

**December 2004 / January 2005 CIRCULATION: 992**

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 February, 2005 edition of the Wamboin Whisper will be welcome, and should be submitted to by email to [nednoel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au) or dropped into his mailbox at 17 Reedy Creek Place. The deadline for the next issue is always the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for next month the deadline is Sunday, January 30, 2005, 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**

<b>Wamboin Community Assn</b>	Lofty Mason	President	6238-3258
<b>Bywong Community Assn</b>	Warwick Cathro	President	6236-9187
<b>Fire Brigade</b>	Cliff Spong	Captain	040-999-1340 bh 6236 9220 ah
<b>Landcare</b>	Roger Good	President	6236-9048
<b>Community Nurse</b>	Heather Morrison	Bungendore	6238-1333
<b>Breastfeeding Assoc.</b>	Lisa Whitney	Community Educator	6238 3059
<b>Emergency Services</b>	NSW Call Centre	Staff	132-500
<b>Emergency Services Admin</b>	Colin Brown	Controller	6238-1067
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Peter Greenwood	JP	6238-3358
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Keith France	JP	6238-3596
<b>Wamboin Cubs</b>	Peter Harrison	Leader	6238-3525
<b>Wamboin Guides</b>	Rosemary Riley	Contact Person	6297-7632
<b>Wamboin Pony Club</b>	Maureen Purdie	Secretary	6238-3343
<b>Gearys Gap Pony Club</b>	Julie Abbey	Secretaru	6230-3129
<b>Play Group</b>	Rebecca Jefferys	Convenor	6255-1225
<b>Hall Bookings</b>	Joan Mason	Bookings	6238-3258
<b>Church, Anglican</b>	Robyn Robertson	Warden	6238-3202
<b>Christian Prayer Group</b>	Steve & Imelda Taylor	Contacts	6238-3220
<b>Golf</b>	Peter Greenwood	Golfer	6238-3358
<b>Injured Wildlife</b>	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
Alycia and Hannah Elword, Baybsitting, Petsitting	6236 9186
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	

## WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION President's Paragraphs

Because the Wamboin Hall in Bingley Way is an evacuation centre, the Fire Mitigation Officer from the NSW Rural Fire Service has recommended that minor scrub is cleared on the western side of the Hall. He also recommends that the Brigade carry out regular under brush burns for about 50 metres in that area. He suggested that this could be an educational event with non Brigade residents invited to watch from a safe area. Will keep you posted.

Allen Donnely, who is a major player in the **Bendigo Bank** proposal for Bungendore gave an interesting presentation on this project at our November WCA meeting. The decision to proceed with a Bungendore branch will be made about mid December so if you are interested make your pledge now.

We decided that the WCA would participate in the 2005 **Clean up Australia** day. Time seems to fly but the first Sunday in March is just around the corner. I will complete the paperwork and have more information in later Whispers.

Despite John van der Straaten, Ted Evans and self doing our best to slow him down, Charlie Montesin still managed to lay the foundation blocks of the **Hall extensions** before his quitting time of 3pm. Anyone watching would have thought we (deliberately) tried to make poor and slow mixtures of 'mud'. Even the excuse of a slipping belt on the mixer only received instructions to turn it by hand! The old trick of (deliberately) putting some gravel in the mud was all to no avail. Perhaps because Charlie always added "please" to his requests the extensions made progress.

**Carols at Wamboin** on Friday December 17, at 7PM at the Community Hall. We will have the traditional Readings, Carols, Giving Tree, Santa and free (donations accepted) Sausage Sizzle. All proceeds to the Salvation Army. All welcome.

**Best wishes for a safe and happy festive season.**

Lofty Mason. [ljmason@austarmetro.com.au](mailto:ljmason@austarmetro.com.au)

## CAROLS AT WAMBOIN

**Friday 17 December at 7.00 pm  
In the Community Hall, Bingley Way**

Don't miss this popular community event to celebrate the joy of Christmas in words and music. There will be a Giving Tree for Christmas gifts for the Salvation Army to distribute to those in need. Afterwards there will be a Sausage Sizzle and the appearance of Father Christmas. All proceeds to the Salvation Army.

### IDEAL BUILDING SOLUTIONS PO BOX 167 Watson ACT 2602



**Local Builders servicing Wamboin and  
surrounding districts  
Licensed ACT - 6962  
Licensed NSW - 132943**



**New Homes  
Extensions & Renovations  
Outdoor entertaining areas**

**Phone Paul or Michelle on 02 6236 9186  
Or mobile 0407 295 192**

## **IF ONLY THEY COULD TALK**

A series by local vet, Dr Garry McComb BVSc QDAH

### **GRASS SEEDS**

Tonight the rain is tumbling down on our roof and with the days warming up hopefully we will have a good Spring and Summer with plenty of pasture growth. During the past couple of years of severe drought there has been very limited grass growth and seed production. Not so good for animals that rely on grass for nutrition but it does greatly reduce the incidence of grass seeds becoming foreign bodies in animals. This Summer I am sure we will see many animals with grass seed problems.

The species with the greatest incidence is the dog. It is amazing how easily seeds can penetrate the skin and orifices of an animal and then the seed just keeps on going causing further damage. Many years ago I found a grass seed in the brain of a pup. The pup began having fits at about 3-4 months of age and was euthanased when the fits were uncontrollable and other neurological signs developed. We could not find the point of entry of the seed and can only presume that it penetrated the skull through a fontanel when the pup was a neonate.

The most common places seeds enter dogs are the eyes, ears, throat and neck and the paws. We often also find seeds going up the nose and into the tonsils. Masses of seeds are often found in between the teeth of dogs especially dogs that have high levels of tartar on rotten teeth. Male dogs can suffer from seeds up the prepuce. Seeds can also enter the vagina of female dogs as they squat to urinate. We have even found a grass seed in an abscess in the abdominal cavity.

Seeds in eyes are very common in all species and can cause permanent damage or loss of the eye if not treated properly. Often the seed is under the third eyelid and therefore difficult to see. While the seed is in contact with the cornea it is very painful and will be abrading the surface of the cornea. Removal of the seed as soon as possible is important. This can be done under local anaesthesia. Frequently we see animals that have been treated by the owners for several days using a variety of eye ointments that have been left over from previous eye treatments or have been prescribed for other animals or for the owner themselves. This can be very dangerous as obviously the eye has no chance of recovery until the seed has been removed. The situation becomes even more disastrous if the ointment contains cortisone as this will stop the cornea from healing and indeed seems to promote the formation of a large melting corneal ulcer. This can result in permanent damage to the eye and loss of sight. Every eye lesion should be thoroughly checked by a vet for a foreign body and/or corneal damage before any medication is applied.

Grass seeds in other parts of the body generally require a general anaesthetic for removal – especially those deep in the ear canal which is very common. Seeds entering between the paws can travel up the leg a long way and we frequently remove many seeds from each leg of a dog. Keeping the hair on the lower limbs clipped short can greatly reduce this problem. Also daily checking and grooming is important.

Cats are less prone to grass seed penetration perhaps due to their behaviour and their grooming ability. If you have ever been licked by a cat you will have noticed that its tongue is like sandpaper and they will generally remove seeds before they penetrate. However we do see cats with seeds in the eyes.

