

The Whisper

December 2005 – January 2006 CIRCULATION: 1025

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 February 2006 Whisper the deadline is Sunday, January 29, 2005, 7:00 pm.

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Bywong Community Assn	Warwick Cathro	President	6236-9187
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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 Scout Group	Peter Harrison	Contact Person	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	6238-3358
Church, Anglican	Robyn Robertson	Warden	6238-3202
Christian Prayer Group	Steve & Imelda Taylor	Contacts	6238-3220
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WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION President's Paragraphs

I was disappointed a couple of weeks ago to hear that a group of young guys were cutting up our oval with their cars. The oval may not be beautifully turfed however the surface which has improved with recent rain can soon be destroyed by such thoughtless behaviour. Four of the number plates recorded were: DD 217, AQX 197, RSH 326 and AG 28 BV. The Bungendore Police were notified and stated they would record and follow up on the report. The police said they would also consider prosecutions should any of the vandals repeat their performance

At long last Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL) has been sorted out from the Amungula exchange and broadband service is available on the normal copper phone wires around Wamboin. No doubt you are aware that Telstra are now running aggressive marketing of their BigPond internet service. The basic advice from all the experts remains the same: *'Shop Around' for the deal that suits you.*

I guess most of us have been critical of the planning, or lack thereof, by the relevant authorities/councils/governments. We now have a platform to let the Shire know of our thoughts and requirements for the future. At our last meeting we discussed holding a joint Visioning Meeting for the Wamboin and Bywong Communities. We are looking at a date around mid February to discuss: What is right with Wamboin/Bywong? What is wrong with Wamboin/Bywong? How do we want the area to be in 10 or 20 years time? What do we expect of Council? This is our chance to influence the Local Environment Plan. Let us know your thoughts.

We have a busy period coming up mid December with the last general meeting for the year of the WCA at 7.30 on Wednesday the 14th (followed by Xmas drinks/goodies); **Christmas Carols**, Santa, Giving Tree, and free Barbeque on Friday the 16th and; the Wamboin **Produce Markets** on Saturday the 17th.

Lofty Mason. ljmason@iimetro.com.au

PS. Doesn't look as though my first tomato will be ripe before mid December.

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Christmas gift suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect....(Oren Arnold)

From all at Sutton Real Estate have a very happy and very safe Christmas and New Year.



Bywong Community News

by Morag Cotsell

Christmas Drinks: If this issue makes it into your box in time, please regard it as an invitation to Bywong's annual Christmas Drinks this Saturday, Dec 3, 6-8 PM at the Bywong Community Hall. All residents of Bywong and adjoining localities are welcome to attend. Gidgee wines will be providing free tastings. Bring nibbles to share.

Car Boot Sale: Don't forget to reserve the date for the 2006 Car Boot Sale. It is 26 March, and planning is already under way. If you want to know anything about it, ring Warwick 6236 9187, Morag 6230 3523 or Judith 62369321.

Bushwalk: About twenty locals enjoyed a healthy stroll along the Greenways toward Millpost Hill last month. We shall soon be planning more – anyone interested in leading a walk, or with ideas on where to walk, please contact Warwick or Judith on 62369321.

Rates discussions: Bywong is joining Wamboin in the rates Model Reference Group to try and ensure that we locals have some input into Council's determination of our rate levels and the basis on which they are calculated. Warwick Cathro will attend the next meeting.

Quarry: We now hear that Tiocliff has sold the controversial Sutton quarry, whose development has always been opposed by the Community. We have not yet been able to discover the identity of the new owner. The No Quarry Committee is endeavouring to discover this so the new owners can be made aware of the opposition by both Bywong and Sutton communities. We have also learnt that people who have recently bought into the area were unaware of the quarry proposal.

Next Meeting: The Community's next public meeting is in the Community Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 20 February.



