



COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

July 2005

CIRCULATION: 1007

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, which started the Whisper in 1981 and continues to own it. 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. Contributions which readers may wish to make will be appreciated, and should be submitted to by email to 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 the August 2005 Whisper the deadline is Sunday, July 31, 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

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
Wamboin Playgroup	Leanne Quick	Convener	6238 3435
Landcare	Roger Good	President	6236-9048
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	Contact Person	6238-3343
Gearys Gap Pony Club	Julie Abbey	Secretary	6230-3129
Play Group	Leanne Quick	Convenor	6238-3435
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

Deanne Brucic, babysitting & Petsitting	6238-1884
Sarah Dunn, babysitting, cooking	6238 1849 or 0424 023 841.
Fiona Skea, babysitting	6238-3290
Rebecca Purdie, 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, babysitting, petsitting	6236 9186
John Brennan, babysitting and petsitting.....	6238 3472
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 CURRY NIGHT

Saturday, August 20, 2005 7pm - Bring a curry – enjoy many others
Enquires to Dave Hubbard on 6238 3308

WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION President's Paragraphs

Rates: The WCA has been busy talking **Increased Rates** with the Palerang Council. First up we had the Information Day on Saturday the 18th of June. I was assured all Wamboin residents received notification from the Council however I guess due to many reasons not many residents attended this day. Those who did were surprised/shocked to learn the already disproportionate amount of Rates paid by Wamboin and Bywong residents would be **increased by 33.6%**. This is the highest percentage increase of all areas in Palerang Shire. Next up we were informed of the compulsory \$140 Waste Management Charges. Add that to your Rates and it equates to a **58% increase** in Council charges. Then as a knockout blow came the Capital Works Program wherein \$288,000 is allocated to Braidwood, \$180,000 to Bungendore, \$65,000 to Captains Flat and \$0 to Wamboin and Bywong. The WCA has written and strongly objected to the Palerang Management Plan.

Stirred up by this Plan, Trent Abell collected signatures on a petition at the Wamboin chalkboard on Saturday the 25th of June. This petition complained of the inequitable rates system. Unfortunately many cars just drove past. Perhaps this was because Trent was in his new wheels having pensioned off the 'Aqua marine'. This petition will be delivered to Council. The late notification and early closing date for submissions (28th of June) was most unfortunate?

Despite drizzly rain last Saturday the Hall **storeroom extension** has progressed. Hank, with one crook hand, and I had to duck and weave as we laboured for the brickies; Charlie Montesin and Don Evans. Pete Harrison arrived in time for lunch and was inducted to the team. Don was even using a hair dryer (actually a heat gun) to dry the mortar joints. We had to light a fire to dry the blocks before they could be laid. Hank got even by handing Charlie a block so hot it caused the mortar to sizzle! Again our thanks to Joan who, assisted by Sue Gane, fed the team.

Just a reminder that **The Bonfire Night** is Saturday the 17th of September. You will be asked to bring bonfire type material to the Hall from the 13th of August. Please **do not** dump material before this date. I will be contacting the various stall holders to ensure an improved food supply. Bonfire Night is the major, and sometimes only, fund raising activity by some of our groups

The **AGM** will be held on Tuesday the 19th of July in conjunction with a normal monthly meeting. As per our constitution, all WCA members who attend a monthly meeting are committee members for that meeting. As for Executive positions; our Secretary, John van der Straaten, is looking for any volunteers.

Lofty Mason. ljmason@iimetro.com.au

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Bywong Community News

Prepared by Morag Cotsell

Trivia Challenge Warwick and Diana (6236 9187) are now taking bookings for the annual Bywong Trivia Challenge. This event has become so popular that it is usually fully booked, so it is as well to reserve your place as soon as possible. Players may book as a table (up to 8) or as individuals to make up tables. The Community will repeat its popular supper offering of hearty soups with rolls, tea and coffee, and players may bring their own drinks and nibbles. The cost is still only \$10 per person. The event will be in the Community Hall at 7.30 pm on Saturday 30 July.

Our local electricity supply David Bellew, Regional Manager of Country Energy, will speak to our next meeting on 15 August on local power issues, including reliability of supply and plans for service improvement in the region.

Proposed rate rise Bywong rates will rise by about 32 per cent if Council gets its way. Mayor Terry Branson spoke to the last meeting of the Community about the Council's proposal to seek State Government approval for the exceptional rate rise. He agreed with members who claimed that the financial crisis was a result of State mismanagement of the shire amalgamation, but said the Government continued to deny that it had made a mistake and refused to take any remedial action. Council can provide details of the proposals on request.

Annual General Meeting The Annual General Meeting of the Community on 15 August will elect office bearers for the coming year. We are particularly keen to have some new members on the Committee: participation need not make great demands on a member's time, but can help us balance and improve the degree by which we can reflect residents' concerns. If you can help, ring Warwick (6236 9187) or Judith (6236 9321) or just turn up at the meeting - 7.30 at the Community Hall in Birriwa Road (off Macs Reef Road).

