

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

August 2004 CIRCULATION: 990

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 September, 2004 edition of the Wamboin Whisper will be welcome, and should be sent by email to nednoel@optusnet.com.au or delivered physically to Ned Noel's mailbox at Reedy Creek Place or by the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for next month the deadline is Sunday, September 26, 2004, 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	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	6255-1225
Hall Bookings	Joan Mason	Bookings	6238-3258
Church, Anglican	Robyn Robertson	Warden	6238-3202
Christian Prayer Group	Steve & Imelda Taylor	Contacts	6238-3220
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
Frank Deveson, bicycle maintenance	6238-3294
Elle Greet, fully experienced babysitter, loves children	6238 0129

Macs 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 GREAT WAMBOIN CURRY NIGHT

Put in your diary for Saturday, August 14, 7:00 pm Wamboin Hall

Inquiries to Dave Hubbard on 6238 3308

WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

President's Paragraphs

Councillor Jim Maclachlan, has informed me that he is happy to represent our area in local council. He plans to attend future meetings of the WCA.

At our last meeting Trent Abell gave an interesting talk on **house fires**. Since the time between the call and Brigade arrival is so vital, and because we are so isolated, the need for prevention of any fire is very apparent

Our **Bonfire Night** is scheduled for Saturday, the 18th of September. We are requesting any bonfire type material to start building the fire. The site of the fire has been selected just on the northern edge of the oval. It is be marked out. We make a special request for any substantial logs, stumps etc.

Thanks to a Government '**Communities Assistance Grant**' the appliances in our kitchen are more user friendly. We have been told it was a 'man designed' kitchen and various suggested sketch plans (by non men) look as though there is quite a bit of rebuilding to do (a man's job?).

Store Room and Shower: A special thanks to **Ian Cuthbertson** of **Any Time Hire** who dug the footings for the foundations. He said this was his bit for the community. Hank Berlee and I have managed to line up the boxing and with any amount of luck the foundations should be poured about the time of reading.

For a great casual night out I would recommend '**The Great Wamboin Curry Night**' on Saturday, August 14. You bring your own Special Curry, which is pooled/shared. You bring your own cutlery, crockery and drinks, which are not necessarily shared. There is a gold coin donation. Come along and enjoy.

Lofty Mason. ljmason@austarmetro.com.au

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BYWONG COMMUNITY

The Annual General Meeting of Bywong Community Inc. will be held on Monday 16 August, commencing at 7.30pm in the Community Hall, Birriwa Rd., Bywong.

AGENDA

Welcome, apologies
 Minutes of 2003 Annual General Meeting
 President's report, Treasurer's report
 Election of office bearers: President, Vice President, Secretary,
 Treasurer, Committee members (5).
 Other business

For inquiries about this meeting, please contact Warwick Cathro on (02) 6236 9187

Could you help deliver the Whisper?

Look at the list below and you can see that John Van Der Stratten has been dropping off batches of Whispers to many deliverers each month for several years now. The Whisper gets put together each month only because many of you pay to advertise in it, write material for it, or help to deliver it. Is there any chance you could help out? Could you put up your hand to receive 7 of John's 14 stacks of Whispers so that and then drop them off to seven of the deliverers in the list below? This would probably take about an hour, and repeat monthly. If you are willing to help in this way could you please call John Van Der Straatten on 6283 3590 or me on 6238 3484. Thanks. Ned Noel, editor.

Thanks to the persons below, Wamboin and Bywong residents have a		free community owned newsletter.	
150 CO-ORDINATED BY HELEN MONTESIN:			
Dean Evans	Nrtm Area frm Campbl West	18	Ph 6238 3208
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	29	Bill Owen Cooper Rd.
Dave Hubbard	Poppet Rd.	34	Max Klemke Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley
240 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE:			Cathy Abell Canning Close
Joan Mason	Bingley Way	50	Ph 6238 3463
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	28	Margaret Heleimin Merino Vale Drive
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20	Anne Gardner Weeroona, Norton to Majors
Ned Noel	13 YrCn 35Adv 10 NSTks7Msc	60	David Anderson Weeroona, Majors to Denley
250 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER:			Ph 6238 3489
Colleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20	Ruth Lambert Yalana West
Antonette Stockdale	Yalana East	34	Rob Gorham South End - Clare Valley
Bernie Reardon	Clare Lane	8	Pauline Segeri North End - Clare Valley
Lyle Monetesin	Forrest Road area	50	Amanada Bryan Donnelly Road
Bungendore Shop	Bungendore	10	
350 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN:			Ph 6238 3590
Rachael Gascoine	Brooks Creek Estate	22	Lachlan & Callum Whitford Hogan/Kestral area
Sue Gorham	Schofield Road	25	Len Parrish Summer Hill Rd /Bungendore Rd
Ann Platts	Denley/Birchman's Area	26	Rhett Cox Macs Reef /Nwngtn to FedHwy
Laura Snowdon	Hogan Drive	27	Morag Cotsell Newington/Harriot
Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	20	Thelma Martin Shinglehous/ilhouse/Schfield Rds
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Birriwa	35	Christa Rehwinkel Macs Reef - Nwngtn to FedHwy
Sheryl Barnes	Quinn's Estate / Denley	15 170	Aunela Family Doust/Wyoming/Brooks
928 TOTAL			25 180

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STREET MAIL BOX FOR WAMBOIN

The July General Meeting of the Wamboin Community Association again discussed the issue of an Australia Post street post box to be placed at a suitable location within the community. Previous editions of the Wamboin Whisper record the measures taken by the Association to have an AP box installed and the response by Australia Post to our requests. In the last edition of the Wamboin Whisper residents were asked for their views. Only one person has responded so far. The Wamboin Community Association is still interested in assessing whether there is need for a street mail box to be located at either the corner of Norton Road/Gallagher Crescent or a suitable site somewhere else. Your views would be appreciated. John van der Straaten, WCA Secretary, is co-ordinating a community response based on your replies. He can be contacted on tel/fax 62383590 or e-mail: weeroona@austarmetro.com.au



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APOLOGY

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in this issue.