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WAMBOIN OCTOBER GOLF CARNIVAL

by Larry King

Editor's Apology and Note: Larry King prepared and sent in this article in good time for last month's Whisper, and I made a mistake and failed to include it. – Ned Noel

Golfers turned out in their numbers for the Wamboin October Carnival day. A grade was always going to be hotly contested but it was clear from the start that young Charles Gusscott would be hard to beat. Down in B grade it soon became obvious that the day would be a death-or-glory struggle between that veteran pairing of Ted Evans and Larry King. The two were neck and neck as they turned for the back nine. Both reported more hits than Jon Stanhope's website. Meanwhile back in A grade the boy Gusscott appeared to be untroubled by competition. It was a warm day and the entire field stopped at the top of Masons for a beer. If this keeps up, two Eskies won't be enough. It was just as well the Kings had over-catered because the crowd of drinkers outnumbered the golfers at the Nineteenth. Many thanks to L + L King for the prizes and nibbles. Ball winners were:

Longest Drives

- | | | |
|------------------|---------|------------------|
| ➤ Hall | A Grade | Charles Gusscott |
| | B Grade | Ted Evans |
| ➤ Firebreak Fore | A Grade | C Gusscott |
| | B Grade | L King |

Nearest the Pin

- | | | |
|-------------|---------|------------------|
| ➤ Hall NTP | A Grade | Charlie Gusscott |
| | B Grade | T Evans |
| ➤ Twin Gums | A Grade | Mr C Gusscott |
| | B Grade | L King |

Nearest the Pin Second Shot

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| ➤ Jim's Damn Hole | A Grade | Charles Gusscott Esq. |
| | B Grade | T Evans |

The overall winners were

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| ➤ A Grade | Chas Gusscott on a countback from daylight |
| ➤ B Grade | L King, runner-up T Evans |

In a crowded nine-hole competition the winner was Peter Greenwood playing on his own. However we accepted his word and there were tears in his eyes as he accepted his prize of a bottle of wine. Apparently he had never won anything before. At 7.30 pm the police were called to clear the traffic snarl outside the hall but eventually the crowd departed with expressions of mutual esteem and it was obvious that a good time had been had by all. As usual, golf was the winner.

Larry King, Golfer (until proved otherwise)

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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

The kangaroos are letting me down. The big boys may have provided me with a few sparring spectacles, and much huffing and puffing and snorting and grunting, but they're not doing their job. The grass is getting out of control! Now the incessant bleating of the baby galahs, scarcely smaller than their mums and dads, competes with the snarl of mowers and snippers, and only the determined carol of the magpie rises above the din. What an amazing spring it has continued to be after a numbing summer and autumn. My garden is buzzing; birds abound and there are long stemmed roses, poppies, marigolds and all sorts of surprises. I saw a tortoise hastening slowly to the dam, an echidna all abristle and lizards trying out new poses in the sun. There have been a few less than welcome visitors, however, long, thin and glistening brown, and somewhere a very fat egg thief is lurking. I've become quite adept at vaulting the fence and scooping up a still warm egg whenever I hear a "pleased-with-myself" cackle from the coop. But I don't always win the race.

While everywhere nature is restoring and re creating and renewing its imprint on the drought ravaged land, I've noticed a new sign of our presence. A stone wall has appeared at the little church on the hill; a remembrance wall. This caused me to stop and think about all the other man made creations in our community, and the people who've been involved over the years. But it's not just the tangible things like roads and trails, halls, houses and sheds, fences and walls or the gardens, groves and sports fields, but the organisations which have endured the hard times, helping to give us a sense of belonging. While nature may box us pretty soundly about the ears, at times, we can still maintain a presence.

And now it's time to jingle some bells and deck the halls with holly. Hark! Is that an angel singing? No, just one of the young girls announcing that I now have sufficient eggs for the Christmas cake.

I wouldn't live anywhere else.....and as I soar over the chicken wire, I breathe a fervent wish for Santa to build me a gate in the chook run for Christmas.

Merry Christmas, fellow Wamboinites...and full dams in the New Year!

Thanks to the persons below, Wamboin and Bywong residents have a				free community owned newsletter.
129 CO-ORDINATED BY HELEN MONTESIN:				Ph 6238 3208
Dean Evans	Nrtn Area frm Campbl West	18	Bill Owen Cooper Rd.	27
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	33	Cathy Abell Canning Close	17
Hank Berlee	11 Poppet Rd (for all on road)	34		
271 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE:				Ph 6238 3463
Joan Mason	Bingley Way	45	Margaret Heleimin Merino Vale Drive	17
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	32	Anne Gardner Weeroona, Norton to Majors	30
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20	David Anderson Weeroona, Majors to Denley	35
Ned Noel	13 YrCn 35Adv	48	Penny Evans Norton, Cmpbell to Bngly	25
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19		
227 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER:				Ph 6238 3489
Colleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20		
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
204 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN:				Ph 6238 3590
Sheryl Barnes	Quinn's Estate / Denley	20	Brian Higgiso Deley/Kestral area	11
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Gum Flat	35	Rhett Cox Macs Reef /Nwngtn to FdHwy	12
Ann Platts	Denley MacReef to Birchman's	26	Morag Cotsell MReef /Newington/Harriot	45
Warrick Cathro	Macs Reef -GumFlat to Harriott	18	Esther/Ian Rudd MReef/Bankers/FedHwy	25
Joan Milner	Birriwa Road	12		
194 CO-ORDINATED BY LAURA SNOWDON Ph 6236 9609				
Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	20	Snowdon Family Hogan Drive	27
Len Parrish	Summerhill Rd Area	32	Diana+Keith Gascoine Snow Gum Road	23
Sue Gorham	Schofields/Brooks/Millyn	47	Thelma Martin Shinglehouse Rd area	20
Sue Aunella	Doust/Wyoming/Brooks	25		
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Nature Notes – December 2005