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RATES COMPARISON CHART
BASED ON FIGURES TAKEN FROM PALERANG WEBSITE
 at www.palerang.nsw.gov.au
 Spreadsheet Prepared by Helen Montesin

	Rateable value	# assesses	Avg Ratbl value	% of assess	Base %	Base \$	Rate in \$	2004-5 Rates	Average rates			Total Rates	% of total
									Rates	\$ Incr	% Incr		
FARM	\$470,738,900	1,616	\$291,299	25.72%	15%	\$212	\$0.00413	\$1,223	\$1,415	\$192	20.50%	\$2,286,744	42.10%
BUSGEN	\$2,249,450	52	\$43,259	0.83%	35%	\$150	\$0.00643	\$372	\$428	\$56	21.60%	\$22,264	0.41%
BUSBUN	\$5,865,200	48	\$122,192	0.76%	0%	\$0	\$0.00620	\$549	\$758	\$209	32.90%	\$36,364	0.67%
BUSBWD	\$2,313,180	57	\$40,582	0.91%	40%	\$286	\$0.01056	\$670	\$715	\$45	12.10%	\$40,729	0.75%
RESVIL	\$5,661,760	238	\$23,789	3.79%	40%	\$40	\$0.00695	\$163	\$205	\$42	22.60%	\$48,869	0.90%
RESBUN	\$94,201,400	732	\$128,690	11.65%	0%	\$0	\$0.00461	\$442	\$593	\$151	32.70%	\$434,268	7.99%
RESBWD	\$17,537,980	470	\$37,315	7.48%	40%	\$231	\$0.00930	\$514	\$578	\$64	14.10%	\$271,673	5.00%
REAST	\$76,325,300	1,103	\$69,198	17.56%	40%	\$201	\$0.00434	\$433	\$501	\$68	21.00%	\$552,955	10.18%
RWEST	\$416,014,920	1,966	\$211,605	31.30%	0%	\$0	\$0.00418	\$655	\$885	\$230	33.60%	\$1,738,942	32.01%
TOTAL	\$1,090,908,090	6,282						\$673	\$865	\$192	25.70%	\$5,431,782	
TOT RATES	\$5,431,782												
RESVIL	\$5,661,760	238	\$23,789	5.28%	40%	\$40	\$0.00695	\$163	\$205	\$42	22.60%	\$48,869	1.60%
RESBUN	\$94,201,400	732	\$128,690	16.23%	0%	\$0	\$0.00461	\$442	\$593	\$151	32.70%	\$434,268	14.25%
RESBWD	\$17,537,980	470	\$37,315	10.42%	40%	\$231	\$0.00930	\$514	\$578	\$64	14.10%	\$271,673	8.92%
REAST	\$76,325,300	1,103	\$69,198	24.46%	40%	\$201	\$0.00434	\$433	\$501	\$68	21.00%	\$552,955	18.15%
RWEST	\$416,014,920	1,966	\$211,605	43.60%	0%	\$0	\$0.00418	\$655	\$885	\$230	33.60%	\$1,738,942	57.08%
Total RES	\$609,741,360	4,509							\$676			\$3,046,708	

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See you there

BUNGENDORE'S VERY OWN CELEBRITY CHEF A COOKING LESSON FOR MEMBERS OF VIEW CLUB

He entered the room brandishing a whisk with a star on his back and a white hat on his head. It was Bungendore's own Eric Dangerfield! Eric was the guest speaker at Bungendore Evening VIEW club's recent meeting at Café Woodworks.

After preparing a most delicious meal for the ladies assembled, Eric came out from the kitchen and proceeded to entertain them with a cooking demonstration producing a delectable Crème Brulee. With all the nonchalance of a great cook, Eric made it all appear oh so easy and "the proof (as they say) was in the pudding". Using a gas hotplate, the trusty whisk, some pots and pans, a selection of ingredients and a blow torch the dessert was soon on the tables and being greatly enjoyed by those present.

Eric began his career by completing a Hospitality Management course though he says his interest and passion for cooking began by watching his mother cook in her kitchen, which was "the epicentre of their home". This is a tradition he is continuing with his own family.. He, his wife Belinda and their young family enjoy the lifestyle afforded by living in Bungendore and though the hospitality industry can be very demanding he enjoys providing a quality venue for the local people and the visitors to the town. As Eric said, "I have a passion for cooking consistently good food and when the passion kicks in, I don't count the hours". His style of cooking he described as "rustic" as was his mothers. The Crème Brulee was one of his more disciplined recipes and can be enjoyed at the Woodworks Café now that he feels he has mastered it.

A recent introduction to the Woodworks Café has been Friday night dinners, which are proving very popular. Ever keen to improve on his business, Eric welcomes feedback from his patrons and there was no doubt that feedback from the Evening VIEW Club members was very complimentary. A special VIEW Club Celebrity Chef apron was made in his honour and presented to him on the night by Ros Welch.