I had problems getting them to load properly
into this issue. - Ned Noel, editor

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

July rainfall to 25/7	12mm		
2004 rainfall to 25/7	112.5mm	(2003 rainfall to 31/703	240.5mm)
average August rainfall	57.9mm	(August 2003	76mm)
Wettest August	170mm in 1985	Driest August	9mm in 1995
Hottest Aug day	20C on 31/8/82	Coldest Aug night	-4C On 9/8/97
Coldest Aug day	5C on 9/8/91 and 25/8/03		

Wamboin 15 years Ago – from the Whisper of August 1989

Circulation 210

Editors: The Nordsvans

From Wamboin Diary :- "October 14 Elegant Masked Ball – the most lavish event in Wamboin’s history. Will cost heaps, so start saving. So flash that it will be out of place in the hall. Think about it. Watch for further info, but get your group organised now. Table bookings, couples, singles or anything in between Bow tie function."

Notes from St Andrew’s Church

St Andrew’s Wamboin is part of the parish of St John’s, Reid, together with St Peter’s, Sutton. We welcome our new Rector, Rev’d Greg Thompson who was inducted into the parish on Thursday, 22 July. Our services are at 9am on the first and third Sundays of the month, and at St Peter’s at 8.15am on the second and fourth Sundays. Please join us. You and your family will be most welcome. For more information please ring Robyn Robertson on 62383202 or Bronwyn Elliott on 62383359.

The Bungendore VIEW Club

always welcomes new female members. We meet on the first Monday of each month (except January) from 6.45pm at various local venues. We have a great dinner, enjoy a guest speaker, meet new friends and raise money for the Smith Family. On Monday 6 September 2004 we will meet at the Arte Café and Gallery and the menu will have an Indian theme as our special guest speakers are from the Indian Embassy. The cost is \$23 and bookings need to be made with Debbie Hudson on 6238 1571 by 27 July. Please remember to specify any dietary requirements when you book.



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- 1. Price** – What is the right price ? Don't rely on unresearched appraisals. Agents, no matter how experienced, need to do some research. A 5 % mistake could result in a low valuation and cost you thousands of dollars or conversely result in your property being overpriced and sitting on the market for months. Replacement cost, recent sales and current listings are the only true guide, insist on evidence. There is nothing wrong with trying for a higher price as long as you have a realistic baseline to set your price from. **Don't choose your agent on their appraisal price, decide on an agent and then decide on price.**
- 2. Advertising** – don't pay separately for advertising. Many agents lower their commission rates but ask you to pay for advertising. If they don't sell because they have been ineffective at their job or they suggested an inflated marketing price then they have nothing to lose, you pay their advertising bill. **We, on the other hand, will list your home on five web sites and advertise your property in the Canberra Times every week, with a photo, until sold and we do not charge for advertising. Our commission covers all costs, but if we fail to sell your home you don't pay a cent.**
- 3. Commitment** – don't sign an agency agreement that locks you into an extended marketing period. Why would an agent need to lock you in if they were competent at their job. If they don't perform you can't fire them, you are committed for the 1, 2 or 3 month period you have signed up for. **At Sutton Real Estate you can give us same day notice at any time for any reason, no strings attached.**
- 4. Service** – How many salespeople are you employing to sell your home? With all other agencies that we are aware of, the answer is **one**. That one salesperson that lists your home also takes the photo's, puts up signs, writes the ads, writes the editorial, attempts to answer every enquiry from prospective purchasers, tries to follow every possible lead, does every open day, deals with the valuer, pest inspector, council, solicitor, etc, etc, etc, and occasionally tries to take a day off. **At Sutton Real Estate all four of our sales people are employed to sell you property. We share your listing and the commission.**
- 5. Reputation** – Talk to your friends, neighbours, and acquaintances in the area. Our reputation is our biggest asset. Established in 1990, Sutton Real Estate is known for hardwork, reliability, innovation and above all, ethics. Our motto is to "always say what we'll do and do what we say". We treat you with respect and we understand that parting with the family home and/or a valuable asset can be one of the most emotional and difficult times in your life. **We will stay in close contact every step of the way.**

Phone 6230 3240

Thank you Wamboin and Bywong

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Fire Shed extension. Thanks also to the people who have let me know if there are mistakes/omissions. We've put the business names together with the individual names so hopefully it is easier to follow. Hopefully the list is now up to date but please do let me know if something or someone is not listed who should be, or if there are any mistakes (F. David, 377 Weeroona Drive Wamboin 2620).