Jo Walker

The very welcome continuing rain is keeping the countryside exceptionally green and healthy-looking. Because of all the rain, the eucalypts have put on a lot of new growth with extremely attractive colouring – red, orange, tan, pink and all shades of green. They make a lovely backdrop to the *Cassinia longifolia* bushes that are just beginning display their flat, white, rather cauliflower-like flower-heads. Amongst the Cassinias, in this part of Wamboin, the ground is carpeted with swathes of golden Sticky Everlasting Daisy flowers - which seem to be a favourite food source of the Painted Lady and Australian Admiral butterflies. It's a good year too for bluebells – *Wahlenbergia communis* is the one growing along the roadsides at present. The larger-flowered *Wahlenbergia stricta* prefers dappled shade but will also grow in the open, especially if it can grow through one of the taller tussock grasses or a shrub. The beautiful mauve Fringed Lilies (*Thysanotus tuberosus*) have just begun to flower as well. They have very delicate-looking flowers, but are extremely tough little plants – their underground, edible tubers survive the harshest conditions. So do the Tiger Orchids (*Diuris sulphurea*) - they have come back magnificently this year. There was a large patch along Poppet Road and even more in the dry eucalypt forest at the top of Poppet Hill.

There are still a lot of young birds around, flying precariously from tree to tree and calling plaintively for food. The young magpie fledgelings are beginning to forage for themselves, but are still happy to get a mouthful of food from their busy parents. They are also spending some time practising their magpie song repertoire, but haven't achieved much that's musical so far.

The Koel was calling again in Wamboin a couple of weeks ago. This bird, a large cuckoo which usually inhabits moister, sub-tropical areas, is migratory and is regarded as a rare vagrant in this area. This is presumably the same bird that was here for a month or so last year, from just before Christmas through January. The call is unmistakable – a very loud and penetrating 'coo-wit', repeated several times on a slightly rising note. Koels feed on berries and other fruits and lay their eggs in the nests of some of the larger honeyeaters.

Several times over the last two years, I've seen a single Red-necked Wallaby here. I assumed there was probably more than one around, as the coat colour of the animals seemed to vary from quite a dark grey to reddish. And the assumption proved correct. A group of five hopped along the hillside opposite my house one morning, including a female with a joey at foot. Red-necked Wallabies are usually much more individualistic than the kangaroos, so it was interesting to see them travelling in a group.

Yesterday, while I was admiring an insect on the bark of a stringybark tree near the house, I became aware of a pair of bright eyes watching me. A little Ringtail Possum had pulled some bark off the tree overnight and made herself a slight shelter in a low fork. Ringtails inhabit tree hollows, but also build dreys, large, rounded nests of bark and grass placed in the fork of a tree or amongst dense foliage. This little animal had only a flimsy covering and it was raining, so I located a drey I'd once made for a Ringtail I was rearing and installed it in the tree above her - but she spurned my offer of what I thought was superior accommodation and had gone on her way this morning.

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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.
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1/6

IF ONLY THEY COULD TALK

A series by local vet, Dr Garry McComb BVSc QDAH

Recently I read a bumper sticker that stated, "A bad day's fishing is better than a good day's work". I haven't caught a fish for at least 25 years – no doubt because I haven't wet a line in that time. I probably won't catch a fish in the next 25 years either but I sure am going to try! Margie and I have sold Queanbeyan Veterinary Hospital and are going to pursue other interests such as becoming gray nomads (my hair has been ready for that for years) and maybe having a SKI (Spending Kids' Inheritances) holiday.