Most seeds we see in horses, cattle, sheep and goats etc are in the eyes and this mostly seems to be from hay rather than pasture. Sometimes masses of seeds can accumulate in the mouth and gums of horses and cattle especially when dentition is poor. Finally, grass seeds cause a big problem for the wool and goat and alpaca fibre industries. All these seeds have to be removed from the fleece during processing. So, as you can see, even a good season has its drawbacks!

**CAPITAL** (Finance Broker & Mortgage Originator)

### **Business Services**

345 WEEROONA DRIVE, WAMBOIN, NSW 2620

WE CAN ARRANGE FINANCE FOR ALL TYPES OF PURPOSES:

\* HOUSING & INVESTMENT LOANS - INCLUDING RURAL

\* LEASE & COMMERCIAL HIRE PURCHASE OF MOST  
INCOME PRODUCING EQUIPMENT - CARS, TRUCKS, TRACTORS,  
COMPUTERS, ETC

ESTABLISHED 14 YEARS \* FRIENDLY PERSONAL SERVICE \* WE COME TO YOU

**MAKING LOANS EASY**

PHONE FOR A QUOTE OR APPOINTMENT **Ph (02) 6236 9811** Fax (02) 6236 9822



now  
**TOP CLEAN of CANBERRA**  
CARPET CLEANING DIVISION  
Phone/Fax 6238-1773 OR 6255 0150  
Mobile 412 562 054

Serving Wamboin, Clare Valley,  
Queanbeyan, and Canberra  
**Truck-mounted hydro turbo  
steam cleaning System**  
**No excuses**  
**Guaranteed results**  
**BERNARD REARDON**



### Pumps and Rural Maintenance

*Specialising in pump installation, repair and  
sales*

ABN 28 980 965 960

**Rhett Cox**

Mobile: 0411 140 584  
Phone/Fax: (02) 6230 3387  
Email: rhettro@bigpond.com

## AMOS CONTRACTORS Sutton NSW

### For all Your Civil Engineering needs

Road construction....Earthmoving....Clearing  
Dam construction and cleaning....House cuts  
Hourly hire or Contract work

Dozer with PAT blade...Grader...Excavators...Rollers...  
Water-cart...Tracked Bobcat...Tip Trucks

Road-base...Red and White Granite...Sand and Topsoil

Professional high quality workmanship

For free advice and no obligation quote call  
Nick Stokes... **0418 624 329**... fx 6230 3380  
[Email.amos-contractors@netspeed.com.au](mailto:Email.amos-contractors@netspeed.com.au)



## CANBERRA REMOVALS

### LOCAL & INTERSTATE

**361 Denley Dve,  
Wamboin**

**YOUR LOCAL REMOVALS  
AND TRANSPORT  
SPECIALIST**

6236 9991

BRANDON CRAIG  
0409 551091 0438 670321

ESTABLISHED IN 1985

## C.T.M EXCAVATIONS

**NOW WITH A 21 t & 4.5 t EXCAVATOR & ROCK  
HAMMER**

**"NO JOB TO SMALL OR TO HARD"**

C.T.M, FOR ALL YOUR: BLOCK/LAND LEVELING AND  
CLEARING EARTHMOVING AND TIP TRUCK  
BOBCAT AND ALL TERRAIN FORKLIFT  
COUNCIL APPROVED SEPTIC TANK SUPPLY AND INSTALLED, INCLUDING THE  
AQUA-NOVA AERATED WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSREM.  
TRENCHING / RIPPING AND AUGER AVAILABLE FOR TREE PLANTING  
A REGISTERED AGENT FOR TANK MASTER RAIN WATER TANKS  
FIRE FIGHTING PUMPS SUPPLIED & FITTED  
SLASHING AND MOWING. SEASON FIREWOOD  
GARAGES & SHEDS SUPPLIED & ERECTED TO COUNCIL APPROVAL .  
ALL BUILDING AND LANDSCAPING SUPPLIES N.S.W. LIC # 86583C  
CONTACT LYLE & SUE MONTESIN SITE OFFICE: 130 THE FORREST ROAD,  
(Bh) 0412 677 554 or (ah) 02 62381481 FAX: 02 62380308

## BRUCIC EXCAVATIONS

**Trucks, Bobcats and Excavators For Hire  
Rock Hammer, Auger and Pallet Forks  
Roadworks House Sites Sheds & Garages  
Water Tanks Footings Sand & Gravel  
Landscape Supplies Supply and Install Septic  
Tanks and Absorption Trenches  
Enquires Phone Darko  
Phone 6238 1884 Mobile 0408 682 191**

## Sandy Kevill

**Member of AMT (NSW) Ltd. – Most Health Rebates Available  
Qualified in Soft Tissue Muscle Therapy,  
Aromatherapy, Shiatsu & Lymphatic Drainage**

\* Reduced Movement \* Back Pain & Tension \* Lymphatic congestion  
\* Neck/Shoulder Stiffness \* Tendonitis problems \* Sports injuries

**A WHOLE HEALTH APPROACH  
LOCALLY BASED – FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE**

 **6230 3307** or Mob: **0413 047 470**

**Give a Gift of Massage Today – Vouchers Available**

Thanks to the persons below, Wamboin and Bywong residents have a

free community owned newsletter.

### 150 CO-ORDINATED BY HELEN MONTESIN:

Dean Evans	Nrtin Area frm Campbl West	18
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	29
Hank Berlee	11 Poppet Rd (for all on road)	34

Ph 6238 3208

Bill Owen	Cooper Rd.	27
Max Klemke	Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley	25
Cathy Abell	Canning Close	17

### 242 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE:

Joan Mason	Bingley Way	50
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	28
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20
Ned Noel	13 YrCn 35Adv 10 NStks7Msc	62

Ph 6238 3463

Margaret Heleimin	Merino Vale Drive	17
Anne Gardner	Weeroona, Norton to Majors	30
David Anderson	Weeroona, Majors to Denley	35

### 249 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER:

Colleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20
Antonette Stockdale	Yalana East	34
Bernie Reardon	Clare Lane	8
Lyle Monetesin	Forrest Road area	50
Bungendore Shop	Bungendore	10

Ph 6238 3489

Ruth Lambert	Yalana West	32
Rob Gorham	South End - Clare Valley	43
Pauline Segeri	North End - Clare Valley	32
Amanada Bryan	Donnelly Road	20

### 179 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN:

Sheryl Barnes	Quinn's Estate / Denley	15
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Birriwa	35
Ann Platts	Denley/Birchman's Area	26
Christa Rehwinkel	Macs Reef - Nwngtn to FedHwy	30

Ph 6238 3590

Lachlan & Callum	Whitford Hogan/Kestral area	11
Rhett Cox	Macs Reef /Nwngtn to FdHwy	12
Morag Cotsell	Newington/Harriot	50

### 170 CO-ORDINATED BY LAURA SNOWDON Ph 6236 9609

Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	20
Len Parrish	Summerhill Rd Area	32
Sue Gorham	Schofields Rd Area	25
Sue Aunella	Doust/Wyoming/Brooks	25

Rachel Gascoine	Snow Gum Rd Area	23
Diana+Keith Gascoyne	Hogan Drive Area	27
Thelma Martin	Shinglehouse Rd area	20