The Captain's List - businesses who support the Fire Brigade



A'Hern Fitness at the Airport AAA Water Carriers Anytime Hire Bungendore Rural Capital Business Services
Clare Valley Tree Services Coates Hire, Fyshwick Congari Bookkeeping and Business Services
Coolah Holdings Pty Ltd Cross Country Constructions Eureka Plants Horizon Real Estate FH Office Services
France Harrison and Associates Gidgee Estate Winery Inland Trading Co. (Aust) Lambert Vineyards
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Shepherds Hut Wines Sherin Hire Sutton Real Estate Tipton Shopfitting Trevor Barker and Associates
Wagonga Coffee

Thanks to everyone in the following community groups who have made donations and helped out with fundraising:

Wamboin Community Association Bywong Community Association Canberra City Rotary
Bungendore Rotary (then) Yarrawlumla Council 'Regional Partnerships', administered by the Department of Transport and Regional Services.

The Giving Wall list:: Alice and Mario, D and B Adams, Agnew family, Allan family, Anonymous, Armer family, Vivien Arnold and Lindsay Roe, Arrowsmith family, John and Amanda Axelby H and C Bachor, Pam and Trevor Barker, 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, Blomfield family, Bluey, George Bobets, Val and Mac Boot, B Borrell, Bragg family, C Brown and H Righton, Brucic family, Brugman family, J and D Burns, Pamela Burton, 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, Cullerne family, Cummins family, Ian Cuthbertson. Daniel family, Fiona David and Jake Blight, Peter and Chris Davies, 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, Dykes family. 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, Foley family, Fragnito family, K and K France, Freeland's family. Anne Gardner, Keith and Diana Gascoine, R Gerrard, Rodney and Robyn Gibb, R and P Gibson, T and D Gifford, Ken and Deb Gordon, John and Wendy Gordon, S Gorham, Rob Gorham, A and L Gratton, John and Elizabeth Gray, Brian and Joy Green, Peter and Adrienne Greenwood, 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, Bob and Pam Heginbothom, Richard Henley, Hermes, Teresa and Richard Hobbs, Avril Holdstock, Holt family, B Hughes, B.G and E Hughes, Hughes family, Mark and Debra Hurwitz, A and B Hutchinson, In memory of Pandora Millard. Ray Jewell, Susan Jones, Rosalie and Bob Jones, Jo and Jon Justin, K and F Kelly, A and T Kent, L and L King, K and W Kinna, Klemke family, Kukinya. S and L Lambert, Langdown family, John and Daphne LeGassick. C Legg and M Parmenter-Legg, Lewin family, Gary Lewis, Mrs Lind, Linmore family, Lock family. Robyn Martin, Martin family, L and J Mason, Massa (Manuela) family, Mavity family, Brian and Maria Mayers, Peter McCullagh, Lance and Elizabeth McDougall, D McGuinness, Stephen and Jodie McGuinness, McIntyre family, Christine Millar, R and J Miller, Max and De Mills, C and H Montesin and family, Morphett family, L and J Moyes, Murdock family, Muston family. Nel family, Nguyen family, Helen and Terry Nicol, Ned Noel. O'Hallorans (Terry and Anneke). Page family, Parsons family, R and J Paule, Peady family, K Pickering and D Paull, Pumphrey family. Ken and Thelma Rampant, Irene and Michelle Rawlings, Reardon family, Julie Rebbeck, Reeve family, Bran and Suzanne Ridley, Robb family, C and W Roberts, Robertson family, David Robinson, Rombouts family, 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, Sciclula family, Stefan and Pauline Segeri, Mrs Senior, Sam Sergi, John, Sally and Marion Sheldrick, Stuart Shimeld, Silberberg family, R and B Sipes, Skinner family, Chris Slater, Laurie and Jill Smith, Rodney and Susan Smith, DC Steele, Jan Suchovsky, Sutcliffe family, Virginia Sutton, Mrs and Mr Swann, Wayne Tangey, Peter and Kaaren Tatly, Bob Twilley. Vagg family, J and P Van der Straaton, Veal family, D Voss. Josephine Walker, Felicity Wallace, Mark and Megan 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, Ian Wooten, Worden family, Keith and Elizabeth Wrench. Carolyn Young, Young family.