I am very pleased to announce that Queanbeyan Veterinary Hospital has been purchased by Canberra Veterinary Hospital. Both hospitals are among the longest established veterinary hospitals in the ACT and surrounding district. Canberra Veterinary Hospital has excellent staff and facilities and I am very confident in the future of Queanbeyan Veterinary Hospital under their leadership.

Being a veterinary surgeon in mixed private practice was always my ambition as a child and I have been very fortunate to achieve such a career in this era. If I had to begin again I doubt that I would be able to get the marks required now to gain entry to University. It is probable that there are many good and practical potential veterinarians that are lost to the system because they are unable to obtain the high TERs required to gain University entrance. Somehow we need a better system whereby students with rural backgrounds and skills can gain access to veterinary science. I hope that the new veterinary school at Wagga Wagga will achieve just this.

Margie and I came here in January 1978 and wouldn't want to live anywhere else. I am very proud of my profession and practice and always will be. It has been an honour and a pleasure (most of the time) to treat your pets and livestock. There have been many many good and rewarding times but also some very sad times.

I hope you have found these articles interesting and informative. Thank you for your feedback. Finally, thank you for your confidence in my ability to help you care for your animals.

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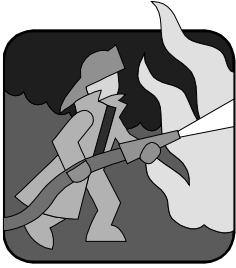
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The Wamboin Firefighter

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

FIRE PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FROM YOUR BRIGADE IF YOU WANT TO BURN OFF OR LIGHT FIRES IN THE OPEN. You will also need to notify your neighbours and your fire brigade Captain 24 hours before you light up.

From the Captain's Desk

Whoever said when it rains, it pours must have lived or is living near Wamboin! However, I am not talking about this fantastic rain though. It seems that something is going round affecting our members. I have the disappointing task to report that four of our members are feeling "a little average" at the moment. We sincerely hope that they all make quick recoveries. Charlie Le Lievre recently had a disagreement with his tractor and after doing a poor impression of a wheel chock ended up with some broken ribs, a punctured lung, a chipped bone in his ankle and a slight dent in his pride. However, that didn't stop him from getting to the tractor after it stopped some 60 metres down the paddock, turning off the ignition, making sure the exhaust pipe was covered to prevent water getting into the muffler, making his way back to the house and on the way putting the chooks away! I caught up with him the following day in Canberra Hospital and he definitely looked "a little average"! He is making a good recovery and is back home where his wife, May is making sure he gets his exercise. It came as another surprise to learn that Barry Gwyther has done a couple of rounds with the cardiac team and had open heart surgery recently. He is back home and we all hope he is back to old self very soon. It seems that two of our new recruits, Ric Della Torre and Tim Ayling are trying anything to get out of their assessment sessions for their basic firefighting courses, with both sustaining reasonably debilitating injuries. Again we all hope that they get well and we can see them back in their yellows soon.



I never like being cast as the purveyor of bad news but what is it that all this magnificent rain is encouraging? That green stuff growing at improbable rates in our paddocks and along the roads is viewed by firefighters as fuel. Yes, it great to see all this greenery, but we need to put it into perspective. That greenery, unless tamed a little bit, will begin to cure and brown off soon. If left long when it dries out, will present some reasonable exciting times if the inevitable happens. Even though we can hear the stuff growing, cutting it and keeping it low will significantly reduce the fire risk in coming months. We really don't have much choice. Another good reason to cut the grass, especially in and around the house paddock, is that shorter grass tends to discourage snakes from crossing those areas. There is no guarantee of course, but it is another good reason to get the mower or slasher out.

Just because we may be lulled into thinking that the risk of fire is low at the moment we can't drop our guard. Despite the best efforts of the volunteer firefighters, two houses were lost to fire recently in other parts of the shire. It highlights some of the things we have to face living in the scrub where emergency services are some distance and time away. Modern smoke and burnt particle detectors, backed up by hand held fire extinguishers, can save a lot of grief and may be the key to saving your property, especially when it will take us some time to get to your place!