TOTAL 992

## MJ PLANT HIRE

**Dozer 4WD Backhoe  
Earthmoving Soil Conservation  
Tree Planting Clearing**

Phone John 0417 221 773

## TAYLOR MADE PUMPS

**WATER BORE DRILLING RIG**

In Local Aea

>> On Site Surveys <<

**BORE, PUMP &  
POWER PACKAGES**

Call Mark Taylor ALL

**HOURS 6238 2357 Home**

**0428 486 460 Mobile**

**6238 2351 Fax**



## Cuts on Gibraltar

Larger modern salon  
at same address  
(next to Gunadoo Bakery)

*Now* colouring and  
perming your hair

*Affordable*  
haircuts for  
all the family

*Phone*  
Libbie or Tracey  
**6238 0300**

**D & K**  
CONCRETING  
0410 021 097



Reliable, friendly service

- driveways
- footpaths
- garages
- house slabs
- footings
- spray on
- stencil

## Garden Design and Installation

- Brand new gardens and existing garden makeovers
- Specialising in native and low water use gardens
- Supplying quality plants, materials & labour at good prices
- Qualified, Insured and Experienced

Jonathan White, The Ecological Gardener  
Phone: 6238 2342

## ABOUT WINDOWS

*The complete window tinting service - Installation by an experienced tradesman  
Only top quality brands*

Low-reflective metal films                      Privacy films  
Clear or tinted safety & security films    High Performance Silver films

(up to 72% heat reduction, great for hot western windows)

Frosted films to add a Sand-blasted, Acid-etched or other popular finish in custom designed patterns

Almost invisible films to reduce fading (99% UV blocked)

See our display at the Canberra Building Information Centre  
or call 6236 9609 for a free quote in your home.

**The Residential Tinting Specialists**

## TREVOR BARKER & ASSOCIATES

SOLICITORS

Trevor J. Barker  
Solicitor

Mike Cramsie  
Solicitor

Caroline Bragg  
Property Clerk

**General law practice Canberra & NSW**

379 Weeroona Dr via Bungendore &  
Second Floor, Dickson Chambers,  
Dickson Place Dickson ACT 2602

**PH: 6248 8085** *Your local Legals.*



## BUNGENDORE TAXI SERVICE

CONVENIENT 7 DAY SERVICE RAILWAY  
& AIRPORT TRANSFERS COMPETITIVE  
RATES

DROP AT AIRPORT MEET FLIGHTS ON  
ARRIVAL NO QUEUES LOCAL  
KNOWLEDGE PUNCTUAL

**0412 381 977** Cabcharge

# WHISPER CLASSIFIEDS

Wanted someone to assist in emptying two bee hives. Please contact Tony Power on 6238 3028.
Work (full time, part time or casual) is sought in the Canberra area for a Certificate 2 horticulture student. 20 years of age, reliable, honest and hardworking. Contact Alex on 6236 9088
WORM JUICE TRIALS for Natural Soil Improvement. Wamboin residents are invited to test our Worm Juice concentrate Free on samples of any locally grown plants. Please save clean surplus plastic bottles or small drums to hold liquid concentrate. Worm juice may be applied by hand watering, spraying, via irrigation sprays or hydroponic systems. We also make custom worm farms or provide compost worms. Please contact Graeme on (02) 6238 1850 or e-mail <a href="mailto:gvagg@apex.net.au">gvagg@apex.net.au</a> for details.
<b>COACHING</b> 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
<b>IRONING</b> - Don't have time. I will pick up and deliver. If this sounds like it will help you call me on 6238 3193
<b>FOR HIRE: WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL.</b> 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.
<b>ADVERTISING RATES:</b> 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 Pg - \$50 1/3 Pg \$35 1/4 Pg - \$30 1/5 Pg - \$25 1/6 Pg - \$20 1/8 Pg - \$15
<b>Trestles and chairs</b> 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.
For Hire from the Wamboin Community Association: Gas Barbecue - Party Size, Portable \$25.00 per hire (includes gas) and \$25.00 cleaning bond, both payable on collection of barbecue. Cleaning bond is refunded if barbecue is returned clean - Bookings arranged by Helen Montesin- 6238-3208
The Whisper is Wamboin's community newspaper. If you live in the area and have something to say about living here that is informative, thoughtful or entertaining or have led any major expeditions of exploration, think about writing it up for the next issue. For more information contact the editor on 6238-3484. And thanks to so many of you who already have done so.
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.
<b>ALPACAS &amp; LLAMAS</b> Would you like to know more about them? Come to the Hands on Workshop Sun 31/10/04, Sun 7/11/04 or Sun 5/12/04. For Bookings and more information visit <a href="http://www.alpacamagic.com.au">www.alpacamagic.com.au</a> or Phone Glynda 6230 3311
<b>Wormcastings</b> 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
Christmas Trees. Choose and cut your own. Available throughout December. Follow the signs to 869 Norton Rd Wamboin. Phone Tracy on 6238 3619 or 0402 212 971.
Avon - if you are interested in receiving an Avon Brochure please phone Debbie 6238 3193.
<b>WATERBED - Queen size:</b> Soft-sided. Well cared for and maintained. Mattress and protector all but new. Everything is in first class condition. A bed that is a joy to sleep on. Asking \$350. Ph Loretta or Ian 6238 3425.
<b>CD Storage Towers (3):</b> Each capable of holding 62 CDs. Metal (two black and one grey). As new condition. \$25 each or the 3 for \$60. Ph Ian or Loretta 6238 3425.



## **THE STABLE DOOR** by Ian Collet

### **Including an Extract and adaptation from The Wamboin Whisper March 1985:**

It was in the year 1985 – just coming up 20 years ago. Ominous? Maybe though we all hope not. The Wamboin Bushfire Brigade (as it was then known) had just experienced its first real test: the protection of the Wamboin area. The fact that 27 houses had fire completely surrounding them, and none were lost is testament to the Brigade of the time passing its first test.

Wamboin had a four kilometre fire front approaching from the west on a Saturday afternoon. As the fire built up, crossing Majura Lane, there was a strong possibility of it crowning into trees as it crossed the Sutton Road. At this stage all Wamboin's units were on full alert, and were positioned to watch for spot fire outbreaks. The hazard reduction work done by the Kowen Forest staff before Christmas helped to reduce the intensity of this fire front and split the head – one of which Kowen Forestry units handled south of Wamboin and the other came across the Sutton Road below Wamboin.

Working with other Brigade units (mainly from Bungendore) a back-burn along Fernloff Road checked the fire entering Wamboin from the west. Equipment and manpower prevented this back burn extending to the Yass River but unfortunately, the main fire crossed the Sutton Road further to the north and entered the Wamboin area north of the backburn. The wind change effect in the Yass River Valley pushed the fire into Canning Close area. Skilled and courageous work by our brigade and all those in that area, together with the operators of earth-moving equipment saved all the houses threatened.

The task at this stage was to hold the flank of the fire as close as possible to the Yass River to allow the Bungendore Brigade time to complete the backburn from Norton Road to Macs Reef Road. This was done and the head stopped late on Saturday night.

Sunday morning, a further fire line was completed from Merino Vale drive to merino vale homestead to link in with the backburn to Macs Reef Road. From there on it was mop up and black out and, except for a few anxious moments on Monday, it was just sheer long hours of hard tedious work.