The next meeting of Bungendore Evening VIEW Club will be held on Monday 4th July at the Harvest Restaurant, Royal Hotel, 6.45 for 7.15pm. Cost is \$23. All are most welcome to attend. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Linda Crebbin, ACT Legal Aid. There will also be a book trading tables Bookings may be made by ringing Debbie Hudson 6238 1571 by 27th June, 2005 -- Kath Funnell Publicity Officer

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Thanks to the persons below, Wamboin and Bywong residents have a free community owned newsletter.			
125 CO-ORDINATED BY HELEN MONTESIN:			
Dean Evans	Nrtn Area frm Campbl West	18	Ph 6238 3208
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	29	Bill Owen Cooper Rd. 27
Hank Berlee	11 Poppet Rd (for all on road)	34	Cathy Abell Canning Close 17
276 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE:			
Joan Mason	Bingley Way	50	Ph 6238 3463
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	32	Margaret Heleimin Merino Vale Drive 17
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20	Anne Gardner Weeroona, Norton to Majors 30
Ned Noel	13 YrCn 35Adv	48	David Anderson Weeroona, Majors to Denley 35
Cathy Handel	Yalana West	19	Penny Evans Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley 25
227 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER:			
Colleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20	Ph 6238 3489
Deb Gordon	Yalana East	41	Rob Gorham South End - Clare Valley 43
Cassie Fisher	Clare Lane	11	Pauline Segeri North End - Clare Valley 42
Lyle Monetesin	Forrest Road area	60	Bungendore Shop Bungendore 10
187 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN:			
Sheryl Barnes	Quinn's Estate / Denley	15	Ph 6238 3590
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Gum Flat	35	Whitfords Whitford Deley/Kestral area 11
Ann Platts	Denley MacReef to Birchman's	26	Rhett Cox Macs Reef /Nwngtn to FdHwy 12
Warrick Cathro	Macs Reef -GumFlat to Harriott	18	Morag Cotsell MReef /Newington/Harriot 45
192 CO-ORDINATED BY LAURA SNOWDON Ph 6236 9609			
Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	20	Esther/Ian Rudd MReef/Bankers/FedHwy 25
Len Parrish	Summerhill Rd Area	32	Snowdon Family Hogan Drive 27
Sue Gorham	Schofields/Brooks	45	Diana+Keith Gascoine Snow Gum Road 23
Sue Aunella	Doust/Wyoming/Brooks	25	Thelma Martin Shinglehouse Rd area 20
TOTAL 1007			



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WAMBOIN GOLF CLUB – JUNE COMPETITION RESULTS

The June competition was sponsored by Steve and Ruth Lambert from Lambert Wines. As always there were some great wines to be won and most players went home with a trophy. We also thank Steve and Ruth for the preparation of the 19th hole eats. Ball winners for the long drives and nearest the pin holes were; Bob Mettam x2, Paul Griffin, Larry King, Keith France and Ken Gordon x2. Nine hole competition won by Larry King with a net 28 from Lofty Mason with a net 45. B Grade won by Paul Griffin net 59!!! from Steve Lambert net 66 who kindly passed his trophy on to Ted Evans net 68. (Paul's handicap will receive some "special" attention!) A Grade won by Ken Gordon net 63 from Keith France net 65.

- Peter Greenwood, Golf enquiries 6238 3358

Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin: 30 year statistics from the Robertsons

June rainfall to 22/6	50mm (June 2004 18mm)	2005 rainfall to 22/6	199.5mm (2004 to 30/6 100.5)
Av. July rainfall	53.8	Wettest July	142mm 1993
Driest July	4.5mm 1982	Hottest July day	15 C 22/7/79
coldest July day	4 C on 7/7/90 and 18/7/04	coldest July night	-5 C On 10/7/96



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Palerang Council News

Palerang Council has approved two Braidwood developments — one for 70 serviced self-care units for seniors and the other for a 122-lot extension of the town to the south. The developments could when both are completed increase the town's population by around 50 per cent to about 1500 people. The applications were approved after extensive community consultation. Both applications conformed with the Tallaganda Local Environmental Plan but were opposed over community concerns of their impact on the town, impact on adjoining properties and on possibly Braidwood's proposed heritage listing.

When Council considered the applications it was obliged to assess them against the Local Environmental Plan, which currently is the legal instrument providing the ground rules for development in that part of Palerang. The 70-unit development, located near Braidwood Hospital, will provide an additional housing choice for the older residents of Braidwood and the Palerang area, enabling them to choose to live in purpose-built dwellings close to medical services. The 120-lot subdivision south of Cowper Street, is on 18.5 hectares of land zoned for the extension of the town since the 1970s. The lots vary in size from 740m² to 1725m². Six of the lots are dedicated for public space. The subdivision will be built in six stages over a period of years providing building blocks to meet demand for the next 10 to 20 years.

Palerang Council ended a 98-year association with the City of Queanbeyan today opening its doors for business in Bungendore, a town with just 2000 residents. Council staff packed up and moved out of the Queanbeyan offices last Friday and spent yesterday unpacking before today's first day of operations in Bungendore. It is a very significant move operating totally within our Local Government Area for the first time. While we're in temporary accommodation we hope to have the new Bungendore offices built next door within 12 months.