Luckily we have had a fairly quiet month without anything too serious requiring our attention. Training continues in earnest and recently we sent a small task force to much-heralded and appreciated, in fire fighting circles anyway, NAVEX '05 training exercise. This involved many brigades in the shire and the ACT spending a weekend in the bush practicing their skills in true-to-life scenarios. The photo below shows the happy bunch of pilgrims just after 6am before they set out in four brigade vehicles. It was a great experience for everyone attending. Not only were lessons learnt about fire fighting, navigation and truck driving but vital bush skills were demonstrated and perfected. Skills such as trying to identify the contents of emergency ration packs and working out who was snoring so the appropriate object could be sent in the direction of the right person are vital in ensuring your survival in a group in the bush! The weekend taught a lot to everyone about leadership, helping fellow firefighters, and teamwork. It was also an opportunity to have a good time.

Over the next few months we will be conducting our annual donation drive. As our valued reader appreciates, it takes a lot of financial support from the community we all live in to maintain the high standards in our brigade. This means we have to continue to raise funds. This year we will be raising money for structural fire fighting helmets, tools, maintenance equipment, communications equipment, vehicle improvements, food and ration packs, and building improvements. We will be doing this in a number of ways. We will carry out a letterbox drop in the Sutton Park area and roads to the north of Macs Reef Road. This will be followed up with the more conventional roadside donation points at each end of Norton Road in mid February.

While I am on the subject of financial support would like to thank our friends, Kay Brett and Cheryl Lane generous donation is greatly appreciated and will be put to opposite shows Kay and Cheryl just after presenting their brigade Captain.

There is much information on the brigade's protection and things to do when fires approach. I if you have access to the Internet. Failing that, please give 340 or 6236 9220, especially if you need a fire permit.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone in our and friends in nearby brigades and in Fire Control, in the Operations Support Brigade, for all their help the year.

On behalf of everyone in your brigade I hope your Christmas and New Year celebrations bring joy and good cheer.

When you get around to make your New Year's resolutions, why try this one? This year I will join my local fire brigade! We will be more than pleased to see you and you can be assured that your efforts will be well rewarded and appreciated.



from our community, I from Gidgee Winery. Their good use. The photo cheque to your grateful

website about property encourage you to look it up, me a phone call on 0409 991

community, our colleagues especially those volunteers support and guidance during

THE CAPTAIN'S LIST		Businesses supporting the Wamboin Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
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NOTES FROM ST. ANDREWS -- by Steve Ayling

December is of course the 'busy' time in the Church calendar, and the little church on the corner of Norton and Poppet Roads will be the focal point for the month's activities.

By the time you receive this, we will have celebrated St. Andrew's Day with our Patronal Service which was conducted by the Rev'd Greg Thompson, Rector of St. John's, Canberra and St. Andrew's. You may also have noticed construction happening within the church grounds. Local stonemason Dave Arguet has used sandstone from the local area and we now have our own memorial wall in



Wamboin. Bronze plaques to remember loved ones will be attached to the wall and the newly landscaped gardens will provide a wonderful place to sit and reflect. The wall is for ALL members of the local community and will provide a focal point in the development of Wamboin. The wall was dedicated after our Patronal service.

December Church services will be held on Sunday 4th December and Holy Communion on Sunday 18 December. The services begin at 9.00am Everyone is welcome to the Annual Carols in Wamboin which are to be held at the Community Hall in Bingley Way on Friday 16 December . The evening begins at 7.00 pm. To remind there will be a GivingTree with gifts being distributed by the Queanbeyan branch of the Salvation Army. To conclude the evening there will be a visitor dressed in red who is REALLY busy at this time of the year, and a sausage sizzle for all. This year our Christmas Eve service will commence at the church at 8pm. Prior to this at 7.30pm there will be a special Christmas Tableau. Animals and locals will simply tell the Christmas story and this will be re-enacted outside and designed for children - young and old. With Christmas fast becoming more and more commercialized, this will be a chance for our very special local community to enjoy the simplicity of the story in a wonderful environment. We hope all of you will join us for this 'first' prior to our church service. As the Whisper isn't published in January, advance notice

of January services on Sunday 1st Jan and Sunday 15th January at 9.00am.

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Wamboin's latest tourist attraction – do we want it?