As the then Captain of the Wamboin Bushfire Brigade, John Finn, noted..."It was a team effort which saved the area, from the firefighters through to the organisation at the hall which never ceased to amaze me. Every time I looked around, the efficiency, energy and cheerfulness continued right through to those at home who supported the rest of us."

So, back to the present – the weather of the weekend just gone, when the volunteers of the Wamboin Volunteer Rural fire Brigade were out on the hustings for the Brigade's Annual Donation Drive, has sapped the deceptively green pastures to now gold and dry. A thumping 38 degrees predicted for Tuesday and gusting west north-westerly winds. Don't let it be you who says...."Ah won't happen again! She'll be roight mate!

Yeah, right.

### **Status on improved Mobile Phone Coverage for Wamboin**

Bu\*\*erall movement. So far as good quality mobile phone reception in this area? Your life is in your own hands. Latest from Telstra (Telstra letter via Gary Nairn's office)..."At this stage it is proposed that Telstra will be providing new and improved digital CDMA coverage to the surrounding areas of Wamboin and Sutton during the 2005/2006 financial year. The process for Wamboin/Sutton is presently in the initial site acquisition stage, with the entire process taking up to 12 months to completion." Wonder what happened to the plan to recommission Poppet Hill? Surely the latest response from Telstra conceives something/somewhere different.

## **BALYDON AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES**

10 BALYDON ROAD

QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

**PH 6297 2833**

ABN 67-003-696-517

Agents for Monza Equipment – Generators, Water Pumps, etc  
Agricultural Supplies Daedong Tractors CK20 to DK20  
Full Workshop for all Agricultural and Automotive Repairs  
One Stop Shop for all Farming, Camping and Caravaning Equipment







# The Wamboin Firefighter

A newsletter from YOUR volunteer rural fire brigade compiled  
by Cliff Spong with help from many members of the Brigade  
(Wamboin Brigade's website is [www.wamboin-fireshed.com](http://www.wamboin-fireshed.com))

Fire permits are required if you want to burn off or light fires in the open. Adequate precautions must be taken if fires are lit in the open. Your neighbours and your fire brigade captain need to be notified 24 hours before you light up.

## From the Captain's Desk



Our good fortune continues. The only smoke in our area for the past month has been from legal burn-offs. Even the motorists have been doing the right thing and no accidents have been reported. I hope this isn't the calm before the storm though. The brigade has been on alert for some incidents in other brigade areas but we were not required to attend.

For those residents who are considering burning off over the next weeks, it is probably worth repeating the conditions that come with a fire permit. These conditions include:

- A fixed time period during which the fire can be conducted (this period will be reduced to one day as the fire season continues)
- At least one person must be present at the site of the fire until it is extinguished
- The fire permit must be carried by the permit holder or someone else present at the fire, if the permit holder cannot be there
- The permit holder must have on site, and immediately available, enough personnel, sufficient and operational equipment to maintain control of the fire in all anticipated weather conditions during the time period for the permit
- All adjoining neighbours must be notified, either verbally or in writing, 24 hours before the fire is lit
- The Captain of the Wamboin Brigade, the Lake George Fire Control Centre, or the Duty Officer, must be notified 24 hours before the fire is lit
- The Captain of the Wamboin Brigade and the Lake George Fire Control Centre, or the Duty Officer must be notified 1 hour before the fire is lit
- The Captain of the Wamboin Brigade must be notified when the fire is extinguished
- The permit can be cancelled by the Captain of the Wamboin Brigade if weather conditions are considered unsuitable for the burn

In previous editions of *The Wamboin Whisper* I mentioned that the latest annual assessment of fire protection risks for our area was being calculated after we conducted a survey of the types of terrain, vegetation, numbers of houses, numbers and types of businesses and other assets. I am sort of pleased to announce that our standard of fire cover assessment has now been increased due mostly to the extra responsibilities we have taken on as the result of the changes to the local government boundaries. The assessment has concluded that the brigade requires the addition of half a Category 1 tanker. This means that that brigade is assessed as now needing 2 Category 1 tankers, or an equivalent number of vehicles, as compared with the previous one Category 1 and 1 Category 2 tankers. As a result a new Category 2 tanker has been ordered for the brigade. Because of the way equivalent vehicles are determined, and unless our fire cover assessment increases again before the new tanker is delivered, the brigade may lose one of the smaller Category 7 tankers when the Category 2 tanker is delivered. If this all sounds too confusing the new assessment means that for the next 18 months we will keep all but one of the current fleet of vehicles until the new Category 2 tanker is delivered sometime in 2006. The time has come to retire the venerable but aged Dodge as it has a petrol engine and is considered as too great a risk on a fireground. Some further good news for our area, including Bungendore, is that the Pumper that was based in Bungendore will now replace our tired Pumper, which will be given back to the ACT. The new pumper is a distinctive yellow colour and we are in the process of refitting it.

On Saturday 27 November the brigade conducted the annual donation drive at various sites around the area. I would like to thank all those who donated this time. I am pleased to report that we had a very successful day and the money raised will help us purchase extra maintenance and communications equipment and wet weather gear. As many people can appreciate there is a continual need to raise funds for our work and donations can be sent to the Treasurer, Wamboin Fire Brigade, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin at anytime during the year.

During the past month two of members, **Darrell Tipton** and **Chris Murdock**, passed their lengthy advanced firefighter courses. **Richard Hobbs** also passed his Rural Fire Instructor course. These courses take a lot of time and dedication to complete. The extra skills learned will be invaluable to the brigade. Congratulations to all three.

It is with some sadness that we have to farewell a great bunch of people who have been brigade stalwarts for many years. **Tony, Marianne, Tamara** and **Bradley Martin** have decided that the lure of a coastal life is stronger than the appeal of staying in Wamboin. Tony joined the brigade in 1991 and in that time has been a crew leader, deputy captain as well as a member of a very successful field day team, which won many prizes over the years. Tony has been a fantastic member of the brigade, helping out whenever and wherever he could, spending many long hours training with the field day teams but perhaps more importantly providing a depth of experience and practical guidance for other members of the brigade that will always be remembered and appreciated. It was a real family affair because Marianne, Tamara and Bradley also got involved with brigade activities. Marianne was an active member of the brigade and Bradley and Tamara were very active and keen members of the junior brigade. It has been a real pleasure to get to know them, work with them and share an occasional quiet ale or two or ....

Earlier in the month many members participated in a drive around some of the new parts in the brigade's area. Sutton Park and the area up to the Eagle Hawk Hotel were thoroughly explored and many residents noticed the red vehicles driving around. It was a well worthwhile afternoon. We now have a better collective understanding of the area. In the next few weeks we will be surveying the bushland west of Sutton Road, including the firing range. During this trip our instructions will be; if you see something metallic and it is stuck in the ground, don't mess with it!

During our various activities around the area, fundraising events, at field days or whenever your brigade is represented we have felt the need to better publicise your brigade. We are proud of the brigade and what we do and so we would appreciate some help from anyone with dressmaking, printing or fabric skills to make some large prominent "Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade" banners. If you can help or know of someone who might, could you please contact **Fiona David on 6236 9331**.