<p>Term 4 Pilates: New additions welcome to join a wonderful group of community folk as we learn the basics of core strength and how it can improve your posture and cranky backs. ONLY ONE NIGHT PER WEEK as we head into the hot summer days, THURSDAYS 7-8PM at the Fire Brigade/ Community hall. Bring a mat, drink bottle and comfy clothes plus \$2 per session. A special thanks to Lofty for lighting 'our' fire during the winter months. Hope to see you all there. Joy</p>
<p>Wanted cleaning lady in the Wamboin area for 2-3 hours per week. Please call Michele on 62369186.</p>
<p>COACHING in Mathematics and Science (K-12) Extensive experience in school and individual tuition. Individually tailored learning programs. Assessment \$50, Tuition \$20 half hour/ \$38 hour. Wamboin. Judith Shellard BSc (Hons) DipEd Phone 02 6238 3050</p>
<p>IRONING - Don't have time. I will pick up and deliver. If this sounds like it will help you call me on 6238 3193</p>
<p>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.</p>
<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>FOR SALE: Chaff - lucerne or wheaten. Average 30kg bags - lucerne is \$21.50 and wheaten is \$18.50. Whole oats also available at \$14.50 for a 35 kg bag. Ph: 6238 0717 and leave a message if we don't answer. Single bag orders okay.</p>
<p>Wanted: Flute, clarinet or oboe player living in local area who would like to join a small social music group who meet monthly for social playing. High standard not necessary. Call Jan on 6238-1654 or Kaaren on 6236-9256</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>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>Shared accommodation, furnished, required by single business woman from September. Phone 02 6027 1887</p>
<p>Glamour Pusses to attend Cocktail Party Glamour Pusses to attend Cocktail Party - Looking to come out of winter hibernation? The Café Woodworks is hosting a Cocktail Party on Saturday 4 September at 6.30pm. Eric's melt in your mouth culinary delights will be partnered with a choice of cocktails to die for. Tickets are \$30 per head and dress is cocktail <i>your</i> style. All proceeds go to the Bungendore Preschool. So organise yourselves now to avoid disappointment as numbers are limited, and glam up to support this important local initiative. Tickets available at Café Woodworks or the Preschool, or contact Mareeta Grundy on 6236 9258.</p>
<p>Vocal & Guitar Lessons. One on one tuition with Canberra School of Music trained musician. 20 years full time live musicianship and performing arts experience to draw from. For individually tailored tuition call Adam on 6238 36 77.</p>
<p>CHAFF FOR SALE: top quality lucerne chaff \$21.50 per bag, Ganmain wheaten chaff \$20 per bag. Single or bulk orders okay. Please phone 6238 0717 (and leave a message if I don't answer).</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>
<p>Thank You to many people who searched or phoned to help us find our lost, old, blind female golden retriever during July 20-22. The Argaeys, our neighbors, found her curled up, asleep and basically healthy in long grass on the trailway between Weeroona Drive and Norton road. - Ned Noel and Diana Boswell</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Garden Time</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>From your local blokes</i> <i>Complete landscaping, gardening</i> <i>& general home maintenance</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contact Ron 0402 332 543 Warren 0402 298 311</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>	<p>CUTS ON GIBRALTAR</p> <p>Affordable Haircuts for all the family</p> <p>Adults \$16.50 Age 5-15 \$13.50 Under 5 \$6.00</p> <p>18 Gibraltar Street Bungendore (Next to the Bakery) Phone 6238 0300</p>
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Can the Ball rollers and shredders keep up with the dung?

by Anne Platts

Remember in the 1970's there was a surge of interest and lots of publicity when The CSIRO Dung Beetle Project (1969-1993) introduced to Australia about 50 species of beetles from Africa, Turkey, France and Spain. Australia has native dung beetles - that deal not only with native dung but are efficient at burying sheep and goat dung, but if the remaining green lawns in the district are a barometer, they are spring-summer active and have a lot on their plate when rain and the warmer weather starts. Both the adult and larval populations fall during drought, and use of various pesticides - especially drenches- can wipe out the beetles. Birds and foxes are also significant predators.

In response to a very interesting discussion about dung beetles and soils I placed a call to John Feehan of Soilcam in Hackett (02 6248 0378). John is a former technician with the dung beetle project who now provides specialist support in spreading dung beetles across Australia. Jacqui O'Leary and the local Landcare group tried on many occasions -unfortunately unsuccessfully - to have John speak to the local Landcare group.

How do we get these little workers was my question. John breeds colonies of dung beetles for sale and a colony costs "about as much as a tonne of fertiliser". That seems to be \$400-\$500. There are apparently 8-10 species that would be suitable for the local Bungendore climate. Before arranging to purchase a colony John gives prospective clients a small information kit and recommends determining the types of dung beetles present on a property by using the following strategies:

Select dung pads with a margin of fresh soil; Walk up quietly because they quickly crash dive down their tunnels; Use a long handled shovel to scoop up the dung and 2 cm of soil underneath the dung pad; Place soil, grass and dung into a bucket; Tip soil and dung into a bucket of cold water and stir gently; Collect beetles as they float to the surface; Kill the beetles in hot water; Dry beetles for two days on newspaper. Place into a match box without cotton wool, and without sticky tape; Include date, location and address with phone number; Include a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of information. The species identification service is free for SOILCAM clients. Once released dung beetle colonies breed and spread quickly and the population of a colony let loose on the front lawn will be over the road and into next door in a week. Which makes a community solution seem attractive.

As local Landcare members know, I am hoping to interest between 10 and 20 local landowners to form a Dung Beetle Co-op. The objective would be to fund the introduction of 2 or 4 or maybe more new species to the Wamboin, Gearys Gap, Bywong, Bungendore area. This presumes that there are probably already 2 species here including the natives because the recommendation is to have at least 4-10 different species, one being a winter active type for year round dung management. So far there have been a few people interested and hopefully you gentle reader might also want to join in. Call 62369147 and register your interest or email anneplatts@bigpond.com. Your contribution would be to collect samples for identification in October, contribute to the purchase (cost depends on numbers participating) and be there to let the little critters go.

For more information NSW Dept of Agriculture has Agnote DAI-102, Australian Farm Journal ran an article June 2004, Karl Kruszelnicki has a 2 part article through the ABC website. Landcare, Australian National Geographic No 36 Dec 1994 and the NSW Grassland Society have all run articles - to mention a few. Just type dung beetle and select Australian sites through your browser of choice.