Now I'd encourage all parents to come and see this – and bring the kids along so everyone can observe how one or two desperately idle people (could even be your neighbour) can so quickly destroy the amenity and natural environment of the area. Pour a couple of gallons of oil on the road, any road. In this case it's the top end of Majors Close. Presumably, the hoon backs his car up so the rear wheels are sitting in the oil, the driver plants his foot – bingo, an instant mini drag strip. Oil and rubber twenty, thirty, fifty metres down the road. A few short seconds – a “cheap” thrill for the driver and his onlookers. What those goofheads probably don't think nor care about is in that brief time they've destroyed the amenity and the environment – polluted irreparably. What remains is an ugly, ugly scar for everyone but the dopes who did this to endure. I understand the police have a fair idea who the people responsible for this abomination are – and that at least is pleasing. I, along with the neighbours and visitors to Majors Close, wonder who and where the parents of these are? Judging by the increasing frequency that new “doughnuts” are appearing at almost every intersection in Wamboin and Bywong, this is an issue all residents in the community need to be concerned about. Let's really set about to help the police put an end to this blight. Surely, this is one tourist attraction none of us want. Queanbeyan Police offer to respond very quickly if you ring them on 6298 0599.

Went to a Conference at Thredbo a couple of month's back. One of the attendees was the people who organise the Deni Ute Muster. I'm sure you all know this is the annual gathering of utes in a couple of paddocks at Denilquin around the end of September. And, this muster has been growing like Pinocchio's nose. To give you an idea of its popularity – the 2005 Muster broke two world records – most number wearing a blue singlet – a resounding 1474; only to be topped by the world record ute count – 6172. The number of people through the gate was in the order of 18 – 20,000. Given the few nice looking utes around this area, perhaps a couple of Wamboin and Bywongites were included in the figure. And there was an event called something like the “Holden Grunt Off” where teams of 5 had to pull an aforesaid vehicle along a given distance in the shortest time. Sounds a bit like members of the Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade when they had to get the old (and thankfully now retired) Dodge truck to an incident.

Moving away from the Ute Muster, while European influence is evident in many cars you see on the road today, the one vehicle that remains distinctly Australian is the utility, or “ute” as we Australians call it. I understand that, and this may come as a surprise to many, the first ute was designed by Ford's Lewis Brandt. It came off Ford's production lines in 1934. According to an article I read recently, the idea came from a Geelong farmer who wrote to Ford Australia in 1933 asking them to make a new sort of vehicle where “the front is a coupe, to suit my needs for taking the family to church on Sunday...The back is to be the roadster utility box so I can take my pigs to town on Monday”. Some things don't change.

Oh, and according to its web-site, at the time of my writing this article, there's just 306 days 13 hours and 59 minutes till the next Deni Muster. Better start shining up your utes ladies!!!

Are you NUTS about CHOCOLATE? Discount priced Nuts, Chocolates and Dried Fruits are now available to Whisper readers

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1kg Mixed Nuts Salted \$16.40 Raw \$18.50

1kg Chunky Fruit and Nuts \$8.50

1kg Salted Peanuts \$4.80 1kg Salted Cashews \$16.75

As a Christmas special prices will be discounted a further 10% if your purchase is \$30.00 or more (offer ends 31/12/05)

We will be at the December 17th markets, or you can phone and collect from us between 6.00pm and 8.00pm on 21/12, or by special arrangement.

Contact us for a product list or visit our stand at the markets each month.

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Laminitis (Founder) in Horses

Sent in by **Rebecca Walshe (nee Forrest, recently married to Jim Walsh)**
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Laminitis / Founder. Definition: Laminae = the “laminae” of the hoof attach the pedal bone (which is the bone within the hoof capsule) to the inside of the hoof wall. “itis” on the end of a word means inflammation. Therefore Laminitis means the very fragile laminae connection within the hoof becomes inflamed, causing great pain to the horse. Founder is another word for the condition of laminitis.

Clinical signs of a horse with laminitis: Walking very reluctantly, like walking on hot coals. Due to the pain the horse often lies down during day when they normally would not. Horses may stand but pick up hooves one after the other, trying to reduce the weight on each painful hoof. The hooves feel warm, pulses of the lower limbs throb. The horse is often very overweight.

Prevention: WE MUST NOT ALLOW OUR HORSES TO GET OVERWEIGHT. Restrict horses from grass or feed 24 hrs a day when they are starting to put on extra body weight especially at this time of year. Keep hooves trimmed well. Founderguard can be given to those horses who are tending to put on too much weight.

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WAMBOIN GOLF CLUB – 2005 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

The 20th Wamboin Open Golf Championship was held on the 6th November with the course in great condition for the big game of the year. 30 players including some visitors teed off in both the 18 hole and 9 hole competitions. Catering for the event were Joan Mason and Robert Gorham, as usual and we thank them once again. Thanks also to the green keepers for the preparation of the course.