As someone once said; last but definitely not least, I am very pleased and proud to announce that three people will be nominated for Life Membership of the brigade at our next general meeting in December. They are **Bernie Broers, Charlie Montesin** and **Lofty Mason**. These awards recognise their outstanding service and dedication to the brigade over a significant period of time.

THE CAPTAIN'S LIST	Businesses supporting the Wamboin Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	
A'Hern Fitness at the Airport	Cross Country Construction	Quick-Eze Towing
AAA Water Carriers	Eureka Plants Pty Ltd	Ratz Mobile Welding
Anytime Backhoe Hire	Horizon Real Estate	So Good Sausages Pty Ltd
B & B Tree Surgery	FH Office Services	Sotech Pty Ltd
Bungendore Rural	France Harrison & Associates	Shepherds Hut Wines
Bungendore Taxi Service	Gidgee Estate Winery	Sherrin Hire
Capital Business Services	Inland Trading Co (Aust)	Sutton Real Estate
Clare Valley Tree Services	Lambert Vineyards	Tipton Shopfitters Pty Ltd
Coates Hire, Fyshwick	LMS Consulting	Trevor Barker & Associates
Congari Bookkeeping & Business Services	Manuka Childcare Centre	Trevor Duncan Homes
Coolah Holdings Pty Ltd	Marloc Engineering	Wagonga Coffee
	Overdene Excavations Pty Ltd	Westpac Banking Corporation

# Overdene

## Excavations Pty Ltd

### Your Local Contractor

**Red Granite Driveway General Excavations Driveway Maintenance Alternative driveway toppings Backhoe Grader Watercart Tipperhire**

**Free Quot es Given**

**Telephone Delwyn or Max: 6238-0543 Max's Mobile: 0412-645-338**

**Notes from St Andrew's Church**

by Robyn Robertson

Advent is here and we are preparing to celebrate Christmas. All Wamboin residents and your families are invited to share in the special services that will be held in this season.

- \* Sunday 5 Dec Morning Prayer in the Church at 9am
- \* Friday 17 Dec Community Carols in the Hall – see the notice elsewhere in the Whisper for details
- \* Sunday 19 Dec Holy Communion in the Church at 9am
- \* Friday 24 Dec - Christmas Eve –Service in the Church at 8pm
- \* Saturday 25 Dec. – Christmas Day – Service at St Peter's, Sutton at 8.15am
- \* Sunday 2 Jan. Morning Prayer in the Church at 9am
- \* Sunday 16 Jan 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary service at 11am in the Church and the Hall

Remember the Church is there for you and if we can be of any help at any time, please contact Robyn Robertson on 62383202 or Bronwyn Elliott on 62383359. We wish everyone in Wamboin a very happy, peaceful and safe Christmas and holiday

# **RHETTRO**

Pumps and Rural Maintenance  
ABN 28 980 965 960

**Rhett Cox**

Mobile 0411 140 584  
Phone/Fax 02 6230 3387  
Email [rhettro@bigpong.com](mailto:rhettro@bigpong.com)

## *Garden Time*

*From your local blokes  
Complete landscaping, gardening  
& general home maintenance*

Contact  
Ron 0402 332 543  
Warren 0402 298 311



# **CLEAN WATER TANK SERVICES**

Tanks cleaned with minimal water loss

Crack repairs - flexible reinforced membrane

Metal Covers supplied & fitted

Water treatment - tank & house lines

**RING JOHN on 0428 489 291**

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

Nov 2004 rainfall to 28/11 91mm (Nov 2003 74mm)  
 2004 rainfall to 28/11 367.5mm (2003 to 30/11 505mm)  
 Average Dec rainfall 59mm Hottest Dec day 37C on 21/12/99  
 Driest Dec 0 mm in 1979 Coldest Dec day 13C on 3/12/87  
 Wettest Dec 164 mm in 1988 Coldest Dec night 3C on 9/12/99  
 Wettest Dec day 48mm on 26/12/99  
 Average Jan rainfall 63.3mm Hottest Jan day 39C on 3/1/90 and 19/1/98  
 Driest Jan 6mm in 1979 Coldest Jan day 19C on 2/1/03  
 Wettest Jan 197.5mm in 1995 Coldest Jan night 7C on 2/1/03  
 Wettest Jan day 74mm on 21/1/95

<p><b>STOP PRESS</b>  <b>Brand New Corporate 10</b>  <b>Seat Transporter</b>  <b>Now Available</b></p>	<p><b>C-B-D</b>  <b>Chauffeured</b>  <b>Transport</b></p>	<p><b>Locally Owned and Operated</b>  <b>On Time - Every Time</b>   <b>Compare Our Rates</b></p>
<p><b>Whole Range of Vehicles –</b>  <b>cars, trucks, minibuses &amp;</b>  <b>coaches</b></p>	<p><b>6280 9899</b></p>	<p><b>We Wait for you</b>  <b>You Never Wait for Us</b></p>
<p><b>Airport transfers from</b>  <b>\$20.00</b></p>	<p><b>PO Box 736 Fyshwick ACT 2609</b>  <b>Fax 02 6280 8324</b></p>	<p><b>Email:</b>  <b>reservations@cbdtransport.com</b>  <b>website: www.cbdtransport.com.au</b></p>

**QBN CHAINSAWS & GARDEN EQUIPMENT**  
**Ph 6299 1324**

**Come see your local Stihl**  
**Specialist dealer for Quality**  
**Equipment & professional after sales**  
**service & advice**

**Brushcutters**  
**Secateurs**

**Mowers Chainsaws**  
**Safety Equipment**

**Mulchers**  
**and more**

**Conveniently located at 24 Yass Rd Qbn or phone 6299**  
**1324**

**See you there**

## **Wamboin 15 years ago – from the Whisper of December 1989**

**Editors: The Nordsvans    Circulation 225    (Prepared by Robyn Robertson)**

A report from the operator of the school bus service from Wamboin highlighted improvements to the service from Wamboin, including

- a separate service to Sutton primary School
- the extension of the High School service to Majors Close
- the introduction of a second bus direct from Wamboin to Canberra, eliminating the changeover for many students.

What growth there has been in the intervening 15 years – how many school buses are there now

# **WAMBOIN PRODUCE MARKET**

**Saturday 11 December    9-12.00**  
**Community Hall, Bingley Way**

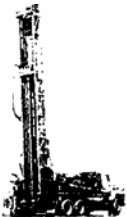
**Local produce and plants    Home made goodies    Art and Craft    Refreshments**

There is always something different so come and be tempted!! It is a great way to renew old acquaintances and make new ones. For details contact Tony Power on 6238 3028 or email [poweraj@acslink.net.au](mailto:poweraj@acslink.net.au).

**TAYLOR MADE PUMPS**

**WATER BORE**

**DRILLING RIG**



In Local Aea

>> On Site Surveys <<

**BORE, PUMP & POWER PACKAGES**

Call Mark Taylor ALL HOURS    6238 2357 Home

0428 486 460 Mobile    6238 2351 Fax

## A Big Birthday

by Robyn Robertson

A landmark in Wamboin's history will be reached in January when St Andrew's Church celebrates the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first service in Wamboin. It was in the new Community Hall on 20 January, 1985. Services continued in the Hall, increasing from the original once a month to twice plus some special extras from time to time. The new congregation was an "offshoot" of St Peter's in Sutton, part of the parish of St John's in Canberra. In 1994 the Wamboin congregation became a Special District in the Anglican Diocese of Canberra – Goulburn, and adopted St Andrew as its patron saint. With the completion of the Church building on the corner of Norton and Poppet Roads, the congregation took possession early in 1998, and the building and people were consecrated by Bishop George Browning on 8 March in that year.