I have no interest in SOILCAM but do like to see valuable organic material incorporated into the soil, keep the fly populations down and leave my boots on when I go inside.

Anne Platts 6236 9147 040945 3799 anne.platts@bigpond.com

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Bungendore Riding Club

Bungendore Riding Club is a recently formed Club for horse riders aged 18 years and over. The Club meets once a month at the Bungendore Showgrounds and provides activities including instruction in riding/dressage/showjumping and cross country by qualified local and regional instructors. All standards of riders from beginners to advanced are catered for. The Club takes advantage of the Showground's wonderful accredited cross country course whenever possible and enjoys a close relationship with Bungendore Pony Club who generously allows us to use their equipment. As well as providing quality instruction at reasonable prices, the Club organizes other fun activities and from time to time, trail rides. The Club's rally day on 25 July 2004 was a great success despite the weather being cold and overcast.

About a dozen intrepid members braved the conditions to receive wonderful instruction from Debbie Dixon and Amanda Graydon. Debbie gave classes in dressage – one lesson group consisted mainly of endurance riders who later enthused about their lesson saying that Debbie kept the instruction at a level they could easily understand. Amanda gave instruction in jumping including a quiet lesson over poles and small jumps for beginners. John Gorman, a local farrier, gave a demonstration of barefoot trimming and a very interesting talk about the hooves, even producing some cadaver hooves. Members had a chance to socialise over a sausage sizzle lunch put on by the Club.

The next rally day is on 22 August 2004. The activities for this day include a one day eventing clinic with Simon Kale as well as general instruction and fun activities. A local company which specializes in animal herbs will also have a stall for members to browse through and find out more about their equine products. The Club will be holding its inaugural "Chicken" One Day Event on 24 October 2004. This event will be open to the public. With thanks to our sponsors – John Shortt Custom Saddler, Canberra Tradesman's Union Club, Horizon Real Estate and Bungendore Veterinary Hospital. New members and sponsors are always welcome – enquiries to the Secretary, Helen Blain on 6238 2467.

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BUNGENDORE SHOW P A & H SOCIETY INC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Bungendore Show Society will be holding its Annual General Meeting at the Bungendore Show Grounds on Wednesday August 11 2004 at 8.00 pm and all are welcome. The AGM will be followed by light refreshments. Each year the Show Society looks for new people to help and bring new ideas to make the annual show more successful. All those interested are encouraged to come along. Newcomers to the area are most welcome as it is a good way to get to meet the locals. Mike Welch

Table Captains Invited for Spring Ball

Mid-winter has passed, the days are longer and thoughts are turning to warmer days and Bungendore's Spring Ball. We think back to last year's Ball, the pre dinner champagne and classical pianist, sharing laughter under the candle light, and the dance floor antics with new friends and old. It is always a great night; elegant with a touch of country. The secret of the Spring Ball's success are the Table Captains. Ordinary men and women living among us. Social movers and shakers, who attract other like minded party goers and before they now it they have a table of 10, their own little party for the year's social highlight. So - now is the time. Think about being a Table Captain. Invite 4 other couples and there you have a table. This year the Ball will be on Saturday 16 October at 6.45 pm at the Bungendore Community Hall, Gibraltar St. Tickets will be \$55 each, which includes a sit down meal, pre-dinner drinks, fabulous live music, and terrific prizes. We expect to break last year's record and have over 250 revelers this year. Tickets will again be on sale at the Post Office between 10 am and 3 pm, and from Bungendore Cellars. Dress will be as formal as you like it. All proceeds support the work of the Anglican and Catholic Churches in Bungendore. If you would like to be one of the Table Captains, or you are new to the area and would like to have a wonderful night and meet new friends contact Mareeta Grundy on 6236 9258, or Phillip Dean on 0418 481 878 (after 7 August) to reserve tickets. We look forward to hearing from you. - Mareeta Grundy

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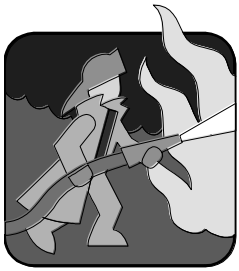
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The Wamboin Firefighter

A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR VOLUNTEER RURAL FIRE BRIGADE COMPLETED BY CLIFF SPONG WITH HELP FROM MANY MEMBERS OF THE BRIGADE (WAMBOIN BRIGADE'S WEBSITE IS WWW.WAMBOIN-FIRESHED.COM)



EVEN THOUGH FIRE PERMITS ARE NOT REQUIRED NOW, PLEASE ENSURE ADEQUATE PRECAUTIONS ARE TAKEN IF FIRES ARE LIT IN THE OPEN, NOTIFY YOUR NEIGHBOURS 24 HOURS BEFORE YOU LIGHT IT AND AS A MATTER OF COURTESY – RING THE BRIGADE CAPTAIN – ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR PLANS AND HAVE TO LIGHT UP ON A DIFFERENT DAY!

