studies on Australian History and our Peer Support Program.

Sporting Achievements Congratulations to Stephen in Year 4 who was selected to represent our school in the District AFL Squad. The team travelled to the South Coast on Wednesday, 24 March. Four of our students competed at the Regional Swimming Carnival in Wollongong this term as well. They were Jessie, Rogier, Nicole and Ryan. Congratulations also to Jessie who is the 11 yr girl champion for the Queanbeyan District. On Friday 26 March the school ran its cross country event. The school has selected a strong team of cross country runners to compete in the Queanbeyan PSSA District Carnival to be held in May.

AUSTAG

Boys and Girls 5 to 12 years are encouraged to come and play Austag, a fun and safe game for all. There is no cost involved, only a permission note to be signed by Mum or Dad. These will be available at the oval on the day. This is generously being run by volunteer coaches and committee members of the Bungendore Junior Rugby League Football Club. Where: Mick Sherd Oval at Bungendore. When: Tuesday 16th March, Tuesday 23rd March, Tuesday 30th March, Tuesday 6th April, Time: 4.30 to 5.30 pm

BUNGENDORE TIGERS - RUGBY LEAGUE TRAINING

Training for Rugby League will start on Thursday the 18th March from 4.30pm to 5.30pm. If you are registered to play please come along and if you would like to play this season please come to training and register. Girls and Boys in all age groups from 5 to 15 years are still needed. Training is held at the Mick Sherd Oval Bungendore.

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Wamboin Muses

Jill Gregory

It is finally autumn. Soft mists hang like a veil over the mornings, innocent and seductive. The cool morning air promises a gentle day, but alas, the promise is often broken. Summer seems to be hanging on for all its worth, and, as the earth grows more lifeless, only dust seems to grow beyond the garden. But within, we are still enjoying the rewards of our pre garden- wedding efforts, with dahlias, vincas and hardy petunias, impatiens and roses spreading colour. My best blooms, viewed from a distance, remain those that I purchased from the \$2- Shop and cunningly grafted onto the rose bushes before the wedding. I've almost resigned myself to the fact that drought resistant gazanias and succulents are not the ultimate solution, and am moving towards rosemary groundcovers to fill the more difficult spaces. At least the creatures of the night seem to resist them.

Now I don't mind if a little tip pruning occurs whilst I am sleeping. I can even cope with the odd bit of open cut mining, although three mine shafts in the soft garden soil one morning did challenge my cool, but I'm finding the pathways and tunnels through the garden, with complete disregard for the layout, almost the last straw. The stepping stones that I'd placed with both function and whimsy in mind, have been ignored; plants have been snapped off and trampled, undermined or mown down to the roots and replaced by dusty passageways.

A recent article in the local press alluded to the Calicivirus and the fact that a rabbit sighting is a rare event these days. That writer certainly hasn't been to these parts in recent times. I love having chooks, and I know that chooks bring mice, and mice bring snakes, but who brings the confounded rabbit! I have to accept the kangaroo, with its big trampling feet and penchant for exotics, because it was here before us, but rabbits, like us, are "new chums" and deserve no special privileges. Unfortunately they're also pretty and bouncy, and enjoy great media exposure at this time of the year.

Autumn and Easter is a wonderful time of the year at Wamboin. Family visits, lunches on the deck, evening drinks on the verandah watching the birds and kangaroos, Easter eggs. I wouldn't live anywhere else....but please, will someone shoot that dratted Easter bunny!

Notes from St Andrew's Church

Services are held in the Church on the corner of Norton and Poppet Roads at 9am on the first and third Sundays of each month. Wamboin residents and friends are always welcome. There will be extra services this month for Easter – 9am on Good Friday, April 9th and Easter Day, Sunday 11th. Do celebrate this Easter in your local church. Enquiries to Robyn Robertson on 62383202 or Bronwyn Elliott on 62383359. We wish everyone in Wamboin a happy, safe and peaceful Easter.

Bungendore Park Tennis Club

President, Bruce Hughes, reported to the Annual General Meeting that 2003 was a successful year from a members, participation and profitability view. New officers elected for 2004 are: President - Bruce Hughes, Vice President - Melissa Mears, Secretary/Treasurer - Eric Martin, Committee - Lance Rees, Gordon Harrison, Keith Foulds, John Whitney. Club Championships will be held in the near future. Contact the club for further details. - Eric J. Martin, Secretary, 6238 1892

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