To mark the birthday a service on 16 January 2005 will begin in the Church and move to the Community Hall where it will conclude and be followed by a BYO picnic lunch. A "backwards progressive" service! The preacher will be the Revd Paul Woodhart who conducted the very first service here. Paul is now the Chaplain at All Saints Grammar School in Bathurst. This will be an occasion for present and former friends to celebrate the part the Church has played in the development of the community that is Wamboin. We hope members of our community will join us to give thanks to God and those people whose vision and dedication planted a Church in Wamboin. 11am on Sunday 16 January 2005, commencing in the Church and moving to the Wamboin Community Hall.

# AAA WATER CARRYING DOMESTIC WATER LOCAL CARRIER

SERVICING THE AREA SINCE 1984  
ATTRACTIVE RATES - 7 DAYS  
GARRY & LESLEA GRUBER  
ON (02) 6297-3648 or 0428-626-838

## Cardowan Pet Foods & Supplies

Wide range of Kibbles & Biscuits  
Fresh & Frozen Meat  
Vitamins, etc.  
Free Home Delivery Service  
116 Uriarra Rd Queanbeyan 6297 9154



## MR SWEEP CHIMNEY & FLUE CLEANING

Slow Combustion & Open Fires Swept  
Repairs & maintenance

### **SPRING DISCOUNTS NOW AVAILABLE**

- Chimney Dampers & Bird/Possum Mesh
- Fire Bricks for Slow Combustion Heaters
- Flue Extensions & Top Caps
- Glass Replacements and Door Seals
- Heater Fans Serviced and Replaced
- Pre Gas Chimney Cleaning
- Roof Ventilators Supplied and Installed
- Safety Checks Available
- S/C Heaters Removed or Replaced
- Smoke Detectors Supplied and Installed

For appointments or further information please  
phone Brian

6258 1792

## Thank You Whisper Delivers, Writers, Printers and Advertisers

Our next issue will be in early February, 2005. The Whisper comes out eleven times a year, silent only in January, so a lot of people are off the hook for next month. For starters, about 40 people donate time each month to gently place the Whisper into over 900 mailboxes. Dozens of other people take time, sometimes quite a bit of it, to prepare articles and smaller notices about news and events out this way. Printers at Canberra Times Fine Print work each month, for a price low enough to suggest Canberra's paper tries to support community newspapers, to create our 20 or so pages x 990 or so copies. Also for each of the eleven months dozens of advertisers are good enough to create an ad and pay for it so as to cover Whisper printing costs and leave a small profit for the Community Association. Please remember these advertisers when you need to spend some of your own money on goods and services. - Ned Noel, editor

### picture framing

custom framing of your artwork  
photographs and needlework  
now available in wamboin  
quality work • reasonable rates  
obligation free quotes  
phone lyn on 6238 3591

## Clare Valley Tree Services

Tim Warren

Qualified Arborist & Tree Surgeon

All work completed to Council standards Removal of dangerous & difficult trees Pruning, shaping or deadwooding  
Mistletoe removal Obligation free quotes

**1394 Norton Road Clare Valley Via  
Bungendore NSW 2621  
Ph: 6238 0717 or 0413 455 744**

## TAYLOR MADE PUMPS

### Your pumps not pumping?

PUMP REPAIRS TO ALL MAKES OF PUMPS

- New Pumps Supplied and Installed - Home Pressure Systems - Bore and Irrigation Pumps - Bore Drilling and Water Quality Analysis - Fire Fighting Pumps - Sales and Repairs- Windmill Service, Repairs and New Sales - Water Softener Repairs - Premium Quality Water Softener Salt at Rural Prices

Call Mark Taylor 0428 486 460 Mobile 6238 2357 Home 6238 2351 Fax



## Do you want to support the Fire Brigade?

### Drink more wine!!

Gidgee Estate Winery has produced "Fire Shed Red" and "Fire Shed White", just in time for Christmas – a 2002 Cabernet Franc and a 2003 Chardonnay.

\$12 per bottle - all profits to the Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade.

Supply is limited. We sold out last year.

Order by ph 6236 9506, fax 6236 9070 or mail (PO Box 1049 Fyshwick ACT 2609) - or drop into Gidgee for a free tasting, 441 Weeroona Drive, Wamboin.

*Liquor Act 1982: It is an offence to sell or supply to or to obtain liquor on behalf of a person under the age of 18 years.*



## RIDING INSTRUCTION

ACCREDITED EFA LEVEL 1

Local riding instructor available for beginners and more experienced riders. I will come to your property, or have sand arena available. Improve your dressage, jumping or just increase your confidence. Available weekends or weekdays.

**TEACHING IN WAMBOIN FOR OVER 10 YEARS**  
**Phone Leanne on 6238-3435**

## HYDRA DIESEL ENGINEERING

**3/100 HIGH STREET**  
**QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620**

Phone 6297 1636 Fax 6299 3557  
 ABN 69 419 159 237

HYDRA: Hydraulic repairs - Service - Sales - Seals  
 DIESEL: Certified Diesel mechanic, heavy  
 Earthmoving Equipment - 29 years in trade - Farm  
 Machinery - Earthmoving - Trucks - Stationery Engines  
 - Pumps - 4WDs  
 ENGINEERING: Lathes - Pressing - Milling - Drilling -  
 Steel fabricating - Welding One Stop Shop



## NUTRIMETICS

Nutrimetics offers an outstanding collection of high performance, naturally enriched products that nurture, beautify and protect the skin. The range includes skincare, cosmetics, bodycare, haircare, suncare, familycare, fragrances, health supplements & cleaning products. I am happy to send you the Nutrimetics sales brochure each month, or, if you would like to have a fun evening with a few of your friends to try out the products and earn yourself some free gifts, give me a call or send an email:

**Sue Barker Phone: 6236 9046 ah**  
**Email: sbarker@justinternet.com.au**

## GIDGEE ESTATE WINES

**HUGE CHRISTMAS**

**WINE SALE**

For your Christmas wine supplies,  
 visit our cellar door and take advantage of our  
 greatly reduced prices.

Don't forget our fundraiser -  
 Fire Shed Red and Fire Shed White in a  
 presentation pack – only \$24

441 Weeroona Drive, WAMBOIN  
 Phone: 6236 9506  
 EMAIL: GIDGEE@bigpond.com

Open 12 noon to 4pm weekends

**Lorraine Bird**  
 BA (Adult Education)

Civil Celebrant  
 (A6261)

Member of the  
 Australian Federation  
 of Civil Celebrants

Mobile 040 126 7851  
 Home 02 6230 3321  
 email  
 dbird@bigpond.com



Weddings  
 Namings  
 Commitment  
 Ceremonies  
 Renewal of Vows  
 Wedding  
 Anniversaries

RMB 1747  
 Gundaroo Road  
 Sutton NSW 2620  
 ABN 68 729 109 108



## WAMBOIN GOLF CLUB – 19<sup>th</sup> WAMBOIN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

A great turnout of 37 golfers played in the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Wamboin Open Golf Championship held on the “19” hole Wamboin championship course on the first Sunday in November.