Relocating to Bungendore and planning to build new offices has been made possible by two grants totalling \$2.4 million from the State Government. The money was handed over to Palerang Council yesterday by Member of Parliament Cherie Burton, who is Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier. Staff have settled in now and it can only be good to have them daily working in the community they're serving. We've moved from a city location to a small rural town which might prove a culture shock for some staff members. But most staff members were enthusiastic yesterday about more open working space even in the temporary accommodation than they had in the premises in Queanbeyan which were cramped, corridor-ridden and comparable to a rabbit warren. -- Terry Branson, ph 02 6236 9239 or 0428 621 624

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by Ian Collet

THE STABLE DOOR

Anyone Seen The Saw? We all know, and can remember, that the (two storey) extension to the Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade's Fire Station was completed and officially opened in October last year. As is the case with much of our community infrastructure in Wamboin and Bywong, the task of erection more often than not falls to or is happily undertaken by volunteers in the community. Gratefully, key projects such as this have been underpinned by local and surrounding businesses and other organisations of a private or public nature.

The extension to the Fire Station is a case in point. Funding was a collegiate effort for which the Brigade, and no doubt the rest of our community including those who contributed financially, are grateful. But, with the exception of the steelwork and aspects of the concrete slabs, the structure and fit-out was built entirely by the volunteer members of the Brigade. Yours truly took up the paintbrush and carted a bit of timber and metal sheeting around the place a few times as did other Brigade members. There were many others who gave so much more of their time and even brought along and shared their own serious carpentry, plumbing and power tools.

Naturally, in a project as large and complex as the extension, camaraderie is ever present, as is a little jousting; milestones are met, one by one. But, hey it's rare for all to go to plan – and it didn't! As they say though, all's well that ends well. The building is up – fully kitted out – a wonderful asset to the community given the enhancements it provides for the Fire Brigade. As I said, not all went to plan. There are stories. Some of these stories have already been told. Others, I am sure, are yet to surface. Here's one that hasn't surfaced – until now. All names have been changed to protect the innocent. For artistic purposes, the story is presented below as a poem.

Mr. See owned a saw. And Mr. Soar owned a seesaw. Now, See's saw sawed Soar's seesaw Before Soar saw See, Which made Soar sore. Had Soar seen See's saw Before See sawed Soar's seesaw, See's saw would not have sawed Soar's seesaw. So See's saw sawed Soar's seesaw. But it was sad to see Soar so sore Just because See's saw sawed Soar's seesaw.

I have it on good authority, the last time Mr. See was seen was soon after Soar saw his seesaw sawn. It appeared that Soar was making sure that See saw and his saw would never be seen or sawn again!!

In case you missed see'n it (oh such abuse of the language and grammar!) – if you are into significant events, d'ja notice the June edition of the Wamboin Whisper? Circulation's through the 1000 barrier!! What's the old saying....."Size is not important".....to which I add...."yeah, it's the circulation that counts." In 1998, the Whisper's circulation was just 600.

Finally, while we're talking records – according to a Prof. at Macquarie University, the "longest time holding a Life Saver in the mouth while keeping the centre intact: 7 hours 10 minutes". (I assume we're talking Life Saver of the lolly kind.)