FROM THE CAPTAIN'S DESK

It is pleasing in one way to report that the number of genuine call outs has been low last month. Some motorists met quite unexpectedly and we got the call to attend. After the ambulance paramedic performed their daily wonders and the tow trucks had done their work, the panel beaters and the insurance companies were left to fight it out. However, it is unfortunate that one call out involved four brigades to stop a fire spreading to a neighbour's house after one owner tried to burn grass around his dam on a day when strong winds should have alerted him to wait for a better day. No local brigades were notified that the burn-off was even planned. In another case a fire was reported somewhere near Bingley Way on a different day to the one notified to the brigade. Many people are not aware that whenever a triple "O" call is made requiring the fire brigade, we have to attend. If the call concerns a fire we know about the response may not have to involve a lot of volunteers being taken away from family or work commitments. Please spread the word about burning off. Notify your neighbours AND your brigade BEFORE you plan to light up and if plans are changed let us know.

The shed extension is really moving along now. The first floor has been installed, the internal walls are going in and it should be completely weatherproof soon. We all hope that the near cases of frostbite to the fingers of several brigade members, who bravely battled the elements over the past couple of weeks installing the last sheets of colourbond and the lengths of flashing in very cold conditions, have not caused any permanent damage. If we could award medals for "determination and perseverance in the face of bloody cold conditions" Don Evans, Tony Fisher, Darrell Tipton and Peter Greenwood should be at the head of the queue.

By the time our next regular training night occurs in August the list of crews should be determined and available for all members. During that time we will be inspecting all brigade equipment prior to the upcoming fire season. As yet we haven't heard if the beginning of the next season will be brought forward in our area.

From next month training sessions for brigade members will be held at the fire shed on the first Tuesday of the month at 1930, the 2nd Saturday from 1400 to 1600 and on the 4th Sunday from 0900 until 1100.

While our Fund Raising Coordinator, Fiona David, is making sure the list of donors to the brigade is as accurate as possible I need to make special mention of two local businesses who have provided a lot of assistance to the brigade with very little fanfare. Eureka Plants in Poppet Road (6238 3263) have been passing on the proceeds of plant sales at the Wamboin markets over many months. Ian Cuthbertson of Anytime Backhoe Hire (0408 644 562) carried out the initial excavation of the site for the shed extension and has helped clear the area whenever needed. This local support is greatly appreciated. I should also point out that Ian will try to make himself quickly available to overcome some of those rural emergencies we face from time to time when animals are involved.

Get Prepared for the Fire Season

It won't be long until the next fire season is on us. Now is the time to get prepared. The NSW Rural Fire Service has provided the following checklist to prepare your property.

- ✓ Ground fuels cleared around the house (long, dry grass, dead leaves and branches, thick undergrowth)
- ✓ Gutters cleared.
- ✓ Roofing firmly fixed (cleaned of dry leaf debris).
- ✓ Firebreaks prepared. (a well watered lawn can act as a firebreak).
- ✓ Screens or shutters installed and underfloor areas enclosed, if possible.
- ✓ Vents into roof space screened with fine wire mesh

- ✓ Flammable items removed from around the house, (eg. woodpiles, and obvious flammable materials such as paper, boxes, crates, hanging baskets, wooden garden furniture etc).
- ✓ LPG gas tanks vented away from house.
- ✓ Emergency telephone number, "000", placed near the phone.

Do you have sufficient Water Supplies and Fire Fighting Equipment?

- ✓ Hoses long enough to reach all sides of house, attached to taps.
- ✓ Heavy duty hoses with wide-spray nozzles, if possible.
- ✓ Reserve water supplies from tank, dam, or swimming pool, if possible, since mains water will be in high demand. Try to store water during winter months.
- ✓ Gate valve fitted to water tank. (a 38mm Storz coupling will assist the Rural Fire Brigade).
- ✓ Have a gate valve to fit a portable pump as well
- ✓ Regularly check petrol or diesel portable pump, if you have one, to ensure it starts easily.
- ✓ Install a sprinkler system in your garden and on roofing, if affordable.
- ✓ Gather buckets (preferably metal), mops, spray backpack units, ladders rakes and shovels in one place for ready access during a fire.
- ✓ Battery operated radio and torches in case of electricity failure.

Personal Protection

Plan for the safety of all family members: special plans need to be made for young children, elderly persons, disabled persons and those unable to handle the trauma of bush fires.

If you intend to evacuate any members of the family, plan well ahead of time where to stay, how to make the decision to leave, and how to travel (remember, leave well before the fire front arrives)

For those who remain, ensure each has suitable clothing, including sturdy leather footwear, long pants and long sleeved shirt or jumper,(wool offers the best protection from sparks and cinders), a broad brimmed hat, goggles for eye protection, handkerchiefs to tie over nose and mouth, wet towels to drape over neck, and bottles for water.

If ordered by the police to evacuate, you must comply

What to do when fire approaches

- ✓ Listen to the radio for news of the fire's progress, rather than calling emergency services for information.
- ✓ Dress in protective clothing, drink water frequently.
- ✓ Wet-down roof of the house and garden, especially on the side of the approaching fire. Turn on sprinkler system, if you have one.
- ✓ Stop downpipes and fill gutters with water.
- ✓ As the fire approaches, go inside and remain inside until the fire has passed.
- ✓ Fill baths, sinks and buckets with water.
- ✓ Place wet towels and blankets against gaps under doors and windows.
- ✓ Close heavy curtains, close shutters, if you have them.
- ✓ After the fire has passed and for several hours after the fire front has passed, patrol your property and put out spot fires started by flying embers.
- ✓ Check roof cavity frequently for spot fires.

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 (AH).