We had a few visitors on the day with Todd Quinn and Maureen Schroder taking out the visitors trophies.

Vincent Gorham is the 2004 Wamboin Junior Champion.

Nine hole champion is Deb Gordon who played with two month old son Alexander coming along for the ride. The annual Eclectic was won by Dick Henley.

Second in B Grade was Charley Montesin and second in A Grade was Bob Mettam.

B Grade Club Champion is Paul Griffin.




A Grade Club Champion is Peter Greenwood.

Ladies Wamboin Open Champion once again is Joan Mason and,

2004 Wamboin Open Champion is Len Ivey.

Congratulations to all winners and also a special thanks to Judith Evans for taking care of the 19<sup>th</sup> hole nibblies.

-- Peter Greenwood, golfer enquiries 6238 3358

<p><b>QUEANBEYAN VETERINARY HOSPITAL &amp; BOARDING KENNELS</b></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 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month. This is in addition to our normal attendance, but with only nominal mileage charges.</p>		 <p>Painters &amp; Decorators <b>Aurora</b> For Added Value and Quality</p>  <p>Free quotes References available on request No mess, no fuss Qualified City &amp; Guilds Tradesman</p> <p><b>Ph: 62411 727</b> <b>Mob: 0418 975 232</b></p>
---	--	---	---

<p><b>Woodbridge Plumbing Services</b></p> <p>Lic NSW and ACT</p> <p>Offers a wide range of services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-- General plumbing and maintenance</li><li>-- Plumbing and drainage for new homes and extensions</li><li>-- Compressed air installation</li><li>-- General welding and repairs</li></ul> <p>Please call Matt 0428 489 399 or 6260 3563</p>	<p><b>REG GIRALDI</b> <b>Licensed Builder</b> NSW 145587C ACT 2953C</p> <p>New Homes, Extensions Bathroom and Kitchen Renovations, Carpentry, Tiling, Painting, Gyprock Repairs, Concreting, All Repairs and Insurance Work</p> <p><b>0416 075 910 (Mobile) or 6238 0918 (ah)</b></p> <p>HIA Member</p>
	 <p><b>HORSE PORTRAITS</b> I will paint your horse (or any other animal!!) from your photo. Framed A3 size</p> <p>Phone Amanda <b>6236 9569</b> <b>0411 025778</b></p>

## Sutton Road Upgrade

Based on an Interview with Nick Zardo,

Director of Guideline ACT Pty Ltd and Sutton Road Improvements Project Manager

at Guideline's Headquarters in Queanbeyan on November 12, 2004

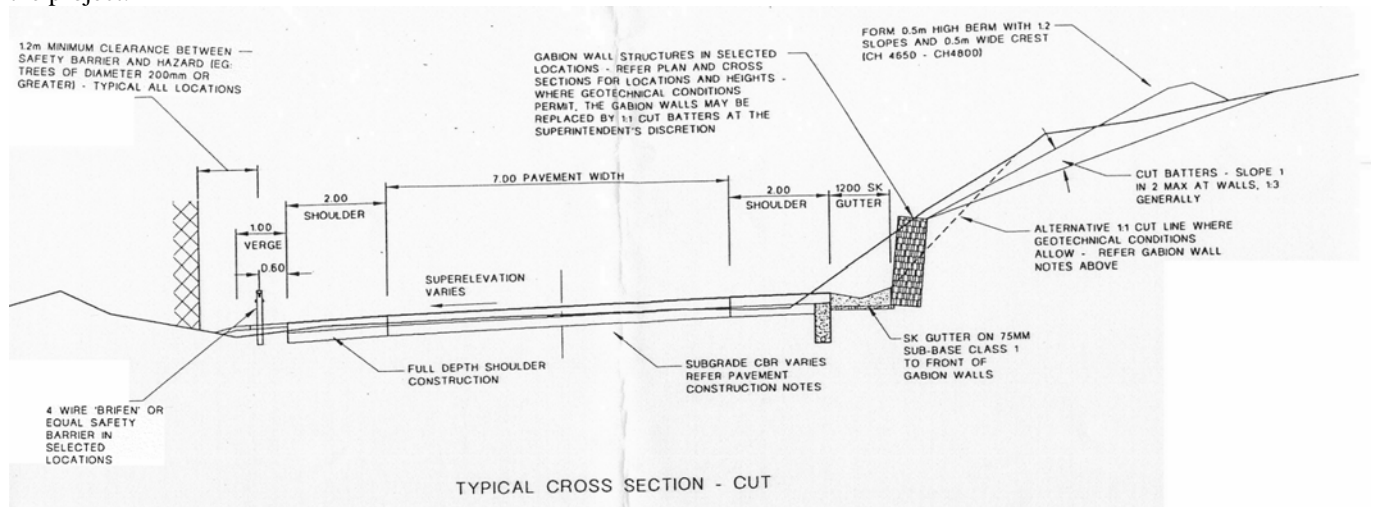
with the Assistance of Bill Chalker, Guideline's Site Foreman

written up by Ned Noel

This work starts at about 5400 meters north of the Pialligo Avenue end of Sutton Road and extends northward to the NSW border which is at about 8700 meters north of Pialligo Avenue. This stretch of pavement is reaching the end of its life.

The upgrade will add 20 years to this life and will improve it.

As stated in the article in the October, 2004 whisper by Geoff Farrer of Roads ACT, "works include provision of a 2m wide shoulder on both sides of the road, installation of guard barriers, realignment of the 'S' bends on the hill just south of the border, and provision of a 600m long northbound overtaking lane approximately 1 km south of the border." This present article, containing the information provided by Nick Zardo of Guideline ACT, aims to keep Wamboin residents informed about the project.



The widening will bring the road to 7m of road width plus 2m sealed shoulder on each side for a total width of 11m for the whole 3.3 km stretch, except for the passing lane. There the road itself will be 10.5m wide with 2m paved shoulder on each side for a total width of 14.5m.

The upgraded pavement is typically based on a prepared subgrade, using the material as found. This is covered with a 200 mm of sub base of high quality quarry material. On top of this is 200 mm of fine crushed rock, a very high quality quarry product. On top of this is an initial bitumen spray, a layer of 14mm gravel, a second application of bitumen, and, finally, a layer of 7mm gravel.