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WHISPER CLASSIFIEDS
The classifieds were not printed last month due to a mistake on my part. I apologise to those for whom this caused problems. – Ned Noel, editor.
GEESE WANTED. Anyone knowing where we might be able to buy some geese, please call 6236 9360 after hours or 0421 041 029 during business hours. FOR SALE. All in A1 condition - Timber rocking chair \$50; 3 wheeler stroller \$80; Timber cot with mattress \$150; Timber venetian blinds (x 2) \$30 each (beechwood); Single bed with mattress - solid pine with antique finish \$100; Pine chest drawers + b/s tables \$150; large pine book-case \$100; timber and wrought iron coffee table \$40. Phone 6236 9360 after hours or 0421 041 029 during business hours.
Cats available for re-homing. Some free, some cost recovery. All de-sexed, vacc. and microchipped. - <u>Tyson</u> - male, med. hair, black/grey. 3-5 yrs. Great character. <u>Brutus</u> - Tabby male, local stray, 5yrs, truck sized purr. <u>Tiger</u> - Tabby female, 12 yrs. needs quiet home. <u>Flash</u> - female, med-hair, grey. 12 yrs. gentle ex-companion to Tiger. More detail - Chris Ph: 62369189.
BM 300GL Pentium PC, 2Gb Disk, CD Reader, monitor, keyboard, mouse. Win98 and Office software etc. Offers to Tony Power 62383028
CD STORAGE TOWERS (3): Each old 62 cassetted CDs. Metal (two black and one grey). As new. \$25 each or the 3 for \$60. OFFICE/STUDENTS DESK: Heavy duty. Excellent for computer work or studying. Light (neutral) grey. Height adjustable. \$80. SOFA BED: Two seater. Lovely rustic fabric and in top condition. Unfolds to a comfortable, sprung, double bed. \$220. Perfect for overnight guests.. ORGANIC NUTRIENT FOR YOUR GARDEN Stunted growth? Bloomage disappointing? - Improve plant survival, growth potential and bloomage with wormcastings. A top quality and brilliant organic growth stimulant (for plants, bushes etc), wormcastings are a by-product of worm activity. The worm poo is bagged and comes with instructions. Excellent for gardens, potted plants, vegetable plots and lawns. Lots of smiling customers. Big 25litre bag \$8.50. Buy 10 bags and we'll throw in an extra bag FREE. Accessories for NH Pajero: Front bumper bar (original). Stored for several years. VG condition. Rola carry racks. Gutter mount. Exc. condition. Ph Ian on 6238 3425.
Free top soil or clean fill available in Claire Valley area in June 2005. Delivery service available at cost. Contact 6238 1850 A/H. for details.
LOST DOG. Large, white, long-haired sheepdog (Maremma). Very friendly with animals - timid of strangers and cars. Please call if sighted. REWARD offered if found. Ph 6238 3658 or 0412 680 489.
Pilates for young and old, no previous experience required, just enthusiasm to enjoy yourself with some wonderful locals while strengthening your lower back, general posture and abdominals. All you need is a firm mat/towel, water bottle and \$3. When: 6-7pm Monday nights ONLY at the Community Hall on Bingley Way Wamboin.
DO YOU NEED HELP IN THE GARDEN? Do you need help with Mowing, Weeding, Pruning or General garden maintenance? RING MICHAEL 0408400740.
HORSE RUG REPAIRS: Summer and winter rug repairs at competitive prices. No lengthy waiting. Phone Robyn Slater on 62383472.
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 UUGvagg@apex.net.au for details.
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
FOR HIRE: WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL. Bookings arranged by Joan Mason 62383258. Local Hire \$65 per use - Bond \$200. Outside Hire \$125 per use - Bond \$250. Teenage/18 year old birthdays/parties (must be supervised by parents) \$160 - Bond \$300.
ADVERTISING RATES: Local classified advertisements are free, as are announcements from community organisations and clubs. Business advertisements attract a small fee (see below) which is donated to the Wamboin Community Association. Please make your cheque out to this association, but post it to the editor. Contact editor on 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
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.
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, think about writing it up for the next issue. For more information contact the editor on 6238-3484 or email nednoel@optusnet.com.au . And thanks if you have already 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.
Avon - if you are interested in receiving an Avon Brochure please phone Debbie 6238 3193.



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)

**Fire permits are not required if you want to burn off or light fires in the open. Please notify your neighbours and your fire brigade Captain 24 hours before you light up.
RING 000 TO REPORT FIRES OR SMOKE SIGHTINGS.**

From the Captain's Desk



I would like to take up the majority of this month's article with reports from our recent annual general meeting, but before doing so, I would like to announce our plans for our public hazard reduction burn at the Wamboin Community Hall. The current plan is that on the 28th of August we will carry out a hazard reduction burn at the back of the Hall. If the weather and other conditions are on our side we will start the burn at around 9:30am. All residents are invited to come along to watch their brigade in action – from a safe distance of course! A hearty sausage sizzle will be laid on afterwards. It will then also be a great opportunity to ask questions about fire protection in and around your properties as well as inspecting the fire shed, the vehicles and our equipment.

On the 14th of June we held our Annual General Meeting. Several colleagues from other brigades, RFS officers from the Fire Control Centre, and several of the zone's Group Officers came along to join us. It is pleasing to report that not only did we have a good evening but we managed a few laughs along the way and topped the occasion off with some tasty refreshments and a few drinks.

I think it would be appropriate to include most of the Brigade's President's report at that meeting in this article. It summarises well our activities and grateful appreciation for the efforts and support from many people.

"Last year I commented that following the 2003 bushfires we had a year of consolidation, but this year has certainly been a year of progress for the brigade.

The bulk of the construction of our much-needed extension to our fire station took place from June 2004 through to our opening in October. This has already proven to be a boon to the brigade and especially our operational and training facilities in our second storey room. I wish again to acknowledge the superb effort by most members of the brigade but especially Andrew Dunn, Don Evans and Darrell Tipton to whom we rightfully awarded Life membership for their efforts.

As President I am particularly proud that the Brigade has seen fit to award outstanding individual contributions with Life Membership and I was very pleased that Bernie Broers, Lofty Mason and Charlie Montesin were also recognised with Life Membership during the year.

Training is a vital activity of any emergency service organisation and I thank the members for the time put in throughout the year on the Tuesday nights plus monthly Saturday and Sunday activities. Training has again been varied, challenging and always very interesting and I thank the Training Officer, Field Officers and others for their efforts in this regard.

This year may have been relatively quiet from major bushfires but it is surprising the number of callouts we have had to smaller grass fires, car fires and motor vehicle accidents. Not forgetting of course, that major fuel tanker conflagration which occurred at about midnight on the Federal Highway on a cold winter's night last year. The Brigade was also involved in fire fighting activities in the Tinderry Mountains and in bushland behind Queanbeyan and I thank our members for their swift response to those callouts. The swiftness of those callouts of course, was due to our purchase and successful implementation of pagers for all active members and their diligent response when called.