Visitors trophy winner was James Rogerson and the Encouragement award went to first time player Dean Argæt. Ball winners for long drives and nearest the pin were; Nev Schroder x2, Matt Montesin, Charlie Montesin, Tom Ellis x2, Tom Argæt, Dave Neville, Steve Miners and Bob Mettam.

The notorious Ned Kelly Bush Ranger trophy was awarded to Dave Argæt.

2005 Junior Champion is Vincent Gorham.

2005 Nine Hole Champ is Dave Hubbard (on the come-back trail after injury).

2005 Eclectic was won by Bob Mettam.

In the 2005 Club Championship (Handicap event).

B Grade was won by Charlie Montesin with Ian Picker in second place.

A Grade was won by Bob Mettam with Peter Greenwood in second place (on count back).

Joan Mason once again is the 2005 Wamboin Open Ladies Champion and

Ken Gordon is the 2005 Wamboin Open Golf Champion.

Congratulations to all winners. -- Peter Greenwood

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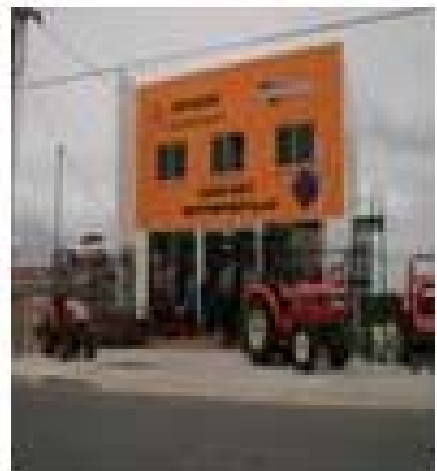
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BUNGENDORE EVENING VIEW CLUB

by Kath Funnell, Publicity Officer

Inspiring Women: The work of Elizabeth Fry inspired many people. She particularly inspired Diana Stutterd, speaker at Bungendore Evening VIEW Club's November meeting at Café Woodworks.

Elizabeth Fry was Diana's Stutterd's great, great, great aunt and, while being proud of her achievements, Diana also "admired her spirit" and her efforts in furthering "the rights of women".

Elizabeth was a Quaker and "a very advanced thinker" for her time. Before marrying her future husband, Joseph Fry, she asked him "Could a married woman have any vocation other than that?" Obviously Elizabeth intended to be involved in works beyond domestic duties! Joseph's reply was "Yes, if she were my wife" and obviously he was true to his word as Elizabeth went on to do great things.

Elizabeth was passionate about improving the lot of women and children through education and Diana commented that she greatly admired her because she was always ready to "stand up and be counted" even in difficult times as she battled for prison reform and equal rights for women.

The evening was highlighted also by the election of other women interested in the "Voice, Interests and Education of Women" as the new committee for 2006 were elected. The following positions have been accepted by:- Robyn Barter—President; Debbie Hudson—Vice President; Ros Welch—Secretary; Chris Cheney—Assistant Secretary; Pauline Dunk—Delegate; Margaret Puniard—Treasurer; Chris Carter—Assistant Treasurer; Elizabeth Vitek—Publicity Officer. Congratulations to the new Committee and best wishes for another successful year as you lead Bungendore Evening VIEW Club.

The next meeting ... will be the Club's Christmas Party to be held at Lambert's Winery on Monday, 5th December, 6.45 for 7.00pm. There will be lots of fun and entertainment so wear your Christmas finery and come along to celebrate the festive season. Visitors are very welcome to join us. Bookings: Contact Debbie Hudson on 6238157(H), 0418622369(M) or e-mail dhudson2@vtown.com.au by 28th November.

<p>cellar door is now open</p> <p>thursday to monday 10 am - 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> 	<table border="1"><tr><td><p>Small English, Irish & Miniature Donkeys</p></td><td><p>Breeding for conformation & temperament</p></td><td><p>Quality Alpacas & Long Woolled Llamas</p></td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sales• Stud Services• After Sales Service• Workshops Donkey & Alpaca• We specialize in introducing livestock ownership to beginners</td><td><p>ALPACA MAGIC (20 mins North of Canberra) Ph/Fax (02) 6230 3311 2771 Sutton Road Sutton NSW 2620 www.alpacamagic.com.au</p></td></tr></table>	 <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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