Bingley Contractors

# Prompt Water Delivery

Local Carrier All Areas 7 Days

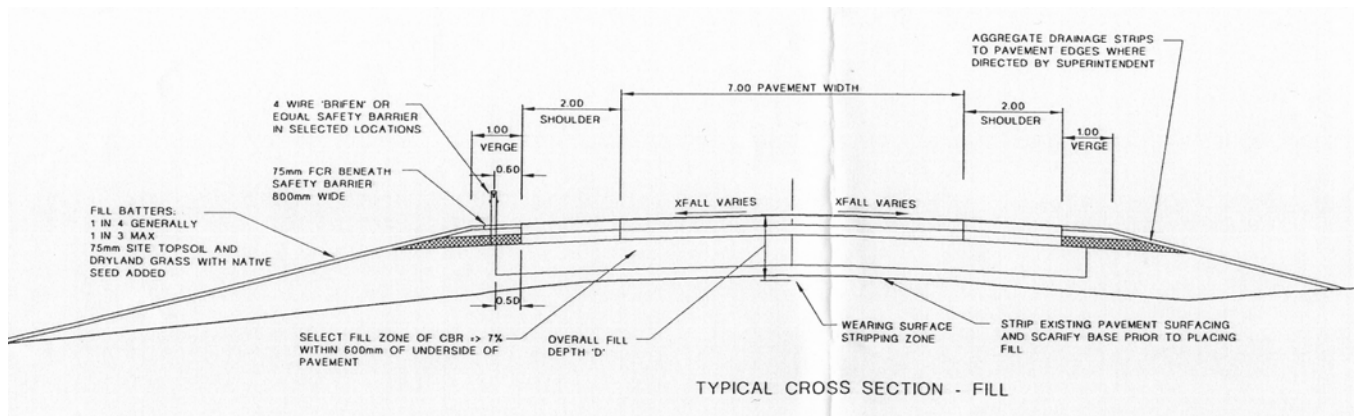
1761 Sutton Road, Sutton

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

The work will remove some of the curves, cut out some of the “humps” and fill some of the “hollows” of the present road surface, thus improving the ride and adding safety for motorists. Reedy Creek, which runs beside the road, will be diverted for the stretch near the present site shed on the west side of the road to allow for the straightening in that vicinity. Extensive excavation already underway in that region will straighten the road to remove its present bend. The passing lane will start at approximately 7300m north of Pialligo Ave and conclude approximately 8000m north of Pialligo Ave

There will be a significant amount of installation of wire rope barriers. The older style guardrail barriers have over the years been found to sometimes bounce vehicles back into the road, whereas the wire rope barriers tend to absorb the impact and keep vehicles off the road. Drainage improvements are another big part of the upgrade. Pavement lasts longer if water does not saturate it, so subsoils will be moved in alongside the road edges to collect subsurface water, keeping it away from the pavement.

Work started at the southern limit of the current project. The plan is to carry out the works in one kilometer sections, one side of the road at a time. Nick, as a Sutton area resident, knows the value of recent rains, but says they have delayed progress to date. Depending on progress in the days ahead, it may be necessary at times simultaneously to work on two separate one km stretches at the same time. Some of the work, like the straightening near the current site shed, will be less disruptive of daily traffic flows, as in these spots the new road is being built inside the curves of the present one.



Efforts have been made to minimise the delays caused by the lights. They are timed to allow for 40 km/hr vehicle movement on the affected sections. Personnel on site manually adjust the timing early in the morning to allow for a longer southbound green. Around 9:30 am another manual adjustment is made to give roughly equal northbound and southbound greens, with northbound a little longer because it is uphill. For the afternoon peak another adjustment is made to give a longer northbound green. The last manual adjustment back to equal times is made when project workers finish for the day. One further automatic feature of the lights takes over in quiet periods when the automatic sensors detect no traffic. Then both ends show red, with the first oncoming vehicle at either end triggering a green, but after a slight delay that slows the approaching driver to a safe speed. The present plan is to remove the traffic lighted sections for the Christmas Holiday period by striving to have two lanes available in each direction for the full project length during that period.

Guideline ACT, Nick explains, is local company, with its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. It employs about 50 people. It did the dual carriageway Monaro Highway Upgrade over Dairy Flat linking Fyshwick to Pialligo Avenue, has carried out work on Cotter, Bendora and Corin Dams, and has just completed a major upgrade of the the water treatment plant at Googong. Guideline ACT strives to deliver projects that are technically difficult, and received a National Environmental Award for the Corin Dam Project.

One of the hardest aspects of the Sutton Road project, as with many other road construction projects, is to carry out the work while maintaining traffic flow. For instance, it is important that the road pavement be an integral single unit, and making the northbound and southbound sections mesh together while being constructed separately adds complexity.

The Sutton Road Upgrade will take about 6 months, employing on average about 10 persons. The goal is to complete major works in April, 2004 with some subsequent cleaning and landscaping activities. Nick acknowledges and regrets the inconvenience caused to road users, but asks patience as the project will provide, for about the next 20 years, 3.3 kms of smoother and safer travel. Both Nick and Bill Chalker, the site foreman, make this request of road users during the construction period:

PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY AND OBEY TRAFFIC SIGNALS FOR YOUR SAFETY AND OURS

## Wamboin Muses

Jill Gregory

One day you're floating, buoyed by the sweetness of spring, the next you're torpedoed by summer. My modified cottage garden, with its kangaroo and drought resistant plants, like me, is gasping under the sudden summer onslaught. We'd all been congratulating ourselves on the brilliant spring, as if we'd had some hand in its glory, but nature sure has a way of showing who's boss.

But I'm not ready to let spring slip away just yet. As I was walking the dogs early this morning, pretending not to notice them testing the waters of every neighbouring puddle they came across and using the sniff test to determine the age of each carcass they unearthed, I started thinking about why we came to live here in the first place. It was all because of Mort. We acquired our "free to good home" pup when we were living in tidy suburbia, with a neat garden that we had achieved with a good deal of youthful blood sweat and tears. But Mort soon took control, and before long had reduced our manicured lawns to something akin to the Birdsville Race Track post Cup Day. I just knew he needed bigger things, acres in which to frolic and explore. And if we had acres, then we could grow our own food and become self sufficient, ....and save money.

Whether either of us truly believed this fanciful stuff I don't really know, but move we did, and Mort finally found dog heaven on earth. However, apart from a glut of silver beet one year and buckets of berries never to be repeated, we have had pretty lean pickings here. But the other Sunday it was a different story. With floppy canvas hats on our heads and a calico bag in hand, we set off for a morning ramble with the dogs, and came back with a bag of plump, pink field mushrooms. We ate mushrooms all week, supplementing those with more that we gathered around here, until we couldn't face another one. What a thrill, living off the land! All we had to buy were a few thick, juicy eye fillets to accompany nature's bounty and a few bottles of red to compliment the steak! And while we wined and dined like kings, we were serenaded by our resident frogs, one forever tightening a nut on a rusty bolt, and the other practising like one obsessed, for the duelling banjos, but never getting beyond the first note.

I wouldn't live anywhere else....we may not have saved much money since we moved here, in fact some knockers may even have the gall to suggest that we've slumped into a financial cess pit, but where else could you live off the land, at least fleetingly in spring, and feel like you've won Lotto.

### H & S Mower Repairs

177 Gilmore Road *Queanbeyan Sales and Service*

Phone 6297-5020 Fax 6297-2050

Trading Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 am to 5:30 pm



### The New Generation Cox has arrived.

This is the ride-on you've waited years for. Now the rugged dependability and proven resale value of the legendary Cox mower has been merged with international standards of comfort and convenience. Every new model Cox is quieter, smoother, faster, more responsive, more manoeuvrable and features impact-resistant body panels that can never rust. Best of all, Cox is designed, engineered and built in Australia for tough Australian conditions, with full parts and service back up from dealers you can depend on

### FOR SALE

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



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