Once again nothing would have been possible without the generosity and encouragement of the residents of Wamboin, Bywong and now, parts of Sutton, and the activities of our fundraising committee with the untiring support of our members. Our local Community Associations of Wamboin and Bywong have continued to support the Brigade and I express our sincere appreciation to the Committees of both those associations. We also look forward to welcoming residents along the Federal Highway who are now in our Brigade area since Sutton moved into the Yass Shire following the local government amalgamations.

I acknowledge and thank the manager and Staff of the Rural Fire Services Lake George Zone for their assistance over the past twelve months.

Finally I wish to sincerely thank our Captain, Senior Deputy and Deputy Captains, our Secretary and other members of the Committee, all of our volunteer members, including Support Crew helpers, for their dedicated assistance throughout the year in providing this vital community service."

Following the other reports to the meeting Superintendent Bruce Arthur & Inspector Jim Lomas acknowledged the official long service milestones of 10 members of the Wamboin Brigade and presented certificates and badges to members. Awards for 15 years service were presented to Monica Broers, Don Evans, Tony Fisher, Peter Greenwood, Charles Le Lievre and Les Worden. Awards for 25 years service were presented to Dave Hubbard, Charlie Montesin, and Lyle Montesin. An award for 35 year's service was presented to Chris Powell, who is now the Brigade's longest serving member after having joined in 1967.

NSW Rural Fire Service Training Certificates were also presented by Jim Lomas to Advanced Firefighter and VillageDarrell Tipton (Firefighter), Brad Arrowsmith (Village Firefighter), Geoff Foster (Village Firefighter), Chris Murdock (Village Firefighter), Charlie Montesin (Reassessment Chainsaw Operator), Cliff Spong (Fireline Faller), Richard Hobbs (Rural Fire Instructor) and Chris Powell (Prescribed Burning Supervisor).

Andrew McIntyre, of Commander NSW Pty Ltd, was presented with a certificate of appreciation from the Brigade for the generous donation of a Hewlett Packard digital projector to assist and improve the Brigade's training activities. Kevin Rowe was also presented with a certificate of appreciation for his contribution to the erection of the extension to the Fire Station and for acting as "Official Brigade Photographer" at the Grand Opening in October 2004.

The Life Members named in the President's report, and Hank Berlee, the first person to be elected as a Life member of the Brigade, were all presented with wall plaques and lapel badges.

The office bearers for the forthcoming year are President Peter Greenwood, Vice-President Cliff Spong, Secretary Ian Coillet, Treasurer Larry King, Captain Cliff Spong, Senior Deputy Captain Andrew Dunn, Deputy Captains Richard Hobbs, Nev Schroder, Geoff Fosterand Darrell Tipton, Support Crew Leader Sandy Sedgewick, Communications Officer Pat Dickson, Equipment Officer Chris Murdock, Maintenance Officer Charlie Le Lievre, First Aid Officer Sandy Sedgewick, Training Officer Nev Schroder, Fundraising Officer Fiona David and Newsletter Editor Cindy Dykes.

THE CAPTAIN'S LIST		Businesses supporting the Wamboin Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
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AAA Water Carriers	Eureka Plants Pty Ltd	So Good Sausages Pty Ltd
Anytime Backhoe Hire	Horizon Real Estate	Sotech Pty Ltd
B & B Tree Surgery	FH Office Services	Shepherds Hut Wines
Bingley Contractors (Water Carriers)	France Harrison & Associates	Sherrin Hire
Bungendore Rural	Gidgee Estate Winery	Sutton Real Estate
Bungendore Taxi Service	Inland Trading Co (Aust)	Tipton Shopfitters Pty Ltd
Capital Business Services	Lambert Vineyards	Trevor Barker & Associates
Clare Valley Tree Services	LMS Consulting	Trevor Duncan Homes
Coates Hire, Fyshwick	Manuka Childcare Centre	Wagonga Coffee
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Bungendore Riding Club

Bungendore Riding Club is for horse riders aged 18 years and over. The Club meets once a month at the Bungendore Showgrounds and provides the opportunity to participate in a great range of equine activities. All standards of riders are catered for. The Club has provided a wide range of activities to members in 2005. As well as instruction days in polocrosse, dressage and jumping, there have been trail rides along the Wamboin greenways and in Namadgi National Park, and a fun sporting/gymkhana day. The Club is holding its annual One Day Event "Chicken Run" on Sunday 16 October 2005. This event is not just for Club members but also for the public. There are 2 classes of entry. One class is designed for those who would like to "have a go" at eventing. The rules are more relaxed, the showjumping course is designed so that the jumps can, at least, be stepped over and the jumps on the cross country course feature a "chicken" option. Dress is neat and tidy. The other class caters for more experienced riders looking for the experience to step up to official eventing. There will be great prizes! For more information on the One Day Event contact Marty Walsh on 62 36 9534 or martywalsh@bigpond.com. New members and sponsors are always welcome – enquiries to the Secretary, Helen Blain on 6238 2467.

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Lake George Day VIEW Club –July Luncheon Meeting

Lake George Day VIEW Club's next luncheon meeting will be on Tuesday 19 July 2005, commencing at 11.30am, at the Eagle Hawk Rydges Resort, Federal Highway, Sutton. The cost is \$20.00. We welcome new members (over 18) and guests. Speaker will be Jack Machin to enlighten us about music. For bookings please phone Kerry on 6238 0603 by Thursday 14 July. VIEW Club is a valued part of The Smith Family. Please phone Lesley (President) on 6238 3717 for further information about Lake George Day VIEW Club.