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WAMBOIN GOLF CLUB – JUNE & JULY COMPETITION RESULTS

Ken and Deb Gordon were the sponsors of the June comp and also (as is traditional) provided the after game refreshments. We thank the Gordons, all three of them. Ball winners on the day were; Joan Mason, John Whitney x2, Ken Gordon, Bob Mettam, Charles Guscott, Gary Stilling x2 and Len Ivey. The Nine Holer's comp was actually won by Deb Gordon who kindly donated her own sponsored trophy to the next in the comp being Joan Mason. In the B Grade comp first time player at the Wamboin R and A (Rural and Agricultural) Colleen Fogarty took home second prize. B Grade winner was Bob Mettam. (Now in A Grade!) In A Grade the winner was Charles Guscott with John Whitney taking home second prize actually won and re-donated by Ken Gordon.

The July comp was the annual GST anniversary event sponsored by Keith and Kath France and France Harrison and Associates, Accountants. The competition was a teams event with some mathematical complications relating to the GST thrown in to keep the players on their toes!!

Ball winners were; Glenn Crafter, Joan Mason, Paul Griffin, the "Niners", John Whitney x2, Tony Fisher and Tim Barter. Nine hole comp won by the team of Barbara Adams, Joan Mason and Lofty Mason.

Winners of the 18 hole event were the team of Tim Barter and Len Ivey followed by the team of Keith France, Robert Gorham and Paul Griffin. Our thanks to Kath and Keith for their sponsorship. - Peter Greenwood, golfer 6238 3358

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Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare 500 TREES PLANTED ON NATIONAL TREE DAY!

Thank you to the 40 people who turned up in less than pleasant weather to revegetate a long stretch of Weeroona Drive. The roadside verge was alive with activity. Volunteers aged from 2 years onwards were busy digging holes, planting trees, securing guards and watering. Most helpers were from the local area but some travelled from as far as Jerrabomberra to be involved in the day. Steve Whan, the state member for Monaro got down and dirty, as did Kel Watt the federal Labor candidate for Eden-Monaro. A diverse selection of local species was planted forming a valuable wildlife corridor, adding to the biodiversity and generally helping to beautify the area. This was the first time we have been involved in National Tree Day and the success of the day will have us seriously thinking about a site for next year, so start saving your used milk cartons.

National Tree Day is a Planet Ark initiative. Here are some of their Tree Trivia facts. Since European settlement, Australia's forest cover has been reduced from 69 million hectares to 41 million hectares. Trees first appeared on Earth long before the dinosaurs did - about 400 million years ago. Trees are the largest of all living things - some species can grow 100 metres tall and weigh 600 tonnes. Trees combat the greenhouse effect and slow the effects of global warming. They soak up carbon dioxide and exhale oxygen for us to breathe. Trees help prevent soil erosion and landslides. Car owners need to plant 17 trees every year to counter the greenhouse emissions of their cars. Trees attract native birds and other wildlife to an area by providing both food and shelter. Trees improve water quality by acting as a filter to unwanted nutrients and pesticides. Trees can prevent soil salinisation and provide soil enrichment by converting nitrogen into nitrates. Trees have many commercial uses that include timber building materials, paper products, furniture, medicines such as aspirin and quinine and fuel for cooking & heating. Trees produce a great range of edible fruit and nuts including apples, bananas, mangos, avocados, macadamias and Brazil nuts. Trees provide shelter as windbreaks which increases agricultural productivity and can provide shade for homes, keeping them cool in summer. Tree seedlings should be planted in used milk cartons to protect them from weather and pests. Many trees can outlive humans, and some can live to be more than 1000 years old. The Wollemi Pine which is only found in Wollemi National Park near Sydney, has a heritage of over 100 million years. There are only 40 trees in the wild and they have the lowest known genetic variability of any plant species. Eucalyptus trees are Australia's most common tree species and can grow up to 50 metres. California, South America and India have all cultivated eucalyptus trees for paper, insect repellents, chest rubs and cough drops.

Propagation session – 9am Saturday 7 August, 38 Birchmans Grove, Wamboin. No experience needed. Loads of easy jobs to do. Contact Geoff at g.butler@austarmetro.com.au or phone 62369158

Meeting – 7.30pm Monday 9 August, Community Hall, Birriwa Rd (Off Macs Reef Rd) TOPIC: Local Frogs GUEST SPEAKER: Ross Bennett – Director of the Australian Reptile Centre

Have you got frogs on your property? Frogs are a good measure of the state of the natural environment. Ross, a local herpetologist, will talk about what frogs you are likely to see in the area and provide clues on maintaining an environment conducive to their habitat needs.

Notice of AGM. The Landcare Annual General Meeting will be incorporated into the September meeting. Anyone interested in nominating for any positions please contact Jacqui at jacquellyno@hotmail.com or phone 62369157. The positions are Convener, Deputy Convener, Secretary, Treasurer and several committee positions.

This month's donation to the Bungendore Library is *Nest boxes for wildlife: a practical guide* by Alan and Stacey Franks. The authors have spent years researching the needs and habits of hollow-dependent fauna. The practical advice they give is based on personal observation and experience, as well as information they gathered from other wildlife experts. The book offers many practical insights into the types of nest boxes favoured by different species, and how to build, install and look after them.