EAGLEHAWK TRIVIA NIGHT – INVITATION

Wildcare is organising a Trivia night at the Eaglehawk (on the Federal Highway) on Friday 29 July 2005 starting at 6.30PM. The evening will include a two-course buffet meal at a cost of \$25 per person, entertainment with a jazz trio, door prize, raffles and of course Trivia with even more prizes on offer! Book a table with Lesley Machin Tel: 6238 3717 – by 20 July 2005. ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME ALONG

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Thank You

from Ned Noel, Editor

The Whisper, a free community owned newspaper for Wamboin and Bywong, comes out each month because a lot of you help it along. About 40 people take a bit of time each month to make sure it gets into almost a thousand mailboxes. Many advertisers generously pay its printing costs by choosing to put their details into the approximately ten pages of ads that pay for approximately ten pages of news, announcements and views of residents. Please remember these advertisers when you are looking for services or products in areas where they are competing to earn a living. Instant Colour Press in Belconnen each month does a very good job of turning one copy into a thousand, and asks for less money than they deserve. Many residents take the time and shoulder the responsibility of preparing articles they believe will help keep the area a place where we can all live together. Thank you.

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Something to Ponder

I was driving to work a couple of weeks ago. It was the last week of the road works and I was lucky enough to score two green lights so I was feeling like my day was already a success.

After the second set of lights the traffic started to accelerate a bit. About that time I passed an old guy on the side of the road standing beside a car, feebly waving what looked like a handkerchief. I kept going, like everyone else. I drove about 200 meters and thought there is something wrong here. I stopped and reversed back to the old guy.

It turns out he had a flat tyre. He had attempted to change the tyre but had gashed his hand quite badly and no longer had the strength to change the tyre. It was -2c and he was shivering. I jacked his car and changed his tyre which he was never going to be able to do since the wheel nuts were on so tight. He wouldn't let me drive him to hospital but he did agree to follow me into town and to the Queanbeyan hospital. The hospital fixed his hand and I believe gave him a hot meal. I left and drove on to work.

Whilst I was changing his tyre I asked him how long he had been on the side of the road. His comment - he had been out there since 2.00am - it was now 7.30am. He had waited five and half hours. His comment was 'they just won't stop'. He was heading to Victoria and didn't realise he was so close to town.

I couldn't but think that many Wamboin residents must have driven passed the old guy that morning and I thought maybe one day that could be me on the side of the road trying to get someone to stop and help. I would hope someone would stop and help me.

I suggested to him that next time he travels he takes a mobile phone with him. – Kevin Rowe

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<p>cellar door is now open</p> <p>thursday to monday 11am till 5pm closed tuesday and wednesday</p> <p>koonaburra vineyard 44 summer hill road bywong nsw 2621</p> <p>the vineyard is located along bungendore road between the federal hwy and macs reef road</p> 	   <p>Small English, Irish & Miniature Donkeys</p> <p>Breeding for conformation & temperament</p> <p>Quality Alpacas & Long Woolled Llamas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sales • Stud Services • After Sales Service • Workshops Donkey & Alpaca • We specialize in introducing livestock ownership to beginners <p>ALPACA MAGIC (20 mins North of Canberra) Ph/Fax (02) 6230 3311 2771 Sutton Road Sutton NSW 2620 www.alpacamagic.com.au</p>
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BETTY FINDS ALICE

It's tough being made an orphan early in your life, but to lose your best friend as well makes life just that bit harder. For a long time Betty's sole mate was another young Wombat called Wilma. Wildcare had rescued both Betty and Wilma after separate road accidents last year. After several weeks in care, Betty and Wilma became inseparable – chasing, climbing, preening and lolling around with each other. It was a blow when Wilma died suddenly after an illness. We still don't know what happened.



Wilma's *Wildcare* carer, Rosemary, said "I was devastated when Wilma died and realised that Betty was grieving too. So to help Betty, we looked around for another Wombat in care of the same size to pair them up. Now we have Betty and Alice teamed up and they are doing really well. Betty and Alice will remain in care until they are adult size and then be transitioned back to the wild to get on with their lives."

Wildcare has a good success rate in raising orphaned and injured wildlife and all of the carers get great satisfaction in seeing their animals released fit and well back into the wild. As Rosemary says "Wombats have a real character and are just like mischievous puppies. To see Betty and Alice interacting with each other is wonderful. As they get to adulthood they will probably want to be on their own much more, but by then they will be transitioning back into the countryside. One of my jobs is to try to teach these youngsters how to be a proper Wombat such as learning how to dig!"

Wildcare rescues and rehabilitates all kinds of wildlife, so if you see a problem or want to get involved contact *Wildcare* helpline 6299 1966 or visit their website [www. Wildcare.com.au](http://www.Wildcare.com.au).

Notes from St Andrews Church

Services are held at 9am on the first and third Sunday of each month. A slightly less formal service will take place at 5pm on Sunday, 31st July, with lots of singing and a mug of hot soup afterwards. Do come, the church and the welcome are warm. For more information please ring Robyn Robertson, 62383202, or Bronwyn Elliott, 62383359.

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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

I love a good winter to grumble about, one where the days close in early and leaden skies, rain, sleet and traces of snow leave your more northerly cousins fearing for your survival. The gentle, wintry rain has lifted sagging shoulders and put a smile in our hearts. There is a feeling that things are stirring below the ground, and above, there are signs of life and change. New grass is peeping through, winter irises and hellebores are showing their heads and there is a scattering of violets through the garden. Buds are appearing on the flowering quince and daphne, and the duck is enjoying its own special weather. But we are not out of the woods, yet. The tank is filling, but the dam remains low.

There was a time when the dam was overflowing. Back in those days, in Yarrawlumla Shire, we had a corner shop, too. It was where you went when you desperately needed a tub of icecream for an instant family dessert, and finding none, came out with a compensatory slip of paper that said, "Geese for sale. Tel; 6238....." I wasn't keen on geese, but was reluctantly won over by the dubious claim that they were "good watch dogs". And when they arrived home, poked their sleek white heads out of the restraining chaff bags and fixed their china blue eyes on me, I was captivated. It was a picture lifted from a Beatrix Potter book. But their charm was shortlived and although they produced wonderful eggs, and fluffy goslings, their behaviour was not endearing. I find my chooks far more pleasant and between them and my compost heap, all my organic waste is recycled..

Our two old girls downed tools a month or so ago, and perhaps their productive years are behind them. Maybe it's time to begin again. The problem is, do I want Australorps or Orpingtons, Leghorns or Rhode Island Reds, or simply chooks?. Do I want cute "day old" chicks and risk the odd rooster, or pullets with their adolescent problems. The recent rain has allowed me to dream and plan new ventures.

But speaking of new ventures, will they still be possible under the Pallerang umbrella, in the suggested "Rural Alternative"? A weekly rubbish collection service two hundred metres from your back door seems little compensation for a whopping rates hike, especially when we are able to recycle so much of our own rubbish.

I still wouldn't live anywhere else....thank goodness the rain, at least, has put a smile on our faces!

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Wamboin 15 years ago....from the "Whisper", August/September 1990 Editor: Edwina Jans Circulation: 265

From the President's Paras "After his address to the August meeting, David Rouse, from the Yarrawlumba Council's Town Planning Office, told me how desolate the landscape in this area was 20 years ago when he first surveyed it for subdivision. There had been some years of drought and the land was brown and dusty. He commented that the area looked much better for the dams, trees, gardens and orchards that residents had introduced. It's heartening that an environment can be improved rather than just degraded by people." - Malcolm Harrington, President, WCA

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Nature Notes – June 2005

by Jo Walker

Well, at last some very welcome rain has come our way – 52 mm in my rain gauge this month. It's not yet enough to get the creeks running and the dams topped up, but the countryside is beginning to get a green tinge to it again.

What I always find fascinating after a rainfall is the rapid reappearance of lichens and mosses. Every rock, log, tree-trunk, and even the surface of the ground, is suddenly a patchwork of colours – dark green, pale blue-green, ochre, orange, brown and yellow. Pick up any rock, and you'll find four or five different lichens growing on it. I was intrigued by a khaki film covering the hard earth between the rocks and grasses – under the microscope, it was revealed as clusters of pale circular patches, each with a dark speck in the centre (presumably a fruiting body). I'm not sure what it was, but it reinforced the knowledge that, below all of those animals, birds and plants that we can easily see, there are myriad tiny organisms – insects, fungi, lichens, bacteria – working away invisibly, the basis of the food chain that supports all of us.

Some slightly larger things are also taking advantage of the moisture. At the top of my hill, two large patches of orchid rosettes are just appearing. This little orchid is one of the Greenhoods, *Pterostylis truncata*, also called Little Dumpy. The curved flower is borne on a short stem, is whitish with green and pale brown stripes, and can be up to 5 cm long. This orchid grows in shallow, heavy soil, usually where rocks help to retain moisture. Patches of up to a metre across are not uncommon, but only a few of the rosettes produce flowers (although, many years ago, when we had regular rain, I found a group of about a hundred plants all flowering). *Pterostylis* increases by small, globular, white underground tubers – one of the winter foods of Sulphur-crested Cockatoos.

The dam here was fairly busy, one morning recently. The regulars – a pair of Pacific Black Ducks, a Little Pied Cormorant and a White-faced Heron – were joined by a White-necked Heron. I'd seen it flying over a couple of times recently, chased by magpies and currawongs, but, this time, it was examining the edge of the dam for food. It is a much larger bird than the grey-plumaged White-faced Heron, and has a white head, neck and breast with black wings and tail (and a few white feathers along the front centre of the wings). While on the subject of herons – last year, during the drought, when the dams were drying up and there was a lessening amount of food for water-birds, I twice saw a pair of White-faced Herons feeding on a dead kangaroo on the corner of Sutton Road, possibly on fly or beetle larvae infesting the body.

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