(Advertisement)

Bob Jones, Marketing Agent
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Dear Bob,

Joanna & I wish to thank you for the outstanding job you did as our agent for the recent sale of our Wamboin property. Not only did you secure for us a top price but you were unfailingly helpful & courteous.

We have dealt with many agents over the years and you have been without doubt the best. We have already recommended you to several of our friends.

We hope you enjoy the wine...like you, it is 'first class'.

Regards,
Jack Pappas & Joanna Scott

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by Helen Anderson

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Sat 7 August Live from Telstra stadium
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ENTERTAINING DEGUSTATION

Fri 13 August from 7pm 5 delectable courses specially
designed to match our wines, accompanied by the dulcet
tones of the Kristen Cornwell Trio – \$85/hd inc. wine

Sat 14 August from 12 noon 3 delicious courses specially
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VOLUNTEER TUTORS URGENTLY REQUIRED

The Learning Assistance Centre at Queanbeyan South Public School is seeking **Tutors** to help by listening to students read and by giving them encouragement to improve their reading skills and thereby discover the power of reading. The Tutors are needed for 1.5 hours, once or twice a week for 10 weeks. No training is required only patience and understanding. The class is extremely short of volunteers this school term and any participation, however small, will be appreciated. Will any kind souls who would like to donate a few hours of their time please contact the class teacher, Lesley Harper at school on 6299 4184 or at home on 6238 3266.

SOIL EXPERT TO SPEAK HERE

Dr Elaine Ingham will be visiting on September 5 and 6 and giving talks in Canberra and Queanbeyan. Dr Elaine Ingham of Soil Foodweb Inc. and the Sustainable Studies Institute, Oregon State University, is a regular visitor to Australia from the USA. She is also a faculty member of Southern Cross University, Lismore, Australia. Soil organisms create a living, dynamic system that needs to be understood and managed properly for best plant growth. Understanding soil health requires knowing what organisms occur, which ones are working how many are present and whether they are the right kinds for the desired plants. We are keeping entry fees low to encourage as many farmers and gardeners to attend as possible. - Gerry Gillespie, President, Canberra and South East Reigon Environment Centre, phone 6124 3012.

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BUNGENDORE PUBLIC SCHOOL IS TAKING ENROLMENTS NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2005

Enrolment forms are available from the main office at Bungendore Public School, Bungendore Preschool or Kids Zone. All children planning on starting Kindergarten at Bungendore Public School in 2005 are welcome to participate in the following Orientation activities.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION MORNING: Tuesday 19 October 9:45 – 11.00am. Children come and spend the morning in the Kindergarten classroom while parents attend an information session in the Library. The meeting concludes with morning tea for the parents and they can collect their children from Kindergarten rooms.

KINDERGARTEN "GETTING TO KNOW YOU" INTERVIEW: Monday 25 October and Tuesday 26 October. An informal interview between parents/Kindergarten student/supervisor or support teacher (approximately 10 minutes). Please contact Bungendore Public School Office on 6238 1317 to make an interview time most suitable for you.

KINDERGARTEN ACTIVITY SESSIONS: Tuesday 9 November 2:30 – 3:00pm & Wednesday 17 November 2:30 – 3:00pm. All children beginning Kindergarten come to the Kindergarten rooms for extra orientation and fun activities. Parents can drop them off at 2:30pm and collect them at 3:00pm. Any enquiries regarding Kindergarten enrolment for 2005, please contact Kath Funnell, Assistant Principal (Infants) at Bungendore Public School on 6238 1317. **New enrolments for all grades are also welcome, please contact the school on 6238 1317 or email bungendore-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au.**

Wamboin Muses by Jill Gregory

It is still, cold and grey. Outside my window the tree is naked except for a line of water droplets that hang glistening from the underside of its branches. A lone magpie is trying to rouse the day with its song. Beyond the slumbering garden, tiny smudges of green are making a pattern on the brown expanse which in years gone by would now have been a carpet of green. The flowering quince is showing signs of stirring, and the first green spikes of the daffodils are pushing their way towards the light. But my focus this month has been further north, away from wintry Wamboin, in areas where winter seems almost a sham. A funeral in Brisbane and a joyous new life in Sydney has kept me at a distance. Brisbane winter is swapping shorts for jeans and in Sydney you might add a light jacket as you adjust to a shortened day. You watch the sky for gathering clouds and it really rains.

Wamboin is different. The Saturday it snowed lightly all day we had two fires burning. If you ventured outside the cold slapped your cheeks and your nostrils filled with the cosy smell of wood smoke. The weather begged you to cook tarts and pies and rich, steaming casseroles, and curl up by the fire to chat or read with a glass in your hand. And I did. Next morning the ground underfoot was crunchy and the poor lamb's coat was stiff with flecks of white. Other days brought long, lingering fogs that dripped, or frosts of diamonds and frozen pipes. There was even a hint of rain.

Nowadays when I return it takes a little time to readjust my eyes to the beauties around me. I have to stop focussing on the eucalypts that are dying, and the thinning bush, and trust that the sad kangaroos can find at least something to sustain them. I have to look beyond my sorrowing, pock marked garden and imagine some spring magic around the corner. I have to appreciate the highs and lows that nature serves up to us.

I wouldn't live anywhere else. It wouldn't be a winter without gripping cold, fogs, frosts, fleecy trousers and thick woolly socks!

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